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Tax time

Friday is the deadline for Plymouth Township residents to pay their summer tax bills without interest.

Plymouth Township Treasurer Ron Edwards said residents who can't make it by Friday can put the payment in the drop box outside township hall.

"As long as the payment is in the drop box by Monday morning when we come back to work, it is considered timely," Edwards said.

Payments should be dated on or before Sept. 14.

For more information, call Edwards' office at (734) 354-3214.

Culinary delight

Sample fine food, wine, pastries and beverages at the 21st annual Schoolcraft College Culinary Extravaganza 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 23, in the VisTech Center, Livonia.

Tickets are \$50 per person (\$20 is a charitable contribution). Food and beverage vendors from Novi, Birmingham, Royal Oak, Plymouth, Livonia, Traverse City and more will be featured. To purchase tickets, call (734) 462-4518 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation. The event also includes a silent auction and a special raffle (first prize is \$1,000 cash).



U-M ticket contest

Enter our Facebook contest for a chance to win two great tickets to see the University of Michigan Wolverines homecoming game against Illinois on Saturday, Oct. 13, at The Big House. Entering is easy, just go to our website, hometownlife.com, and look to the right in our Don't Miss module for the Wolverines ticket contest.

Fill out the short form and you are entered in the contest. Recommend the contest to a Facebook friend and get five extra entries for every person who also enters the contest. The prize winner will be selected in a random drawing from among all eligible entries Oct. 10.

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rotarians Thomas Adams and Kirk Kohn place another rack of chicken on the fire pit.

Thumbs up for another Plymouth Fall Festival

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Blessed by a cooperative Mother Nature and good crowds, the 2012 version of the Plymouth Community Fall Festival is being called a success.

"We got nothing like the weather was predicting," festival committee president Colleen Brown said Wednesday. "I think it was one of the smoothest festivals we've had in a very long time."

The Fall Festival, Plymouth's oldest continuing annual downtown event, dates from the 1950s. It is a collection of fundraising food booths and full meals, hosted by service clubs, churches, athletic booster groups and other organizations. There is also a car show, a craft fair, free entertainment, carnival rides and the Taste Fest at Station 885 in Old Village.

Brown said the rain that threatened for a time Friday afternoon held off until that night, forcing a short early shutdown. After that, it was pretty clear sailing.



Two-year-old Dylan Barker likes Mom's corn. Dylan, mom Michelle and dad Jordan are from Plymouth.

"The weather was great, so they come. That's a simple equation for the Fall Festival," she said.

Although she didn't have formal reports, Brown said, she heard anecdotally that groups

did well in their fundraising. The Rotary Club of Plymouth chicken barbecue, which had 10,500 meals on hand, sold out early Sunday, for example.

Please see FESTIVAL, A3

Saxton's plans to close after 80 years

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Saxton's Garden Center, which has sold lawn and garden machines, hand tools, fertilizer, seeds and plants to generations of Plymouth-area residents, is going out of business.

Alan Saxton, manager of the family-owned store on Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth, said a combination of prolonged hot weather, a still-struggling economy and competition from big-box stores have cut significantly into business, which depends heavily on equipment sales and service work that all but disappeared this year.

"It's a shame," Saxton said in his store on Tuesday. "We had hoped that things would turn around ... but as the summer progressed, it just kept getting worse, not better."

Closing wasn't something family members hadn't been contemplating, Saxton said, but the decision was made Friday after the store's accountant gave them a dire financial picture.

Please see SAXTON'S, A2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Alan Saxton said the family will close the store largely because of a struggling economy and competition from big-box stores.

Starkweather students settling in after move to Fiegel

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Michelle Broccardo and Brett Winowiecki meet in the hall between classes at the new Starkweather, which has moved to the former Fiegel Elementary School.

Eric Souva looks around his expansive classroom at the former Fiegel Elementary School and can't help but smile.

That's because Souva, who teaches Algebra 1 and business math to Starkweather Alternative High School students, knows this classroom is the only one he'll have to worry about this year.

Souva, a graduate of Wayne State University in his second year teaching at Starkweather, split time between four different classrooms a year ago at the old building in downtown Plymouth. When the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education closed Fiegel Elementary and decided to move Starkweather into the building, Souva finally had a home.

"Instead of having to pack up all my things and move in a five-minute time span, I can have everything ready for the kids in this room," said Souva, who taught in a Detroit charter school before coming to Starkweather. "I'll have all my supplies in this one room. I won't have to worry about, 'Did I leave it in the other room?'" Whatever I need is just an arm's length away."

It's one of the many advantages Fiegel will have over the old building, according to district officials. Most of the infrastructure — electrical and plumbing, for instance — is in much better condition than in the 1920s style building.

The changes should be educational advantages to the 265 full- and part-time

Please see STARKWEATHER, A2

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Saxton's Garden Center is closing after more than 80 years in business in Plymouth.

SAXTON'S

Continued from page A1

"The weather is the key factor," Saxton said. "In our business, it's always been the weather."

Saxton's, which had already been discounting yard equipment, immediately began a storewide going-out-of-business sale, with discounts of up to 50 percent.

The news comes three months after the death of William Saxton, who grew up in the business and, after service in the U.S. Navy in World War II, worked for decades in the Plymouth store. He was the son of Dean Saxton, who opened the first Saxton's in Northville in 1928, and the father of Alan Saxton.

The first Saxton's in Plymouth opened in 1932, and the current location opened later in the 1930s.

Alan Saxton said a mild winter without much snow resulted in no snow-blower sales since last Dec. 1, and lawn mower sales and service beginning in the spring weren't much better. The hot weather meant mowers weren't being used much, and even sales of lawn-watering supplies fell off. "It was so dry and so hot, people basically stopped watering," he said.

Stores such as Lowe's and Home Depot have also cost business, he said, and many have the perception that Saxton's prices aren't competitive with those stores, even though they are. The slow economy is also a factor, he said, as he hears from customers that they are looking for cheaper equipment because of the



Alan Saxton said the garden center will close its doors next month.

economic times.

Saxton said the family has always taken pride in running a quality business and providing customers with good service. "That doesn't come free," he said. He said he and employees will miss being a part of the community.

Currently, the store has nine full- and part-time employees. Saxton said he anticipates selling the property once the store closes.

There has been some interest in keeping the store open, at least in some form, and some employees have talked about starting a repair shop to service equipment bought at the store over the years. But "nobody's come forward with a plan or a concrete offer," Saxton said.

Customer Dave Buck of Plymouth Township said he was driving by Tuesday when the going-out-of-business sign prompted him to stop in.

"I've bought a lot of stuff here over the years," said Buck as he browsed a display of mowers, tillers, lawn-edgers and other equipment.

The closing of Saxton's will be a loss for Plymouth, Buck said. "Going to change the character of the town a lot," he said.

mjachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405

AROUND PLYMOUTH

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

CHARTER OPEN HOUSE

Date/Time: Tuesday, Sept. 25, 6-8 p.m.

Location: Plymouth Scholars Charter Academy, 48484 N. Territorial in Plymouth

Details: Plymouth Scholars Charter Academy hosts an open house, where staff members will be on hand to present information about the school. The meeting will include an informal question-and-answer period.

Contact: Call (866) 642-3676.

COLBECK TIME

Date/Time: Wednesday, Sept. 19, 6-7 p.m.

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main

Details: State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, hosts an office hour in Plymouth. Colbeck will be on hand to answer questions and respond to concerns any residents of his district may have. This will be an opportunity for local residents to meet with Colbeck to address issues related to state government. No appointment is necessary.

Contact: For more information or to contact Colbeck, please visit www.senatorpatrickcolbeck.com or call (734) 335-0673.

HEISE COFFEE

Date/Time: Friday, Sept. 21, 7:30-9 a.m.

Location: Panera Bread, 400 S. Main in Plymouth

Details: State Rep. Kurt Heise is sponsoring coffee hours to give residents a convenient opportunity to meet with him locally. Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office.

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

VARIETY SHOW

Date/Time: Saturday, Sept. 15, 1:30 and 7 p.m.

Location: Salem High School auditorium

Details: The Canton Chieftettes annual variety place, "So You Think You Can Dance," features singing, dancing, bands, comedy and, of course, a performance by the Canton Chieftettes. There will also be a concessions area available before the show and during intermission. Pre-sale tickets available through Canton Chieftettes squad members for \$8 each

They are also available at the door before each show for \$10 each.

AMERICAN SEWING GUILD

Date/Time: First Thursday of each month, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: First Presbyterian Church, 701 Church St., Plymouth

Details: the American Sewing Guild-Plymouth-Canton Neighborhood Group is open to all sewists of all levels. Demonstrations at upcoming meetings include "Sewn Yarn Scarf" Oct. 1; and "Purse/tote challenge judging and holiday gift ideas" Nov. 1.

Contact: For more information, email aspgc@comcast.net

FRIENDS OF MILLER WOODS

Date/Time: Wednesday, Sep. 26, 7 p.m.

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

Details: In our corner of Wayne County there is a remnant of a forest landscape that once greeted pioneers to this area in the early 1800s. This gem is a designated nature preserve and the objective of the Friends of Miller Woods is to protect and preserve it for future generations. The Friends extend an invitation to anyone interested in learning more about Miller Woods, including volunteer opportunities. Individuals or groups who want to become involved in big or small ways are encouraged to come to this meeting.

Contact: Call Joyce Holmes (734) 453-8457 or visit www.millerwoods.com.

ALANO CLUB

Date/Time: Sunday, Sept. 16, 9 a.m.

Location: Hickory Creek Golf Course (Napier and Ford Road)

Details: Plymouth/Canton Alano Club is having their fifth annual fundraising Fall Golf Outing. The Alano Club is a non profit facility providing resources for recovering alcoholics including space for meetings of groups of Alcoholics Anonymous and other 12 step groups such as Alanon and Alateen, whose focus relates to alcoholism. Many Prizes, games, raffles etc. Cost is \$85 per player or \$320 per foursome includes 18 hole scramble, cart, range balls, snacks at turn, dinner at finish. This is a no alcohol event.

Contact: Call Rick Talbot at (734) 751-8030 or send check payable to PC Alano Club to 45924 Rockledge Dr. Plymouth, MI 48170, with names of player(s).



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Starkweather students made this in art class.

STARKWEATHER

Continued from page A1

students, the 30 adult high school completion students, 40 who are trying to get their GEDs, and another 75 who are taking English as a Second Language classes.

Big advantage

And one of the best advantages — as Souza discovered — is a classroom for every teacher. Renovations are also being made to add science labs, a first for Starkweather.

"We've never had that," said Kevin Lane, for five years the program director at Starkweather. "We can do so much more hands-on work with our students. Some of the kids don't learn as well just from the books. This will give the kids a much greater understanding."

Getting into the building hasn't been a completely smooth road. Decisions had to be made about the inventory at Fiegel — did it follow former Fiegel teachers to their new buildings, did it go back to the curriculum center for storage, etc. — and, of course, everything at the old Starkweather building had to be moved.

"We moved an entire building of furniture out, and an entire building of furniture in," said Phil Freeman, the district's assistant superintendent for facilities and operations. "It was an extensive amount of work, and took a lot of man-hours to get it done."

The biggest delay has been in the renovations needed to establish the science labs. That progress has been slowed in the bid process. What administrators had hoped to have done before the second semester started now will likely take until well after that.

"We had hoped to get it done, but we're not going to get there," Freeman said of the second-semester deadline. "I wish we could have waved a mag-

ic wand so we could have the science labs done (already). But we'll get there."

When they do, it'll be a huge benefit to students, according to Lane. To this point, there were certain parts of the science curriculum Starkweather teachers had been unable to teach.

"The science labs are going to be huge," Lane said. "Many parts of the curriculum we had to show students on YouTube."

More options

Starkweather student Nieko Castrodale of Canton said the new building would be better simply because it has air conditioning. But he also said it will have other advantages, despite the fact that, aesthetically, he preferred the other building. "The old building had a lot of character," Castrodale said. "From an education standpoint, this will be better. There will be more resources available."

That's what it's all about for Lane, too. The new building will provide space for an independent studies lab, where students can retake portions of classes they might have missed, rather than having to retake the entire class. It's more centrally located than the downtown building.

And, at the new location, Starkweather will, for the first time, offer busing to in-district students. That'll come in handy, because Lane said the school is getting more 16- and 17-year-old students who don't have their own transportation. "We're getting a better academic reputation," Lane said. "Counselors aren't hesitating to send kids here because they know when students leave here, they're going to be ready for college. We teach the same curriculum here as the rest of the district. We just do it in a smaller atmosphere."

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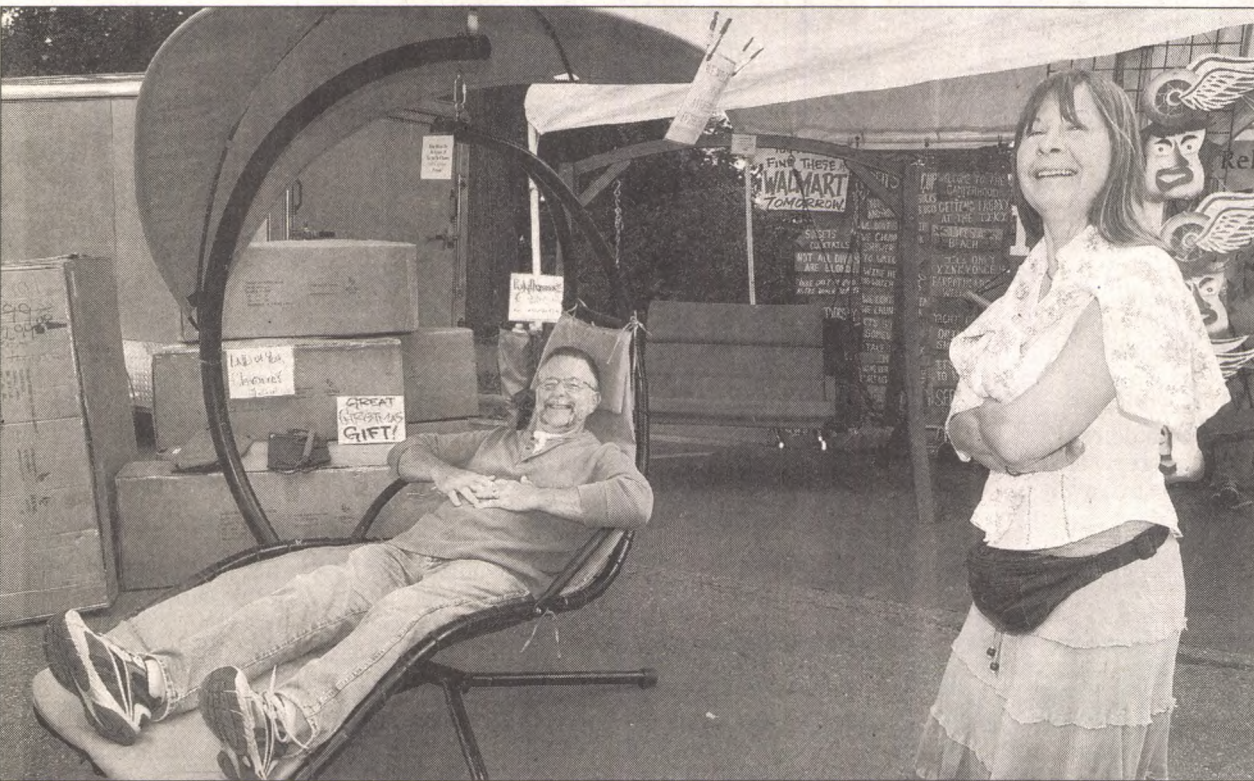
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The carnival rides are a hit with kids and grown ups.



Dean Lomas and Marika Strychar check out an EZ Hang chair at the craft show. They are from Huron Township.

FESTIVAL

Continued from page A1

"I think it went as smooth as it could go," Brown said. "Everybody was happy. The weather was great. The music was great."

Performers at the festival included the Randy Brock Group, the Shawn Riley Band, Gia Warner and Motor City Soul, plus cheerleaders, dancers and the Optimist Club of Plymouth's pet show.

Brown, who has been involved with the festival since 1999 and commit-

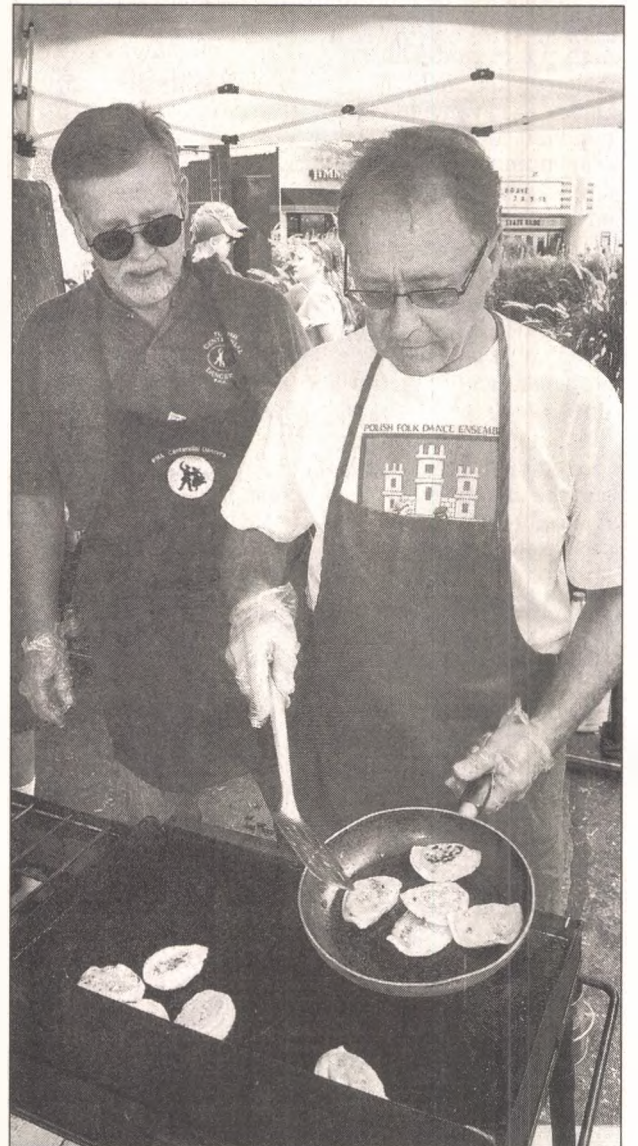
tee president since 2007, is stepping down as president, to be replaced for the 2013 festival by Eric Joy.

However, she is hesitant to accept any plaudits for her work.

"The festival is not about me," she said. "It's about all the groups."

Brown will stay involved, however, saying she'll concentrate for future festivals on the craft show and on increasing the festival's presence on social media such as Facebook.

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ron Martin waits for Mario Kitlinski to prepare pierogi at the Polish Centennial Dancer's booth.

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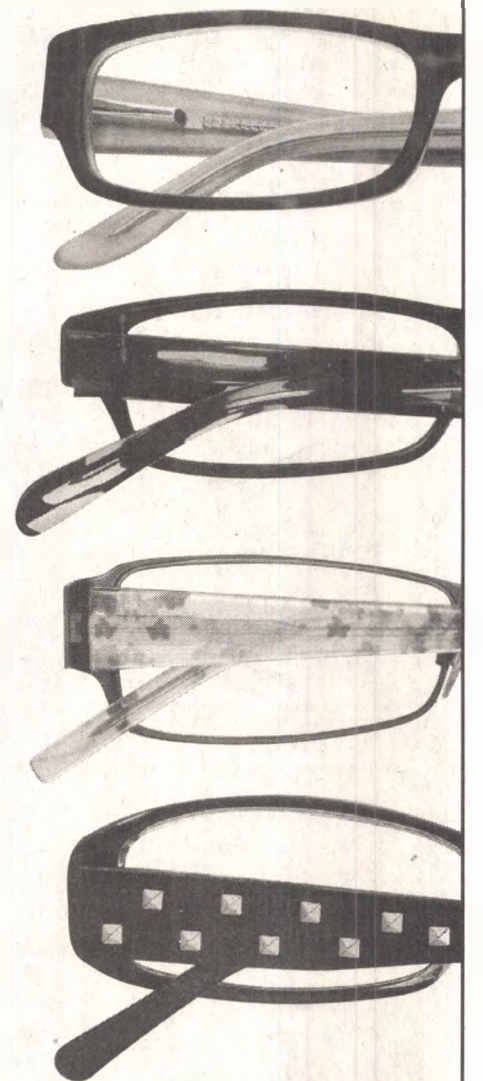
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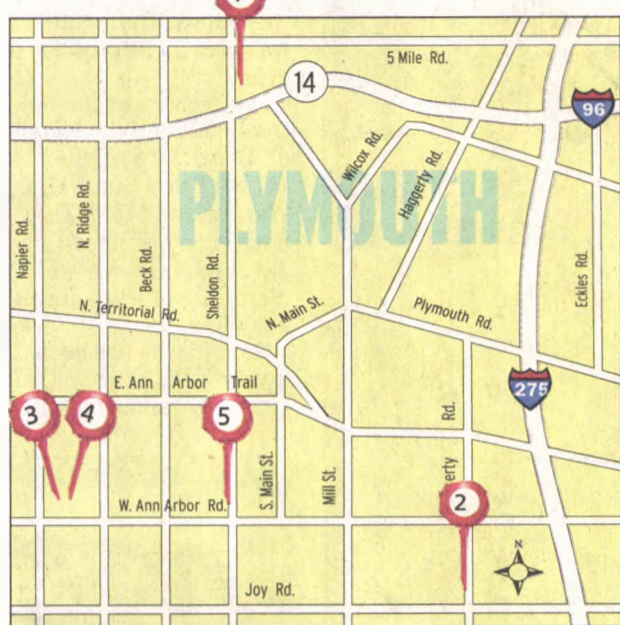
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CRIME WATCH



Hotel hanky-panky

1 Three vehicles parked outside the Hilton Garden Inn, on Sheldon north of M-14, were broken into Friday night, and cash and electronics were reported stolen from them, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report.

One break-in was reported Saturday morning by a Kokomo, Ind., man, police said. The lock on a door to his Dodge Caravan had been punched, and, he told the responding officer, cash and an iPod had been taken.

The officer also noticed a broken window on a Ford Explorer in the hotel's lot, police said, but wasn't able to immediately contact the victim. The Coldwater, Mich., man later called to report the incident, police said, and the officer returned. A satellite navigation device was reported stolen from the Explorer.

While the officer was at the hotel taking the second report, a third victim, a Detroit woman, approached and said her car had also been broken into, police said. A window on the Chrysler 300 had been smashed, police said, and a power inverter and a small amount of cash reported stolen

from it.

Other car burglaries

2 Two vehicles parked outside an address on Haggerty near Joy Road were reported burglarized on Saturday, police said.

Clothing and a navigation device were reported taken from one, a Dodge Stratus, while the registration was reported taken from the other, a police report said. The complainant told police the vehicles had been locked, but police found no damage to them.

The larcenies occurred some time between 9:30 p.m. Friday and just before 8 a.m. Saturday,

police said.

3 Prescription glasses, prescription sunglasses and the vehicle registration were reported stolen Friday from a Honda Odyssey parked in the driveway of a house in southwestern Plymouth Township.

The theft took place on Plymouth Valley Drive, east of Napier and north of Ann Arbor Road, late on Sept. 6 or early the next day, roughly the same time frame during which another vehicle was stolen.

The Odyssey had been left unlocked.

SUV stolen

4 A brand-new Ford Explorer was stolen from the driveway of a

house in southwestern Plymouth Township on the night of Sept. 6.

The 2013 model was outside a house on Felows Hill Court, north of Ann Arbor road and east of Napier, when it was taken sometime between 11:30 p.m. Sept. 6 and 9:15 a.m. the next day, the complainant told police.

The complainant told police he was unsure if the Explorer had been locked, and that he usually keeps a key inside it.

Display disappears

5 A display pitching M&M candies was stolen from a township drug store early on the morning of Sept. 3 after four men inquired about buying it.

A police said that four men buying beer at other items at the CVS store on Sheldon near Ann Arbor Road, shortly after 1 a.m., asked about buying the display but were told it was not for sale, a police report said.

When it was later noticed that the display was missing, police said, the store manager reviewed a security video, which showed one of the men taking the display minutes later while the clerk was distracted.

— By Matt Jachman

Township board puts dispatch console buy on hold

By Matt Jachman
 Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth Township officials hit the pause button Tuesday on buying a new emergency dispatch console when Board of Trustees members asked for more details, including on a proposed equipment-sharing arrangement with Canton Township that could affect the price tag.

Police Chief Tom Tiderington had asked for the \$325,000 console, which would be used by dispatchers to communicate with police officers and firefighters serving both Plymouth Township and Plymouth, plus people reporting crimes, fires and other emergencies. Tiderington said the Motorola system is superior to another system that would cost about half as much, has functions that are important for emergency responders, and that dispatchers are seeing more frequent problems with the current console.

"We're very nervous about our current system," Tiderington told the board Tuesday. The system has been declared at the "end of life" for years, the chief said; Supervisor Richard Reaume said Wednesday that the current console has been cobbled together over time but the bulk of it dates from 2006.

Reaume said the dispatch console accommodates three dispatchers at once.

"This is the way we should be moving," Tiderington said Tuesday of the Motorola system, which would be hardwired to the Michigan State Police communications tower on Seven Mile in Northville Township.

The system wouldn't require the township to replace any in-vehicle or handheld radios, Tiderington said.

One sticking point, however, was a \$128,000 system add-on that would record dispatch conversations and police and fire department radio traffic. Tiderington said officials in Canton Township have agreed to share the so-called system "logger," which can record simultaneously on multiple channels, but that he hasn't had a chance to draw up a formal agreement with Canton.

Canton's dispatchers currently use the same type of dispatch console Tiderington seeks, and the chief said he was confident of reaching an agreement to share the equipment.

Trustee Steve Mann, a former township police officer, said he wanted more information about how the "logger," and its costs, would be shared. "There's going to be a cost for that," he said.

Trustees also expressed concern about how the console would interact with the communications equipment used by Plymouth, for which the township provides public safety dispatch services.

They were told it would be compatible with Plymouth's current equipment. Treasurer Ron Edwards said Plymouth would help pay for the new console over its useful life.

Details on the system warranty and service terms were another issue for trustees.

"It's a big purchase and we want assurances," said Edwards.

The board is expected to revisit the console purchase at its next regular meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 25.

Tiderington said the console, once purchased, would take about six months to get installed and up and running.

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Building event provides shelter for dogs

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

When Christine Davis found a bull mastiff-pit bull mix she named Pork Chop, the dog had been attacked by a neighbor with a sword, and was suffering from serious wounds that needed medical attention.

Davis, a Westland resident, called to a variety of dog rescue facilities and couldn't get any help. Finally, someone at Detroit Dog Rescue responded and got Pork Chop the help he needed.

That's why Davis was in Canton Saturday, helping Detroit Dog Rescue put on its first "Roofs for Woofs" event, designed to build 100 doghouses. Organizers hope to use to combat what they called a "dire need for housing to protect dogs, often in poor neighborhoods, that are penned in or chained up in places with no escape from scorching summer weather and frigid winter conditions."

"DDR was the only rescue I called who picked up the phone," Davis said. "They gave Pork Chop the medical attention I knew I couldn't give him."

The first "Roofs for Woofs" comes as Detroit Dog Rescue launches an effort, In The Dog House, to encourage dog owners to provide proper shelter. Kelly McLaughlin, director of programs and development for DDR, said getting people to understand the problem will be a big part of solving it.

"I didn't know dogs live 24-7 on a chain outside," McLaughlin said. "Educating people is what it's all about, and once you do that, people are all about



Christine Davis of Westland and Detroit Dog Rescue board of directors member Dante Dasaro shingle one of some 100 doghouses built in DDR's "Roofs for Woofs" event Saturday in Canton.



Lori Nemeth of Seacrest, Fla., who was in town visiting her mother in Canton, gets a volunteer Detroit Dog Rescue T-shirt from DDR volunteer Barb Grunon of Byron, Mich.

it. They've gone all out (to help)."

More than 200 people signed up to help. Some cut the wood, others drilled pieces together, more shingled the houses and still others han-

dled the painting and decoration.

Home Depot provided and prepared the wood, and the volunteers filled a large portion of the parking lot in assembly line fashion to get the

houses built.

Lori Nemeth lives in Seacrest, Fla., but was in town visiting her mom. She said when she heard about "Roofs for Woofs" she thought it sounded fun.



Tanya West-Garrett of Fairborn, Ohio, puts her artistic touch to the walls of one of the doghouses.



Some 200 volunteers registered to help at Saturday's Detroit Dog Rescue "Roofs for Woofs" event at the Home Depot on Michigan Avenue, in Canton.

"I'm on my second rescue dog," Nemeth said. "I see the shows on TV about dogs left out in the elements. This sounded like a good idea."

McLaughlin said the turnout and the event went as well as they'd hoped, though there were lessons to be learned.

"We're thrilled for a first-year event," she said. "There are obviously kinks to work out and some things we'll do differently. But we can't wait for next year. Bring it on."

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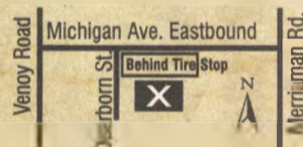
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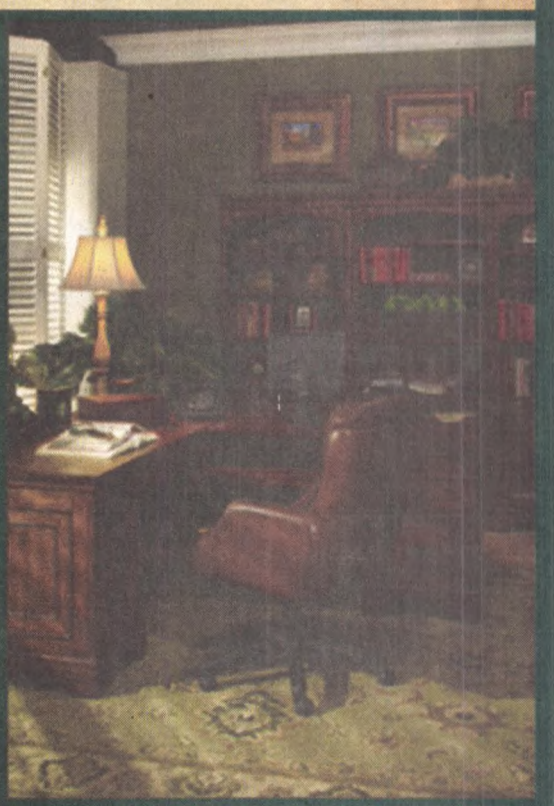
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We want to thank the Wayne community and all of our customers who came as far as 100 miles to shop at Franks Furniture. The warehouse has been turned into a showroom with everything priced to go for this Retirement Sale.





BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Smoke from the chicken barbeque scents the air in downtown Plymouth.

Fun in the fall



Richard and Pamela Celia examine a 1955 Packard Four Hundred. The dogs are Ringo and Wyatt. All four are from Livonia.



The rides are fun for kids and help support the festival.



Nino Paciocco and 7-year-old son Stefano ride the big slide.



Prepping boxes for chicken dinners are Jane Bensen, Erin Bensing, both of Canton, and Caitlin Orr of Plymouth.



Riding high above Ann Arbor Trail.



Shyan Thakker of Synergy Dance Academy helps a crowd burn off chicken dinner calories with Zumba.

Document locator is key piece for any estate

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

When it comes to estate planning, the conversation generally focuses on whether you have an estate plan or not and whether you need a will or a trust. In addition, somewhere in the conversation, medical and general durable powers of attorneys are also discussed. These are all important issues. However, another document that doesn't get much conversation, but is equally important, is a document locator.

A document locator is a listing of assets, where they are located and how to access them. Also who, if any, profession-



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

al advisers have been consulted.

I cannot stress enough how important this document is in the management of

an estate upon death.

Knowing what and where assets are will save your loved ones lots of aggravation and make administering your estate easier and less expensive.

One of the most common themes I hear upon death is that family members cannot locate assets.

I've heard from many widows who know they have, for example, U.S. Savings Bonds, but they cannot locate them. And it's just not U.S. Savings Bonds that get lost, it is insurance policies and all sorts of other financial assets. Not only is there a monetary loss when assets can't be located, but there's an emotional toll for loved ones.

The simple solution is a document locator. This isn't something that has to be done by your attorney. It could be nothing more to taking pencil to paper.

In the locator it is also important to include what legal documents you have and where they are located. If, for example, you have will, some-

one should know where it is. Other legal documents that beneficiaries may need upon your death should also be included in this form. For example, if you own a business and you have a buy-sell agreement, the location of that agreement should be disclosed.

It is also important to list professional financial and legal advisers. If an attorney helped draw up your estate plan, that person should be disclosed. If you've used a financial adviser or have an insurance professional, those names should also be disclosed.

Upon your death, it is important that your personal representative con-

tact these people to make sure that everything is taken care of in the way that you want.

Having a document locator that your loved ones can easily access upon your death will save lots of pain and aggravation and, at the same time, make administering the estate easier and less expensive.

The key to doing a document locator is to make sure that it is always up to date and that upon your death it is easily accessible by the individual in charge of administering your final affairs.

The document locator act like a road map, so it is important that it is current. In other words, if you change a pass-

word, it's not a bad idea to reflect that on your document locator.

If you don't have a document locator, now is a great time of year to do one. Remember, this has nothing to do with how rich you are or how complex your estate plan is. Everyone needs a document locator, because everyone should have as a goal to make life as easy as possible on his/her loved ones.

Good luck!

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

NOTICE OF SALE MAYFLOWER TOWING

The following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction for cash to satisfy lien pursuant on September 20, 2012 at 10:00 am

Mayflower Towing
5760 Belleville Rd.
Canton, MI 48187
734-397-3560

Year	Make	Model	VIN
2004	Ford	Freestar	2FMDA582X4BB28229
2001	Dodge	Dakota	1B7GL26X81S169176
1995	Ford	Mustang	1FALP4044SF222713
2001	Chevrolet	Cavalier Z24	1G1JF12T917242917
2001	Pontiac	Bonneville SE	1G2HX54K014184572
2002	Ford	Focus SE	1FAPP34382W318627
2007	Pontiac	Montana SV6	1GMDV33147D174760
2002	Honda	Civic LX	1HGES16502L067144
2002	Jeep	Grand Cherokee	1J4GW48S42C146360

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1998	Chevrolet	Monte Carlo Z34	2G1WX12KXW9114833
2007			JKALXSA1770A45805
1981	GMC	G3500	2GDJG31M4B4513000
2000	Cadillac	Catera	W06VR54R1YR066745

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PLYMOUTH CHAMBER CHAT

Chamber breakfast

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will be the featured speaker for the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce's September breakfast, set for 7:30-9 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 26, at the Schoolcraft College VisTaTech Center.

Calley has partnered with Gov. Rick Snyder to drive much of the legislative change that has occurred in Michigan during the last two years. More than most past lieutenant governors, he is extremely active at the capitol as the governor's point person to guide his reforms through the legislative process.

To RSVP, please respond no later than September 24 to teri@plymouthmich.org or call (734) 453-1540. The cost is \$12. Food will be served from 7:45-8:15 and Calley will speak shortly after.

Schoolcraft College's VisTaTech Center is located at 18600 Haggerty in Livonia.



STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will be the featured speaker for the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce's September breakfast, set for 7:30-9 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 26, at the Schoolcraft College VisTaTech Center.

Food crawl

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, in a joint effort with the Friends of the Penn, announce the annual PENN-Taste-Tic Downtown Plymouth Restaurant Crawl 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 18. "Crawlers" can walk around downtown Plymouth enjoying samples from local restaurants and sweet shops. Tickets must be purchased in advance

and are available at the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce (850 W. Ann Arbor Trail) and Sun & Snow (388 S. Main St.) in downtown Plymouth. Adult tickets are \$20 each, and children 10 and under are \$15. All proceeds will benefit the Friends of the Penn and the Chamber of Commerce.

Ladies night

It's time again for Downtown Plymouth's annual Ladies Night Out, set for Thursday, Sept. 27, from 5-9 p.m.

This event is a night for ladies to enjoy an evening on the town with friends, visit the participating stores and enjoy shopping, gifts, samples, prizes and refreshments. Several restaurants will also have special drinks, appetizers and more.

Participating stores this year include: Agio Spa; Basket Kreations; Bella Mia; Bed & Boutique; Candy Trail; Creatopia Pottery Studio; Cupcake Station; Dazzling Daniela; Dearborn Jewelers; Delta Diamond Setters & Jewelers; Eclectic Attic; Genuine Toy Co.; GiGi's Mode; Hands on Leather; Home Sweet Home; Isabella's Copper Pot; Kilwin's; Lolaryan; Maggie & Me; Magnolia Fresh Flower Market; Merle Norman; Old World Olive Press; Opndohr; R.S.V.P.; Sharer Design Group; sideways; Simply the Best; Sun & Snow; Sunny J's Lingerie; That's Awesome/Primp and TranquilTea.

Back by popular demand, Mr. 48170 will again be handing out roses to the first 500 ladies, courtesy of Ribar Floral.

Seeing scarecrows

Reservations are now being accepted for the 2012 Scarecrows in the Park. Groups, businesses and families are invited to decorate a scarecrow in Kellogg Park from Sept. 21-23.

The cost to decorate a scarecrow is \$35 and reservations must be made through the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber will provide a bale of hay and a pole for you to create your scarecrow. The decorating of your scarecrow is left to your imagination, creativity and ingenuity.

To reserve your scarecrow, complete the form at www.plymouthmich.org and return to the Chamber office.

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Paul Holloway says that Ryan's Auto Repair has served the community over 10 years.

Auto repair shop celebrates 10 years

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

Ryan's Auto: Ryan's is a full-service auto repair shop. We repair brakes, transmissions, mufflers and exhaust, engines, suspensions, and offer full tune-ups to make and keep your car running great.

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

Ryan's Auto: I started in my father's garage after graduating from auto tech school.

Observer: Why did you choose Plymouth?

Ryan's Auto: I was born and raised in Plymouth, attended Plymouth schools, so Plymouth was the natural choice.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Ryan's Auto: We have been family owned and operated for 10 years, and our goal is "customers for life."

Observer: How has the business changed since it opened?

RYAN'S AUTO REPAIR

Business name and address: Ryan's Auto Repair, 41990 Joy Road in Plymouth

Your name and title: Randy Ryan, owner

Your hometown: Hamburg, Mich.

Business Opened When: 2002

Number of employees: 5

Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday; 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

Your business specialty: Ryan's specializes in import and domestic car repair and maintenance performed by ASE-certified mechanics.

Business phone: (734) 454-0979

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Ryan's Auto: Business is good, people are repairing their current cars instead of buying new ones.

Observer: Any advice for other business owners?

Ryan's Auto: Be honest and fair and word-of-mouth will grow your business as it has ours.

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

Ryan's Auto: More locations, and more happy customers.

Observer: Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience as a small business owner?

Ryan's Auto: Ryan's Auto Repair has competed in demolition derbies, burn-out contests, and road derbies, we are true "car guys." These modified cars earned us several trophies proudly displayed in our waiting room.

PLYMOUTH CHAMBER CHAT

Retiree luncheon

The Detroit Diesel Retiree Club will hold its annual luncheon and business meeting on Thursday, Oct. 18, at the Laurel Manor Banquet & Conference Center in Livonia. The group provides information to its members about items which may impact all retirees of Detroit Diesel Corporation from GM, through the current ownership. For the past 33 years the club has held an annual luncheon together on the third Thursday of October. Retirees come from all over the country and overseas to renew friendships and get caught up on any new happenings.

Guests enjoy social interaction beginning at 11 a.m., a buffet luncheon at 12:30 p.m. and brief business meeting with discussion on any topics of current interest to the attending guests.

Cost to attend the lunch is \$25. The price includes a roster of current membership and a memorial page of those we know have passed. Retirees who cannot attend the luncheon or wish to register for future mailings can purchase the roster for \$3. For information on the luncheon and pre registration contact Robert Pavol, membership director, at (734) 455-2668 or jrpavol64@prodigy.net, or John Leidlein, president, at (313) 863-8850 or dieseljml@aol.com.

Sales professionals

Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel has recently welcomed a number of new sales professionals to the rapidly growing company, including Nick Bitterle in Plymouth and Jevon Cole in Northville. For more information, please visit www.cbwm.com.

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Teachers form group to support Taj

A group of current and retired teachers have formed "Teachers for Taj" in support of Dr. Syed Taj, the Democratic candidate in the 11th Congressional District race.

On Monday, Taj's campaign noted that the new grassroots group was created by teachers concerned about the future of public education.

Taj has distinguished himself as a champion for children, families, and public education; thus drawing another sharp contrast between Taj and Republican opponent Kerry Bentivolio, according to a press release from the Taj campaign.

"I am proud to have the support of so many dedicated educational professionals that both live and work in the 11th District," Taj said. "I share their concerns and passion for public education and when I am in Congress, teachers, student, parents, and community mem-

bers can rest assured they will have a friend in Congress. I join these teachers from around the district in recognizing that a vibrant, creative, and effective public education system is essential to our economic and social future as a region, state, and nation."

"My opponent views students and public education as just a paycheck - I am proud to have the support of so many great professionals that know teaching and our public schools are so much more."

Teachers for Taj has started a Facebook Page that can be found at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Teachers-for-Taj/277481455689387> (or search "Teachers for Taj" on Facebook). The Taj campaign stated that the group will be actively engaged in the district for the remainder of the campaign and working to keep public education at the forefront of the discussion this election season.

For his part, Bentivolio issued the following statement after winning on the Republican ballot in the special primary election last week in the old 11th Congressional District: "We thank the voters for once again honoring me with their confidence and support and thank party leaders such as the Governor and Brooks Patterson for their support. Now we can move on to defeat our liberal opponent, Syed Taj, who wants to double down on the failed policies of President Obama. He believes that we should raise taxes and expand ObamaCare into a single-payer system of socialized medicine like Europe. This is not right for Michigan and it's not right for the United States.

"We don't need Washington bureaucrats rationing our health-care or telling our businesses how they need to operate. We need more job creators and more jobs."

Retired general headlines salute

Retired Brig. Gen. Carol Ann Fausone will join the residents and staff at Botsford Commons Senior Community when they culminate National Assisted Living Week in a patriotic celebration 2:30 p.m., Friday, Sept. 14, in the Mlynarek Garden. Brighton Honor Guard VFW Post 4357 will lead the campus attendees in a Presentation of Colors.

Fausone, a resident of Canton, will speak at the event where the Honor Guard will be retiring the current Botsford Commons flag and replacing it with a new flag recently flown over the U.S. Capitol in Washington D.C.

"We are so honored to have (Fausone) here to help us retire our flag," said Camille Purdie, Botsford Commons Executive Director of Marketing and Development Officer. "As the first women



Retired Brig. Gen. Carol Ann Fausone will join the residents and staff at Botsford Commons Senior Community when they culminate National Assisted Living Week in a patriotic celebration 2:30 p.m., Friday, Sept. 14.

in the Michigan National Guard to be promoted to the rank of brigadier general, she has admirably served our country and our state in numerous ways. We all look forward to hearing about the

meaning of our flag and veterans from her perspective."

Visitors will also be treated to patriotic music and refreshments. Complimentary, official flag folding will be available as well for those interested in the service.

"Our neighborhood is very patriotic," said World War II veteran and Botsford Commons resident Rudy Smolen. "Many of us were a part of the Greatest Generation and the American flag continues to mean a lot to us today. We appreciate having events like this on our campus, where we are given the opportunity to thank and acknowledge this generation's heroic veterans as well as remember those lost in 9/11."

For more information on this patriotic salute, contact Barb Smith at (248) 615-2898.

Chippewa enrollment Saturday in Redford

Chippewa Nation of the Great Lakes will hold a tribal citizenship drive for new members 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday in the Redford Township Community Center, 12121 Hemingway. Vice chief Bonnie Moore will be present.

The enrollment drive is for descendants of the Swan Creek, Saginaw, and Black River Indian Settlements of Michigan and Ohio who are not members of a federal recognized tribe. Bring documentation showing

you are a descendant or attend the drive to find out how to acquire documentation.

The Chippewa Nation of the Great Lakes and descendants of the Saginaw, Swan Creek and Black River Settlements of Chippewa Indians was originally located near the shores of Lake Huron and extended from the Thunder Bay River in Alpena inland and down along the Lake Huron shoreline to Ohio (including a portion along the shores of Lake Erie.)

Tribal leaders, in a press release, wrote that "many descendants still roam this territory and we are seeking to make contact with you."

For more information contact Lyman Joseph (989) 313-1859 and/or Bonnie Moore (989) 313-2384 of the Chippewa Nation of the Great Lakes. Email info@chippewation-ofthegreatlakes.org or write to Chippewa Nation of the Great Lakes at P.O. Box 102, Hale, MI 48739. Visit chippewation-ofthegreatlakes.org.

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OUR VIEWS



Volunteer Brian Powierski of Plymouth takes drill to roof as he helps build a dog house at the Detroit Dog Rescue's "Roofs for Woofs" event Saturday at the Home Depot on Michigan Avenue in Canton.

Giving time Volunteer efforts key to community events

The sense of "community" that drives the Plymouth-Canton area was on display again last weekend, no place more obviously than downtown Plymouth, which hosted yet another successful Fall Festival and Rotary Chicken Barbecue.

The success of such festivals is unquestioned. But what is less obvious — and more important — is the reason for success.

Ask the organizers of any event in either town where the success lies, and they will say the same thing: Volunteers.

They were on display by the hundreds in Plymouth all weekend, Rotarians and Kiwanians, students and adults, men and women, old and young. They scrubbed barbecue racks and helped people find parking. They sold tickets and manned information booths.

In Canton on Saturday, volunteer efforts were just as obvious as Detroit Dog Rescue sponsored its first "Roofs for Woofs" dog house blitz. The effort was staged at the Canton Home Depot on Michigan Avenue, designed to build 100 houses for dogs otherwise left to battle the elements without shelter.

Organizers said more than 200 volunteers signed up, and they worked two shifts to get the 100 dog houses built. Home Depot donated the wood and even prepared it for the build. By lunchtime, they were already well on their way to the goal, and worried they would not have enough work for the afternoon volunteers.

Examples abound of people helping other people on their own time, out of their own pocket, out of the kindness of their hearts.

The Plymouth Salvation Army, which services Northville, Plymouth, Canton and Belleville, got tremendous volunteer support for its recent Back 2 School Blitz drive, with volunteers filling the gym at the Corps headquarters to sort through hundreds of items of school supplies.

And there's no better example of volunteerism at work than the Miracle League of Plymouth, which provides special-needs athletes from around western Wayne County the opportunity to do something the rest of us take for granted: Play baseball.

Volunteers serve as "buddies" to the players, coaches for the teams, announcers, umpires and — most importantly — cheerleaders.

There are many ways to volunteer, and they don't all take a great deal of time. Opportunities are there to give hours, or mere minutes. Most organizations will take what time you're generous enough to give.

In Plymouth and in Canton, people are more than generous with their time. And the communities are better for it.

COMMUNITY VOICE

This is the question that's being asked a lot during the presidential campaign: Are you better off now than you were four years ago?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



"Absolutely. This president is going a great job, and if he's allowed to continue he'll do an even better job."

Bette Lamont
Seattle



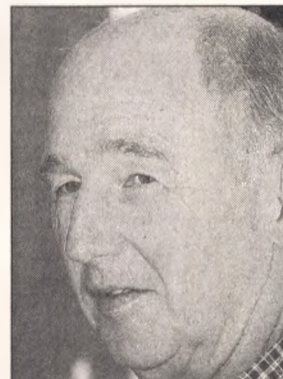
"About the same."

Suzanne Curtiss
Plymouth Township



"Yes. I'm a disabled American veteran. Obama really did it for us. ... Obama opened some doors for us."

Tony Wilson
Plymouth Township



"Personally, I probably am, but not because of Obama."

Bill Westphal
Plymouth

LETTERS

Lucky to live in Michigan

Kurt Kuban's opinion column ("As summertime slips away we should be thankful we live in Michigan") in Thursday's paper was excellent. I couldn't agree more. Without question, Michigan is the most underrated state in the nation when it comes to travel destinations. We would love to see more articles like this to remind the community of how much there is all around us, and how lucky we really are.

Yes, I do own a ski shop, but there is nothing that gets under my skin more than a weather forecaster who makes snow and cold temperatures sound like a punch to the gut. Instead of bringing everyone down (which the evening news seems to do these days), they could use it as a perfect opportunity to share that forecast as good news. There is so much to do, not just during the summer months, but during all four seasons in this state. Downhill skiing, cross country ski wine tasting events near Gaylord, snowshoeing in the national forests of the U.P., snowmobiling, building a skating rink in the backyard, sledding at McClumpha Park and Hines Park, sled dog

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driving near Traverse City, or even just sightseeing in all of the towns that are nearly abandoned during the winter months. The Great Lakes look amazing with frozen waves.

With child obesity at all-time highs, there's no reason parents shouldn't be encouraging their kids to get out of the house during the snow months. I'd imagine the calorie burn of dragging a sled uphill 25 times in an after-

noon is pretty impressive. Cross country skiing is so cheap and accessible to rent, and it happens to be better cardio than swimming.

I can't tell you how much interest we've been getting on Great Lakes surfing. Kuban mentioned the ocean-level waves in Lake Huron. This summer I've taken our family to Grand Haven and St. Joseph on Lake Michigan and had some of the best surfing conditions I've ever experienced, not to mention there are no sharks, jellyfish or mouthfuls of saltwater.

People in this state have taken a beating financially, are laughed at nationwide because of the reputation of Detroit, and are desperate for a sense of pride again. That's probably why we're the best sports city in the nation, regardless of outcome. I've always joked that you never hear anyone win an "All Expense Paid Trip to Michigan" on the game shows, but it's their loss. Let's get the word out, get people active, and start turning around the doom and gloom mentality in this area.

We really do live in a jewel of a state. Thanks again for that awesome piece.

Robert B. Parent
owner, Sun & Snow Sports
Plymouth

GUEST COLUMN

Plenty of flavors already available in Plymouth-Canton district schools

By George Belvitch
Guest Columnist

In the Sunday, Aug. 2, issue of the *Observer*, a smiling superintendent of schools told a reporter, "We think we do a good job here ... We have a lot to offer." "We have a great vanilla."



George Belvitch

A great vanilla? Vanilla? Really? Really, Dr. Hughes? This is the second time the district's superintendent has made a statement that harms the good reputation of this wonderful school district and community. A few short months ago, Dr. Hughes unilaterally attempted to ban two books from the reading list of an AP English class at PCEP. His attempt to ban the novels *Waterland* and *Beloved* created a firestorm. Toni Morrison, the author of *Beloved*, recently received the Medal of Freedom from President Obama. Both books remained on the reading list.

Now, the leader of the Plymouth-Canton school district likens the district's instructional program and curriculum to that of vanilla ice cream. I was an educator in our district for 37 years. I was a teacher, principal of two schools and the director of elementary education. My three children graduated from Salem High School. The teachers I had the privilege working with, and the teachers my children were fortunate to learn from, did not serve up "vanilla ice cream."

No, they served up a curriculum and used instructional practices that were based on best practice and sound educational research. To compare the educational program that I and so many of my colleagues shared with students at the elementary, middle and high school levels to "vanilla ice cream" is insulting.

Get out of your office, Dr. Hughes. Visit the schools. Watch high school teachers as they engage our young adults in the joy and excitement of discovery. Observe our middle school teachers as they hold the attention of youngsters who are constantly on the move. And carefully step into an elementary classroom so you can see and hear how a master teacher helps a child read for the first time.

Vanilla, Dr. Hughes? Say that to the teachers you visit. I worry that our district has lost its way. We have district leaders who feel that adding academies, buying scripted literacy programs and suggesting that our children don't behave, therefore we must now have a character education curriculum, just like those charter schools, is the correct course for a district that

has a proud and decorated history. We are left to assume that academies, commercial reading programs and character education will turn this "vanilla" district into a banana split. But at what cost?

The cost will be that our teachers lose heart. Public school educators are already maligned and ridiculed by many in the country. Now, we have our local school leader comparing our instructional program to "vanilla ice cream."

Instead of chasing programs, Dr. Hughes, talk to your teachers. Listen to them. Seek their input. You might be moved by what you hear. The teachers I know are deeply engaged with their students and their subject. The connections made by good teachers are held not in their methods but in their hearts — the place where intellect, emotion and spirit converge. That is not "vanilla ice cream."

Here's the deal, Dr. Hughes. Instead of looking outside to find those special flavors you seem to be looking for, look within. By doing so, I am certain you will find all the flavors you will need to make Plymouth-Canton the place it has always been — a great place for children to learn and grow.

George Belvitch is the former director of elementary education and a long-time educator in Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

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'Cats nip Chiefs in 5-game tilt

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Watching players dive all over the floor is nothing new to fans watching volleyball matches featuring Canton and Plymouth.

Tuesday's KLAA South battle lived up to the billing, requiring five intense, often-spectacular games filled with enough long rallies to make Jim Leyland envious.

Plymouth ultimately prevailed 3-2, rallying to win the fourth and fifth games. The deciding game was a 15-13 triumph, which ended when Wildcats senior middle hitter Madelyn Betts stepped up to slap the ball into a gap on Canton's side of the net.

"I just saw the hole and I wanted to play smart," said Betts, about her culminating point, which ended a service run by Canton's Chelsea Janice, trying to bring the Chiefs back from a 14-10 deficit.

Timely reminder

During that run, Plym-

outh head coach Sarah Marody called a timeout.

"I just told them they had to stick to their game because their game was working. They couldn't try to force anything," Marody said. "It was their game or nothing."

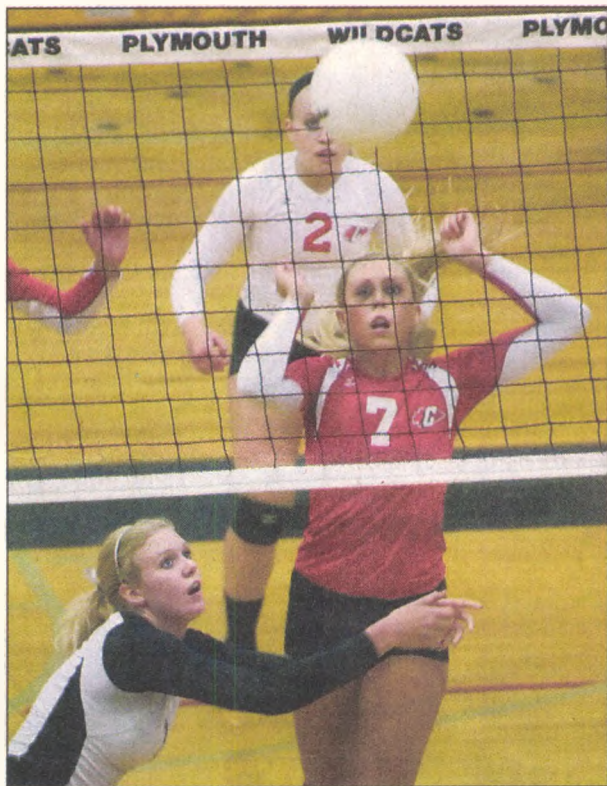
"And it was the last chance for the seniors to beat Canton at home, and they took that as a personal challenge, which they did. I'm proud of them."

Marody added that Canton's "a good team, they're very athletic. They got some big hitters. Erica (den Boer) is incredible. But my girls don't quit and they wanted this. They've been preparing for this for a long time."

It was far from an easy task, however.

Plymouth (6-2-0, 1-1 in the KLAA South) took the opening game, 25-21, but the visiting Chiefs prevailed in the next two games (25-23, 25-21) to be in a position to clinch the

Please see SPIKERS, B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Emilee Beyer (No. 7, foreground) bumps the ball while Canton's Jordan Diedrick (No. 7) and Becca Middleton (No. 2) watch.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Andrew Peters, a resident of Plymouth, prepares to tee off at Friday night's Glow Golf outing at Hilltop Golf Course. In the background are two other members of Peters' foursome — Craig Heikkinen of Madison Heights and Jim Darkangel of Waterford.

Let it glow

They only come out at night for Hilltop 'Glow Golf'

By Tim Smith

Observer Staff Writer

Golfing is tough enough under the bright sunlight.

It's a lot more fun at night, especially when hitting illuminated golf balls toward neon-lit fairways and greens at Hilltop Golf Course in Plymouth.

Just ask Plymouth resident Andrew Peters and others who joined him in Friday night's "Glow Golf" guys night out at the course on Beck Road.

Admittedly, the outing wasn't about setting records or breaking par. It was about having a good time playing the scrambles format while figuring out how to navigate the lay of the land.

Two of the Peters foursomes finished at 1-under-par and the third won with a 3-under-par tally.

Show them the way

"What they do, they have the pins lit up with



Livonia's Chris Naida putts glowing golf balls on a neon-lit green at Hilltop in Plymouth. He was part of a group of friends enjoying the unique recreational opportunity last Friday night.

LEDs," Peters said. "There's maybe four neon lights surrounding the greens and they light up 100-yard markers and 150-yard markers. You basically just shoot at the lights."

Different-colored glow golf balls, provided by Hilltop as part of the \$25-

per-person fee, didn't fly as far as regular ones do.

That didn't matter because they were fun to track, said 28-year-old Chris Naida of Livonia who, with Peters, Jim Darkangelo of Waterford and Craig Heikkinen of Madison Heights, comprised a foursome.

Overall, there were three foursomes with the Peters group.

"The neat part was, usually when you're golfing, you shank a ball and you can't see where it goes," Naida said. "Well in this case, right when you hit it it lights up, so we saw quite a few actually hit the trees and kick back out into the fairway and that was kind of neat to watch."

"And every time you drive, it's like a comet taking off."

Looking for clues

Neon markers also circled greens to give participants an idea which direction to smack their wedge shots.

Once on the green, however, it was pure guesswork.

"That was very difficult," said Peters, who found out about Hilltop's Glow Golf from a friend. "It was drizzling a little bit on Friday, so not only

Please see GLOW, B4

Whalers in wait-and-see mode

OHL HOCKEY

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Tom Wilson couldn't wait to skate in his first National Hockey League camp, next to Washington superstar Alex Ovechkin.

But that's an up-in-the-air aspiration for the Plymouth Whalers' rugged right wing — not to mention likewise for nine other Whalers with NHL ties.

At midnight Saturday, the NHL is expected to lock out players until further notice. Big league camps have been indefinitely postponed.

The Whalers play in the Ontario Hockey League, a junior circuit and primary feeder system to the NHL.

"It's kind of unfortunate that my first NHL camp might be locked out for a little bit," said Wilson, following a recent preseason scrimmage at Compuware Arena. "No kid wants to see that. It's been my dream to play with guys like Ovechkin and stuff."

"The farther that gets pushed back, the worse it is for me."

Wilson quickly added that members of the NHL



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Among Plymouth Whalers players impacted by the looming NHL lockout is forward Tom Wilson (No. 10), shown in action in the 2012 playoffs against Kitchener.

Players' Association "got to do what they got to do and I respect all those professionals. It's business."

Other Whalers impacted by the looming lockout include: forwards JT Miller (New York Rangers), Stefan Noesen (Ottawa), Rickard Rakell (Anaheim), Mitchell Heard (Colorado), Garrett Meurs (Colorado), Cody Payne (Boston); defensemen and Whalers newcomers Gianluca Curcuruto (Columbus) and Connor Carrick (Washington) and goaltender Matt

Mahalak (Carolina).

Meanwhile, while the NHL won't be open for training camp anytime soon, barring a last-minute breakthrough, it is unclear whether affiliated minor league teams in the American Hockey League could sumo OHL skaters to compete at their September camps.

In focus

Yet Wilson, 18, an exemplary student who finished high school at

Please see WHALERS, B2

Salem harriers excel at conference invite

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

PREP CROSS COUNTRY

Strong depth showed itself Saturday for Salem's girls' cross country team at the Kensington Lakes Activities Association Invitational at Willow Metropark.

The Rocks, spearheaded by junior standout Kayla Kavulich's second-place time of 18 minutes, 41.8 seconds, finished second out of 12 teams with 49 points.

She trailed only Hartland's Avery Evenson, who clocked in with a time of 18:25.3. The course was 5,000 meters.

Finishing first was Northville (37 points), with Plymouth (176) and Canton (205) placing fifth and eighth, respectively.

"We started our 2012 competition season with a very impressive team showing," noted Salem head coach Dave Gerlach. "All five of our scorers broke the 20-minute time barrier and we were only 12 points away from a state-ranked team in Northville."

"This is a very motivated, hard working and talented bunch of young ladies that want to continue improving throughout the season."

Kavulich was one of six Salem medalists (the top-28 finishers in each of the girls and boys races earned medals).

Sophomores Lauren Arquette and Anya Cho came in eighth and 10th, respectively, with times of 19:50.1 and 19:55.4.

In 14th was senior Alejandra Beltran (19:58.6), followed by junior Natasha Stevenson (15th, 19:59.0) and senior Emily Bizon (22nd, 20:23.9).

Runners from Plymouth and Canton also placed in the top 28 to earn medals.

Plymouth junior Marina DeBiasi placed 18th with a time of 20:12.20. For the Chiefs, junior Jessica Siegler came in 24th with a mark of 20:36.69.

Meanwhile, Salem freshman Kayla Hughes had an outstanding

showing in the junior varsity race. Hughes placed second out of 112 finishers with a time of 22:10.86.

Boys recap

On the boys side, Salem finished fourth with 97 points, behind Hartland (38), Grand Blanc (65) and Livonia Churchill (67).

Taking fifth with 168 points was Canton and Plymouth did not compete.

"Overall, we had a number of season bests and personal bests and ran well on a beautiful course and day," said Salem head coach Steve Aspinall.

The top finisher overall was Hartland's Sean Pengelly, with a mark of 15:53.2.

Closest among Plymouth-Canton Educational Park competitors was Salem senior Steve McEvilly. He came in sixth, with a time of 16:47.92.

Other Salem boys to medal were seniors Ryley Doxtader (11th,

Please see INVITE, B4

Rocks get past Chiefs on Senior/Parent Night

Two state-ranked soccer teams squared off on Saturday, and when the final horn sounded, Salem walked off the field with a hard-fought 1-0 victory over cross-campus rival Canton in the teams' annual "Senior/Parent Recognition Game."

The game was a rematch of the championship of the Gary Balconi Invitational, which was officially a 1-1 tie, although Salem was awarded the championship after winning a penalty shot shoot-out.

"It was a classic Salem-Canton game, with a lot of emotion and lots of guys getting tackled all over the field," said Salem coach Ed McCarthy after the game.

The game was played before a full house, with the bleachers packed with students and fans of both teams. Adding to the festivities were cheerleading squads from both schools, as well as a drum line to entertain the crowd before the game.

Holding the fort

Canton and Salem exchanged scoring chances throughout the first half, with neither team managing to sustain possession. The two senior goalkeepers, Erick Beas for Salem and Ian Wingate for Canton, were strong in their nets, as each dealt with several quality shots. It looked as if the game



CAROL HOMCO

Showing they are friends in the classroom and competitors on the field, Canton and Salem seniors pose for a photo before their annual "Senior Night" game at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. Pictured in the front row are (from left) Dan Ovesea, Tyler Fosdick, Bryan Tolinski, Erick Beas, Ian Wingate, Robbie Morgan, Grant McKinney and Scott Piwowar; in the back row are (from left) Brian Galm, Daniel Marsden, Nick Tomei, Chris Dierker, Connor Shennan, Luke Hazen, Sachin Pindolia, Tyler Bashaw and Bobby Budlong.

would head into the half scoreless, but with less than a minute to play Canton was unable to clear the ball in front of Wingate.

Forward David Schroeder headed the ball towards the Canton goal, where midfielder Andriy Pelekh got his head on it and flicked a shot over Wingate's outstretched hands with just 28 seconds on the clock.

Canton came out with some early pressure in

the second half, and nearly tied the game. Following a Salem foul about five minutes into the half, Canton's senior co-captain Bobby Budlong lined up a free kick about 25 yards from the Salem goal.

McCarthy had switched his goalkeepers at half-time, inserting the taller Collin Hewett in net and his decision paid off. Budlong rocketed a shot that looked like it was about

to slide under the crossbar, but Hewett was able to stretch out and push the ball safely away.

The two teams again exchanged scoring chances, but as in the first half, Hewett and Canton's Brandon Pickert were able to come up with big saves when they needed them.

The Chiefs dialed up the pressure in the last eight minutes of the game and again nearly evened the match. Griffin Parks sent a shot that was wide by

inches, and senior co-captain Dan Ovesea had a shot snatched out of the air by Hewett.

That was close

Canton's last chance came with less than two minutes to play, when Connor Shennan drove a shot from close-range that Hewett managed to turn away.

"We really dodged a bullet there, with Connor's shot," McCarthy said. "I'm sure he'd like to have

another shot at it, but he got a lot behind the shot and Collin made a nice save."

"This really was a classic Canton-Salem game, another rivalry game that lived up to expectations," said George Tomasso, Canton's head coach. "Both teams had lots of chances, and both teams played exceptionally well."

The two teams are matched up in the same state tournament district, so they may see each other for a third time this season. With the victory, Salem improved its record to 5-2-2 overall while Canton dropped to 6-2-2.

LUTH. WESTLAND 3, PCA 2: The monkey is finally off Bob Regan's back. The first-year Lutheran High Westland boys soccer coach earned his first victory Tuesday at home as the Warriors rallied from a 2-0 halftime deficit to beat Plymouth Christian Academy, 3-2. Lutheran Westland is now 1-5 overall and 1-5 in the Blue Division of the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference. Lucas Albrecht scored both goals for the Eagles (0-7, 0-7) in the 18th and 35th minutes, respectively.

The Warriors mounted their comeback on the first of two Ernie Babon goals in the 44th minute (off an assist from Walt Gembariski).

Five minutes later, Brandon Wyman made it 2-2 with Troy Gotchev drawing the assist. Babon then tallied the game-winner in the 52nd minute with Wyman assisting. Lutheran Westland goalkeeper Jordan Williams made seven saves.

WHALERS

Continued from page B1

Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, said the potential lockout is helping put a focus on one thing.

Namely that it's time to ramp it up for the 2012-13 season.

"Whether or not they're locked out it's going to be a good year in Plymouth," Wilson said. "If it's locked out I'll be here."

The team opens Friday, Sept. 21 at Sault Ste. Marie and returns to

Compuware for the home opener (7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22 against Belleville).

One plus for teams such as the Whalers in the event of a NHL shutdown would be increased attention and attendance.

According to Mike Vellucci, longtime president, general manager and coach of the Whalers, that kind of bump accompanied the 2004-05 NHL lockout.

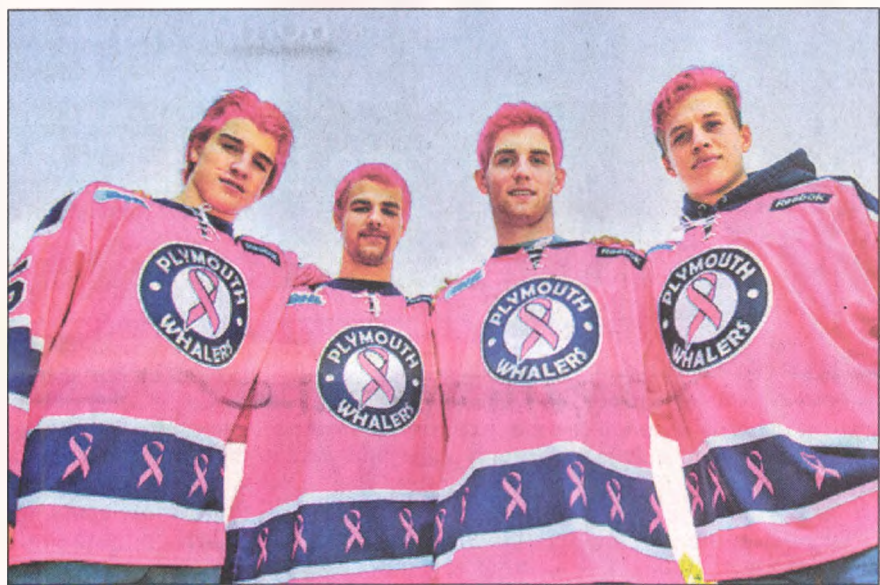
"If they do have a lockout it will probably increase our attendance like it did last time," Vellucci said.

Of course, he would

want the NHL rift to heal before the beginning of December in order to ensure the Winter Festival at Comerica Park (including the Whalers) late that month isn't jeopardized.

"Yeah, we'd love to have them play so we could play in the (Winter Festival)," Vellucci said. "Hopefully they're back before Dec. 1st because that's when they're talking about making a decision on the outdoor game."

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Whalers, Lucky Hair team up

The Plymouth Whalers and Lucky Hair Company of Canton are teaming up Sunday for a haircutting fundraiser, with all proceeds from the noon-to-4 p.m. event to be donated to the Karmanos Cancer Center. Lucky Hair Company is located at 45421 Cherry Hill Road. Call (734) 844-8166 for more information. Those who stop by will get a free ticket to the Whalers' fifth annual Pink Out! For Breast Cancer Awareness game, slated for 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13 at Compuware Arena against Sault Ste. Marie. At that game, Whalers players will wear specially designed pink jerseys and sport pink hairdos — just like they did last season (above).

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GIRLS SWIM RESULTS

DUAL MEET RESULTS

SALEM 96
PLYMOUTH 90
Sept. 11 at Salem
200-yard medley relay: 1. Salem (Abby Aumiller, Linda Zhang, Annie Patterson, Julia Suriano), 1:55.32; 2. Plymouth (Alexa Earls, Emily Toro, Lydia Plencner, Linda Erickson), 1:57.34; 3. Salem (Mckenzie

Maurice, Kristy Rupp, Claire Amin, Vincenza Zaia), 2:08.49.
200 freestyle: 1. Sarah Dombkowski (P), 1:58.58; 2. Aumiller (S), 2:02.55; 3. Emily Weiner (P), 2:06.33; 4. Maddie Gorman (S), 2:07.68; 5. Patricia Freitag (S), 2:08.25.
200 individual medley: 1. Lisa Zhang (S), 2:13.84; 2. Earls (P), 2:18.95; 3. Patterson (S),

2:27.46; 4. Amin (S), 2:30.69; 5. Samidha Visai (P), 2:35.79.
50 freestyle: 1. Linda Zhang (S), 25.71; 2. Carolyn Stoddard (P), 26.79; 3. Erickson (P), 26.84; 4. Stephanie Solterman (S), 27.30; 5. Caylin Waters (P), 27.90.
1-meter diving: 1. Bridget Maul (S), 140.75 points; 2. Megan McKeenan (P), 120.85; 3. Katy Telega (P), 120.35; 4. Alexa Gullitti (P), 118.40; 5. Adelaida Jepperson (S), 103.15.

100 butterfly: 1. Lisa Zhang (S), 1:01.26; 2. Toro (P), 1:01.67; 3. Plencner (P), 1:04.84; 4. Andrea Ringer (S), 1:08.30; 5. Amin (S), 1:12.24.

100 freestyle: 1. Erickson (P), 58.34; 2. Weiner (P), 58.45; 3. Solterman (S), 59.15; 4. Patterson (S), 1:00.25; 5. Cassidy Sargent (S), 1:01.37.

500 freestyle: 1. Dombkowski (P), 5:07.47; 2. Suriano (S), 5:21.57; 3. Stoddard (P), 5:45.94; 4. Gorman (S), 5:50.31; 5. Vincenza (S), 5:54.40.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Toro, Erickson, Weiner, Dombkowski), 1:44.31; 2. Salem (Lisa Zhang, Solterman, Gorman, Suriano), 1:44.90; 3. Plymouth (Lydia Matson, Waters, Casey Wing, Stoddard), 1:52.41.

100 backstroke: 1. Aumiller (S), 1:00.52; 2. Earls (P), 1:03.71; 3. Patricia Freitag (S), 1:07.24; 4. Plencner (P), 1:09.19; 5. Maurice (S), 1:11.15.

100 breaststroke: 1. Linda Zhang (S), 1:10.57; 2. Toro (P), 1:14.81; 3. Matson (P), 1:19.32; 4. Visai (P), 1:21.53; 5. Rupp (S), 1:22.28.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Suriano, Lisa Zhang, Aumiller, Linda Zhang), 3:41.00; 2. Plymouth (Dombkowski, Stoddard, Weiner, Earls), 3:48.74; 3. Salem (Solterman, Ringer, Patterson, Gorman), 3:59.68.

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PREP GRID PICKS

Week 4	Wright	Smith	O'Meara	Emons
Friday, Sept. 14				
N. Farmington (1-2, 0-2) at Harrison (2-1, 1-1), 7 p.m.	Harrison	Harrison	Harrison	Harrison
Oxford (2-1, 2-0) at Farmington (3-0, 2-0), 7 p.m.	Oxford	Farmington	Farmington	Farmington
Crestwood (0-3, 0-1) at Garden City (2-1, 1-0), 7 p.m.	Garden City	Garden City	Garden City	Garden City
Redford Union (1-2, 1-0) at Robichaud (3-0, 1-0), 7 p.m.	Robichaud	Robichaud	Robichaud	Robichaud
Canton (2-1, 1-0) at John Glenn (0-3, 0-1), 7 p.m.	Canton	Canton	Canton	Canton
Livonia Churchill (3-0, 1-0) at Wayne (0-3, 0-1), 7 p.m.	Churchill	Churchill	Churchill	Churchill
Livonia Stevenson (3-0, 1-0) at South Lyon (2-1, 1-1), 7 p.m.	South Lyon	Stevenson	Stevenson	Stevenson
Northville (2-1, 1-0) at Salem (3-0, 1-0), 7 p.m.	Salem	Salem	Northville	Northville
Plymouth (2-1, 0-1) at Livonia Franklin (1-2, 1-0), 7 p.m.	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth
Lutheran Northwest (2-1) at Clarenceville (2-1), 7 p.m.	Northwest	Clarenceville	Clarenceville	Clarenceville
Saturday, Sept. 15				
Univ. Liggett (2-1, 1-0) at Luth. Westland (1-2, 0-1), 1 p.m.	Liggett	Liggett	Liggett	Liggett
Last week	8-4	10-2	10-2	11-1
Overall	24-17	28-13	27-14	26-15

Rocks seek consistency

After losing Thursday against KLA Central Division rival South Lyon, Salem's varsity girls volleyball team had an inconsistent showing at Saturday's Lakeland Invitational.

The Rocks went 3-3 in pool play before bowing out to Canton in a Silver Bracket contest.

Salem began pool play losing 8-25, 20-25 to Lakeland. Then came a 22-25, 25-21 split against Okemos and a 25-20, 25-17 victory over Farmington.

In the Silver Bracket, the Rocks lost 15-25, 25-22, 12-15 to Canton.

"We started playing better in the second game," Salem head coach Amanda Nies said. "We had a lot of errors to start in the Canton game. All day we were struggling to keep the lead for a long time."

"We would make three great plays and then make three unforced errors in a row."

Erika Hatcher played well for Salem, with 30 kills, eight aces and 26 digs, Nies said.

Other Salem contributors included Tess Ganich (22 kills, eight blocks), Abigail Dworzanin (12

kills, 34 digs), Nicole Jablonski (six aces, 25 digs) and Julianna DiMichelle (52 digs to lead the defense).

Nies cited Jablonski and DiMichelle for strong defensive showings.

Against South Lyon, the Rocks lost 3-1 (15-25, 20-25, 25-16, 19-25).

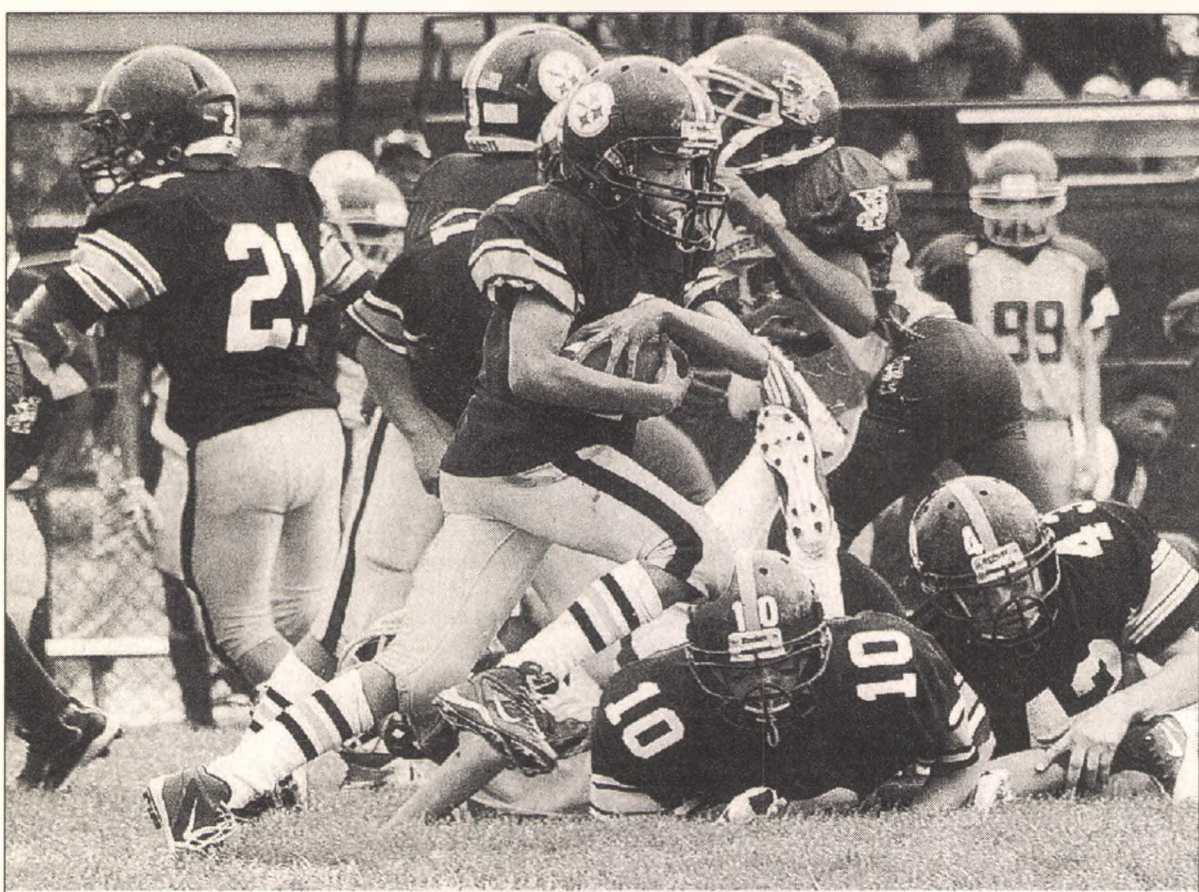
Hatcher (12 kills), Bri Beaver (nine kills), Ganich (four aces, seven kills) and Nancy Krutty (four aces, 33 assists, 10 digs) chipped in for Salem.

Eagles win opener

Plymouth Christian Academy defeated Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest Tuesday night, in the Michigan Independent Athletics Conference opener for the Eagles.

PCA lost the opener (21-25) but roared back with 25-18, 25-23 and 25-17 wins to clinch the match 3-1.

Jen Malcolm sparked the Eagles with 13 assists and 11 digs while libero Callie Morby (16 digs), Rachael Fuller (eight kills) and Mary Anleitner (three aces) helped the cause, said PCA head coach Katie LeComte.



ED WRIGHT PHOTO

Catch him if you can

Plymouth-Canton Steelers junior varsity running back Mason Phillips breaks free for a long touchdown run during his team's 28-0 victory over Ypsilanti Saturday afternoon at Central Middle School. The Steelers have now outscored their opponents 71-0 during their 2-0 start.



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SPIKERS

Continued from page B1

match in Game 4.

The Wildcats squared things with a 25-17 win and rode that momentum into the fifth game, building a 10-3 lead early on before hanging on.

"I think we started to tighten up a little bit (down the stretch)," said Canton head coach Steve Johnson. "And I think we were probably score-watching a little bit and playing not to lose rather than just relaxing and keeping (with) what we were doing."

Highlight play

In Game 4, the Wildcats came out strong from the start with three straight points, two on spikes by senior Emilee Beyer (10 kills, three blocks).

Plymouth kept battling and tacking on points, including one on a stunning defensive play.

With den Boer (17 kills, 26 digs, three aces) serving, the Chiefs chipped the Plymouth lead down to 8-6 and had a chance to surge ahead.

Then came the play that Marody said exemplifies her squad's never-give-up mantra. Teaming up to turn an almost-certain Canton point into a defensive sideout were junior Haylee Weber, senior Taylor Rieckhoff (three blocks) and senior Kyra Neumann (11 digs).

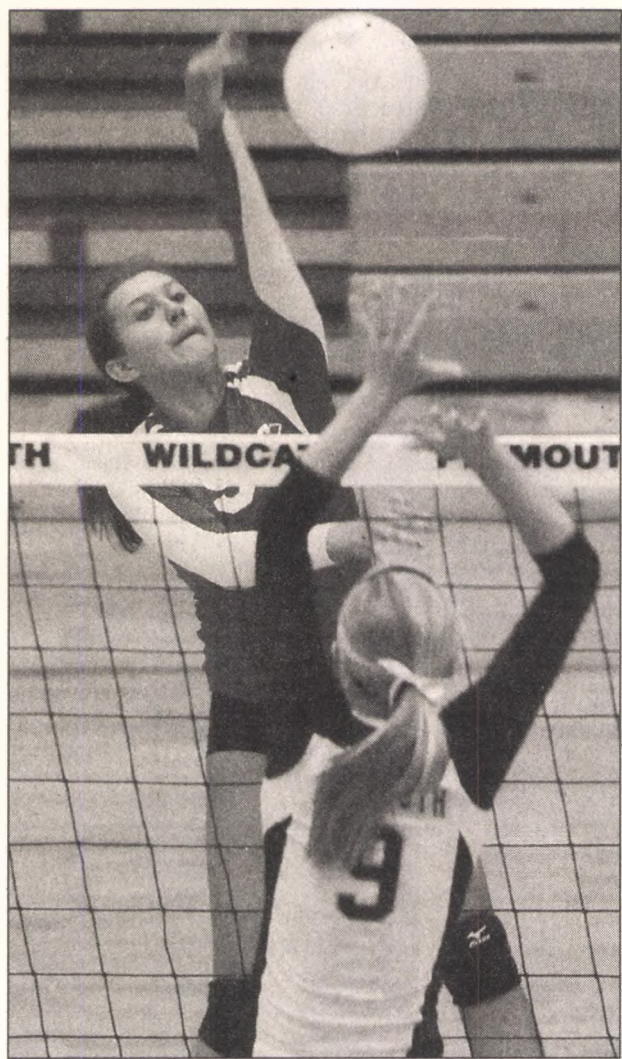
That play made it a 9-6 Plymouth lead and before too long, it was 19-12 following successful service runs by Rieckhoff and Beyer.

"Haylee dove to put it in the rafters, Taylor was patient and waited for it to come out and Kyra Neumann put it over the net," Marody said. "She was out of bounds, in the back court, and threw herself at the ball and put it over."

According to Betts (17 kills, 19 digs), that sequence summed it all up for the night.

"We never give up, not until you hear that final whistle," Betts said. "You just keep playing."

So did the Chiefs (11-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Courtney Kurkie (No. 9, red) hammers the ball over the outstretched arms of Plymouth's Madelyn Betts.

6-1, 1-1), who also displayed those same characteristics.

"I'm not disappointed with the way our team played," Johnson said. "I thought we did a good job tonight."

Back and forth

The second game was a see-saw affair. Canton's Chelsea Janice (21 assists) snapped off five points from the service stripe, including an ace, to put the Chiefs up 15-11.

Answering that run was Plymouth junior setter Shayla Smalls, also with an ace among five points to make it a 17-16 Plymouth lead. (Smalls was in the middle of things for the Wildcats all night, finishing with 32 assists along with five aces.)

Finally, Janice served up the game-clinching points, with right-side hitter Courtney Kurkie (nine kills, three blocks)

hammering home the winner.

In Game 3, Canton lead virtually all the way, sparked by a nine-point run at the service stripe by Madison Kielty (20 assists, six digs, three aces), which broke open a close contest.

"She kept us in the game," Johnson said. "She had a couple of those tonight for us. It was a very strong effort from her."

Other Plymouth contributors included senior middle hitter Caterina Soli (15 kills, five assists), sophomore Olivia Beyer (15 kills) and freshman Daniella Barile (12 assists, two aces).

Helping Canton's cause were outside hitter Jordan Diedrick (12 kills, six digs), middle hitter Alexis Madis (three kills) and right-side hitter Sasha Cucuz (six kills).

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Byzantine choir performs chant at Livonia church

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

The choir of St. Romanos the Melodist of the Archdiocese of Beirut, Lebanon, will make two stops at Detroit-area churches during its current U.S. tour.

The all-male group will perform at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 13 at St. George Orthodox Church in Troy and at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 14 at the Basilica of St. Mary, 18200 Merri- man, in Livonia.

"This group came by invitation of his eminence Archbishop Philip of North America to tour the entire United States. The concert will present musical talent without musical instruments of the most ancient form of chant by eight men who are trained in this Byzantine art of music," said the Rev. George Shalhoub, pastor of the Basilica of St. Mary.

The Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch, which

is the charitable arm of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America is funding the tour.

The group will chant hymns related to Christmas, Epiphany, Easter, various saints, Mary, and more. They'll sing in Greek, Arabic and English.

Shalhoub said he trained in Byzantine chant for seven years and is a student of the art.

"It sounds so simple but is most difficult because you have to use your voice as an instrument to sing in different tones and melodies," he said.

Shalhoub said Byzantine chant is rooted in the "earliest ancient churches."

"Most Byzantine chant is happy, jolly, inviting and exciting because it involves your total body — voice, heart, ear, chest," he said. "That is the way of all our worship. It has a tone of excitement and celebra-

tion." Concert goers will get a chance to participate in a major feast day — The Elevation of the Cross — after the performance.

"There will be a procession of the Holy Cross in honor of the Elevation of the Holy Cross," Shalhoub said. "The cross is decorated with flowers and honors the day Empress Helena found the cross. Those in attendance will receive a blessed flower."

The feast celebrates the discovery of Christ's crucifixion cross — found under basil flowers — by Empress Helena, mother of St. Constantine the Great.

Shalhoub said the cross used in the procession will be decorated in carnations and basil.

A cheese and wine afterglow also will follow the choir performance.

For more information call (734) 422-0010.



The choir of St. Romanos the Melodist of the Archdiocese of Beirut, Lebanon, will perform Friday, Sept. 14, at the Basilica of St. Mary in Livonia.

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

September

BETHANY

Time/Date: 8 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Sept. 29

Location: Don Hubert VFW Hall, 27345 Schoolcraft, east of Inkster Road, Redford

Details: Admission to this Bethany Together Dance is \$13

Contact: Loretta at (586) 264-0282

BIBLE CLASS

Time/Date: 10:45 a.m. Sunday, beginning Sept. 23

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: Included in the discussion are heaven, hell, the resurrection of the dead, final judgement, and other topics

Contact: (734) 968-3523 or

(313) 532-8655.

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-noon, Sunday, Sept. 16

Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: French toast, pancakes, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, juice and milk. All-you-can-eat breakfast costs \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, 2-10

Contact: (734) 425-4421

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22

Location: 41920 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty, Canton

Details: Free clothing and shoes to anyone in need

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

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 14

Location: The Church of

Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 7575 Hix, Westland

Details: Free concert by pianist David Glen Hatch

Contact: (248) 478-8588, davidglenhatch.com or 2011581@LDSChurch.org

DIVORCED CATHOLICS

Time/Date: 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 13

Location: Our Lady of Good Counsel Church Social Hall, 47650 North Territorial, Plymouth

Details: New Beginnings, a support group for divorced Catholics, meets. The Rev. John Riccardo, pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel, will talk, followed by a Q&A session that gives attendees the opportunity to discuss issues related to divorce and faith in a safe, confidential, and prayerful environment. Pre-registration recommended. No admission charge for the event

Contact: newbeginning-solgc@gmail.com

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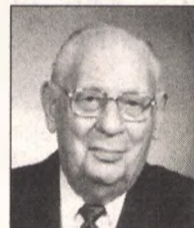
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ALLEN, DOUG

11/4/1970 ~ 9/9/2012

Doug is survived by his brothers, Michael Allen and Tim Allen. His sister Donna Young and his son Kyle Allen. Much laughter and love!!!!



MOELLERING, PAUL C.



Age 91. Beloved husband of 63 years to Evelyn. Loving father of Tom (Dianne) Moellering, Michelle (Gene) Walker and the late Michael Moellering. Dearest grandfather of 8 and great grandfather of 8. Paul was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana and was a World War II veteran. Founder of Arrow Moving and Storage of Livonia. Long time Livonia Rotarian. Retired to Marco Island, Florida before returning to Michigan. A memorial service will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 20805 Middlebelt Rd., Farmington Hills, Friday at 1:30pm. Memorial contributions may be directed to Concordia Lutheran School, 20805 Middlebelt Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48336. Please share a memory at: www.rggharris.com



SCHAEFER, EDNA P.

Age 81, September 6, 2012. Loving wife of the late Randolph. Beloved mother of Lois (Phil) Pfefferle and William Schaefer. Grandmother of Eric and Steve Pfefferle. Sister of Agnes Frost, Nadine Abshire, Glenda Thomas and Joedith Vincent and the late Lillian Ferrel and Kenneth Vincent. Memorials may be made to the Michigan Humane Society. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com.

BOCK, JAMES R.

Age 67. Beloved father of Kelly (Frank). Dear brother of Robert Oakes and Norman Lee Bock. Loving uncle of Kelly Breijak and Tracy. Cherished grandfather of Jonathan Staisil and Samatha Baas. Uncle of Cindy, Lee, Don, Craig, and Catherine. Retired truck driver for Roush.

HOUSEMAN, WALTER R.

Age 85. September 10, 2012. Survived by sons Guy Derek and Brian Clay and long time companion Isabelle Trynovich. Services were private and entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Redford, MI. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

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A 'canary in a coal mine'

Duo returns home with film on Detroit's decline

By Diana Wing
Special Writer

Detropia, a new documentary by Jesus Camp filmmakers Heidi Ewing and Rachel Grady, gives us a glimpse into the lives of several Detroiters who haven't yet given up on the city they call home.

The owner of a blues bar, a UAW rep, a young video blogger, a couple of avant-garde artists, a gang of illegal "scrap-pers" and an opera impresario go about their day-to-day lives, all the while reflecting on the past and searching for solutions to turn around the Motor City's downward spiral. Their musings are strung together with beautiful footage of decaying architecture and empty streets, as well as clips of old auto ads, gloomy union meetings, spirited public meetings and live blues.

Detropia opens next weekend at the Main Art Theatre in Royal Oak.

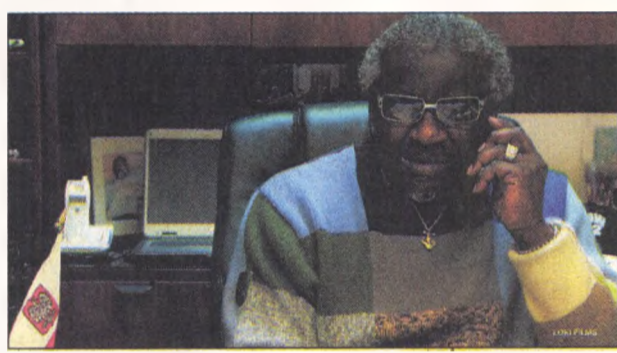
Ewing, who was born in Southfield and raised in Farmington Hills, has a family connection to Detroit. Her parents were living in the city during the 1967 riots, and they were part of the exodus to the suburbs a year later. Her grandmother remained in the city.

Ewing said that while she moved out of state to study and work in film, she often returned home to visit. Recognizing the situation in Detroit was getting more desperate, Ewing came back to the city in October 2009 with Grady and co-producer/cinematographer Craig Atkinson, who grew up in Royal Oak, to see if there was a story to be told.

"I stayed with my parents, and she stayed with our cinematographer and his parents, and we filmed for three days," Ewing said. "We just wanted to get a sense of the characters, the people who chose not to leave Detroit. We had an amazing three-day experience,



Illegal scrap-pers dismantle old structures and collect the metal in the documentary "Detropia."



UAW Local 22 President George McGregor talks to a union member about available benefits after the bailout.

and we were so touched by the people we met that we became obsessed with making a full-length documentary film about the city.

"In September 2010 we moved to Detroit. We got two apartments downtown, a crew and two cars and basically moved in for about a year. The result is *Detropia*."

Detroit's struggles

Initially, the filmmakers weren't sure where they were going with the story. They filmed many different people and followed a variety of storylines until they got a strong sense of the story that was emerging — a much more national story than they had expected.

"Detroit's troubles are more grave than other cities, but definitely representative of the national anxiety we're having as a country," said Ewing, who noted that the film has screened for audiences around the country.

"Plenty of cities and people have been able to identify with the job

loss, with the sense of being left behind, with the crumbling infrastructure, with problems that don't seem to be getting solved administration after administration," she said. "I hear people saying, 'Hey, that's happening here too.' The foreclosure crisis and the gutting of the manufacturing sector and the people who don't have the skills to compete are finding they've fallen out of the middle class.

"So those things are happening nationwide, and I think Detroit can be looked at as the canary in the coal mine in many ways," Ewing said.

Of the Detroiters highlighted in the film, Tommy Stephens, proprietor of the Raven Lounge and Restaurant on Chene in east Detroit, stands out.

"The fact that he is an African American business owner who is struggling to keep his business open, and the fact that his fortunes could rise and fall with the auto industry, because of his direct proximity to the plant



PHOTOS BY TONY HARDMON

"Detropia" chronicles the lives of several Detroiters — including these performance artists in gas masks — trying to survive a city in economic decay.



Detroit's abandoned train station draws artists and the curious.

up the street, something about that just connected so many dots for us," Ewing said. "The ups and downs of a one-industry town, the importance of maintaining culture in a city where so many people have left, keeping the blues alive ... there are so many things about his story and him as a person.

"He's a retired school teacher. He cares so much about the city and he's concerned about our country being competitive. As a documentary filmmaker, you couldn't ask for more."

One of Ewing's favorite scenes in the film has Stephens at the North American International Auto Show talking to representatives of BYD (Build Your Dreams) Auto of China. The electric vehicle he's looking at is about half the price of the Chevy Volt, and it runs farther between charg-

es. He approaches the rep at the Volt display and asks, "What are you going to do about the BYD?" Not getting the answers he wants, Stephens figures the guy "has his head in the sand." He warns, "Remember when nobody would buy a Honda, and then Honda took over?"

Finding solutions?

The effort to demolish vacant homes, repurpose excess land and encourage residents to relocate in order to receive better city services draws anger at a public meeting in the documentary. One woman asks, "Why do we have to move? Why not build around us?"

In the film, UAW Local 22 president George McGregor talks about the need for an improved educational system to help young people stay competi-

tive. Blues club owner Stephens points to capitalism as exploiting the weak, and advises that you should "help your neighbor put out that fire or that fire is coming to you."

The filmmakers didn't want to overplay the arrival of artists and young people to Detroit.

"There are new people coming to Detroit all the time, and they definitely bring energy. We didn't want to portray it as though they're definitely going to save the city," she said, admitting that she wished she had found a solution to Detroit's turnaround. "We looked real hard. But with these problems, there is no easy solution...this has been a long time coming, and it's not going to be a quick fix. That's one of the messages of our film."

Ewing and Atkinson will appear in person for a question and answer session after the 7:15 p.m. show, and to introduce the 9:50 p.m. show, Friday-Saturday, Sept. 14-15, at the Main Art Theatre, 118 N. Main, at 11 Mile, in Royal Oak. Tickets are available at www.landmarktheatres.com/tickets or at the box office. Call (248) 263-2111 for more information.

Essay winner will 'rule' amphibians at zoo

Newts, frogs and toads at the Detroit Zoo are looking for a leader. Amphibiville, a two-acre wetland village that is home to the National Amphibian Conservation Center, is seeking a new mayor for a two-year term.

To join the race, candidates, 7-12, must submit an essay of 100 words or less on why they

should be mayor of Amphibiville. All entries must be submitted by Oct. 5 to PR1@dzs.org or to Mayor of Amphibiville, Detroit Zoological Society, 8450 W. 10 Mile, Royal Oak, MI 48067. Entries must include the candidate's name, age, address and daytime telephone number. The winner will be announced in November.

The new Mayor of Amphibiville will be sworn in and receive a plaque, inscribed with his or her name, that will be displayed in the National Amphibian Conservation Center; a certificate acknowledging his or her position as Mayor of Amphibiville; a plush frog; and a one-year family membership to the Detroit

Zoo. Amphibiville's outgoing mayor is Claire Kozal, 10, of Whitmore Lake. Sworn into office in November 2009, Claire built her own home nature center when she was just 3, and says she loves all animals, "even the slimy ones." Amphibiville opened in 2000

featuring the award-winning National Amphibian Conservation Center, a state-of-the-art facility that includes a spectacular diversity of frogs, toads, salamanders, newts and caecilians.

For more information about the Detroit Zoo, call (248) 541-5717 or visit www.detroitzoo.org.

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New season of folk music starts in Plymouth

BaseLine Folk Society kicks off its eighth season of open mic and featured acts at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, at the Plymouth Community Arts Center, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth.

Singer/songwriter Doug McClennen, a regular at Baseline, will host its first open mic of the season. He is a true "folky," having met Pete Seeger and other greats of folk music, and has a wealth of folk songs and stories. McClennen will sing a couple of songs and introduce the evening's performers.

Anyone interested in performing in the open mic may sign up between 6:15-6:45 p.m. at the show. Eight open mic spots are available. If more than eight performers sign-up, a lottery will be held

for the open mic spots. Each musician will perform two-songs. Cover and original both are welcome.

The featured group, "Circle of Friends," consists of Mary Foley, Dean Barnett and Gordon MacDonald. Foley has played professionally in the Detroit folk scene for many years. She plays guitar and sings. Barnett sings, plays guitar and mandolin and also performs with other groups. MacDonald is a retired music teacher who plays almost any instrument you can name. He plays bass with Circle of Friends. The group will perform a 30-minute set. Admission at the door is \$5 per person.

Annual memberships also will be available for

both individuals and families at the door.

An individual membership includes free admission to monthly open mic concerts from Sept.-May for \$25.

Family memberships enable parents and their children to attend all monthly concerts free. Membership cost is \$50.

BaseLine Folk Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and preserving the fine art of traditional acoustical folk music. Look for its season line-up on its new Facebook page. The group also plans a few "all open mic" events this season.

For more information contact its new president, Scott Ludwig, at BFSpresident@yahoo.com or call (734) 453-0869.

Art

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Time/Dates: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit

Family Sundays: 2 p.m. Sundays; storytelling, performances; free with admission

Exhibits: Picasso & Matisse exhibits all of the museum's drawings and prints by the two artists, through Jan. 6, 2013; Faberge: The Rise and Fall, The Collection of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Oct. 14-Jan. 21, 2013; Hidden Treasures: An Experiment, Oct. 31-March 3, 2013

Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

LIVONIA ARTISTS CLUB

Time/Date: Through Sept. 28

Location: Livonia City Hall lobby, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia

Details: The Club, founded in 1960, holds its 52nd annual art exhibit, featuring oils, acrylics, watercolors, pastels, collage and drawings

Contact: Livonia City Hall at (734) 466-2200

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Sept. 22

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "Beyond Borders: Mosaic Exhibit and Auction" features mosaic work by artists from around the world that will be auctioned online at <http://www.BiddingForGood.com/DWB-MSF>. Online bidding runs through 9 p.m. Sept. 21.

Coming up: "Vote for Me! Artists Respond to the Presidential Election of 2012," Oct. 5-27, with an opening reception 6-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5

Contact: (248) 344-0497

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday and during public performances, through Sept. 25

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: More than 20 works of artist Amy DiPlacido will be on exhibit. Her art explores experimental approaches in the presentation of contemporary art

Contact: (734) 394-5300 or visit cantonvillagetheater.org

Dance

FAIRLAKE BALLROOM DANCE CLUB

Time/Date: 7:30-10:30 p.m. every Thursday

Location: Lyskawa V.F.W. Hall, 6840 Waverly, east of Telegraph, south of Warren in Dearborn Heights

Details: Singles and couples dance to live bands on a hardwood dance floor. Admission is \$7 for

members and \$8 for nonmembers. Free refreshments

Contact: Jean Orleans at (734) 516-0500

MOON DUSTERS

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 p.m. every Saturday; dance lessons 7-8 p.m.

Location: Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Singles and couples; free refreshments. Dance lessons cost \$6; dance and lessons are \$11; dance only is \$7 for guests, \$6.50 for associates and \$6 for Moon Dusters members

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

Film

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 14-15, 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 16 and 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 20

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "People Like Us," \$3

Coming up: "The Amazing Spider-Man," 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 21-22, 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 23, and 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 27

Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Sept. 21 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Sept. 22

Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit

Details: "The Sea Hawk," \$4

Coming up: "The Birds," 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 28 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, with a special appearance by Tippi Hedren on hand at all three shows, \$5; The Three Stooges Festival, 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, includes "Three Little Pigskins," "Three Little Beers," "Hoi Polloi," "Ants in the Pantry," "We Want Our Mummy," and "Dutiful But Dumb," \$5

Contact: (313) 537-2560



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Sweet treats for the lunch box

Transitioning back to school means getting accustomed to a new schedule, teachers and classmates. Parents can help make the transition a little easier by surprising their little one with a sweet treat in their lunch box. But because of food allergies, many desserts with peanuts are not allowed in schools.

These treat recipes are made with SoyNut Butter from I.M. Healthy. A great tasting and safe alternative, soynut butter does not contain peanuts, gluten, eggs or dairy, making it the perfect go-to ingredient for lunch box meals and after school snacks.

Soynut butter should be stored in an air-tight container. It can be stored in the refrigerator or cabinet. Use soynut butter as a replacement for peanut butter in your favorite recipes. For example, substitute soynut butter ounce for ounce in Hershey's recipe for Peanut Butter Blossoms. For more soynut butter recipes and health information, visit www.soynutbutter.com.

Hershey's Peanut Butter Blossoms

This version substitutes soynut butter for peanut butter

48 Hershey's Kisses brand milk chocolates
½ cup shortening
¾ cup soynut butter
½ cup granulated sugar
½ cup packed light brown sugar
1 egg
2 tablespoons milk
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon salt
Granulated sugar

Heat oven to 375°F. Remove wrappers from chocolates. Beat shortening and soynut butter in large bowl until well blended. Add 1/3 cup granulated sugar and brown sugar; beat until fluffy. Add egg, milk and vanilla; beat well. Stir together flour, baking soda and salt; gradually beat into peanut butter mixture.

Shape dough into 1-inch balls. Roll in granulated sugar; place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 8-10 minutes or until lightly browned. Immediately press a chocolate into center of each cookie; cookie will crack around edges. Remove from cookie sheet to wire rack. Cool completely. About 4 dozen cookies.

Nutritional Information per serving (1 cookie): 90 calories; 6g total fat, 2g saturated fat, 5 mg cholesterol, 75 mg sodium, 10g total carbohydrate, less than 1 g dietary fiber, 6g sugars, 2g protein

Chocolate Soynut Butter Cookies

1 stick softened butter
2 eggs
¼ cup granulated sugar
¼ cup brown sugar
2 teaspoons vanilla
1 ¼ cup chocolate soynut butter
¼ cup cocoa
1 cup flour minus 2 tablespoons
½ teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon salt
4 ounces chocolate chips
4 ounces peanut butter chips (optional)

In a large bowl, combine butter, eggs, granulated sugar, brown sugar, and vanilla. Once mixed, add chocolate soynut butter. In a separate bowl, combine cocoa, flour, baking soda, and salt. Fold the dry ingredients into the first bowl. Add chocolate chips and peanut butter chips

Drop onto cookie sheets and bake 8 minutes at 375 degrees. Allow to cool 1 minute before removing from cookie sheet.

Walking Salad

1 apple, cored
2 tablespoons I.M. Healthy Honey Sweetened Creamy SoyNut Butter
1 teaspoon raisins
1 teaspoon diced roasted soynuts

After apple is cored, fill center with Honey SoyNut Butter and top with raisins and soy nuts — or any topping of your choosing. Eat while you walk.



Chocolate Soynut Bars

Chocolate Soynut Bars

Yield: 16 bars

2 tablespoons margarine, melted
¾ cup creamy soynut butter
2 cups confectioners' sugar
¾ cup crushed graham crackers

2 to 4 tablespoons apple juice
¾ cup chocolate soynut butter
Combine margarine and soynut butter in food processor.

Add sugar and graham crackers, drizzling in just enough apple juice (one tablespoon at a time) to make the dough stick together, but not enough to make it wet.

Press dough into 8 x 8-inch baking dish. Chill for 20 minutes. Spread chocolate soynut butter liberally over dough. Chill for 20 minutes. Cut into 16 squares.

Nutty Butter Cookies

Yield: Approximately 45 cookies

1 cup soynut butter (chunky or creamy)
½ cup canola oil
¾ cup liquid egg substitute
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
¾ cup sugar
1 cup brown sugar, packed
½ cup chopped soy nuts
1 ½ cups whole wheat pastry flour

¼ cup soy flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
¼ teaspoon salt
Preheat oven to 375°F. Combine moist ingredients; cream until smooth.

Combine dry ingredients in small bowl. Stir dry ingredients into wet ingredients until well blended. Batter will be stiff. Take dough with fingers, shaping into 1 to 1 ½-inch balls.

Place dough balls on prepared cookie sheet. Flatten with a fork, making crisscross patterns. Bake 10 minutes. Cool on wire rack.



Nutty Butter Cookies

Brown Rice Crispy Squares

Yield: 16, 2-inch squares

½ cup brown rice syrup
3 tablespoons creamy soynut butter
¼ cup chopped, dried fruit (apricots, cranberries, etc.)
½ cup roasted soynuts, coarsely chopped
1 teaspoon vanilla
3 cups crispy brown rice cereal

Combine first 2 ingredients in a large saucepan. Heat over medium low to simmering (microwave if desired). Add dried fruit of choice and soynuts and simmer five minutes more; remove from heat. Stir in vanilla and cereal. Mix thoroughly. (Wearing disposable gloves helps). Firmly press mixture into a lightly oiled 8- by 8-inch-square pan. Using a sharp knife, make light indentations to denote 2-inch squares. This will expedite in cutting later. Refrigerate about 30 minutes. Cut into 16, 2-inch squares.

Thumb Print Cookies

2 cups unsweetened soynut butter
24 drops Fat to Skinny Zero Sweetener
¼ cup GG Bran Crisp Fiber Sprinkles
3 eggs
2 teaspoons baking powder
¼ cup fruit spread

Preheat oven to 350. Beat eggs in a medium size bowl. Add Fat to Skinny Zero Sweetener to eggs and mix well. soynut butter, bran crisp fiber sprinkles, and baking powder. Mix until all ingredients are combined well. Grease a cookie sheet. Roll the dough into balls and place on cookie sheet. Flatten the balls twice with a fork (crisscross) and make a thumb indent in the middle, fill with fruit spread. Bake for 8 minutes. Cool on rack. Refrigerate to firm up.

Courtesy of Family Features

Make brown bagging better

Brown bagging with a tasty sandwich is a great way to save money and enjoy a healthier lunch. But sometimes you can fall into a rut and get bored eating the same thing every day. Here are some easy ways to make brown bagging better:

- Try different sandwich bread — Add some extra flavor to your favorite sandwich with a zesty rye, a dark pumpernickel or an Asiago ciabatta.

- Switch spreads — Mayo and yellow mustard are good, but how about Italian-style deli dressing, honey mustard or even Russian dressing?

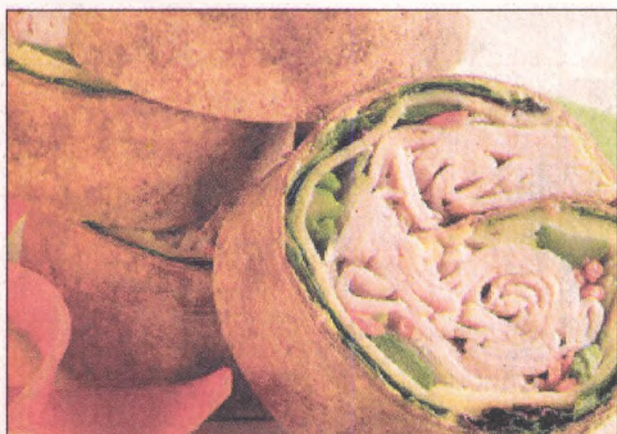
- Stack your sandwich high with fresh ingredients — Avocado, hummus and cucumbers are all unexpected options that give an extra kick to any sandwich.

For more delicious ways to make your lunch better, visit www.boarshead.com.



California Turkey Sandwich

3 slices Boar's Head Ovingold Turkey Breast
1 slice Muenster cheese
1/4 medium avocado, peeled, pitted, thinly sliced
2 lettuce leaves
3/4 tablespoon Boar's Head Pepperhouse Gourmaise
1 whole wheat sandwich roll, thin, round
Separate the sandwich roll in 2 halves. Layer the bottom half of bread with lettuce, tomato, turkey, avocado and cheese. Spread the Pepperhouse Gourmaise over top half of bread; then flip atop the sandwich. Press together lightly and serve.



Ovingold Asiam-Style Lettuce Wraps

12 slices Boar's Head Ovingold Turkey Breast Thinly Sliced
1 tablespoon olive oil
6 whole Bibb lettuce leaves
2 teaspoons soy sauce
1 garlic clove, minced
¼ teaspoon ground ginger
6 tablespoons almonds, slivered
1 teaspoon honey
1 tablespoon vinegar, rice
1 package crispy noodles

Wash and dry lettuce leaves and set aside. Combine oil, vinegar, honey, soy sauce, ginger and garlic together and whisk until well blended. Add broccoli slaw and toss to evenly coat. Make a wrap by adding 2 slices of turkey to the lettuce leaf, then top with ginger slaw, almonds and crispy noodles.

Mesquite Turkey Garden Wrap

2 ounces Boar's Head Cream Havarti Cheese
3 ounces Boar's Head Mesquite Turkey Breast
1 ounce spring mix lettuce
½ ounce carrot, blanched, julienne
1 each lavasch wrap
1 ounce pesto cream cheese
½ ounces asparagus spears, blanched, julienne
½ ounce Granny Smith apple
½ ounce Vidallia onion, shaved

Spread cream cheese evenly over the entire wrap. Evenly place the ingredients on the wrap, as you would on a pizza. Leave a 2-inch area clear on the top of the wrap. Roll up the wrap, tucking ingredients as you roll, as tightly as possible.

Courtesy of Family Features

