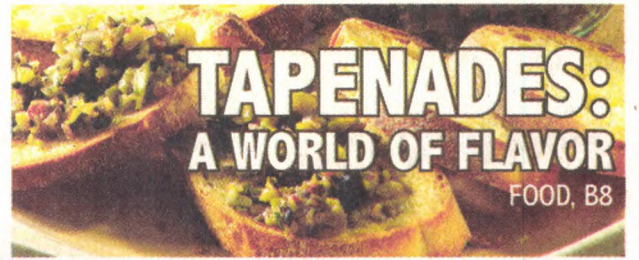




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Easter excitement



Some wag got in the first April Fool's Day joke by placing this sign in Kellogg Park early Monday.

'Fool'ish prank

April Fool's Day hijinks got an early start in Plymouth Monday. Passers-by saw a real estate sign announcing Kellogg Park, the centerpiece of the downtown Plymouth landscape, was for sale. The sign touted "16 ex-tremely prime real-estate" as being for sale, and provides a name and contact number for the purported agent. A quick call to Plymouth City Manager Paul Sincok confirmed what most people obviously would already know. Kellogg Park is not for sale.

On the loose

An international criminal is loose in Plymouth with a briefcase full of cash and plans to exchange the cash for valuable goods somewhere downtown. It is now the mission of a "volunteer FBI Unit," to determine who needs to be met, what needs to be brought and where it needs to be taken in order to save the city. Potential participants can register for "The Exchange," sponsored by the Plymouth Community United Way, 8 p.m. Friday, May 10. It's a crime drama where teams of four try to solve the mystery complete with informants, bad guys and (maybe) explosions. Twenty teams will compete simultaneously. Cost is \$80 per team. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Plymouth Community United Way. Tickets can be purchased by calling (734) 453-6879.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Two-year-old Jake Schultz greeted the Easter Bunny Saturday at the annual Plymouth Township Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored and coordinated by the Plymouth Lions Club. For more on the event, please turn to page A6.

Participation in AP program on the rise

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

More Plymouth-Canton Community Schools students than ever are enrolled in Advanced Placement classes, and a higher percentage than ever are having success in them, according to statistics revealed at a recent Board of Education meeting. Erin MacGregor, the district's director of secondary education, told board members last week that nearly 1,200 students are enrolled in the district's 18 AP courses, a 53-percent jump over the last five years. And of those students, some 90 percent are having success, scoring a "3" or higher on AP exams in those courses. MacGregor said the success rate is more prominent because it's happen-



Todd Maslyk, a 2012 Plymouth High School graduate, was honored by the Board of Education for being named an AP Scholar. With him are board Treasurer Sheila Paton (left) and his parents, Tom and Robin Maslyk of Canton.

ing despite such a large jump in students enrolling. That rate, MacGregor said, is especially high considering both the statewide and global average hovers at or just above the 60-percent mark. "We've had a 90-percent success rate while having a 53-percent increase in

the number of students," MacGregor said. "That's impressive." **Even better** While agreeing it's an impressive statistic, Plymouth-Canton Board of Education Trustee

Please see PROGRAM, A2

Final Four frenzy
Hoop success fuels business

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Plymouth's watering holes will likely score big Saturday night, when the University of Michigan makes its first Final Four appearance in 20 years. The Wolverines' path to the semifinals in the NCAA basketball tournament included an improbable 87-85 comeback victory Friday night over Kansas, a game sent into overtime when Michigan guard Trey Burke hit a 3-pointer with just over four seconds left in regulation. With Michigan State also playing that night (the Spartans lost, 71-61, to Duke), local bars reported booming business, and managers and employees predict the same for Saturday, when Michigan faces Syracuse at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Scott Haarz, of Plymouth, won't be at Hermann's Olde Town Grille, where he's showing off his new Final Four basketball T-shirt, for Saturday's game between the University of Michigan and Syracuse. He'll travel to Atlanta and hopes to see it in person.

Energy flow "People don't want to be at home during those events," Nikki Hermann said as she tended bar Tuesday afternoon at Hermann's Olde Town Grille in Old Village. "There's nothing like being in a bar when the home team wins." "I think all Plymouth will be bustling," said Dave Maasberg, a waiter at Doyle's Tavern on Fralick. "Lot of maize and blue fans out there."

Please see FINAL FOUR, A2

Spending up in city budget plan

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

General fund spending would go up more than 2.5 percent, to nearly \$7.5 million, under a budget plan now in the hands of the Plymouth City Commission. The 2013-14 budget, for the fiscal year that begins in July, was delivered by the city administration at Monday's commission meeting. City Manager Paul Sincok jokingly called the lengthy document "a novel" and "nighttime reading." The plan calls for the levy of a 1-percent "tax administration fee," which would generate about \$200,000, but Mayor Dan Dwyer said that fee is unpopular among commissioners and unlikely to be approved. "There's no interest in increasing a tax without a vote of the people," Dwyer said. Commissioners will review the budget plan during three study sessions later this month, and the public will have a chance to weigh in during a Mon-

Please see BUDGET, A2

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FINAL FOUR

Continued from page A1

Hermann, whose father, Nick, owns Hermann's, is a U-M graduate who majored in psychology. When there's a major athletic event on television, she and others said, the bar is an especially fun place to work.

"You can feel the energy from the customers," Hermann said.

"Everyone gets into it," said Sam Khashan, co-owner, with brother Kevin (an MSU grad), of Sean O'Callaghan's on Penniman.

At the Ironwood Grill on Ann Arbor Trail, where "Friday was amazing," according to Landon Garrett, one of the owners, there are 35 TV sets. Garrett said most of them will be tuned Saturday night to the Michigan-Syracuse contest, with the others also on big sporting events, if there are any.

"At least 80 percent of the TVs would be (on) Michigan," Garrett said. "It's a pretty big game." Garrett expects a big crowd Saturday.

Ticket seeking

At Hermann's, Sean O'Callaghan's and other establishments, workers reported both U-M and MSU fans watching those schools' games at their establishments Friday, many rooting for each other's teams.

"Pretty much, it seemed like everybody stayed for both," said Khashan.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Even Hermann's famous moose is sporting a Michigan jersey as Saturday's Final Four clash with Syracuse approaches.

"I think at this point everybody's just rooting for hometown teams," Garrett said.

Hermann, however, won't be working Saturday — she and mom Sally are heading to Atlanta, where they hope to land Final Four tickets.

Regular customer Scott Haarz, traveling separately, is trying to do the same thing. "I'll figure something out when I get there," he said.

Haarz is a big Wolverines fan and a U-M bas-

ketball season-ticket holder. He didn't go to school there, but said he got the sports fever from his father, who got it from his father.

Hermann's, he said, is a good place to share his love of U-M athletics.

"I've been coming here for 10 years," Haarz said. "I like being around people who are as involved with the game as I am."

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Museum hosts pink tea event

Everything will be pink at the Plymouth Historical Museum during its "Pink Delicious Tea," set for Sunday, May 5.

The event is a tea party for kids, their dolls, and their escorts. Fun activities include a make-and-take craft, dressing up for a glamour photo, and story telling.

The activity time will follow a Victorian-style

tea complete with tea sandwiches and desserts from Joe's Deli. The tea that will be served is "Strawberries & Cream," an herbal tea.

Tickets for the tea are \$25 for one adult and one child and \$13 each for additional people and can be purchased at the Plymouth Historical Museum during open hours or on its website using PayP-

al (http://www.plymouth-history.org/events/Pink-Delicious-Tea_ET710.html?SortBox=201305). Add \$5 to the ticket price after April 22.

Children must be accompanied by an adult. Ticket holders can come at 1 p.m. to enjoy touring the Museum's special exhibit "Made in America." The tea is from 2-4 p.m.

BUDGET

Continued from page A1

day, June 3, public hearing. The commission is scheduled to vote on the budget later during that meeting.

With the plan, the general fund, which is more than one-third of total spending, would go from nearly \$7.3 million in the current budget to almost \$7.5 million. Public safety would get about 56 percent of that, or nearly \$4.2 million. Of that, just over \$3.4 million would go to the police department, while the rest would be budgeted for firefighting and ambulance services.

The general fund also pays for many city administration and public works functions, parks and property maintenance, elections and some capital purchases, among other expenses. The general fund relies heavily on property tax revenue

— projected at nearly \$5 million for the next fiscal year — with state aid sharing, estimated at just over \$800,000, being the second-biggest revenue sources.

The city has separate funds for such services as recreation, water and sewer, street maintenance and improvement and trash and recyclables collection, plus for items like debt service and the Downtown Development Authority. In raw dollars — minus, in other words, transfers between funds — the spending plan totals about \$20 million.

City officials have set a goal of finding ways to pay the future pension costs of retirees who still have a guaranteed defined-benefit pension rather than the defined-contribution system, similar to a 401(k), the city moved to more than a decade ago. Dwyer said commissioners will study the feasibility of selling bonds for those future

costs.

He said the tax administration fee likely won't happen. The idea was also floated last year, when the current budget was being debated, but rejected by commissioners.

The fee of up to 1 percent, allowed by state law, is designed to help with the cost of administering the local taxing system and collecting taxes. It can be applied to the entire tax bill or to parts of it, and it can be levied either on summer bills, on winter bills, or on both.

A 1-percent fee would mean \$40 for the owners of a home with a \$4,000 annual tax bill.

Dwyer has long argued the fee is a tax, as it wouldn't be optional and would be based on a property's value.

"If it looks like a tax and smells like a tax, it's a tax," the mayor said.

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PROGRAM

Continued from page A1

Mark Horvath challenged MacGregor to compare it to more than just the state averages.

"That's great," Horvath said of the performance. "But how are we stacking up against the best?"

AP courses bring college-level curriculum to high school students, increasing the rigor, pace and content of the curriculum, according to MacGregor. The increase in participation, he said, is being driven at least part-

ly by the district's decision to cut back on prerequisites to taking AP courses.

It's a rigorous learning experience that looks good on college applications and provides potential college credits while still in high school.

"AP courses may be the single best way we can offer our students a college experience," MacGregor said.

For instance, senior Angela Sun, one of two Plymouth-Canton students honored by The College Board for AP success, will leave high school

with more than 90 college credits (although her chosen school, MIT, may not accept them, she said).

High success

And 2012 graduate Todd Maslyk — the other PCEP student honored by The College Board — entered the University of Michigan as a first-year student with senior standing after taking 23 AP exams during his four-year career at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, including 16 as a senior.

Maslyk, who said he took the ACT exam without studying and scored a perfect 36, said one might think the high number of students taking AP exams at The Park would dilute the success level, but doesn't.

"We have a high number of students taking AP, so it could detract, but that wasn't my experience," said Maslyk, who is studying chemical engineering at U-M. "The resources at The Park helped me and started me on the road to success."

"Everything about this is great," board Treasurer Sheila Paton said. "I'm really pleased we're opening access to a broader range of students. Colleges are looking for students who have at least one AP course."

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No injuries as cars smash into buildings

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

No one was hurt last week when two women, in separate incidents, each drove a car into an apartment building in the city of Plymouth, according to police reports.

One woman, in her 70s, told police she accidentally put a Chevrolet Malibu in drive and hit the gas pedal while trying to back the car out of a parking space. The other, in her 80s, told

police she didn't know what happened, then later said she may have stepped on the gas on the Buick LaCrosse she was driving. No tickets were issued.

The first incident occurred shortly before 5 p.m. March 26 at an apartment complex on Sheldon near Ann Arbor Road. The driver told a responding officer she was pulling the LaCrosse into a parking space when it continued forward and struck an apartment building. The LaCrosse came to rest

partially wedged inside the building, police said. It had run into the area of a door leading to a common hallway and stairwell; the door, its frame and the brick facade around it were damaged, police said.

The driver was checked for injuries at the scene by an ambulance crew but not transported. The car was towed and the damaged building boarded up.

The second incident occurred at a complex on Plymouth

Road, east of Mill, around 6 p.m. March 28. The driver told police she was trying to back a Malibu out of a parking space, but mistakenly put it in drive, then stepped on the gas while trying to brake it.

The Malibu went down a slight embankment, the police report said, and into an apartment unit, smashing a doorwall and damaging the brickwork around it, plus an air-conditioning unit. The crash also damaged a power line, and elec-

tricity to the building had to be temporarily cut off so the line could be fixed.

No one was at home at the damaged apartment.

A responding officer found the driver, shaken but apparently unharmed, sitting in a lawn chair at the scene, police said. She refused medical treatment.

The Malibu was towed and apartment management notified.

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Ford-to-boulevard idea gains traction

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A proposal to transform Ford Road into a boulevard in Canton is gaining momentum as the Michigan Department of Transportation narrows the list of options to ease traffic congestion along the bustling thoroughfare.

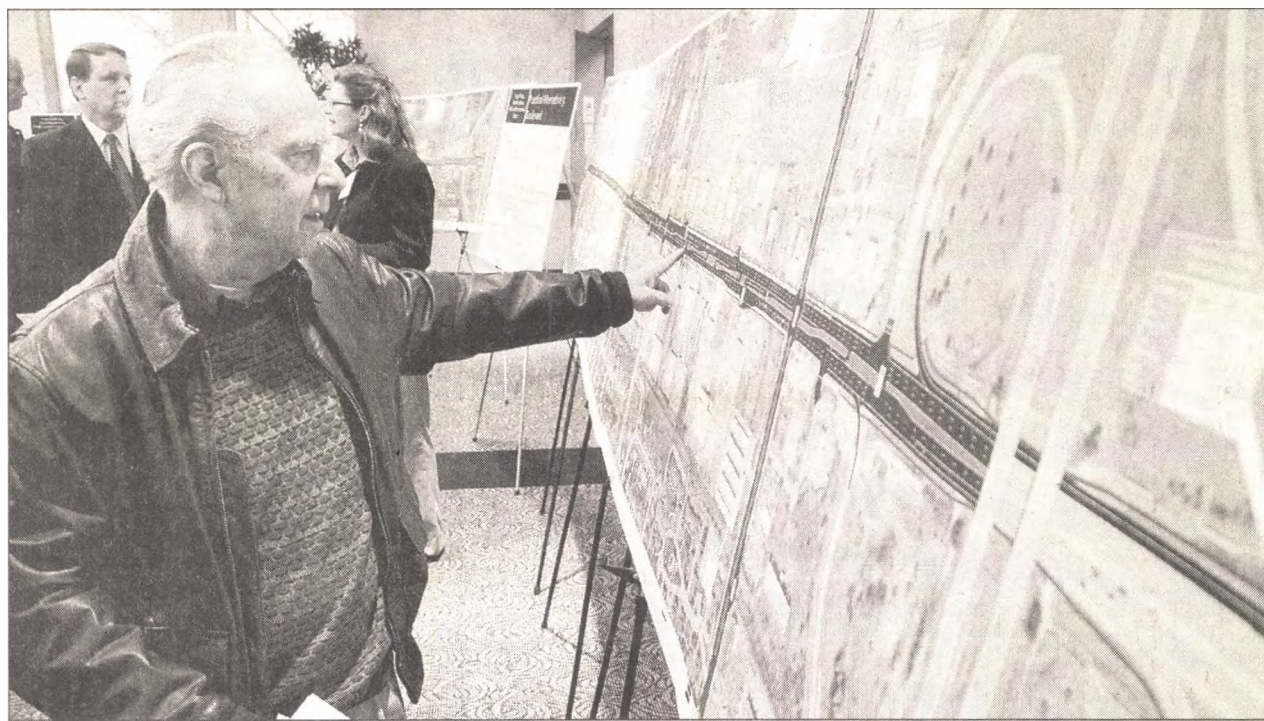
"I think a boulevard is what's going to happen," township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said.

His remarks came as MDOT officials Wednesday evening visited Summit on the Park to gauge public opinion as they inch toward finding a solution to fix one of Michigan's most accident-prone, traffic-clogged roads.

Gorette Yung, MDOT project manager, said public support appears to lean toward the boulevard concept, based on feedback the state has received. The plan also calls for paving Lotz Road from Cherry Hill to Ford.

"The support is very overwhelming from the community," Yung said Wednesday.

A formal decision on a



Resident Frank Tintinalli looks at the plans for Ford Road at an MDOT-sponsored meeting Thursday.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ford Road fix is expected by early to mid-summer, said Matt Wendling, senior engineer for Wilbur Smith Associates, a consulting firm hired by MDOT to spearhead the latest study.

"We are not far from making that decision," he said. Wendling said officials

hope to reach a consensus among MDOT, Canton Township, the local Downtown Development Authority, Westland and federal highway authorities.

Trio of options

"We have to make sure everybody is on board," he said.

MDOT has narrowed down the Ford Road plan to three options:

- Do nothing. Most everyone calls this option unacceptable.
- Adopt a Band-Aid approach by adding a westbound Ford lane from I-275 to Sheldon and an eastbound lane from

Lilley to Haggerty, along with better turn lanes at key intersections.

- Transform Ford Road into a boulevard by adding greenery and landscaping to separate east and west lanes; widening the road to three lanes in certain areas; prohibiting left turns at major intersec-

tions; and installing turn-around lanes similar to those on Michigan Avenue.

MDOT has eliminated other options such as reshaping the I-275/Ford interchange — a plan killed by federal officials — and adding costly new interchanges along the interstate at Cherry Hill and Warren roads.

MDOT and local officials say that leaves the boulevard as likely the best alternative, considering Ford Road in coming years will have to undergo a major reconstruction, regardless.

"If anything, the facts are kind of pointing in that direction because Ford Road will have to be improved anyway," Wendling said.

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, attended Wednesday's forum and said he supports the boulevard concept as long as Lotz Road is paved between Cherry Hill and Ford. Earlier, he had held out hope the I-275/Ford interchange could be altered.

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AROUND PLYMOUTH

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

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 19, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: West Middle School, Ann Arbor Trail and Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: Crafters wanted for Delta Kappa Gamma's 29th Annual Craft Show. Proceeds from the show will be used to support college scholarships for local students focusing on careers in education.

Contact: Call or email Judy at (734) 347-1001 or jbstone716@comcast.net or Alice at 248-348-9610 or dachrenko@hotmail.com

HEISE HOURS

Date: Monday, April 8

Locations/Times: 10-11 a.m., Parthenon Coney Island, 39910 Ford Road in Canton; noon-1 p.m., Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady; 3-4 p.m., Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main.

Details: State Rep. Kurt Heise invites residents to meet with him locally during district office hours on Monday, April 8. No appointment is necessary.

Contact: Residents unavailable to attend who wish to set up an appointment either in the district or in Lansing or speak with Heise can call 1-855-REP-KURT.

BLOOD DRIVE

Date/Time: Thursday, April 11, 11 a.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Location: Gardner White, 39453 Ford Road in Canton

Details: The American Red Cross hosts a blood drive. All presenting donors will be entered into a raffle for a 51-inch HD television to be given away at the drive.

Contact: Sign up at www.redcrossblood.org sponsor code gardnerwhite or call (313) 549-7052 for an appointment.

ROAD RALLY

Date/Time: Saturday, April 27, check-in begins at 3:30 p.m.

Location: Check-in is at Smith Elementary School, 1298 McKinley in Plymouth

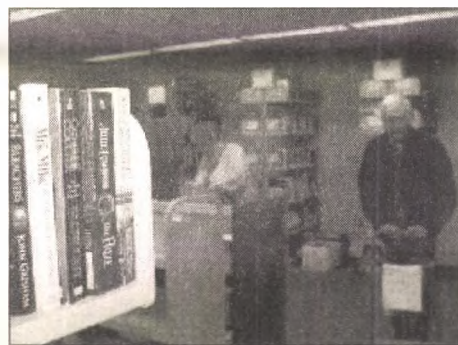
Details: Registration is now open for the annual Plymouth Newcomers and Neighbors Road Rally. Competing teams race around the city solving puzzles, performing activities, and enjoying an evening on the town. The rally ends at a final dinner party location. The rally begins at 4 p.m., and projected arrival time at final destination is 7:30 p.m. Early-bird registration ends April 1, but participants can still register (for \$25) until April 7.

Contact: Pete and Eileen Ganster at (734) 718-4589 or pganster@comcast.net

DRESS SHOPPING

Date/Time: Saturday, April 13, 9 a.m. to noon

Location: Plymouth High School



Garage/book sale

The Plymouth District Library will hold a garage sale 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 5, and 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 6. Library chairs, study carrels and miscellaneous odds and ends will be on sale.

Joining the garage sale will be the Friends of the Library with a giant used book sale. There will be a wide variety of fiction, non-fiction, adult, children, teen and collectible books, video games, DVDs, VHS tapes, music CDs and miscellaneous items that have been donated to the Friends. Special prices for this special sale include 25 cents for paperbacks and 50 cents for hardcover books. Prices as marked for collectible books, DVDs, VHS tapes and music CDs. The library is located at 223 S. Main in Plymouth.

Details: Shoppers can find the "perfect" formal dress, with many long and short dresses from which to choose. There will also be formal shoes and jewelry. Nothing priced higher than \$10. Donations of dresses, jewelry and shoes are accepted from 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. weekdays at Plymouth High School.

Contact: lisa.benages@pccsmail.net

MOM 2 MOM

Date/Time: Saturday, May 4, 8:30 a.m.

Location: St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh in Livonia

Details: St. Edith Church hosts its Mom-2-Mom Sale, with 74 tables of gently-used maternity, baby, and kids' items, a bake sale and refreshments. Proceeds benefit St. Edith/St. Kenneth MOPS.

Contact: www.stekmops.org or on Facebook at St. Edith/St. Kenneth Mom-to-Mom Sale

CRAFTERS WANTED

Date/Time: Sept. 6-8, during Fall Festival hours

Location: Plymouth

Details: Organizers say it's not too early to send in an application for a booth in the Plymouth Fall Festival Craft Show. The spaces are limited and are filling up quickly. Applications are available on the Craft Show page at www.plymouthfallfestival.com.

Contact: For more information contact Colleen Brown craftshow@plymouthfallfestival.com or (734) 455-1614.

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Dance party gets kids, parents excited about school

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

The joint was jumpin', so to speak, as the Walker-Winter school community gathered for a Radio Disney Rockin' Dance Party Open House last week.

The first of two such events the district is hosting, the get-together was designed to introduce the school to parents and their youngsters. While youngsters danced and played games with a Radio Disney DJ, parents had an opportunity to meet the elementary teachers and principals and learn about a variety of programs available in the district.

"We hope to get parents and kids excited about school," district Superintendent Greg Baracy said. "We want them to learn about the building and the quality of the learning experience while having fun."

Walker-Winter in Canton and Hicks Elementary in Inkster were picked to have the 1½-hour dance parties and open houses. The Hicks event will be April 24. The district is making a push to bring families back to the schools.

Wayne-Westland experienced a double-digit enrollment loss at Walker-Winter to a charter school that had opened in southern Canton Township. The staff walked the neighborhoods around the school to pass out papers about the event.

"My daughter is in kindergarten. She insisted on coming," Cheryl Brown-



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Youngsters get into the beat as the dance party gets going.

Deacon of Canton said. "I think it's a well-organized event. It's good exposure for the school and a fun activity for the kids."

In addition to daughter Gabriella, Brown-Deacon brought her 3-year-old daughter Jayden, who will start preschool in the fall.

"I got to go to the classrooms and see different activities I wasn't aware of," Brown-Deacon said.

The event allowed parents to join youngsters

in the school gym for the dance party and then leave to tour the school. Staff members and parent liaisons like Juanita Francis of Westland kept a close eye on the youngsters while their parents toured the building.

"This is awesome," Francis said. "We need something like this at the other schools. We have a lot leaving the schools and we need to get them back. This is a way to get them back."

Parents had a chance to go on a virtual field trip, see some of the technology used in the school district, get information on its K-11 schools of choice and meet the principals from Adams and Marshall Upper Elementary schools.

The district also used the event to promote its talented and gifted program, which is being piloted at Walker-Winter, Adams and Marshall for the 2013-14 school year, and its Spanish language class that will be offered to all elementary and upper elementary students next year.

Representatives from the Oakwood Health Clinic, local public libraries, the district's Family Resource Center, Bright Futures after-school program, PTO and WATCH D.O.G.S. were there as well.

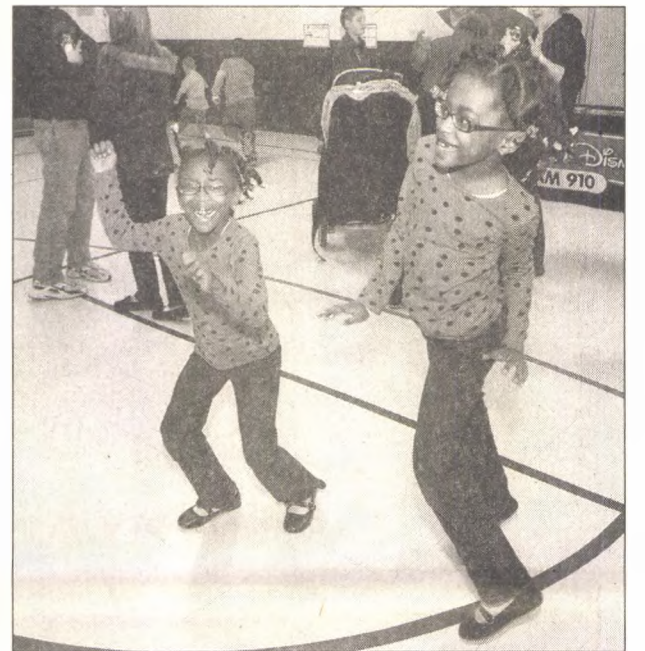
"It's really been well-received. It's been an amazing time," Principal Julie Mytych said. "I hope it's been a learning experience for the parents."

Seven-year-old Christian Brimingham was excited to come to the dance. He'd just gotten his hair cut and was there to see his friend Stephanie. His mother was busy checking out the kindergarten classroom while he was enjoying the dance party.

"He used to go to a uniform school in Southfield. The school didn't have a lot of activities," his mother said. "We came to register during Halloween and he was so excited. I'm glad I brought him here that day. He was so excited, he probably talked about it for a couple of days."

"I think this really good," the Canton resident said. "It brings a lot of families together to meet."

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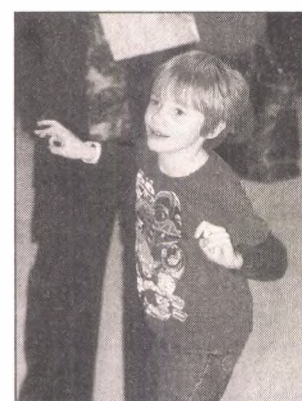
Twin sisters Autumn and Audrie Johnson of Canton dance the night away.



Westland residents Naomi Hughes, Juanita Francis and America Espinoza have a picture taken to document their dance night.



Amaree Hooper and sister Alys Johnson of Westland dance together. Youngsters were treated to a dance party while their parents had an opportunity to learn more about Walker-Winter School and the Wayne-Westland Community School.



Youngsters like Alex Proctor of Canton wore wristbands that were paired with ones worn by their parents.



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CANTON CRIME WATCH

Shipment stolen

A 22-year-old woman notified Canton police to report that her shipment by FedEx of Charlotte Russe clothing and shoes was stolen from her apartment building in Canton Crossings, southeast of I-275 and Joy Road on the township's north side.

The woman had placed a \$169 order that was supposed to arrive Saturday morning. It did, according to FedEx, but she never received it, a police report said.

The woman said FedEx told her the package was left at the bottom of the stairs of her apartment building.

Accident flight

An 82-year-old Canton woman was cited for failing to stop at the scene of an accident after her car apparently struck another vehicle around 12:30 p.m. Monday at a small shopping center northwest corner of Cherry Hill and Haggerty roads, a police report said.

A 43-year-old Garden City woman whose Chevrolet Malibu was struck by a Chevy Cobalt reported the incident. She reported the other driver struck her vehicle and then drove off, but she trailed the suspect to Northwind, a street not far from the scene, the report said.

Police were summoned, and the sus-

pect said she didn't believe she had struck the vehicle, although a police report indicated the car was dented and scratched.

Gun fired

A 69-year-old man who lives on Danbury, southeast of Cherry Hill and Canton Center, notified police after he accidentally fired a round from a .40-caliber revolver he had bought, a police report said. The incident happened about 6:45 p.m. Sunday.

The man told police he had bought the revolver but hadn't yet registered it with the Canton Police Department's records bureau. He notified police after he accidentally fired a round through his bedroom window while trying to secure a safety mechanism on the gun, the police report said. No one was injured.

Identity theft

A 59-year-old Canton woman notified police to report her identity had been stolen by someone who filed a tax return using her personal information.

The victim came to the police station on Canton Center and she said she learned what had happened when she tried to file her taxes through H&R Block. She told police she had been

behind on her taxes from 2010 and had been making payments from her pension check on the 28th of each month.

When she tried to file her latest taxes March 26, she was notified that her taxes already had been filed by someone else who took the remainder of her refund after her back taxes had been deducted, a police report said.

Break-in try

A Canton couple that lives on Paul Revere, southeast of Warren and Morton Taylor, contacted police after someone apparently tried to break into their home through a window of their 6-year-old daughter's bedroom, a police report said.

The couple reported the incident last Thursday morning. The girl's mother reported hearing a loud noise the week before, but she thought it was coming from inside the house. The couple reported the incident after noticing damage to the window.

9-1-1 misuse

Canton Police cited a 40-year-old man for misuse of the 9-1-1 emergency line after he called and made a false report that his 20-year-old son had cut his own wrist, a police report said.

The citation came after the man, apparently intoxicated, had contacted

police several times in reference to his son, the report said.

The incident unfolded in Sherwood Village, a mobile home park southeast of Michigan Avenue and Haggerty Road. An officer had met several times with the father, who was upset that his son was seeing a woman of whom he didn't approve.

In one outing to Sherwood Village, police said the father and the son both were intoxicated. The citation came when the father apparently made a false report that his son had harmed himself.

Stolen car, gun

A man and woman who live on Fordham Circle, northeast of Ford and Morton Taylor roads, told police March 27 they were leaving home for the night because they feared the woman's son might return home with a gun, a police report said.

The couple contacted police to report the woman's vehicle had been taken and the man's .40-caliber pistol also was missing — both, they believed, because of her son, the report indicated.

According to the report, the woman was told by a friend of her son that the handgun had been sold and that the son had gone to South Carolina.

— By Darrell Clem

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Man trashes gas station

A young man, upset at being asked for identification as he tried to buy cigarette rolling papers at a Plymouth Township gas station, damaged property there one afternoon last week, police said.

The vandalism occurred March 26 at the Shell station on Ann Arbor Road east of I-275, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report. The man threw a jug of lemonade to the floor as he left the station, the report said, and the jug split open and spilled. He then went outside and emptied the contents of trash cans onto the pavement, the report said.

The man got into a silver

Chrysler Concorde, driven by a woman, that headed south on Tavistock, the station owner told police. The owner was able to get a license-plate number.

The owner told police he was working behind the counter just before 1:30 p.m. March 26 when the man came in and asked for rolling papers. The owner asked him for identification, but the man couldn't produce any, and instead grabbed a package of rolling papers, threw a dollar bill at the owner and started for the door, the owner said.

The owner said he stepped from behind the counter and grabbed the rolling papers and returned the dollar, and that's when the young man stormed out and threw the jug of lemonade.

An officer went to the address of the Concorde's registered owner, but no one answered the door, police said.

Embezzlement report

An employee at the Busch's Fresh Food Market admitted taking a \$20 bill that a customer had requested through her debit card via the cash-back function at an automated register.

The embezzlement occurred March 26 at the store on Sheldon Road near Five Mile, and management told police the company wants to press charges. The incident was captured on a store security camera.

A manager who saw the recorded incident told police the customer used a self-check-out register to debit purchases

at about 5 p.m. March 26, asking for \$20 in cash back. But she left the money in the machine, the manager said, and the next customer noticed it, took the bill and handed it to a clerk, who put it under a telephone.

About an hour later, the manager said, the same clerk put the bill in one of his pockets.

The customer who had forgotten the money returned to the store to report that and was reimbursed, the manager said, and the store launched an investigation.

The suspect, questioned by a responding police officer, admitted taking the money but said he thought it was no different than finding it on the ground. He also said he was aware of Busch's policy when

it comes to finding money or property.

It was not reported whether the man was still working for Busch's.

Copper theft

Copper tubing was reported stolen Saturday from a lawn-sprinkling system at Prestolite Electric, on Port Street between Sheldon and Beck.

The theft, reported by the human resources manager at the facility, occurred between 5 p.m. March 28 and around 2 p.m. Saturday, a police report said. A length of tubing running from the building into the ground had apparently been cut, police said.

— By Matt Jachman

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth Lions Club members do their best to keep the mob orderly.

Kids flock to egg hunt at township park

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

"If you want to take a picture, do it quickly," Robert Cooney, speaking into a megaphone, urged parents and grandparents Saturday morning as hundreds of children eagerly awaited the Plymouth Community Easter Egg Hunt.

Cooney wasn't kidding. Minutes later, as organizers tried to demonstrate how the egg hunt at Plymouth Township Park would proceed, one group — we aren't naming names, but it reportedly wasn't the children — jumped the gun, and it was off to the races.

The kids, with different age groups on different ballfields, ran toward their targets amid joyful yells and a few tears. It was all over in minutes.

"It's like a flood-gate," Cooney said later, explaining that some mistook the test signal for the real thing. "You've got to let 'em roll."

And roll they did, grabbing up between 5,000 and 6,000 plastic eggshells, many with candy inside but some with slips of paper the kids could redeem for prizes.

"This one's empty. Man, what a bummer!" said Kai Spycher, 7, as he examined his haul with parents Terry and Chie nearby.

The rest of Kai's eggshells, for which he had brought a basket, contained candy. It was the Spychers' first time at the egg hunt; they moved



Matthew Squires, 4 years old, gives dad Chris Squires a hug before the hunt begins.

to the township late last year.

Nearby, Taylor Hendershot, 9, of Canton Township, opened one shell with "small prize" slip in it, plus others with candy.

Taylor said her strategy had been to "run fast ... try to get groups of eggs," and also to scan the territory a second time.

"She was scouting out

the leftovers," said her mother, Angie.

Taylor said she came out to the hunt to have fun. "I haven't done this in a while," she said.

Her mother said Taylor had been to the event when she was much smaller, but Taylor said she couldn't remember that.

Jim and Patricia Soter, on the other hand, have



Two-year-old Jake Schultz checks out his haul after the hunt. Looks like mom, Lori Villar, and dad, Jeff Schultz, have an eye on the goodies, too.



The hunt begins a few minutes early.

been regulars at the hunt for several years. The Plymouth Township residents had five grandchildren there on Saturday.

"We've been doing this ever since the kids started walking," Jim Soter said.

The egg hunt is spon-

sored by the Plymouth Lions Club, which had plenty of volunteers out to direct the event. Busch's Fresh Food Market and Caribou Coffee provided drinks, and the Plymouth Community Fire Department provided the prizes, including a top prize — three were available — of a pizza party with firefighters at a fire station.

"It's a great event for us," said Cooney, the megaphone man.

"This is our most fun project," said Jo Ellen Hincker, the event chairwoman.

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Spotlight Players group puts on 'Barnum'

Spotlight Players, a community theater group based in Canton, presents a production of the musical "Barnum," by Mark Bramble, Michael Stewart, and Cy Coleman. The show will be staged April 19-28 at The Village Theater in Canton.

Wendy Sielaff of Canton directs this production that tells the story of P.T. Barnum (Leo Babcock of Saline), and his conclave of circus acts, assisted by Music Director Richard Alder of Westland and choreographer Jen Beitzel of Northville.

Spanning 45 years, the show covers the dynamic relationship with his wife Charity (Cathy McDonald of Plymouth) as it influences the colorful cast



Spotlight Players present "Barnum" at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton April 19-28.

of characters that would make him a household name, including Joice Heth (Tina Paraventi of Ypsilanti), General Tom

Thumb (Jim Jackson of Westland), Jenny Lind (Rebecca Winder of Livonia), and of course James Bailey (Jeff Foust of Can-

ton), with whom P.T. Barnum eventually forms the famous circus.

Barnum himself narrates the show, telling the audience a bit of his life story and the art of humbug.

Babcock, an architect in Saline and veteran performer, remarks that, "Of the 100 different shows I have performed in, 'Barnum' ranks among my favorites," said Babcock, an architect and veteran performer. "P.T. Barnum is truly a complex character to play. From a struggling showman to a successful entrepreneur, Barnum rides a roller coaster from financial ruin to fame and influence. With the steady support of his wife Charity to anchor him through

the pain of midlife crises and tests of his fidelity, his zeal for life is inspiring. It is a powerful and greatly satisfying character to portray."

Foust ("Ringmaster/Bailey"), a full-time dad to a new baby boy, relates to Barnum on a personal level.

"Barnum had a dream that didn't fit with the life everyone else was telling him to lead, but he never let those dreams go and even though he failed a few times, he persevered and created 'The Greatest Show on Earth!'" Foust said. "I have wanted to do this show since college and this is the first time I have seen a theatre produce it. I feel so lucky that it is being pro-

duced right in my own back yard."

Cathy McDonald, a teacher in Plymouth, plays Charity.

"It's really fun and exciting to be part of a show that not many people know, but those who do, love," McDonald said. "I can't wait for those who are unfamiliar with Barnum to come and see why everyone loves it. It's got really great music, circus performers, and we have an incredibly talented cast."

Tickets range from \$13 to \$16, and are available through The Village Theater, by calling (734) 394-5300, or by going to the Spotlight Players' website www.spotlightplayersmi.org.

PCAC exhibit features art done by Girl Scouts

The Plymouth Community Arts Council announced its April 2013 front-wall exhibit, "Sisterhood," featuring collage, photography and drawing pieces in the show made by Northville-based Girl Scout Cadet Troop 40844.

There are 23 seventh-through ninth-graders in the troop, from Northville High School, Our Lady of Victory, Hillside and Meads Mill Middle Schools in Northville, St. Mary's Monroe and St. Michael's Livonia.

An opening reception is being planned by the troop and will be held Sunday, April 14, from 2-4 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

From Troop leader Christina Kowalczyk: "The troop chose the theme of Sisterhood for their art show because they are currently working on their Sisterhood Journey," troop leader Christina Kowalczyk said. "This is the first step toward getting their Gold Award, which is the highest award in Girl Scouting - equivalent to the Boy Scout Eagle Award. It also ties into one of the Girl Scout laws, 'Be A Sister to Every Girl Scout.' We are excited to be working with Exhibit Director Lisa Howard and thank the PCAC for this opportunity."

The exhibit experience also ties in to the future plans of this group. The girls are planning a trip to Europe in 2015. They will be traveling through England, France and Italy, and one of their major stops will be at the Louvre in Paris.

Invitations and posters announcing the exhibit and reception feature "SheArt" by Kate Cox, an affirmation collage and mixed media composition on canvas that contains the words, "she knew she could conquer the world."

Two teams of cadets will be helping to hang the exhibit, and also receive art entries for the PCAC's fourth annual Open Juried exhibit featured in the PCAC Main Gallery through the month of April.

For more information about the Plymouth Community Arts Council and upcoming events, please visit www.plymoutharts.com.

Nankin Mills to host war talk

The talk will turn to war - the War of 1812 - when military historian Daryl A. Bailey speaks at a Friends of Nankin Mills adult local history program Saturday, April 16, at Nankin Mills.

Bailey, the vice-president of the Friends of Nankin Mills will present an historical talk, entitled The War of 1812: The Western Frontier, at 1 p.m.

"The War of 1812 is

a perfect example of how war is not an isolated event," said Bailey whose will discuss events leading up to the war, especially on the frontier where Native Americans battled American settlers. He will reveal the role previous wars, such as the French and Indian War, played into the resulting conflicts and cite several battles to illustrate this point.

Bailey and his wife,

Sherrye, are the co-authors of the Arcadia book Images of America: Westland. He also has written articles for Time Illustrated: America's Civil War and The Blue and Gray magazines.

The talk will be presented at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Call (734) 261-1990 to pre-register. Refreshments will be provided.

Concert takes aim at childhood hunger

The Birchler family hosts its sixth annual "Jammin' to End Famine" concert to benefit Kids Against Hunger Friday, April 26, at Marian High School auditorium.

Kids Against Hunger is a nonprofit organization with the mission to significantly reduce the number of hungry children in the U.S., and to feed starving children throughout the world.

The show begins at 7 p.m. and will showcase three acts, each featuring members of the Birchler family.

"The need for nourishing meals here in Michigan, as well as in places like Haiti, is just staggering," big brother Dave Birchler said.

Concert organizer Tom Birchler said he was

"very impressed" with Kids Against Hunger after participating in a mega-packaging event in Okemos, where 800 volunteers assembled 110,000 meals.

The concert, the Birchlers said, gives people of all ages the opportunity to "let loose and enjoy music and dancing" in a casual atmosphere. John Birchler, past-president of the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth, will open the show as a member of the a capella vocal jazz group The Grunions. Sixties rock band The Paisley Fogg (featuring Tom, Keith and Dave Birchler) will start with an acoustic set. Jim Birchler, with high school band mates Moose Wampler and The Over-

days reunite to play 50's rock-and-roll.

Kids Against Hunger works with churches and local nonprofits to package its specially formulated rice-soy casserole for delivery in the U.S. and more than 40 countries to feed starving children and their families. Since 2008, "Jammin' to End Famine" has raised the funds for more than 75,000 of those meals.

"Our concert is a very fun way to help us continue this effort," John Birchler said.

Marian High School is located at 7225 Lahser in Bloomfield Hills. Tickets (\$10 for students, \$25 for adults) are available at the door or in advance by emailing Tom Birchler at tbirchler@mi.rr.com or calling (248) 722-1820.



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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Montessori open house

Plymouth-Canton Montessori School, located at 45245 Joy Road in Canton, hosts a Spring Open House from 1-3 p.m., Sunday, April 14. Families interested in enrolling children in preschool or kindergarten programs are invited to attend. Teachers and staff will be available to provide classroom tours and answer questions. Children are welcome, and light refreshments will be served.

"This is an excellent opportunity for parents and grandparents to learn more about our Montessori programs and materials that are specially designed for this age group," said Linda Myers, the school's administrator.

For additional information about the Open House on April 14 and programs available at PCMS, call 734-459-1550 or visit www.pcmontessori.org.

Painter's palate

Vintner's Canton Winery and D&M Art Studios invite painters to discover their inner artist at "The Painter's Palate," with Sharon Dillenbeck, owner/director of D&M Art Studios in Canton, as the resident artist.

The painting adventures will be offered Tuesdays during April and May. Dillenbeck is an award-winning artist who frequently exhibits throughout southeastern Michigan and is an active member of Canton Project Arts Council, Plymouth Community Art Council, Three Cities Art Club and the Canton Liberty Fest Fine Arts Festival.

Check Vintner's Canton Winery's website at www.vintnerscanton.com for the complete schedule, or visit the Facebook pages at Vintners Canton Winery or D&M Studios website at dmarktstudio.com.

Lake Trust investment

Lake Trust Credit Union announced plans to build a new \$30 million headquarters on approximately 17 acres adjoining U.S. 23 just north of I-96 near Brighton. Lake Trust is also committed to expanding the credit union's retail network throughout Michigan, including in Lansing and Plymouth. Lake Trust plans to invest a total of \$40 million in Michigan over the next five years.

"We're excited to make this announcement about our new headquarters and future investments in Michigan," said Lake Trust president and CEO David Snodgrass. "The Brighton property we intend to purchase and develop is real-



Ben Groves, 5, is among the students at Plymouth-Canton Montessori School in Canton.

ly spectacular. The site has many natural features including a pond, and our designers can create a first class campus with several amenities for employees like walking trails and picnic areas."

The planning and construction process for the new Lake Trust Credit Union headquarters could be completed by 2015 and will include a new 100,000 square foot building designed to more efficiently and effectively join a workforce currently split between old corporate offices in Lansing and Plymouth.

"Lake Trust recognizes we must invest in our operations and the many communities we serve," Snodgrass said. "Lake Trust is committed to simultaneously investing in Lansing and Plymouth, and making several strategic long-term retail branch investments throughout Michigan."

New investment

Gov. Rick Snyder announced Michigan Strategic Fund action to support nine business expansions expected to generate more than \$81 million in investment and add 897 jobs in Michigan.

"The commitment of these companies to grow and create jobs here further reinforces Michigan's reputation as America's comeback state," Snyder said. "It also demonstrates that the improvements we have made to our business climate and infrastructure are producing results. I thank these companies for investing in our future."

Among them was Detroit Thermal Systems, a newly formed venture between V. Johnson Enterprises, LLC and Valeo Inc., that has acquired the climate control business from the Ford/ACH facility in Plymouth. The company plans to invest more than \$25 million and create more than 300 jobs, resulting in a \$750,000 Michigan Business Development performance-based grant.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Soulbrain quality control specialist Antoinette Klempay prepares to put her hands inside a "glove box" at the business, located at Five Mile and Beck, that creates ingredients for the lithium ion battery business.

Soulbrain: Better battery days ahead

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Some alternative energy companies have had a rough start, but that doesn't appear to be the case at Northville's Soulbrain.

According to CEO Allen Ibara, battery technology and the components that make them work are still a work in progress, but he expects better days ahead.

"Overall, the battery industry is in very good shape, and it's progressing very fast," said Ibara. "We are pleased with the state of the market."

Although Soulbrain's profits are not what they were hoped for in the beginning, Ibara said since they were incorporated in 2010 the company has delivered 200 research and development products. He would not specify exact revenue numbers, but said as a small start-up they've been growing more than 100 percent each year since operations officially started in 2011.

Soulbrain is located at Five Mile and Beck roads. The facility is the company's North American headquarters for the South Korean-based company. It currently staffs 20 people, but expects to grow this number. The company will be looking for new chemists and chemical engineers in the coming year. It received a five-year tax abatement from Northville Township when it was established.



Soulbrain CEO Allen Ibara stands near some of the Northville Township company's storage containers that they ship off to lithium-ion battery makers throughout the U.S.

Overall, Ibara said the industry stands at \$14-20 billion, and that's primarily just for smaller batteries used in cell phones and such. He expects the numbers to increase once vehicle batteries become more adopted in the United States.

A more recent example of things going wrong in this industry was with LG Chem Michigan, which reportedly has not sold a single battery since receiving a \$150 million federal grant in 2009. However, Ibara said the battery industry in the U.S. is still very young. He said overseas this technology has progressed quicker because of higher gas prices and other regulations.

In spite of some bad news, he said things are still moving forward in the U.S., especially with organizations that use

fleet vehicles. Soulbrain's customer base includes rechargeable vehicles, power grids and the military sector. It develops an ingredient called electrolyte, an essential component of lithium ion batteries, which can be recharged and used over and over again.

Ibara and Soulbrain are aiming for the long haul, and have made Northville the company's home with employees buying homes in the area. The company contributes more than \$500,000 a month to the local economy, Ibara said, noting their commitment is evident in how they are working to be environmentally conscious by using a lighting system inside the facility that is estimated to conserve 17,601 gallons of gasoline a year.

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CHAMBER CHAT

Canton dinner auction

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts its annual dinner auction Saturday, April 20, from 6:30 p.m. to midnight, at Burton Manor in Livonia.

This year's theme is "The Great Divide: U-M vs. MSU." The event features more than 200 raffles, trips to Cabo San Lucas and Boyne Mountain, airline tickets, jewelry and more. Two winners will go home with \$1,000 in cash. The night also includes a strolling dinner and open bar.

Cost is \$75 per person. The event is sponsored by Jack Demmer Automotive Group and MSA Delivery Service. Contact the chamber office, (734) 453-4040, for additional information regarding donations, sponsorships or attending.

AD luncheon

Athletic directors for the University of Michigan (David Brandon) and Michigan State University (Mark Hollis) headline a joint meeting of the Plymouth Community, Livonia, Northville and Westland chambers of commerce Friday, April 26, at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

While they lead programs that are heated rivals, both men work to support the Big Ten Conference and NCAA. They are examples of competitive cooperation. Both leaders will share comments about their current projects, challenges and answer questions.

The cost to attend this event is \$30 for members or \$40 for non-members. Doors open at 11:30 a.m., the program starts at noon.

Reservations are required, with payment, by April 22. To reserve, email teri@plymouthmich.org or call (734) 453-1540.

Showcase Plymouth

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce is accepting registrations for exhibit space at the annual Showcase and Taste of Plymouth, set for Monday, May 6, from 5-7:30 p.m., at the Inn at St. John's.

Exhibit space prices are \$110 or \$135 (premium) and includes a 6-foot by 3-foot skirted table.

Showcase and Taste of Plymouth attracts 650-750 attendees from the community and member businesses, 95 total exhibitors including 20 restaurants, Community Service Awards presented to 20 honorees and each exhibitor can bring three people.

The Inn at St. John's is located at 44045 Five Mile in Plymouth. Anyone interested in exhibiting can contact the chamber at (734) 453-1540 or email teri@plymouthmich.org by April 26.

Business workshop

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts a business development workshop, "Multi-Media, the Road to Success," 8:30-9:30 a.m. April 23.

The workshop will show businesses how to jump-start marketing in multiple ways to create an affordable plan to reach their market. The workshop will talk about having effective search words for a website, how to use effective online advertising and how to use cable advertising in an effective and cost efficient manner.

There is no charge to attend, but we can only take 35 reservations. The event will be held at the Chamber office (850 W. Ann Arbor Trail). Call (734) 453-1540 for details.

'Obama Phone' store comes to area

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

A new store has opened in Livonia that serves as the Michigan headquarters for a distributor of the "Obama Phone."

The Obama Phone is a refurbished cell phone with 250 monthly voice minutes provided free to low-income and disadvantaged families by the federal Lifeline Assistance program.

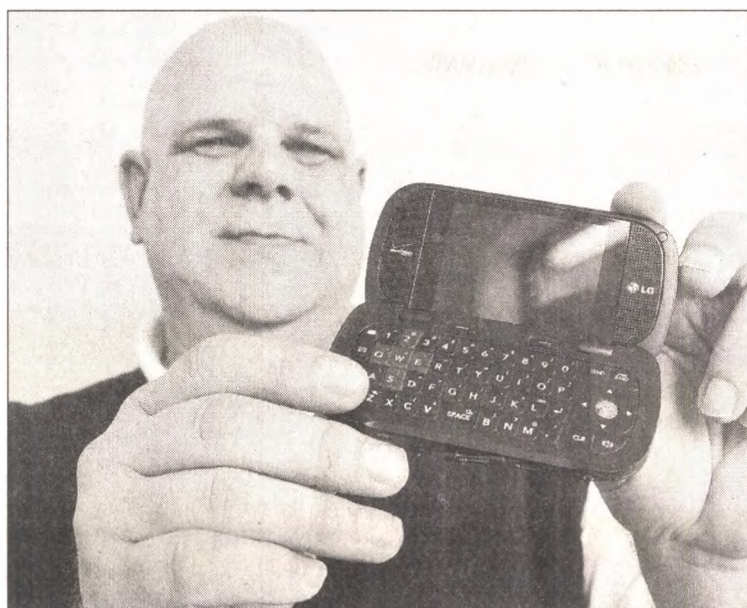
The program is funded by FCC-mandated universal service fees paid by telecommunications carriers and passed along, at least in part, to consumers. Consumers may notice a "universal service" line item on their telephone bills.

Owners Zach Carroll, 25, of Farmington Hills and Jim Allie, 51, of Novi opened the store March 6 at 20215 Middlebelt Road, next to Clarenceville High School.

It is one of 11 My Life Mobile locations the businessmen have opened in Michigan and Toledo since starting their company three months ago. Budget Mobile is the carrier.

The Livonia store is one of a handful of the standalone stores; the others are located inside other businesses, such as tax centers.

Carroll said that while the



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Co-owner Jim Allie, 51, said the Lifeline Assistance program started before President Obama took office, so the term Obama Phone is a misnomer.

Obama Phone is available from other distributors and carriers, they don't have storefront locations like My Life Mobile.

Discount service

"We're here to provide support as well (such as instructing recipients on the use of the phones)," he said, adding they intend to keep their locations open as long as the program is available.

Allie said the Lifeline Assistance program started before

President Obama took office, so the term Obama Phone is a misnomer. According to the FCC website, the Lifeline program has provided a discount on phone service for qualifying low-income consumers since 1985, to ensure that all Americans have the opportunities and security that phone service brings. In 2005, Lifeline discounts were made available to qualifying low-income consumers on pre-paid wireless service plans in addition to tradi-

tional landline service.

"This program allows people who are using certain government assistance programs to help keep in touch with the person that they care about the most," Allie said.

My Life Mobile is compensated for each phone it gives away, with the amount going up as the volume it gives away increases. It also receives a monthly residual for 12 months for each phone, Carroll said.

In addition, My Life Mobile earns an average 16-percent commission for selling services over and above the 250 free voice minutes. For an extra \$25 a month, recipients can purchase unlimited text messaging and voice call minutes. For \$10 more per month, recipients can purchase an additional 100 minutes or 1,000 text messages.

One per home

Only one Obama Phone per household is permitted. Phone service ends after 250 minutes per month for those who haven't purchased additional service.

Recipients qualify by having an income that is at or below 150 percent of the Federal Poverty Guideline or by participating in a qualifying government assistance program, such as Social Security, Medicaid, food stamps and the National School

Lunch Program.

"Seniors are ideal for the program," Carroll said. "Most don't want a cell phone, they don't want to pay for one. The major carriers, they can't afford or don't need."

Carroll said they've given away about 50 phones so far in Livonia. He estimates 15,000 to 20,000 Livonia residents qualify.

More coming

Recipients can also apply online at www.mylifemobile.us/ and have a phone mailed to them within about three days.

Carroll and Allie, both of whom have backgrounds in the cell phone industry, hope to open as many as 50 My Life Mobile stores each in Michigan, Ohio and Arizona.

Carroll said he gets satisfaction out of giving something to someone in need, rather than selling services to those who can afford it. "I don't expect to make millions," he said.

My Life Mobile also accepts donations of used Verizon phones for refurbishing. Hours are from noon to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. For more information, call (248) 289-0046 or visit www.mylifemobile.us/.

ksmith@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2098
Twitter: @KarenS87

State fair back with new name, sponsor

By Cal Stone
Staff Writer

Michigan's state fair, revived last year as the Great Lakes State Fair after then-Gov. Jennifer Granholm pulled funding in 2009, will be back again this year under another new name — the Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair.

The announcement of the title sponsor came at today's press conference at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi where the event will again be held Labor Day weekend, Aug. 30 through Sept. 2.

Although the fair is now produced by a private entity — Michigan State Fair LLC — organizers say it will continue to offer all of the great traditions of the event that started in Detroit in 1849.

"When we asked the public what they missed most about summer in Michigan, they overwhelmingly said, 'the state fair,'" said Blair Bowman, owner of the Suburban Collection Showplace. "They missed the atmosphere of being close to nature, the excitement of a child seeing his first goat, cow or baby lamb, and the celebration of Michigan's agricultural heritage."

Along with the agriculture, tourism and livestock products, this year's state fair will again have the Detroit Shrine Circus — presented by Bright House Networks — this time with the world's largest circus tent.

"We have added the one and only Detroit Shrine Circus to the festivities, and seeing a performance of this great event is included in one low price admission," said Bowman. Circus performances will be held daily at noon, 2:30, 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. (no 7:30 performance on Monday).

One-third of the admission price will go toward the circus, which is a significant contribution to the Shriners' annual budget and indirectly helps the organization's effort to fund their nonprofit and philanthropic efforts through the Shriner Hospitals for Children.

"The Detroit Shrine Circus is excited to be a major part of the return of the Michigan State Fair, and all the traditions and community goodwill that goes along with this association."

DETAILS

Event: Fifth Third Michigan State Fair
Dates: Friday, Aug. 30, through Monday, Sept. 2
Location: Suburban Collection Showplace, Novi
Livestock Exhibits: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday-Sunday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday
Agriculture and Indoor Vendor Booths: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday-Sunday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday
Midway: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday-Sunday; 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday
Circus: noon, 2:30, 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. daily (no 7:30 performance on Monday)
Entertainment Stage, Beer Garden, Outdoor Vendors: pending
Exhibit Space: Andrea Pickolo, (248) 348-5600, Ext. 208
Displays, Sponsorships, Vending Information: Mike Watts, (734) 459-6969, info@michiganstatefairllc.com

said Craig Stigleman, chairman, Michigan State Fair/Shrine Circus.

The midway, presented by Walmart, is expanding, and live entertainment and a beer tent return as well.

One of the big changes from last year, due to the sponsorship of Fifth Third Bank, will be the Youth Scholarship Program, offering \$10,000 in competitive scholarship programs. The scholarships will recognize excellence in breeding programs, showmanship and academics to advance the postsecondary effort of outreach through county fairs, and their 4-H clubs.

"Fifth Third Bank recognizes the state fair as not only a destination for fun and entertainment for families across the state of Michigan, but as the declaration of agriculture as an economic force within the state," said Dave Girodat, president and CEO of Fifth Third Bank Eastern Michigan. "We are proud to be the title sponsor of this event and are committed to supporting the revival of this Michigan tradition."

Tickets for the state fair will be available in the near future and more information will be available on the web at www.michiganstatefairllc.com.

"We are so proud to partner with the great financial institution, Fifth Third Bank, which has strong roots in the community, and provides significant support to charitable efforts across the state," said Bowman. "We promise to make the Fifth Third Michigan State Fair bigger, better and more fun for a long time."



D. KINCHELOE

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The midway returns to the state fair, now called the Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair, in Novi over Labor Day weekend.

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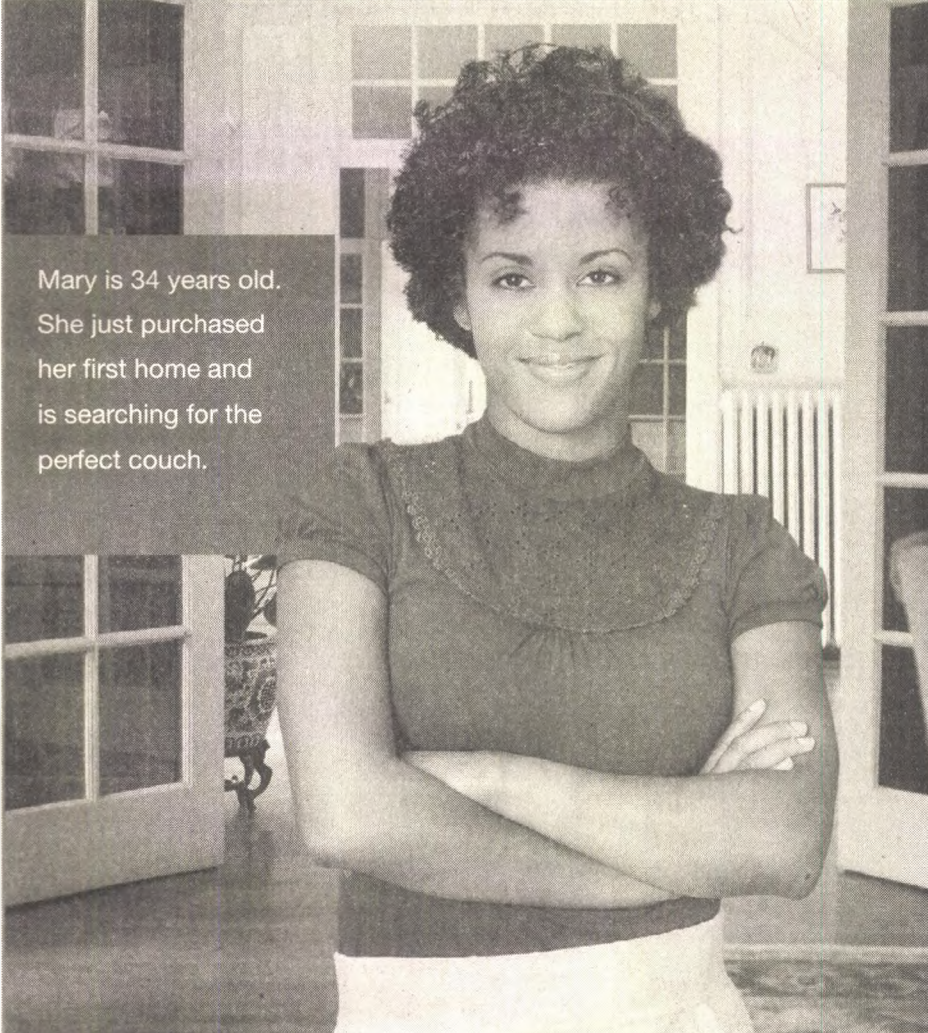
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OUR VIEWS

Video policy borders on too much 'Big Brother'?

"If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Maybe that's the adage Plymouth city officials should have followed before changing its sidewalk cafe policy to require owners of restaurants with outdoor dining on city sidewalks to install potentially expensive, invasive video equipment they say will make for a better, safer dining experience.

In nearly the same breath, officials acknowledge the dining experience is already a pretty safe one, which begs the question: Why the new rules?

"We hope, with some of these newer regulations, it'll be a better dining experience for folks who come downtown," said Tony Bruscato, the Downtown Development Authority operations director.

The added cost for outdoor surveillance (many establishments already have such systems inside their buildings) could make outdoor dining an expensive proposition.

Restaurateur Frank Yaquinto, who owns Compari's on the Park, Fiamma Grille and the Sardine Room, all on Main Street, said he hasn't yet priced video systems, but expects them to be a considerable investment for his

restaurants.

Under the new policy, the sidewalk-dining camera systems must provide adequate coverage of each establishment's outdoor dining area, and each day's recording must be saved for at least seven days. Recordings must be made available to the police within 48 hours of a request. And the equipment installed must meet the approval of the Plymouth Police Chief.

Questions remain, though, for patrons who thought they had some expectation of privacy. Who's going to see the tapes? How will they be used? Where will they be stored?

Yaquinto, who sits on the DDA board, said he expressed some reservations about the camera requirement but ended up voting for it.

"It's the city's property and their prerogative," Yaquinto said. "If that's what they feel is going to make things better, that's their call."

City officials have the right to take the steps necessary to keep their streets safe, and that's a laudable goal. But it must be balanced by how much "Big Brother" do they want to use to fix a problem officials themselves say doesn't really exist.



Outdoor diners will be under the watchful eye of city-mandated surveillance equipment beginning this spring.

COMMUNITY VOICE

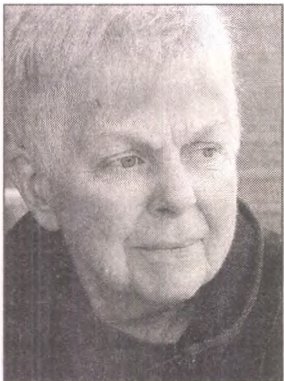
Where is spring?

We asked this question (on a chilly afternoon) at the Plymouth District Library.



"It's not even in Florida!"

Jenny Kroll
Plymouth Township



"I think we have a cycle we go through, and each year is different. ... It's boring if it's the same every year."

Patty Schmidt
Plymouth Township



"Spring is hiding from us. It bothers me a lot. I'm from California; your winter infringes on fall and spring."

Sandy Young
Brighton



"Spring. ... In downtown Detroit protesting."

Chris Hrbal
Livonia

Teachers join other unions in doing their part

To use a baseball metaphor, the employees of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools have collectively stepped up to the plate and done their part in preserving the educational program for students and keeping the district financially solvent.

Every employee group has made concessions that will save the district millions of dollars over the next couple of years and help administrators work toward producing a balanced budget that keeps cuts out of the classroom. The latest at-bat came from the teachers, who recently agreed to a contract officials say will save some \$2 million in the first two years. That comes on the heels of similar concessions from custodians and administrative staffers, mechanics and food-service workers.

In their new contract, teachers:

- Agreed to take 1.25 furlough days this year, and 1.5 furlough days in 2013-14.
- Get no pay increase in the first two years, and teachers' step levels will also freeze for the first two years.
- See a 20-percent reduction in pay for extra duties such as meal or testing duty.

For unions, scaling back on hard-fought wages and benefits is never easy, but faced with the potential loss of jobs, they made the tough decision. Though the deal passed easily among the teachers' union, it was still, as union leader Ken Fistler noted, the closest passing margin the union has seen. The deal is, Fistler said, an acknowledgement of the times.

"It's a concessionary contract, so there are some giveups, but these are the (economic) times we are in," he said.

The school board and administration have made it perfectly clear how much they appreciate what the unions have done for the students. That's the remarkable thing about what has gone in the district.

Through all the changes — new evaluation standards, changes to testing procedures, administrative upheaval, wage and benefit losses and even job losses — the performance of the teachers and staff hasn't wavered.

If all the stress is affecting morale, it doesn't seem to be showing up in the classroom.

LETTERS

Clear information

Wow! Mr. Killian states that "We are not raising tax rate."

But with the new \$114-million bond, the tax rate will be 4.1, without the new debt/bond, the rate will be 3.66. Perhaps math is not his strong suit.

So, I will be paying an additional \$4,800 so the kids can each get an iPad. And how can Mr. Killian speak for the board existing in the year 2029 when he says "the board is committed to never going higher than 4.1"?

At least Mr. Horvath was forthright by stating "this bond comes with a tax increase — it's just not a rate increase."

Proponents of the new debt/bond can state their rationale, but please don't mislead the voting citizens.

Folks in Plymouth and Canton are pretty bright. They may vote for or against, but they should have clear information.

Robert Harris
Plymouth

Problem solved

I would like to respond to the gentleman who wrote in to defend Sen. Patrick Colbeck's pie-in-the-sky plan to fund our roads.

The writer blames past legislators

for poor choices. I guess "past" means two years ago, because that is when the governor, Sen. Colbeck and Rep. Kurt Heise passed the biggest tax give-away in the state's history, to the mega rich. Then they imposed the biggest tax increase on the non-mega rich, again in the state's history.

Solutions? How about this: Tell the mega-rich "Sorry, but things didn't work out, so we have to reclaim that \$2 billion you get to keep each year."

Now, let's take \$1.2 billion of that and turn it over to the highway department, allocate another \$500 million to replace money diverted from the school fund and send the remaining \$300 million to local governments who have been short-changed.

Problem solved!

James Huddleston
Canton

BLOCK engages youth

I attended the meeting for the youth BLOCK program on Thursday, March 14. The meeting took place at the BLOCK center itself and it was attended by many parents who voiced their concern over losing this valuable program.

This program serves youth from 11-17 years of age. It keeps them

engaged and supervised while many of their parents work. Many of the families struggle with finding supervision while they work, and the program helps keep their kids safe, giving them peace of mind. I was dismayed to see that there was not any township elected officials, nor school board members, there. This was a well-publicized meeting and the parents wanted to be heard.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, studies have shown that the after-school hours can be dangerous ones for children. Statistics show that 29 percent of all juvenile offenses occur on school days between 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and that the number of violent crimes committed, doubles in the hour immediately after school is let out. After-school programs are an opportunity to further engage students in academic, social and physical activities. The township needs to keep this program and the school district should also participate in funding. I encourage parents to call the Canton township staff and elected officials many times, until another facility is announced for a new location. The safety of these children not only affects themselves and their families, but also the community.

Anne Marie Graham-Hudak
Canton

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Do some spring cleaning of your financial records

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

Most people have finished filing their tax returns so it's a great time to do a some financial record spring cleaning.

When people save too much information then need to find something, they can't because they have too much stuff. Since you've already done some organizing because of tax season, what better time of year to clean out those files?

What should you save from a tax standpoint? Too many people save all tax information for decades. The thought is that you should never throw out tax information but that is not the case. The IRS can audit you for three years after you file your tax return. Therefore, for the majority of people, once that three-year period ends, there is no reason to save all information.

If you filed your 2009 tax return by April 15, 2010, that is your last return the IRS can audit. There is an excep-

tion, however. If the IRS claims fraud (where you under reported income by at least 25 percent), it could extend that for a few more years.

My general advice is that you keep the return but shred all the backup information.

Notice I did not say throw away; rather, shred it. A shredder is something everyone needs. In today's world where identity theft is a major issue, there is no reason to put yourself at risk. Whenever you have sensitive financial information that contains account numbers or Social Security

Numbers, shred it, do not throw it away.

Some people retain brokerage statements and statements from mutual fund companies far too long. My general advice is when you receive your latest financial statement, and after you have reviewed it for accuracy, shred your old statement. Most statements today are cumulative and are saved by the financial institution.

If you're buying an individual stock you may want to save your first statement where the purchase shows up. This will allow you to know what your basis is on that investment. For mutual fund purchases, the mutual fund company itself keeps those records so it is not as important for you to retain them.

What about utility and cable bills; how long is it important to save those? Once again, when you receive your new statement it makes sense to shred the old one. I know

people that keep their cable TV bills for years.

There is no need to do so. Whether it is utilities, cable TV or even your charge card bills, once you receive the new statement there is no reason to retain the old one.

Every year we receive new policies from our auto and homeowner's insurance company. Once again, there is no reason to save your old policies — shred them. In the old days it used to be that you saved everything because in the unlikely event that you needed the information there was nowhere to go. In today's world, that is not the case.

It is important, however, to keep a permanent file where you keep documents that you need to hold to for long periods of time; for example, your mortgage documents. Retain your mortgage documents until the home is sold. Of course, if you've refinanced and you've received a dis-

charge of mortgage from the old mortgage that has been recorded, there is no reason to save the old documents.

Wills and trusts are also something that you need to save and should be part of your permanent files.

Of course, if you execute new documents and you revoke the old ones, once again, there is no reason to save the old documents.

The adage — less is more — applies to financial documents. Since it is spring, it makes sense to go through your financial records and start prun-

ing. It's nice when you go into your file cabinet and it's not stuffed to the brim and you don't have to try and force papers to fit. By pruning documents, you will free up space and, in addition, if you ever need to find any financial documents, you'll have no problem.

Good luck!

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

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John Glenn students host WWII USO dance

Swing dancing will take over the cafeteria of John Glenn High School when the students and staff present World War II USO Dance at 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 8.

The event is free and open to the public and marks the 68th anniversary of the victory in Europe Day which observes the defeat of the Nazis and an end to the war.

Student groups from John Glenn will display World War II propa-

ganda posters and honor community veterans and defense workers. The John Glenn band and choir also will perform World War II era music and the JROTC will perform patriotic drills. Students will re-enact World War II musical performances.

Radio personality Jim Harper will be the emcee for the night which will feature special performance by crooner Matt Walch and a special display of vehicles from

the Detroit Arsenal of Democraect Museum.

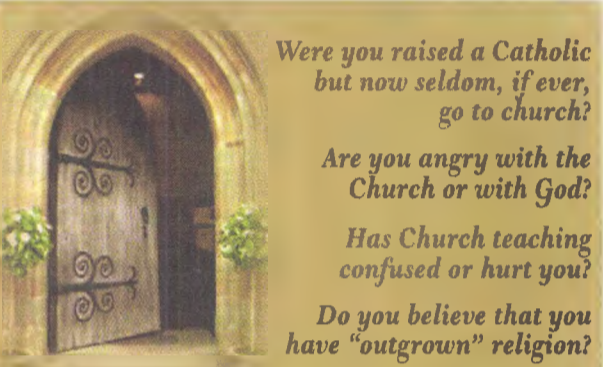
The dance has been made possible in part through a grant from Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and is supported by the Westland Rotary of Westland, American Legion and VFW.

Students also have been interviewing World War II veterans and defense workers as part of an oral history project. The interviews will be vid-

eotaped and submitted to the Library of Congress. Participants also will be invited to attend the dance where they will receive a copy of their interview to share with their families.

Veterans who would like to have their stories preserved can contact Michele Anderson at (734) 419-2300 or a AndersonM@wwcds.net.

John Glenn High School is at 36105 Marquette, west of Wayne Road, in Westland.



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Rocks on track for big year

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Even for a rookie coach, the focus is fixed on the prize at the end of the season rather than the starting line.

Still, Salem first-year varsity boys track and field head coach Steve

BOYS TRACK PREVIEW - PT. 1

Aspinall is eager to get the whole thing started with a

home dual meet against Northville Tuesday.

"I'm excited to see where we are," noted Aspinall, in a recent e-mail to the *Observer*. "Guys have been working very hard. We have good numbers (125 on the team).

"... Our goal is always to peak at the end of the season, so we've got our eyes set on the Observerland Relays, KLAA championships, regional and state championships."

It must be pointed out that Aspinall is no newcomer to the program, having been an assistant coach for Kyle Meteyer in recent seasons.

In 2012, the Rocks gave Meteyer (who resigned to pursue a doctor of education degree at Eastern Michigan University) a sweet sendoff with a Division 1 regional championship and numerous state qualifiers.

Aspinall stressed that the plan is to successfully defend the title and once again "send a large contingent of runners to the state meet."

Breaking it down

Following is a breakdown of Salem's talent-rich roster:

• Sprints: Salem will bring it on race day thanks to seniors Chris Dierker, Sean Davis; juniors Steven Homrich, Drake Jordan, Michael Hoover, Josh Docter, James Upshaw, Gu-woin

Please see ROCKS, B4

BASEBALL PREVIEW - PT. 1



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Nick Hazergian, shown from a 2012 contest, is one of the Canton returnees expected to spark the team on offense. He also is a solid pitcher for the Chiefs.

Making their pitch

Power arms, bats key Canton's hopes for success in '13

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

It remains to be seen whether Canton can be the cream of the KLAA South Division in 2013.

But the Chiefs' pitchers can be kings of the hill and that could spell trouble for opponents in the division, conference and — eventually — the state tournament.

Veteran Canton varsity baseball coach Mark Blomshield can pencil in senior Mike Stafford to pitch any big game, any time, and not be worried. The same goes for juniors Brent Mattson and Nick Hazergian.

Canton (20-13 last season) will be looking to up the vic-

tory ante from a year ago and having the Stafford-Mattson-Hazergian trio is as good a start as any to do that.

"Our top three starting pitchers are as solid as we've had here at Canton," Blomshield said. "Mike and Brent can get their fastballs into the upper 80s and Nick fills the strike zone with all three of his pitches and works in the low-to-mid 80s."

All have potential to follow high school by pitching in college, Blomshield said. Stafford already signed with Division-I Liberty University (located in Virginia).

Canton's No. 4 starter is no slouch. Senior Jake Miller has verbally committed to Henry Ford Community Col-

lege and he will be counted on to log plenty of innings both in the rotation and out of the bullpen.

Power surge

As enthusiastic as the coach is about his starting staff, the Chiefs boast much more than that.

Seven of last season's starting position players are back and "all our starting sophomores from last year are a year bigger, faster and stronger," Blomshield emphasized.

He noted a recent batting practice session as evidence. "The difference is extremely noticeable from last spring to now," Blomshield said.

Please see BASEBALL, B4

MU baseball takes a split

The Madonna University baseball team stands 13-6 overall following a split of a double-header Saturday at Ilitch Ballpark with visiting Rochester College.

In the opener, Brad Lineberry (Plymouth) went 4-for-4 with a homer and two RBI in a 9-4 MU triumph over the Warriors.

Justin Cook also went 2-for-2 with two RBI, while Shane Dokey and Steve Pelletier (Farmington Harrison) also added two hits apiece.

Adam Prasad (2-0), who pitched three innings of relief of starter Josh Vandemark, allowing one earned run on three hits, picked up the win.

Ray Yesh went 3-for-3 with an RBI in a losing cause, while starter Fernando Delacruz (0-1) took the loss.

In the nightcap, David Woodson went 2-for-4, including a homer and four RBI, as Rochester (5-13) defeated the Crusaders, 10-2.

Winning pitcher Austin Suiter (1-0) threw a complete-game three-hitter. He struck out two and walked five.

Losing pitcher Robert Fraser (Westland John Glenn), the starter, slipped to 1-1 after allowing five earned runs on six hits in three innings.

Lineberry and Ryan Lech each knocked in a run for Madonna.

The Crusaders' scheduled Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference twinbill Monday against Aquinas was postponed a second time due to weather.

Whalers set for Round 2

NEXT UP: OWEN SOUND

Following is the schedule for the Plymouth-Owen Sound second-round, best-of-seven OHL Western Conference playoff series:

Game 1: 7 p.m. Friday at Compuware Arena (in Plymouth)

Game 2: 4 p.m. Sunday at Compuware Arena

Game 3: 7 p.m. Tuesday in Owen Sound

Game 4: 7 p.m. Wednesday in Owen Sound

Game 5: (if necessary) 7 p.m. Friday, April 12, at Compuware Arena

Game 6: (if necessary) 4 p.m. Sunday, April 14, in Owen Sound

Game 7: (if necessary) 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 16 at Compuware Arena

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Unlike the Detroit Tigers last October, the Plymouth Whalers hope a lengthy wait between playoff series won't have an adverse effect.

Plymouth clinched its OHL Western Conference quarterfinal March 27 and will finally open Round 2 at 7 p.m. Friday against Owen Sound at Compuware — nine days after finishing a sweep against Sarnia, for those keeping track.

Of course, Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci and the hottest team in the OHL since Christmas won't want to have any trouble shifting gears to the Western Conference semifinal.

Although there might be some rust to knock off



RENA LAVERTY

Vince Trocheck (left) and Sebastien Uvira (No. 17) will look to help the Plymouth Whalers continue their winning ways in Round 2 against Owen Sound.

from the Whalers' offensive machine, a plus for Vellucci's team is having so many offensive catalysts ready to light the fuse.

Leading the charge is center Vince Trocheck, who followed up his OHL scoring title during the regular season with a standout series against Sarnia.

Trocheck was a force from the opening minutes of Game 1, when he scored at 1:14 of the first period to get Plymouth off to a quick start. The Florida Panthers draft-ee finished the series with five goals and seven assists for 12 points.

Owen Sound will need

to pay attention to other dangerous scorers, however. Those include Stefan Noesen (3-3-6), Rickard Rakell (2-2-4), Garrett Meurs (3-1-4), Mitchell Heard (3-2-5), Tom Wilson (2-6-8) and Ryan Hartman (2-1-3), to name a few.

Yet, the No. 2 seed Plymouth (42-17-5-4) and No. 3 seed Owen Sound (44-18-1-5) matchup still should be a much more competitive series than Plymouth-Sarnia turned out to be.

The Whalers and Attack split four games during the season, although Plymouth won the two

Please see WHALERS, B3

Priebe lands spot in Wolves' den

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Game after game for the Plymouth Wildcats, Josh Priebe would not be denied in his quest to succeed.

Priebe fought off physical defenders en route to the basket. He weaved through traffic to spark the offense, often finding an open teammate to pass the basketball to or draining a jumper himself.

Whatever it took was what the 6-0, 175-pound senior wing guard took to the court as the Wildcats enjoyed their most-successful season, winning a district game for the first time ever.

It was with a similar passion and purpose that Priebe saw where he wanted to play college basketball and got it done. He recently signed a national letter of intent with University of Michigan-Dearborn of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Reasons to stay

"I can't wait to start playing," said Priebe, who averaged nearly 17 points per contest in 2012-13 (tops on the team) and made the All-Observer first team (see story, B5).

"I'm glad I can stay home, too, so a lot of family will be able to come. It's just good to get a scholarship there," he added.

Priebe noted that parents Dave and Jill pushed for Josh to opt



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Plymouth senior Josh Priebe goes to work against an opponent during the 2012-13 varsity boys basketball season.

for U-M-Dearborn "because they know it's a good school. And they wanted to be able to go to a lot of my games, so that's cool."

Priebe was joined at the recent signing ceremony at Plymouth High School by Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup, Wolves coach John Mackson and Central Middle School athletics coordinator Mark LaPointe.

It wouldn't be surprising if Soukup made time

in his busy coaching schedule to watch Priebe who has been in our program in 2013-14.

"He has improved significantly every year he has been in our program," Soukup said. "Josh is a fierce competitor and I know he will meet the challenge of playing college basketball with the same determination and focus he had here at Plymouth."

"I was blessed to have

Please see PRIEBE, B3

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS & GIRLS TRACK
 Saturday, April 6
 Shrine Inv. at Lady, 10 a.m.
COLLEGE BASEBALL
 (all double-headers)
 Saturday, April 6
 MU at Indiana Tech, 1 p.m.
 Sunday, April 7
 MU at Indiana Tech, 1 p.m.
COLLEGE SOFTBALL
 (all double-headers)
 Friday, April 5
 MU at Concordia, 1 p.m.
 Saturday, April 6
 MU at Indiana Tech, 1 p.m.
 Sunday, April 7
 MU at St. Francis (Ind.), 1 p.m.

Plymouth Y offerings

The Plymouth Family YMCA is offering a variety of youth instructional programs and leagues this spring. The focus of these programs will be on fun, exercise and social interaction through sports instruction.

Programs are open to YMCA members and community members. Offerings are as follows:

- Co-ed soccer (children ages 4-10). The session, which focuses on soccer fundamentals in a safe environment, will run from April 22 through June 15. There will be one practice per week and one game per week on Saturdays. (Y rate \$96; \$128 for community participants.)
- Girls volleyball (girls ages 8-11). The session runs from April 22 through June 14. There will be one practice per week and one game per week on Friday evenings. (Y rate \$110, \$145 for community participants.)
- Youth clinics are also available. Clinics include T-ball, baseball, agility training and flag football. Session dates and prices vary, call to get more information.

For more information, contact (734) 453-2904 or visit www.ymcadetroit.org/plymouth.

PC Cruisers swim to Short Course 12U state title

The Plymouth Canton Cruisers were all about team this season, parlaying the efforts of many dedicated young swimmers into a state championship in early March.

At the Michigan Short Course 12 and Under meet held March 8-10 at East Kentwood High School, the Cruisers prevailed.

After all 34 members of the Cruisers competed in the preliminaries, those with the top 16 times reconvened during the finals and out-swam the opposition.

Standouts included Kylie Goit and Adelyn DeTassanyi in girls divisions and Kevin Hao, Bolin Li and Brian Ding in boys divisions.

Goit, 10, was the high scorer and received third in the 10U girls division. She captured an individual win in the 200 individual medley and helped the 200 medley and 200 freestyle relays each finish in the first.

On the victorious 200-medley relay were Goit, Lindsey Case, Elizabeth Breda and Lulu Mans. Goit, Case, Mans and Serena Hao comprised the winning unit in the 200-medley relay.

DeTassanyi, 12, placed in the top eight in all of her six individual events and two relays (the maximum any swimmer can compete in).

Hao, 12, had the top scorer among PC Cruisers in the top eight in all of his six events going into the state meet, he subsequently placed in consolation (places 9-16) in



Helping the Plymouth Canton Cruisers win the recent 12 and under Michigan Short Course swim meet were these members of the team's 10 and under girls division. In the front row (from left) are Kylie Goit, Lindsey Case, Chloe Pulick, Serena Hao; in the back row (from left) are Elizabeth Breda, Lulu Mans, Regan Peregord and Gracie Gowen. From that group, Breda, Goit, Mans and Case finished first in the 200 free relay and Goit, Case, Hao and Mans won the 200 medley relay.



Showing their team spirit after winning the Michigan Short Course 12 and Under swim meet held March 8-10 at East Kentwood High School are the Plymouth Canton Cruisers.

scoring position in any of his six events going into the state meet, he subsequently placed in consolation (places 9-16) in

three events and helped the team win two relays.

As for 10-year-old Ding, all he did was be the team's only 10-year-

old boy to have a full load of individual events and relays — placing in the top-16 in five individual events and both

relays, scoring in the top 8 twice.

Different path

According to Cruisers co-coach Alexandra Morgan (who shares coaching duties with Josh Morgan), this year's team took a different path to success.

In 2010-11, the PC Cruisers won the state meet "with some super stars and a lot of little depth," noted Morgan, nicknamed Coach Z.

"Last year we ended up getting fourth with a very good team," she continued. "This year, we had a very good group of all-around swimmers that work very hard (five times a week) and raced even better."

"I was not expecting us to be on top this year because we knew we weren't going to have a large number of individual wins. But are group of kids are much closer this year and wanted to win the meet for each other."

The roster for the PC Cruisers is as follows:

• **Girls Division 10U:** Elizabeth Breda, Lindsey Case, Kylie Goit, Gracie Gowen, Serena Hao, Lulu Mans, Regan Peregord, Chloe Puck, Victoria Zhang.

• **Girls Division 11-12:** Vivian Bai, Jenna Chen, Jess Clark, Addy Detassanyi, Annette Dombkowski, Abby Gowen, Sydney Jiang, Emily Klemptner, Miranda Li, Emily Lock, Mya Loniewski, Micha Pulick.

• **Boys Division 10U:** Brian Ding, Joey Dombkowski, Lucas Harding, Logan Stombaugh, Ethan Wayne.

• **Boys Division 11-12:** Nathan Budnick, Gabe Cohen, Kevin Hao, Bolin Li, Eugene Li, Eric Liu, Tristen Shao, Charlie Walsh.

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Plymouth High School senior Josh Priebe (middle, front row) recently signed his national letter of intent to play basketball at University of Michigan-Dearborn. Flanking Josh are parents Jill and David Priebe. In the back row (from left) are Central Middle School's Mark LaPointe, Plymouth Wildcats boys basketball coach Mike Soukup and UM-Dearborn coach John Mackson.

Net-worthy

Canton native Reynolds keys Lady Titans' WBI championship

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

It wasn't the NCAA, or the NIT for that matter. But it rained confetti Saturday afternoon at the University of Detroit Mercy's Calihan Hall after the Lady Titans hoisted the Women's Basketball Invitational championship trophy following a 73-62 victory over McNeese State (La.).

In the middle of it all and cutting down the nets was 5-foot-10 freshman point-guard Rosanna Reynolds, a Canton native, who scored 11 points and dished out four assists in 38 minutes action for the newly crowned WBI champions.

For the Dearborn Divine Child High grad, it was a season that went beyond even her own expectations as she averaged a team-best 38.2 minutes per game while averaging eight points, 3.3 rebounds and a 4.0 assists per outing.

Afterwards, U-D coach Autumn Rademacher took the mike and addressed the crowd proclaiming, "Frosties for everybody," to the happy Titan fans.

But after U-D was ousted 71-54 in the Horizon League semifinals by 20th-ranked and eventual tournament champion Wisconsin-Green Bay, Rademacher thought she had lost her team and the season appeared to be over.

"We didn't think the season was over at all," Reynolds said. "After she



University of Detroit Mercy freshman point guard Rosanna Reynolds (11) of Canton scored 11 points and dished out four assists as the Lady Titans beat McNeese State (La.) on Saturday for the Women's Basketball Invitational title.

DETROIT MERCY SPORTS INFORMATION

walked out, we were just like, 'No, the season is not over, we've got to stay together as a team.'"

And after the Lady Titans got a bid to the WBI, they took full advantage by winning four straight home games at Calihan capped by the second-half comeback victory over McNeese State, the alma mater of former Piston great and general manager Joe Dumars.

The Titans trailed 30-28 at halftime, but Reynolds helped get the Lady Titans untracked by hitting a pair of clutch three-pointers. That helped offset the one-two McNeese senior guard tandem of twins Ashlyn and Caitlyn Baggett, who came into the game averaging 19 and 15 points per game, respectively. (The two combined for 38 points.)

"We were looking to do a lot of pick-and-rolls because we knew they had a tough time defending the pick-and-roll," Reynolds said. "We were looking to get it into 'Reta' (Shareta Brown) and if that wasn't open - drive - because they

(McNeese) had all their help in the middle, so just kick it out for the 'threes' and we knocked them down."

The 6-foot Brown, named tournament MVP, scored a game-high 28 points hitting 11-of-12 shots from the floor to go along with 14 rebounds.

U-D finished the year 21-13 overall and 9-7 in the Horizon League. The Lady Titans return three starters for the 2013-14 season including Reynolds, guard Senee Shearer, who averaged 11 points per game, and Brown, one of the nation's leading scorers at 21 points per game.

"This is definitely more than I thought," said Reynolds, who was named to the Horizon League's All-Newcomer team. "I thought we could do more in the Horizon League, which was a let-down, but we brought ourselves back up and won this."

"This will get us excited (for next year). We know what it feels like and to go after a bigger title."

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PRIEBE

Continued from page B1

coached him. He will be missed."

His best yet

From Plymouth's opening game, when he netted 28 points against Walled Lake Western, it was obvious Priebe's senior year was going to be his best.

And signing to play in college turned out to be the perfect capper.

"Last year (as a junior)

I was immature," he emphasized. "I matured a lot this year. I just played through everything. It was just a good year."

"We did pretty good, we came through a lot better than last year. Not many people expected us to win a district game, and it was good to win the first in the program."

His efforts were duly noted by Mackson, who left the door open for Priebe to earn minutes as a freshman.

"He was just saying I would fit in really good," Priebe said. "I would

have to fight for playing time, but he said I could keep up with a couple guys that are on the team right now."

Priebe said U-M-Dearborn works for him academically, too.

"I know it's a good school to go to," Priebe said. "I'm looking to go into business and they have a really nice business school there."

That sounds about right, since Priebe indeed is all business in the gym.

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WHALERS

Continued from page B1

latest tilts (4-3 on Jan. 4 and 7-3 on Feb. 9, both at Compuware). And Plymouth might be looking for some payback for getting swept by Owen Sound in the 2011 semifinals.

During the opening series, the Whalers were backstopped by rookie netminder Alex Nedeljkovic. The 17-year-old won all four games, posting a 2.00 goals-against average and .924 save percentage.

Vellucci could opt to continue riding the hot hand or give the reins to veteran goalie Matt

Mahalak.

Following Friday's series opener (go to <http://www.plymouthwhalers.com/> for ticket information or visit the Compuware Arena box office), the teams will square off at 4 p.m. Sunday in Game 2 (also at Compuware).

The series then shifts to Owen Sound, for games at 7 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday at the Bayshore Community Centre.

If necessary, Game 5 would be at 7 p.m. Friday, April 12, at Compuware. The rest of the series, if necessary, would take place as follows: Game 6 at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 14, at Owen Sound; Game 7 at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, at Compuware.

OHL DRAFT: The Ontario Hockey League Draft begins at 9 a.m. Saturday. It will be held around OHL cities online and can be followed on www.ontariohockeyleague.com.

Go to www.plymouthwhalers.com for details about the Whalers' selections.

ALEARDI UPDATE: Former Plymouth Whaler and Farmington Hills product Alex Aleardi, who was traded to Windsor in January for Zach Lorentz, recently scored his first professional goal for the Springfield Falcons.

It was a biggie, a game-winning goal in the third period March 28 as Springfield (American Hockey League) defeated Bridgeport, 5-4.

Aleardi, 20, was signed to an AHL tryout contract March 19, after his five-year career in the OHL came to a close.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

Triple Threat Training info meeting Friday

Canton-based Triple Threat Training is opening the doors for sixth-grade girls interested in joining T3, a brand new travel basketball team.

Spokesman Dominique Washington said sixth graders would play in eight-to-10 tournaments throughout the local area. A parent information meeting is slated for 7 p.m. Friday at High Velocity (located on the south side of Michigan

Avenue west of Canton Center/Belleville Road), where more details about practice times and tournament locations will be presented.

For more information, send an email to TripleThreatTrainingMI@gmail.com or call (734) 341-1336.

UD Mercy to host bowling final

The University of Detroit Mercy will host the 2013 NCAA Women's Bowling Championships April 11-13 at Super

Bowl Lanes in Canton. It's the second time in three years UDM will host the event.

The seeded, eight-team field consists of Central Missouri, Maryland-Eastern Shore, Nebraska, Arkansas State, Vanderbilt, Sam Houston State, Wisconsin-Whitewater and Fairleigh Dickinson.

Tickets can be purchased on www.ncaa.com prior to the championship. For more information about the National Collegiate Women's Bowling Championship, log on to www.ncaa.com.

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Canton senior pitcher Mike Stafford recently signed to play baseball at Liberty University. Also pictured behind Stafford are (from left) Canton head baseball coach Mark Blomshield and Michael's parents, Gary and Charlene Stafford.

Faith made Stafford's college choice easy

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Ever since Mike Stafford stepped onto the bump for the Canton Chiefs as a freshman, the hard-throwing lefthander possessed the kind of nasty stuff that punched out plenty of opposing batters.

Stafford painted the black with his post-high school aspirations, too, as he recently signed a national letter of intent with Liberty University.

Liberty is a private, Christian university in Lynchburg, Va. That immediately appealed to Stafford — who has a strong faith.

"There were many factors in my college choice," noted Stafford, in a recent e-mail to the Observer. "At the time I had a lot of choices both in state and out of state.

"I chose Liberty University because of my faith in Christ. The Christian aspect made Liberty an appealing place for me, along with great academics, a brand new stadium and a great coaching staff. Liberty looked like a very exciting place to go to school and play baseball."

Stafford, 17, a scholar-athlete (3.3 grade-point average) who made the All-Observer second team in 2012, is a baseball lifer.

That goes back to his days with the Plymouth-Canton Grizzlies during elementary and middle school.

And during his three-year varsity career with the Chiefs — which is about to enter a fourth season — Stafford has impressed with his pitching abilities, mound

presence and, perhaps as a bonus, hitting skills.

Stafford isn't one to boast, however. The son of Gary and Charlene Stafford would rather give all the credit to others for their encouragement, instruction and guidance.

"I can't thank my coaches enough," Stafford went on. "Every one of them has helped me in some way throughout the years. They all have prepared me for the next level physically and mentally.

"Each one of them from the time I was a freshman has put in their share of time preparing me and the rest of my team for their future goals in baseball and in life."

Meanwhile, the fact he did sign to pitch in college has changed his view of his final high school season.

"Though exciting to think about, college baseball doesn't start until next year," he continued. "Right now I am as focused as ever to play this season.

"The biggest impact I can have is to be leader to my younger teammates. I want to be the best example I can be, so when I'm gone, they will remember how to represent their team and school the right way."

Down the road, should he enjoy a successful career at Liberty, "like every other baseball player out there my ultimate goal is to make it to the major leagues. I hope this season and the next four years in college will be a stepping stone to my ultimate goal and dream."

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BASEBALL

Continued from page B1

"Last season, I don't think we hit a home run in batting practice. Our first time on the field this year we hit five. The expectations of this team couldn't be higher."

When not pitching, the top starters will rotate at first base to save wear and tear on their arms.

Of course, Hazergian's arms might be tired for another reason. He is a power hitter who swings the bat and connects most of the time.

In 2012, Hazergian earned team MVP honors for batting .404 with four home runs and 24 RBI. Blomshield envisions a repeat showing.

Canton's up-the-middle defense is excellent, the coach said.

Juniors Nick Schnur and James Hall are set for second base and shortstop, respectively, with junior speedster Weston Price slated for center field.

"These guys have made gains in the offseason and we are looking for them to anchor the defense," Blomshield noted.

If there is a question mark, Blomshield said it was the inexperience at catcher. Nick Romanowski and Tom Kiddie are both sophomores who are battling for the No. 1 job.

"Both Nick and Tom will have ample opportunities to play and earn the starting position behind the dish

as we get into the season," Blomshield said. "Consistency and leadership is what we will be looking for."

In the mix for the starting job at third base will be juniors Jake Raymo and Alex Clark. Both also are part of the bullpen, along with juniors Drew Misenko and lefty Ty Robinson.

Flanking Price in the outfield will be junior Jake Boucher in left field and either Tommy Parrelly or Chris Ferrill in right.

"Jake (Boucher) is finally at his best position after a sophomore season where he was a utility guy filling in voids," Blomshield stressed. "Between him and Price, not many balls are going to get down as they both can really run it down."

Bottom line

Rounding out the roster are junior Joe Yager and senior Bill Adams, both available in utility roles.

"This year's team has a lot to prove after a subpar 2012 campaign," Blomshield said. "The guys have stepped up and are ready to prove they can play at a high level.

"We are fast, athletic and have very solid starting pitching. If we hit and play defense we will be a very tough team this year."

Canton opened the season Wednesday against Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard. Following Saturday's twinbill against Dexter, the Chiefs visit Novi on April 10.

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GIRLS TRACK PREVIEW - PT. 1

Plymouth girls expect to make their points

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Despite losing a slew of great runners to graduation, Plymouth varsity girls track and field coach Ricky Styes isn't discouraged about what the Wildcats can do in 2013.

He still has "a lot of great young runners that we think will make a quick and significant impact on the team."

And Styes is banking on plenty of points from field events, as Plymouth looks to follow up on last year's 4-1 record in the KLAAs South Division and second-place finish at the Division 1 regional meet.

For example, Plymouth boasts three of Division 1's best pole vaulters in seniors Jane McCurry, Sarah Uhlian and Taylor Rieckhoff.

"We will be strong in the field events this year," Styes said.

"This will be the strength of the team, at least early in the season.

"We have three of the top vaulters in the state and a deep stable of talented, young vaulters. ... I would put the talent that we have in the pole vault against any school in the state."

In addition to the senior pole vaulters, the Wildcats will feature sophomore Kayla Janevski and freshmen Sam Fontana and Haly Metz in that event.

Plymouth's throwers (discus, shot put) and high/long jumpers should do their part to add points to the scoreboard, Styles



BRIAN QUINTOS

Competing during a 2012 meet for Plymouth is Marina DeBiasi (center), who is back for her senior season. Also pictured are Plymouth's Nicole Traitses (left) and Canton's Kristen Muir.

noted.

Juniors Tionne Johnson, Taylor Bickers and Megan Wieloch are returning throwers who consistently eclipsed the 31-foot mark in 2012. They'll be augmented by freshman Elise Wehmer.

Rieckhoff also will be among the jumpers, along with sophomore Emily Freiburger and freshman Kat Harris.

"Both Taylor and Emily cleared five feet last year and Kat cleared it this winter during the indoor season."

Easing them in

The potential in the field events will help uber-talented freshmen sprinters Bailey Brown and Jewel Davis not feel too much pressure early in the year to make things happen.

"Both Bailey and Jewel have run times in the 400 this early in the season that may have them in the mix come our big meets at the end of the season," Styes emphasized. "Our talent in the field events will take some pressure off of these young runners as they develop.

"By the end of the season, we will be a strong team that will be able to score points both on the track and in the field."

Salem has first-year distance runners who also could make a quick impact. Those are freshmen Charlotte Clark and Sophia Stephan.

Salem has a number of other returnees ready to keep the Rocks in contention.

Those include seniors Shannon Shaver (distance/hurdles), Natalie Puckett (hurdles), juniors Marina DeBiasi (distance), Brianna Lax (distance), Ashley MacBrien (sprints), Katie Salanga (sprints), Holly Stark (sprints/hurdles) and sophomore Anna Lukens (sprints).

"We will be returning a strong core of hurdlers," Styes added. "Two (Puckett, Stark) of which will be in the mix come conferences and regionals at the end of the year."

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Nucleus in place for Rocks

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Dave Gerlach would like nothing better than for the success he has had in recent seasons coaching Salem's varsity girls cross country team to transfer over to his second team — the Rocks' varsity girls track and field squad.

"I'm excited to take over as head coach of a program that we feel has potential to get back to the top of the (Kensington Lakes Activities Association)," Gerlach noted. "We as a staff want to instill a foundation of hard work and raise competitive expectations.

"There is a good nucleus of athletes and a great coaching staff that has set high goals right out of the gate."

Gerlach will rely on a solid nucleus of veterans to hopefully lift Salem into the championship conversation in the KLAAs. "We are excited to start the competition season and seeing where our program stands up against the others in the league."

A handful of returning seniors will set the tone. Those include Nancy Krutty (pole vault), Morgan Tilley (hurdles, high jump), Khyli Ray (sprints) and Dana Blankenship (throws).

Juniors Natasha Stevenson,

Kayla Kavulich and senior Alejandra Beltran head an outstanding group of distance runners.

Also in sprints will be Chi Chi Mbango.

Sophomore Anya Cho is slated for middle distance events with junior Kelly Whalen and sophomore Shara Long set for hurdles and throws, respectively.

Key newcomers include: sophomores Shekinah Johnson, Alexandra Davis, Jamiya Wilson (all sprints); freshmen Brynne Samuels and Rebecca Grossman (sprints) and Annie Patterson (middle distance).

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Wildcats feature improved balance

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Going the extra mile has never been a problem for the Plymouth Wildcats in recent seasons, and that isn't expected to change this season.

Veteran Plymouth varsity boys track and field coach Jon Mikosz said the distance team "will be the backbone of our team as it has been for the past few years."

Mikosz, however, is optimistic that the Wildcats will feature improvement in other areas and possibly be in the running for the KLAAs and regional titles.

"We have the potential to have a very well-rounded team this year," Mikosz said. "We should be better in the sprints and the field events than we were last

BOYS TRACK PREVIEW

year."

Key returning distance runners Max Rogowski and Jonny Dalton will lead the charge.

Rogowski qualified for the Division 1 state meet in the 3,200-meter relay and 800 run while Dalton also qualified in the same relay.

Also back are Brandon Dalton, Liam Cardenas and Zane Berlanga, all capable of excellence and then some.

Lucas Bunting, who qualified for the state meet in the 400 sprints, figures to be a prominent member of the team again this spring. He is augmented by Alex Rogers and Josh Dennard.

As for the field events, returnees include Nate Harris, Jeff Pat-

tison, Alex Teasdale and Mark Lowry.

New contributors in other categories include Blerim Mema and Mayur Patil in distance events and Brent Pligian and Kyle McMillan in field events.

Mikosz cited recent success at the Huron Relays, with Harris tying the Plymouth school record in the high jump (6-feet, 2-inches).

At the same meet, the 1,600-meter relay team of Rogowski, Jonny Dalton, Mema and Bunting finished in 3:39. And the quartet of Rogowski, Jonny Dalton, Brandon Dalton and Mema registered the seventh-fastest time in the state in the 3,200-meter relay with a time of 8:22.

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ROCKS

Continued from page B1

Ingram; and sophomore Lawrence Cook.

"All of these guys are multiple-sport athletes who give us a lot of versatility in the sprints and sprint relays," Aspinall noted.

• Hurdles: Meanwhile, working hard to fill the hurdle races have been seniors I'Van Rhodes and Justin Broughman and sophomore Miles Mason.

"I'Van could run anything from the 100 to the 800 and might also run all four relays," the coach continued. "Our sprints and sprint relays should be very deep and we'll look to rotate a number of guys into those spots."

Freshmen Freddie McGee and Dominic Hodge are showing plenty of promise.

• Middle distance: Accord-

ing to Aspinall, seniors Jeremy Drouillard, Ade Davis, Connor Hall, Evan Stevenson and juniors Colin McCormack, Jon Hoeschele, Evan Bruyere and Nathan Zorney "will contribute from the 200 to the 1600."

McCormack placed third at the regionals last season and is a contender to qualify for the state meet.

• Distance: One of the stories yet to unfold is whether senior Steve McEvelly will set break Salem's record in the two-mile run (9:29), thus continuing "the great season he had in the fall" with the Rocks' varsity boys cross country team (coached by Aspinall).

Also looking to duplicate state meet success from cross country season will be freshman Riley Duxtader and freshman Chaz Jeffress.

Others ready to push the pace include senior Alex Creekmore, juniors Jason Basanese, Russell

Sharpe, Joe Kunnath, Donovan Drouillard, Brendan McCann and sophomores Doug Haslitt, Jason Rogers and Paul Vander.

"These guys will run everything from the 400 to the 3200," Aspinall noted.

• Jumps: Dierker and Jordan are at the top of the depth chart, joined by seniors Austin Whitted, Ben Sonnega, Mike Wildi, junior Harsha Sajja, sophomores Dhruv Patel and Miles Mason and freshmen Shaw Lyall and Jacob Miller.

• Field events: Throwers include senior Nick Howie, Hoover, junior Tony Avant, sophomores Ben Howie, Devin Cameron and Tony Przytulski with freshman Christian Pearson bringing new potential to the mix.

In the pole vault, seniors Jineet Gandhi, Mick Girardot and Damian Sidhu will lead the way.

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All-Area cagers can rock the rim

FIRST TEAM

Chris Dierker, Sr., F, Salem: The Salem powerhouse capped off an outstanding prep career, earning team MVP and all-conference honors as the Rocks finished with a 14-9 record.

Dierker, who is planning on playing in college at Madonna University, used his 6-7 frame to block out opponents and get to the rim for offensive putbacks. He also displayed on-the-money shooting from just about anywhere he put the ball up from.

The team captain averaged 14.7 points and 10.7 rebounds and made important contributions in other key categories. He averaged 2.6 assists, 2.2 blocks and 1.6 steals per contest.

"He is our most versatile player with the ability to play on the perimeter or inside and is a tremendous threat on both ends of the floor," said Salem coach Bob Brodie.

Rayvlon Croon, Jr., F, Thurston: A two-year starter, Croon was instrumental in leading the Eagles to their second straight Class A district championship. The 6-foot-5 forward could score around the rim and from beyond the three-point arc as his 20.2 scoring average attests. Croon, who was voted to the WWAC Red all-division team, yanked down over six rebounds a contest and registered 2.47 steals per game.

"Rayvlon is a pure scorer who has the ability to take over a game," said Thurston coach Brian Bates. "He can score from inside or outside equally well. He is a tremendous rebounder who has the ability to take over the boards. He was vital to our success this year."

Josh Priebe, Sr., G, Plymouth: The hard-nosed, never-say-die Priebe was the main catalyst behind the Wildcats finishing strong during the regular season as well as posting the program's first-ever postseason victory (in the districts against Novi-Detroit Catholic Central).

Priebe was by far the top scorer for Plymouth, averaging 16.8 points. He chipped in with 3.4 rebounds and 1.7 steals per game, and was named to the All-KLAA squad.

"Josh has been great for us for two years," coach Mike Soukup said. "He is one of the most intense competitors I have ever been around. I was proud to have him in my program for four years."

He will continue his basketball career at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, where he recently signed his national letter of intent.

Josh Mayberry, Sr., G, Canton: The three-year varsity player and team captain spearheaded Canton's "trifecta," as the Chiefs won the KLAA South Division, Kensington Conference and Class A district titles. The last time the Chiefs accomplished that feat was 1996.

Mayberry averaged 13 points per game, along with five assists, 3.5 rebounds and 2.5 steals per contest as Canton amassed an impressive 17-7 record.

"His ability to get the ball to the open player on time and score around the rim was huge for us," coach Jimmy Reddy said. "It was an absolute pleasure to coach Josh for the last three years."

For his consistently solid and sometimes spectacular efforts, Mayberry was named to the All-KLAA squad.

Xzavier Bowen, Sr., G, Thurston: Bowen, a lightning-quick 5-foot-8 guard, defied his modest size and gave his bigger opponents fits this winter, averaging 16 points and five assists per game. A WWAC Red all-division honoree, Bowen shot 70 percent from the free throw line, 36 percent from beyond the three-point arc and close to two rebounds per contest. He also frustrated opposing teams by nabbing 2.2 steals per game.

"Xzavier was our leader on and off the court this season," said Bates. "He made this year's team go. He had the ball in his hands almost all of the time and made great decisions. He is one of the best ball-handlers I have seen. He was a very good three-point shooter and was even better going to the basket. He scored when he had to and distributed the ball when he had to."

Nick Daniels, Sr., G, John Glenn: The 6-foot senior guard, a four-year starter, became Glenn's all-time career scoring leader this season with 1,170 points breaking the mark held for 34 years by Daran Armstrong.

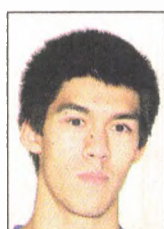
Daniels, who has signed with Oakland University, averaged 17 points per game this season for the 19-4 Rockets, who earned a share of the KLAA South Division title.

"It's been a pleasure to coach Nick for four years," Glenn's Dan Young said. "He's an outstanding player, all-time leading scorer and a just a great kid."

Caleb Hogans, Sr., G, N. Farmington: The senior point guard was an outstanding floor leader, handling the ball with aggressiveness and skill against pressure from opposing teams. Hogans, who will play next season at Spring Arbor University, averaged 16 points, six assists, four steals and three rebounds. He can shoot the three or drive to the basket equally well. Hogans was a three-year starter; he and Sterling Sharp played in two district finals and won three city championships.

"Caleb was the leader of our team," coach Todd Negoshian said. "He was able to be of a true point guard his senior season, and his all-around numbers showed it. He's one of the toughest kids I have ever coached. He is one of the best pure point guards to ever play at North."

"The biggest thing he brought was his competitive nature in every practice and game. He's one of the most stubborn kids I have coached, and that's a huge benefit in making him as successful as he is. He's going to compete and not give in. He



Chris Dierker Salem



Rayvlon Croon Thurston



Josh Priebe Plymouth



Josh Mayberry Canton



Xzavier Bowen Thurston



Nick Daniels John Glenn



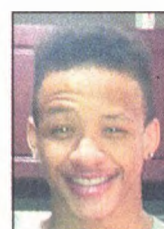
Caleb Hogans N. Farmington



Jordan Nobles Canton



Isaac Everette John Glenn



Jeron Rogers N. Farmington



Josh Campbell Stevenson



Sterling Sharp N. Farmington



Richard Roberts John Glenn



Dorian Fields Harrison



Jimmy Reddy Canton coach



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

North Farmington's Caleb Hogans was a three-year starter at point guard.

wants to make sure it's done his way and to the best of his ability."

SECOND TEAM

Jordan Nobles, Jr., F, Canton: At 6-8, Nobles towered over many an opponent in 2012-13, and not just physically.

Nobles was a crucial cog in the Canton wheel, both on offense and defense, particularly in the second half of the season when the Chiefs made a charge to the top of the KLAA South.

The All-KLAA selection made his presence felt with 10.5 points per game. He also chipped in with an average of five rebounds and three blocks per game, totals that will undoubtedly go up in tandem with more minutes in his senior season.

"Jordan had an outstanding year at both ends of the floor," Reddy said. "His ability to score inside and out along with his ability to block and or change shots at the defensive end was paramount to our success this year."

Isaac Everette, Jr., F, John Glenn: The 6-4 junior forward, who averaged 14 points and six rebounds per game, led a talented Glenn front line that won 19 of 23 games.

Even better things are expected next out of the All-KLAA selection, who can score both inside and outside.

"Isaac improved the most of anybody in our program," Young said. "He does everything well. He guards the best player in most games and is very humble. He can score and also rebounds well."

Jeron Rogers, Soph., F, N. Farmington: In his second season as a starting post player, the 6-foot-6 Rogers averaged a double-double with 17 points and 10 rebounds. He also had two blocks per game. In addition to Hogans and Sharp, he was a big reason the Raiders were 17-6, district champions and OAA Red Division runners-up to Clarkston.

"Jeron had an outstanding sophomore

year," Negoshian said. "He showed tremendous improvement in his skill because of his work over the summer. He's one of the fiercest competitors I have ever been around; he truly hates to lose."

"He was an outstanding leader for a sophomore with his work ethic and attitude. He deferred to the veteran leaders when necessary, and he stepped up and became the leader when the situation called for him to be. Doing what he did in the post as a sophomore speaks volumes about his ability."

Josh Campbell, Sr., G, Stevenson: The 5-11 senior guard averaged 17.8 points per game, along with 5.5 rebounds and 3.3 assists per game en route to earn All-Observer honors for the second year in a row.

"Josh is an explosive offensive player that can score multiple ways," Stevenson coach Brandon Sinawi said. "His ability to get to the basket opens up his outside shot and he helped carry our team's offense the majority of the season."

The two-time All-KLAA pick scored 36 points on two different occasions this season.

"Aside from his scoring ability, Josh's basketball instinct is second to none and he can do whatever is needed to help our team win," Sinawi said. "He's one of the best pure basketball players to come through Stevenson in the last decade."

Sterling Sharp, Sr., G, N. Farmington: Sharp, an all-area pitcher who has a baseball scholarship to Eastern Michigan, was another three-year starter for the Raiders, who were 44-24 during that time. The 6-foot-4 senior guard produced 14 points per game, and his leaping ability also made him a good rebounder. Sharp averaged seven rebounds, three steals and one block. He and Hogans share the school record with eight triple baskets in one game.

2012-13 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS BASKETBALL FIRST TEAM

F-Chris Dierker, Salem, Sr.
F-Rayvlon Croon, Thurston, Jr.
G-Josh Priebe, Plymouth, Sr.
G-Josh Mayberry, Canton, Sr.
G-Xzavier Bowen, Thurston, Sr.
G-Nick Daniels, John Glenn, Sr.
G-Caleb Hogans, N. Farm., Sr.

SECOND TEAM

F-Jordan Nobles, Canton, Jr.
F-Isaac Everette, John Glenn, Jr.
F-Jeron Rogers, N. Farm., Soph.
G-Josh Campbell, Stevenson, Sr.
G-Sterling Sharp, N. Farm., Sr.
G-Richard Roberts, John Glenn, Sr.
G-Dorian Fields, Harrison, Sr.

THIRD TEAM

F-Otis Kemutambah, Thurston, Jr.
F-Greg Williams, Canton, Jr.
F-Diante McGowan, Thurston, Sr.
F-Scott Gring, Canton, Sr.
G-Kevin Mack, Salem, Sr.
G-Todd Moore, Harrison, Sr.
G-Jailen Webber, Stevenson, Soph.

FOURTH TEAM

F-Ryan Schaffer, Huron Valley, Jr.
F-Valentino Kalaj, Farmington, Sr.
F-James Pruitt, John Glenn, Jr.
F-Olushakin Cole, Franklin, Sr.
G-Mick Noel, Ply. Christian, Sr.
G-Dwayne Scott, Churchill, Sr.
G-Juwan Nelson, Clarenceville, Jr.

COACH OF THE YEAR

Jimmy Reddy, Canton

HONORABLE MENTION

Churchill: Jon Hovermale, Donte Jackson; **Franklin:** Tyrone Rayford, Alex Armstrong; **Stevenson:** Joe Mims; **Clarenceville:** Austin Douglass, Kimani Dooley; **John Glenn:** Dre Black; **Wayne:** Rio Washington, Juwan Snipes, Josh Lowry; **Lutheran Westland:** Nick Andrzejewski, A.J. Seltz, Brandon Wyman; **Huron Valley:** Milan Monk; **Thurston:** Chris Broxton; Xavier Crofford; **Redford Union:** Manny Chatman, Jacob McKiddie, Jerrime Koger; **Garden City:** Tyler Gonzales, Jay Sheppard, Kevin Brown-Bayko; **Plymouth:** Sid Acharya, Jake Divens, Brendan Swanson, Brian Schmid; **Salem:** Nate Sass; **Canton:** Ryan Planey, Davon Taylor; **Plymouth Christian:** Alex Huber, Drew Ibach, Daniel Jipping, Matt Sumner; **Farmington:** Justin Banks; **North Farmington:** Cameron Darden; **Harrison:** AJ Freeman.

"Sterling really came into his own his senior year," Negoshian said. "He's one of the most consistent players I have coached. He brought the same effort every day in the gym. He will have an outstanding career (at EMU) because of his work ethic."

"He's one of the best leaders I've been around with the way he leads by example. You know what you're going to get from him every day, and it was a 100-percent effort no matter if he was sick or hurt."

Richard Roberts, Sr., G, John Glenn: The 6-2 transfer from Inkster provided toughness on both ends of the floor for the KLAA South Division co-champions, who fell in the district final to eventual state Class A champion Romulus. Roberts averaged 10 points per game for the 19-4 Rockets.

"Richard had a solid season," Young said of the All-KLAA choice. "He fought two injuries but still got better and better as the season went on."

Dorian Fields, Sr., G, Harrison: The senior guard was one of the most well-rounded players in the area. He was consistent across the statistical spectrum with solid numbers in every game. Fields, who averaged 11.5 points, six rebounds and five assists, was effective on defense, too, having a high number of steals. He will play football and basketball at Siena Heights University.

"Dorian was really an all-around player for us," coach Jason Pickett said. "He stepped up his game in all facets this year. He was our leader in assists and rebounds, as well as our third-leading scorer. He could have led us in any number of categories, but he bought in early this season to what we could do as a team if he functioned as more of a facilitator."

"That being said, he never shied from taking a clutch shot when the team needed it. Dorian has very high motor with the ability to make others better as a passer. His competitive fire led him to be an above-average defender and rebounder. He's had 250 rebounds combined in the last two years despite playing on the wing."

Coach of the Year

Jimmy Reddy, Canton: Diminutive in stature, Reddy continues to make a big impact on the Canton varsity boys basketball program in just four years at the helm.

The Chiefs bought in to Reddy's blueprint for success: Defend, control the basketball and box out around the rim.

As a result, not to mention having some extremely talented players on the roster, Canton earned a 17-7 record to capture the division, conference and district for the first time since 1996.

According to Reddy, the special season was made even more so by the way the team got off the mat after a 2-5 start.

"I couldn't be more proud of our players," Reddy said. "They showed a ton of resilience and toughness in turning this thing around the last two months."

"That doesn't happen unless you have good players and a quality coaching staff like I have."

Reddy tipped his cap to varsity assistant coaches Tony Wichmann and Matt Dent, along with junior varsity coaches Dan Coligan and Ryan Waidmann and freshman coach Jason Slaughter.

All of the coaches are on the same page as far as the Canton boys basketball program is concerned.

Reddy, a former star player at Westland John Glenn (the team the Chiefs defeated in triple overtime to clinch the KLAA South), also thanked his wife and Canton varsity girls soccer coach Jeannine Reddy for being so supportive during the four-month basketball grind.

Local trumpet player celebrates Stan Kenton's jazz

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Bob Lympers will re-live a little jazz history Sunday, April 7, when he performs *Intermission Riff* on trumpet at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts in Detroit.

"I'm on the original recording. It was a big hit," said Lympers, 86, of Farmington Hills. "I'll probably need a sheet of music in front of me. It's been a long time."

Lympers will join the Detroit Masters of Music Big Band, led by trombonist, Ron Kischuk, in playing the song during a concert celebrating the music of Stan Kenton.

The concert starts at 5 p.m. at Music Hall, 350 Madison Ave. Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door, and are available through ticketmaster.com or the Music Hall box office at (313) 887-8501.

In addition to Lympers, the performance will feature jazz drummer Peter Erskine; John Harnner, former first trumpet player with the Stan Kenton Orchestra; trumpet player Johnny Trudell; and drummer Jerry McKenzie of West Bloomfield, who played with the Kenton Big Band from 1958-1962 and in 1972.

After recording two records for Capitol Records in 1943, Stan Kenton's band became one of the most popular wartime jazz groups. After World War II, it continued to record for Capitol and was among the first big jazz bands to incorporate Afro-Cuban rhythms into its music.

Lympers played with the band from 1945-46 and in 1948. His roommate at the time, another trumpet player named Ray Wetzel, arranged the piece that Lympers will play on Sunday.

"At the end of the night the crowd would thin out. It was slow one night and we started fooling around, playing a blues type thing," Lympers recalled. "When they were looking for a 'B side' for a record, Stan said, 'Let's do that thing we were doing the other night.'" Wetzel offered to arrange the impro-



Bob Lympers is the second trumpet player from the right, in the back row.



A contemporary photo of Bob Lympers of Farmington Hills

vised piece and the tune became a hit.

Jobbing around

Lympers, a Detroit native, began playing trumpet when he was 10 and with encouragement from various teachers, continued to play through high school. While still at MacKenzie High, he sat in with a band, playing the "swing shift dance" at the Grande Ballroom in Detroit. After graduation he performed with Bill Gale and "jobbed around," getting gigs at clubs, ballrooms, sitting in with other bands. The Walled Lake Casino, Edgewater Park, and the Graystone Ballroom were among a few of his concert venues. He had just returned to Detroit after touring in Pennsylvania and New York, when he discovered that Gale had recommended him to Stan Kenton.

"I came home and my mother said, 'Stan Kenyon called you.' I said, 'Mom, that's Stan Kenton!' So I called him and he told me he was looking for a trumpet player. I sat in and they hired me."

With Stan Kenton's band, Lympers toured extensively, recorded, performed on live radio broadcasts, shared the stage with numerous celebrities and even ended up in a scene from a movie called *Talk About a Lady*.

"I was on the road with Stan and my dad used to write to me and say, come back and go to school."

Lympers took a break from the band in 1947, returned for one more year and then quit to attend Wayne State University.

"I made the right decision. I could see that being on the road was a tough way to go. I'm glad

I kept playing, but going to school was the way to go. I joined the Wayne Concert Band."

Settling down

Lympers earned a teaching degree and taught music in Taylor schools, then worked for a while in real estate, before going back into the classroom as a math teacher in Hazel Park schools.

During his teaching career, Lympers, who is married and has three children, continued to perform. He played polka music in a band for a show broadcast locally on WXYZ, worked in back-up bands and

worked numerous venues throughout southeastern Michigan.

"When I quit teaching the second time and went back into real estate I couldn't spend time playing. I took a leave of absence for 15 years."

He started playing again in 1975 with the Farmington Community Band. That quickly led to gigs with Austin Moro band and playing back up for celebrities appearing at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts.

"I started working a lot. I played for so many people over the years,

I've got a list."

The lengthy list includes Jerry Lewiston, President Bill Clinton, Tony Bennett, Carol Channing, Charlie Parker, Johnny Mathis, the Temptations, Dinah Shore, Connie Stevens and many more.

Today, Lympers is on the board of the Detroit Federation of Musicians, Local 5, and he continues to perform.

"I just played at a church. I was part of a brass quintet with a choir for Easter services. I've done a lot of small band playing," he said. "I liked the big band stuff, but I like the little stuff, too."

GET OUT!

Arts Crafts

CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: Exhibit runs through April 12

Location: In the Costick Center lobby, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Works by Farmington Hills resident, Bob Aikins

Contact: Aikins at www.AikinsAviationArt.com;

(248) 473-1800 for Costick Center

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

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

Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit

Family Sundays: 2 p.m. Sundays; storytelling,

performances; free with admission

Exhibits: Motor City Muse: Detroit Photographs: Then and Now, through June 16; Shirin Neshat, includes eight video installations and two series of photos, April 7-July 7; printmaking by Ellsworth Kelly, May 24-Sept. 8

Please see GET OUT!, B7

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'The Vagina Monologues' selling out in Plymouth

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Barefoot Productions' next show — Eve Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues* — is so popular, the Plymouth theater has sold out of tickets and added a performance, all before the production opens.

"I think it's because, number one, we have a lot of new faces at Barefoot, and they are selling tickets like hotcakes," said Susan Storey, vice president in charge of membership and director of the upcoming performance.

"They're new to the stage and are excited to do this piece. A lot of times you don't have the opportunity to do it. It's done on the college stage."

The monologues often are performed in February, as part of V-Day, an international celebration that includes readings of Ensler's work and consciousness-raising events to end violence against women and girls called "V-Day."

Storey, who is directing the production, decided to stage the show this month because it would have been too close to a main stage show at the theater in February.

"Everyone else does it in February. This timing was better. April works nicely," Storey said.

The show will run Friday-Sunday, April 5-7 and Saturday, April 13, at the theater, 240 N Main, Plymouth. Tickets are sold out for the April 6-7 performances.

Earlier this week, a handful of tickets were available for the 8 p.m., April 5 show and



The cast of "The Vagina Monologues," staged by Barefoot Productions, includes Susan Storey, (top); Jeanne Poulet, (second row, left) Jessey Gohl, Mary Tablac, and Samantha Lowry; Chris Steves (bottom, left), Chelsey Mellon, Alex Bauer, Amanda Durham and Adriana Acosta. Members not pictured are Collette Cullen, Jeanne Pruet, Caroline Rankin, Ederique Goudia, Jennifer Jelsema, and Faithanne Melow

15 tickets had already sold for the 8 p.m. April 13 show, which was added to the run.

Money raised through a drawing at the show will benefit First Step, western Wayne County's project on domestic and sexual violence. Representatives from First Step also will be on hand at each performance with information about its services.

A cast of 15 women from Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Livonia, Westland, Detroit, Ann Arbor and Holland — approximately a three-hour drive, one-way from the theater — will bring the monologues to life.

"The presentation is something like you've never seen before. We're not really using (reading) scripts. There is interpretation of the pieces. It's not acting, but it's interpretive theater," Storey said. "We have

a cool ending that is a group effort, including the audience."

The show will include all of the original script, along with a few additional Ensler works, such as "Crooked Braids" and "Comfort Women."

"This is like gold. It's really fun and it's good for the community to know we've got a hot commodity. I wanted to sell out, naturally, but I never thought this would sell out like this. It's too exciting."

Membership in Barefoot Productions is \$10 annually and comes with tickets to one mainstage show and voting rights. Members also may volunteer as little or as much as they want.

For more information about Barefoot Productions visit www.justgobarefoot.com. To reserve tickets for *The Vagina Monologues* call (734) 560-1493.



Inspire Theatre's set for its production of "Rumors." The staircase and backdrop will be junked unless the group can find adequate storage space by May 1.

Westland theater seeks new building

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Inspire Theatre needs your help finding a new home.

The community theater must move costumes, props, electronic equipment and sets from its current location in Westland by May 1. Its theater school's upcoming performance, *The Ballad of Gopher Gap*, needs a stage and the cast of Larry Shue's *The Foreigner*, Inspire's next production, needs rehearsal space.

"We can't raise money or make money because we can't put shows on," said Wendy Hardy, a member of Inspire Theatre's leadership team. "What we really need is somebody that believes in our dreams and our future and can help us financially or can support us in getting a building. If we can find someone who can go into a partnership with us or something to get us on our feet — because once we get things rolling, we'd be able to start making money again."

Members are looking for 3,000 square feet of space in Wayne, Westland, Livonia, Garden City or Redford. Len Fisher, theater director, said the group is talking to "everyone we can think of" and has reached out to patrons via Facebook.

"There's a lot of retail space, but it comes with a price. We don't necessarily want to go into industrial, but that seems to be the only thing we can afford. I've even considered finding a house to rent," he said.

The theatre worked out of a church basement in Dearborn for its first four years and then moved to Warren Road Light and Life Free Methodist Church in Westland for the past 4 1/2 years, Fisher said.

"The church offered us great rent and it's been a fun space."

Fisher said he received an e-mail from the church last week, saying that it was time for the group to leave. He called the notice abrupt and said it stemmed from church leaders' concerns over



Inspire Theatre's sign stands outside the Warren Road Light and Life Free Methodist Church, in Westland. The theatre must move out of the church by May 1.

the theater's choice of plays, including *The Foreigner*, a comedy.

"We had a meeting and they asked me to explain why we chose it (*The Foreigner*) and how we'd change it. I said I didn't feel at liberty to change someone's work and I didn't see a problem with the subject matter because it was a play where the good guys won and the bad guys lost."

Fisher said the theater had edited some scripts in the past as a result of the church's concerns over strong language or scenes set in bars.

"If the play has swearing, drinking or smoking we've tried to limit it. We told them we would try our best to not cross that line, but we weren't sure where that line was. It's a nebulous line."

Time to leave

The Rev. David Powless, pastor of the church, said that although the impending move may appear abrupt, it was not a surprise.

"First of all their lease was up," Powless said. "He (Fisher) told one of our board members that they planned on being out of there by a certain point this summer. They've been looking for quite a while for another space. It's just hard to walk away from a good deal."

Powless said the theater needed to move if it wanted to "have more freedom of expression in the plays they choose."

"We thought this was the best time."

Powless called the theater "good people" and said some of his church members are involved in the group.

Fisher said he didn't intend to disparage the church when he called for help in finding a new space.

"We want to let our patrons know we're looking for a place and we need help," he said.

Anyone with ideas for a new location may call the theater at (734) 751-7057.





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GET OUT!

Continued from page B6

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

GALLERY@VT

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday and during public events, through April 28

Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: The photography of Claudia Retter

Contact: (734) 394-5300

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, April 5-April 27; opening reception 6-9 p.m. April 5

Location: 215 W. Cady,

Northville

Details: "Line & Brush: Two FigurativeVisions" shows the work of friends and art instructors, Amy Foster and Vianna Szabo. Foster is a master draftsman who loves line and gesture while Szabo's passion is paint and color. In conjunction with this exhibit, the artists will offer two-day workshops at the Northville Art House. Amy Foster will offer portrait drawing fundamentals, April 20-21 and Vianna Szabo will teach painting gesture portraits, April 27-28. Limited space is available. See the Art House website at www.northvillearts.org for more information

Contact: (248) 344-0497



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California Wine Country Tapenade

Time for Tapenades

The ripe olive is one of the most versatile foods in the pantry. While delicious on its own, olives also add flavor to a number of dishes from soups and salads to appetizers and entrees. One dish, that features olives predominantly and is as versatile as its main ingredient, is tapenade.

Tapenade originated in Provence, France, as a simple mixture of chopped olives, with various herbs and spices and is often used as a spread on crackers or a condiment. There are many different recipes for tapenade, and the first step is selecting the type of olive to use. Green and black California Ripe Olives are perfect because of their mild taste and ability to blend well with other flavors. To ensure you are purchasing California Ripe Olives, check the label to see if they're a product of the U.S.

Tapenades are as varied as they are delicious, with consistencies that range from a spreadable paste to a chunky, salsa-like mixture. And their flavors can span the globe, from Greek and Mexican to Asian and French.

A simple ripe olive base is all you need to create a world of flavor.

Here are three very different approaches to tapenade. The first is inspired from where the olives come from — California — and includes garlic, shallots and fresh basil. The second has a Mexican flair with chipotle peppers and fresh cilantro. Finally, it's East-meets-West with an Asian-inspired version that balances the mild olive flavors with spicy Sriracha and fresh ginger.

Although delicious with crackers and a tradi-

tional cheese plate, there are a number of creative ways to enjoy tapenade, including:

- Mixing with sour cream for a zesty dip
- As a spread on sandwiches
- Spooned on tacos with lettuce, tomatoes and cheese
- Stuffed into chicken breasts for a flavorful kick
- Spread on pizza dough and topped with cheese and veggies

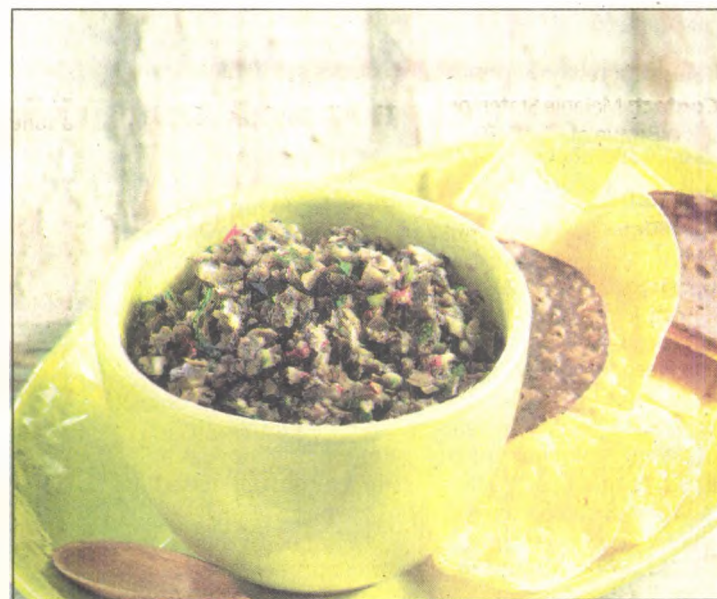
For more recipes featuring California Ripe Olives, visit www.CalOlive.org.

California Wine Country Tapenade

Prep time: 10 minutes
Chill time: 1 hour
Makes 8 to 10 servings

½ cup chopped shallots
¼ cup chopped smoked sun-dried tomatoes
2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
2 tablespoons white balsamic vinegar
2 cloves garlic, minced
2 6-ounce cans California Green Ripe Olives, well drained
1 6-ounce can California Black Ripe Olives, well drained
¼ cup lightly packed fresh basil
Sea salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
Crackers or toasted baguette slices

Place shallots, sun-dried tomatoes, olive oil, vinegar and garlic in a food processor and pulse on and off until finely chopped. Add olives, basil, salt and pepper and pulse again until chopped. Cover and chill for 1 hour. (May be prepared 1 day ahead.) Serve with crackers or toasted baguette slices.



Mexican Tapenade

Mexican Tapenade

Prep time: 10 minutes
Chill time: 1 hour
Makes 8 to 10 servings

2 6-ounce cans California Ripe Olives, well drained
¼ cup lightly packed fresh cilantro leaves
2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
2 tablespoons lime juice
2 cloves garlic, minced
2 green onions, sliced
1 canned chipotle pepper plus 2 teaspoons adobo sauce from can

Good quality tortilla chips

Drain olives well and place in a food processor with all remaining ingredients except chips. Pulse on and off until finely chopped. Cover and chill for 1 hour. (May be prepared 1 day ahead.) Serve with tortilla chips or use as a sandwich spread or in quesadillas or tacos.



Spicy Asian Tapenade

Spicy Asian Tapenade

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 5 minutes
Chill time: 1 hour
Makes 8 to 10 servings

Tapenade:
2 6-ounce cans California Ripe Olives, well drained
½ cup minced onion
2 tablespoons olive or peanut oil
2 tablespoons rice vinegar (unseasoned)
1 ½ tablespoons grated fresh ginger
1 tablespoon Sriracha sauce
¼ teaspoon sesame oil
2 cloves garlic, minced
Crispy Won Ton Dippers:
24 square won ton wrappers, each cut into 2 triangles
Olive oil cooking spray
Sea salt to taste
Crispy Won Ton Cups:
24 square won ton wrappers
Olive oil cooking spray

Place all tapenade ingredients in a food processor

and pulse on and off until finely chopped. Cover and chill for 1 hour.

Meanwhile for dippers, preheat oven to 400°F and line 2 baking sheets with foil. Cut won ton wrappers in half and place on baking sheets; coat with olive oil spray and season lightly with salt. Bake for 5 minutes or until golden brown.

For cups, preheat oven to 350°F. Spray won ton wrappers on both sides with olive oil cooking spray. Press into 24 mini muffin cups, pressing all the way into the bottom. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes or until golden brown; let cool.

Serve with tapenade.

— Courtesy Family Features

Solve mystery with bid at purse auction

There's more to an upcoming purse auction at Faith Community Wesleyan Church than meets the eye.

Some 30 purses — at last count — will go to the highest bidder Saturday, April 13, at the Livonia church's "Women of Faith" Mystery Purse Auction.

Participants will get a chance to see the items before the bidding starts at 5 p.m., but won't be allowed to look inside them. Each purse will be filled with a collection of "mystery" goods that will be revealed after the bidding ends.

"At our meeting we were brainstorming for fundraisers that would be a little different and be fun for everyone," wrote Mary Cisney, in an e-mail to the *Observer*. "We figured, what do ladies enjoy owning a lot of (besides shoes), well, purses. And what fun to fill

them with different things — usually with a theme (but not always), like 'garden purse,' with all kinds of gardening things or 'relaxing purse' with bubble bath, a book, candle and lotions — and auction them off."

The church held its first purse auction last year in conjunction with a speaker. This year's speaker is Angela Morgan, director of the church's Wednesday Night Kids Program. She will use items, such as keys, a cell phone, wallet, normally found in a purse to illustrate her talk.

"Each item will have a point. As an example, cell phone: something to communicate with ... if you need to communicate with the Lord, all you need to do is pray," Cisney said. "Having a cell phone is good to have to give you a sense of security. Having

open communication with Christ gives you an even greater sense of security."

The event also will include light refreshments.

The bidding will start at \$5. Participants must be over 15 years old to bid.

"We encourage the ladies to bring their men. It just adds to the fun. They seem to encourage the ladies to keep bidding."

Proceeds will benefit "Women of Faith" and Faith Community's 2nd Service.

The church also accepts donations of purses filled with mystery items.

Call Cisney at (248) 471-1322 to register.

Faith Community Wesleyan Church is located at 14560 Merriman, Livonia.

By Sharon Dargay

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

April

BLOOD DRIVE

Time/Date: 1-7 p.m. Friday, April 26

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland.

Contact: For appointments call (734) 722-1735 or (800) RED-CROSS

CAMP ENROLLMENT

Time/Date: Now through May 31

Location: Consuming Fire Christian Center, 31463 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland

Details: The Center is enrolling kids and teens, age 5-15, for its six-week Bible/Home-work Enrichment Camp that will run July 8-Aug. 16. Full day sessions are \$700 and a half-day is \$480. Families get a \$25 discount for added siblings for the full day rate; \$10 discount for the half-day rate. A non-refundable \$100 registration fee at the time of enrollment secures a place at camp. All tuition must be paid in full by May 31. Cost includes the registration fee, snacks, materials for class, tutoring in most subjects and assessment testing

Contact: Melanie Staten or Sylvia Brown at (734) 266-2293

CONCERT

Time/Date: 4 p.m., Sunday, April 7

Location: St. John Lutheran Church, located on Gill Road between Grand River Ave., and Freedom Road, Farmington Hills



Rich Ridenour, (left) and Brandon Ridenour will perform Sunday, April 7, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, Farmington Hills.

CONCERT

Details: The Macomb Chorale, Macomb Chamber Singers and the Macomb Handbell Choir, Belles Voix will perform. Gospel Mass by American composer, Robert Ray will be featured. Also included on the program are a variety of choral styles from the Renaissance to popular musical selections. Admission is free. A free-will offering will be taken. Refreshments will be provided

Contact: (248) 474-0584

CONCERT

Time/Date: 2 p.m., Sunday, April 7

Location: Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Brandon Ridenour, principal trumpet player of the Canadian Brass, performs a free concert. Rich Ridenour accompanies on piano. The

program will include music by Debussy, Bartok, Joplin, Prokofiev, and Gershwin, among others. Complimentary refreshments will be served at intermission

Contact: (248) 476-8860; www.nardinpark.org

FILM

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 17

Location: Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield

Details: "Homeland: Four Portraits of Native Action," profiles struggles of Native American leaders who are taking on powerful energy companies and government agencies to protect the environment. The film is a tribute to grassroots organizing. A discussion and refreshments follow the film

Contact: (248) 354-4488; www.northwestuu.org

FILM

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 27

Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

Details: The church and AAA Pregnancy Resource Center, show the film, "October Baby," which tells the story of a woman adopted by loving parents after a failed abortion. Free child care will be provided. Snacks will be available. The film is not recommended for children under 13

Contact: (734) 459-3333

OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: Noon-2 p.m. Sunday, April 14; 1-2:30 p.m. Friday, April 19

Location: St. Genevieve Catholic School, 28933 Jamison, Livonia

Details: Accepting registration for the 2013-14 school year for grades 1-8, full and half-day kindergarten, Young 5's, preschool for ages 3 and 4. Flexible payment plans and tuition assistance is available. The student population is diverse and class size is small. The April 19 open house is specifically for parents interested in sending their children to the kindergarten or Young 5 program. Parents and children will spend an afternoon in either the Young 5 or kindergarten class. Their children will listen to a story, do a craft and meet teachers, friends and enjoy a snack

Contact: Ann Tonissen, principal, at atonissen@stgenevieve.org or Phyllis Chudzinski, preschool and Young 5's director, at pchudzinski@stgenevieve.org

POMEGRANATE GUILD

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday, April 14

Location: Prentis Apartments Community Room, located on 10 Mile east of Greenfield in Oak Park.

Details: Linda Lublin will lead an evil eye bracelet project. There is a \$2 materials fee. Bring a clipboard if you have one. The group also will prepare its display for the Farmington Festival of the Arts, "Color the World," April 18-20

Contact: Judy Galperin at (248) 661-5337

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Wednesday, 9:45 a.m. for Thursday paper**

BLEEKER, MARILYN J.

88, a resident of Davenport, Iowa, died Wednesday, March 27, 2013 at Trinity, Bettendorf. Services in the Detroit, Michigan area will be held at a later date. Halligan McCabe DeVries Funeral Home, Davenport is assisting the family with arrangements. Marilyn Joy was born on July 27, 1924 in Detroit, Michigan, a daughter of Harold E. and Gladys W. (Lee) Joy. Marilyn was married to David L. Helm, Jr. and later was united in marriage to Henry G. Bleeker. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Susan G. Komen for the Cure. She is survived by her daughters: Sharon (James) Puffer, Asheville, NC, and Heidi (Robert) Herman, Davenport; step-daughter, Pamela (Brent) Johnson, Aurora, CO; and her loving grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Henry, her parents, and a sister, Joann Hafke. Online remembrances and condolences may be expressed to the family by visiting Marilyn's obituary at www.hmdfuneralhome.com

HALLIGAN-McCABE-DeVRIES Funeral Home



OLIVERSON, JAMES J.

Age 89, March 31, 2013. Beloved husband of Sara. Dear father of James E., Lynda (Michael) Gattany, Gary E. (Susan) and Sheryl Buddenborg. Grandfather of 9. Great-grandfather of 26. Great great grandfather of 4. Brother of Joyce Thompson and Beverly Chamberlain. Visitation Thursday 2pm until the 7:30pm Funeral Service at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd., (between Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill), Garden City. Memorials suggested to Mott Children's Hospital. www.santeiufuneralhome.com

Santeiu Funeral Home



DeDONA, LENNA LORRAINE WITT

Age 92, of Novi, Michigan, formerly of Plymouth, MI and Longboat Key, FL, passed away peacefully in her sleep on Sunday, March 24, 2013. A gathering of friends and family will be held at Harry J. Will Funeral Home at 37000 W. Six Mile Road (at Newburgh) Livonia, Michigan 48152 on April 6, 2013 beginning at 1:00 PM, concluding with a memorial service at 3:00 PM. The interment service will be private at a later date. Lenna Lorraine was born in Detroit in 1920. She attended Plymouth High School and graduated in 1939. She was a member of the Professional Business Women's Club and the National Association of Realtors. L. Lorraine worked as a real estate agent for over 30 years in Plymouth and Northville Michigan, as well as Sarasota Florida. L. Lorraine is preceded in death by her husband of 31 years, Elmer M. Witt, and of 13 years, M. John DeDona, son, Leon Pasiuk, and brother, Harold Welch. Survivors include Sons' Glen Witt (MaryAnn) of Durham, N.C., daughters' Gale Witt Anyx (Charles) of Plymouth, MI., Gladys Witt Strain (James); 10 grandchildren, Kimberly Witt Cook, Kristina Witt, Justin Sokol (LeAnn), Adam Sokol (Stephanie Bonk), Jay Strain (Ann), Jeff Strain (Jenna), Jamie Strain (Amy), Eric Witt, Martha Witt Santilucia (Remo), Daria Witt, and 13 great-grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Fox Run Scholarship Fund, 41000 13 Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48377 or Oakland Talking Book Service for the Blind and Handicapped, Rochester Hills Public Library, 500 Olde Town Road, Rochester, MI 48307.

SIDDALL, DALE

March 19, 1922-March 28, 2013 Services on Thursday, April 4, 2013, 10am, at Queen of Peace Catholic Church, 13120 E. Kentucky Ave, Aurora 80012

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WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday Worship 9:30am

For Information regarding this Directory,
please call Sue Sare at 248-437-2011 ext. 247
or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

SAVE THE DATE!

2013 | *Our 10th Anniversary*
Spring EXPO
 Formerly known as the Senior Expo

**Tuesday,
 April 23, 2013
 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**
 Schoolcraft College
 Livonia Campus
 VisTaTech Center

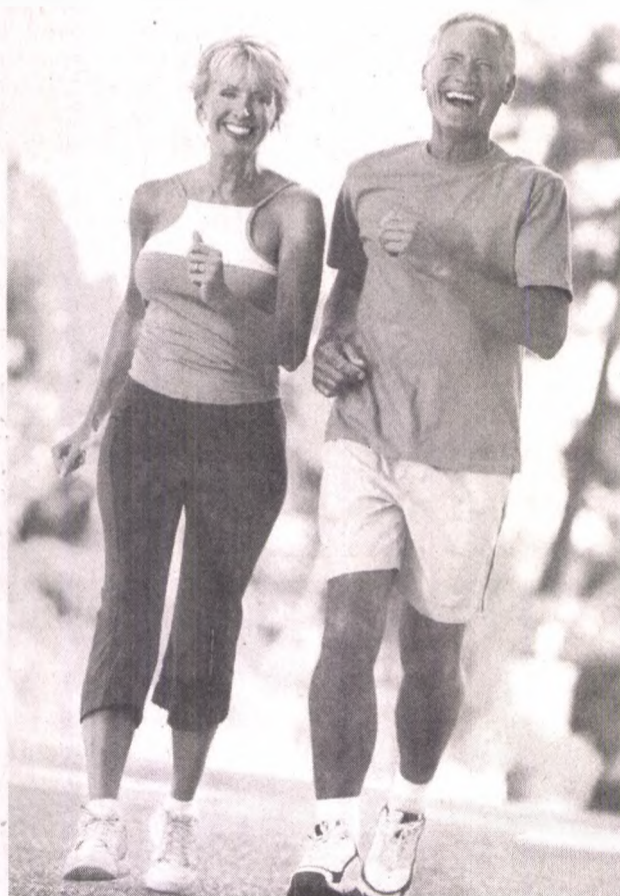


- **Prizes**
- **Free Admission and Parking**
- **Morning Refreshments**

Workshops and Demonstrations



- **Healthy Eating for Healthy Aging**
Priority Health
- **Zumba Gold**
American Health and Fitness
Schoolcraft College
- **Are your veins blue? There is a solution for you!**
University of Michigan
Livonia Vein Center
- **Stand up to Neck & Back Pain**
HealthQuest
- **Getting More Returns on Your Investments Without Taking Risks**
Bloom Asset Management
- **Strength Training for Seniors**
American Health and Fitness
Schoolcraft College
- **Hearing Loss & Associated Issues**
Michigan Hearing
- **Is Grief Really Good Charlie Brown?**
Angela Hospice
- **YOUR Mouth, YOUR Body!**
Comfort Dental Spa
- **CEPD Course Overview**
Schoolcraft College
- **Assure Quality Long Term Care**
Richmond Financial
- **Setting Goals to Stay Healthy and Independent**
St. Mary Mercy Hospital
- **Hospice 101 - Everything You Wanted to Know About Hospice, but were too afraid to ask**
Hospice of Michigan
- **Top 10 Estate Planning Mistakes People Make (and how to easily avoid them)**
Gaggos Law Firm
- **Increasing Mobility and Fall Prevention**
The Recovery Project



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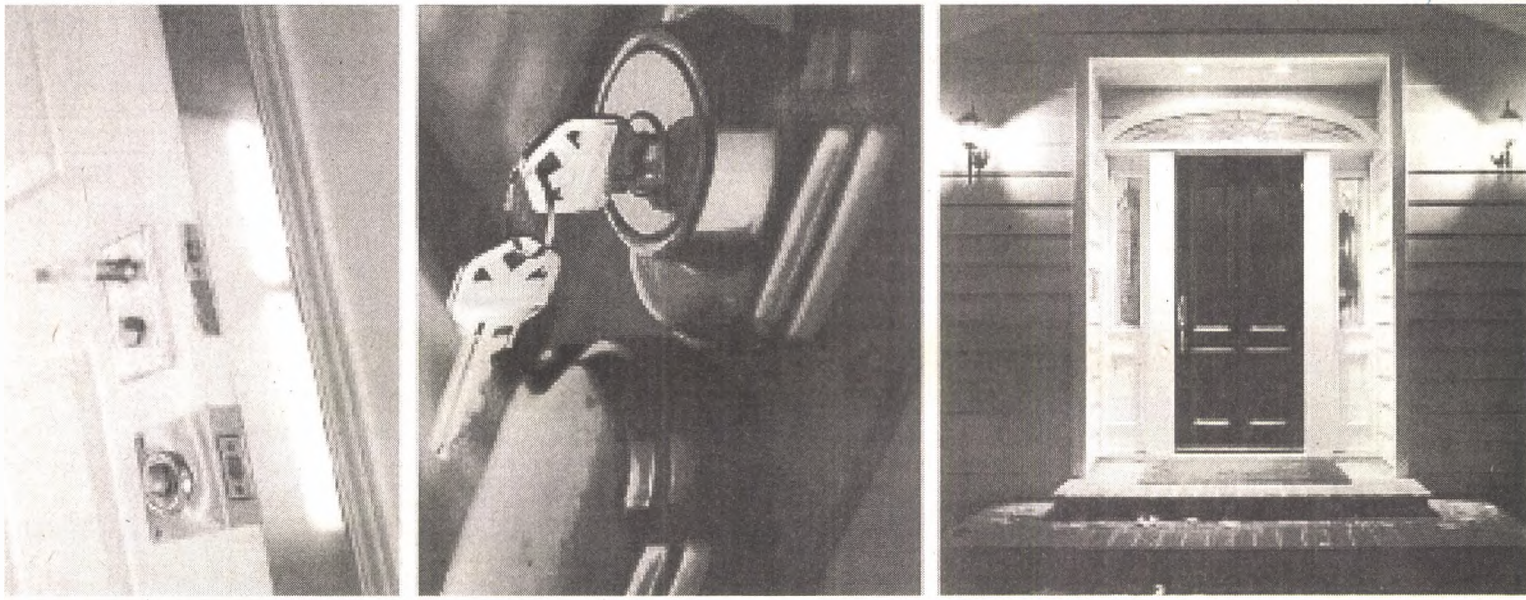
Choya Jordan
313.222.2414

cbjordan@hometownlife.com

Presented by:



Refreshments sponsored by:



Co-op foreclosure differs

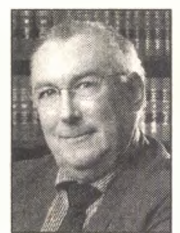
By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: Can you give me some information about a foreclosure in a co-op, as opposed to a condo?

A: First, you get rid of the person not paying the maintenance fees and you get a new shareholder liable for future obligations. In most instances in a co-op, a corporation has a first lien on the share so it is ahead of the bank and gets paid in full before the bank gets

dime one. If the bank forecloses and takes back the apartment, in most instances, a subsequent sale is still subject to board

approval, just like any other prospective purchaser of a co-op unit. Moreover, if the bank wants the shares transferred to it, it has to pay all of the back charges and has to stay current going forward. Unfortunately, the opposite is the case in the condo situation. There is usually a bank ahead of the condo association so in a condo foreclosure, unless there has been an assignment of the mortgage after the association lien is recorded, the bank will take priority, but this issue is the subject of a case where the condo association is seeking leave to appeal with the Michigan Supreme Court.



Robert Meisner

Q: My neighbor just dedicated some land to the city, but, frankly, I believe I had adverse possession to a substantial portion of that land before it was dedicated. I think there is a statute barring adverse possession against the government, so do I have any chance?

A: You are best advised to see a condemnation and/or real estate attorney in your jurisdiction, but in a recent case from the appellate court in Washington State, the court indicated on a case with similar facts that the statute providing immunity from adverse possession on a governmental entity did not apply when the adverse possession had occurred while the property was still privately owned. In effect, because the adverse possession was against a private owner and was complete before the dedication, title had vested in the adverse possessor and the former owner had no interest to pass to the city.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and author of *Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track*, second edition, available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping/handling. He also wrote *Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium*, \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping/handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

Police advocate smarts when it comes to home security

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Lt. Debra Newsome of the Canton Police Department knows exterior illumination goes a long way toward making your home less of a break-in target.

"Illuminate your house," said Newsome, special services lieutenant for the Canton department. "I like the motion ones." The motion-activated lights let you know if someone's approaching your home.

"Thieves are looking for concealment," she said. "Anything you can do to harden the target is what we tell people."

Many people install home alarm systems, the lieutenant said, and advertise that outside their home with a window sign. She also advocates for good locks on windows and doors.

A solid front door is best, Newsome said, rather than one with a window a thief can break and reach through

to open a door. "They look really pretty and they have the beveled glass. You want really a solid, solid door."

Homeowners often put a dowel in a sliding door's track to prevent entry from outside. Newsome said places like Home Depot and Lowe's sell many braces for various doors and windows, but you always have to think about fire safety when getting out quickly from inside, she emphasized.

Newsome said many people put screws in tracks to keep windows from going all the way up, and there are also manufactured items for that. Thieves can easily get through just a plain screen open in warm weather, she said.

Newsome and her department have a booklet, "How Secure Is Your Home?," available there. It lists a number of home security tips.

Canton like other communities has a false alarm ordinance which begins with a couple warnings. "It's not

etched in stone," she said. "We do try to work with people." Weather can sometimes cause false alarms, she said, adding you can be cited for repeated human error.

Pets can cause trouble with motion-activated alarms, and Newsome doesn't believe those are necessary.

"That's huge," she said of keeping an eye out for your neighbors. "Knowing who your neighbors are, knowing their patterns." Community Watch in Canton and similar programs in other communities help: "Now, most people don't know their neighbors," she said, adding you should only confide vacation plans in a neighbor you trust.

Newsome also said snow removal and mowing are key when you're away, along with having newspapers stopped and mail held. She shovels the driveway for her neighbor who's away.

"All it does is advertise to somebody you're not home," Newsome said.

"Crime happens every-

where," she said, noting Canton's crime is mostly property focusing on larceny from autos and home invasions.

Home invasions usually happen when the home is empty, she said, often during the day when people are at work. Whether vacationing or working, you can use a TV or radio to create noise inside.

For vacationers, a TV or radio can be put on a timer. Newsome said to vary light timers, rather than the same rigid pattern every day: "Make it appear as though you're home."

She also said to lock car doors, remove valuables and take your garage door opener. You should lock your interior garage door as well.

"And definitely lock your doors. Roll up your windows. If you see something suspicious, don't wait. You're not bothering us, that's our job," she said of calling the non-emergency number. "Just call."

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 3-7, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
48298 Chesterfield Dr S	\$360,000
1228 E Franciscan Ct	\$175,000
45482 Fountain View Dr	\$305,000
50149 Jackson Ln	\$248,000
8453 May Apple Ct	\$214,000
44068 N Umland Cir	\$165,000
44227 Postmill Ct	\$146,000
2455 Premier Ln	\$77,000
41854 Ravenwood St	\$140,000
43509 W Arbor Way Dr	\$64,000
1221 W Crystal Cir	\$160,000
49650 Warren Rd	\$200,000

2480 Woodmont Dr E	\$180,000
GARDEN CITY	
33721 Alta St	\$40,000
32212 Alvin St	\$34,000
215 Helen St	\$60,000
33451 Kathryn St	\$69,000
LIVONIA	
16020 Alpine Dr	\$237,000
34950 Andrea Ct	\$275,000
11446 Brookfield St	\$143,000
11473 Cavell St	\$85,000
14147 Deering St	\$88,000
15118 Fairfield St	\$27,000
18620 Filmore St	\$75,000
15097 Inkster Rd	\$33,000
11446 Mayfield St	\$127,000
17526 Parklane St	\$190,000
35197 Vargo St	\$280,000
32818 Vermont St	\$129,000
14081 Warner Ct	\$143,000
NORTHVILLE	
18222 Cascade Dr	\$470,000
16196 Crystal Downs E	\$543,000

49290 Freestone Dr	\$312,000
49302 Freestone Dr	\$337,000
18744 Grande Vista Dr	\$160,000
738 Grandview St	\$620,000
47820 Manorwood Dr	\$620,000
18086 Maple Hill Ct	\$90,000
19555 Mariner Ct	\$70,000
613 Novi St	\$233,000
49298 Parkshore Ct	\$570,000
50431 Rose Ter	\$578,000
48902 Running Trout Ln	\$370,000
39668 Southwind Ln	\$234,000
18417 Stoneridge Ct	\$775,000
41885 Waterfall Rd	\$273,000
PLYMOUTH	
48040 Ashwood Dr	\$415,000
165 Hamilton Ave	\$150,000
40955 Ivywood Ln	\$201,000
790 York St	\$100,000
REDFORD	
18717 Denby	\$36,000
11386 Garfield	\$47,000
15220 Garfield	\$8,000

19310 Garfield	\$35,000
20600 Glenmore	\$14,000
25397 Ivanhoe	\$31,000
15837 Kinloch	\$13,000
17544 Macarthur	\$45,000
9051 Nathalie	\$54,000
9229 Riverview	\$40,000
WESTLAND	
38358 Abruzzi Dr	\$218,000
7424 August Ave	\$85,000
33921 Avondale St	\$120,000
7662 Cherrywood Dr	\$167,000
37771 Colonial Dr	\$45,000
32617 Fairchild St	\$34,000
34615 Ford Rd	\$31,000
8433 Hugh St	\$63,000
35106 June Dr	\$16,000
8270 Perrin Ave	\$86,000
1455 S John Hix St	\$43,000
30471 Steinhauer St	\$65,000
1954 Wilshire St	\$85,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 19-23, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
16991 Buckingham Ave	\$160,000
31503 Sleepy Hollow Ln	\$450,000
BINGHAM FARMS	
24094 Bingham Pointe Dr	\$405,000
29750 Bristol Ln	\$341,000
BIRMINGHAM	
1171 E Lincoln St	\$400,000
385 Ferndale Ave	\$299,000
1898 Henrietta St	\$198,000
608 Humphrey Ave	\$610,000
1516 W Lincoln	\$281,000

2351 Yorkshire Rd	\$122,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
5060 Forest Way	\$320,000
3875 Lakeland	\$850,000
1149 Ivyglen Cir	\$194,000
750 Kennebec Ct	\$450,000
3698 South Blvd	\$150,000
1910 Tiverton Rd	\$2,200,000
6984 Woodbank Dr	\$170,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
1238 Copperwood Dr	\$660,000
488 Fox Hills Dr S # A-7	\$55,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	
6124 Borowy Dr	\$193,000
2015 Glen Iris Dr	\$167,000
3276 Lochmore Ct	\$200,000
3785 Thomas Ct	\$196,000
FARMINGTON	
33976 Glenview Dr	\$138,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
32239 Alameda St	\$57,000

22057 Atlantic Pointe	\$58,000
29921 Greenboro St	\$155,000
34070 Harlowshire St	\$78,000
31452 Hunters Circle Dr	\$127,000
35663 Johnstown Rd	\$213,000
21779 Manchester Ln	\$272,000
34024 Northwick St	\$223,000
21156 Parklane St	\$209,000
29800 W 12 Mile Rd	\$55,000
27653 W Echo Vly Unit 212	\$51,000
LATHRUP VILLAGE	
17551 Redwood	\$140,000
MILFORD	
973 Manderly Dr	\$190,000
740 Ridgside	\$150,000
NOVI	
24445 Borderhill	\$152,000
21943 Clover Ln	\$250,000
24373 Fairway Hills Dr	\$135,000
44625 Huntington Dr	\$130,000
30879 Jasper Rdg	\$130,000

40788 Lenox Park Dr	\$225,000
47346 Scarlet Dr N	\$230,000
30240 Viewcrest Dr	\$233,000
39805 Village Wood Ln	\$60,000
47250 W 11 Mile Rd	\$90,000
SOUTH LYON	
54905 Brentwood Dr	\$40,000
24627 Brompton Way	\$40,000
24356 Glenwood Dr	\$40,000
1156 Horseshoe Dr	\$240,000
24419 Martindale Rd	\$184,000
185 Wellington	\$160,000
SOUTHFIELD	
27590 Bradford Ln	\$149,000
30130 Brentwood	\$69,000
19447 Nadol Dr	\$79,000
30271 Spring River Dr	\$85,000
WHITE LAKE	
737 Hilltop Dr	\$203,000
964 Sunnybeach Blvd	\$67,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Investors

A program on "Do It Yourself Rental Property Management" will be held 5:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, April 11, at Club Venetian, on John R just north of 12 Mile in Madison Heights. It's being offered by the Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland. The seminar is free to members, \$20 for nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742, www.REIAofOakland.com, or

e-mail reianews@aol.com. Many investors think renting out their investment property is easy, but that's not the case. • There will be a class 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 6, at the Royal Oak Senior Center, on Marais, also sponsored by the Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland. It's part of a series of 10 classes, and will cover "Financial Analysis of Investing." Cost is \$49 plus \$10 for materials.

Call (248) 787-7325 or online at AddedValueRealty.com.

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures and what it takes to get started. Many sellers are misinformed or not sure about how the procedures work. Organizers will also dis-

cuss the internal workings of short sales and the different steps involved. Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. Thursdays at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon. Additional parking across the street in back. Please call the office at (248) 782-7130 or e-mail june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

JOBS

career builder.com

Help Wanted - Medical

MEDICAL ASSISTANT, FT
Exp'd. Benefits X-Ray exp. needed. Resume: dmann@millenniummedicalgroup.org

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Part-time for pediatric office, exp. required
Call: (734) 591-0220

MEDICAL BILLER NEEDED
At Novi Chiropractic office. Fax resumes: 248-679-3061 or advancednovi@gmail.com

MEDICAL BILLER
W. Bloomfield office Full-Time Position. Exc. Salary & Benefits. Experience a must. Cover Letter, Resume & References MUST be included.
FAX: 248-932-0182

MEDICAL RECORDS COPY PERSON
Full-Time Filing with close attention to detail. Busy orthopedic specialist practice.
Fax resume
Attn: Mrs. Brockman to: 248-792-9628

PEDIATRIC CARDIOLOGIST
wanted to provide Pediatric Cardiology medical care to patients at Royal Oak, MI hospital. Send resume to Amanda Wertmann, HR, William Beaumont Hospitals, 16500 W. 12 Mile Rd., Southfield, MI 48076.
An Equal Opportunity Employer

Food - Beverage

- Bartenders
- Wait Staff • Cooks

Apply in person: Starting Gate, 135 N. Center St., Northville.

COOKS & SERVERS
Experienced for Beautiful Assisted Living Community in Westland. Please fax resume: (248) 350-9083

DIETARY SERVER & BACK UP COOK
American House in Livonia. Apply btwn 9-4 at 11525 Farmington Rd.

LINE COOKS, SOUS CHEF, SERVERS, BARTENDERS & DISHWASHERS
Links of Novi Golf Club, top dollar paid. Apply at: www.singhjobs.com or within 50395 W Ten Mile Rd., Novi.

Restaurant Manager
Sought for a busy award winning restaurant in Oakland County. Experience in a fast charged environment helpful.
Competitive salary.
Send resume to: Reference Box 6004 oeresume@hometownlife.com

WAREHOUSE/DRIVER
For Hydraulic component Distributor. Responsibilities include: Pick, Pack & Ship customer orders, stock shelves, maintain warehouse cleanliness. Clean driving record required. Full-Time \$9/hr.
Email resume to: tkalfs@hydra-flex.com

Help Wanted - Office Clerical

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE SPECIALIST
Neapco Holdings, Van Buren Twp. Min. 5 yrs AR experience preferably in an OEM Mfg environment. Bachelors Degree in Accounting or Finance preferred. Associates with equivalent AR exp considered. EEO pcaytor@neapco.com

RECEPTIONIST
Metro Detroit Auto Dealer is seeking applications for a part-time receptionist/cashier. Duties incl. answering a multi-line phone system, cashiering, and other clerical work as needed. Must be able to work nights & Saturdays.
Please email resume to: clericaljob13@gmail.com

Help Wanted - Dental

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST
\$40,000-\$50,000/YR.
Excellent opportunity for intelligent, well-groomed, experienced individual in high quality specialty practice.
Call: (248) 357-3100

Help Wanted - Medical

FRONT OFFICE COORDINATOR
Exp'd., full-time for busy orthopedic neuro office. Very fast paced. Insurance knowledge a must. Authorizations, pre-certifications, auto & work comp a plus. Fax resume
Attn: Mrs. Brockman to: 248-792-9628

BUY & SELL

hometownlife.com

Antiques & Collectibles

BWADA Spring Antique Show
Sat. Apr. 6, 10-5, \$4 Sun. Apr. 7, 10-4. FREE Admission on Sunday. Accepting Food Donations New Haven High School 57700 Gratiot Ave. New Haven, MI 48048 1-94 East to Exit 247 At 26 1/2 Mile 586-725-9480

Auction Sales

ESTATE AUCTION
Sat., April 6th, 7pm Cultural Center 525 Farmer Plymouth, MI Collectibles & Antiques Furniture, Glassware Tools; Outdoor items Pin Ball Machine; Toys Cash/MC/Visa Bank Debit Cards No Checks Doors Open 6pm Joe Cartel Professional Auction Service 734.451.7444 jcauctionservices.com

REDFORD CONSIGNMENT AUCTION
Tools, yard equip, household Sat 4/6 doors open 9am auction 10:30am 14666 Telegraph Rd.

Estates Sales

Another Bernard Davis Estate Sale: 313-837-1993
April 4-6, 8:45am-4pm, 15887 Brookside Dr., Belleville 48111 go to estatesales.net for more info SEE YOU THERE!!!

ESTATE SALE:
April 4, 5, 6, 9am-5pm. 25405 Concord Lane, Colonial Acres - South Lyon.

Garage/Moving Sales

BRIGHTON ESTATE-SALE
601 S. Hacker, Brighton, Household, 4/4-4/6 9am-4pm. See Craigslist for pics.

FARMINGTON HILLS: Interior Designer's Delight: Home Accessories, mercury glass, wall art, vases, fabric, wallpaper, etc., as well as tools, office furniture & more. April 6, 9-3. 25209 Arden Park Dr. 48336

FARMINGTON HILLS Moving Sale 33714 Kirby St. Everything must go by Saturday!
Kitchen, furniture, tools, riding lawn mower, men's and woman's clothing.
Fri., 4/5 9am-5pm, Sat., 9-4pm.

GARDEN CITY:
Huge! Everything from furniture, clothes & more Thurs. Sat. 10-6. 29210 Back. Just E. of Middlebelt

LIVONIA MOVING SALE!
Entertainment center, area rugs, girl's clothes, size 0-6X, like new, misc household items. Toys & furniture for tots, battery operated girl's car. April 5-6, Fri. 1-5, Sat. 10-4 27861 West Stanmoor Dr.

WESTLAND: Fr., April 5, 9-4
St. Simon & Jude Church, 32500 Palmer. \$2 bag sale at 3pm. All lg items go for \$2 at bag sale. For more info contact Mae Bray. 734-722-8209

Household Goods

KITCHEN TABLE:
42 inches, 4 chairs, brand new, 2 desk chairs and 1 wood plant stand. (248) 476-9398

Auction Sales

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN VEHICLE AUCTION
Pick up trucks • Mini Vans • Cargo & Work Vans • Box Trucks • Panel Trucks • Equipment • Lighting • Other Misc. Items
Wed., April 10th 2013 @ 6:00PM
Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds 5055 Saline - Ann Arbor Rd., Ann Arbor, MI
Preview & Inspection @ 3:00 PM
Terms: Cash and Check with I.D.
6% Buyers Premium
Complete details w/pics @ BraunandHelmer.com
Braun & Helmer Auction Soc Inc.
David Helmer 734.368.1733

Appliances

DISHWASHER Bosch, stainless, about 6 yrs. old. Great working cond. You pick up. Asking \$300. 248-444-3784

Misc. For Sale

LAMINATED SHELVING:
Used, all sizes
Call: 734-392-7490

MOVING BOXES - Clean:
Small, medium, large & extra large, wardrobe for clothing. \$50. Call: 734-392-7490

RECURRENT BICYCLE
handmade, \$80
PUNCH BOWL SET, \$15.
Call: 248-706-2194

WESTLAND

\$1 BIG MAC OFFER!
MICHIGAN & MERRIMAN 3/28 TO 4/10-3PM TO CLOSE

31350 MICHIGAN AVE.
NO COUPON NECESSARY!!!
PLEASE COME VISIT
YOUR LOCAL MCDONALD'S!!
(734) 326-0230

Tools

Trim Break 12"
\$375.00
248-437-9795, S. Lyon

Wanted to Buy

Cash or consignment for old items to fine antiques. Collections, sets, odd items, any size or quantity to full estates. Fair, honest, courteous, discrete older gentleman. I drive to you. Richard. (248) 795-0362 richard.preston48@yahoo.com

Looking to Buy Metro-Det mfg/dist. co \$100,000 SDE min. Unprofitable OK. Professional, experienced, independent, discrete engineer w/ MBA. 10% down, monthly payments. Richard. (248)795-0362 richard.preston48@yahoo.com

PETS

hometownlife.com

Cats

CATS (2) Very loving, fixed, 1.5 yrs Must stay together. No young children
248-738-4901, 248-214-9898

Dogs

SHUH TZY PUPPIES Pedigreed, 8 weeks, 2 males and 1 female. Have had first shots and worming. Both parents on premises. \$500 each. (248) 345-9320

Found - Pets

****FOUND****
Orange short hair male cat, area of Newburgh & Palmer, Westland. (313) 407-9710 tikapatches@yahoo.com

FOUND Russian Blue Cat in Livonia Joy and Middlebelt area. (734) 427-9893

Lost - Pets

LOST: DOG, since Sun. night Boxer/German Shepherd mix, fawn color with white markings. No dog tags. Wearing pink dot bandana. Reward 313-610-7900, 313-207-1309

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Auction Sales

Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

1 Throw snowballs
5 Forum farewell
9 Sure-footed pet
12 Omnia vincit —
13 Black gemstone
14 E.T. vehicle?
15 Isinglass
16 Trevi Fountain coins
17 Forbid
18 Piton pro (2 wds.)
21 Green parrot
22 Ernst & Young staffer
23 Make mistakes
26 Economic ind.
28 Warble
32 Caroler's tune
34 Feedbag morsel
36 Erosion loss

37 Remove wiretaps
39 Natalie's father
41 Pen part
42 Vegas lead-in
44 Tent holder
46 Door decor (2 wds.)
51 Send via phone
52 Chocolate cookie
53 Felt grateful
55 Luau strings
56 Round building
57 Fibber
58 Toon
59 Guard's cry
60 Noncoms

DOWN

1 Frying pan spray
2 Bahrain VIP
3 Plumb crazy

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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9 Third power, in math
10 In the distance
11 Freight weight
19 Cask
20 Soap purchases
23 Finale
24 Unhatched fish
25 Gray-clad soldier
27 Item for a cook
29 Solar wind component
30 IV x XIII
31 Attorney's deg.
33 Breathing spell
35 Pine's "anchor"
38 Mud protection
40 Fairway gizmo
43 Lebanon neighbor
45 British prisons
46 Ocean fish
47 Yoke mates
48 In fine fettle
49 Branch
50 Pressure, slangily
51 Hare's hair
54 AMA members

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

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

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

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

Word Search — Shootin' Hoops

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

Assist Basketball Blocking
Court Dribble Dunk
Foul Hoop Jump
Penalty Players Points
Shot Team Traveling

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

Word Search

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hometown life

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TRENDS

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GAIN THAT
PERFECT SMILE

PAGE 6

APRIL 2013

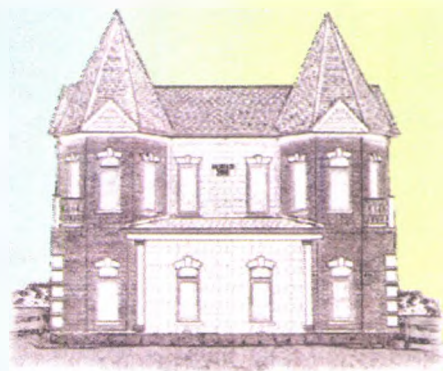
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Adopt a new attitude as part of your spring look



Susan Rosiek

Today's *Woman* is all about change this spring — new fashion and makeup, along with a focus on healthy teeth, feet and legs. You will find healthy food, spring-inspired desserts (gotta have something sweet) and advice on how to take control of your finances. Lots to enjoy as we gear up for warmer weather. So resolve to rid yourself of that tired winter mantra and adopt a fresh new attitude for spring. Enjoys today's lineup — stories and advertisements — and, as always, I welcome your comments and suggestions for upcoming editions of *Hometown Life Woman*.

Come back in May, when we present our annual

"Salute to Women" and look ahead to fundraising events in May and August aimed at ending breast cancer (Race for the Cure in May and Susan G. Komen 3-Day Walk in August).

To celebrate Mother's Day and salute women, I am asking you to send in your favorite photo of you and your mom, grandmother, aunt, niece or other special woman who has made a difference in your life. See page 20 of today's edition for details. Then look for your photos on hometownlife.com during the month of May.

Susan Rosiek
 editor/publisher

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CHRISTIAN O'GRADY

Illuminated eyes, plus lush lashes, are a popular spring look.

Spring makeup trends

By **Barbara Deyo**
Guest Columnist



Barbara Deyo

The looks on the runway at Fashion Week this year were all over the place. But, I like that. It's saying — you can really do whatever you want.

I have always said there are no rules — do what makes you feel pretty. You want to bat

your lashes? Go ahead. "Clumpy-Chic" is in. You love your pouty lips? Perfect. Bold lips are all the rage right now.

The looks ranged from bold brows to blue eyeliner. Yes, you read me right. I said blue eyeliner. More on that later.

I'm usually lucky enough to get a sneak peek on the upcoming trends by being a part of the team for a photo shoot featuring such. This year was no exception. On location with *StyleLine Magazine* — we set our sights on capturing some of the hottest trends of the season.

I had a chance to get some insight

from *StyleLine* associate editor Hoda Salameh on this season's hottest looks.

BD: What is your favorite makeup trend for this season?

HS: One of my favorite makeup trends for the season is illuminated eyes, plus lush lashes, teamed with a bold lip, as seen on the Moschino Spring 2013 Runway.

BD: How do you decide what looks to feature for the magazine? Do you like to push the envelope with the edgier trends? Or do you try to translate it to the "everyday" woman?

HS: Before deciding on the final looks to feature in the magazine, I take time to research the latest trends. It's important for me to be timely, but to also add my own twist. I do like to push the envelope with the edgier trends. To me, a fashion spread is like a runway ... you amp up the fashions for more drama. I use the wardrobe to tell a story. I don't expect women to emulate each outfit I create. I hope that the 'everyday' woman is inspired by my work, and will translate the

Please see DEYO, 20

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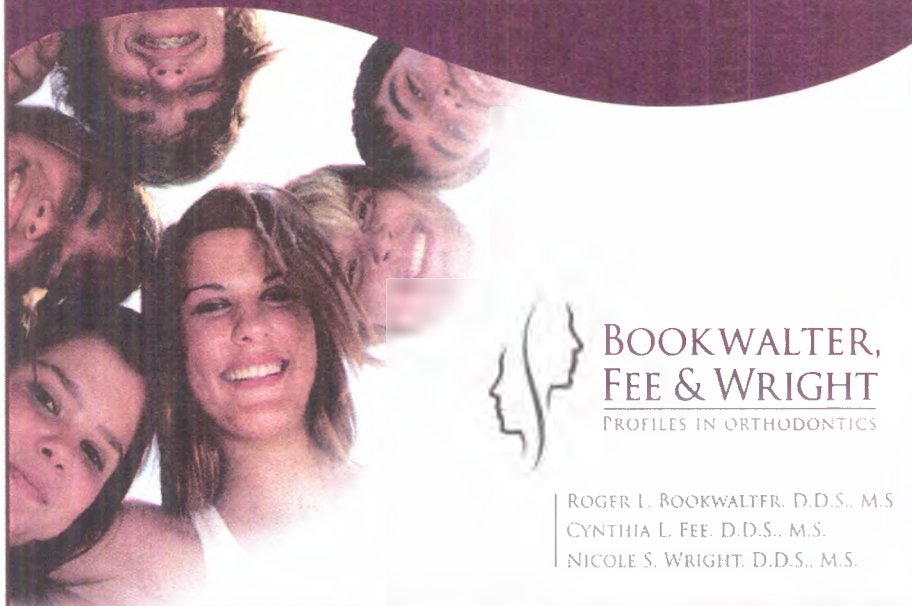
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Cosmetic dentistry can help achieve the perfect smile

By Jill Halpin
Contributing Writer

You only get one chance to make a first impression, so it is up to you to make it your best.

That means focusing on a great smile: bright, white and straight.

"Most people think that your eyes are the first thing that people notice when you first meet, but that isn't true. It's your smile," said Dr. Nawaf Masri, a Livonia-based orthodontist.

According to the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, nearly half of American adults (48 percent) believe a smile is the most memorable feature after first meeting someone, and greeting people with a confident smile generates a friendly vibe that helps create a lasting, positive impression.

It may be more important than you realize. First impressions are not always necessarily face-to-face, and your photo may appear on social media websites where it can become stuck in the Internet galaxy for years

to come. It is just one more reason to keep your teeth looking their best.

"When you smile at the world, the world smiles back at you," said Dr. Jeffrey Jaghab, D.D.S., owner of Northville Family and Cosmetic Dentistry with his wife, Dr. Stephanie Jaghab, D.D.S.

It is one reason for having great-looking teeth and a smile that you can be proud of and there is no doubt a good smile can affect more than just your appearance.

"I have seen the shift in people's attitudes, as they go from hiding their teeth to opening up and smiling. It can affect attitudes and moods and help people feel better about themselves," Jaghab said.

Confidence-booster

Masri said that a great smile can do more than boost your self-confidence; it can also influence your professional success.

"There is documented research out

Please see SMILE, 22



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Healthy teeth, gums impact overall wellness

Brushing and flossing regularly are about more than a great smile.

A healthy smile equals a healthy body, area dentists say, making caring for your teeth more important than ever before.

While doctors have long acknowledged a link between bacteria in the mouth and heart disease, new research indicates an even bigger link to oral health and overall wellness, said Dr. Jeffrey Jaghab, D.D.S., of Northville Family and Cosmetic Dentistry.

"Research shows that taking care of your mouth is important for your complete health," Jaghab said, "A healthy mouth can help you live longer and avoid serious health problems."

In fact, studies from the Mayo Clinic have shown a relationship between oral health and diabetes, Alzheimer's disease and osteoporosis.

A study by the American Academy of Family Physicians has even found a link between gum disease and rheumatoid arthritis.

Unfortunately, many people are unaware of the link between a clean mouth and other seemingly unrelated health issues, Jaghab said.

Jaghab firmly believes that getting the message out to the public is the first step in raising awareness.

"The main reason people don't recognize the relationship between their mouth and their overall health is lack of information. Many health care professionals are still unaware of the latest research in this area. Our job is to educate our patients and work hand

in hand with their health care providers for better overall health and wellness," he said.

Brush and floss

While the mouth is full of bacteria, it can be kept in check through regular brushing and flossing. When neglected, however, the mouth can become a breeding ground for harmful bacteria and lead to tooth decay, infections and gum disease.

"Regular dental checkups are also important," Jaghab said.

This new awareness of gum disease underscores the importance of cleaning up your mouth, said Dr. Chet Regula, D.M.D., of Preferred Dental in Livonia.

"Thirty years ago, we didn't understand gum tissue. Now we understand that importance of gum tissue and the devastating effects it can have on your health," Regula said.

Brushing at least twice a day and flossing at least once a day coupled with regular visits to the dentist are crucial to maintaining a healthy mouth.

"The key element is flossing: getting in between the teeth as well as you are able," Regula said.

According to Dr. Nawaf Masri of Masri Orthodontics in Livonia, taking care of your teeth is one of the best health investments you can make.

"It is worth every penny. If you don't have a healthy mouth you can't enjoy life," he said.

— By Jill Halpin



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Take control of your finances

By Paula Swain
Guest Columnist

Women have financial needs that are unique to their situation in life. Perhaps you would like to buy your first home. Maybe you need to start saving for your child's college education. Or you might be concerned about planning for retirement. Whatever your circumstances may be, it's important to have a clear understanding of your overall financial position.

That means constructing and implementing a plan. With a financial plan in place, you'll be better able to focus on your financial goals and understand what it will take to reach them. The three main steps in creating and implementing an effective financial plan involve:

- Developing a clear picture of your current financial situation
- Setting and prioritizing financial goals and time frames
- Implementing appropriate saving and investment strategies

The first step is to develop a clear picture of your current financial situation. If you don't already have one, consider establishing a budget or a spending plan. Creating a budget requires you to:

- Identify your current monthly income and expenses
 - Evaluate your spending habits
 - Monitor your overall spending
- To develop a budget, you'll need to identify your current monthly income and expenses. Start out by adding up all of your income.

Next, add up all of your expenses. If it makes it easier, you can divide your

expenses into two categories: fixed and discretionary. Fixed expenses include things that are necessities, such as housing, food, transportation and clothing. Discretionary expenses include things like entertainment, vacations and hobbies. You'll want to be sure to include out-of-pattern expenses (e.g., holiday gifts, car maintenance) in your budget as well.

The second step is to set and prioritize financial goals. Start out by making a list of things that you would like to achieve. It may help to separate the list into two parts: short-term financial goals and long-term financial goals.

Short term goals

Short-term goals may include making sure that your cash reserve is adequately funded or paying off outstanding credit card debt. As for long-term goals, you can ask yourself: Would you like to purchase a new home? Do you want to retire early? Would you like to start saving for your child's college education?

Once you have established your financial goals, you'll want to prioritize them. Setting priorities is important, since it may not be possible for you to pursue all of your goals at once. You will have to decide which of your financial goals are most important to you and which goals you may have to place on the back burner.

Implementing strategies

After you have determined your financial goals, you'll want to know how much it will take to fund each goal.

Please see FINANCES, 14

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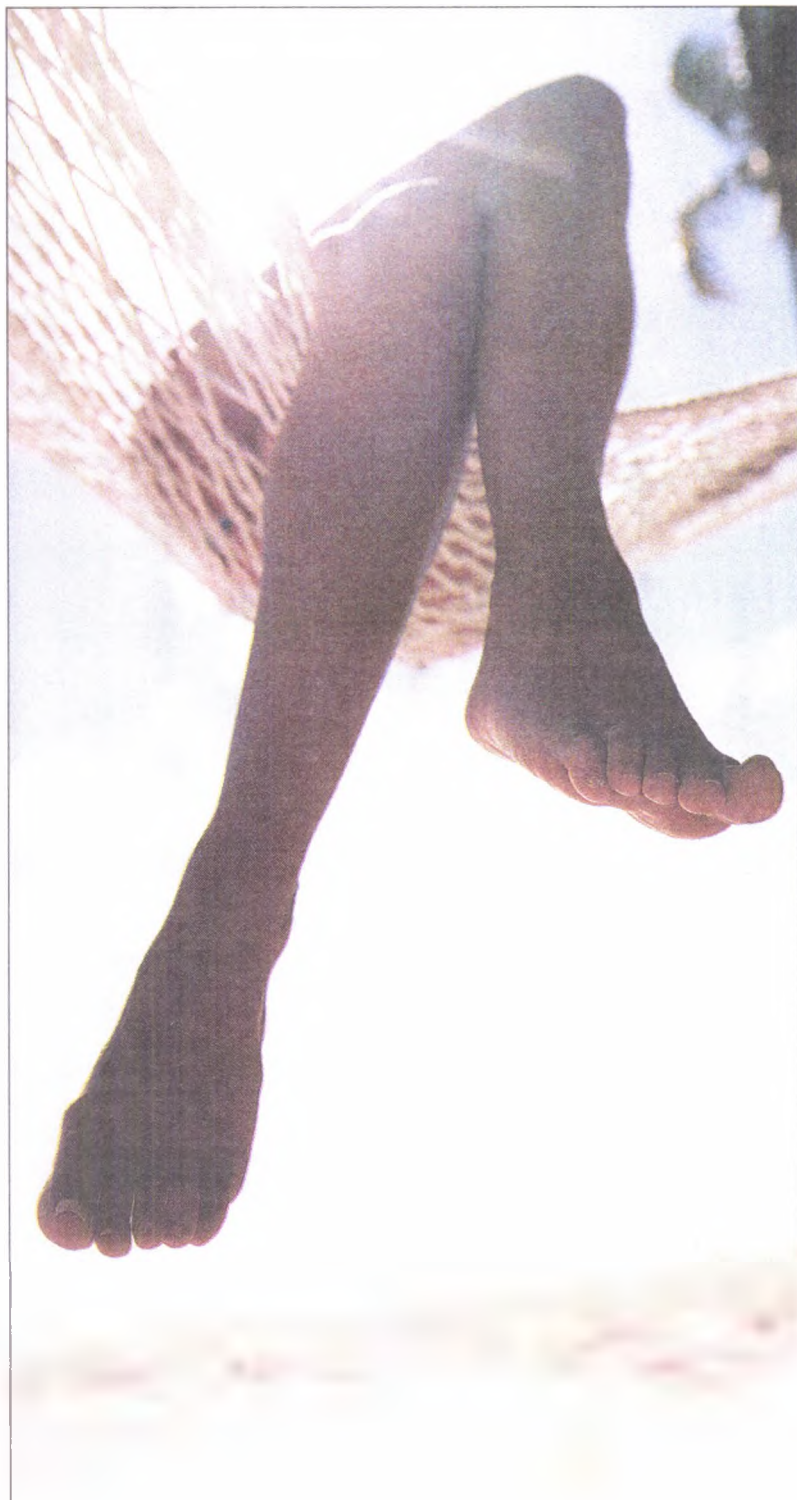
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Want great-looking legs and feet this summer? Start now



Are your legs and feet ready for warm weather? Taking the time now to pamper and prepare yourself goes a long way toward putting your best foot forward later this spring and summer.

Whether it's a trip to the podiatrist to rid your feet of nasty bunions, a visit to the spa for a pedicure to moisturize your feet and slough off dead skin or a trip to the doctor to erase spider veins from your legs, maintaining your feet and legs is sure to enhance your appearance.

Waiting until the last minute to schedule a treatment or procedure may not be in your best interest: area doctors say that patients are often surprised to find that treatment options for spider veins and varicose veins and laser hair removal often requires multiple appointments.

If you are concerned about painful or unsightly varicose or spider veins in your legs, starting treatments now will help ensure you are ready to be footloose and fancy-free by sandal season, according to Dr. Emily Cummings, a family medicine physician specializing in vascular medicine at the University of Michigan Livonia Vein Center.

Varicose or spider veins affect up to 27 percent of adult women in the United States, according to the Vascular Disease Foundation, headquartered in Maryland.

The problematic veins can have both medical and cosmetic implications and treatment options vary from conservative to aggressive, depending on the patients' needs, Cummings said.

Start treatments now

"Start early — it's not an overnight treatment. It's a process you need to start now if you want to look and feel better by summer," Cummings said.

Treatment options for veins range from sclerotherapy, the process of injecting an irritating solution into the vein that causes it to shrivel up, to less invasive surface laser treatments.

Other treatment options may be as simple as wearing compression stockings, Cummings said.

Eliminating bulging varicose or noticeable spider veins from your legs can also be more than just a cosmetic procedure, said Dr. Gregory Derderian, a Birmingham-based vascular surgeon, board-certified in cardiovascular and thoracic surgery and owner of Restoration Vein Center and Nu-image Med Spa.

Varicose veins are enlarged veins that appear under the surface of your skin and usually form in your legs. Often raised and cord-like, they cause discomfort or swelling in the ankles and legs. Caused by venous insufficiency — weak or damaged valves in the vein — they are not typically dangerous. However, left untreated, they can lead to ulcers on the ankles or occasionally blood clots in the veins, Derderian said.

Spider veins are the small red, purple or blue twisting blood vessels that are visible through the skin. Often hereditary, these less noticeable veins are a result of hormonal shifts or milder venous insufficiency. While they can also cause aches and pains, they generally cause few symptoms. Not only will removing the veins contribute to your legs' overall appearance, eliminating unnecessary aches and pains can also help you ramp up your activity level this spring as you work toward losing weight and getting fit.

Varicose veins

Don't let the aches and pains of varicose veins stand in the way of your exercise routine.

"Getting rid of them will help you feel better and be more productive," said Derderian.

After you have addressed any issues with veins, your next step in readying your feet and legs for their summer debut is hair removal.

If you are a victim of razor burn from continually shaving your legs or just plain tired of it, you may want to consider some alternatives for keeping your legs sleek and smooth.

Leg waxing lasts from two to five weeks

Please see LEGS, 21

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The Flamingo, a two-toned wedge by Eric Michael, hits all of the spring fashion trends from its multi-hued teal and blue soft leather upper to the two-toned straw wedge heel. It is available at Gigi's Mode in Plymouth for \$108.



Cappelli's Strawworld Woven Cornhusk Bag features ring handles of colorful resin beads and a tinted woven cornhusk flat bottom body. Available at The Clothing Cove in Milford for \$42.

Spring fashion trends:



Patterns and pizzazz

By Jill Halpin
Contributing Writer

Think bold, think stripes, think floral.

It is finally spring and embracing new, fresh fashion trends will help put you in the spirit to usher in the season. These new fashions in vibrant corals and varying shades of green will liven up your look and have you welcoming in the season no matter the temperature.

"Coral is definitely the hot color for spring and summer," said Christina England, a manager at Clothing Cove in Milford.

England advises "playing" with corals to make sure that it matches your skin tone for the best look.

"It is stunning on brunettes and people with darker skin tones, but blonds and those with a fairer complexion can wear them well if they

tone them down to a peachier pink," said England.

Emerald green, the Pantone "color of the year" remains hot as well, in shades ranging from deep jewel tones to frosty mints and pastel aquas, according to Paige Graham of Anthropologie in Birmingham.

"All of the greens, from the softer to the more dramatic shades are still big this season," Graham said.

Patterns, particularly stripes and florals, are also popular this spring.

From subtler, neutral flowers to those bright and vibrant, blooms are cropping up on everything from tops to bottoms and even accessories, showing up on bracelets and earrings in materials from metallic gold and coppers to bold, eye-popping colors.

"Florals are so versatile," England said.

A vibrant floral tailored sheath-styled dress can be paired with a classic jacket to create a look perfect for the office. Remove the jacket and wear it in the evening, she added.

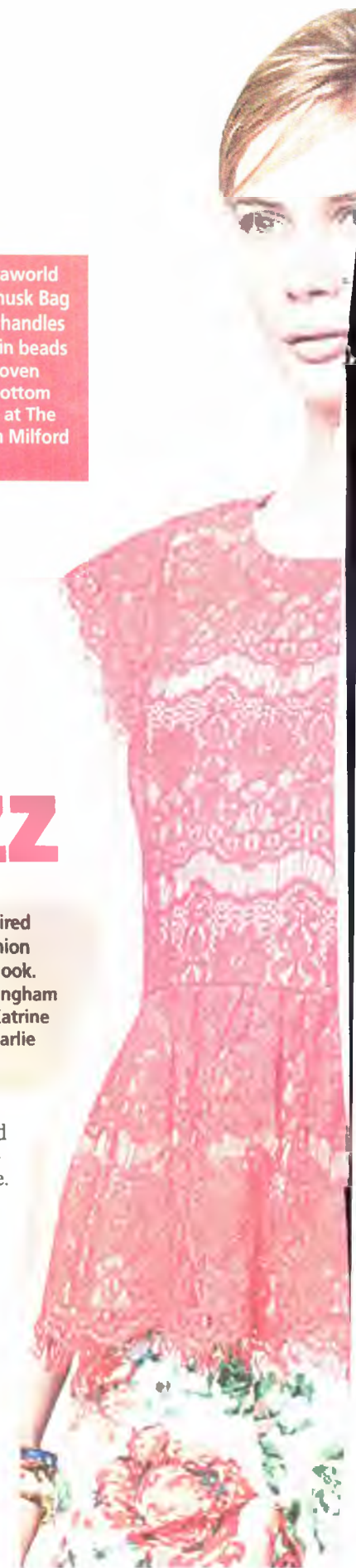
Graham recommends pairing floral patterns with stripes to create an outfit with some extra pizzazz.

Stripes are in

Think of navy-and-white stripes or black-and-white stripes as neutrals, and mix them up with lively, flowery pattern for a crisp, on-trend ensemble.

It may also be time to re-think the old adage that stripes add pounds, Graham said.

"A bulky, thick-striped muumuu



This deep coral, lace peplum top paired with the season's hottest floral fashion trend creates a fresh and feminine look. Available at Anthropologie in Birmingham and online at anthropologie.com. Katrine Peplum Top, \$88; Tapestry Floral Charlie Trousers, \$118.



Worn alone or paired with a jacket for the office, this simple red and tan Joseph Ribkoff Floral Dress retails for \$192 at the Clothing Cove in Milford and works a business or evening wear.



Available in grey or navy, Anthropologie's Partitioned Bands classic, tunic-style tee flatters any frame with its swing cut. Available at Anthropologie in Birmingham and online at anthropologie.com; \$39.95

will add pounds to anyone's figure," Graham said, "while a properly-fitting, thin-striped boat neck shirt looks good on anyone. It really is a nice classic look."

Flirty and feminine lace continues to loom large on fashion radar, alone or even mixed right in the florals and stripes for pretty and delicate touch, England said.

"Lace really is the quintessential spring and summer fabric," said Graham.

Something else new this spring appropriate for either the office or more casual wear is a wider-legged, cropped pant.

"Wider legged trousers — not denim — in different lengths are really big this spring. They are almost like culottes," Graham said.

Take care to choose the right cropped trouser to suit your frame.

"It's all about the right fit. If you are larg-

er, you will want to wear a more tailored garment on top to help create a balanced silhouette," Graham said.

The Clothing Cove's England echoes that advice.

"Wearing a well-fitting garment can make a huge difference in your appearance. You want to be sure that your clothes compliment your shape no matter what size you are wearing," she said.

Choosing a shoe that will flatter your clothing is equally important.

Flats are making a comeback, as are wedge-heels, said Amanda Britcher of Gigi's Mode in Plymouth.

Perfect for business attire, flats can also be dressed up with rhinestones for a dressier look that will carry into evening.

"We are seeing many multi-colored shoes, mixing warm and cool colors such as teal and navy for a unique look," she said.

Mix accessories

As with shoes, mix accessory colors for some fresh sparkle this spring.

Gone are the days of "matchy-matchy" accessories," Britcher said.

Compliment a navy blue dress with a bright coral necklace to make it "pop."

"You want to be sure that your accessories set your outfit off and really pull it all out," she said.

Be sure to finish your spring look with the right handbag.

"Natural fiber bags are making a huge comeback," England said.

The classic look is good for business or casual and offers lightweight comfort for carrying, and offers the added bonus of being organic and earth-friendly.

"The bags are made of natural fibers such as paper, straw or cornhusk, so they leave a smaller carbon footprint. Plus, they look great," she said.

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Michigan Women's Foundation event honors achievement, courage

The Michigan Women's Foundation presents the 24th annual Women of Achievement and Courage Awards dinner at 5:30 p.m. Monday, April 29, in the Motor City Casino Hotel.

The event features a presentation honoring the past, recognizing the present and preparing for the future of serving women and girls. The event will be emceed by WDIV-TV (Channel 4) reporter Paula Tutman.

"We are proud and honored to continue to improve the lives of Michigan women and girls," said Carolyn Cassin, MCF president and CEO. "We have made monumental strides and we are excited to roll out significant MWF initiatives including the Women's Agenda and Corporate Partnerships, which will significantly advance the lives of women statewide. We look forward to continuing to be the face of equality, partnerships and empowerment for Michigan women and girls."

This year's program and celebration includes honoring women who have shared their visions, talents and leadership skills to build communities and inspire other women to create change in their professions, home and communities.

Maura Corrigan, director of the Michigan Department of Human Services, will receive the group's Trillium Award Winner. Other honorees include Sarah McClelland of Chase Bank, Vivian Pickard of General Motors Foundation, Diana Dieger of Grand Rapids Community Foundation and Michelle VanDyke of Fifth Third Bank.

More than 30 sponsors are supporting this milestone event. Table and event sponsors include: General Motors, Comerica Bank, Ford Motor Co., Priority Health, Plante Moran and Meijer. See others at www.miwf.org.

Limited ticket and sponsorship opportunities are still available by contacting Jacqueline M. Northrop at jnorthrop@miwf.org or purchase tickets online at www.miwf.org.

For more information on the Michigan Women's Foundation, or to register for its 24th Anniversary Celebration Dinner, visit www.miwf.org.

In more than 26 years, MWF has awarded more than \$3.2 million to more than 500 programs and organizations working to advance equality, remove barriers and improve lives.

FINANCES

Continued from page 8

Next, you can focus on implementing appropriate investment strategies. To help determine which investments are suitable for your financial goals, you should ask yourself the following questions:

- What is my time horizon?
 - What is my emotional and financial tolerance for investment risk?
 - What are my liquidity needs?
- Once you've answered these questions, you'll be able to tailor your investments to help you target specific financial goals.

Whether it is debt from student loans, a mortgage or credit cards, it is important to avoid the financial pitfalls that can sometimes go hand in hand with

borrowing. Any sound financial plan should effectively manage both debt and credit. The following are some tips to help you manage your debt/credit:

- Make sure that you know exactly how much you owe by keeping track of balances and interest rates
- Develop a short-term plan to manage your payments and avoid late fees
- Optimize your repayments by paying off high-interest debt first or take advantage of debt consolidation/refinancing

Although you can certainly do it alone, you may find it helpful to work with a financial professional to assist you in creating and implementing a financial plan.

Paula Swain CFP® is a financial consultant with Swain Financial, LLC in Livonia. She can be reached at (734) 552-7610.



Spring-inspired dessert

Brighten up spring gatherings with a simple dessert inspired by the flavors of the season. Lemon, almond, vanilla and raspberry extracts give baked treats a fresh flair that matches the lively essence of spring.

"Friends and family will love these Easy Mini Cheesecakes," said Mary Beth Harrington of the McCormick Kitchens. "Almond and vanilla give these individual treats a burst of rich flavor, while a fruit topping highlights the fresh ingredients of the season."

To simplify preparation when making dessert for a gathering, take advantage of these ideas from the McCormick Kitchens:

- **Make ahead and batch bake:** Double-batch the dessert recipe and vary the extracts to make two unique treats in one effort. For even more variety, try a simple substitution like using chocolate sandwich cookies in place of the vanilla wafers for the "crust." Make day-of prep a spring breeze by preparing the recipe in advance and refrigerating it overnight.

- **Bright fruit topping:** Fresh fruits and berries make a simple, yet colorful topping for cake, ice cream and other desserts. Stir in 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract and 2 tablespoons confectioners' sugar to 2½ cups fruit for a sweet seasonal treat.

For more inspiring spring ideas, vis-

it www.McCormick.com, www.Facebook.com/McCormickSpice, or www.Pinterest.com/mccormickspices.

Easy Mini Cheesecakes

These luscious cheesecakes flavored with vanilla and almond extract are sized just right. Garnish with fresh fruit, lemon curd or melted chocolate swirls.

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: 24 minutes

Refrigerate Time: 4 hours

Makes 12 servings

2 packages (8 ounces each)

cream cheese, softened

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar

2 eggs

2 teaspoons McCormick® Pure Vanilla Extract

$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon McCormick® Pure Almond Extract

12 vanilla wafers

1. Beat cream cheese and sugar in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add eggs and extracts; beat well. Place a wafer in bottom of 12 paper-lined muffin cups. Spoon batter into each cup, filling $\frac{3}{4}$ full.

2. Bake in preheated 325°F oven 22 to 24 minutes or until edges are lightly browned. Cool in pan on wire rack. (Mini cheesecakes will deflate in center upon cooling.)

3. Refrigerate 4 hours or overnight. Garnish with desired toppings.

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White Chocolate Ganache
Lemon Glazed
Pound Cake

Dress up dessert

Classic sweet treats like pound cake are delicious on their own — and with a few simple ingredients, they can be dressed up to make any day more special.

These recipes highlight the classic, homemade taste of Sara Lee Pound Cake. The newest addition, Lemon Pound Cake, is made with real lemon juice, so the bright citrus flavor shines through.

- Lemon Pound Cake Trifle — Strawberries, blueberries and whipped topping combine with cut-out lemon pound cake

shapes to make a show-stopping dessert.

- Pound Cake French Toast — Take the flavors of a favorite breakfast and turn them into a mouthwatering dessert the whole family will love.

- White Chocolate Ganache Lemon Glazed Pound Cake — This treat may have a fancy name, but it's easy to make. And it tastes just as great as it looks.

- Grilled Pound Cake with Berries — Grilled slices of pound cake topped with fresh berries and lemon Greek yogurt are the perfect way to end a cookout.

- Grilled Chocolate Peanut Butter Marshmallow Pound Cake Sandwich — Bring out the kid in everyone with this delicious twist on a fluffernutter sandwich.

You can find more delicious ways to dress up dessert at www.sara-leedesserts.com.

Lemon Pound Cake Trifle

Prep time: 15 minutes
Makes: 8 servings

1 regular size package (10.75 ounces) Sara Lee Lemon Pound Cake, thawed

3 cups sliced strawberries

3 cups blueberries

1 container (12 ounces) frozen whipped topping, thawed, or whipped cream

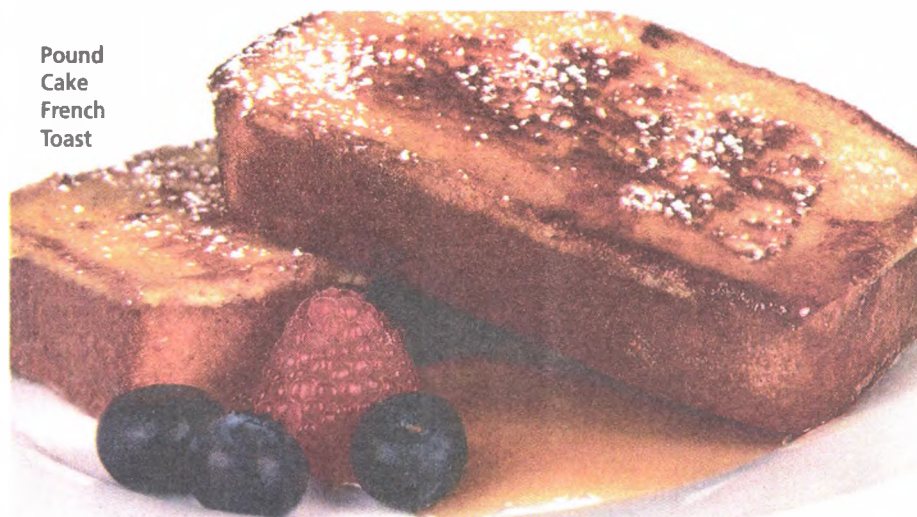
Slice frozen pound cake crosswise into 3 layers.

Using a star-shaped cookie cutter (or any cookie cutter shape), cut pound cake into

Lemon
Pound
Cake
Trifle

Please see **DESSERT, 17**

Pound
Cake
French
Toast



DESSERT

Continued from page 16

star shapes. Cut remaining pound cake into 1-inch pieces or into smaller star shapes.

Place half of the cut-up pound cake pieces on the bottom of a trifle or serving bowl. Place star shapes on side of bowl.

Top with half of the fruit and whipped topping; repeat layers. Garnish with small star shapes, if desired. Serve immediately or store in refrigerator, until ready to serve.

Pound Cake French Toast

Prep time: 10 minutes
Makes: 6 servings

- 1 family size package (16 ounces) Sara Lee All Butter Pound Cake, thawed
- 3 eggs beaten
- 1/2 cup heavy cream or 1 cup milk
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg (optional)
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- Powdered sugar (optional)

Slice pound cake into 12 slices, each about 1/2 inch thick.

Whisk eggs, cream, extracts and spices in a medium bowl until well blended.

Dip each pound cake slice into egg mixture making sure to coat all sides, shaking off excess batter into bowl.

Melt butter in large skillet over medium-high heat.

Add pound cake slices to skillet. Cook 1 to 2 minutes per side, or until golden brown.

Sprinkle with confectioner's sugar and top with fresh fruit or maple syrup, if desired.

White Chocolate Ganache Lemon Glazed Pound Cake

Prep time: 20 minutes
Makes: 12 servings

- 1 cup (6 ounces) white chocolate chips
- 1/4 cup whipping cream
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 teaspoon grated lemon peel
- 1 regular size package (10.75 ounces) Sara Lee Lemon Pound Cake, thawed

Place white chocolate chips, whipping cream and butter in a medium microwave-safe bowl. Microwave on high for 1 minute. Stir until chips are melted and mixture is smooth. If needed, heat 10 to 30 seconds more in microwave to melt chips. Stir in lemon peel. Let cool 5 minutes.

Drizzle ganache over pound cake. Refrigerate until ready to serve. Cut into slices to serve. Serve with remaining ganache.

Variation: Raspberry Filled White Chocolate Ganache Lemon Glazed Pound Cake — Start by cutting the pound cake in half crosswise down center. Spread with 1/4 cup seedless raspberry jam. Continue with preparing the ganache as directed.

Grilled Pound Cake with Berries

Prep time: 5 minutes
Makes: 4 servings

- 1 regular size package (10.75 ounces) Sara Lee All Butter Pound Cake, thawed
- 1 cup Greek style lemon yogurt or ice cream
- Assorted fruit toppers (such as raspberries and blueberries)

Slice thawed pound cake into 1/2-inch slices. Spray both sides lightly with cooking spray. Grill over medium heat until lightly browned (1 to 2 minutes per side).

Top with Greek style lemon yogurt or ice cream, fresh raspberries and blueberries.

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Sudoku

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

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

Level: Beginner

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

Level: Intermediate

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

Level: Advanced

Answers found on page 22

Wild blueberries

Go wild with the Superstars of Frozen Fruit

Stock up on a superfood that's a no-brainer: wild blueberries have superior antioxidant capacity compared with other fruits and veggies. Best of all, these little blue powerhouses from Maine and Canada are also incredibly convenient, thanks to their year-round availability in your grocer's frozen fruit section. They're just as healthy as fresh and may retain their nutritional value longer.

Here are two quick tips to help you pack a powerful nutritious punch into your diet:

- Make sure they say wild — Check the bag to ensure you're getting authen-

tic, frozen-fresh wild blueberries. If the word "wild" isn't on the front of the package, scan the list of ingredients on the back.

- Check the size — Be sure to select the little wild ones. When in doubt, feel the berries in the bag — if they're "pea-sized," you've got the wild ones.

With twice the antioxidant capacity of larger, cultivated blueberries, wild blueberries freeze perfectly, retaining their superior quality, color and sweet, tangy flavor.

For more delicious recipes that add a daily dose of blue to your diet, visit www.wildblueberries.com.

Quinoa Salad with Wild Blueberries

Prep time: 30 minutes plus thawing and cooling time
Serves 2

- 1 ½ cups fresh or frozen wild blueberries
- 2 tablespoons raspberry vinegar (or red wine vinegar)
- ½ teaspoon coarsely ground pink peppercorns
- ½ cup quinoa
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 medium zucchini
- 3 ounces Havarti cheese
- 1 cup 2% milk fat cottage cheese
- Fresh mint

Mix wild blueberries with vinegar and pink pepper; set mixture aside. Cook quinoa as instructed in salt water. Let cool. Wash zucchini, cut in half lengthwise, and thinly slice into half-moons. Cut Havarti into cubes; set aside. Mix cooked quinoa with zucchini, Havarti and cottage cheese. Gently stir in wild blueberries and mint leaves. Serve with baguette if desired.

Wild Blueberry and Elderflower Mint Soda

Prep time: 10 minutes
Serves 4

- 1 cup frozen wild blueberries
- 2 limes, squeezed
- 4 ounces wild blueberry juice
- 2 ounces elderflower syrup
- 2 ½ cups club soda
- Fresh mint

Make a tray of wild blueberry ice cubes (optional). Place about 1 teaspoon of berries per cube in ice cube tray. Reserve 4 tablespoons of berries for the drink.

Squeeze lime and carefully mix juice with wild blueberries, wild

Quinoa Salad with Wild Blueberries



blueberry juice and elderflower syrup.

Pour the mixture evenly among four glasses, add club soda, stir and add washed mint leaves and wild blueberry ice cubes.

Old-Fashioned Wild Blueberry Muffins

Prep time: 15 to 20 minutes
Bake time: 18 minutes
Yield: 36 muffins

- 4 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- 3 tablespoons baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- ¾ cup granulated sugar
- 2 ¼ cups low-fat buttermilk
- 1 ½ cups (12 ounces) egg substitute
- ½ cup canola oil
- 6 cups wild blueberries
- 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 ½ teaspoons ground cinnamon

In bowl, combine flour, baking powder and salt; reserve. In separate bowl, whisk together sugars, buttermilk, egg substitute and oil. Add to flour mixture and mix just to blend. Fold in wild blueberries. Combine sugar and cinnamon. Scoop ¼ cup batter into each lined or greased 1/3-cup muffin tin and sprinkle each muffin with sugar/cinnamon mixture. Bake in 400°F conventional oven or 375°F convection oven 18 to 22 minutes or until firm to the touch. Serve warm.

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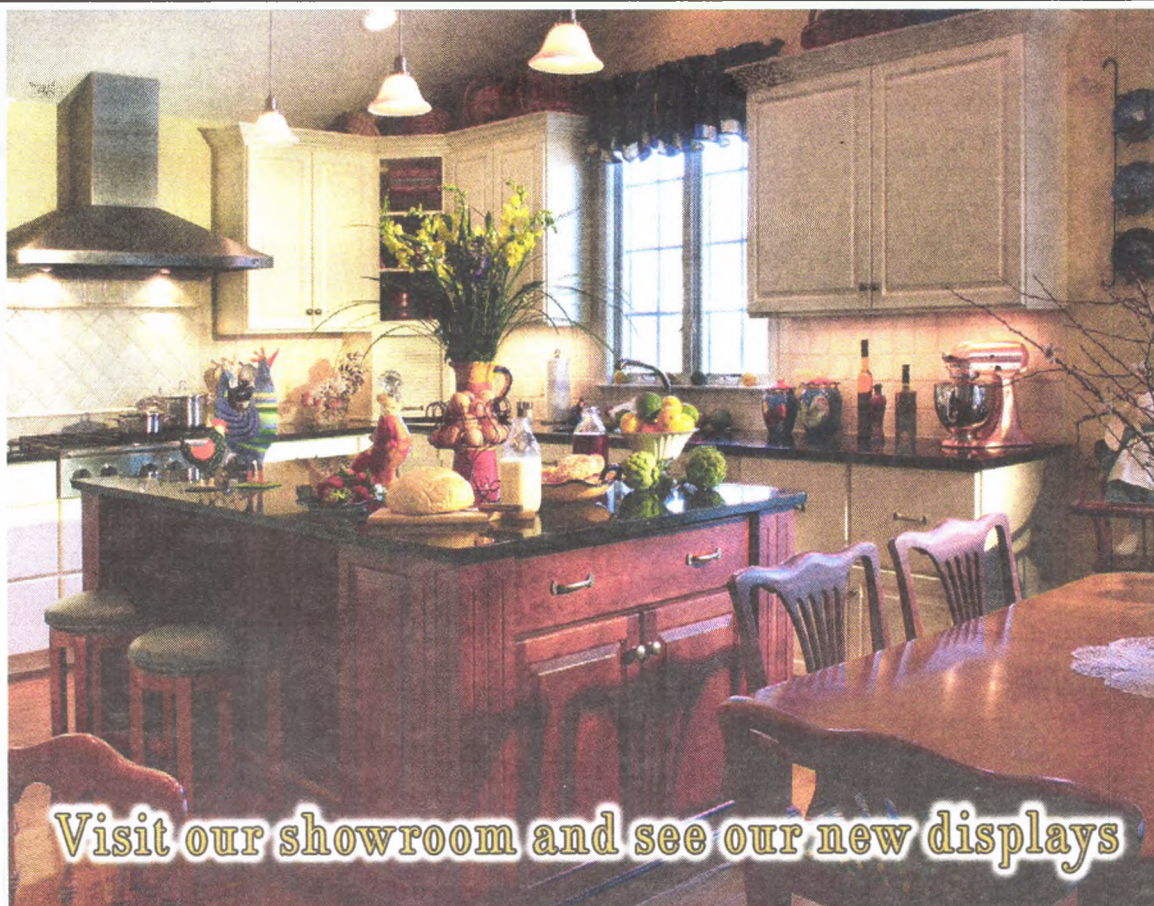
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Honor a special woman

Salute the special woman in your life during the month of May.

Send us a photo of you and your mom, grandmother, stepmom, aunt, godmother or that special "mom-like" woman who has made a difference in your life.

Send the photo (jpeg format only, as large as possible) to photos@hometownlife.com. Be sure to identify (first and last names please) you and your mom or other woman and where you live (i.e. Birmingham, Milford, Plymouth). And tell us in two sentences or less why your mom, grandmother, aunt or other is special to you.

Look for a photo gallery of all submissions during the month of May at hometownlife.com.

This Salute to Woman photo gallery is sponsored by Indigo Salon and Day Spa of Canton.

Five lucky winners will receive a \$20 gift card to Kohl's or Meijer in a random drawing of all names and photos submitted. The gallery will be on display at hometownlife.com throughout the month of May.

Deadline to submit photos and names for the random drawing is midnight Sunday, April 28.

All photos and information must be submitted online.

DEYO

Continued from page 4
looks to fit her lifestyle.

Here are some of the hottest makeup trends this spring.

BOLD BROWS: Groomed brows never go out of style. They may change a bit from the "in" shape or size — but you can never go wrong with a coiffed arch. It frames the eye and completes your look. In my opinion, the most important statement you can make!

GLOWY SKIN: Oh, how I love to illuminate. I probably couldn't live without my Satin Glow Baked Finishing Powder. I'm sure I actually could, but I'm glad I don't have to! There are many options when it comes to highlighting. There are liquid illuminators, cream highlight sticks and powders — both loose and pressed — all to make you glow!

LUSH LASHES: My favorite new catch phrase in the lash world: "Clumpy Chic." Awesome. So now you don't need to worry about clumps and smudges — hey, it's the new look. I am guilty of over-applying my mascara. I just can't help myself. The more I can get on the better! To amp up the look — rim the eyes with white eyeliner — it adds flash to any iris.

BOLD LIPS: I think the color lipstick you wear says a lot about you. In fact, I could dedicate an entire article about that! I always wear some form of red — whether it is my old stand-by "polished" — a sheer, glossy clear red — or my new favorite "cherry red" — an orangey bold red with just a hint of shimmer, or my long-time favorite, lacquer, a deep, sultry blue-red. It was no different on the runway this year, from matte deep red to sheer bright coral to glossy rich burgundy. There are lots of great lip colors to choose from!

NUDE LIPS: It's one extreme or the other. Another trend this season is a nude lip — or no lip at all! If you are going to play up the eyes with your lashes and eyeliner, downplay the lips for balance.

ILLUMINATED EYES: Keeping it simple — and tying it all together — a sweep of glimmering champagne colored shadow with your "Clumpy Chic" lashes, white inner rim eyeliner and bold lips. Perfection! Be sure to prep the skin with foundation, concealer and powder to have a flawless canvas to start with.

BLUE EYELINER: Yes, blue eyeliner. From aqua to cobalt, from royal to cornflower, blue eyeliner is back. And green for that matter. Now don't get scared — there is a way to wear this and look nice. Moderation is the key word here. Start slowly, add a little in the inner rim first. Test the waters, see how it feels. It's not for everyone, but hey, it's fun to play. If you feel like you flashed back to the '80s or '90s, embrace it. If it worked then, it can certainly work now. I'll try it if you will.

The runway doesn't always translate to the driveway, I like to say! But you can always have fun trying. You can play and experiment until you find what makes you feel your best. There is no right or wrong way to wear your makeup — OK, there are some "I wouldn't do that if I were you" ways — but who am I to tell you what makes you feel good? Just try it, you might like it.

Barbara Deyo, owner of Deyo Studio for face and body, is an acclaimed makeup artist, having groomed the faces of Paul McCartney, Bob Seger, Kerrie Washington, Shaun Robinson and more. She has been named Best of the Best by *Allure*, *Hour*, *Real Detroit* and *WDIV*. Deyo Studio is located at 576 N. Old Woodward Ave., second floor, Birmingham. Contact her at (248) 203-1222 or www.deyostudio.com.

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Allure Magazine

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LEGS

Continued from page 10

depending on hair growth, said Lindsay Cortis, co-owner of Bella Scappare Salon in New Hudson. A typical full leg wax coasts around \$65; a lower leg-only wax is \$25.

"It's a nice, affordable alternative to shaving every day," said Cortis.

Also, the more often you wax, the less hair that grows back," she added, making upkeep simpler.

Laser hair removal is another, more permanent option for those eager to ditch the shaving cream and razors.

While typical laser treatments to remove unwanted leg hair runs anywhere from \$700-\$1,000, it results in "85 percent permanent reduction of hair," that lasts for years, Derderian said.

Between five and eight appointments, spaced a month apart, are necessary to complete the treatment, although results are often seen within three month, he said.

When removing hair from your legs you may also want to consider removing any unattractive hairs from your toes.

"Getting those few hairs you may have on your toes can make a big difference in the way your foot looks," Cortis said.

"We tend to let our feet go when we are wearing boots and socks. Once it's time for us to take off our boots and start wearing sandals, we want to do whatever we can to make sure our feet look fabulous," Cortis said.

Pedicure season

A pedicure that includes a warm soak and foot massage can help stimulate circulation for a fresh look.

"Sloughing off dead skin and deeply moisturizing the foot will not only look good, it will feel great, too," Cortis said. She recommends exfoliating and moisturizing the leg with a rich, thick cream as well.

A fresh coat of nail polish in a bright spring color such as red and pink is also a great way to celebrate the return of the warm weather," she said.

Tweaking your fitness routine to include a few toning exercises is also a great way to get your legs looking great, said Dustin Austin, a personal fitness trainer with Fitness 19 in Livonia.

"Try some lunges to tone and strengthen your legs," Austin said.

Raising the incline on the treadmill is also a great way to work some toning exercise into your routine.

Dr. Ellen Mady, a podiatrist with Garden City Hospital, cautions that spring is a big season for foot and leg injuries as athletes — both new and seasoned — take to the trails running and walking.

Tendonitis, stress fractures shin splints are common ailments among first-time and elite athletes alike.

"Achilles tendonitis and related calf problems are the most common injuries in runners," Mady said.

Recommended treatments for tendonitis include rest, ice, stretching and support. "Give your foot a break," she said. The term "shin splints" is used to describe pain on the front of leg bone, which can be aggravated by running, walking, short sprints and walking up and down stairs or hills.

"With shin splints, rest is often the best medicine," said Mady.

A stress fracture, an incomplete break of the bone, is not the result of a specific injury or trauma but more commonly the result of overuse.

"If you develop a sudden swelling and bruising on the top of your foot, but can't remember any specific injury, it is time to see your podiatrist," she said. The typical treatment for stress fracture is the use of a nonsurgical, fully rigid shoe, for four-six weeks.

Dr. Jennifer Gerteisen, a Westland podiatrist, also reminds sun-seekers to be sure to liberally apply sunscreen to their legs and feet.

"We have seen an increase in skin cancer on the feet and legs since people tend to forget that area when they are applying their sunscreen," she said.

"Remember to take the extra time to protect them, too," she added.

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SMILE

Continued from page 6

there that shows that people who smile more look better and land better jobs," Masri said.

Fortunately, making sure your smile is beautifully memorable is easier than ever thanks to new advances in cosmetic dentistry.

Braces, teeth whitening and veneers are just some of the options available to both correct your teeth and improve your smile.

New options for those needing braces — either for slight correction or for major realignment — are readily available. More importantly for adults, most of the treatments are invisible.

Although front-mounted brackets are still available, Invisalign™, Incognito™, and MTM NoTrace™ are some treatment options that deliver adjustment while remaining out-of-sight.

Mounted to the back of the teeth, the MTM (Minor Tooth Movement) No Trace brace system works well for those in need of slight adjustments, allowing teeth to be guided into correct alignment in as little as 12 to 24 weeks, Masri said. Costs for this treatment begin at \$1,200.

"These are helpful if your teeth need only a very limited amount of correction or have slipped out of alignment," Masri said.

New technology

Invisalign uses 3-D computer imaging technology to create invisible, removable, and comfortable aligners that are virtually undetectable. These removable aligners are changed every two-three weeks as teeth shift. They must be worn at least 22 hours a day, seven days a week. Treatment time averages between nine to 15 months and starts at \$2,500 and up.

The Incognito Hidden Braces system uses state of the art technology to customize braces to the shape of the individ-



ual tooth, which are then placed behind the teeth. As a result of the customization, the length of treatment is often much shorter as compared to traditional braces and works well for those needing more extensive correction, Masri said. Length of treatment varies and the cost begins at \$4,500.

While they are sometimes a bit more costly than traditional braces, the price is often worth it to adults who wish to maintain a professional image while correcting their teeth.

"You don't want to look like a 12-year-old if you are in a corporate setting," said Janis Dorenbusch, 36, of Northville.

Dorenbusch, a senior analyst for a global trade company wore Invisalign for almost two years in an effort to straighten teeth that had started to become misaligned.

Back to braces

"Like a lot of adults, I had to come to terms with my irresponsibility as a child," she said.

"I didn't wear my retainer and they went from perfect and beautiful to ... they began to shift," she said, adding that is when she decided to try braces again.

"I was surprised to see how much everything had changed," she said.

She said that although it takes discipline to wear the Invisalign braces "almost 24 hours a day," it was easy to adjust to them.

"It was well worth the effort and I feel more confident," said Dorenbusch.

Dental veneers are thin, custom-made shells of porcelain or other materials that cover the front surface of your teeth. They can be used to correct broken or chipped teeth as well as to close gaps between teeth for a natural look. The cost for dental veneers varies widely but typically cost upward of \$1,000 per tooth.

"In today's age, we have phenomenal materials available to us that allow for a natural look. And when you are having something cosmetic done, that is what you want: natural," said Dr. Chet Regu-

la, D.M.D., of Preferred Dental in Livonia.

"If you have undergone some type of cosmetic procedure, you don't want the change to be so noticeable that it is glaring. You want someone to know that you look great; you look better, but maybe not know exactly why," he said.

He also cautions those seeking to improve their smile to remember their lower teeth.

"Your upper teeth are your 'smile' teeth — they show when you smile. But your lower teeth are your 'talking' teeth — the ones that everyone sees when you speak," he said.

Whitening treatments

For the "icing on the cake," you may want to consider a whitening system, said Masri.

Whitening systems also offer an opportunity to lighten and brighten dark, stained teeth.

Zoom™ whitening is a one-time treatment involving a light that is directed at teeth after a bleaching compound has been applied and lasts a number of years. Cost for the treatment begins at \$300 and varies.

Although over-the-counter whitening systems may be effective for some, dental oversight is recommended, Masri said.

Home whitening kits are "not always as complete. They don't always whiten up the critical areas between the teeth," Regula said.

"It doesn't cost much more to go your dentist and get it done properly," he added.

Creating the ideal smile is much simpler than people might think and can have a profound effect on their outlook, Regula said.

"The biggest smiles and hugs we get are not the ones when we do a root canal or something else to relieve pain. The biggest smiles come from helping a patient get a smile that they can walk out the door and be proud of," he said.

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Sudoku Answers

Beginner

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

Intermediate

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

Advanced

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

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I've lived in Canton, Northville and now Dearborn. I don't care how far I am from them, New Face New Body is my laser hair removal spot. The Brazilian wax is awesome, too. I think I'll laser that next. —Kimmie K.

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