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**USA WEEKEND** 



### **Search** meeting

- Officials from Ray & Associates, the lowabased firm conducting the search for a new superintendent for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, are looking for public input.

To get it, the firm will conduct a public meeting 6:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 12, at the Canton Public Library. The team hopes to get opinions on the kinds of characteristics local residents are looking for in a new superintendent.

Members of the public can also provide input by taking a survey on the district's website at www.pccs. k12.mi.us.

"The hiring of a good superintendent can help lead us in a rapidly changing world of public education, and it's a high priority for the board," Board of Education President John Barrett said. "We're anxious to get community input to find out what their thoughts are, and what they'd like to see in a new superintendent."

### Turkey talk

The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps is in need of 350 frozen turkeys (15-pound average) for this year's Community Thanksgiving program. In addition to the



need for frozen turkeys, gravy, canned

fruit and canned tuna are also needed.

Turkeys may be donated Monday through Friday, Nov. 12-16, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 17, from noon to 4 p.m. All donated turkeys will be distributed to families in Plymouth, Canton, Belleville and Northville.

The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps is located at 9451 S. Main in Plymouth. For more information, call Laurie Aren at (734) 453-5464, ext. 29.

### Recycle day

VFW Post 6695 in Plymouth hosts "America Recycles Day" for recycling of electronics 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, as part of the national effort to recycle.

Organizers will recycle all electronics — "We'll take anything with a power cord," they said — except for televisions.

VFW Post 6695 is located at 1426 Mill in Plymouth Township. For more information, email advancecomputerrecycling@hotmail.com.



PHOTOS COURTESY PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Pioneer eighth-grader Jacob Donnelly (from left), veteran Tom Sherman and eighth-grader Alex Lindsay raise the flag at Pioneer prior to the school's Veterans Day ceremony. Donnelly and Lindsay are the secretary and president, respectively, of Pioneer's student council.

# Thunderous 'thank you'

### Ovation greets vets at Pioneer ceremony

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Anyone who wonders whether young people these days understand or recognize the sacrifices made by U.S. veterans would have their answer had they been in the gym Friday at Pioneer Middle School.

Minutes before the school's salute to veterans got started, hundreds of Pioneer students stood, applauded and roared their thank you in a thunderous standing ovation delivered as the veterans filed up the aisle to their frontrow seats.

It was a stirring beginning to an hour-long celebration of the accomplishments and sacrifices made by America's veterans.

"We wanted to thank them for everything they've done for us," said Natalie Messer, an 11-year-old sixth-grader from Canton. "They kept us safe and protected our country."

The event featured a trio of veterans currently serving in the Air National Guard at Selfridge ANG Base in Mt. Clemens, along with performances from the Pioneer band and choirs and

Please see VETERANS, A13



Master Sgt. Kyle Black, the first sergeant of the 127th Medical Group at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Mt. Clemens, talked to Pioneer students about opportunities and pride in military service.

# Bond refinance saves township interest costs

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth Township is in the position for long-term tax savings with the refinancing of about \$13 million in bonds and the recent awarding of a AA bond rating by the Standard & Poor's rating agency.

The township closed on a deal Nov. 1 to refinance the 20-year bonds sold about 10 years ago to pay for Western Townships Utilities Authority infrastructure work. WTUA, whose members are Canton, Plymouth and Northville townships, provides sanitary sewage service and water treatment service to parts of the township.

The bonds, originally \$52 million for the three communities, recently became eligible for refinancing, township Treasurer Ron Edwards said.

The bonds were refinanced at an interest rate of 2.02 percent, which includes refinancing costs. That's down from a rate of more than 4 percent, Edwards said, and the interest savings will total about \$1.8 million over 10

years, or \$180,000 a year.

"That's a significant savings to the community," he said. Northville and Canton townships also refinanced their portions of the WTUA bonds, Edwards said.

Township officials, he added, are also planning to refinance the remaining debt, about \$4.7 million, for the bonds issued to pay for the new township hall.

The township can also find savings on other refinancing with the help of its high bond rating, Edwards said. The S&P AA rating, one of the highest of any community in the state, was issued earlier this month.

S&P wrote that the township has a "stable outlook," and continued: "Given the recent stabilization in tax base values, and management's demonstrated ability to adjust the budget in response to adverse revenue conditions, which we expect to continue, we do not expect to change the rating within the two-year outlook horizon."

mjachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stew Israel mans the grill during the steak dinner for veterans held Wednesday.

### Veterans enjoy hospitality, Elks-style

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

They sacrificed for us, now we should do our part for them.

That was the sentiment among volunteers Thursday as they served lunch to hospitalized and homeless veterans at the Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780 on Ann Arbor Road.

The luncheon, held as Veterans Day, which is today, approached, drew about 90 vets, bused in from two veterans advocacy organizations in Detroit and the Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals in Ann Arbor and Detroit. The Blue Pigs, the Detroit Police Department's rhythm and blues band, performed for the veterans, who enjoyed steak, baked potatoes, salad and des-

The Plymouth Elks' territory includes Plymouth

and Plymouth and Canton townships.

"We like helping the veterans out and appreciate everything they've done for us," said Mary Felix of Northville Township, whose husband John, a new Elks member, also volunteered. "It's kind of a little thank you back to them."

### Love of country

"I love my country," said Vivian Beigun, an Elks member from Plymouth Township. "People have given their life for me."

The Elks, a national organization with a mission that includes helping veterans, have been hosting the semi-annual luncheons for at least a dozen years.

"They put on a real meal here, real nice," said Leo Guarnier of Warren,

Please see ELKS, A2

#### 

**C5** 

**B1** 

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### **ELKS**

Continued from page A1

a Vietnam veteran who is fighting emphysema and uses a wheelchair and an oxygen tank. It was Guarnier's second trip to the Elks for the steak lunch.

Guarnier, who has been at the Community Living Center at the Detroit VA hospital for about a year, grew up in Warren and was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1966. He spent a year in Vietnam as a cook in a field hospital near Qui Nhon, a coastal city, cooking for patients, hospital staff and prisoners of war held in nearby camps.

"It was a relatively safe zone, more or less," he said, although he recalls serving Viet Cong prisoners as "kind of scary."

Guarnier occasionally had to pick up a rifle when there was nearby enemy fire. He was in country during the Tet Offensive, in early 1968,



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

William Fannon plates steaks. Chris Scanlan, Edmund Shaheen, George Roumaya and Kevin Demski will deliver them to the veterans.

and remembers an ironic juxtaposition: As he watched and listened to a miles-distant battle, including fire from U.S. helicopters, the World War II drama Combat!

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 11, 2012

was playing on a television that had been left on in the quarters.

**Utmost respect** Guarnier returned

to Warren in late 1968,

worked briefly in an auto factory, then worked at Nor-Cote Heat Treat, a metal-treating plant in Warren, for 31 years, until emphysema made working too difficult.



Dave Burley makes sure there is sour cream to go with the baked potato.

He likes the Community Living Center, indicating that treatment has helped him get some energy back and that the staff provides plenty of activities, outings and support for patients.

"They treat you with the utmost respect," he said.

Guarnier doesn't think about Vietnam all that much. "I reminisce about it once in a while. The good times, not the bad times, the good times we had over there," he said.

Beigun, a longtime luncheon volunteer, said she was pleased with response from club members to the effort. "It's a wonderful thing that people donate their time," she said.

The luncheons are among the many local Elks programs for veterans that are organized by Stewart Israel, a secretary and past president of Lodge 1780. Next month, he'll help lead volunteers as they assemble and wrap hundreds of holiday gift packages for

veterans. Israel, a retired social studies teacher, is chairman of the Elks' adopt-aveteran program both in

Michigan and nationwide. "I appreciate my American freedoms," he said.

miachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405

### CORRECTION

The chart that ran with Thursday's story about Kurt Heise's re-election as state representative in the 20th District should have said he collected 2,501 votes in the city of Plymouth, compared to 2,371 for Democrat Tim Roraback. Overall, Heise won re-election by a



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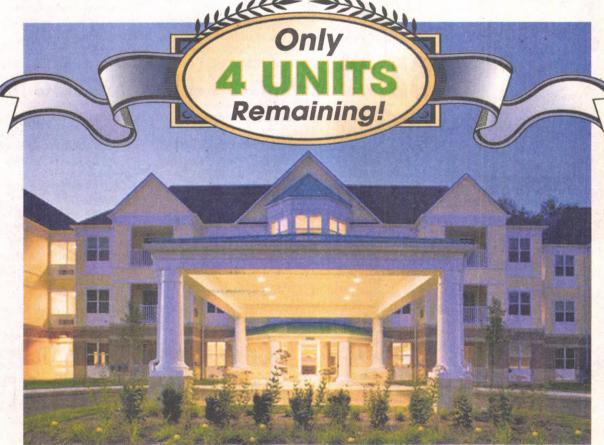
Former Reformed Calvinist, wellknown author and theology professor at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Dr. Eduardo Echeverria, details his lourney from large Catholic, Mexican family and parochial high school boy to Protestantism and back.

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

#### **MIXED MUSINGS**

Date/Time: Through November Location: Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: Peggy Kerwan will kick off the 2012-2013 solo exhibit season with her exhibit titled "mixed musings." Her colorful artworks will be displayed for the month of November in the main gallery. Admission is free and open to the public. An artist reception takes place Saturday, Nov. 17, from 2-4 p.m. Meet the artist, supporters, and members of the PCAC. Exhibit hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Contact: Call (734) 416-4278 or visit www. plymoutharts.com for more information.

#### **SMALL BUSINESS WORKSHOP**

Date/Time: Monday, Nov. 12, 7 p.m. Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth

**Details:** The Plymouth District Library joins the local SCORE chapter in presenting "Engagement Marketing: Small Business Sales/Marketing Strategies." Steve Feinman of SCORE will conduct this free workshop, addressing marketing needs of small businesses. He will provide practical tools, tips and methods for new business development and client retention.

For nearly 50 years, SCORE has been dedicated to helping small businesses get off the ground, grow and achieve goals through education and mentorship. A national non-profit association, SCORE is supported by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), and a network of 13,000+ volunteers. It delivers services at no charge or at very low cost, providing volunteer mentors, free confidential business counseling, business tools and free workshops and webinars. The local chapter is located at Cleary College.

Contact: Register for this free workshop by contacting the library at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4 or online at plymouthlibrary.org

#### **FARRAND FAIR**

Date/Time: Thursday, Nov. 29, 4-8 p.m. Location: Farrand Elementary School,

41400 Greenbriar Lane, Plymouth Details: Farrand Elementary hosts its fifth annual Craft & Vendor Fair. Find that last minute gift, or something unique and special for someone on your holiday shopping list. Admission is free. Raffle items, jewelry, candles, health & wellness, skin care, hair accessories and much, much more. Need a little bit of extra cash to shop? South Lyon Jewelers will be there paying you cash for your gold. Go through your jewelry boxes and find broken or unwanted gold to sell at this event. Babysitting will be provided from 4-6 p.m. in the school media center. Children will have the opportunity to watch a movie and make a craft.



The work of Peggy Kerwan kicks off the 2012-2013 solo exhibit season in the main gallery at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

#### JAZZ @ THE ELKS

Date/Time: Tuesday, Nov. 27, 7-10 p.m. Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

**Details:** The Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 in Plymouth MI has Jazz @ The Elks in a beautiful club setting on the last Tuesday of every month. The Nov. 27 event features the Terry Lower Trio with Russ Miller, Russ is an Assistant Professor in the Music Department at Wayne State University and has played with several famous Jazz artists. Russ plays Alto Sax and Flute. Terry will be on Keyboard, Jim Ryan on Drums, and Ray Tini on Bass. There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres.

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

#### **POTTERY SALE**

Date/Time: Thursday, Nov. 15 through Sunday, Nov. 18

**Details:** The Village Potters Guild is holding their annual Holiday Sale. Functional and decorative pottery created by 25 members of the guild, will be available at this muchanticipated event.

Contact: For more information or directions to the studio for the sale, please visit www.villagepottersguild.org or call (734) 207-8807.

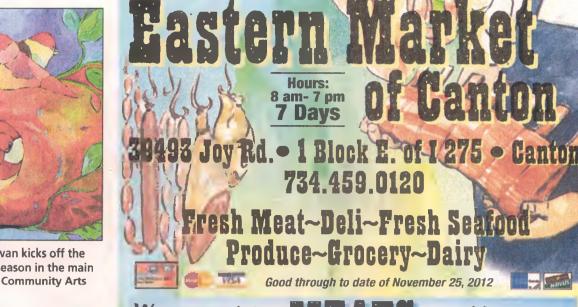
#### **OLGC CRAFTS**

Date/Time: Friday, Nov. 16, 11 a.m. to 7

Location: OLGC Social Hall, 47650 N. Territorial in Plymouth

**Details:** Our Lady of Good Counsel hosts its Craft Show and Home Party Extravaganza, featuring crafters, Christmas shopping, jew-elry, skin care, home decor and gift ideas. Admission is \$2 per person, with proceeds going to reducing parish debt. Food will be available for purchase, with a raffle for a chance to win one of many gifts donated by

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3 lbs. Porterhouse or T-Bones

3 lbs. Pot roast

3 lbs. Sirloin Tip or Rump Roast

8 lbs. Lean Ground Round

3 lbs. X-Lean Beef or Pork Stew

2 lbs. Hickory Smoked Bacon **Pkg Homemade Sirloin Patties** 

3 lbs. Breakfast Bulk Sausage

2 lbs. EMC's Homemade Meatloaf

3 lbs. EMS's Homemade Fresh Sausage

8 lbs. Whole Fryers-May be cut up 3 lbs. Amish Boneless Chicken Breasts

2 lbs. Beef, Pork or Chicken Cube Steaks

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\$126.99

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2 lbs. Porterhouse or T-Bones

3 lbs. Pot Roast

3 lbs. Cube Steaks

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### SCHOOL BRIEFS

#### **Curriculum forums**

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools will hold two public forums for community members to review resources being considered for adoption for the Reproductive Health Curriculum for Special Education.

The forums take place 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13, at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center on Harvey in downtown Plymouth, and from 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11, at Discovery Middle School in Canton.

For more information, call (734) 416-

#### **TAG nominations**

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials are accepting nominations for students who wish to enroll in the district's Talented and Gifted Program for the 2013-14 school year.

To apply for admission, a student

must reside in Wayne County and currently be in grades 2-7. Nomination forms are available online at http://tag. pccs.k12.mi.us. All nominations must be submitted via completion of the online nomination form no later than 3:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14.

Students who currently reside within the P-CCS boundaries (and score high enough on the assessment) will have first right of placement. Additional open spaces will be determined after testing is complete. While the P-CCS Board of Education allowed a limited number of non-district students to enroll via school of choice for the current school year, it will need to decide if/or how many TAG openings will be available for out of district students residing in Wayne County.

Informational meetings regarding the elementary TAG Program are scheduled for Nov. 28 or Dec. 5 at 6:30 p.m.

in the Dodson Elementary School cafeteria. Interested parents should plan to attend either one of these meetings to learn about the elementary TAG Program and the application/screening process. Dodson Elementary is located at 205 Beck in Canton.

### **Nationally published**

The Advanced Journalism class at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park produces the monthly student paper, "The Perspective." Two recent Perspective articles have been selected for the National Edition of "My High School Journalism - Teen Generated News from around the Nation," which features high school journalists work.

Alex Batt's "Security Cameras Earn Mixed Reviews" and Audra Gamble's "Students, Clean Up Your Act; Custodians Could Use Help" are among the featured articles.

### Groups collect for Hurricane Sandy relief

A variety of groups are helping answer a popular question being asked in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, the superstorm that struck the east coast last

How can I help?

The groups — UMCOR, Plymouth First United Methodist Church, PCEP National Honor Society, Plymouth/Canton Schools, Plymouth Township, ESS-CO Development and ACO Hardware are sponsoring a relief drive, "Love Your Neighbor - Bucketsful," to collect cleaning supplies and cash for Hurricane Sandy relief.

Collections are being taken Nov. 12-19 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily (except for Sunday, when the hours are 2-8 p.m.). The collection center is located at 1472 S. Ann Arbor Road (at Sheldon) in Plymouth Township.

Organizers say a "great need exists" for five-gallon buckets filled with specific cleaning supplies. Those buckets will be transported by truck to an UMCOR Depot. UMCOR is a non-profit organiza-

tion already on the ground and helping. The Rozum family, which owns MSA Delivery Service in Canton, is donating the truck and driver to deliver the sup-

Here are some ways that donors can

• Collect specified items from your employees/customers and deliver to Collection Center Donate transportation of filled buck-

ets to New Castle, PA [UMCOR Depot] Donate 5 gallon buckets with lids [can be used but must be clean and have never contained any paint or chemicals ... advertising on the outside is OK]

• Donate quantities of items on our list Provide food/beverages for our vol-

 Provide copies of lists to be handed out · Make a monetary donation Checks should be made out to Plymouth First United Methodist Church [PFUMC] marked "Hurricane Sandy." A receipt with tax ID will be provided.

For more information, call Carrie Wood at (734) 718-9872 or Renee McKarge at (734) 674-8737.

### Spaghetti benefit helps Miller family

**By Brad Kadrich** Observer Staff Writer

When 36-year-old Michael Kane was killed in a July car accident while on the road for work in South Dakota, he left behind a family that included Miller Elementary School third-grader Jaden and a 2-year-old son, Logan.

To help the family with the resulting expenses, the family at Miller last week decided to take action. The spaghetti dinner fundraiser they organized did just that, raising some \$2,800.

"Many of our staff, along with student council and parents, donated their time to help during the evening," said Miller staffer Tracy Visnaw. "It was a tremendous night for the Miller community. watching all of us contribute to help one of

The fundraiser drew more than 150 people, and included donations from Rose's Restaurant, Courthouse Grill, Canton Pita, Quarter Bistro, Zingerman's Deli in Ann Arbor, Mama Mucci's Pasta, and Orderzone.com for food and supplies, along with donations from several of the staff and parents from Miller Elementary.

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899



Miller Elementary School staffers and students helped organize a fundraiser to help the Kane family of Canton after dad Michael was killed in a car accident in July. With Michael are his wife, Hyuibin, and children, Jordan and Jaden.



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### Canton adds fee to tax bills

**By Darrell Clem** Observer Staff Writer

Canton taxpayers are expected to face a new 1-percent administrative fee on their December tax bills as township officials move to recoup the lion's share of costs arising from certain property assessment expenses.

The tax fee is projected to cost a typical residential taxpayer about \$25 a year, but officials say many homeowners aren't expected to notice the increase because of an average 1.9 percent drop on the latest taxable values for residential properties.

Canton has never imposed the state-authorized fee, already tacked onto tax bills by 38 of

43 Wayne County communities including the Plymouths, Northville, Westland, Van Buren Township and Belleville, among others.

"We consider ourselves very good stewards of the people's money, but we've got to pay for governmental services," Supervisor Phil LaJoy said.

#### **Cost cover**

The tax fee, facing a vote Tuesday night by the Canton Township Board of Trustees, would generate \$1.1 million a year and cover 85 percent of Canton's cost for collecting and distributing property tax levies along with the review and appeals process for taxable val-

The move comes as Canton's

property tax revenues have plunged 26 percent since 2008, declining from \$10.3 million to \$7.6 million. That marks a cumulative loss of \$2.7 million.

Moreover, Finance Director Wendy Trumbull said Canton's general fund balance is projected at just over \$3 million for the end of 2012, down sharply from \$5.5 million one year earlier.

Township officials already have adopted cost-cutting measures and, just two years ago, imposed a 1.75-mill public safety tax to avert a threatened \$14 million deficit for police and fire services.

Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said she plans to support the 1-percent administrative tax fee. She said Michigan municipalities pay assessment-related costs even though other taxing jurisdictions, such as schools, the Wayne County Jail and the Detroit Zoo, benefit from the tax levies.

#### **Paradigm shift**

"They benefit from all of the work that the local municipality has to pay for, but they don't pay anything for it," McLaughlin said. "We've been very blessed for so long financially, and these are costs we just haven't had to share with our community because we've been able to absorb these costs through development and a growing of the tax base. Now, the paradigm has shifted, and we can't absorb those costs anymore.

"This is a tool in the tool box

that we have chosen not to use, and now it's time to use it," she said. "I intend to support it."

Taxpayers should quickly be able to figure their added costs. Trumbull said a home with a \$2,000 tax bill would pay \$20; a residence with a \$4,000 tax bill would pay \$40.

With the latest average taxable values declining 1.9 percent, "residential bills theoretically shouldn't be increasing" despite the new fee.

LaJoy cited a state law that says municipalities "shall" collect the administrative tax fee of up to 1 percent to cover assessment-related costs. However. Canton has chosen until now not to impose it.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238

### One victim's parents don't want driver in jail

Although

Brandon II.

Constance

no contest

to a moving

ing a death

following a

two-car crash,

the parents of

one victim say

they don't to

see him jailed.

violation caus-

**Rufus Thomas** 

with attorney

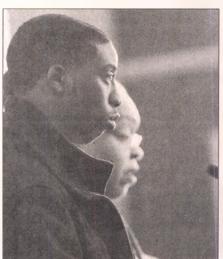
Ross, pleaded

**By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer** 

The parents of Danielle Beavers, one of two teens killed in a two-car crash in Canton, said Friday they oppose jail time for the driver accused of causing their 19-year-old daughter's death when he ignored a flashing red light while driving south on Canton Center at Michigan Avenue.

Theresa and James Beavers of Belleville said they would have gone to 35th District Court to support the driver, 24year-old Rufus Thomas Brandon II of Whitaker, when he pleaded no contest Oct. 22 to one of two counts of a moving violation causing a death. But they said they didn't know of his court appearance until they read an online report from the Canton Observer.

"I don't really think I want him to have any kind of punishment at



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

all," Danielle's mother, Theresa Beavers, said. "He is living in his own private hell right now. He is really a sweet person. He is a good person inside. He didn't mean for this to happen."

**Terrible mistake** 

She and Danielle's father have a sharply different opinion than the

family of 18-year-old Brooke Kennedy, who has asked for jail time when Brandon is sentenced Nov. 26 by 35th District Judge Ronald Lowe. Brandon could face penalties ranging from pro-

bation to one year in jail. Theresa Beavers said she has mistakenly run the same flashing red light that police say Bran-

don ignored shortly after 2 a.m. July 24, resulting in his Chevrolet Cavalier being hit on the passenger side by a Monte Carlo driven east on Michigan Avenue by a 21-year-old Westland man. She called the intersection danger-

"It's like putting a crossroad on an interstate," Theresa Beavers said. "Rufus made a terrible mistake, but he has to live with that for the rest of his life knowing he went through that light and two lives were lost. We loved our little girl so much. This is killing our whole family, but we don't want to see Rufus crucified for it. He was her friend. She would not want to see this happen to him."

Beavers, Kennedy and Brandon had left a gathering at the nearby Ruby Tuesday, where they all worked. Police have said

alcohol was not a factor in the crash. Danielle Beavers was the youngest of three girls of Theresa and James Beavers.

#### No jail

James Beavers said Brandon was doing his daughter - the youngest of the Beavers's three daughters — a favor by driving her home.

"I've heard her talk about him being a nice guy. I don't think he should have to go to jail," James Beavers said. "Maybe he should get a suspended license, something that's going to make him be a little more cautious.'

However, Kennedy's family has said he deserves jail time. On the day of Brandon's nocontest plea in October, Denice Gabany, Kennedy's maternal grandmother, said she strongly opposes probation for Brandon.

"How can it be that two girls who were just starting their lives died and their lives are only worth probation?" she asked. "Where is the justice behind that? It just doesn't make sense.

James Beavers said Brandon's mistake shouldn't strip him of a chance at redeeming himself and leading a productive life. Judge Lowe has said he faces a difficult decision in sentencing Brandon. Both families are expected to appear in court for Brandon's sentencing.

"He didn't do this intentionally," Theresa Beavers said. "We all make mistakes. If we want forgiveness for the things we've done, we should have forgiveness in our hearts, too."

> dclem@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2238

### Local Horologist Repairs Hard-to-Fix Timepieces



BILL MILLER OF TRIPLE CROWN WATCH COMPANY is an expert watch maker, who can make your watch tick, but supply you with all the other things that help make time fly.

Have a watch, clock or timepiece you treasure and just can't figure out how to fix? Well, you're not alone. When many of the Detroit Area's jewelry stores can't seem to make a watch tick, they outsource more complicated repair cases to Troy's own certified horologist (that's an expert watchmaker) Bill Miller of Triple Crown Watch Company.

Miller has over 28 years experience with watches and timepieces, and received his degree in horology at Houston Technical College before relocating to

southeast Michigan, where he has worked with a number of well-known local watch shops including M. Berish, Garner's Jewelry Exchange and PCC

Watch & Clock Repair. Over his expansive career, Miller has seen his share of unique cases. "One of the most interesting cases I worked on was an English Grandfather clock from the 1590's. The owner wanted it restored to working order, and rewired for battery operation,"

"Another difficult request was hand-cutting a triangular crystal for a special-edition Masonic pock-etwatch by Rolex," Miller continued. There's good reason over 172 jewelers in the area rely on Triple Crown and Miller for those hard-to-fix assignments. "I enjoy the challenge of restoring unique timepieces to their original functioning state. It is as much an artform as it is a pure mechanics, and it is extremely rewarding to see these old pieces correctly keeping

Triple Crown, owned by Troy Resident Tommy Gerjekian, is located at 1940 E. Maple Rd. (at John R.) in Troy. In addition to repairing watches, straps, batteries and winding boxes, they also carry watches by famous makers Fendi, Swiss Army, Bulova, Luminox, Mondaine, Citizen, Bulova Caravelle, Bertucci, Tommy Bahama, Kenneth Cole, ESQ, Officina del Tempo, Accutron, and Charles Hubert Triple Crown is also the only store around that sells battery-operated and wind-up pocketwatches.

For more information, stop by Triple Crown at 1940 E. Maple (15 Mile) just west of John R., visit www.triplecrownwatchcompany.com or give them a call at 248-585-2777. They will make sure you stay on time in 2012!

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- 5) Pain When Walking
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- From Leg Discomfort

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"I had pain and burning in my feet causing many sleepless nights. Since starting care had reduced foot pain, can sleep, and have also reduced my blood pressure meds and my diabetic medications. I have told friends if they have similar issues they should give Dr. Kramer the opportunity to make a difference in their lives." - Robert H., Canton, MI

"I had bad burning in my feet, this is the best thing that ever happened to me. I don't have any more pain." - Bev M., Farmington Hills, MI

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Call (248) 615-1533 **Seating Is Limited!** 

### Band boosters drive the action behind the scenes

By Peggy Fenwick Correspondent

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 11, 2012

Behind the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band is an organization of dedicated sewers, cooks, equipment haulers, uniform washers, and fundraisers known as the Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters.

All parents of marching band members are automatically entered into the esteemed group of dedicated parents. Almost every band has a supporting group of parents to help, but few booster organizations are as productive and successful as the Music Boosters from Plymouth-Canton.

There is something very special about being a Plymouth-Canton Music Booster. It could be the bright yellow iackets boosters wear during nation-wide competitions; the group is easily found in a crowded stadium. Or perhaps it's the level of work the boosters do to make sure the marching band season goes off without a hitch.

How involved is it? Most parent chaperones who traveled this weekend with the kids to the Grand National Championships in Indianapolis run on about 12 hours of sleep spread across four days. There are the food parents who wake up at 4 a.m. to begin preparing meals for the 172member band. There are the medical professionals who follow the band and take care of every scrape, every twisted ankle, and every ill student. Or how about the hours of sewing performed by the Uniform Magicians, who work magic to get the kids looking so great for every performance.

But the hardest-working group of parents



PHOTOS BY TERRI SAENZ

Plymouth-Canton Marching Band boosters show their support in the stand with the moon and stars.



The band gets ready to take the field with the assistance of the 'crew,' made up of parent band boosters and some alumni.

might be the equipment crew, which travels to every performance and rehearsal. They load all the heavy instruments and equipment onto giant trucks. Crew members rent and drive the giant truck trailers to every event. They even repair and build props, carts, and different components of the final "stage" setting that are included in each nine-minute production.

The hard-working crew can be seen each performance when they appear with the front line ensemble at the front of the field prior to every performance. They help the students haul out their equipment, plug in all the instruments into their electrical outlets, and

ensure there is electricity flowing from the generator. This feat is timed and has to be completed in less than



Band boosters, known as the 'crew, 'help set up before each performance.

four minutes.

In addition to all these manual tasks performed by the parents, the boosters also help run several fundraisers throughout the season. Except for the school buses, and the two directors hired by the school district, all the expenses to maintain the program are raised through student fees and fundraising. Band costs include the instruction from the many professional musicians, housing for out-of-state competitions, food to feed the students, props and uniforms used each season. and more.

The two biggest fundraisers of the year include a Plymouth-Canton hosted band competition usually hosted in October, and the Holiday and Spring Arts & Crafts Ensembles held twice annually at Plymouth High School.

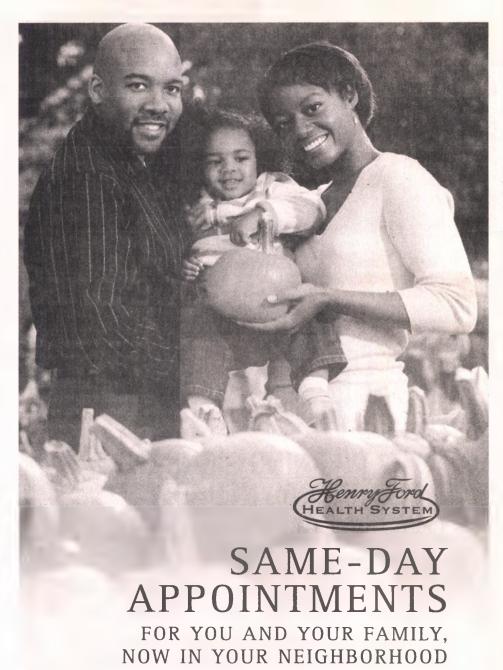
"The Holiday Arts & Craft Ensemble is becoming a holiday tradition for the Plymouth-Canton community," said Erin Babcock,

president of the 2012 Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters. "Come visit us at our one-day fundraising event, start your holiday shopping early this year, and support an excellent cause - musical performance in our schools."

The latest Holiday Arts & Crafts Ensemble is set for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, at Plymouth High School (located at 8400 Beck in Canton). It's a juried art show produced twice each year to support the band and color guard programs at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

More than 100 exhibitors with handcrafted items will be on display at this artistic event. The show features jewelry, handmade clothing, soaps, artwork, sculptures, floral arrangements and other holiday related items. There will also be food, door prizes, a raffle, and entertainment by marching and concert band musicians throughout the day. Admission is \$2 and strollers are welcome.

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CITY OF PLYMOUTH

**ORDINANCE NO. 2012-04** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 78, THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH ZONING ORDINANCE IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH

A Public Hearing was held before the City of Plymouth Planning Commission on September 12, 2012 and the Zoning Ordinance is for the purpose of promoting, and protecting the public health, safety, peace, morals, comfort, convenience, and general welfare. The City of Plymouth Planning Commission and the City Commissioners recommend approval of the proposed amendments by Title. The complete document can be viewed in the City Clerk's office, Monday - Friday from 8:00am - 4:30p.m.

Section #78-7 **Enabling Authority** Section #78-21 Definitions Section #78-52 Special Land Uses(Reference number/changes) Section #78-62 Special Land Uses(Minimum open space changes) Article IX B-1, Local Business Section 78-183 Mixed Use Regulations Article XVII Lot Width Section 78-212 **Home Occupations** Section 78-242 Section 78-260 Site Plan Review Accessory Buildings Off-Street Parking Section 78-270 Article XXVII Administration and Enforcement Section 78-377 Public Hearings **Section 78-380** Changes and Amendments Conditional Rezoning **Section 78-387 Section 78-388** Required Signage for Zoning Map Amendments **Section 78-389 Traffic Impact Assessments** And also technical revisions and adjustments to definitions.

This Zoning Amendment was adopted by the Plymouth City Commission at a regularly scheduled meeting held on Monday, November 5, 2012, after a first and second reading.

Linda Langmesser, CMC City Clerk

Publish: November 11, 2012

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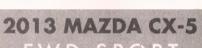
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### It never hurts to get bids for insurance policies

By Rick Bloom **Guest Columnist** 

Q: Dear Rick: My auto and homeowner insurance policies are coming due in the near future, so I took your advice and received competitive bids. I received a bid from my existing agent and one from another agent who shopped a few policies for me. In addition, I contacted online insurance companies for a bid. What surprised me was how different the bids were. The online company was by far the least expensive and I also think it was the best. My current agent told me that I should be leery about using an online insurance company. Do you think online insurance companies are OK to do business with and do you think if there was a claim I would have any difficulty



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 11, 2012

**Money Matters** 

Rick Bloom

any of my insurance policies and the only time I talk to my agent is when the policy

comes due.

collecting?

never had

a claim on

I have

A: Congratulations. It is great that you are shopping your homeowner and auto insurance policies around. I wish more people would receive competitive bids. I think they could lower the cost of their insurance and in many cases actually have a better policy. Therefore, it's a win-win situ-

I have no problem

dealing with an online insurance company. I have done independent research on this topic and have found nothing that shows that people have any more difficulties dealing with an online insurance company vs. the traditional type of company where an agent is involved. As far as I'm concerned, if it is a reputable insurance company, you should have no problem.

Many people in the insurance industry who don't like online companies will tell you if you have a claim, it's very difficult to collect. They point out that when you have a relationship with an agent, the agent will go to bat for you in dealing with the company.

It sounds fine, but the reality is something different. Let's not forget that the agent works for the insurance company. It is the insurance company who pays him. Because of that, the reality is the agent will be loyal to the company, not necessarily the policy holder.

In addition, a sad truth about many salespeople in the insurance industry is that they do not assist you when you have a claim. They want to sell you a policy, but after that they really don't want to deal with you. Therefore, in those situations, I'm not sure what the agent does for you. There are, however, agents that I consider

cream of the crop. They want to make sure that the policy fits your situation and they will assist you when you have a claim.

Whenever you buy any type of insurance whether it's through an agent or online, you should always check the discounts available. You may be surprised at how much you can save.

In fact, whenever you get a renewal for your insurance, it's a good idea to check what discounts you qualify for. As I've always said, the money you save looks better in your pocket than it does anywhere else. Good luck!

One last note. Today is Veterans Day and we honor those men and women throughout time who have served in our armed forces and have protected our way of life. I am extremely grateful to those men and women, including my dad Mitch, a World War II veteran, for their service to our country. I think the great majority of Americans join with me in saluting you and thanking you for your service to our country.

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, please email him at rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.







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### Community events honor veterans

**By Darrell Clem** Observer Staff Writer

As Veterans Day arrives today, Plymouth and Canton will honor their veterans in simultaneous ceremonies, and Canton will also host a second event to pay tribute to their service.

The Plymouth ceremony takes place at 11 a.m. in Veterans Memorial Park, in front of Central Middle School, in downtown Plymouth.

Meanwhile, Canton has announced two ways to pay tribute to those who have fought and served to protect this country's freedom.

Canton has unveiled plans for a gathering at the Canton Veterans Memorial in Heritage Park, followed later today by the annual Salute to Excellence program that pays tribute at the Village

Theater at Cherry Hill.

"I think it's important to remind people that we enjoy the freedoms we have because of those who have served the country, whether they served during wartime or not," said John Spencer, a Vietnam veteran and president since 1991 of the Canton Veterans Memorial Association.

The two events follow

a Friday evening concert by the Sounds of Canton, a group of seniors led by Director Michael Gross that was to perform during a dual tribute to Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. Also, township administration offices are closed Monday in observance of Veterans

Today's first event occurs at 11 a.m. Sunday at the Canton Veterans Memorial, dedicated in 1993 in Heritage Park behind the township's administration complex. Spencer said the brief ceremony includes the Pledge of Allegiance, patriotic songs, prayers and the playing of Taps.

A committee formed in 1991 to bring the Canton Veterans Memorial to town. The site includes brick pavers honoring numerous service people from the Civil War to those fighting in Afghanistan

This afternoon, Canton once again honors area service men and woman with a special Salute to Excellence ceremony at the Village Theater, 50400 Cherry Hill Road. Doors open at 2 p.m. Sunday, the formal stage presentation happens at 3 p.m.

The celebration recognizes military personnel

currently in active duty in all branches of service, as well as veterans. The event includes an exhibition of military memorabilia for the audience to see before the formal program.

The featured guest speaker is Robert H.
Miller, author of Hidden Hell: Discovering My Father's POW Diary. His latest release, Portraits of Service, which honors a cross-section of veterans from five different wars who are young and

old, active and retired and represent all military branches.

Miller and another photographer, Andrew Wakeford, had met Helen Patton, granddaughter of the late U.S. Gen. George S. Patton and founder of the Patton Foundation, which sponsored the book's publication.

Miller has said the book "is an enduring account of the men and women in uniform who serve and protect our ideal of freedom. Their stories must be told and revered for generations to come."

The Patton Foundation is donating a portion of proceeds from Portraits of Service to help veterans and their families through organizations such as Final Salute Inc., the Wounded Warrior Project and the American Military Family Association.

The book is sold on www. portraitsofservice.com and www.amazon.com.

Also at the Village Theater ceremony, Michi-

gan Military Moms will collect items for those in the service. Items sought include hand/ foot warmers, beef jerky, Q-tips, packs of candy or gum that don't melt, candy canes, Santa hats, holiday stockings, tree garland and Detroit sports team items.

For more on Salute to Service, call (734) 394-5460 or go to www.cantonfun.org.

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### Vet opens up for all who served in 'forgotten war'

**By Karen Smith Observer Staff Writer** 

Veteran Bill (Leon) Williams didn't talk much about his experiences in Korea — until recently.

The 85-year-old Livonia resident was interviewed for a new book titled Portraits of Service featuring 70 veterans from several conflicts

"At first I didn't want to do it," he said. But his six granddaughters talked him into it. Now, he's glad they did.

"I just feel I'm representing other guys. It's not just Bill Williams," he said. "I'm representing other guys that they couldn't talk to."

Sat 8am-5pm

Korea is called the forgotten war — perhaps because it was so much smaller and fought so much farther away than World War II, its predecessor, Williams said.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 11, 2012

Still, the sacrifices soldiers made in Korea were similar to those made by soldiers before then and after. "They gave up as much then as today," Williams said. "It wasn't easy and we had to leave home."

Williams was drafted into the Army in September 1950 at age 23. He had tried to enlist during World War II, but was turned down because he had injured his knees playing football.

He was sent to Fort



**Bill Williams of Livonia was** drafted into the Army in September 1950 at age 23.

Custer and placed in a National Guard MP Unit that had originally been part of the Presidential Honor Guard in Washington, D.C. Even though it meant additional responsibilities, he thought it was an honor being an MP.

He was sent to Korea with 5,000 other men on a ship designed for 3,000. The trip took about 20 days. They went through a typhoon, ran out of water, and had very little food.

When he returned home three years later, he talked to no one about his experiences. "It was part of healing, to not talk about it, to try to keep it out of my mind," he said.

He married Nancie, his wife of 59 years, had three children and worked as a financial adviser, something he still does 30 hours a week with his son, Bill Williams Jr., at Oppenheimer & Co. Inc. in Plymouth.

Over time, he was



"It was hard being in the service, but I would have not missed it for the fine people I met," said Bill Williams, who keeps in touch with two of the men he trained with at Fort Custer.

able to put the worst of the memories out of his mind, and he won't bring them back.

"It took a little while, but I did and it was the right thing to do," he said.

In June of 2004, he went to see the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. He didn't want any family members to accompany him because he knew he would cry. And he did.

"One of those faces, you'd swear it's me," he said of the stainless-steel statues of servicemen in the memorial crossing difficult terrain laden with backpacks, heavy boots, rifles, radios, helmets and ponchos.

The statues — designed not to resemble any one person but to represent the wide variety of people who served — reminded Williams of his fellow servicemen.

He was so moved that

when he returned, he located two men he had trained with at Fort Custer, Paul Umfleet of Livonia and Harvey Sparks of Belton, Mo. The men had spent several months sleeping on bunks next to each other and playing football whenever they could. He hadn't seen or spoken with them since the war.

Now, they keep in touch, talking every Veterans Day, reminiscing about playing football and sharing news of each other's families.

"It was hard being in the service, but I would have not missed it for the fine people I met," Williams said. "Everybody was class people, just good people to work with and live with and, unfortunately, fight the war with."

The book Williams is featured in, published in June, was written by Canton Township author Rob Miller in collaboration with Andrew Wakeford, an English photographer.

Miller is a client and friend of the Williams. He said they interviewed 400-some veterans from around the world and picked the most interesting stories to include.

The book tells of Williams' experience arriving in Korea. The first person he met at the bottom of the gangplank was a guy from his own street in Detroit, Vic Banonis. He had played football with Banonis.

The next thing he noticed was how poor the people were and how dirty everything was.

Korea was a stressful place to be, Williams said, far away from family and friends.

Many soldiers received Dear John letters. One of them was Williams' company commander, a captain. He had spent all day driving around in a Jeep with him, and they had returned for the evening to their rooms, located nextdoor to each other. Suddenly, Williams heard a gunshot noise. The captain had committed suicide.

It's a painful memory, one of the very few Williams continues to hold onto.

The first thing Williams did when he returned to the United States was kiss the ground. "I was just so happy to be on American soil," he said.

Bill Williams Jr., branch manager at Oppenheimer & Co. Inc., said he thinks it's "awesome" his father is included in the book.

"Obviously, I'm very proud of him," he said. The saying, "All gave some, some gave all" is an accurate portrayal of the sacrifices veterans make, he said. "Those who saw combat, it changes a person."

This Veterans Day, just like he does every year, Williams will call Paul Umfleet and Harvey Sparks — and they'll talk for hours.

But they'll talk only about the good memories, not the bad.







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# Culinary students put out invitation to annual benefit buffet

By Sue Mason **Observer Staff Writer** 

Students in the culinary arts program at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center will be serving up a Thanksgiving feast and, in the process, put turkey with all the trimmings on the tables of families who might not otherwise have a holiday meal.

This is the sixth year that students, under the leadership of chef Tony Paquette, have extended an invitation to the community to come to the benefit buffet, which will be served 11 a.m. to

1 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13, at Career-Technical Center's Cafe Marquette. Fore a donation of \$10, people in the community can enjoy turkey and the trimmings and a selection of desserts prepared and served by students.

All of the money raised will go to the Wayne-Westland Family Resource Center which will provide families with vouchers for a precooked Thanksgiving dinner.

"In the four years I've been with the resource center, I've never had to turn anyone away," said Amanda Faughnan, resource center direc-



Culinary arts instructor Chef Tony Paquette and his students will be serving up a feast fit for Thanksgiving at his annual luncheon buffet benefit Tuesday, Nov. 13, at the William D. Ford Career-Technical Center's Cafe Marquette.

tor. "It's amazing what they do with this benefit. It's the community and the school district coming together to help families.'

Last year, Faughnan was able to help 105 families at Thanksgiving. She provide meal vouchers to 100 families and another five were "adopted" by organizations in the community. She also received 50 gift certificates that were distributed through the schools to help fam-

Whatever funds are left from Thanksgiving is used at Christmas for families who didn't qualify for assistance elsewhere. Faughnan makes sure those families at least have a Christmas dinner. The money also goes toward the purchase of toiletries and hats, gloves and mittens for children.

Faughnan opts to purchased vouchers for precooked meals because

some families don't have a stove or a microwave to cook food. With a precooked meal, they don't have to scramble around with uncooked food to try to put together a meal.

'It's easier and more convenient for them, the families really enjoy it," she said.

According to Faughnan, these are very difficult times. The amount of need for the basics has increased since last year and that doesn't even include homeless students in the district.

"Every single year the need has increased since I've been here," she said. "We have a very supportive community and a tremendously supportive district. That's our one ray of hope. I know I can always turn to people and say this is our need, how can we solve it."

Paquette started doing the Thanksgiving buffet in 2007 when he decided his students could do more than holding canned food drives and packing boxes at Focus:

HOPE in Detroit. The first year was by invitation only and by donation, but now the welcome mat is out for the entire community. There's a minimum \$10 donation for the meal.

Paquette said he wanted his students to have the opportunity to help families and since they work with food, that was how they would do it.

"I started thinking what's bad and decided not having a Thanksgiving dinner is, so we're going to give people dinner," Paquette has said about the benefit.

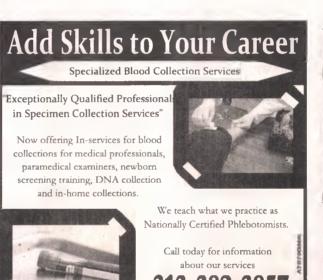
The buffet is getting bigger and better thanks to those who attend. They talk about how wonderful it is to their friends.

People who can't attend the buffet can still help by sending send a check. with Holidays 2012 written in the memo line, to the Family Resource Center, 33475 Palmer, Westland, MI 48186.

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Veterans Bob Lamoureux (in the beret) and Donald McLane were among the veterans honored by Pioneer Middle School students Friday.

### **VETERANS**

Continued from page A1

the Plymouth Fife & Drum Corps.

The idea was to showcase themes of character, service and community. And the respect of the students wasn't lost on

Charlie Olsen of Westland served in the U.S.
Navy and the Coast
Guard, serving from
1942-47, including World
War II tours of duty in
the European theater, the
Mediterranean, the Persian Gulf and the South
Pacific. He said the
appreciation of the students was touching.

"It was a very good assembly, very comprehensive honoring the vets," Olsen said. "I felt honored and thrilled to know they would honor us."

Master Sgt. Kyle Black, Master Sgt. Joseph Crocker and Staff Sgt. Robert Juozapaitis, all of whom served in Operation Iraqi Freedom



The Plymouth Fife & Drum Corps was on hand to help Pioneer Middle School students and staff honor area veterans.

among their deployments, spoke to the students about their jobs at Selfridge, and the importance of military service and the opportunities it provides.

"Everyone has a different opinion about what it means to be an American," said Black, the first sergeant of the 127th Medical Group at Selfridge. "There is no wrong answer."

Pioneer counselor Dani Evans, whose father served in Vietnam and whose brother served in the U.S.
Marines — "Patriotism is in my blood," she said — thought Friday's assembly came at the perfect time just a couple of days before Veterans Day.

"Sometimes the vets are forgotten," Evans said. "This is a great way for the kids to honor the vets and just say, 'Thank you."

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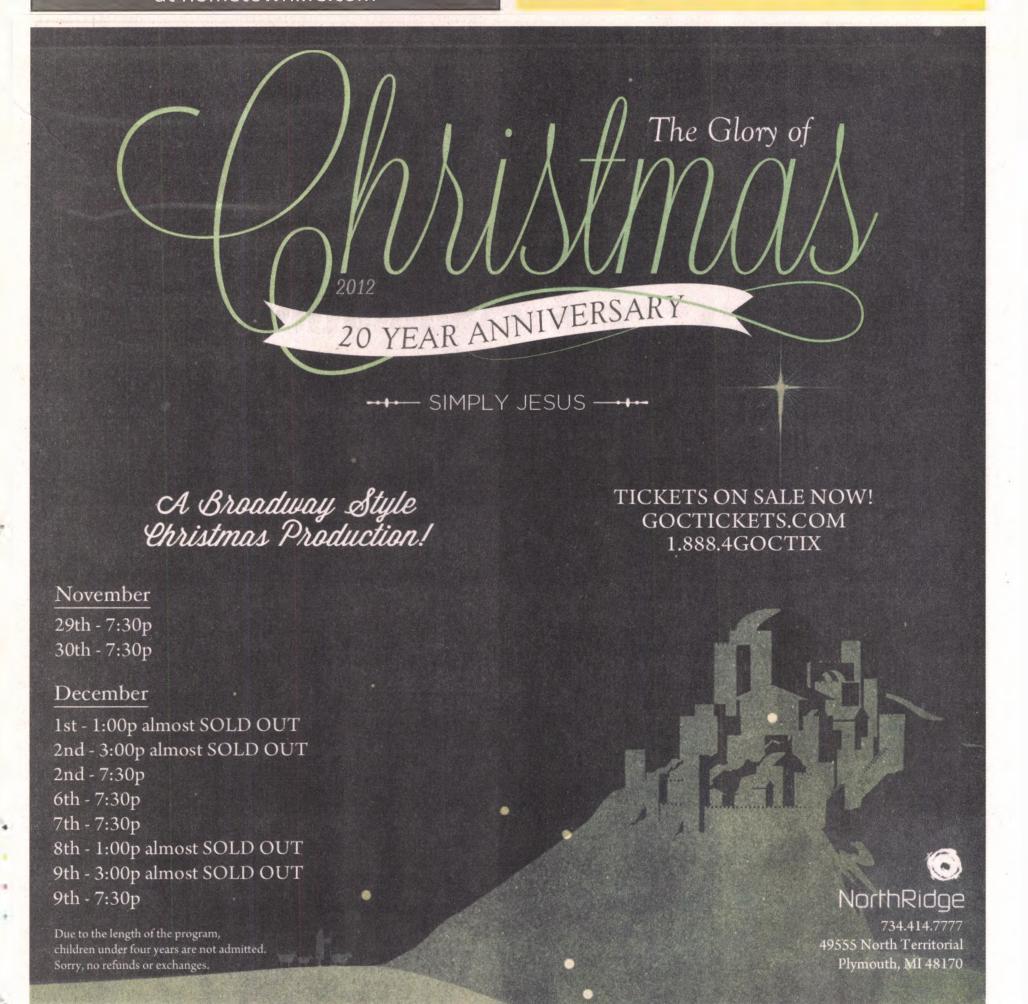
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### Curson: 'Nobody ... wants to fall off the fiscal cliff'

By Ken Abramczyk Observer Staff Writer

David Curson said his election win on Tuesday was "beyond belief."

The Belleville Democrat defeated Republican Kerry Bentivolio of Milford to complete a six-week unexpired term of Thaddeus McCotter, who resigned July 6, in the 11th congressional District.

Bentivolio, however, won election to a two-year term in the new 11th District, defeating Democrat Syed Taj of Canton.

Curson said he believes he may be sworn in as early as Tuesday, depending on when the clerk for the U.S. Congress receives the results from the Michigan Secretary of State office.

Curson, 64, a UAW activist who has spent several years in contract negotiations as an executive assistant to two UAW presidents and worked with the

Curson

auto task force representing the UAW on the GM and Chrysler bailouts, said he was humbled by the support he received and

appreciated the work it takes to win elections. "After running for Congress, I have a new respect for candidates," Curson said. "Every word you say, you have to

weigh." On Thursday, his phone was ringing off the hook. Curson has received phone calls from well-wishers and media across

"It was such a goofy election, it's drawn attention from all over the country," Curson said.

Curson referred to the circumstances leading up to the election for McCotter's unexpired term, which will last

about six weeks through the end of the year.

A special election was ordered by Gov. Rick Snyder's office after McCotter resigned from Congress. McCotter resigned after petition signatures were deemed to be photocopies by the Secretary of State's office. Attorney General Bill Schuette's investigation eventually led to charges against four McCotter staffers, alleging that they were involved in a deliberate fraud involving a pattern of copying and altering petitions in order to qualify the five-term congressman for the 2012 pri-

mary ballot. Curson said Thursday he expected he would leave Saturday for Washington, D.C. Once the clerk for the U.S. Congress is officially notified by the Michigan Secretary of State's office of the election results, Curson expects he will be notified when he will be administered an oath of office by House Speaker John Boehner.

Curson said he will not be hiring any new congressional staff. Other Democratic congressional offices will lend him staff for his short term.

Curson wants to help address the budget, the "fiscal cliff" facing President Barack Obama and U.S. Congress, he said. "That is hugely important to this country," he said. Curson believes he brings negotiating skills to the table to get a legislative package approved by Congress to address the budget deficit.

"I'll be trying to move the parties together so that everyone gets a piece of the pie," Curson said.

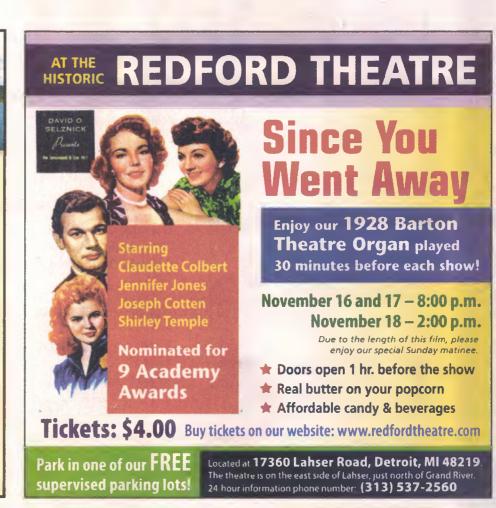
When asked what his position was on a tax increase or how the budget deficit would be addressed, Curson said, "I learned a long time ago that you can't negotiate in the media, so I will graciously decline to answer that. But nobody, not the Democrats or the Republicans, wants to fall off the fiscal cliff."

Curson added that Congress will also face veterans, Social Security and job issues in the few weeks before the end of

the year. Curson believes the old 11th District (which included Westland, Garden City and Redford among others) was drawn more favorably to Democrats than the new one, which helped him defeat Bentivolio. Curson believes Taj would have fared

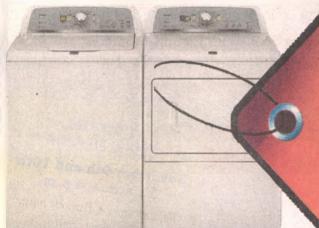
better in the old district as well. The new 11th District, which was redrawn last year and becomes effective with the new terms of office that begin in January, no longer includes Westland, Garden City and Redford, but instead has Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and Troy, along with other northern Oakland County communities.











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SECTION B. (CP) SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2012 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

### SPORTS

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### Safe at home

Plymouth seniors excited about softball future with Crusaders

By Tim Smith **Observer Staff Writer** 

Madonna University's Al White is a tireless women's softball coach who pounds the pavement looking for recruits all over Observerland.

Yes, there is a sparkling new softball complex for future Crusaders to enjoy, but one could certainly understand if White might just want to park it at The Park.

That's because Plymouth High School seniors Brianna Giordano and Kayla Rebain recently signed letters of intent to play softball at Madonna, beginning in 2014.

'This is fantastic," White said. "I've watched them the last three years maybe. I watched at least seven or eight games last year."

White always liked the potential he saw in Giordano, a first-team all-KLAA selection in 2012 with a .398 average along with strong defense at second base.

But the frequent trips to Plymouth enabled him repeat opportunities to get a read on Rebain, originally catcher for the Wildcats who now is a fleet, defensive fixture

in center field. "I started watching Kayla," White said about Rebain, another all-conference performer. "The more I watched her, the



PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Sporting the softball jerseys they will wear for Madonna University beginning in 2014 are Plymouth seniors (from left) Kayla Rebain and Brianna Giordano.

more I liked. That's just a blessing. She's got great hands, soft hands.'

**Get ready** 

White emphasized that both players will face strong competition for playing time once they join the Crusaders.

"They both have to work hard," he said. "We're bringing in eight to 10 girls in again next

According to Plymouth head coach Val Canfield, the Madonna coaching staff won't have any regrets about bringing Giordano and Rebain into the fold. Both are



Madonna University women's softball coach Al White welcomes Kayla Rebain (left) and Brianna Giordano to the fold after they recently signed national letters of intent.

high-level performers with a strong work ethic and versatility.

"The quality of the players is their strength and confidence," Canfield said. "That's something any coach wants in their program."

That they will be playing nearby is another win-win.

'What makes this nice is these are local girls," White said. "Their parents can come out and watch them play."

Canfield added that she was excited that the players decided on Madonna "because it's right next door and it's going to be accessible for us to go watch them."

Proximity to home certainly was a plus factor

Please see SOFTBALL, B2

## Whalers power past Spits

**By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer** 

The calendar read Nov. 9, but it just as easily could have been March or April the way longtime rivals Plymouth and Windsor went at it Friday night at the sold-out Compuware Arena.

It was playoff-caliber action inside a noisy building as 3,869 fans filled Compuware on Scout Night. The Whalers gave those youngsters plenty to cheer about, scoring three power-play goals en route to a 5-3 vic-

"We both like to play an offensive, physical game," Plymouth head coach and general manager Mike Vellucci said following the victory. "It always makes for a good game for the crowd, that's for sure."

The return of physical winger Tom Wilson after missing seven games due to a hand injury ramped things up even more, not that they needed to be.

"It feels great to be back with the guys," said Wilson, who chipped in with an assist. "I'm just trying to bring a little it of energy back into the lineup.

Please see WHALERS, B5

### **PLYMOUTH BOYS GOLF**

### He's thrilled to pick up coaching baton



Nick Brandon, shown coaching last season for the Plymouth JV girls basketball team, is the school's new varsity boys golf coach.

By Tim Smith **Observer Staff Writer** 

Late last month, Nick Brandon watched from the sidelines with great interest as Plymouth won the Division 1 state championship in girls golf.

That lofty accomplishment is something Brandon will be hard at work to duplicate next spring with the Wildcats' boys golf program, of which he recently was named head coach.

Brandon, a 32-year-old Canton resident and junior varsity girls basketball coach at Plymouth, takes over from Chris Moore — who had to step down due to a career move.

"We in the boys program should be extremely proud of what the girls accomplished," Brandon said. "I think it would be a mistake if we don't feed off the enthusiasm and positive energy that that's created.

"We're all representing Plymouth golf. And for them to do that really puts our school on the map."

Leaning on leaders

Brandon takes over a team that is a definite D1 contender, despite the graduation of Josh Heinze. Returning

Please see BRANDON, B3

CANTON



Salem's boys cross country team enjoyed a banner season. From left are head coach Steve Aspinall, Riley Doxtader, Michael Karizat, Steve McEvilly, Chaz Jeffress, Donovan Drouillard, Jeremy Drouillard, Evan Bruyere and assistant coach Geoff Baker.

### Salem boys make strides

By Tim Smith **Observer Staff Writer** 

Salem's 18th-place finish at last weekend's Division 1 boys cross country state finals marked the end of an era for several top seniors.

At the top of that list is Steve McEvilly, who finished 53rd overall with a personal-best time of 16 minutes, 6 seconds - ninth best in school history, Rocks head coach Steve Aspinall said.

"Steve has been our number one guy since the beginning of his sophomore year," Aspinall said. "For the past four years, Steve has shown an incredible dedication to running at the program and his leadership will be missed."

Also finishing excellent careers were seniors Riley Doxtader and Michael Karizat.

Doxtader's time of 16:39 at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn was a personal best (good for 127th place), while Karizat finished 136th with a time of 16:43.

"Since his sophomore year when he joined cross country, Riley has shown

Please see SALEM, B3



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PREP HOCKEY Wednesday, Nov. 14 Churchill vs. Trenton at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16 Franklin vs. W.L. Western at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m. (Metro Inv. at Novi Arena) Steve. vs. NF-Harrison, 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17 Ladywood vs. G.P. North at S.C. Shores Arena, 4 p.m. (Metro Inv. at Novi Arena)

MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS

Wednesday, Nov. 14

MU at Goshen (Ind.), 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17 Indiana Tech at MU, 3 p.m. **WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS** Tuesday, Nov. 13 MU at Spring Arbor, 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17 Indiana Tech at MU, 1 p.m **ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE** Wednesday, Nov. 14 Whalers at Saginaw, 7:10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17 Whalers at Belleville, 7:05 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 18

Whalers at Ottawa, 2 p.m.

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### SOFTBALL

Continued from page B1

for both Giordano and Rebain, too.

"I didn't want a huge school. I just wanted something close to home, so I could stay home with my family," Giordano said. "That's a big thing for me."

And Giordano has been by the brand new softball diamond at Madonna: "It's so nice, I love it."

#### **Easy choice**

For Rebain, the lure of continuing the family's Madonna connection proved too strong to ignore.

"It's great, my mom went to Madonna, my brother (Garrett) played baseball for Madonna," Rebain said. "I've been wanting to go to Madonna my whole life.'

Rebain said that she did consider going to Aquinas College (less than three hours from PCEP), but knew Madonna made more sense both from a softball and academic standpoint.

"I knew they were a great school academically and I knew they were great at softball, too,' she added. "Right when I knew he (White) wanted me. I was very interested and I knew I wanted to come here."

One reason Madonna has such a winning softball program is willingness of Athletic Director Bryan Rizzo to give the green light on scholarships.

"Our athletic director has gotten us some great increases in our scholarships," White said. "And our program has built itself. We're turning away girls now."

Giordano and Rebain will receive scholarships including athletic and academic components.

Another standout from the KLAA who is head-



Parents and coaches recently joined Plymouth seniors Kayla Rebain and Brianna Giordano after they signed to play softball at Madonna University. From left are MU coach Al White, the Rebains (Lilly, Kayla and Greg), the Giordanos (Brianna, Sal and Monique) and Wildcats' varsity coach Val Canfield.

### **NEXT STOP: MADONNA**

Here's a closer look at two of the newest recruits for Madonna University's women's softball program, namely Plymouth High School seniors Brianna Giordano and Kayla Rebain.

Giordano: The 17-year-old is entering her fourth season with the Plymouth varsity softball team, where she is a standout second baseman. In addition, she has three years of experience on fast-pitch travel teams (Finesse, Plymouth-Canton Pride and Ann Arbor Gold). The Plymouth resident's family includes parents Monique and Sal and older sister Gina, who also played softball for the

Rebain: An outfielder for the Wildcats, the 16-year-old also will be going into her fourth season at Plymouth. Also on her softball resume is a five-year stint with Finesse, a club team that competes all over Michigan. She lives in Plymouth with parents Greg and Lilly. Siblings include Garrett (Madonna baseball alum) and Karen (2012 Plymouth grad), who was a teammate of Kayla's on the Wildcats.

ed to Madonna is Livonia Churchill shortstop Nikki Salloum.

### **Paying their dues**

Both Giordano and Rebain said sustained excellence with the Wildcats bodes well for a successful transition to the college game.

"I think it (success at Plymouth) definitely made a big differ-

ence why Madonna wanted me," Giordano said. "Coach Canfield taught me a lot, she influenced

Rebain said her fiveyear career with Finesse (a fast-pitch travel team based in Michigan) is another plus.

me a lot on wanting to go

forward in college ball.'

"It gives you more experience and you get to face tougher teams," she said. "So it really helps you." All of those factors point to big futures in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, but it doesn't hurt to know White is squarely in their

"It (playing in college) is something I've been pushing for for about 10 years," Giordano said. "And to finally know it's paid off is really exciting.

"Coach Al has been wonderful, too. He's like a grandfather, everybody says that about him. I'm looking forward to playing for him."

Of course, Canfield has dibs on them with one more high school season yet to come.

Plus, she stressed that the career paths being taken by Giordano and Rebain should resonate with younger teammates.

"We have a lot of different players who are energetic and just real coachable and we can take them to the next level," Canfield said. "We're proving that can happen."

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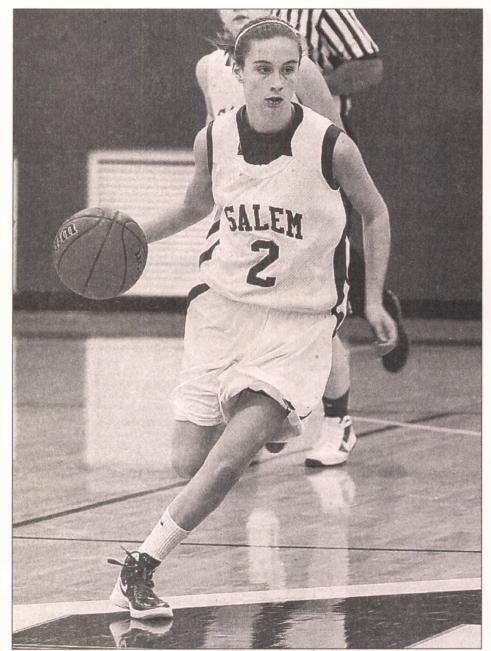


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JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

One of the incoming Lady Ocelots who could make a quick impact is Salem alum Brianna Berberet (No. 2), shown in a 2011-12 game against Plymouth. At left for the Wildcats is Kylie Robb (No. 4).

### Lady Ocelot roster gets a makeover

**By Ed Wright** Observer Staff Writer

The Schoolcraft College women's basketball team's roster wasn't remodeled during the offseason, it was overhauled.

Second-year head coach Kevin Brathwaite welcomes back just one player - Courtney Dyer from the 2011-12 squad that racked up a 25-6 record and second-place finish in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association's Eastern Conference.

As a result, developing cohesion will be at the top of the Lady Ocelots' early-season to-do list.

"We seem to have better team chemistry this year than we did last year, and this team works very hard on the defensive end of the court," said Brathwaite, who served as an Ocelot assistant for five seasons before being promoted to the top job last fall. "Our biggest thing right now with so many new players - is to learn how to work together as a team."

Dyer's familiarity with Brathwaite's philosophy will be an asset. So will

**WOMENS HOOPS PREVIEW** 

her pin-point shooting eye from the perimeter.

"Courtney is a very good three-point shooter," Brathwaite said. "She's someone who we can get the ball to at the end of the a close game and know she'll deliver in the clutch."

The Lady Ocelots' most promising new-comer may be 6-foot-4 post player Ajai Meeks, who prepped at Detroit Pershing and Warren Fitzgerald before spending one season at Providence College.

"They had a coaching change (at Providence), so she decided to come back closer to home," Brathwaite said. "She has good, all-around skills. She's good down low, but she can also dribble and shoot the three. She's a good ball handler for someone her size. We'd really like to see her become a team leader as well."

Among the Ocelots' top defenders is Margie Mitchell, a freshman from Detroit Cody. "She has a good jump

shot from 15 feet in,"

before practice started and said she want-

ed to play," Brathwaite revealed. "She's been a

Brathwaite added.

A late-addition to the roster was Toi Brown, a 5-4 guard who prepped at Melvindale High School. 'She showed up at one of our team meetings just

real pleasant surprise."

**Local and lethal** 

Providing some local flavor - and a lethal outside shooting touch — is 5-8 freshman forward Brianna Berberet, who earned four varsity letters at Salem.

"She's one of our best three-point shooters,' Braithwaite said of Berberet.

Brathwaite is also expecting big things from 5-4 point guard E'Aijsha Guster, who played her high school ball at Westland John Glenn.

The Lady Ocelots, ranked No. 12 in the NJCAA Division II preseason poll, open the season Thursday at home against St. Clair Community College (Ontario).

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### **SALEM**

Continued from page B1

great improvement each season," Aspinall said. As for Karizat, the

coach said he had a strong rebound season after returning from foot surgery in spring 2011, which sidelined him for a lengthy period: "Michael and Riley often switched between our 2-3-4 guys and did a great job pushing each other throughout the season.'

Another senior, Jeremy Drouillard, finished with a time of 17:15.

The seniors' departure leaves a void, but Aspinall is confident, especially with freshman Chaz Jeffress just getting started in his career. In

fact, Jeffress trailed only McEvilly among Salem performers at MIS, with his time of 16:23 good for 85th place overall.

"He was the fourth fastest freshman in Division 1 and we look forward to three more years of continued improvement," Aspinall said.

Rounding out the MIS roster for Salem were juniors Donovan Drouillard (17:15) and Evan Bruvere (17:18).

According to Aspinall, the team's placement in the standings did not tell the tale.

"Anytime you can run four personal bests and three other (times) very close to personal bests, it is a great day," he said. "Oftentimes runners go into the state meet with

wide eyes and unsettled nerves, but we did not do

"We came in confident and executed our race strategy very well. This was one of the fastest state meets in a long

He said there were 46 runners cracking the 16minute mark, with 179 bettering the 17-minute mark.

"To be 18th in Division 1 in such a fast race is a tremendous accomplishment," Aspinall added.

Perhaps as icing on the cake, the Rocks also compiled a team grade-point average of 3.689, which resulted in academic allstate honors.

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# Local talent buoys SC men's hoops

**By Ed Wright** Observer Staff Writer

Basketball fans who have enjoyed watching the Kensington Lakes Activities Association the past couple of seasons will get a kick out of this year's Schoolcraft College men's hoops team.

Six members of the Ocelot's 15-player roster polished their pre-collegiate skills in the KLAA. including two sets of former teammates: Livonia Stevenson's Jonathan Campbell and Kyle Bambach; and Salem's Grantham Bettner and Zinoviy Pelekh.

Rounding out the KLAA portion of the roster are Wayne Memorial's Marcus Williams and Canton's Terrell Sewell.

What the Ocelots lack in size — their tallest player is the 6-foot-6 Sewell they should make up for in athleticism and hustle.

Head coach Randy Henry's lone returner from last season's 19-12 squad is sophomore forward Richmond Jackson, a 6-4 product of Detroit Mumford.

'With 14 new players, we'll use the first 10 games or so to figure out who is going to be in the rotation," Henry said. "We're not the biggest team out there, but we have a few jumping jacks who can go get the ball."

Run and gun

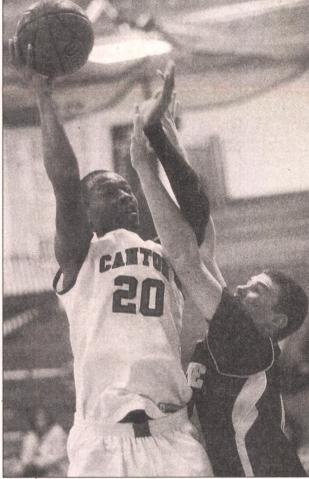
Defenders will have to stay on their toes to keep up with the Ocelots.

"We run a dribble-drive offense, which Oakland University uses," Henry said. "It allows guys to use their athleticism.'

Jackson will not only start for SC, he'll lead, after being selected to serve as the team's cap-

"He really came on strong toward the end of last season and averaged double-digits the last six or seven games," Henry said. "Richmond is going to be a big part of our program this year."

Also starting for SC — at least initially, Henry emphasized — will be Sewell, a 6-6 sky walk-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Terrell Sewell (No. 20) is shown going to the basket last season as a Canton Chief. Sewell is expected to get play-

### ing time for Schoolcraft College his freshman season.

er; Jordan Eastman, a 5-9 guard from Detroit Allen Academy; Joniero "Jo Jo" Bryant, a 6-3 swingman from Detroit Grayson; and Bettner, a sweetshooting 5-11 guard from Salem.

A native of Atlanta, Ga., Bryant has traveled the furthest to join the Oce-

"He's a good player," Henry said of Bryant. "It's hard to get kids here from out of state, but he's going to live with an uncle who lives in the area."

Ex-Spartans Campbell and Bambach have taken the shortest path to Schoolcraft -- something Henry hopes to use to bolster his team's following.

"I'd like to set up some kind of 'Livonia Stevenson Night', when we can invite their band and cheerleaders over to a game," Henry said. "Both Jonathan and Kyle are

good kids and good players, so they'll definitely add something to our

team." Others who will be attempting to work their way into the mix are 6-4 center Terrance Cole, a freshman from Redford Thurston, Chris Brown, a 6-1 guard from Bloomfield Hills Lahser; and 6-4 Nicholas Redmond, who prepped at Detroit Plymouth Prep.

Guards Delandon Laye (6-2), Salah Alawgari (6-3) and Damon Graham (6-1) give the Ocelots plenty of back-court depth.

"We have a lot of kids with good upsides," Henry said. "We'll find out what combination of guys works together the best during the first 10 games, then we'll settle on a rotation before our league schedule starts in January."

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### **BRANDON**

Continued from page B1

from the 2012 team that finished 10th at the state meet are senior co-captains Ryan Rieckhoff and Kyle Rodes, along with Chris Kozler, John Tatti and Evan Chipman.

"I'm absolutely excited to get started," Brandon said. "I'm a firm believer in senior leadership and we're lucky to have a couple of seniors on this team that appear poised to lead this time.

"And I will ask a lot from the seniors to set a tone and create an atmosphere of hard work, respect and preparation. That's a big part of what I do as a coach, look for leadership and rely heavily on that leadership to create the cul-

That culture emerged during the tenure of Moore, Plymouth's only head coach for both the girls and boys golf teams until he stepped down to become an assistant principal in the Plymouth-Canton school district. (Dan Young coached the 2012 girls to the state title.)

According to Brandon, as soon as he found out he was Plymouth's next boys golf coach, he put in a call to Moore.

"I talked to coach Moore when the job became a reality for two primary reasons," Brandon noted. "I wanted to

make sure he felt comfortable with where the

program was going to go

next. And I wanted to get

his advice and his wis-"I have tremendous respect for what he built and I want to make sure I keep growing this. Any success we have this year, Chris Moore will be

Take things in stride

a huge part of that."

Also huge is Brandon's coaching philosophy, which applies to all sports: Athletes need to be well-prepared and completely focused on the next task at hand to succeed.

The fact Brandon played prep basketball (at Plymouth Christian Academy), but not high school golf, has no bearing on whether he can coach both sports, he

emphasized. "I find strong parallels between basketball and golf in the sense that the mental approach to the game has to be strong,' said Brandon, a recreational golfer since his pre-teen years. "And you have to practice perfect if you want to play per-

fect. "Also, I would say the game can do crazy things and mentally you got to stay above the uncertainty that both games can bring. The same way that some days the five-foot putts just aren't rolling in ... some days free throws just aren't going in."

During those struggles, Brandon explained players must revert to

the basics.

"You got to rely on your technique and your preparation and your mental toughness to fight through those times," he said. "And those times are going to happen in a basketball season just like they're going to happen in a golf season.

"It's up to the coach to set the culture ... to battle through that adversity."

One at a time

Meanwhile, when the time comes for the 2013 Wildcats to convene, Brandon will remind them to stay focused and not worry too much about the big picture and projections about where they'll finish.

He'll stress that all they need to do is concentrate on the next tee shot, chip or putt.

"The thing I'm going to preach to the players every single day is it's not one match at a time, one tournament at a time," he said. "We're literally one shot at a time. I want all our focus to be on that first shot and then take it from there.

we can achieve great things for our school." Maybe even one state championship at a time.

"If we do that, I think

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### All-area tennis lineup loaded with ace winners

**FIRST-TEAM** SINGLES

Griffin Mertz, soph., N. Farmington: The sophomore was a regional champion and a Division 2 state quarterfinalist at No. 1 singles, losing to fourthseeded Evan Taylor of **Grand Rapids Forest** Hills Central. Mertz was the fifth seed with only one D-2 loss going into the state meet. His overall record at No. 1 singles was 20-11, with his other losses being mostly to the top D-1 players in the state.

"Griffin played three singles last year as a freshman," coach Whitney Wasielewski said. "He made the difficult jump to one singles after North Farmington lost several players to graduation from the starting lineup. He took the place of his brother, Michael Mertz, who is now playing for Albion College.

Jacob Scott, sr., Salem: The diminutive Scott — who stands 5foot, 6-inches - provided big-time skills for the Rocks, finishing 22-7 for the season along with wins at the Monroe Invitational, Dexter quad, KLAA 'B' tournament and Woodhaven Warrior Top Gun tourney.

"Jake is one of the top three singles players in my 30 years with Salem tennis," said coach Bill Nelson, adding that Scott's defeats this year came "at the hands of the top players in the state.

"He will be sadly missed but I'm sure he will continue and be a success on the collegiate level."

Scott, a four-year varsity player and twoyear co-captain, captured the Ann Vogt Award at Meadowbrook Country Club for contributions to the sport on and off the court.

He also was named to the All-KLAA first team and is hopeful of playing college tennis.

Rohan Vaishnav, soph., Canton: Second-year varsity player Vaishnav already is one of the top singles

players in the KLAA and still has two seasons to move up to elite

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 11, 2012

Canton coach Barb Lehmann praised Vaishnav's court savvy, maturity level and dedication to being the best player he can be.

"He loves the game and puts forth all of his energy to continue to improve," Lehm-ann said. "Rohan is the one you can hear from a few courts away but that simply says his opponent is in for a challenge.

"He expects and demands perfection from himself with support from his family and friends. Rohan excels on the tennis court and is just as strong an academic student. Rohan has goals and aspirations to continue his already wonderful career on into college."

Jonathan Martin, soph., Churchill: The sophomore, the Chargers' No. 1 singles player, posted a 22-5 record while capturing the regional, Howell Quad, Livonia City Quad and Adrian Invitational.

"As the season moved along, Jonathan improved his play against stronger opponents," Churchill coach John Webster said. "He had an excellent season."

Martin also excels in the classroom as a Scholar-Athlete where he currently carries at 4.3 grade-point average in Churchill's Math, Science and Computer program.

Chad Northey, jr., **Stevenson:** The junior tri-captain, a regional runner-up, has been the Spartans' No. 1 singles player the past two seasons posting an above .500 record against a difficult schedule.

As a freshman. Northey played No. 2 doubles.

"Chad played a ton of tennis this past off season which led to a vast improvement in his game," Stevenson coach Don McCathney said. "He has really become a very ded-



**Griffin Mertz** N. Farmington



R. Vaishnav Canton



**Jacob Scott** Salem

**Rob Chapekis** 

N. Farmington



Churchill



J. Martin







"Although they played much tougher opponents at No. 1 doubles, they still managed to have a very successful season against some of the best teams in the state. They had key wins over teams like Stoney Creek, West Bloomfield, Groves, Saline, Okemos, Lahser and Seaholm during the course of the season." Colin Halow, jr.;

son," Wasielewski said.

Danny O'Neill, jr.; N. Farmington: The two juniors were quarterfinalists at the D-2 state tournament, losing to the No. 3 seed from Portage Central. Halow and O'Neill finished third in the OAA Red Division tourna-

"After a very successful season playing No. 1 doubles last year, Colin and Danny didn't start the season as a team," Wasielewski said. "Áfter a few weeks, circumstances changed and they were able to pair up again at No. 2 doubles.

"They competed very tough at this flight and finished the season with a remarkable win over (No. 6-seeded) Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central at the state tournament. Some other key wins they had during the season were over Troy and Andover."

Sachin Raval, sr.; Noah Garber, jr.; N. Farmington: The Raiders were regional champions, beating top-seeded Andover in the final (6-3, 7-5). Raval and Garber were seeded fourth at the state tournament and lost to fifth-seeded Andover in a tough, three-set match (6-3, 3-"Sachin and Noah

were a very successful and tough three doubles team," Wasielewski said. "They finished the season with only three losses at this flight. Their overall record together was 18-3 with key wins over Troy, Seaholm, U-D Jesuit, Adams, Lahser, Andover and Groves.

Jordan Lu

**Plymouth** 

**Noah Garber** N. Farmington

icated player. He's also one of our hardest workers during our seasonal practices. If he

A. Murtland

N. Farmington

can show the same amount of improvement this off season, he will competitive with the best players in our area.'

Jordan Lu, fr., Plymouth: The Plymouth freshman's 12-12 record was deceiving and did not show just how well Lu performed for the Wildcats as a freshman, coach Tom Kimball said.

"Number 1 singles is a very tough position to play and it's rare for a freshman to earn this spot," Kimball said. "Jordan's young, but he brings a mature commitment to the sport. It's uncommon for a player his age to have the combination of consistency, power and variety.

"He wants to win every match, but he doesn't allow the score to affect his focus or dictate his style of play."

Lu was voted by his teammates as Plymouth's Most Valuable Player and Kimball sees a future all-state player in Lu, comparing him to Aaron Zhang - the Wildcats' lone allstater in team history.

#### **2012 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS TENNIS** FIRST-TEAM SINGLES

Colin Halow

N. Farmington

Griffin Mertz, Soph., N. Farmington Jacob Scott, Sr., Salem Rohan Vaishnav, Soph., Canton Jonathan Martin, Soph., Liv. Churchill Chad Northey, Jr., Liv. Stevenson Jordan Lu, Fr., Plymouth **FIRST-TEAM DOUBLES** 

Andrew Murtland, Sr., N. Farmington Rob Chapekis, Jr., N. Farmington Colin Halow, Jr., N. Farmington Danny O'Neill, Jr., N. Farmington Sachin Raval, Sr., N. Farmington Noah Garber, Jr., N. Farmington SECOND-TEAM SINGLES

Rohit Bhandage, Sr., Farmington Dylan Collins, Jr., Farm. Harrison Joe Pummill, Soph., Garden City George Zhou, Soph., Canton Sam Tabor, Jr., Liv. Stevenson Alek Zultowski, Sr., Salem

**SECOND-TEAM DOUBLES** Jeff Frederick, Jr., Liv. Stevenson

Aaron Dziobak, Sr., Liv. Stevenson Ryan Nash, Sr., N. Farmington Rakesh Rajakumar, Fr., N. Farmington Prakash Pagadala, Jr., Farmington Thejas Ragava, Soph., Farmington **HONORABLE MENTION** 

Redford Union: T.J. Kargul, Jr.; Stevenson: Marcus McCathney, Sr.; Johnson Yang, Sr.; North Farmington: Aadithya Pramod, Jr.; Churchill: Joe Mulka, Sr.; Farmington: Austin Maley, Sr.

#### FIRST-TEAM **DOUBLES**

**Andrew Murtland,** sr.; Rob Chapekis, jr., N. Farmington: After being Division 2 state champions at No. 4 doubles last year, Murtland and Chapekis had a successful

campaign at No. 1 doubles, compiling a 17-9 record for the Raiders.

"They had to make a huge jump in the lineup and moved all the way up to 1 doubles after North Farmington graduated several players who played ahead of them last sea-

### Mercy ends Spartans' run

**By Brad Emons Observer Staff Writer** 

The beauty of this year's Farmington Hills Mercy volleyball team may be team balance.

That was never more evident Thursday night as the Marlins sewed up their fourth Class A regional championship in five years with a 25-19, 25-14, 25-20 win over Livonia Stevenson in a match played at Farmington High.

Mercy, now 46-10 overall, will face Temperance Bedford in a quarterfinal matchup beginning at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Gibraltar Carlson.

"We depend on everyone," Mercy coach Loretta Vogel said. "I think obviously last year that (Miss Volleyball) Maddy (Doyle) and Lindsay (Lerg) shouldered so much of the responsibility, then my other seniors held up their end. I think everybody else was below that, but this year there's no one you can lean on. And that is biggest difference.'

Senior outside hitters Catherine Morgan (12) and Molly O'Sullivan (11) combined for 23 kills. Junior middle hitter Christa Greenwood contributed seven.

Senior setter Mary Dulzo finished with 24 assist-to-kills.

Sophomore outside hitter Jenna Lerg served four aces and finished with 31 digs.

Stevenson (28-17-1) was going for its second straight regional title, but the Spartans met all kinds of roadblocks against Mercy, which hit from all angles.

"They mixed the ball up very, very well, so we rarely sealed the block or got a good seal," Stevenson coach Kelly Graham said. "They were either going up late, so it deflected, so we couldn't put the ball up. They mixed the ball up very well, so it was hard for our blockers to figure out where to go."

Stevenson's standout junior outside hitter and setter Katie Tomasic (10 kills, 10 assists) was the focal point of Mercy's defense.

Senior outside hitter Morgan Copperstone chipped in with six kills, while junior middle Amanda Hawkins had

four blocks. Setter Allie Koestering, a senior, finished with 13 assists. Senior defensive spe-

cialist Annie MacDonald (16 digs) flippedflopped positions with senior libero Holly Mossoian after Mossoian went down in Tuesday's regional semifinal win against Detroit Cass Tech with a wrist injury.





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"The guys have been playing hard without me and I'm just trying to do whatever I can."

According to Vellucci, getting Wilson back into the lineup definitely paid dividends against the always-pesky Spitfires. The teams combined for 19 infractions and 60 penalty minutes.

"He gives us size, strength, he's physical, he gets on the forecheck," Vellucci said. "He's a good player, a good leader for us."

Scoring twice for the OHL West Division-leading Whalers (10-5-2-1) was forward Stefan Noesen, who also contributed a pair of assists. Tallying a goal and two helpers was forward Garrett Meurs, while center Ryan Hartman racked up two assists.

Noesen and Meurs fueled a 51-shot barrage against Spitfires goaltender Jaroslav Pavelka.

#### **Constant pressure**

After two Windsor players received minor penalties simultaneously with 10:12 remaining in the second, the Whalers put on quite a show.

They threaded passes all over the Spits' zone and fired puck after puck (12 in all) at Pavelka.

Finally, with just 13 seconds left in the five-onthree, Noesen blasted a rising laser beam of a shot over the goalie's glove hand that bounced out just as fast to make it a 5-2 edge.

"We should have scored, like, six times," Vellucci said, laughing. "But we moved the puck, we shot it, we had a lot of chances and he finally buried it."

Compuware was rocking after that sequence, but it was a quieter building at the start of the night when Windsor (8-8-0-4) got on the board first.

Winger Chris Marchese scored a power-play goal at 4:32 of the opening period

Plymouth scored on the power play with 8:24 left to even things up. Noesen feathered pass from the left wing over to Meurs, who hammered a shot from the right circle past Pavelka.

With 6:52 remaining, the Whalers took the lead, again on the power play. Meurs dropped a pass back to defenseman Connor Carrick above the circles and his slapper found the top-left corner.

#### **Back to back**

Steadily improving winger Danny Vanderwiel set up Plymouth's third goal, at 2:35 of the middle period. Vanderwiel took a pass from forward Alex Aleardi (Farmington Hills), strong-armed a defenseman near the right side of the Windsor net and flicked a pass to center Michael Whaley for the tap-in.

A carbon-copy play made it 4-1 just 32 seconds later. This time, Noesen finished off a Meurs pass with Wilson drawing the second assist.

After Michael Clarke beat Whalers goalie Matt Mahalak (34 saves) to trim the lead to 4-2, Plymouth embarked on its two-minute run of domination, capped by Noesen's second of the period (and 12th of the season).

With 5:23 left in the period, the Spitfires got back to within 5-3. Ripping a slapper off the goal post and in was winger Kerby Rychel for his 12th.

Despite a 23-12 edge in shots in the period, the Whalers entered the dressing room up just two goals.

They then survived a string of penalties against them in the third, with Mahalak holding the fort.

tsmith@hometownlife.com (734) 469-4128

### Plymouth girls lax meeting

For anyone interested in playing Plymouth girls lacrosse in the spring, there will be a mandatory parent and player meeting 7 p.m. Nov. 28.

It will take place at Salem High School in the Salem Presentation Room (No. 2112).

Parents are asked to park near the main Salem entrance off of Joy Road near the flag-

### Salem girls track coaching spot

Salem varsity girls track and field coach Dave Gerlach announced he is looking to hire an assistant coach for the 2013 season.

The coach should specialize in sprints and relays.

Gerlach can be reached at (734) 416-7774 or via e-mail at Rockcoachxc@wowway.com.

#### Rosedale 5K run

The Rosedale Area Neighbors will observe Veterans Day with its annual Red, White and Blue 5-kilometer runwalk starting at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 10 at Rudolf Kleinert Park in Livonia.

Registration will be from 9-10:30 a.m. at Rosedale Garden Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia.

Proceeds will go to the Livonia Symphony Orchestra. Participants are also encouraged to bring canned good for the Boy Scouts' annual Can-Do drive.

Long-sleeved T-shirts will go to the first 150 registrants. Pizza and pasta feast, along with prizes, will follow at Rosedale Garden Pres-

#### **SPORTS ROUNDUP**

byterian. Patriotic apparel is encouraged. Pre-registration fees are \$15 (adult); \$10 (middle school and high school); \$5 (younger); and \$40 (family). Race day fees are \$20 (adult); \$15 (middle school and high school); \$10 (younger); and \$50 (family).

To download a registration form, visit www. oldrosedalegardens. com. Online signup will be at: http://rosedale5k.eventzilla.net.

For more information, call Jeff at (734) 367-0260.

### Weekly 5K runs

All runners, joggers and walkers are welcome to participate in a weekly timed 5-kilometer run-walk at Livonia's Bicentennial Park.

Participation is free, but you must bring your registrant barcode to earn by registering at www.parkrun.com or www.parkrun.us.

### WYAA volleyball

Registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association volleyball is underway and will last through mid-November for the following age groups: 9-10 (freshman), 11-13 (JV) and 14-17 (varsity).

Cost is \$130 (includes volleyball jersey with neon colors, shorts and knee pads).

Practices begin in mid-November and matches start in early December. You can register online

at wyaa.org.

For more information,
call Keith Demolay at

(734) 722-1251 (leave a

### **Livonia wrestling**

The Livonia Wrestling Club, a unified wrestling club serving Livonia and surrounding communities for grades K-8, will be from 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Nov. 27 through March 28, at the Franklin High School wrestling room.

All coaches and volunteers will be under direct supervision of the Franklin coaching staff.

Registration can be done at the first practice or throughout the season. The cost is \$100 (includes T-shirt and registration into My-Way).

For more information, call Dave Chiola at (248) 752-2340; or e-mail chiola44@yahoo.com.

### **SOCIAL SECURITY**

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

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



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

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

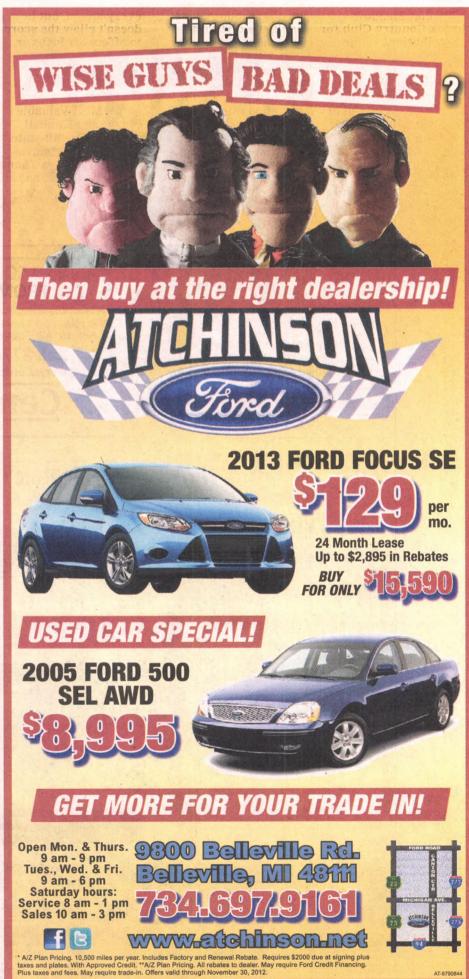
In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com





### COMMUNITY LIFE

### Purl-fect projects

### Knit and crochet group makes clothing for charities

**By Sharon Dargay** O&E Staff Writer

Make 100 hats, scarves, blankets or gloves in 45

Marti Bush and Millie Judd have issued the challenge to their Monday night "Meetup" group of knitters and crocheters, asking members to

make - and then donate - handmade items to local nonprofits.

Bush, a knitting teacher from Redford, and Judd, one of her former students from Dearborn Heights, created the weekly gathering just last month, but hope the group will complete 100 items by Dec. 1.

"I know enough folks who knit and it just seems to me that knitters are very generous," Judd said. "They like to make things and they are always making gifts for people. This way, people who really need it are getting it and we're not harassing our families and friends with more and more hats."

Instead, the completed garments will go to Veteran's Haven in Wayne; the



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Marti Bush and daughter Meagan from Redford work on yarn projects, along with other crafters who will donate their finished garments to charity. Bush teaches knitting in Livonia and Novi.

YWCA of Western Wayne County's Headstart program, which offers classes in Redford, Garden City, Dearborn, Inkster and Dearborn Heights; and First Step, the Western Wayne and Downriver project on domestic and sexual violence, with offices in Plymouth, Redford and Wayne.

"They have over 700 kids in Headstart and a lot of those kids don't have anything. We want to keep them warm," Judd said.

#### Michigan chapter Judd organized the

group - called Millie's Hats for Hope Initiative - as a chapter of Emily's Hats for Hope, which 17year-old Emily Kubin of Morristown, N.J. founded in December 2011. The teen began knitting hats for the homeless and created a Facebook site that

both tracks her progress and encourages others to participate. As of September, she had made and collected nearly 2,500 hats and was well on her way toward meeting a goal of 3,000 hats by her 18th birthday next month. She has received donations from as far away as Iceland and now has chapters in 15 states and one Canadian province.

"I thought, what a great kid. She's 17 and doing this. I thought, well, I'll donate. I'll make some hats for her," Judd said. "And then it was all getting so huge that she really wanted people in other states to start an initiative in their own areas. So, what the heck, I'll start one in my own area."

Bush agreed to co-coordinate the group, which runs from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Mondays, at Panera,



Millie Judd (left) shows Kianna Collier a technique with

26580 Ford Road, just east of Inkster, in Dearborn Heights.

"My part in this is helping someone get to the next level they need to get to," said Bush, who is on hand each week to assist members with their projects. "I knit, crochet and

loom."

About a dozen children and a few adults worked on looms when the group met last Monday. Others spent the two-hour session knitting or crocheting.

"Looming is great for kids because it eliminates some of the issues you have with true knitting projects — dropped stitches and counting. It's a great way to get them crafting and involved in a charity," Bush said.

#### **Helping others**

Pat Birdsall and Cathy Holden, both of Redford, were members of a knitting group Bush led last summer at the Redford Township library. Now they attend the Monday night Meetup.

"I love to knit," said Birdsall, a retired teacher who knit her first garment -- argyle socks for her father — when she was 16 years old. "It's nice to know that something I knit might bring just bring a little happiness, a little smile and joy to someone's face.'

Holden has knitted everything from afghans to skirts since she learned to knit 12 years ago. She also enjoys the group's emphasis on charity.

"I like just knowing that I'm helping somebody,' Holden said. "Somebody

Please see KNIT, B7

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EV. BETH DELANEY

The Rev. Bryan Smith and wife Jennifer have served Geneva Presbyterian Church in Canton for 20 years. They were honored at a Nov. 3 party.

### Canton pastor, church mark 20-year milestone

By Julie Brown **O&E Staff Writer** 

The Rev. Bryan Smith wasn't quite sure what to expect when he arrived at Geneva Presbyterian Church in Canton 20 years

Smith said his ministry has been both more rewarding and more challenging than he'd expected as a recent graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey with some ministry experience. "Faith is formed in a community of people," he said at the conclusion of a Saturday, Nov. 3, thank you party given by church members and staff.

"We have been blessed by what you have given to the Lord," Smith told worshipers. He and his wife, Jennifer, recalled asking their children, Julia and Joshua, about the experience of growing up as pastor's chil-

"Both Julia and Joshua said it was great growing up in this church," he said. "You really have embodied Christ for us."

The native Californians — Smith did his undergraduate work at U.C.L.A. - joked about their move to Michigan in the early 1990s. "She said 'God would never send us to Michigan," he recalled. "Not much later, she was also deeply convinced.'

The potluck dinner Nov. 3 included music, video, and the presentation of a wall hanging and gift cards to the Smiths. Daughter Julia, away at school, was present via iPad.

The church Drama Team appeared in a skit written by Jake Zinke.

Church members Jan Mathews and Bevis Richardson "interviewed" Joshua Smith, appearing as his dad, for the church pastor role. The Beach Boys' California Girls, set the scene as the younger Smith learned about Michigan turns ("turning right to turn left") while driving and using his hand to locate his new hometown.

In the skit, Joshua Smith also dressed for Michigan weather and indicated his willingness to move across the country to serve as pastor. "If Moses and the Israelites can do it, so can I," he said.

His dad said later he didn't know much of Michigan, other than driving through as a child and teen from Los Angeles to Toronto, Ontario. He smiled when asked about serving another 20 years: "I'm kind of on a need to know basis from God.'

icbrown@hometownlife.com

### MORE KNITTING GROUPS

Here are a few other local knit and crochet groups whose members donate items to charity:

• Senior citizens meet 9:30-10:30 Wednesday at the Civic Park Senior Center at Five Mile and Farmington Road in Livonia to knit and crochet items for charity. Patricia Wachtel, recreation supervisor, said 20 women typically gather to work on their projects.

"We put up a Christmas tree and cover it with the items," Wachtel said.
"Then when the Goodfellow kids come with their parents, they can pick out what they want.'

Another group also sews for charity, 1 p.m. Monday at the senior cen-

• The Southeast Michigan Knitting Group meets from 6 p.m. until closing Tuesday, at Panera, 37091 Six Mile, Livonia and 2-4:30 p.m. Thursday, at Panera, 20170 Haggerty, Livonia. It's also a Meetup group and has a website at www. meetup.com/knitting-1011/.

Sandy Schou, group organizer, said members are encouraged to donate to the charities of their choice.

"Our goal is to provide warmth, hope, and love to



Pat Birdsall from Redford shows off a hat she made for charity. She also knitted the sweater she's wearing.

people in need," she said. "Locally there is someone in your community that would love to have knitted items, whether it's the homeless shelter or the children's floor of your local hospital. We also knit or crochet hats, scarves, socks, shawls, blankets. The gift of a scarf or cap can bring joy to a person in a time of need, and brighten their

unused skeins of yarn for use in charity knitting.

• The Preemie Project, based in Iowa, donates infant hats, booties and blankets and other items to children's hospitals. Its Michigan chapter, based in Garden City, supports Providence Park Hospital in Novi and Henry Ford Hospital. Learn more by e-mailing to tppmichiganchapter@gmail.com. Or visit www.thepreemieproject.com.

The group also accepts

Continued from page B6

is getting something from my enjoyment."

Bush and Judd say the group is open to anyone who wants to knit, crochet or loom items for charity. Participants may bring their own yarn — no angora please or use skeins donated by the public and other group members. The group also accepts donations of yarn, needles, looms, and gift cards for yarn and craft stores. It does not accept cash donations.

Both Bush and Judd emphasize that Millie's Hats for Hope Initiative accepts yarn crafters of all skill levels. Bush and other experts lend a hand to beginners as

Bush also teaches knitting from 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, 1:30-3 p.m. and 3-4:30 p.m. Sunday, at Art-is-in Market in Laurel Park Place, in Livonia. She offers three Tuesday classes — from 2:30-4 p.m. and 4-5:30 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m. — and classes from 10:30 a.m.-noon and noon-1:30 p.m. Saturday, at Art-is-in Market at 12 Oaks Mall in Novi. Cost is \$65 for six

For questions about Millie's Hats for Hope, call Bush at (313) 377-7826. Or visit the group's page on Meetup.com.



### Rose Hill Center gala draws sell-out crowd

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 11, 2012

**By Julie Yolles** Social Scene Columnist

The 20th Anniversary Gala of Rose Hill Center, held last month at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham, raised \$45,000 for the Holly-based mental health rehabilitation center. Funds will help provide enhancements to the Rose Hill campus and financial aid to patients.

Attendees, including Michele Scharg of Farmington Hills, helped the event to sell out. The keynote speaker was actor and activist Sean Astin.

Bloomfield Hills residents Dan and Rosemary Kelly founded Rose Hill Center in 1986 because their son, John, was diagnosed with a psychiatric illness and had to be hospitalized. At that time, there were no local treatment and rehabilitation centers in Michigan to aid in his recovery. For consideration of cover-

age in this column, send event happenings, including invitations and press kits, to Julie Yolles, Social Scene columnist, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 371 Greenwood, Birmingham, MI 48009. Contact her at jyolles@comcast.net or (248) 642-9465.



ILILIE YOLLES

Farmington Hills resident Michele Scharg (left) and Grosse Pointe Woods resident Patti Kukula attend the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Rose Hill Center in Holly. The gala was held at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham.

### Shop vendor booths at tea

Get acquainted with the Catherine McAuley Division of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 18 at St. Fabian's Social Hall, 32200 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is the oldest Irish-Catholic organization in the country. The tea is open to all wom-

scan to have these specials

on your phone.

Attendees will get a chance to shop for Christmas gifts or pamper themselves at vendor booths. Gifts baskets also will be raffled off.

Admission is \$3 at the door. Questions? Call Maureen Lesondak at (734) 464-

### Problems with humidifiers, dish soap as well

By Joe Gagnon Guest columnist

would like to believe everything I read and hear that comes from those entrusted with telling us the way it really is, but life has taught me otherwise. When I find out that I am being conned I more or less shake my head in disgust and pray that many of my fellow consumers are wise enough to figure it out.

In the last few years

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**Appliance Doctor** 

phates from Joe Gagnon their products. They did this with little warning to homeowners who suddenly discovered that their glasses came out

of the dishwasher with a cloudy finish on them. I am very disappointed that they still have not come up with a solution to the problem nor do they think they have. In my house we have been using the Lemi Shine product to add to our current powdered detergent and it has been doing a good job of keeping the glasses fog free.

After seeing some television advertising that portrays a woman telling another that these new packages of predetermined amounts will take care of her foggy glasses, I went to the store

and purchased some of that particular brand. I've been using it for the past two weeks and I'm not happy. I've got five glasses that look like they have been through a snow storm. They just won't come out nice and clear so I boiled them in a big pot of water for 10 minutes and that didn't help. So I'll say to the well-known advertiser, "you are lying, pure and simple."

#### **Humidifier** problems

I recently read a story about Kent Carson from Chicago, Ill. who awakened in a hospital bed to find that his legs and one arm had been amputated. This unfortunate 55vear-old man was infected with Legionnaires' disease. He doesn't know where caught it and it is seldom reported unless if affects many people who were at the same place. For many years I've been telling homeowners to pay attention to the humidifier on their furnaces. Going back to 1950's the advertising would tell you that the float type humidifier was necessary for good health for people who lived in the cold climate such as Michigan's. Even today a doctor will tell his patients who have respiratory problems to make sure the air in their home has humidity added. There were many millions of these installed on furnaces and a lot of people still have them. Parts are still available and heating companies are still fixing them. My advice to those folks

is to get them off the furnace as quickly as possible. Legionnaires' comes from water that is sitting and heated and that is exactly what the water is doing in an antiquated humidifier.

I strongly recommend you think about the flowthrough kind of humidifier. One other important factor on a humidifier has to be mentioned here because it is so important. The filter has to be changed! I've seen filters that are covered with black mold because the homeowner was trying to save a few dollars.

#### Confusing consumers

With the technology now available, we are smothered with so many different messages that it is easy to confuse people. As Esther Shapiro used to say, "A confused consumer is easy prey." How can toothpaste make your teeth whiter than the next? The same analogy applies to soaps used in a clothes washer.

In closing this column I would like to mention for the last time a topic I mentioned in my last few columns. I pointed out the newly-invented way I have been doing the laundry at our home. I'm not using detergent or hot water and my clothes are as clean as ever and they even smell better. You can believe in the advertising you will see on this product. Stay tuned.

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



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### Hurricane Sandy, surge of kindness

By L.J. McCulloch Guest columnist

y now, most all of our local citizens may feel inundated with news coverage of the violent and destructive devastation that Hurricane Sandy delivered to the Northeast coastline and its inland cities

Early reports warned us of Sandy's path and timetables were predicted for who would be hit and when. In some major's cities such as Atlantic City, N.J., New York City, N.Y., and Philadelphia, Pa., and others, the predictions came

true.



Len McCulloch

The destruction

Then the destruction came. Lives were lost, countless were injured, homes were gone, and infrastructures including businesses, transportation systems and com-

munication lines were eliminated for hundreds of thousands of individuals. The "surges" of unrelenting wind storms, rain, floods, snowfall and ocean waves were so big that the geography of the Northeast U.S. coastline has been altered forever. News of destruction bombarded us while the actual events of this kind of "natural disaster" for those living in Hurricane Sandy's path continued relentlessly. City, state, county and federal emergency response programs were put into place immediately. Devastation was the common denominator of what we heard from all sources.

The aftermath

Then, the aftermath came. As soon as safely possible, our heroic fellow citizens, first responders, searchers for survivors, trained and volunteer providers from all fields of government, medicine, military and law enforcement, comprised the "surge of human

response" to the violent devastation brought upon by Hurricane Sandy. One insurance company representative asked how can this be an "act of God?"

The American Red Cross is, was and will continue to be a mainstay in our community arsenal to help those in need recover from such massive calamity. The Salvation Army, The United Way, and many other like-minded organizations are assisting our fellow citizens through what will be a long-term period of recovery. Their presence defines the concept of resilience!

**Related Experiences** 

In my training as a member of the American Red Cross Mental Health Disaster Team. I am reminded of my first instructor's account of how odd one feels, as part of the first team of responding professionals, to drive into an area of dangerous devastation, while all other traffic evacuates out to and in pursuit of safety. In my experience, the intensity of the surge of recovery from such massive environmental tragedies is not measurable. Acts of kindness are commonplace. Acts of heroism are the order of the day.

For example, at New York University Langone Hospital, among many others, nurses were observed evacuating infants from neo-natal intensive care units by running with the babies in their arms while manually keeping their hearts beating and lungs breathing. Children in unaffected areas were reportedly promoting sandwich-making marathons and were in search of volunteer delivery people to take the sandwiches to victims. This was their response to seeing television coverage of victims dumpster diving in search of food. USA fighter bombers were called into action to provide the fastest delivery of food, clean water, and medicine to the hundreds of thousands of victims in need.

Recovery

In the early stages of recovery a benefit concert was broadcast worldwide to raise funds to aid survivors and rescue efforts. Professional musicians dropped concert schedules in response to a national television network's request to quickly organize and perform a concert. A national free phone line was created at (800) HELP-NOW for callers to contribute money towards recovery and re-inte-

**COMMUNITY LIFE** 

Survivors who had electric power ran lines out to community streets so those without power could charge up cell phones in order to communicate with loved ones elsewhere in the country about their status. Radio news reports cited a multitude of acts of kindness between strangers on the streets.

In my opinion, the process of recovery will, in the long run, win out over the surges of the tragedy of Sandy. It has to. Sandy was in and out within less than one week, but the recovery surge will be long term. Likewise, the reserve of our mental health resources will need to be maintained, strengthened and safeguarded for our future.

In response to Sandy's devastation, we must stay united and make true the recovery process so we can say, to quote Joan Biaz's old song verse "human kindness is overflowing!" I would add that resiliency will need to be never ending, because there always will be more "Sandys" and more needs for "surges of human kindness."

Len McCulloch is a diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association. He has credentials in mental health, addictions, traumatic brain injury, traumatic stress, and social work. He has been in practice 37 years and has published 170 articles in these fields. He is president of The Therapy Choirs of Michigan, a non-profit organization that has created and maintained "choir therapy" as a proven rehabilitation modality for "differently-abled" individuals. He can be reached for consultation at (248) 474-2763, Ext. 22.

### **GARDEN & NATURE**

Send garden and nature information and photos to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

#### **Plymouth Nursery**

 Santa will be on hand 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Nov. 23-25 and weekends through Dec. 9 at Plymouth Nursery, 9900 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Customers can pose for a free photo with Santa, visit a petting farm, campfire and enjoy refreshments. A percentage of proceeds from the sale of fresh-cut trees and wreaths will benefit the Make A Wish Foundation.

Girls Night Out will run 6-8 p.m. Nov. 30. The first 50 women will receive a free goody bag. The event will include vendors, door prizes, sales and fun. Call (734) 453-5500 for more information.

**English Gardens** 

• Learn to make a bow at a "Make It & Take It Workshop, Nov. 17-18. Various workshop times are available. Cost is \$5 for ribbon. Sign up online at www.englishgardens.com

Shoppers can see professionally-decorated trees and other holiday decorations.

### **Arthritis Today**

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### **NEW IDEAS ON AN OLD TREATMENT**

Colchicine goes back to ancient Greece. Hippocrates in 330 B.C. observed its good effect in treating gout. His treatise included the instructions to take a tablet of colchicine one an hour until the attack of gout cleared or until diarrhea ensued. This regimen for gout remained in medical texts until the present century.

But no longer. Today a physician will instruct a patient with gout to take 2 tablets of colchicine at once when an attack comes on, and if the attack does not clear within an hour take one additional tablet. And stop. No more colchicine thereafter to stop an attack. If the patient needs further medicine to end a flare, then the physician will use other medications such as indomethacin or prednisone to end the episode.

The reason for this change in using colchicine came about because in 2007 the Federal Drug Agency called for all manufacturers of colchicine to have their product evaluated by the Agency for purity and consistency in the dosage of their tablets. Only one manufacturer was able to show that its tablets were consistently at the pharmacological accepted dose of 0.6 mams

Testing using this dose revealed that the use of 2 tablets immediately and one tablet an hour later gave a better result and less side effects than the regimen that physicians had handed down to each other for two thousand years.

At present, many physicians and patients remain committed

to the old way of colchicine treatment. Over time, as physicians graduate from medical school and physicians trained in the modern use of colchicine instruct their colleagues, the new approach to therapy will become the standard.

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The senior accountant must have at least three years of spunsible for planning en-gagements, reviewing and analyzing client internal conanalyzing cilem Internal con trols and preparing audit pro grams: identifying and re solving audit issues and de veloping a working relation ship with clients. This per son will serve as a mentor to

Applicants should have prior experience in audits of em ployee benefit plans, govern mental units, and not-for profit organizations. In addi tion, experience in preparing and reviewing Form 990 and Form 5500 is a plus, but not

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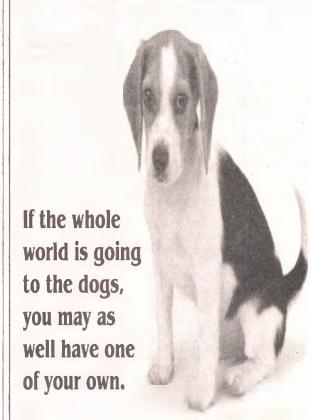
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#### Cora Jean Thomey

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 11, 2012

Cora Jean Thomey was born Oct. 30, 2012 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann

Proud parents are Jessica and Marques Thomey of Plymouth.

Grandparents are Lynda Racey and Scott Silvers, of Plymouth, Jerry and Robin Jones of Jackson, Ron and Cindy Thomey and Al and Diane Bickford, all

Great-grandparents are Norma Racey Oren and Conway Oren of Jackson.



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**Bruce-Lechner** 

### Passages Obituaries, Memories & Rememberances

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

#### ARLEN, ALICE LORRAINE

78 of Plymouth, MI passed away quietly after a long illness with Parkinson's disease on Tuesday, November 6, 2012. Alice was born in Wayne, MI to Charles and Olive Truesdell. Graduated from Eastern Michigan University. Retired from the Livonia Public School System where she was a beloved Kindergarten teacher for many years. Survived by spouse Richard T Arlen, Sons Scott (Nancy) and James (Deb-Grandchildren Erik (Andrea), Richard, Andrew and Jef-frey Sister Lois Hamilton and brother-in-law Harold Smith There will be a visitation 10am on Saturday, November 10, 2012 at the First United Methodist Church of Plymouth, 45201 N Territorial Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. There will be a memorial service at 11:00 am, followed by a luncheon in the Fellowship Hall at the church. Memorial contributions made to the Methodist Church



DE BEAR, ESTELLE C.

Nov 4, 2012; age 82 of Plymouth. Best friend and loving wife of Richard. The best and cherished mother of Richard (Wendy), Diana (Ralph) Fortson, Patricia (Mark Talkington) de Bear, Robert (Jane) de Bear, Christopher (Cathy) and Nancy (Gerald) Naski. Proud grandma of Michael, Matthew, Melanie, Christopher, Adam, Kevin, Brett, Ashley, Kristen, Emily, Nick, of McKayla Dear sister of Joseph Grandon. Visitation Thurs 2-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Rd., (btwn Sheldon & Beck) Ply-mouth. In state Fri 10 AM until the 10:30 AM Funeral Mass at Lady of Good Counsel Church, 47650 N. Territorial Rd, Plymouth. Memorials contributions may be made to Salvation Army - Plymouth, 9451 S. Main St., Plymouth, MI 48170 or The Salvation Army Disaster Relief. Hurricane Sandy Relief, P.O. Box 1959, Atlanta, GA 30301. Interment at Riverside Cemetery

To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

### REED,

Jimmy Don Age 68, of Davisburg died Thursday at Genesys Regional Medical Center in Grand Blanc after an 18-month struggle with ALS. He was a resident of Plymouth, MI for 25 years and had previously resided in Greeneville, TN, Grand Rapids, MI and Harbor Springs, MI. Jim was a retiree of the Federal Aviation Administration and a veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He was born and raised in Greeneville, TN and was a 1961 graduate of Greeneville High School. Survivors include his wife of 38 years, Virginia Reed; his father, Ralph Reed, of Greeneville; his sons, Donald Reed of Cincinnati, OH, Michael Reed (Felita) of Greeneville, Tennessee, Mark Reed (Jessica) of Davisburg, MI, and Jeffrey Reed of Bothell, Washington; his grandchildren, Danielle, Tabitha, Felicia, Ella, and Lydia Reed, and Joshua Krautmann; his step-grandchildren, Emery and Jackie Jennings; his sister, Sherry Edwards; his mother-in-law, Patricia Moore; and a very loving extended family. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Elizabeth Reed, his mother, Donna Reed, his brother-in-law, Harold Edwards, and his parents-in-law, Thomas W. Moore, Francis E. Riggs, and Hattie E. Riggs. Honorary pallbearers will be Jay Peterman, George Moore, Bernie Sigal, Bob Moore, Tom Moore, and Donald Good. Appreciation to the wonderful staffs of Genesys Medical Center, University of Michigan ALS Center, the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor, and to our home health care aides. The family will receive friends from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. Saturday at the Lewis E. Wint and Son Funeral Home in Clarkston, Michigan. The funeral

of the ALS Association. Online www.wintfuneralhome.com

service will take place at the same location at 11:30 a.m. Sun-

day. Cremation will follow. In

lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Michigan chapter

FREED, PLYMOUTH "PLYM" LEE Age 83, of Plymouth Michigan, passed away November 4, 2012. Born January 2, 1929, in Riverdale, MI, the son of John L and Zilla (Apple) Freed. Plym graduated from Alma School in 1947. In March, 1949. Plym joined the US Army, 84th Engineer Construction Battalion and was deployed to Korea shortly after the conflict broke out. Plym worked for the University of Michigan Space Physics Research Laboratory from 1960 until his retirement in 1986. He worked on countless payloads for space exploration that took him across the country from Los Alamos to Cape Kennedy. He was honored by the National Aeronomics Department for his dedication to the space program. In hrs retirement he took classes on woodcarving, caning chairs and antique clock restoration. He worked part-time at the Northville Clock Shop and was a member of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors. He was also a member of the Disabled American Veterans and was passionate about honoring our veterans and our country. He displayed the flag every day

at his home. He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Roslyn, five children, Teresa Freed (Warren Kress) of Chelsea; Susan (Rick) Curtis of Bremerton, WA, Lucinda (Chris) Youngquist of Cascade, CO; Walt Drummond of St Paul IN and Dawn (Rob) Shields of Traverse City; his grandchildren Andy Drummond, Denise Drummond, Michael Youngquist, Jack and Robbie Shields and Robert Drummond; his sister Janice King, St Louis, MI; his sister-in-law, Virginia Freed of Morrice and many nephews, nieces, cousins and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents and siblings Kenneth, Harold, Gladys Griswold, Harriet Kruger, Paul and Robert. Funeral Service will take place on Thursday, November 8th at 11 am at Lux and Schnepp Funeral Home, Riverdale. Visita-tion will be Wednesday, November 7th from 2 - 4 and 6 - 8pm. Following the Funeral Service he will be laid to rest at Riverdale Cemetery Memorial contributions may be made to Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 14301, Cincinnati, OH 45250 or Leader Dogs for the Blind, 1039

lence for the family please visit: www.luxfuneralhomes.com KUUSISTO, MICHAEL J., Age 62, of Waterford, November Survived by Ruth children, Nicholas, 2012. Kuusisto, children, Kristina and Emily; brothers, Daniel (Kathy) and Peter (Nina); sister, Rachel (John) Weimer; mother in law, Ruth V. Jackson; sister in law, Carolyn Nevin and many nieces and nephews Predeceased by parents, John and Mildred; father in law, James A. Jackson; brother in law, James Jackson Jr. and sister in law, Mary Anne Jackson. Visitation Sunday 2 - 7 pm at Spaulding & Curtin Funeral Directors, 500 W. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale and Monday 10 am until funeral service 11 am at Christ Lutheran Church, 5987 Williams Lake Rd., Waterford. Interment White Chapel Cemetery, Troy. Memorial contributions to Christ Lutheran Church. www.spauldingcurtin.com

Rochester, Rochester Hills,

MI 48307. To view Plym's obitu-

ary online or to leave a condo-

### RAY,

KENNETH W. Nov 8, 2012, Age 94 of Plymouth, formerly of Ypsilanti. Father of Sandra (Rufus) Goins, Sharon McDaniel, Kenneth Jr. (Yvonne), Sharlene Aldrich,

Marcile (Arden) Tegels. Elizabeth (William) Ramsay, Paul (Kathy), William (Pat), Jennifer (Tony) Hall and the late Robert (Trudy Lay). Also survived by over

100 grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren. Memorial Service Mon 11 AM at Ypsilanti Free Methodist Church, 1800 Packard, Ypsilanti. He retired from Ford Motor Co in 1983 after 46 years of service. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

#### LEUNG, **DANIEL MANKAY**

Suddenly Nov 6, 2012 age 28 of Canton. Beloved son of Roger and Grace Leung. Dear brother of Megan Karen Leung. Dear Grandson of Pik-wan Shum Leung, and Mr. & Mrs. Pak Sue Tom. Daniel was an intern with the United Way of Washtenaw County. He also worked in the local film industry, working towards his dream of becoming a movie director. He was an accomplished Badminton player and coach, who won many Badminton titles. His family will gather with friends Sun 4 PM until the 4:30 PM

Memorial Service at 7575 N. Hix Rd, Westland. Memorial contributions may be made to United Way of Washtenaw Co., 2305 Platt Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48104. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com



MIDDLEBROOK. JACK D.

Nov 7, 2012 age 65 of Westland Beloved husband of Marcia. Cherished son of Dorothy Plonte. Loving father of Yvonne (Matthew) Pintar, Michelle (Patrick) Kelm, and Stephanie (Joe Guel) Hillier. Proud Poppa of Korinn, Valarie, Shayna, Julia, Raquel, Kristina, and Joelle Dear brother of Charles (Judi) Middlebrook, Kenneth (Jeanne) Middlebrook and Roger Plonte. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Visitation Mon 2-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Rd., (btwn Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth with a Funeral Service Tues 11 AM. Interment United Memorial Gardens. Memorials may be made to UofM Hospital - Surgical ICU, or Palmer Rd. Baptist Church. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com



### TULLOCH, JR.

WILLIAM WALLACE Passed away peacefully Nov. 8, 2012 at Hiland Cottage Hospice in Petoskey, Michigan. Bill was born in Racine, WI. Aug. 15, 1930 the son of W. Wallace and Mildred (Sorenson) Tulloch and resided there until 1960 when he moved his family to the Detroit area and began a 38 year career with RHM Fluid Power, Inc. He served as President & CEO until his retirement. Bill was also a charter member and past president of the Fluid Power Distributors Association. After retirement, Bill and his wife Margaret moved to Harbor Springs, MI. He enjoyed golf, skiing, jazz and travelling with his friends. He was a member of the Country Club of Boyne and an active member of First Presbyterian Church of Harbor Springs.

He is preceded in death by his beloved wife of 51 years, Margaret (Ubbesen) Tulloch, his sister Lois Meekma and his parents. He is survived by his five children: Susan (Emil) Muccino of St. Louis, MO., William (Joyce) Tulloch III of Plymouth, MI., Robert (Gloria) Tulloch of Val-paraiso, IND, Julianne (Wade) Singler of St. Joseph, MI., (Kevin) Heitman of Milford. 12 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and many loving friends. Funeral services will be held on Monday Nov. 12th at 11:00 AM at the First Presbyterian Church in Harbor Springs. Pastor James Pollard will be the officiant. Visitation will be held at Schiller Funeral Home of Harbor Springs on Sunday Nov. 11th from 5-8:00 PM. The family suggests that memo-

in his name to First Presbyterian Church of Harbor Springs or to Hospice of Little Traverse Bay. Online condolences may be made at www.stonefuneralhomeinc.com

rial contributions may be made

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



PARRISH. ALLEN K.

Allen Parrish, known in his early years as the "Country Boy Auto Ambassador" and "Mr. Automotive", died November 6th at the age of 96 ½ at home in Hobe Sound, Florida, surrounded by his family, after a long and valiant struggle with cancer. Formerly of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, he was preceded in death by his wife of 67 years, Vivian Knutson Parrish. Allen was born in Humphreys County, Tennessee to Zetta Belle and Isaac Parrish, a circuit riding Presbyterian preacher. He is survived by his three daughters: Sandra Ebling (Walter) of Bloomfield Hills, Mi., Karen Brown (Bill) of Springfield, Va., Sonja Kropff of Hobe Sound, Fl., seven grandchildren, thirteen great-grand-children and his 101 year old brother, Ike, of Mesa, Az . Al loved sales and eventually formed Parrish Products, a worldwide distributor of radio controlled garage doors. He worked his way up in the automotive business and was instrumental in the development of innovations, such as the power steering pump for his company, Federal Industries. TRW, Inc.,the automotive and aerospace company, acquired his company, where Al ultimately became vice president in charge of worldwide automotive customer requirements. During his more than 40 years of service with TRW and its predecessor companies, he was universally respected by his peers, who honored him by electing him Chairman of the Automotive Hall of Fame. He was active in his community and churches. He was a former member, elder and one of the founders of Camp Skyline, part of the First Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, Michigan. Allen was also a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Tequesta, Florida and Spruce Presbyterian Church of Spruce, Michigan. He was a member of the Birmingham 44 Masonic Lodge, Detroit Moslem Shriners and former life member of Oakland Hills Country Club in Birmingham, Michigan. Al also served as President of Lost Lake Woods Club in Lincoln, Mi. He loved his family, proud of his country heritage, enjoyed his life in the automotive world, worldwide travels and hunting and fishing, but to him there was nothing like spending time at his ranch in northern Michigan. He loved his horses and spent his earlier years riding in horse shows and leading parades, In his retirement years, he enjoyed riding the horses around the ranch and watching the thousands of trees grow that were planted on his tree farm. Allen had a demeanor of a true gentleman, at ease with his accomplishments and generous spirit. He will be missed by his family and friends. A Celebration of His Life will be held at a later date in Tequesta, Florida and Spruce, Michigan. Memorial donations may be made to Kristi's Christmas (in memory of Allen's late granddaughter), West Spring-field Rotary Foundation, P.O. Box 2097, Springfield, Va.,

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

22152. In lieu of flowers Camp Skyline, 1669 W. Maple, Bir-mingham, MI 48009.



LILLIAN R.

Lifelong resident of Birmingham. Beloved wife of the late Carl Spencer Peck. Beloved mother of Lori & Steve and grandmother of Mark, Amy, Brian & Ryan, great grandmoth-er of Lola. Passed away October 14, 2012, She was 85. For over 30 years, served as executive director of the non-profit, Birmingham Day Care Center. She was passionate about giving back & helping others in need



RIBAR, **GERALDINE MAY** 

Age 82, November 2, 2012. Beloved wife of the late Joseph James Ribar. Loving mother of Joseph (Crystal), Leonard (Jennifer), David (Vicki) and Daniel (Sheila). Loving grandmother of Candice, Matthew (Monika), Andrew, Kristopher, Dan, Alison and Mollie. Dear sister of Fern and the late Joan and David. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. A Memorial Service for Geraldine was held Wednesday, November 7th at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home in Livonia.

Share a memory of Geraldine with her family at www.rggrharris.com

### ROSSO,

**ABBEY LEE** Aged 53, died September 30, 2012 at her home in Bend, Oregon, after a courageous battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease). Abbey was a 1977 graduate of Seaholm High School. She went on to receive a Bachelor of Science from Cornell University, a Masters Degree from Scripps Institute of Oceanography-UC San Diego and a PhD in Botany from Oregon State University with a specialization in lichens Abbey was an active outdoor enthusiast, adventurer, and envi-ronmental advocate. She also pursued interests in ceramics and the healing arts. She was preceded in death by parents, John and Carol Rosso. Abbey is survived by siblings, Sarah (Peter) McCaughey and John (Kate) Rosso, close friend, Jim Davis, and nieces and nephew, Emily, Jennifer and Caitlin Rosso and Andrew and Laura McCaughey. Contributions can be made in Abbey's name to Oregon Natural Abbey's name to Oregon Desert Association, 50 SW Bond, Bend, OR 97702 or Steamboaters, PO Box 176, Idleyld Park, OR 97447



Passed away on November 2,

2012 at the age of 82. Donald was the beloved husband of Marylyn for 58 years. Loving fa-ther of Paul, Mike (Loretta), Kathleen (Michael) Gehring, and Karen (Nelson) Yanick. Cherished grandfather of Brett and Kelly Yanick and Derek and Kendra. Also survived by sisters Jeanne Buel and Alice. Preceded in death by 2 brothers and 4 sisters. Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Redford. Please share a message with the family at: www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

### **Puth Plew** 10/27/1911 ~ 11/6/2012

DESCENDANT OF THOSE WHO JOURNEYED ON THE MAYFLOWER arest Ruth Plew, We will remember you.

'our gift of script, art and storytelling...You nthusiasm for life...Your New England stoc visdom...Your utterly sweet friendship. You touched our hearts in countless ways.



#### **Bruce-Lechner**

Holly Rose Bruce and Aaron Nicholas Lechner were married Sept. 7, 2012 at Guardian Angels Catholic Church in Clawson. Rev. Gerard LeBoeuf officiated.

The bride, daughter of Stephen and Carol Ann Bruce of Farmington Hills, is a 2003 graduate of Farmington High School and a 2007 graduate - with a BS degree in brain behavior and cognitive science - of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. In 2008 she also earned a degree in nursing from Loyola University. She is employed as a registered nurse by William Beaumont Hospital.

The groom, son of Daryl and Marie Lechner of Chesaning, is a 2002 graduate of Lapeer East High School and a 2008 graduate of Kettering University with a BS degree in engineering. He is employed as an engineer at Meritor.

Heather Bruce Boran, sister of the bride, served as matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Ashley Bruce, sister-in-law of the bride, and Stefanie Gilbert, Brittany Nuccitelli, Anne O'Rear and Clara Seymour, all friends of the bride.

Stephen Strong, friend of the groom, served as best man. Additional attendants were Eric Bruce, the bride's brother, Corey Lechner and Elliott Lechner, the groom's brothers, Neil Lechner, the groom's cousin, and Lewis Strong, friend of the groom.

A reception was held at Petruzzello's in Troy. The couple took a honeymoon trip to Costa Rica and have made their home in Clawson.

### **RELIGION CALENDAR**

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

### November

### **BOOK SIGNING**

Time/Date: Noon-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24 Location: A. Mateja Church Supply, 30762 Ford Road, Garden City

**Details:** Pro-life activist Monica Migliorino Miller will sign her book, "Abandoned." The book is a first-hand account of the pro-life movement and includes stories of victory and defeat in sidewalk counseling, a look at the inner-workings of abortion facilities, and more. The book will be available for \$22, a

discounted price Contact: (734) 513-2950

### **BREAKFAST**

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 18

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

Details: All-you-can-eat pancake, French toast, scrambled eggs, applesauce, ham, sausage, coffee, tea and milk. Adults pay \$3; children, 2-10, pay \$1.50. Sponsored by St. Theodore Men's Club

#### Contact: (734) 425-4421 **CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE** Time/Date: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 17 Location: Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Vendors, crafters, and prizes. The \$1 admission includes a chance on door prize of your choice. Profits from admission, food sales and 20 percent of vendor/crafter sales goes to our Kids' Hope USA Program, benefiting Livonia School children.

Contact: (734) 427-1414

### **CLOTHING BANK**

Time/Date: 5-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14 and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24 **Location:** Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty, Canton Details: Free clothing and

shoes to anyone in need Contact: (734) 927-6686 or (734) 404-2480

### A Heart of Remembrance



Arbor Hospice is selling felt hand-stitched hearts — perfect for holiday ornaments — for a suggested donation of \$25 to the Arbor Hospice Foundation. For more than 20 years, Arbor Hospice volunteers have created thousands of Hearts of Remembrance, featuring a new design each year. All Hearts of Remembrance donations directly support Arbor Hospice's work in providing quality care and grief support services to thousands of patients and families. Hearts of Remembrance are available at www.arborhospice.org, by calling (734) 794-5120 or by visiting The Residence of Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Drive Ann Arbor. Arbor Hospice offers hospice services, an inpatient hospice facility, grief support services and community education programs. Its offices are in Plymouth, Ann Arbor, Monroe, and Woodhaven.

### Quit smoking with tips from **American Cancer Society**

The American Cancer Society is encouraging smokers to snuff out those cigarettes, cigars and pipes during its 37th Great American Smokeout on Thursday, Nov. 15.

An estimated one billion people worldwide will die during the 21st century because of tobacco use, according to The Tobacco Atlas, published by the American Cancer Society and World Lung Foundation.

Tobacco use accounts for at least 30 percent of all cancer deaths and 80 percent of lung cancer deaths. In the U.S., tobacco use is responsible for nearly one in five deaths, or about 443,000 premature deaths each year. An estimated 600,000 people die annually because of secondhand smoke.

Smokers who quit, regardless of age, live longer than people who continue to smoke. In just 20 minutes after quitting smoking, heart rate and blood pressure drop. In approximately one to nine months after quitting, coughing and shortness of breath also decrease.

Setting a "quit date" is the first step toward stopping smoking for good. The American Cancer Society suggests that smokers pick a date this month — such as the Great American Smokeout on Nov. 15 — that will give them enough time to prepare a quit plan but not enough to back out. The Society also recommends that tobacco quitters tell their friends and family members about their plan, so they can offer support and hold the smoker accountable.

A free Smokeout countdown clock is available for download from cancer.org/smoke-

Here are other tips for quit-



ting from the American Cancer Society:

• Make a plan. Successfully quitting is a matter of planning and commitment, not luck. Many smokers prefer to quit cold turkey on their quit day, while others try to smoke fewer cigarettes leading up to their quit day to slowly reduce the amount of nicotine in their body and reduce withdrawal symp-

Decide what works best for you, whether it's nicotine replacement or other medicines, joining a stop-smoking class, going to Nicotine Anonymous meetings, using selfhelp materials such as books and pamphlets, or some combination of these methods.

• Small steps. Once your plan is in place, start working on small changes like discarding cigarettes and ashtrays in your home and car, stocking up on oral substitutes like sugarless gum and hard candy or carrot sticks, and practice saying, "No thank you, I don't smoke."

when offered a cigarette. Set up a support system through a group program or a friend or family member who has successfully quit and will help you through the difficult

• Quit day. Don't smoke on your quit day. Keep your mind and body occupied by exercising or losing yourself in an enjoyable hobby, and avoid situations where the urge to smoke is strong. You may need to change up your routine by taking a different route to work, eating breakfast in a different place, or eating different foods. It will take time to unlink smoking from your daily activities, and even if you are using a nicotine replacement you may still have strong urges to

• Avoid rationalizations. "I'll have just one cigarette to get me through this situation" ... "Everyone dies of something" ... "How bad is smoking, really?" Write down rationalizations as they come up and recognize them as messages that can trick you into going back to smoking. Be ready with a distraction to redirect your thoughts to something else.

• Bounce back from slips. A slip is a one-time mistake that is quickly corrected; a relapse is going back to smoking. While it may be tempting to use a slip as an excuse to go back to your old ways, you also can look at what went wrong and renew your commitment. Use what you learn from the slip to make a stronger quitting attempt next time.

For more information on the Great American Smokeout visit cancer.org/smokeout or call (800) 227-2345.

Westland's second annual All American Blues Brews & BBQ was a resounding success! Without question, the special performance by hometown American Idol finalist and country music star Josh Gracin, made the second Blues, Brews & BBQ memorable. We were grateful to have had several of the areas hottest blues bands together at one event and boy did their fans love BBQ as all participating restaurants reported record sales.

Blues Brews & BBQ, which is quickly becoming Westland's signature event, was successful because of the support of our sponsors, vendors and event goers. This year's event donated \$17,500 back to the local community organizations that donated their time to staff the event bringing the event's two year donation to almost \$30,000. Over 100 volunteers from 13 different organizations generously gave of their time and played an integral part in its success.

Simply, Blues, Brews & BBQ would not have been possible without our sponsors, the Blues bands, the participating restaurants and everyone who came out and took part in all of the fun! Thank you and see you next year!!!

2012	<b>FINANCIAL</b>	SUMMARY	TO THE	COMMUNITY

\$66,000.00

\$27,608.95

\$431.00

GHUSS INCOME:	\$94,039.95
Expenses	\$73,556.65
Net Income:	\$20,483.30
2012 Non-Profit Donation:	\$17,500.00
Net Reserve for	
2013 Brews Blues & BBQ	\$8,076.37
Donations Made to Local Non-Profi	t Organization
Salvation Army-Westland	\$250.00
Westland Grange	\$250.00
Warm Hearts	\$500.00
Westland Jaycees	\$1,000.00
Westland Community Foundation	\$1,000.00
Westland Civitans	\$1,000.00
Westland Firefighters Public Awareness	\$1,000.00
Westland Rotary	\$1,000.00
Westland Historical Commission	\$1,500.00
Westland Goodfellows	\$1,500.00
Westland Lions Club	\$1,500.00
Westland Chamber of Commerce	\$7,000.00
Total Amount Donated	\$17,500.00

Starting Balance: Sponsorship Income:

Car Show Donation:

Event Income:

**Total Event Donations to Date** \$28,000.00

Advertisement/Promotion: Radio Ads

\$7,500.00 Posters and Graphic Design \$2,330.05 Banners and Signage \$2,167,70 Entertainment: Bands \$15,500.00 \$9,200.00

\$2,220.00

\$1,458.08

\$1,000.00

\$3,617.61

Stage & Sound \$1,200.00 Emcee Rentals: \$2,677.50 Tents/tables/chairs \$1,750,00 Restrooms

Generator/Insurance Fencing Installation/Removal

Payout to Restaurants Lodging Postage/Mailing Souvenirs Volunteer Shirts

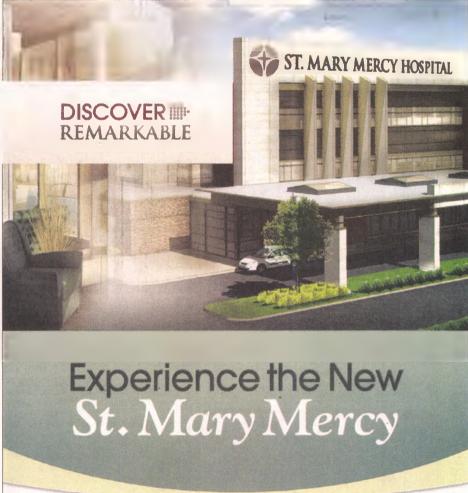
**Police Protection** 

Total of all Expenses =

vw.cityofwestland.com

\$14,909,30 \$381.22 \$427.55 \$4,030.00 \$1,397.00 Insurance/License \$1333.00 \$154.40 Credit Card Charges \$99.00 \$204.24 \$73,556.65





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At St. Mary Mercy Livonia, we're re-inventing the way you and your family experience a hospital stay with our new three-story addition that boasts a state-of-the-art Emergency Center and two floors of 80 total private patient rooms.

Our spacious patient rooms incorporate natural healing elements, while allowing for technological advancements and plenty of room to accommodate visitors, and even overnight guests.

We've doubled the size of our Emergency Center with over 50 specialized treatment rooms that are separated by walls - not curtains - so our patients will experience more privacy, in addition to less wait time.

We're transforming the future of healthcare by combining medical excellence with the latest technology and unparalleled compassion. And soon after the opening of the new addition in our south wing, we are renovating our north wing patient rooms to private.

Experience the new St. Mary Mercy.

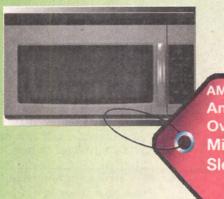
stmarymercy.org



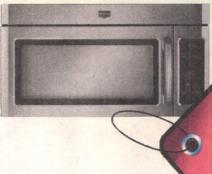


Nov. 16 & 17

### Pre BLACK FRIDAY In the Kitchen BARGAINS



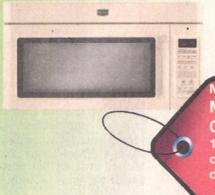
MV1150VAS Amana 1.5 cu. ft. Over-the-Range Microwave Oven Sleek silhouette, hidden vent



IMV1164WS

Maytag 1.6 cu. ft.

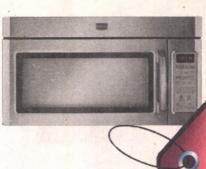
Over-the-Range Microwave Over 220 CMF venting system, 100 watts. auto reheat, mesh grease filter



MV5208WQ

Maytag 2.0 cu. ft.

Over-the-Range Microwave Over 1000 watts, touch electronic controls, stainless steel interior digital display



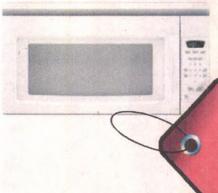
1MV5208WS

Maytag 2.0 cu. ft.

Over-the-Range Microwave Over Stainless steel, 1000 watts, touch electronic controls, digial display

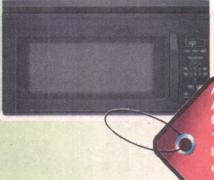


Maytag 2.0 cu. ft. Combination Range Hood Microwave Oven 1100 watts, four-speed 300 CFM venting system, 10 p



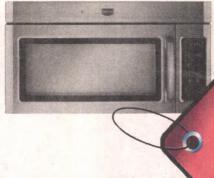
kmana 1.5 cu. ft. Microwave Auto defrost and auto cook options hidden vent, lockout feature,

1,000watts cooking power



AMV1150VAB Amana 1.5 cu. ft. Over the Range Microwave Oven 1000 cooking watts, 10 power levels, two-speed fan/220 CFM exhaust hood

IN-STORE PRICING!



Maytag 1.6 cu. ft.

Over the Range Microwave Over 220 CFM, venting system, 1000 watts, auto reheat, mesh grease



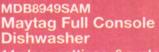
Maytag Full Console Dishwasher

14 place settings, 6 cycles, 6 options, 4-blade hard food disposer steam sanitize

IN-STORE PRICING!

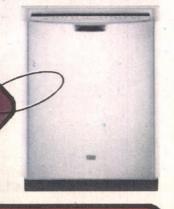


30" Freestanding Electric Range 4 coiled elements, 4.8 cu. ft. manual clean oven, custom broil

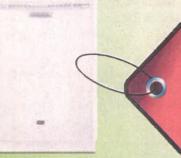


14 place settings, 6 cycles, 6 options, 4-blade hard food disposer, steam sanitize

<u>IN-STORE PRICING</u>



Maytag 21.9 cu. ft. Total Capacity Refrigerator/Freezer 6.3 cu. ft. Freezer, 15.6 cu. ft refrigerator, EcoConserve model, electronic temperature control



Maytag Built-in Dishwasher 24" tall tub, stainless steel interior, sanitize option, oversize capacity

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### Isn't that illegal? How to answer uncomfortable interview questions

Beth Braccio Hering, Special to CareerBuilder

Keeping one's cool when an interview chair turns into a hot seat can be difficult. Here are some examples of zingers thrown at candidates, and how some of them responded:

"My friends and I have been asked several times what we would do if we got pregnant. Our answer: 'I can't have children. I'm infertile.' It always sets the interviewer on his (never asked this by a woman) heels. We decided that in the event that we did get the job and did get pregnant, we would cast it as a 'miracle' - and just be joyous with everyone about the heavenly news!" — Rebecca Raibley, Massachusetts.

"I am a proud American but have a slight accent. When they ask me where I was born and I tell them, they say, 'Oops, we just remembered we have no openings currently.' So I've concluded that answering their illegal guestion will never get me a job, but if I refuse to answer it or tell them it's illegal, that will not get me the job either. Quite a conundrum." — Mo Abraham, St. Louis

"I was asked, 'Isn't [my past boss] a jerk?' Obviously, I wanted to take the high road, and I wasn't sure why the interviewer asked that question. So I responded, 'He certainly makes an impression,' and changed the subject. Since no further questions were asked along those lines, I think it was a test - maybe of quick thinking under pressure, maybe to see if I would dish dirt. Either way, never say anything negative about a past employer." — Marilyn Santiesteban, Boston

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"An interviewer once asked me to which charities I donated. I was uncomfortable with this question, as it seems quite personal. Donations are often based on personal criteria: health experience, politics, religion and other individual ideologies. I don't believe people should be 'qualified' by the groups of their choice." - Lisa Hanock-Jasie, New York City.

"I was asked in an interview once, 'How do you get along with your mother?' I responded, 'If you're trying to find out whether I can work well for a female boss, you can just ask me that. If you were my friend, I wouldn't mind answering. But since this is an interview, I find that question inappropriate." Dez Stephens, Nashville, Tenn.

### Reacting

Coming up with a response isn't always easy when the voice inside you is screaming, "Why the heck is he asking me that?" While panic, anger and confusion are typical responses to uncomfortable questions, checking emotions is crucial to getting the interview back on track. The interviewer may be trying to judge your confidence level and how you handle pres-

Steven Roy Goodman, an educational consultant and

career strategist in Washington, D.C., advises his clients to answer inappropriate interview questions by politely saying, "That question makes me feel a bit uncomfortable. Would you mind if we talked about how specifically I might be able to work with department X of company Y?"

Candidates who have experienced uncomfortable interview questions on a certain topic may wish to practice suitable responses ahead of time. For instance, if a gap in employment seems to be an issue, be ready to talk about the skills you acquired or the contributions you made as a volunteer during that time.

Unfortunately, some interviewers persist in areas they shouldn't.

"Obvious off-limit topics are family situation, age, religion, ethnicity, disability, sexual preference, race or any questions that lead to more knowledge about the candidate through related questions such as, 'Will you need to make any special arrangements for family members should you be hired?' or, 'Have you ever missed work for illness or injury?" says Terry Henley, director of compensation services at Employers Resource Association, a nonprofit serving small and medium-sized businesses in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana.

In this situation, Henley recommends that candidates say that they aren't comfortable discussing the topic and

then think about whether they wish to continue the interview.

"If the applicant is certain that the question is illegal, he can tell the interviewer, understanding that it will probably mean that the interview will end soon and not end up in employment." Filing charges with a state or federal agency is an option if a well-qualified candidate feels certain that the only reason he was denied the position was because of being a member of a protected class, but Henley cautions that "the likelihood for success in filing such a claim in

these circumstances is low."

While candidates have little to no control over what questions an interviewer chooses to ask, they do have power over something important: their own response. So set the tone that you've come to discuss why you're the best person for the job — and nothing else.

Beth Braccio Hering researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues for CareerBuilder. Follow @ Careerbuilder on Twitter.

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SENIOR ACCOUNTANT The senior accountant must have at least three years of experience and will be re-sponsible for planning enanalyzing client internal con

gagements, reviewing and trols and preparing audit pro-grams; identifying and re-solving audit issues and developing a working relation-ship with clients. This person will serve as a mentor to other staff accountants. Applicants should have prior

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- Mole, maybe
- Aurora, to Plato
- Patina 11 Doozie
- 12 Mexican Mrs.
- 13 Curved
- entrance 14 Ran
- 16 Old fogy 17 Cops' rounds 18 Fraught
- 20 Law (abbr.)
- 21 Chianti go-with 23 Snake River
- 26 Volcano
- goddess 27 Ignore 28 Dawn horse
- epoch 31 Pedro's friends 33 Movable stage
- item
- 36 Airborne 38 Nasty!
- 34 Boat mooring
- 35 Birthday count
- - readout

- 41 Walkie-talkie word
- 43 Don Diego masked
- 45 Pool-hall
- triangle
- 47 Shortened 49 Ovid's road
- 50 Prefix for classic 51 Kiki and Joey 52 Flat-topped
- formation 53 Sault Marie

#### 54 Common ID **DOWN**

- Marvelous 2 Request urgently
- 3 Round dwelling
- Va. zone 5 Threat ender (2 wds.)
- 6 Nobelist from
- Egypt 7 Slowly vanish
- 8 Type of board 9 Digital watch

**Answer to Previous Puzzle** 



SETS 10-20-11 @ 2011 UFS, Dist. by Univ. Uclick for UFS

- 10 Electrical unit,
- once Gray wolf
- 15 Rocky
- Mountain tree
- 26 Cheerleader quality
- 27 Not guzzle 28 Ecol. watchdog 29 Internet suffix

19 Leonardo -

Vinci

22 Stein filler

24 Laurel and

Hardy 25 Delts neighbor

- 30 Forces 31 Chatty alien 32 — Gaynor
- 34 Frozen dessert 36 Silver, in chem.
- 37 Bends forward 38 Prevails upon 39 Verdant
- 40 Coal scuttles
- 42 Slimy vegetable 44 Likelihood
- 45 Basketball net supporter
- 46 Had a hot dog 48 Sturgeon delicacy

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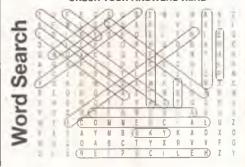
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Aircraft

Airfoil

8 8

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### Car Report

Advertising Feature

### Lincoln's Less-Is-More Strategy Is About To End



By Dale Buss

While waiting for the revival of the Lincoln brand and product line, Ford CMO Jim Farley is starting to talk about Lincoln's bare cupboard as an advantage. At the recent opening of the first fully dedicated

Lincoln Design Studio in 40 years, Farley acknowledged the long quiescence of Lincoln in the U.S. market, which is set to begin to end with the launch of the redesigned 2013 MKZ sedan when it reaches Lincoln dealerships in November.

As it steps up on the design front, the Lincoln brand also is seeing big changes on the marketing front. Ford just reassigned Lincoln's previous CMO, C.J. O'Donnell, to another challenge: overseeing marketing, branding and positioning of Ford's growing stable of electric vehicles.

To quide Lincoln now, Ford just announced a new global management team starring Farley himself. He will add the new job of global leader of Lincoln. Reporting to him will be Matt Van Dyke, who will become head of global marketing, sales and service. He has been director of U.S. marketing communications for the Ford and Lincoln brands.

Lincoln also said that Andrew Frick will become Lincoln group marketing manager on January 1. His current title is general manager of Caribbean and Central America and Asia Pacific export operations and growth.

Farley hadn't been the official head of Lincoln until now, though he had been the guiding force behind the brand's reinvention since Ford killed the Mercury brand at the beginning of 2011. Drawing on his experience developing the Lexus brand during his years at Toyota, Farley has been a prime designer of Lincoln's plan to reinvent itself by offering a new style of customer care based on the service offered at boutique luxury hotels.

And meanwhile, Farley has maintained that Lincoln relative lack of product relevance over the last few years actually has set Lincoln up for a stirring revival, in at least two ways.

First, Farley said, the U.S. "large-sedan market has literally dropped in half in just a few years. In that way, Lincoln is fortunate - maybe even lucky," he told attendees upon the center's unveiling. What Farley meant is that in its product and brand revival, Lincoln will be able to avoid much concern about big sedans, traditionally a major segment, and focus instead where the luxury brand is vibrant in these days, in smaller and fuel-efficient yet still well-appointed new models.

Indeed, the new MKZ, with radically new styling including a "spread-eagle" grille style, is intended to kick off a Lincoln renaissance that will include four brandnew vehicles by 2015. "Our ambition is not to be No. 1 [in volume] but to be a different kind of brand," Farley said. "An alternative choice for a personalized product, human and warm, not cold, not type A ... an affordable luxury sedan that [doesn't] feel like everyone else's."

Along with products that hit the new expectations in the premium segment, Farley said, Lincoln will bring an enhanced experience in its dealerships -- something that most other luxury marques already are moving toward.

"It's not about being a big-box retailer with a cappucino machine and 100 people waiting in the lounge, but to be more personal," Farley said. "Think of your neighborhood tailor."

> However, before he can deploy Lincoln's lineup of new products, Farley also has to be concerned about continued erosion of the brand because of its persistent difficulties with MyLincoln Touch. Largely as a result of the company's continued difficulties with the system, Lincoln dropped to third-

from-the bottom in Consumer Reports magazine's new listing of predicted reliability - just ahead of Ford, which similarly is struggling with MyFord Touch.

The new 2013 Lincoln MKZ will launch the brand's new-product parade.

The magazine scored Ford and Lincoln for continuing to struggle to overhaul what are essentially second-generation versions of Sync. The company keeps adding MyLincoln Touch and MyFord Touch to more new vehicles even though its new-car buyers have indicated tremendous confusion and frustration with the design and operation of the systems.

The second reason that Farley likes the timing for gearing up the "new" Lincoln is that Ford has said it plans to introduce the brand to China by the end of 2014.

"Chinese consumers want to know about your brand's history and authenticity," Farley said. For more Chinese buyers of luxury autos these days, "It's more for them than about showing off. In China, we can think about delivering the kind of service and an auto brand that fits that [context] from scratch."



Lincoln has just opened its first dedicated design studio in decades.

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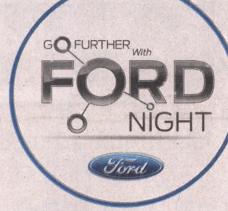


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Featuring: Leather,

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with My Ford, Chrome

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