

WHAT WORKERS LEARNED FROM THEIR BEST AND WORST JOBS

CLASSIFIED, SECTION C

Look inside for **MONEY SAVING COUPONS!**

**CRUISE TIPS**  
USA WEEKEND



**Katie in Plymouth**

Facebook pages all over town lit up this week with downtown Plymouth sightings of actress Katie Holmes and her daughter (with Tom Cruise) Suri.

Holmes, who filed for divorce from Cruise earlier this year, has been spotted in Starbucks and the Cupcake Station, and was seen

lunching at E.G. Nicks. Holmes has a sister and brother-in-law who work for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

If you had a Katie/Suri sighting, we'd love to hear about it, and if you got photos, we'd love to see them. Send information to Plymouth Observer editor Brad Kadrich at bkadrich@hometownlife.com.



Holmes



**Win tickets**

Enter our Facebook contest for a chance to win two tickets to see the Detroit Lions take on the St. Louis Rams Sunday, Sept. 9, at Ford Field. If you want a chance to be in the stands the first game of the regular season, go to hometownlife.com today. Share the contest link with a Facebook friend and get five extra chances to win if they also enter the contest. The winner will be selected at random Sept. 5.

**Backpack drive**

The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth expressed gratitude to the community this week for its generous support the Inn's recent backpack and school supply collection promotion. The collection, which was a joint project with the Plymouth Community United Way, netted nearly 300 backpacks with school supply items inside, which will be donated to area children in need.

According to the United Way, local service agencies say the number of people seeking assistance is increasing each year.

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Instructor Jeff Burda, who is also the executive director of the Plymouth Community Arts Council, shows advanced pottery students a technique on Thursday as he goes over their required small-figure project. Small figures, Burda said, would include animal figurines, chess pieces and jewelry.

**Clay-making magic**

Kids take pottery skills to 'new heights'

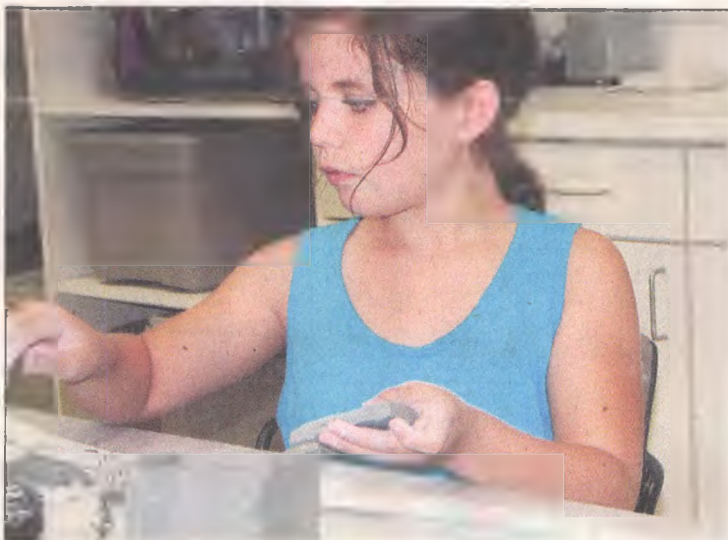
By Matt Jachman  
Observer Staff Writer

Turning out elaborate platters, wheel-thrown bowls and plates, decorative figurines and a slant-roofed birdhouse, young artisans have been honing their skills in Plymouth.

About 10 students participated in the Plymouth Community Arts Council's advanced pottery camp last week, spending three hours each afternoon at the Joanne Winkelman Hulce Center for the Arts practicing techniques and working on assigned and free-choice projects.

The students, many of whom were in other PCAC arts camps earlier this summer, had to have taken at least one pottery course there in order to qualify for the advanced class. Some had taken two or more pottery classes.

"You can see the skill level go to new heights here," said instructor Jeff Burda, who is also the



Valerie Itsell, 9, works meticulously on a birdhouse Thursday during the Plymouth Community Arts Council's advanced pottery camp.

PCAC's executive director.

The small class size allows for more detailed instruction, Burda said, and more time to complete projects and practice on the potting wheel, of which the PCAC has two.

**Arts veterans**

The wheel is the favorite pottery technique among many of the campers.

"You can make whatever

Please see POTTERY, A10

**Hopes dim for saving Daisy Wall**

By Matt Jachman  
Observer Staff Writer

Hopes appear to be slipping that Plymouth's Daisy Wall, the last standing remnant of the 1880s factory where Daisy Air Rifles were built for generations, can be saved.

The Plymouth Planning Commission on Aug. 8 sent a recommendation to the City Commission that it extend an expired planned unit development for the unfinished Daisy Square condominiums, removing the portion of the PUD that requires the wall to be preserved. The planning board's recommendation did call for the Daisy Wall area to be saved as green space.

The Daisy factory was originally to have been used as part of a condominium building when Daisy Square got under way in 2003; later, that plan was changed to have the remaining wall incorporated into a condominium building. Three of the factory's walls have come down.

The PUD extension is expected to be taken up by the City Commission next month.

While the move would grant a long-standing request by developer Joseph Freed and Associates that the wall-preservation requirement be dropped, the way forward for the project is unclear: Freed attorney Lori Chacos told planners in May that Freed's lender wants to hold Freed to its plan to make the wall part of a condominium building.

Chacos last month submitted plans for what is dubbed Monument Park at the Daisy Wall site, a small park that pays tribute the legendary factory. The plan is scaled back considerably from the Monument Park Freed proposed in late 2010.

Meanwhile, members of the Plymouth Preservation Network have paused their plans to lead and fundraise for the construction of a small park that would use the two original stories of the three-story Daisy Wall in a pavilion. Chairwoman Wendy Harless said her understanding is that Freed's proposed Monument Park doesn't include any elements of the Daisy Wall, and that preserving the wall is the PPN's goal for Daisy Square.

"If that's what they want to go for-

Please see WALL, A4

**Bomb scare turns up inert device**

By Matt Jachman  
Observer Staff Writer

The discovery at a condominium complex Thursday of what appeared to be dynamite brought about an hour of heightened tension and the Michigan State Police bomb squad to Plymouth.

But the object turned out to be something like a stage prop — eight painted, connected dowels with wiring and a toggle switch, officials said. It was turned over to police in Plymouth, who are investigating how it came to be placed in a trash bin at the Daisy Square condominiums, off Union Street south of Main.

"It looked like eight sticks of dynamite," said Northville Fire Chief Jim Allen, whose depart-

ment responded to the scene from the Plymouth station and helped police secure the area. "It was professionally done."

The object was found just before 5 p.m. by a maintenance worker who was cleaning the trash bin area, officials said. She immediately called 9-1-1.

"I saw it first and told everybody to stay away," Police Lt. Jamie Grabowski said. He called CSX Railroad, which halted rail traffic in the area — causing a freight train to block two intersections in Old Village for a time — and the fire department and the bomb squad were notified.

Officials evacuated the strip mall at Union and Main, near where the object was found,

Please see SCARE, A7



This was the device, which Michigan State Police bomb squad determined to be inert, that caused streets to be blocked off and some Daisy Square residents to take "shelter in place" after it was found near the trash bin Thursday.

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

**TASTE FEST**

**Date/Time:** Friday, Sept. 7, 6-8 p.m.  
**Location:** Station 885, 885 Stark-weather, Plymouth

**Details:** The Plymouth Fall Festival Taste Fest features participation from Aubree's of Northville, Cupcake Station, Elite Catering, Canton Buffalo Wild Wings, Grand Traverse Pie Company, La Bistecca Italian Grille, Mitchell's Fish Market, Noodles & Company, Rusty Bucket, Scrambler Marie's, Station 885, U.P.Pasties, Happy's Pizza & Ribs, Honey Baked Ham, Boule's Artisan Bakery, Old World Olive Press, Bahama Breeze, Brann's Sizzling Steaks, Chili's Bar and Grill, Claddagh Pub, Rocky's of Northville, & Zoup. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 10. They can be purchased at the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, Station 885 or at the Civitan Booth during Music in the Air on Fridays at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.

**JAZZ @ THE ELKS**

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, Aug. 28,



**Spotlight on 'Lady'**

Canton's own Christine Kapusky Moore draws the plum role of Eliza Doolittle as the Spotlight Players bring "My Fair Lady" to the Village Theater at Cherry Hill stage next month. The show opens Sept. 14 and runs through Sept. 23, with 7:30 p.m. performances Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. matinee performances Saturdays and Sundays. Also in the cast: Canton's Patrick McKane as Alfie Doolittle, Anne Coultier of Canton as Mrs. Eynsford-Hill and Denise Staffeld of Canton as Mrs. Higgins. Tickets are available at (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460 or on-line at www.spotlightplayers.org.

7-10 p.m.  
**Location:** Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth  
**Details:** The genuine clarinet

phenomenon Dave Bennett will be performing with Doug Cobb on Drums, Kurt Krahnke on Bass and Cliff Monear on Keyboard. Step

back in time as Dave plays the tunes of Benny Goodman, Pete Fountain, Artie Shaw and other clarinet greats. Go to www.davebennett.com to hear some great clips of his music. There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres.

**Contact:** For more information, call (734) 453-1780 or email plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com.

**CALL FOR CRAFTERS**

**Date/Time:** Saturday, Oct. 20, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Location:** West Middle School, Plymouth

**Details:** The Delta Kappa Gamma Craft Fair is looking for crafters. Proceeds go for scholarships for future educators from the Plymouth-Canton High Schools. There are 80 crafters, 1500 customers, food and drawings. Admission is \$2.

**Contact:** Crafters can contact Judy at (734) 347-1001, or email jbstone716@comcast.net or email Alice at dachrenko@hotmail.com

**JOB SEEKER WORKSHOP**

**Date/Time:** Saturday, Aug. 25, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Location:** Bayou Grill, 404 Main in Belleville

**Details:** A job seeker workshop

hosted by Joe Barnabei from Beacon Hill Technologies, who specializes in finding jobs for people in Michigan. This event will cover building a great resume, interviewing, effectively searching for a job, tips and tricks of the job boards and networking. All of this is free. There will also be an opportunity for professional, one-on-one assistance with your resume and interviewing technique with all proceeds going to a great charity. One-on-one resume assistance will cost \$20 and one-on-one interview coaching will cost \$20.

**POM CLINIC**

**Date/Time:** Saturday, Aug. 25, 9-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** Canton High School North (Phase 3)

**Details:** The Canton Chieftettes host their pom pon clinic for potential cheerleaders ages 5-14. Students will learn pom pon techniques and a short dance routine. Parents will be treated to a performance at 11:30 a.m. Participants will also perform at the Canton High School varsity football game Aug. 30. Cost is \$45 for pre-registration, \$50 at the door.

**Contact:** Pre-register at www.cantonchieftettes.com; call (734) 397-1782 for more information.

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# Blitz brings school supplies for needy kids

By Brad Kadrich  
Observer Staff Writer

Staffers at the Plymouth Salvation Army know back-to-school time can be an expensive one, especially in a struggling economy.

For the fifth year, the Salvation Army is doing something about it.

This week, the Army will be collecting donations for its annual Back 2 School Blitz in an effort to help make it easier for needy families to meet the back-to-school burden. Donations will be collected starting Monday, and distribution takes place 1-6 p.m. Friday at the Corps headquarters, 9451 S. Main in Plymouth.

The Plymouth Salvation Army serves Canton, the



Ken Sullivan and Marge and Wayne Cooper helped with last year's Back 2 School Blitz, sponsored by the Plymouth Salvation Army.

Plymouths, Northville and Belleville. The Belleville blitz happens 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at Twisted Rooster Restaurant, 9729

Belleville Road. "Folks are continuing to struggle with their budgets," said Laurie Aren, the Salvation

Army's director of family and community ministries. "It's expensive to send multiple kids back to school."

Toward that end, Back 2 School Blitz seeks to outfit backpacks with a variety of school supplies. The Corps' school supply "wish list" includes standard items such as colored and @2 pencils, crayons, notebooks, glue sticks and bottles, markers, backpacks, scissors, yellow highlighters, socks/underwear, binders, pens, erasers, rulers, supply boxes/bags, composition books and pocket folders.

As of Friday, Aren said, more than 300 families had signed up. Aren said they're expecting more than 400 to register by drive's end.

Frank Ruggirello, Plymouth-Canton's director of community relations, said drives like this one are a

huge benefit to students in the district.

"Any program that helps get these kids ready for school is a blessing," Ruggirello said. "School budgets are tight, and this program makes sure kids have the necessary supplies to help them develop a positive learning experience."

Families can pick up their supplies Friday. The student-run radio station serving Plymouth-Canton Schools, 88.1 The Escape, will be on hand for the event.

Families can still sign up by calling the Salvation Army at (734) 453-5464 or email laurie\_aren@usc.salvationarmy.org

bkadrich@hometownlife.com  
(313) 222-8899

## City asks residents to compare LED street lights

By Matt Jachman  
Observer Staff Writer

The city of Plymouth is asking residents to step into the light.

The new LED light, that is, that recently went up on four separate street-light poles on Ann Arbor Trail.

DTE Energy installed the LED (it stands for light-emitting diode) lights as a temporary demonstration project, and city officials are looking for feedback from residents as they mull whether to buy LED lighting for most of the rest of the city — basically all overhead street lights except for the decorative ones downtown, according to City Manager Paul Sincock. The LED

lights, while more expensive, could bring significant energy savings.

LED lighting from one manufacturer was installed on two poles on Ann Arbor Trail just west of Harvey, and LED lighting from another manufacturer was installed on two other poles further west, just east of Sheldon. Officials are asking residents to compare the two and e-mail their remarks to citymanager@ci.plymouth.mi.us.

"Based on the residents' reaction so far, they give off different kinds of light," Sincock said. He had received eight responses as of Friday morning, with opinions about evenly split between the two manufacturers, Sincock said.

The LED test lighting will come down on DTE's schedule, he said, and probably will be up for less than a month. There is no timetable for the possible citywide move to LED lighting, he said, and DTE is to provide information on pricing and potential savings.

"We expect a quick return on investment and guaranteed savings," Sincock said. It's possible, he added, that officials and the Plymouth City Commission will decide not to move to LED street lighting at all.

City finance director Mark Christiansen said Plymouth currently spends about \$180,000 a year on street lighting.

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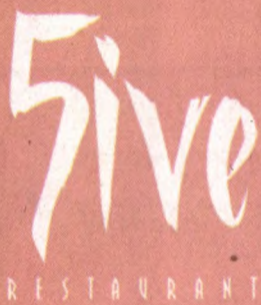


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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hopes for saving the Daisy Wall appear to be dimming after the Plymouth Planning Commission this month recommended a development agreement at Daisy Square that drops the provision that requires the wall to be saved.

## WALL

Continued from page A1

ward with, then we’re going to step back from it and move forward with other projects,” Harless said Friday. The issue has been frustrating for PPN members, who have worked for years on it, she said.

Harless said the PPN, with pledges, was prepared to foot the estimated \$250,000 price tag for a Daisy Wall pavilion and small park, and an addi-

tional \$20,000 endowment for future maintenance. City officials have said they were willing to accept the site as a city park under certain conditions.

But the PPN, Harless said, was looking to Freed for reimbursement for half of the cost, and Freed representatives have said there would be no money for that.

Daisy Square was envisioned as a 159-condominium development when work began in 2003, but, hurt by the crash of the housing market, hasn’t

seen construction in several years. The project now has 66 townhouse condominiums and a building of 56 loft-style condos.

The Daisy factory began in 1882 as the Plymouth Iron Windmill Company; by late that decade, however, the company was focused on making air rifles, and it changed its name to Daisy Manufacturing Co. in 1895. Daisy closed shop in Plymouth in 1958, moving its manufacturing to Arkansas.

## Register for O&E golf tourneys

Registration continues for the annual *Observer & Eccentric* Hometown Media golf tournaments starting with women’s event, which is scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 26 at Livonia’s Whispering Willows.

The 36-hole medal play men’s event follows Sunday, Sept. 2 at Livonia’s Fox Creek and Monday, Sept. 3 at Whispering Willows golf courses.

The final sign-up day for the women’s 18-hole medal play event is Sunday, Aug. 19. The entry fee is \$50 (does not include cart) and you must have a U.S. Golf Association handicap index.

Entries for the men’s tourney, limited to the first 120 golfers, close at 6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 27. The entry fee is \$95 (does not include cart). To participate you must have a USGA index

handicap (maximum of 20). The men’s event also includes a 17-and-under boys junior division. The entry fee is \$49.

You can register in person at Whispering Willows, located at 20500 Newburgh Road. (Checks should be made payable to T.J.W., Inc.)

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# Message of tolerance

## Mosque meal hopes for understanding

By Darrell Clem  
Observer Staff Writer

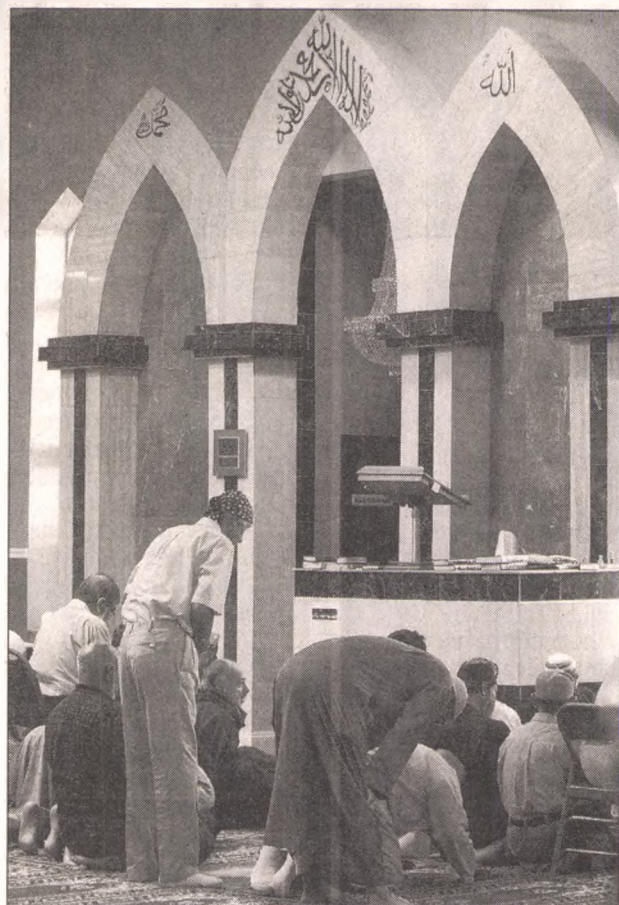
Delivering an embracing Ramadan message inside the Canton Mosque, Mohammed Tayssir Safi, the Muslim chaplain for the University of Michigan, said the Islamic religion is often wrongly perceived as excluding certain people. "It doesn't matter what race or ethnicity — it accepts everyone," he said.

Safi's message of tolerance came Thursday evening as the Muslim Community of Western Suburbs marked the waning days of Ramadan, the holiest month of Islam, by inviting people of all faiths to share a sunset meal that ended a day of fasting for Muslims.

Canton-based Muslims sought to promote understanding and tolerance by teaching that Ramadan is a time to strengthen ties to God, partly by fasting and avoiding sex from dawn to sunset so that attention can be given to their faith.

"It's that traversing a path toward God," said Safi, who teaches Arabic at U-M and who was formerly the Canton Mosque's youth coordinator.

The mosque's latest community-outreach effort followed earlier events such as a 9/11 observance last September and clothing drives to help area families in need. The gathering came as Muslims across America continue to face discrimination and violence in places such as Murfreesboro, Tenn., where a mosque finally was set to open this week after years of opposition and court challenges, and in Joplin, Mo., where a second fire deemed suspicious destroyed a mosque.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gathering for prayer in the masjid.

### Muslims misunderstood

Even though Muslims believe in God, often called Allah, Safi said they have become increasingly misunderstood in recent years.

Yet, he said Muslims want to worship God, help their communities and raise their families. "They're like everyone."

Local Muslims hope to promote understanding by hosting community gatherings. Thursday's meal drew an estimated 45 people, and Muslims are trying to figure out how they can draw larger crowds.

Canton mother of two Sarah Mohiuddin said Ramadan signals a time to remember God and bring together the community and families.

"It's a time of year when we do a lot more

prayer and a lot more remembering of God," she said. "It's a time to help the poor and to give to the people you love."

Mohiuddin sought to instill a sense of giving



Mohammed Tayssir Safi talks about Islam and its relationship with other religions. He is the Muslim chaplain and teacher of the Arabic language at the University of Michigan.

to her children Hamza Syed, 6, and Sumayya, 3, by working with them to make baskets of brownies, cupcakes and dates to give to others. Dates are significant because they are typically the first food to break the Ramadan fast.

### Forgiving others

Canton resident Khaled Almadhoun, 20, said Ramadan is a time to fast and "purify your life" because "when you're fasting, you become more peaceful and more forgiving" of others.

Another Canton resident,

27-year-old Muhi Khwaja, summed up his thoughts on Ramadan by calling it "a time to internally reflect on how we can be better in every way."

As Safi gave his address, images of Ramadan prayers and celebrations from around the world flashed on a screen. Upstairs in the Canton Mosque, scores of Muslims bowed on a carpeted floor and prayed to God.

Safi said many Americans mistakenly believe that Muslims only recently came to the United States. He said it is

believed that 15-20 percent of slaves who were brought here were, in fact, Muslim.

"It's a revisionist history to think that we're new here," Safi said, though the next wave of Muslims only occurred after the civil rights era of the 1960s.

Safi said the word Islam means to submit to God, and he said it contains three foundations: outward worship, a belief in God, and spirituality that involves purification of one's self.

"Muslims are called to be good citizens," he said.

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## Teachers transition to all-day K

By Brad Kadrich  
Observer Staff Writer

The last time Amy Conn taught kindergarten, it was half-day classrooms at Field Elementary School in Canton.

When next she steps into a classroom Conn, now a kindergarten teacher at Plymouth's Smith Elementary School, faces the same challenge all Plymouth-Canton Community Schools kindergarten teachers face: A full-day curriculum.

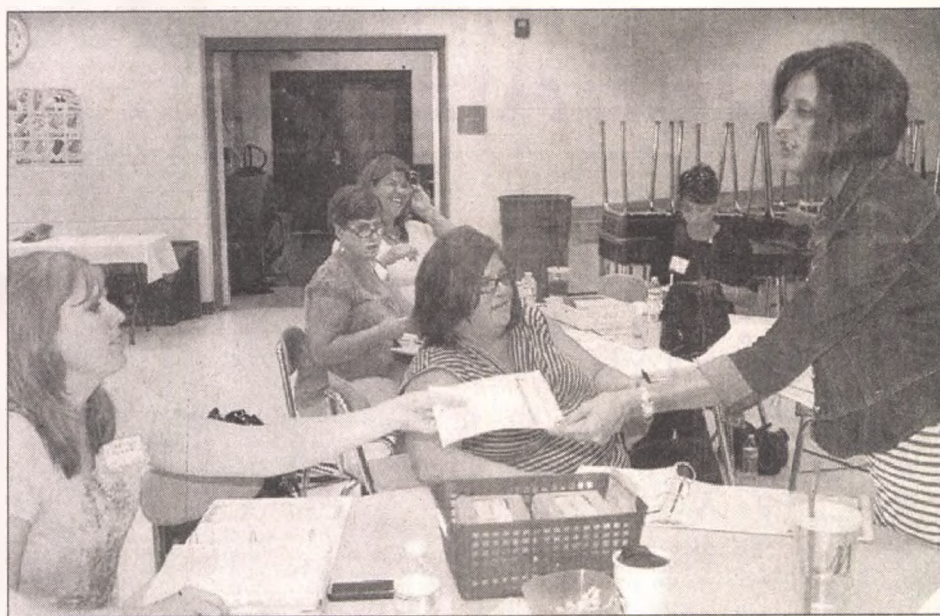
It's the first year for an all-day kindergarten program for P-CCS schools, which switched to the format after the state cut funding in half for half-day kindergarten students.

"It's just going to look a lot different," said Conn, who last taught kindergarten four years ago at Field. "I'm looking at it in terms of (teaching first grade). A lot of what I did teaching first grade will be an asset in all-day kindergarten."

To get ready for the transition, kindergarten teachers throughout the district spent two days this summer in a sort of retreat, all-day training sessions designed to prepare teachers for curriculum changes that will bring the district in line with state core curriculum standards.

All curriculum areas were studied — including math, science and social studies — but teachers feel those areas of study are already "pretty good."

That's why much of the work had to do with increasing literacy levels, vocabularies and "stretching the curriculum out,"



PHOTOS BY PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
Smith Elementary kindergarten teacher and trainer Maureen Visser hands out All-Day Kindergarten information to Tonda Elementary kindergarten teacher Cathryn Pumper.



Field Elementary kindergarten teacher Angela Wlosinski takes in the details of the all-day kindergarten training.

according to kindergarten teacher Maureen Visser, who helped organize the workshops.

"We call it 'lingering over learning,'" Visser said. "We want to give (students) the time to see it in practice and learn to do it themselves."

Time in the workshops was also spent on writing, "class meetings" which will be added to classrooms, and music, all of

which Visser said will still be key components of kindergarten learning.

She said socialization will still be a big part of what students learn.

"But we have more time now," Visser said. "We're not squeezing into three hours what we really need six hours to teach."

That extra time, according to kindergarten teacher Eric Stamper, will also be beneficial to teachers,

who will be able to develop better relationships with students they've got all day, rather than just a few hours.

"The advantage is getting to know the kids better," said Stamper, in his fourth year as a kindergarten teacher. "With half-day, they're in and out so quickly. When you can build that better relationship with the kids, it makes everything easier."

Parents worried their child might not be able to adjust to the rigors of an all-day classroom setting needn't be concerned, according to Visser. After all, she pointed out, it's not like they're going to be trapped at a desk all day long.

"Kids need movement, they're up and moving, they're very active," Visser said. "They still need an opportunity to be 5."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com  
(313) 222-8899

## RESA tax won't be on county ballot

By Karen Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

Back in May, the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education voted to urge Wayne RESA to put a 2-mill tax increase on the November ballot to fund school operations.

But Wayne County voters won't get the chance to approve it because the proposal failed to gain enough support from other local school boards, including Livonia.

School boards representing at least 50 percent of the K-12 students in the county had to request by Tuesday that Wayne RESA place the proposal on the November ballot. The proposal was supported by just 44.3 percent, 5.7 percent short of the minimum requirement.

"It will not be on the ballot," Wayne RESA Superintendent Christopher Wigent said, adding that Tuesday was the deadline for making it onto the ballot.

The Livonia board was the last to vote on a motion requesting Wayne RESA put the proposal on the ballot. It voted 4-3 Monday against it.

The vote was the same back in May when the Plymouth-Canton Board took up the measure, except they voted in favor of the proposal.

"It's a source of revenue for us that would

not be available anywhere else," Plymouth-Canton Superintendent Jeremy Hughes told Plymouth-Canton board members at the time. "Budget projections over the next few years show us continuing to have deficits. I think all of us believe the Michigan economy will be getting better ... this is something that could tide us over."

Wigent said Livonia's vote would have made the difference. Had members approved the request, it would have been on the ballot.

But, he said, it's not fair to blame the Livonia board for the proposal not going before voters. "All the districts decided it," he said, adding Livonia just happened to vote on it last. "Had it not been Livonia (voting last), it would have been another district."

He said the boards for each of the 34 school districts in the county had to consider their financial, political and tax situations. He said it was a "community-by-community" decision, and he respected the local decision-making process.

Under the proposal, Wayne County RESA (Regional Educational Service Agency) would have collected the tax and then redistributed it to districts in Wayne County based on the number of students each had enrolled.

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The device, which turned out to be inert, was found in a trash bin area near the Daisy Square condo complex, and drew response from agencies like the Northville Community Fire Department-Plymouth Station.

## SCARE

Continued from page A1

and told people at the nearest Daisy Square condominium building to "shelter in place," meaning to stay inside and not go near windows, Grabowski said. Union was blocked off at Main and at a point southwest of the Daisy Square complex, and onlookers gathered just outside the safety perimeter.

Two MSP bomb squad members responded and one of them, covered in protective gear, found the object was not an explosive, Allen said. Police retrieved it.

Police and firefighters were on the scene until about 6:30 p.m.

Grabowski said the object looked like something a suicide bomber would use. Charges are possible in the case, he said, and the object is going to be examined for fingerprints and possible DNA evidence.

There was nothing in the trash bin with the object that might have indicated who put it there, nor were there any other props or costumes that might have come from a theater, Grabowski said.

mjachman@hometownlife.com  
(313) 222-2405

## AROUND PLYMOUTH

### GIVING BLOOD

**Details:** The American Red Cross hosts blood drives at a variety of locations this month. Blood drives are scheduled for 1-6:45 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 22, City of Plymouth; 1-6:45 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 23, First United Methodist Church of Plymouth; 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Friday, Aug. 24, Canton Library; 7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 26, St. Kenneth Church; 2-7:45 p.m. Monday, Aug. 27, VFW Post 6695 in Plymouth; 1-6:45 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 28, Salem High School; 1-6:45 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30, Plymouth District Library. Donors will be entered into a monthly drawing for a \$500 gas card.

**Contact:** Call Diane Risko at (313) 549-7052 or email Diane.Risko@redcross.org to set up an appointment.

### HOSPICE SUPPORT

**Date/Time:** Third Saturday of the month, 10-11:30 a.m.  
**Location:** Compassionate Care Hospice, 5730 Lilley, Canton

**Details:** Compassionate Care Hospice conducts a grief support group, "Compassionate Words," providing emotional support to any adult grieving

the loss of a loved one. The group focuses on the various stages of grief, and incorporates basic journal writing as a way to express feelings. The program is free of charge.

**Contact:** To register, contact Ann Christensen, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement Coordinator at (888) 983-9050, or email achristensen@cch.net.

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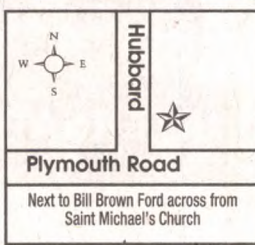
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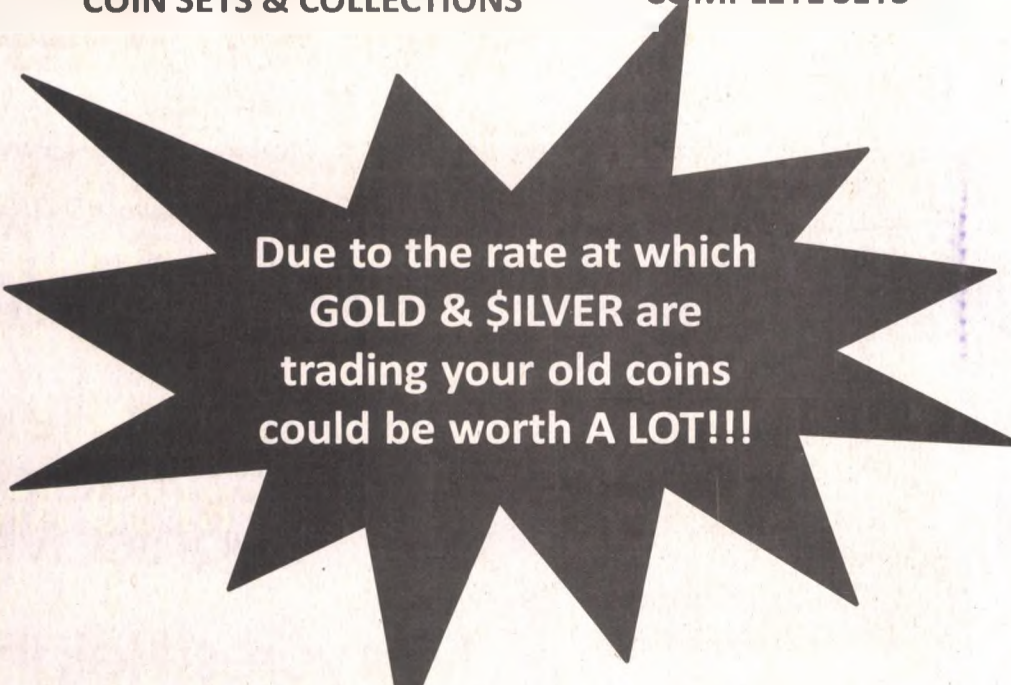
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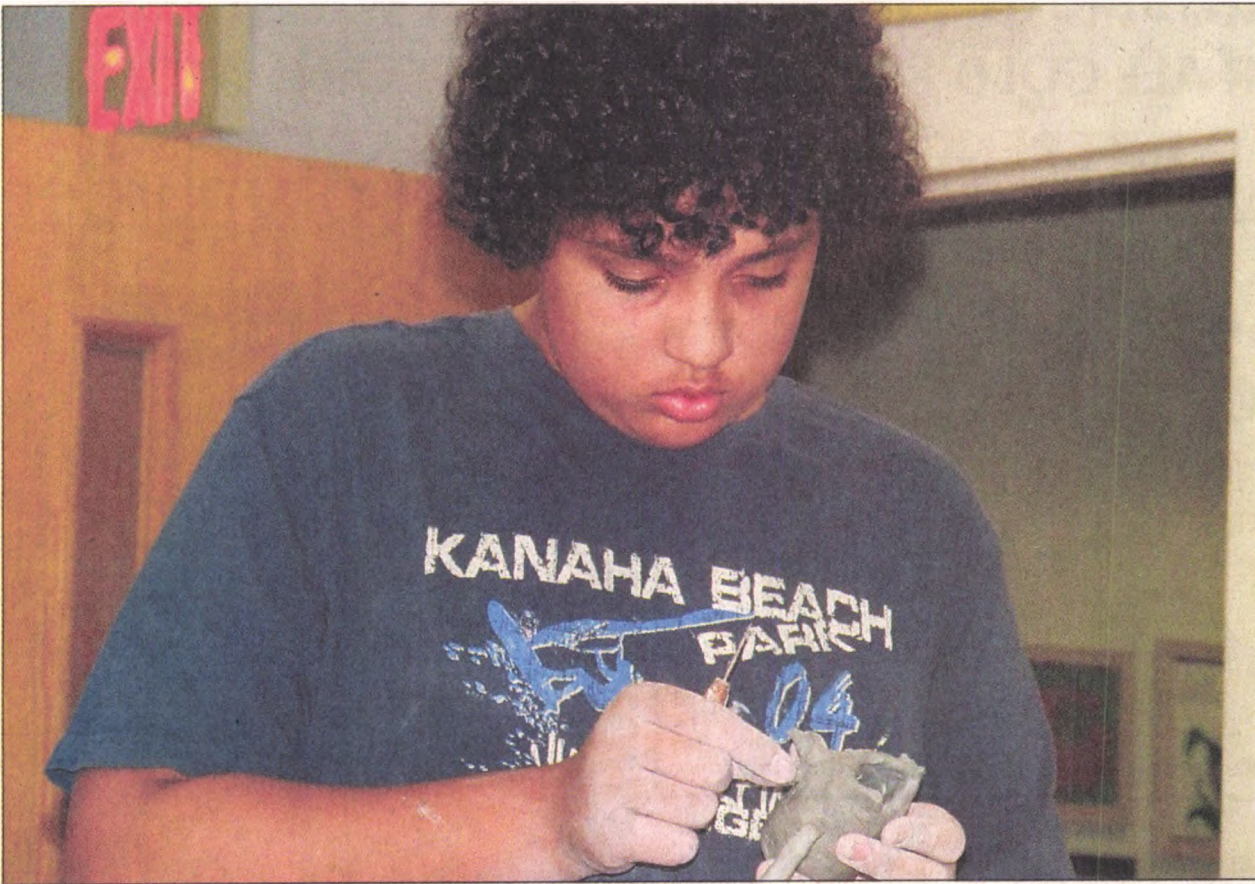


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# INTERNATIONAL GOLD SILVER COIN BUYERS





Nick Sowizral works on an owl figurine, styled after Apache 'fetish' figures, on Thursday at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

**POTTERY**

Continued from page A1

you want. It always turns out smooth," said Valerie Itsell, 9, of Plymouth Township, who made two plates, a large one and a small one, on the wheel.

Valerie was working on a birdhouse Thursday using the slab technique, joining seven rectangular pieces of clay that she had rolled out and cut — four for the walls, one for the floor and two for the slanted roof. The completed birdhouse will have a water bowl on the outside, Valerie said.

Advanced pottery was Valerie's fourth PCAC arts camp this summer; the others included Drawing the Face earlier this month and Digital Photography, which was a morning camp last week.

Siblings Shayla, Trevor and Gavin French, of Plymouth Township, are also arts camp veterans.

"I like working on the wheel to make plates," said Shayla, 12, who had made two plates last week to give away as gifts. On Thursday, she was using the coil technique to fashion a canister to hold the treats the family makes for its pet dog.

Trevor, 10, said his favorite art medium is cartooning. One of his cartoons earned first place in a state of Michigan-sponsored anti-smoking campaign, and earned Trevor a trip to Washington, D.C., this summer, he said. Burda said the poster was turned into an anti-smoking billboard.

Gavin, 8, made a miniature stop sign Thursday during the camp's required small-figures project (animal figurines, jewelry or a chess piece, for example, Burda explained). What was he going to do with the sign?

"No clue," Gavin said, adding, "I have cars."

**Pottery is universal**

Nick Sowizral of Plymouth, who expresses a keen interest in Native Americans, made an Apache "owl fetish" fig-

ure, a small, hollow pot with wings and a beak. "It was like a pinch pot, but I smoothed it out," Nick, 12, said of his technique.

Nick, who has also taken PCAC drawing and painting camps, said the universal nature of pottery appeals to him.

"Pretty much every race on the planet has something to do with clay" for decorations and utilitarian items, Nick said. "I enjoy the process. I like getting my hands all dirty."

Nick's other projects last week included a textured platter, a bowl he threw on the potting wheel ("Maybe like a salsa bowl," he said) and a Hopi water bowl, complete with ladle, that he made with the coil technique.

Campers were to glaze their projects Friday, and they will be fired, in kilns the PCAC has on its site, in time for a Friday, Aug. 31, PCAC art show for campers and their parents. Every child who participated in a camp this summer will have a piece in the show, Burda said.

Burda said an expansion of PCAC arts camps this summer paid off, with about 560 campers going through the program, taking courses that included pottery, acrylic painting, watercolor painting, animation, drawing, jewelry-making and performing arts. Camp enrollment was up over last year by more than 140 children, he said.

The Plymouth Community Arts Council has spots available in three arts camps that begin Monday: Animation and Cartooning (ages 7-16), Performing Arts (ages 5-13) and Mixed Studio arts (an evening camp for ages 12 and up). In addition, a three-day basic pottery camp has been added, from 9 a.m. to noon beginning Monday, Aug. 27, for students ages 5-12. Visit [www.plymoutharts.com](http://www.plymoutharts.com) or call (734) 416-4278 for more information.

[mjachman@hometownlife.com](mailto:mjachman@hometownlife.com)  
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Valerie Itsell uses the slab technique to fashion a clay birdhouse on Thursday during the advanced pottery camp at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

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# A father's fight

## Highland man says son wrongly accused of murder

By Aileen Wingblad  
Staff Writer

Bernie Pyne's life used to be like that of the typical Huron Valley resident.

Weekdays spent on the job to provide for his wife and kids. Family dinners at home each night. Church on Sunday.

Simple, ordinary, pleasant.

Problems were managed, troubles kept under control — including the mental illness which had plagued his wife, Ruth, for several years.

In early 2009, life changed.

Ruth's illness began spiraling out of control as she went through extended periods refusing to take the medication that had kept it at bay.

Over and over and over again, as Ruth's behavior ranged from bizarre to aggressive, Pyne resorted to calling police for help. Ruth would end up hospitalized, forced to take her medication, then sent back home.

Until the next time.

It was an extremely stressful and difficult period, Pyne said, as mental illness dug in its claws and robbed the family of normalcy.

Yet it couldn't touch the love that held them together, he said. That was rock solid, impenetrable.

Then, May 27, 2011, Pyne's world came crashing down in a most violent, grisly way. Ruth — his wife of 32 years and mother to his son Jeffrey and daughter Julia — was found murdered in the garage of their Highland Township home.

Gone was the woman who had helped him build a family, a home, a life.

Gone was the woman who had caught his eye in high school, captured his heart soon after and never let it go.

When Ruth's life ended, so did life as he knew it.

Adding to his heartbreak was knowing she had died in a most brutal way — at the hands of someone else.

As Pyne grieves the loss of his wife — and as he recalls words she spoke to him early in their relationship — he's haunted by feelings of shame and embarrassment, and the sense that he let her down.

"Ruth had said to me once, 'I will always make you laugh, and I will always be safe with you,'" Pyne said, his eyes welling with tears. "As a man, this is the most emasculating thing — to have your wife murdered. It's a torment."

"I still can't believe this happened — it's unimaginable," he added. "Whoever did this to Ruth destroyed the entire family."



Bernie Pyne insists his son Jeff is falsely accused of murder. He said his family was devastated by the death of his wife Ruth and the subsequent arrest of Jeff.

### 'A tender heart'

Detectives with the Oakland County Sheriff's Office and the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office say they know who killed Ruth Pyne. They blame Jeffrey, the couple's first-born.

An indictment from Oakland County's citizens grand jury last October led to the arrest of the then-21-year-old college student. Charged with first-degree murder, he's been jailed since, awaiting a Sept. 10 trial date.

The allegation is the most gravest of errors, Pyne said.

"This was an overzealous rush to judgment, right away," he said. "It's very easy to jump to the conclusion that the police are right. But my son is not capable of this. He would never do this."

Jeffrey, he said, "is a tender heart," who never showed any aggression to his mother. They were extremely close, he said, and "did not argue or fight."

Ruth was arrested for "violent incidents" involving Jeffrey in 2009 and 2010 — a slap across the face and grabbing him around the throat, Pyne said. Yet too much has been made of this, he said.

"I hate it that Ruth has been portrayed as a monster," he said, noting Jeffrey wasn't harmed in either case and never struck back.

"If anything, he felt bad for his mom because of her illness," Pyne said.

Diagnosed in her late 30s as bipolar with psy-

chotic features, Ruth generally kept the condition under control with medication, Pyne said. But periodically, she'd decide she didn't need the drugs and not take them. Within weeks, signs of the illness would surface, such as laughing for no reason, talking under her breath, not sleeping for days and paranoia. Pyne said he was especially scared for Ruth when she started to believe someone had implanted a tracking device in Julia.

Those were times when he sought help from police — not because she had hurt anyone or there was an imminent threat that she would, but because she needed intervention to force her to take her medication, he explained. In one instance, police put Ruth in jail rather than have her taken to the hospital like they had for previous calls to the home. She did, however, end up hospitalized in that case, due to a subsequent court order.

### Widespread support

Pyne said there is a strong faction of people — neighbors, co-workers, friends and members of both his and Ruth's families — who stand alongside him proclaiming his son's innocence.

"I've never had anybody come up and insinuate that they think Jeff did this," he said.

Pyne said he lives "every day wanting to know who did this. And it's not comforting at all to know the police went in

the wrong direction. Until you are in the system, you can't comprehend what it's like," he said.

Yet for those who conclude this is simply a case of a parent refusing to believe his child could commit such a heinous act, Pyne insists that the killer has yet to be caught.

He references a sighting of a hoodie-wearing stranger walking through his backyard and other yards in the neighborhood four days before Ruth's murder. A woman who lives nearby saw the young man and called police.

"She said he was sinister-looking, and scared her," Pyne said.

Oakland County Under-sheriff Mike McCabe, however, said Jeff's arrest followed a "complete and thorough investigation."

"There's no doubt in my mind that Jeff is the responsible party in this. The judge and jury will decide where it goes from here," McCabe said. "It's sad and tragic. But there's no doubt in my mind that we have the right person in custody."

### Facing challenges

Along with mourning his wife and his unrelenting determination to "get Jeff home," Pyne must also deal with the day-to-day aspects of running a household. Until the tragedy, his was the more traditional male role in the family — the main breadwinner working as an automotive engineer, while Ruth was a stay-at-home

mom, handling the cooking and cleaning and most of the other household chores.

Now, Pyne has taken all of it on — admitting that he doesn't even attempt to rival Ruth's talents. He keeps up the house the best he can, and if a meal is "adequate and nutritious," it's good enough for their table.

Following Ruth's death, plenty of people pitched in to help with "the transition," he said. "Now, Julia and I are basically doing it on our own."

Once a deeply religious man, Pyne admits his faith has been compromised by the course his life — and his family's life — has taken. He's also faced with a "financial burden beyond comprehension" to pay for Jeff's defense.

And then there is the challenge of helping 11-year-old Julia cope with the loss of her mother and — at least for now — the loss of a brother. The two siblings were very close, he said, and never had disagreements.

For the most part, Pyne said he hides his pain from Julia. "I try to keep it to myself, to not show it to her. Other times, I do let her see what it has done to me," he said.

Julia has attended only one of Jeff's court appearances, deciding not to return after seeing her brother in custody. "It tore her up to see her brother like that. She just broke down," Pyne said.

For now, Julia is "doing OK," he added. "We do talk about it, about what

happened. But we don't understand it."

Jeffrey shares a jail cell with nine others, and spends his days reading and exercising, Pyne said.

"His (attitude) has been pretty good through this," he said. "Jeff knows he didn't do anything and that justice is going to prevail."

Pyne visits Jeffrey at the Oakland County Jail every chance he gets — usually once a week. He struggles with the thought that his son, who he said has never been anything but gentle and caring and never had a fight in his life, now lives amongst "hardened criminals."

"I miss him tremendously," he said.

With just weeks before the trial is set to begin, Pyne said he is "going to trust the Lord will have the truth come out" and that Jeffrey will be acquitted. "Otherwise, none of this makes any sense," he said.

"(Before this), I was just a family man. While (other men) were out enjoying golf, I was traveling to Jeff's basketball games or other activities. We did everything together as a family. And my family has been destroyed."

"I lost my wife, who was just a wonderful beautiful woman, a great mom and a great wife. But the focus now is to get Jeff home," he said. "We're getting on with life the best we can, picking up the pieces and trying to get Jeff home."

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# Cruisin'

## It's about sights, sounds, smells ... even Elvis

By Jay M. Grossman  
Observer Staff Writer

You can see the Woodward Dream Cruise: The cars, the people, the lawn chairs and Elvis impersonators.

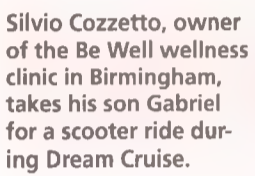
You can smell it: The onion rings, pizza, hot dogs and hamburgers.

You can hear it: The engines, the music, not to mention the passing bits of conversation:

"That looks a lot like a '73 ..."  
"Never started the motor ..."  
"My parents sold it when I went to college ..."

There are memories: Eliot Erlandson, 18, of Royal Oak, is driving a 1963 Mercury Meteor that he restored in his back yard with his dad.

"We started working on this car when I was 11," he said. "It's been in our family my whole life — it was my high school car."



Silvio Cozzetto, owner of the Be Well wellness clinic in Birmingham, takes his son Gabriel for a scooter ride during Dream Cruise.

Tony Maria of Beverly Hills is cruising around in his 1965 Lincoln with the cool rear doors that open from the center. "This is Christmas in August," said Maria. "This is like reliving your youth, only you get to drive the car you wish you had back then."

There are regulars, like Mike Merwin of Clarkston. He's been at every Dream Cruise since the first one in 1995.

"I'll go up and down the strip, checking out the cars," he said, his lawn chair planted near Woodward and Lincoln.

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The Dairy Mat on Woodward just north of Maple was a hot spot during Dream Cruise week.

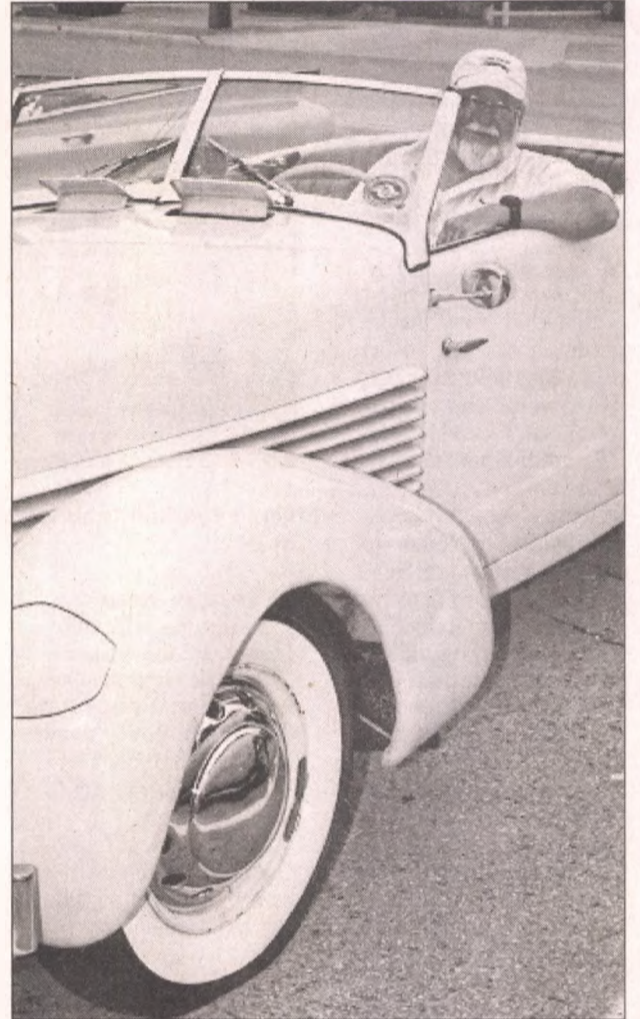
PHOTOS BY CARROLL DEWEESE



Mary Doris from Rochester Hills (far left), Heather Swarhout from Birmingham and Cathy Cavellier from Bloomfield Hills enjoy a girls-only picnic out on Woodward.



Mr. Mustard and Mr. Pickle rev up the crowds in front of Hunter House Hamburgers at Maple and Woodward.



Howell resident Bob Rosenthal enjoys the Dream Cruise in a 1936 Cord he salvaged from Katrina in Gulfport, Miss.

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kendall Hart of Garden City hopes he's one of the two chosen from the crowd to be on the 'Price Is Right.' If he makes it, he guarantees he'll be within \$1,500 on the value of the showcase.

## Fans make pitch to be on popular game show

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

Kendall Hart let them know at the registration table that he was a winner.

The Garden City resident was among hundreds of people who turned out at the MJR Westland Grand Cinema 16 in Westland to audition for one of two spots on CBS's popular *Price Is Right* game show.

"I'll be with \$1,500 on the showcase, I guarantee this one," said Hart who has always wanted to be on that show since age three. "I'd watch it with my great-grandma. I knew how to say come on down."

*Price Is Right* hopefuls were given 30 seconds to introduce themselves and tell producers why they should be one of two individuals selected to fly out to Los Angeles for the show. One person is guaranteed a place on contestants' row.

This was one of five auditions being held for the show in the U.S., and contestant wanna-bes came from near and far. "We've checked in people from New York and Ohio already," said Melissa Rowe, sales marketing manager for CBS 62 in Detroit. "We did auditions here for *Survivor* in December and had 400 show up. We've had close to 200 register in the first hour, so I think 500 will be a good number for this."

The "Outlaw Grandmas," Jane Pisarski of Hazel Park and Nancy Kinney of Madison Heights, were among hopefuls waiting in a theater for their chance to audition.

"My husband and I watched it, our day never got started until we watched *Price Is Right*," said Pisarski. "No day started right without it."

"I watch it faithfully," added Kinney. "I raised a big family and took care of a lot of people, and everyone has told me it's my time to be on the show."

Terry Viegas of Detroit came armed with a vid-



The "Outlaw Grandmas," Nancy Kinney of Madison Heights and Jane Pisarski of Hazel Park, traveled to Westland to audition for the game show.

eo of when her mother appeared on *Price Is Right* 27 years ago.

"I hope the hook will be the show tape," she said. "It was in 1985, Bob Barker had dark hair. I think her daughter should be on it."

Rhonda Gates of Westland believed the stars were in alignment for her chance to make it on the game show. She had put the audition on her bucket list two months ago after seeing announcement in the newspaper, and because son Jacob had had his wisdom teeth out, she had the day off.

"My heart's jumping out of my chest," she said as she waited to go in and do her 30-second pitch.

Officially No. 15 among the contestants, she had written out her speech which highlighted the she was a veteran — she served in the U.S. Army — she loved to have fun, and she was there to win prizes. And for good measure, she tossed in that all of her pets are spayed and neutered.

"They're big about responsible pet ownership," she said, adding

that "it's all come together for me. It's my opportunity to win."

Son Jacob was also there, claiming "my mom made me come." His spiel was that it was his 21st birthday "and picking me would be a great birthday present."

This isn't the first time Jerome Weingarden of Westland has auditioned for a game show. He made it to the stage in auditions for *Wheel of Fortune* in 2007 and would have made it on the show had he solved the puzzle. He also had a spot on the *Dan Miller Show* in 2009.

"I watch it every day, I've been watching it since 1972," he said. "If I get on the show, I'm going to win."

The auditions are for the fall taping season and the people who auditioned should find out how well they did as soon as Sept. 7.

"How can this not be exciting?" said Arlene Zazula of Westland. "It's the best show, it has the best prizes. I like Drew (Carey), he makes me laugh, and besides, I've never been to L.A."

## W-W's board sets goals for superintendent

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

After five hours of meeting over two different days, the Wayne-Westland school board has reached a consensus on the two goals it wants school Superintendent Greg Baracy to focus on during 2012-13 — improving student achievement and developing a customer service plan for the district.

The board members, working with Scott Morrell of the Michigan Association of School Boards, were able to reach an agreement on Baracy's goals, but will need to meet again to finish work on the their goals as a board.

"You need to start being clear with Greg what your expectations are," Morrell told the board. "What I see as success, what (board President) Carol (Middel) sees as success may not be what all eight of you see as success."

Baracy said he wants to improve student achievement and show growth. While it would be nice to have a magic wand to make that happen, he told the board he will work diligently and take it to the buildings to "make sure we have skilled instruction in the classroom."

"We have to be intent on doing that every day, we have to work with the staff so we have that skillful instruction in the classroom," he said. "Our goal is to make sure that every student achieves."

"Research shows that if you engage students

in the classroom they will make every effort to get to class," he said. "It goes back to having skillful teachers in the classroom. That's where the rubber meets the road."

The board spent a considerable amount of time in determining what kind of data it would need to measure growth in student achievement. As part of his review last year, Baracy provided information on state tests — the MEAP and high school MME — as well as ACT which should academic achievement in most areas.

"Are we providing the services? We're setting a goal, but as a goal is it what we're already doing," said Trustee Andrea Clawson. "We need to look at how we will measure student achievement."

Clawson expressed interest in wanting more data that would show student achievement at grade levels, and Paul Sallah, the deputy superintendent for instruction, said that while local assessments are used regularly in the district, her request would represent generating thousands of reports. He added that Michigan is in the process of moving to Common Core State Standards that set clear and consistent goals for learning that will prepare students for success in college and work and the district has yet to receive information on those assessment.

"We're in the midst of a major transition, the staff is looking at a major shift in how they teach,"

he said.

"I'm concerned that if we pick one subject at one grade level, we're not getting a snapshot of the district," said board Secretary Cindy Schofield.

In the end the board agreed to have Baracy continue to provide the board with reports on students achievement using data culled from the state's MEAP and MME tests as well as ACT scores and to add local assessment data as it becomes available.

"Not all our students will achieve 100 percent, but we're going to go for that," Baracy told the board. "Our message is that we are making improvement in more areas than we didn't improve in. MEAP still is valid, reliable data."

The board also is asking Baracy to come up with a comprehensive and dynamic customer service plan that will change the way the district does business and delivers its product to improve students achievement.

Asked by Middel to do a survey of districts in Wayne County with customer service plans, Baracy said the likelihood is that other districts "have probably done nothing."

"If we're going to compete educationally, we have to get our stuff together," he said. "Parents now have choices, they don't just have to come to us. We need to go deeper and take the time to develop this plan."

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# Walkers hit the streets to beat breast cancer

By Ken Abramczyk  
Staff Writer

Michele Tanderys and her friend, Cecelia Brown, both of Livonia, had just finished walking 24 miles Friday afternoon.

And they were ready for more, ready to total 60 miles in three days, continuing the Susan G. Komen 3-Day, with two other friends, Pam Smith of Beverly Hills and Melissa Marzorati of Bloomfield Township.

"We're walking for my friend, Missy," Tanderys said of Marzorati, who celebrated her fourth year cancer-free. Brown's mother-in-law is a 10-year survivor.

Last year, the event raised \$4.1 million with 1,500 participants, raising funds and awareness for breast cancer.

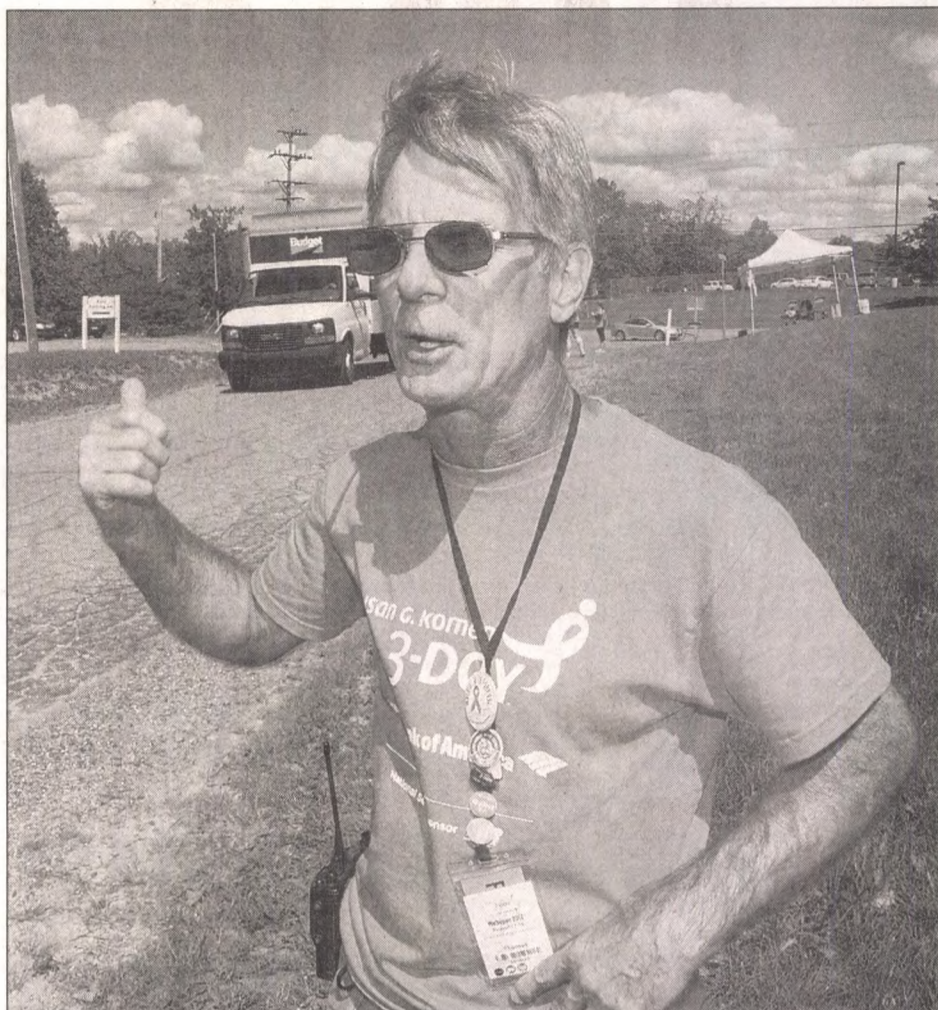
The four walkers were some of the 1,100-member contingent that walked from Oakland Mall in Troy through Clawson, Royal Oak, Beverly Hills, Southfield, Farmington Hills and Farmington before entering Livonia and camping at Greenmead Historical Park. Nationally, approximately 19,000 walkers participate in 15 walks.

Tanderys, a sixth-grade teacher at Riley Upper Elementary in Livonia, raised \$2,800, and Brown, a first-grade teacher at Moraine Elementary in Northville, raised \$2,600. Both were walking in their first 3 Day. "I feel pretty good," Tanderys said. "I'm pleasantly surprised. My knees are a little weak."

"We started training in January and all summer. We could not have asked



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Kim Minito, of Livonia, dances her way into camp at the end of the 24-mile hike.



Volunteer Tom Liske is from Livonia.



Pam Smith of Beverly Hills, Cecilia Brown and Michelle Tanderys, both of Livonia, and Melissa Marzorati of Bloomfield Township, entering camp after the first day of the event.



Jill Buth, of Coopersville, enjoys a few moments of bliss, sitting in a massage chair and eating an ice cream sandwich

for better weather." Dr. Sheri Phillips, spokesperson for the Susan G. Komen 3-Day, said money raised by the walkers helps provide more personalized medicine to bedsides for patients, funds research and promotes early screening and educational programs. Approximately \$740 million was raised since 1982, Phillips said.

"Breast cancer death rates have dipped by 33 percent since 1990," Phillips said. "The five-year survival rate for early cancer was 74 percent in 1982. That is now 99 percent."

Phillips said the turnout for the Detroit walk was fabulous, noting it had nearly as many as Chicago's 1,200.

Tom Liske, whose wife Pala, a breast cancer survivor and walker who was featured in an article in the *Livonia Observer* on Thursday, worked as a crew volunteer. He

was directing cars into the handful of available parking spaces. "It started out that I was supporting my wife, and now (the walkers) are family," Liske said of his volunteering. "We're all family. It's unbelievable."

Jennifer Paczas of Westland walked the 3-Day in the past, but decided this year to volunteer. "I wanted to help out in a different way," Paczas said. She worked on the lunch crew, serving up sandwiches, cookies and chips.

Walkers made their way into camp late Friday afternoon. Many were from southeastern Michigan, but some came a long way.

Ruth Susee of Kenduskeag, Maine, sat in a chair and relaxed with a bottle of water. It was her 15th walk.

"I'm a survivor," she said. She also had a close friend who was diagnosed in 2004, then died three

years later. She has other friends who have been diagnosed, too, whom she walks for as well. "I have four granddaughters and they are the main reason now," Susee said.

Susee participated in walks in California three times and in Chicago. "The community support here is wonderful," Susee said. "It is top-notch; it really is. It is amazing the people who are out."

Susee referenced the spectators out on the streets along the walk and at cheering stations, something not lost on Tanderys and Brown.

"Everybody was wonderful," Brown said. "My two favorite people who I saw today was a girl in her 20s. All she said was, 'Thank you so much for walking,' and an elderly woman, who was also sitting by herself, who said the same thing," Tanderys said. "In those moments, I wonder about their stories."

Kim Minito of Livonia, who is a special ed para-pro at Churchill High School in Livonia, danced her way down the walkway entering the camp. "(The walk) was for my sister, sister-in-law, mother-in-law, friends and aunts," she said, adding that she felt phenomenal. "I've been training," Minito said. "That's the secret."

Marzorati celebrates her fourth year without cancer with the walk, which is also her fourth

walk, as she has participated in each one each year since. "I raised a survivor's flag at last year's walk," she said. She walks "to find a cure," Marzorati said. "I love it," she said of the walk. "I love the camaraderie her. Everyone is here for the same purpose."

She intends to walk "until they don't let me walk anymore."

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4:50, 9:10  
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12:15, 2:30, 7:00 FRI/SAT LS 12:00  
THE EXPENDABLES 2 (R)  
11:45, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:45  
FRI/SAT LS 12:00  
SPARKLE (PG-13)  
11:00, 1:40, 4:10, 6:45, 9:15  
FRI/SAT LS 11:45  
THE ODD LIFE OF TIMOTHY GREEN (PG)  
11:20, 1:50, 4:15, 6:35, 9:05  
FRI/SAT LS 11:25  
THE BOURNE LEGACY (PG-13)  
12:00, 3:15, 6:40, 9:20  
FRI/SAT LS 11:20  
THE CAMPAIGN (R)  
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30  
FRI/SAT LS 11:30  
DIARY OF A WIMPY KID: DOG DAYS (PG)  
11:10, 1:30, 4:05  
THE DARK KNIGHT RISES (PG-13)  
6:15, 9:35  
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In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.  
Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.  
Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.  
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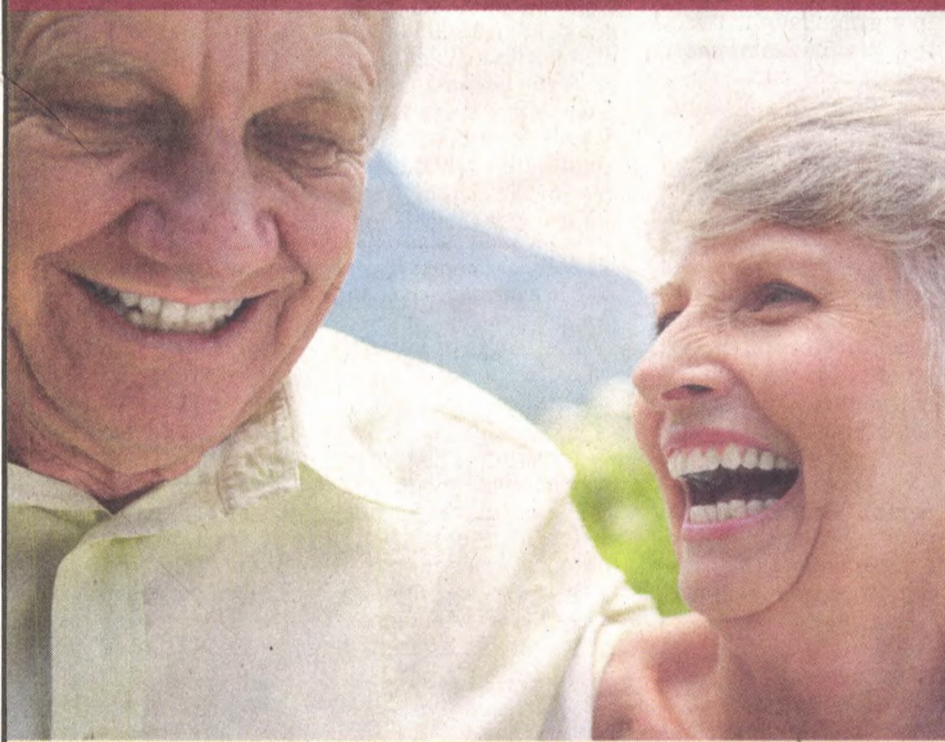
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# 529 Plan offers great flexibility for college expenses

By Rick Bloom  
Guest Columnist

**Q:** Dear Rick: I have a 529 Plan for my grandchild, who will start graduate school in the fall. He didn't need the money for undergrad, but needs it for graduate school. Do I assume there is no problem using this money for graduate school? In order to withdraw the money, what type of paperwork and supporting documents will I need to provide the 529 company? I'm not sure it matters, but I don't have the Michigan plan.

**A:** There is no problem using the proceeds from the 529 for graduate school. That is one of the great benefits of the 529 Plan; you have flexibility as to when you can use the money.

In that regard, there is



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

no one right answer when to use the money because it depends upon a number of factors. These include potential scholarships, availability of loans, tax credits (such as the American Opportunity or Lifetime Learning) and other tax issues.

As to the paperwork, you need to provide the 529 carrier. Generally, it is relatively simple and straightforward. Most 529 companies do not require you to provide any backup docu-

mentation. However, they do require that you complete a form and indicate whether the money is for a qualified education expense.

The great majority of 529 companies do not require any backup documentation. That, however, does not mean that you do not have to have the documentation. In the unlikely event that you are audited, it is possible that the IRS will ask for documentation of any withdrawal from the 529 Plan. As long as the money withdrawn is for a qualified education expense such as room and board, tuition, books and required fees, there should be no problem. These expenses are known as qualified

expenses and so upon withdrawal of the money there are no tax consequences.

Talking about taxes on 529 Plans, when you do withdraw money, whether it's a qualified or non-qualified expense, you will generally receive a 1099Q. This is an informational document and it is up to you to determine if there are any tax consequences. Remember, if it's for a qualified expense, there would be no tax issues.

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. *Observer & Eccentric* readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit his website at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).

# Alleged petition fraud may extend back to previous McCotter campaigns

By Ken Abramczyk  
Observer Staff Writer



McCotter

It appears Thaddeus McCotter's campaign fell short of signatures to nominate him in previous congressional campaigns, indicating the alleged signature fraud may extend prior to this year's congressional race.

Four staffers — Don Yowchuang, Paul Seewald, Mary M. Turnbull and Lorianne O'Brady — were charged with a total of 13 felonies and 21 misdemeanors in connection with petition signature fraud this year.

Attorney General Bill Schuette indicated at a press conference on Aug. 9 in which he announced the charges that the staffers likely did the same thing in 2008, using 2006 signatures. Schuette did not issue charges for 2008, he said, because the statute of limitations ran out.

At least two media organizations have analyzed the nominating petitions provided by Practical Political Consulting of East Lansing and reported that McCotter fell short of the 1,000 required validated signatures to run in 2010. One of them, the *Detroit Free Press*, found that McCotter's campaign did not obtain the minimum signatures in 2008.

Practical Political Consulting, which provides voter lists for candidates, had in its possession McCotter's nominating petitions between 2002 and 2010, which were obtained by several news outlets, including the *Observer*. The petitions exceed 800 pages in length.

Jim Daggy, a data architect with Practical Political Consultants, said he completed a "cursory flip-through" of the documents, but had not completed a formal analysis of the documents. He found white spots near dates where it appeared that White out had been used at the election year at the top of the petition.

The *Free Press* found that 2002 and 2004 petitions had few duplicates, but in 2008, at least 67 of the 177 petition pages submitted were either

copies or had been doctored by cutting and pasting dates from other documents onto the petitions. In 2010, at least 73 of the 167 pages turned in were duplicates, which would have invalidated more than 1,000 of the signatures. In 2012, both the cut-and-paste and duplicate tricks were used.

Daggy was surprised at what he called the "progressive brazenness" from 2006 to 2008. "I can spot visual red flags and there were white spots or White out and some records never had any background color," Daggy said, indicating that those were photocopies.

A message was left with former McCotter spokesman Randall Thompson. Repeated attempts to contact McCotter have been unsuccessful since his resignation on July 6. In a statement after the charges were announced on Aug. 9, McCotter thanked the attorney general and his office "for their earnest, thorough work on this investigation."

Joy Yearout, spokeswoman for Schuette's office, said the office had obtained the electronic copies of the petitions. Yearout said the office wasn't anticipating additional fraud charges from the new information as the statute of limitations has passed.

"We are reviewing the information, and we could present this information in court to present a pattern of behavior," Yearout said.

Yearout said the investigation continues and that more interviews are being conducted. "If we find other laws were broken, we could file additional charges later," Yearout said.

McCotter was not charged. On Aug. 9, Schuette said his office "did not have specific, direct evidence" of his involvement.

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# Cassis has no plans to end her candidacy in special election Sept. 5

By Ken Abramczyk  
Observer Staff Writer

Nancy Cassis has no plans to withdraw her candidacy in the special primary election on Sept. 5 to fill the unexpired term of U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter.

Cassis, a former state senator from Novi who recently ran as a write-in candidate on the Republican ballot against Kerry Bentivolio of Milford, in the new 11th Congressional District, is also running in the old 11th District along with Bentivolio and Livonia residents Ken Crider, Carolyn Kavanagh and Steve King on the Republican ballot. The winner will face David Curson of Belleville, who is the lone Democrat in the general election on Nov. 6.

Bentivolio issued a press release on Tuesday, calling on her to withdraw.

"Nancy Cassis has changed her mind and decided to run in the special election even after stating on *Off the Record* that she would not run if she lost the primary," Bentivolio said. "It's unfortunate, yet not sur-

prising, that she has decided to do this. Today, I called on Nancy Cassis to reconsider her decision to run so we can focus on taking the fight to the Democrats, and I ask our supporters to do the same."

Bentivolio said that if Cassis won the special election, "it would cost the residents of Michigan's 11th Congressional District from having a Congressman with higher seniority come January 2013." If Bentivolio wins the special election in the old district and again in November in the old and new districts, he would have two months seniority on the incoming class of freshmen Congressmen.

Cassis said Bentivolio's characterization of her comment on the television show was incorrect, and added that she made the remark in the context of only two candidates in the race. "That all changed when three people from Livonia filed," Cassis said. "He's playing with words."

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2012 FOOTBALL PREVIEW — PART 1



Veteran Canton varsity football coach Tim Baechler gives instructions about a practice drill to players last week. He expects the Chiefs to continue as a contender.

# Chiefs eye quick start

By Tim Smith  
 Observer Staff Writer

You won't catch Canton varsity head coach Tim Baechler looking back or looking too far ahead when it comes to gearing up for the 2012 football season.

For sure, Baechler's Chiefs weren't happy about losing to Novi-Detroit Catholic Central in last year's playoffs — the second time in three years Canton's title hopes were dashed by the Shamrocks.

But as the new season kicks off, it will be about beating every opponent on the schedule, beginning with Thursday's opener against Midland (7 p.m. at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park).

"It's not who you lose to, it's when you lose your last game you're not happy," said Baechler, beginning his 15th season at the Canton helm.

"Even though you lose to a good team it doesn't matter, it still doesn't feel good."

"Believe me that's not the motivation (for 2012). The motivation is to win every game you play."

Midland went 9-2 last season, so the Chiefs' first-ever tilt against the Chemics will provide stiff competition.

"It's good to come in and you know you're playing a very good team and we've got to be ready to go," Baechler added.

Another tough game follows (against Brighton) before the Chiefs go to work against KLAA South Division opponents.

#### Planning to win

"We're going to be able to compete," said Baechler, asked about whether he thought his team had the right stuff to win the division. "We plan on winning every game. Whether that happens or not, that's just our mindset."

mindset."

You won't find Baechler lamenting losing a boatload of top performers to graduation, either. Gone from 2011's roster are quarterback Kyle Adams, running backs Kevin Buford, Zac Merillat and Ryan Jones.

So are Zach Smilo and Evan Rinke, two mainstays on a defense that held four teams to 14-or-fewer points last fall.

Instead, it's merely time to reload.

At the top of the list is promising sophomore quarterback Greg Williams, who plays more like a junior or senior.

"He's got a good head on his shoulders," said Baechler, noting that Williams was a starter for the Canton varsity boys basketball team as a freshman. "He wants the ball in his hands, he wants to make plays in crunch time."

Please see CHIEFS, B2

# Salem gridders set to flip the script

By Tim Smith  
 Observer Staff Writer

Four years into the Kurt Britnell era at Salem, it's not quite yet time to pick the low-hanging fruit off the playoff tree.

But the long-awaited taste of success could at last be within reach as the Rocks prepare for the 2012 high school football season.

With a deeper, healthier roster, Britnell and everybody connected with the team expects it to be the year for finally getting over the hump in the standings and as a program.

"That's the expectations we have," Britnell said. "That's the next step, we're expecting to win. We as a staff expect to win, I think our players expect to win, I think our parents expect us to win."

"And I think we're reaching to a point where even the outsiders are expecting that next step. ... You kind of talk about that in year one, year two, that that's what we want to do and what we're striving for."

"But this is the year, with our first-year seniors, that we expect to win. If we don't win, that will be a huge disappointment."

#### Good signs

Boasting a new slogan — "Win From Within" — an all-for-one team attitude solidified last week at a three-day mini-camp at Adrian College, all signs point to good things beginning with Friday's season opener (7 p.m. vs. Ann Arbor Huron at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park).

"The big thing we've done coming out of camp is we are competing. They have to compete to get a starting job. Before, it hasn't been that way because we've been that thin."

"We're finally reaching that point where everybody has to compete for playing time, and it's huge."



One of the keys to Salem's 2012 season is senior quarterback Jake Deprez (No. 11), shown from action last year.

Britnell emphasized the benefits of the Adrian camp, where it was "nothing but football, no distractions. It's good to be a part of that."

Now, the goal is to build on that camaraderie with victories, enough to make some noise in the KLAA Central Division and perhaps enjoy enough of an upward spike in wins from last year (the team went 3-6) to qualify for a playoff spot.

"I tell the guys why not?" Britnell said. "Our side is pretty wide open, so why not us?"

The Rocks will be led by returning senior quarterback Jake Deprez, who had some

Please see SALEM, B3

## BOYS SOCCER PREVIEW

# Chiefs eager to defend D1 title

By Tim Smith  
 Observer Staff Writer

Defending its Division 1 boys soccer championship might be quite an assignment for the Canton Chiefs, having had so many key players graduate.

But veteran Canton head coach George Tomasso doesn't look at things quite that way as the 2012 season gets started this week (not counting Saturday's annual Gary Balconi Invitational).

"We're fortunate enough to be in a city where every team, every year is going to be competitive," said Tomasso, beginning his 10th year as head coach. "It depends on what results we get."

Last year's results were sensational, with the Chiefs going 24-1-2 and winning 1-0 in the D1 final against Grand Haven on a goal by Dan Ovesea.

Canton made it that far thanks to a 1-0 win over Warren DeLassalle in the semifinal, thanks to a marker by Griffin Parks.

Although the Chiefs lost a number of key performers to graduation (including Connor Furgas-

on, Tyler Wittingham and Mitch Posuniak to name just three), Tomasso is buoyed to know that both Ovesea and Parks are back for another season.

Ovesea (senior co-captain) and junior Parks will be counted upon for continued success up front and at midfield, respectively.

But they won't need to do it alone.

The Chiefs' offense also will be strengthened by senior co-captain midfielder Bobby Budlong, healthy after being sidelined to injury in 2011.

Others in the mix up front include returning senior Scott Piwowar (midfielder/forward), junior Alex Rej and sophomore Aiden Shennan.

Another player Tomasso thinks can make opposing defenses pay will be junior midfielder Cody Widlak.

"Cody's a dynamic, quick player that has the ability to frustrate other teams' defenses," Tomasso said. "I think he can contribute offensively quite well."

Sophomore Jack Zemanski could be heard from at midfield, too.

#### Depth on defense

But Tomasso likes how his defense is shaping up, spearheaded by senior Connor Shennan.

Another player who could make an impact is senior defender Nick Tomei, described as "a strong athlete with a good, defensive mind. He does a good job organizing along the back line."

Other defenders include seniors Brian Galm, Sachin Pindolia; juniors Bryan Tolinski, Zach Homco, Robbie Morgan, Dom Murphy and Andrew Newton.

Last year's backup goalie will be the No. 1 guy — senior Ian Wingate, backed up by junior Brandon Pickert.

Canton opens the regular season 7 p.m. Monday at Walled Lake Western before hosting Northville 7 p.m. Tuesday.

"I think it's wide open this year," said Tomasso, about the KLAA South Division. "It's a competitive division. We definitely have an opportunity to compete for it."

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One of the offensive mainstays for defending champion Canton is Daniel Ovesea (left), shown in this file photo.



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# SALEM

Continued from page B1

good moments last year before injuries struck him (along with stand-out running back Marcus Houston and wide receiver Ryan Jankowski).

"There was a learning curve he had to go through last year," said Britnell about Deprez. "He's better at reading defenses now. He's knowing my expectations of him on the field and I think he's a true 'coach' out there."

Although Deprez is bigger, stronger and hopefully more durable, the Rocks front line should provide him with plenty of protection.

Returning starters on the offensive line include seniors Nick Howie (6-2, 320), Danny Stropes (6-0, 226), Ray Fisher (5-11, 220) and Cain Smith (6-1, 180). All likely will be called upon for work on the defensive line, too.

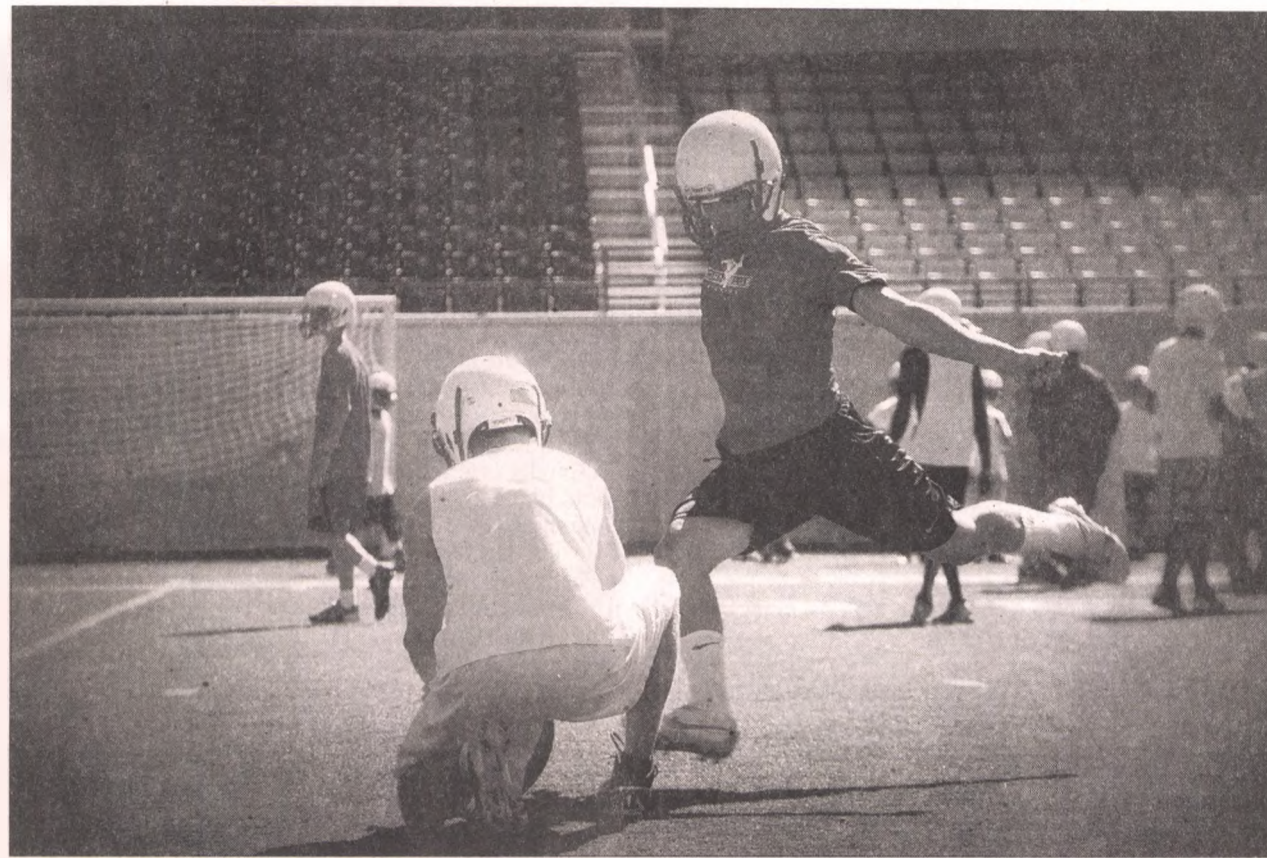
But Britnell will rotate senior Albert "Scooter" Martin (5-10, 195) at tackle and find playing time for senior Matt Grabowski (5-8, 220) and senior Alex Smith (5-7, 190).

"They're all technical, they communicate well about their blocking assignments," the coach noted. "It's just that those guys have a year of playing time under their belt, that's big."

"They've all had a good off-season, they're stronger, more athletic."

### Mix and match

Having players able to be used wherever needed also applies to run-



Salem junior kicker Alex Kenrick puts his foot into one during the team's minicamp at Adrian College.

ning back and receiver, enabling Deprez plenty of options to drive the offense.

A power running back who can shift gears is senior Mike McNamara, with juniors Drake Jordan and Gu'woin Ingram "shifty speedsters" able to break long runs and haul in spirals from Deprez as a bonus.

Augmenting the half-backs will be senior full-back Kyle Cameron, who can block and catch out of the backfield.

"He's a good, all-around football player," Britnell said.

Deprez' top throwing target very well might be returning senior starter Andrew Kelty, also expected to start in the defensive secondary.

### FAST FACTS

**School:** Salem.

**Head coach:** Kurt Britnell, fourth season.

**2011 record:** 3-6 overall, 2-3 in KLAAC Central Division.

**Notable losses to graduation:** Marcus Houston, Evian Pardo, Nick Troher, Tyler Schultz, Jack Vida, Ryan Jankowski.

**Top returnees:** Jake Deprez, Sr. QB; Alex Kenrick, Jr. K-P; Andrew Kelty, Sr. WR-DB; Ivan Rhodes, Sr. WR-DB; Nick Howie, Sr. OL-DL; Matt Grabowski, Sr. OL-DL; Youssef Barakat, Sr. WR-DB; Kyle Cameron, Sr. FB-LB.

**Others to watch:** Justin Sydlowski, Jr. QB-LB; Cain Smith, Jr. OL-DL; Justin Broughman, Sr. TE-LB; Gu'woin Ingram, Jr. RB-DB; Michael McNamara, Sr. RB-DB; Andrew Auquier, Jr. OL-LB.

**Britnell says:** "That's the expectations we have. That's the next step, we're expecting to win."

**Schedule:** (all 7 p.m. except as noted) Friday vs. Ann Arbor Huron; Thursday, Aug. 30 at Walled Lake Northern; Friday, Sept. 7 vs. Novi (JV Field, 6:30 p.m.); Friday, Sept. 14 vs. Northville; Friday, Sept. 21 at South Lyon East; Friday, Sept. 28 at South Lyon; Friday, Oct. 5 at Livonia Stevenson; Friday, Oct. 12 vs. KLAAC crossover (homecoming); Friday, Oct. 19 vs. Canton.

"It doesn't matter if it's offensive practice or defensive practice," the coach continued. "He makes it game-like, he brings that intensity. ... He's a good one to have because he makes everything we do seem like it's Friday night."

"He's a good route runner, good hands, defensively he'll jam you if he's playing at corner. He's just a football player."

Others in the mix for receiver include: senior wide-outs Youssef Barakat, Ivan Rhodes; junior wide-out Josh Boctor; junior tight ends Michael Hoover, Justin Sydlowski and Andrew Hunt.

"Those are all fast guys, athletic guys," he said. "That's the beauty of it, because there are seven

or eight guys battling for three positions. It makes practice fun."

Britnell will be leaning on Howie and Cameron on the defensive line, too. They could get a boost from Hoover (6-3, 195), junior Tony Avant (6-0, 205), Fisher and senior Justin Broughman (6-1, 190).

"We can stay fresh because all of those guys are going to be playing offense, too," he said.

### Numbers game

Slated to start at linebacker is Sydlowski, who Britnell said "will do anything needed to win, he's one of those kids."

Several others vying for playing time there include Hunt, juniors Andrew Auquier and Jon Nushi and sophomore Ben Howie.

Freshman Alex Nicholson (6-1, 190) also is making a bid to make the varsity. If he does, he could see spot duty at linebacker.

The backfield will feature Kelty, McNamara, Jordan along with Barakat and Boctor.

According to Britnell, the Rocks' much-improved depth will be a factor as the squad goes through the season.

"I felt the first couple years we were kind of strapped with our options," he emphasized. "It was kind of like this is what we had and what we had to deal with."

"In the past, I wouldn't say we had 22 starters. Now we have more than 22, that's why competition is so good."

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BOYS TENNIS PREVIEW — PART 1



Plymouth's Charlie Hou is one of the key returnees for the Wildcats this season.

'Cats could be tough

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth varsity boys tennis coach Tom Kimball will miss the start of the 2012 season to recover from rotator cuff surgery. He will be watching to see how the Wildcats, with interim coach Erik Batell in charge for a while, combine experience with fresh promise in hopes of building on last season. Last year, the Wildcats finished tied for the KLAA South Division title with Canton (each sporting 4-1 records). "I have some experienced and talented dou-

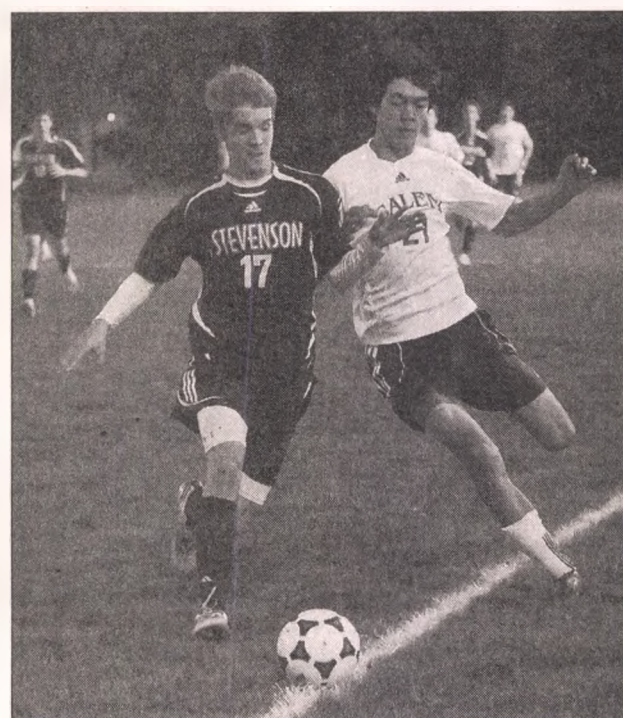
bles teams and I have some young, hard-hitting singles players," Kimball said. "I expect us to be in the running for another division title. "And we should do some damage in the invitationals and tournaments we participate in this fall." Plymouth's singles lineup features young talent, with freshman Jordan Lou slated for the No. 1 spot. Sophomore Charlie Hou is back and will start at No. 2 while freshman Kevin Hou and junior Jon Conn will handle No. 3-4 singles, respectively. Where the experience

could be key is in doubles. Seniors Dylan Grant and Cameron Earls will be the No. 1 tandem with senior co-captains Joe Klots and Danny Sinnott at No. 2. Seniors also comprise No. 3 doubles, with the duo of Praveen Loganathan and Akash Yerakola ready to roll. At No. 4 will be juniors Bryan Caragay-Jared Hopf with juniors Charlie Anderson-Tyler Smith expected to fill the No. 5 position. The Wildcats are scheduled to open the regular season Tuesday at Dexter.

tsmith@hometownlife.com  
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Rocks have chance to excel this season

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer



Salem's Chris Dierker (No. 21), shown in this file photo, is back with the Rocks for his senior season.

Despite losing several key performers from last season, Salem varsity boys soccer coach Ed McCarthy is enthusiastic about his team's chances in the KLAA Central Division this fall. The Rocks, who finished 8-7-4 overall and 6-3-1 in the KLAA Central, lost defender Jake Genrich, midfielder Chris Ensor and forward Jake Pascarella, along with Blake Townes and Austin Covert. Yet McCarthy is counting on players who were contributors in 2011 to take the next step. "Although losing more than half of the scoring from last year, we are hopeful our attack can improve over last year," McCarthy said. "And defensively, if we can keep our goals-against average under 1.0 per game we will have the opportunity for a good year. "Ultimately, we would like to compete for the division championship and have a good run in the state tournament." Senior co-captains Tyler Fosdick (midfield) and Luke Hazen (defense) also will bring leadership to the pitch and help the Rocks mesh. Joining Fosdick at mid-

field will be seniors Connor Cole, Tyler Bashaw and junior Andriy Pelek. Others in the rotation include juniors William Benintende, Traven Thai and Alex Price. Hazen heads a solid cast of defenders. Also in the back line will be senior Grant McKinney, junior Josh Dillon, senior Daniel Marsden, juniors Joe Kunnath and Walid Kandah. Scoring will need to come from returning starters Brady Cole (junior) and Chris Dier-

er (senior) with help from juniors David Schroeder and Matthew DeMoss. The Rocks plan on getting playing time for both goalkeepers — Collin Hewett (junior) and Erick Beas (senior), both back from last year's squad. "We should have experience in goal," McCarthy said. "Erick is an excellent shot blocker and Collin is able to dominate the 18-yard box with his reach." tsmith@hometownlife.com (734) 469-4128

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 2012 6:00 P.M.**

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, September 6, 2012 commencing at 6:00 p.m., to consider:

- Application 1497, 14975 Cleat ST: The applicant is in the IND zoning district and is requesting two variances.
  - The applicant is requesting that (1) wall sign be allowed on the front of the building facing Cleat ST with no ingress/egress door on the front of the building.
  - The applicant is requesting (1) monument sign allowed to be constructed without a brick or masonry base.
- Application 1498, 47519 Halyard: The applicant is in a TAR zoning district and is requesting one variance. The applicant is requesting (1) monument sign allowed to be constructed without a brick or masonry base.
- Application 1499, 47603 Halyard: The applicant is in a TAR zoning district and is requesting one variance. The applicant is requesting (1) monument sign allowed to be constructed without a brick or masonry base.

The meeting will be held at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

For further information contact Plymouth Township Building Department 734 354-3210.

Publish: August 19, 2012

**STOW & GO SELF STORAGE AUCTION NOTICE**

Pursuant to state law, Notice is hereby given that a public auction will be held at **STOW & GO SELF STORAGE, 41999 ANN ARBOR ROAD, PLYMOUTH, MI** on **August 25, 2012 at 10:00 am**, on past due tenants listed below. The entire contents of the following units will be auctioned and sold to the highest bidder on each individual unit. **CASH ONLY! DESCRIPTION IS BRIEF SUMMARY OF ITEMS, MAY OR MAY NOT CONTAIN MORE OR LESS ITEMS**

**Unit #013- HAZELEE FRANCE, 9108 N LILLEY #140, PLYMOUTH 48170**  
Vacuum, TV, tables, dresser, stuffed chair, table game, misc. boxes and other items

**Unit #412- DONALD HOFFMAN, 650 PROVINCETOWN LAKE, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170**  
Dewalt Recipical saw, Washer & Dryer, Wagner spray painter, Fan, (4) boxes of CDs, softball equipment, misc. mens clothing, (2) Finish Nailers, folding chairs, misc. boxes, and other misc. items.

**Unit #523- CAROL LOESCH, 840 MC KINLEY, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170**  
Golf clubs, table saw, stroller, shop vac, TV, kids toys, bookshelf, stereo equipment, 8mm movie projector, argus 300 projector, film splicer, misc. boxes, and other misc. items.

**Unit #536- CHRIS MANDELKA, 28428 DONNELLY, GARDEN CITY, MI 48135**  
Shelving unit(s), toiler, children games, saw horses, (3) sectional mirror, (3) wheel baby stroller, misc. boxes and other misc. items.

**Unit #567- DEREK DIDARIO, 3086 N. CUSTER, MONROE, MI 48162**  
Leather couch & loveseat, vacuum, stereo systems, fan, misc. carpet, Sharp TV, full mattress & boxspring, sentry safe, small tool box, misc. boxes and other misc. items.

**Unit #621- ROB CLOUGH, 9450 S. MAIN #101, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170**  
Large dresser, camping chairs, propane tank, luggage, framed pictures, misc. boxes and other misc. items.

**Unit #694- NICOLE GNATEK, 1014 S. CAMPBELL, ROYAL OAK, MI 48067**  
Metal file cabinet, recliner, glass table with 4 chairs, TV, bed frame, mattress set, misc. xmas decorations, coffeemaker, misc. boxes and other misc. items.

**Unit #695- RICHARD ESTEP, 15670 NORTHVILLE FOREST DR., PLYMOUTH, MI 48170**  
Metal Art pieces, metal trunk, duffle bags, model cars, misc. xmas decorations, walker, misc. books, misc. boxes and other misc. items.

**Unit #722- JEFFREY SMOLKA, 15863 ALEXANDER, LIVONIA, MI 48154**  
Dewalt drill & rotor, 6 ft. ladder, misc. boxes and other misc. items.

**SALE DATE IS AUGUST 25, 2012 AT 10:00 A.M.**

Publish: August 19 & 23, 2012

**PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL**

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

Jeff Neschich sees plenty of promise for his Plymouth varsity boys soccer team as it goes to work for another season. The Wildcats (like the other Plymouth-Canton Educational Park teams) took part in Saturday's annual Gary Balconi Invitational and now prepare to start the KLAA season with games this week. Plymouth hosts Walled Lake Central on Monday. "I think we have a strong core of players," Neschich said. "And if they come together and jell together and do what is needed to take us to that next step. "It's exciting, it's a great group of boys and I'm excited to work with them." After finishing 7-5-2 overall and 6-2-2 in the KLAA South Division in 2011, the Wildcats return integral members of that squad. Co-captain Chandler Olah and D.K. Kim are "two explosive strikers" who should spark the offense. In the midfield will be seniors Chris Lebloda, Ted Phillips and junior Viet Nguyen, all returnees. Senior co-captain Jeff Pattison, senior Kris Janevski and junior Vikas Kanneganti are top defenders back from 2011, with sophomore newcomer Calvin McCracken expected to become a key part of the rotation. "I think Calvin McCracken in our back line is going to be an impact player," Neschich noted. Another sophomore who has potential is Alex Decker. In goal will be senior Mario Gruszczynski and sophomore James Gibbs. They will look to fill the void left by the graduation of standout Rene Mejia. Rounding out the roster are Dan Bute, Jason Liguori, Aaron Bergmans, Brian Brown, Nathan Harris and Mike Blake. "I think we're going to be solid," Neschich said. "It's a work in progress, especially figuring who fits where and how well we can fit pieces to the puzzle." tsmith@hometownlife.com (734) 469-4128

**Lady Ocelots retool roster, eye nationals**

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

Everything went according to plan for last year's Schoolcraft College women's soccer with one exception. The Lady Ocelots went 15-0-2 in their first 17 games, only to be denied by host Delta College in the NJCAA Region XII championship game, 5-3, on penalty kicks after the two teams played to a scoreless draw through the first 120 minutes. That loss kept the Lady Ocelots from going to the NJCAA Division I National Tournament in Brevard, Fla. Eight players remain from that 2011 squad, which captured the first-ever Michigan Community College Athletic Association title with a 6-0 record. Returning sophomore starters include forward Lauren Badalamente (Woodhaven), midfielder Emily Behnke (Warren Cousino), defender Rachael Eklund (Utica Eisenhower), midfielder Kayla Szado (Livonia Churchill) and defender Anthoula Papaioannou (Riverview). They are joined by holdovers Megan McDonald, a sophomore defender from Churchill; Alejandra Mesa, a midfielder from Livonia Franklin; and Kelly Twigg, a sophomore forward-midfielder from Churchill. "We definitely want to defend the league championship, and play at the high standard that Schoolcraft is known for," said Schoolcraft coach Deepak Shivraman, now in his eighth season. "We have a great balance of veteran, savvy players with a fresh group of highly skilled and enthusiastic freshmen." Shivraman has added 14 freshmen including local products Rachel Blackney (Churchill), a center-midfielder; Lisa McMullen (Churchill), midfielder-defender; Danielle Schendel (Canton), goalkeeper; Alexis Smith (Franklin), goalkeeper; and Shannon Merritt (Livonia Stevenson), outside-midfielder. They hope to make up for the loss of Sam Zirelli (Texas A&M), Ashley Welch (University of Detroit Mercy), Lindsay McMullen (Madonna Uni-

versity) and Renee Boudreau, the latter three whom earned All-Region 12 and All-MCCAA honors. Rounding out the squad are first-year players Taylor Bunyak (Anchor Bay), forward; Tara Gessler (Brighton), goalkeeper; Samantha Jarrett (Northville), midfielder; Hunter Jarecki (Grosse Ile), defender; Madison Kobylk (Lapeer East), forward-midfielder; Erin McKay (home schooled), midfielder; Chelsea Meador (Warren Mott), defender; Sydney Popiel (Dearborn Divine Child), center-midfielder; and Alex Walker (White Lake Lakeland), center-midfielder. The Lady Ocelots launch their season at 6 p.m. Wednesday at Northwood University. "It's matter of how quick our new players can assimilate to our Schoolcraft soccer culture and learn and be able to operate within our systems of play and performance," Shivraman said. "With women's soccer, one of the key things is to establish strong team chemistry and we are striving to do that on a daily basis."



## Making a difference

### Former Livonia resident finishes first year in 'domestic Peace Corps'

By Sharon Dargay  
O&E Staff Writer

Katerina Sartori knew exactly what she wanted in her first job after college — and it wasn't big pay and benefits.

"My main focus was to work with poverty and education. Those are my two big passions," said the Mercy High School graduate. "I applied to places all over the country ... Habitat for Humanity, domestic violence shelters, soup kitchens."

She found the job that she hoped would make a difference in kids' lives on the north side of St. Louis. Mo. One day after her graduation last year from Saginaw Valley State University, Sartori accepted an assignment tutoring first graders in reading.

She packed her bags, said good-bye to her family in Livonia and began serving in AmeriCorps St. Louis.

"It's kind of like the domestic Peace Corps. There are multiple programs across the country. Our program in St. Louis is unique. We have an education team, which I serve on, and an emergency response team, which deals with tornado and fire." A third component,



Katerina Sartori, a former Livonia resident, says she enjoys tutoring youngsters in St. Louis, Mo. The Mercy High School graduate says she has always enjoyed helping others.

City-Wide Service Team, works out of the mayor's office. The education team works with students in kindergarten through ninth grade in nine St. Louis schools.

"It's referred to as devoting a year of my life to serving the community," said Sartori, in a phone interview from her home in St. Louis. "I'm never in anything for the money. I understand we need it to survive and I've learned to live very frugally. I work hard for the money I do earn and I don't throw it away on things that don't mean something to me."

#### Funded by grants

AmeriCorps members earn a monthly living stipend rather than a weekly paycheck during their 10-month assignments. They also receive a \$5,350 educational award when they leave the program. Sartori, who has a degree in communications, plans to return to school for a teaching degree in the future. In the meantime, she hopes the St. Louis school district will match a federal grant needed to bring the AmeriCorps team to Clay Elementary for another school year.

"It would be a shame to not have an opportunity



Katerina Sartori helps youngsters improve their reading skills through her tutoring assignment with AmeriCorps.

to be there. I had an opportunity to tutor one-on-one eight students below grade level for reading 90 minutes a week. I did my own personalized lesson plans and targeted skills for each of the kids," said Sartori, who also served as a teaching assistant in class. "Some of my students, when I started, were at preschool level. They didn't know the alphabet."

Sartori won't forget the day her students first wrote their own names. Or the girl who said if she were granted three wishes, she'd complete high school, college and find a nursing job to help her family.

"That was something that surprised me because I wouldn't expect someone in first grade to say something like that. A lot of kids don't think about continuing their education. No one expects them to continue their education," she said. "We were a

big presence in their lives, always encouraging them and believing in them."

#### Giving back

After school ended in June, Sartori worked in an AmeriCorps summer program that aids families in crisis. She also has volunteered on weekends at an animal shelter, where she adopted a terrier mix last spring.

Sartori can't recall a time when she didn't volunteer.

"When I was growing up, I always liked doing extra projects. I'd donate clothes, go to soup kitchens, things like that. In high school I started doing Relay for Life and any other volunteer options available."

While on winter and spring breaks in college, she volunteered at nonprofit organizations around the country, including a shelter in Washington D.C. and a group home for sexually

abused girls in South Carolina.

"I love it. I feel I was given a lot growing up and it's my way to give back," said Sartori, 24, the second eldest of four daughters. She credits her parents, Anthony and Margaret, for teaching her to help others through volunteering.

"Everyone has a passion in life and they have a lot of skills and talents and can use that to benefit others. If you're good with sports, help with a kids team. If you're good with cooking, you can donate to a soup kitchen. With animals, there are tons of shelters that could use extra hands. There's always something you can do. It's something you can continue in life. You can build from it and see where it takes you. My volunteering took me pretty far."

For more information about AmeriCorps, visit [www.americorps.gov](http://www.americorps.gov).

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MEDICAL DATEBOOK

September

**JAMBOREE**

Dawn Farm's annual event celebrates recovery from chemical dependency. This 39th annual gathering, 1-6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 9, will include entertainment for the entire family, live music by NoteWorthy, hayrides, silent and live auctions, a children's tent and midway, food, beverages and farm animals. The Dawn Farm gift shop also will be open. Admission and activities are free. Dawn Farm is located at 6633 Stony Creek Road, Ypsilanti. For more information call (734) 485-8725.

**PROSTATE CANCER SYMPOSIUM**

The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, Wayne State University School of Medicine and The Prostate Net will present the second annual Prostate Cancer Symposium, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 22, at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit. Keynote presenter will be sexual health expert Jeffrey Albaugh, Ph.D. The symposium is free and will offer two educational tracks — one for

patients, families and advocates; and one for medical professionals, including social workers. The program is free. Pre-event registration is required because space is limited. Call (800) KARMANOS.

**WELLNESS FAIR**

The free program is aimed at adults, 50 and over, and will run 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 18, at the Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. It will include healthy cooking and tai chi demonstrations; product and service exhibits; blood pressure, BMI and bone density screenings. A free lunch will be served at 1 p.m. to participants, age 60 and older. The event includes a chance to win a day trip through Bianco Tours. Questions? Call (248) 473-1830.

Ongoing

**AQUATIC CLASSES**

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease the pain of arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m.-noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch; 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch; and 2-3 p.m. Wednesday and Friday,

at the Birmingham branch. All classes are offered to members and nonmembers of every age and participants do not need to know how to swim to participate. To join or for more information, interested individuals can contact their local YMCA branch or visit [www.ymcadetroit.org](http://www.ymcadetroit.org).

**ARTHRITIS SUPPORT**

2-3:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at the Krieger Center, DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. Enter the building via the South Garden entrance. Registration not required.

**BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP**

Meets 6:30-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan Road), Livonia. Call (734) 655-1100, or visit [www.stmarymercy.org](http://www.stmarymercy.org).

**BIPOLAR SUPPORT**

Depression Bipolar Support Alliance meets 6:30-8 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesday at Lincoln Behavioral Services Center, 14500 Sheldon Road, Suite 160B, Plymouth. It is accessed through the Plymouth Executive Park driveway north of M-

14. It is a self-help group for people suffering from depression and bipolar disorders. Meetings are open also to family members. All DBSA leaders are professionally trained and attend two trainings for every year to update their skills in leading the group. Call Nancy at (734) 536-3457 or Katrina at (734) 837-7700 with questions.

**CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUPS**

•St. John's Support Group for the Caregivers of Alzheimer's Patients or patients with other forms of dementia meet the first and third Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426 for information. Authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.  
•Wayne Metro's Caregiver Support Groups offer assistance to those struggling to find or give quality care to loved ones. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month, 10 a.m. to noon, at the Kay Beard Building on Michigan Avenue, Westland. Meetings are also held at the Village of Redford on Six Mile. The morning group meets 10 a.m. to noon on the second Thurs-

day of the month; the evening group meets the fourth Thursday of the month from 6-8 p.m. Adult care may also be available. Call Nancy Coman at (313) 843-2550, Ext. 233.

**CPR CLASSES**

Classes range from basic CPR for people who want to know how to help save a life to certification for those who need CPR for work and state licensure, at DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. First aid classes also available. Classes offered weekday evenings and Saturday mornings. Price varies. Pre-registration required at [www.hvsh.org/hvsh/calendar](http://www.hvsh.org/hvsh/calendar) or call (248) 937-3314.

**DIABETES SUPPORT**

An adult diabetes support group sponsored by the Plymouth Lions Club meets 2-3:30 p.m. the second Thursday of the month, at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, in downtown Plymouth. Fern Vining, a registered nurse, certified diabetes educator and Plymouth Lion will facilitate. There is no charge to attend. Discussion topics will focus on understanding diabetes and self management strategies. Call Vining at (734) 454-0859.

Run for the river, animals

**River trail**

Take a scenic 5K run or walk at 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 2, along the lower branch of the Rouge River in Canton.

The third annual Run for the Rouge will be timed and follow a trail that shows off the unique features of the river. There may be a little mud and uneven surfaces. Registration begins at 8 a.m. at Connection Church, 3855 South Sheldon, Canton. Prizes will be awarded to the top female and male finishers for each age category.

Cost is \$25 in advance and \$30 on race day. Proceeds benefit the public education programs coordinated by Friends of the Rouge, a non-profit organization dedicated to the restoration and stewardship of the Rouge River.

For more information or to sign up, visit [www.therouge.org](http://www.therouge.org).

**Run Wild**

Support veterinary care for the Detroit Zoo's animals by running in 5K or 10K races or walking in a 1.5-mile fun run, Sunday, Sept. 16. Runners will race along the streets of nearby Huntington Woods and walkers follow a course in the zoo, located on 10 Mile (I-696 service drive), at Woodward in Royal Oak.

The 5K will start at 8

a.m., followed by the 10K at 8:45 a.m. and the fun run at 9 a.m.

Registered participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt and may attend a party after the race with food, beverages, children's activities and live entertainment. They'll also get free admission to the Detroit Zoo. Medals will be presented to the top two male and female finishers in each age category.

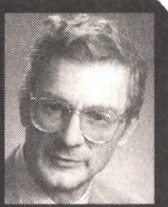
Registration by Aug. 31 is \$20 for the walk, \$25 for the 5K and \$30 for the 10K. After Aug. 31 add \$5 to each race category. For more information or to register, visit [www.detroitzoo.org/runwild](http://www.detroitzoo.org/runwild)



until Sept. 12. Registration also will be available Sept. 14-16 at the zoo.

**Arthritis Today**

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**ARTHRITIS AT 70**

It is not unusual for a doctor to see patients in their seventies or eighties who have their rheumatoid arthritis for forty or more years. Treating these patients presents several problems. First is being sure that the joint pain the patient experiences comes from inflammation rather than from the strain.

The second problem is to determine if medications will give more help than harm. The risks for older people are considerably more than for members of the younger generation. For instance: a side effect of anti-TNF medications, highly effective in treating rheumatoid arthritis, is that the medication makes a patient susceptible to tuberculosis. The risk becomes greater in people who have past or latent tuberculosis now. Therefore the popular drugs such as Enbrel, Remicade, Humira, Simponi and Cimzia are contraindicated for their care.

Another problem for the elderly is cancer. Advancing age brings decreasing ability of the body to identify and eliminate abnormal cells. Medications used to treat rheumatoid arthritis work by impairing the body's ability to mount the response the body needs to destroy abnormal cells. Thus, anti-arthritis medications increase the risk of cancer in the elderly.

Nor can patients with rheumatoid arthritis use non steroidal medications such as ibuprofen safely as they cause both stomach irritation and kidney impairment.

In sum, at present the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis in the patient over age 70 is both difficult and unsatisfactory.

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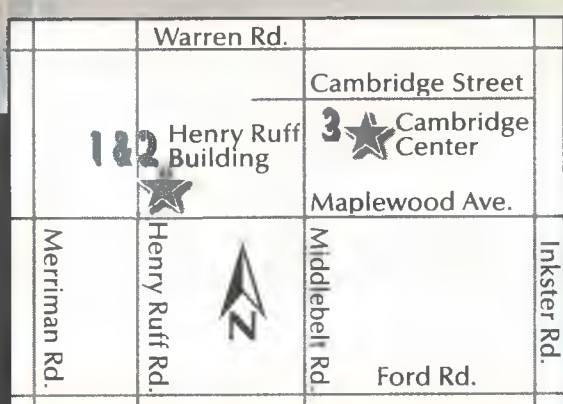
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## Family 'steps out' to raise money for diabetes

By Sharon Dargay  
O&E Staff Writer

Casey Schachern of Farmington Hills takes her role as a Red Strider Family Ambassador seriously.

At 11 years old, Casey, who has type 1 diabetes, is getting the word out about the American Diabetes Association (ADA) fundraising walk Sept. 15 at the Detroit Zoo.

Individuals with diabetes who participate in the event are identified as Red Striders. Casey, her dad, Chris — who has type 2 diabetes — her mom, Tracy, and younger brother, Tyler, will headline the walk as 2012 Red Strider Family Ambassadors. By sharing their story with others, they hope to increase awareness of diabetes and recruit more walkers for the cause.

"I was shaking," Casey said, recalling a recent presentation before 400 employees at Johnson Controls in Plymouth, where her parents both work as engineers. "I did it once before but only in front of 30 people."

The presentation came off without a hitch, as Casey and her brother both addressed the crowd. Tyler told listeners that he wanted to raise money to stop diabetes so that "people can have a better life and be happy." Casey explained that she had received thousands of shots since her diagnosis at age 4. She pointed out that some of the funds raised at the walk go toward the annual ADA diabetes camp in Fenton.

"Diabetes can be very hard, but the one thing I



The Schacherns of Farmington Hills — Tyler (left) Chris, Casey and Tracy — enjoy a visit to the ballpark.

look forward to is going to diabetes camp," she said, reciting a portion of her speech during an interview with the *Observer* last week.

"I like being around kids that are just like me, and I always have a good time."

### Symptoms, complications

The ADA website describes diabetes as a disease that affects the body's ability to produce or use insulin. Insulin is a hormone that is needed to convert sugar, starches and other food into energy. Individuals with type 1 diabetes don't produce insulin. Type 2 diabetes results from the body's failure to properly use insulin, combined with insulin deficiency.

Diabetes sometimes goes undiagnosed

because its symptoms — frequent urination, excessive thirst, extreme hunger, weight loss, fatigue, irritability and blurry vision — may not seem threatening. But complications from untreated diabetes are serious and can lead to heart disease, stroke, kidney failure and nervous system disease.

Chris, whose father, a cousin and an aunt all are diabetic, suspected a medical problem when his symptoms began to emerge.

"I knew something was up. I was going to the bathroom at work 30 times a day. Literally," he said. A physician diagnosed type 2 diabetes and Chris began taking oral medication, later transitioning to insulin shots.

Six months after his diagnosis, Casey, then 4, also began exhibiting symptoms, but neither

parent saw a red flag for diabetes.

"Because she was a little kid, I just thought she wasn't being smart about controlling her bladder," Tracy said. After two bladder infections, her blood was tested and Casey was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes.

"That was a traumatic day," Tracy recalled. "At 4 years old, to all of a sudden have to get shots and have your finger poked, it's hard for a little kid to understand that."

### Managing the disease

Tracy described Casey's onset of type 1 diabetes like "an autoimmune attack."

"Something kicked off a reaction that killed all the cells that make insulin. So, eventually you don't have any cells and



Casey Schachern is all smiles at the American Diabetes Association's annual walk last year at the Detroit Zoo. She and her family raised more than \$5,000 in donations from relatives, friends, co-workers and other supporters.

you can't make insulin. Giving medicine doesn't help you make more insulin. You have to inject it. Every time you eat, you get a shot of insulin."

When she started first grade, Casey began using a diabetes pump. It administers insulin through a small tube inserted under her skin. She changes the infusion site every three days rather than undergo shots six times a day.

"If you go someplace and for some reason you leave your insulin at home, that's a disaster," Tracy said. "But now, she's got the insulin on her. She can swim with the pump on."

"What we've always said for her is you can do anything anyone else does. She just has this

### STEP OUT

**What:** The signature fundraising walk of the American Diabetes Association. Funds go toward research, public awareness, advocacy and programs, such as the annual American Diabetes Association camp in Fenton for children with diabetes.

**When:** 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 15

**Where:** The Detroit Zoo, located on 10 Mile (I-696 service drive) and Woodward Ave., in Royal Oak.

**Details:** Form a team, join a team, walk as an individual or contribute to an online fundraising page.

**Contact:** [stepout.diabetes.org](http://stepout.diabetes.org)

(diabetes) management thing she has to deal with."

Casey plays softball and basketball. Both she and her brother like to golf with their dad. The Schacherns are hardcore Spartan fans and enjoy Michigan State University football games, as well as Tiger Baseball.

Last year the Schachern Diabetes Walk Team raised \$5,080 for the ADA. Their pledge tally is approximately \$3,500 with less than a month before the event.

"People have been pledging. Ultimately we'll probably end up with 10-15 (walkers) on the team," Tracy said. "Our goal is to get up to \$5,000."

For more about the walk, visit [stepout.diabetes.org](http://stepout.diabetes.org).

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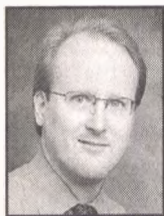
# Car Report

Advertising Feature

## DIESEL POWER KEEPS GAINING WITH AMERICAN CAR BUYERS

By Dale Buss

With gasoline prices again penetrating the \$4-a-gallon mark in more places, it's timely to note that clean-diesel technology continues to gain on a once-skeptical American auto-buying public. Interestingly, the gains are coming at a time when hybrid sales also are climbing in substantial ways that the segment hasn't yet enjoyed.



of Volkswagen of America, said recently that he expects VW to "be able to sustain something longer-term on Passat above 25 percent TDI going forward."

"It's not just an economic argument that people respond to" in purchasing clean-diesel versions of Passat, because of the significantly higher mileage yield of diesel fuel over gasoline, he told journalists. "It's also the convenience of relatively infrequent trips to the gas station and the process of refueling. People enjoy the fact that you get extended mileage from TDI between refuels."

Clean-diesel sales of autos in the U.S. in the first half increased by nearly 28 percent over a year ago, including a 28-percent year-to-year increase in April, 14 percent in May and 22 percent in June, reports the Diesel Technology Forum.

"Despite some volatility in the auto market, clean-diesel auto sales have increased in 22



Audi established itself as a diesel advocate with this "Green Police" ad during the 2010 Super Bowl.

of the past 23 months with double-digit increases in 20 of those months noted Allen Schaefer, the Forum's executive director. "And diesel auto sales increased by more than 30 percent in 12 of these months."

Yet the Forum reported that U.S. hybrid car sales improved by nearly 64 percent during the first half when diesel sales were up by 28 percent; the overall car market was up by 15 percent. These figures seem to indicate that both technologies are gaining important new traction with U.S. consumers as a greater selection of models, in a wider variety of styles, and available at more price points, give mileage-conscious buyers more attractive options than even a year ago. And these new signs of traction for both technologies are coming even as many makers are able to

boast of significantly higher mileage for their conventionally gasoline-powered models.

What's more, even though gasoline prices this year didn't reach the heights of as much as \$5-a-gallon that some analysts had feared, the recent spike of 30 to 40 cents a gallon across the country, because of a variety of apparently short-term factors, was yet another reminder that the United States likely has entered an era where gasoline prices below \$3 a gallon will prove just a fond memory.

With more than 15 new clean-diesel models designated for the U.S. market in the next two years, even further substantial increases in diesel sales seem to be on the horizon. According to the Forum, the new models will include clean-

diesel versions of the Volkswagen Beetle; Audi A6, A8 and Q5 next year and a diesel version of A4 as early as next year; new BMWs with both new 2.0-liter and 3.0-liter inline-six-cylinder engines to expand its existing clean-diesel lineup in the U.S.; a new Jeep Grand Cherokee EcoDiesel planned by Chrysler for 2014; new diesel versions of the Mercedes-Benz S-Class line as well as other new diesels that will give the brand a total of eight diesel models by 2014; diesel versions of the new Cadillac ATS and Chevrolet Cruze next year; and the first mainstream diesel to be offered by an Asian manufacturer in a new Mazda model.

As a brand, Audi seems to be benefiting from its devotion to diesel in the U.S. at least as much as its sibling VW brand. Sales of the clean-diesel version of its A3 reached more than 46 percent of A3 sales in June as overall sales of A3 increased by more than 28 percent over a year ago. And for the other Audi clean-diesel model sold in the United States, the Q7 SUV, clean diesel accounted for nearly 26 percent of sales in July.

Audi led the way in promoting the use of clean diesel in the U.S. market when it wasn't nearly as promising a proposition as now. Partly as a way of differentiating itself from German rivals that sell far more vehicles in the U.S. market, BMW and Mercedes-Benz, Audi began making its Turbo Direct Injection clean-diesel system available on key models a few years ago.



Volkswagen is picking up production of the diesel Passat in Tennessee.

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