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Mother's Day

In parenting lore, mothers and fathers are frequently heard telling their children, "Wait 'til you have children one day!" And then those children inevitably find themselves channeling their own parents once they have children of their own.

So here's what the *Plymouth Observer* wants to know in advance of Mother's Day: What rules, sayings, advice or other parenting methods do you channel from things your own mother said to you when you were a kid? Whether it was "Do as I say, not as I do" or "Wait 'til your father gets home!" we'd like to hear about it.

Email your examples to *Plymouth Observer* editor Brad Kadrich at bkadrich@hometownlife.com for a story that will appear on Mother's Day. Include a JPEG photo of you and/or your mom, if you'd like (just make sure to identify the folks in the photo). We'll use as many of the examples and photos as we can. Deadline is Tuesday, May 7.

Happy birthday

It'll be a party when friends and family gather to help Gladys Gotts celebrate her birthday next month.

Gotts, a longtime resident of the Plymouth-Canton area, celebrates her 108th birthday May 4.

Born in 1905, Gotts lived in Plymouth-Canton "for many, many years," according to her daughter, lifelong Plymouth-Canton resident Dorothy Richards. She married Percy Gotts in 1923 and together they had three daughters: the late Betty DeKarske, Richards and Joyce Gyde, who now lives in Texas. Gotts also had five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Gotts now lives at Superior Woods Healthcare in Superior Township.

Food drive

The Plymouth District Library is one of 40 libraries in southeast Michigan participating in Food for Thought, a food drive to serve the area's hungry.

Nonperishable grocery items can be dropped off at the library through the month of April. Food distribution will be handled through Gleaners Community Food Bank, Food Bank of Eastern Michigan and Food Gatherers.

For more information, contact the library at (734) 453-0750, ext. 242.

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Central question still unanswered

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education members and administration officials have spent time making numerous appearances at government meetings, PTO sessions and visiting homeowners associations to explain why they need a \$114.4 million bond issue.

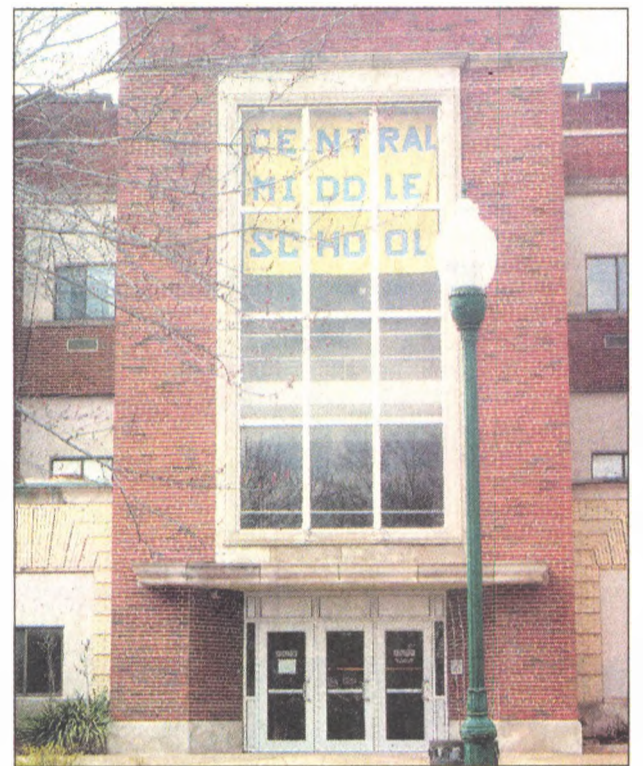
But while they try to educate the public on the finer points of the bond, the biggest question raised when they started the process still has yet to be answered.

What's going to happen to Central Middle School?

If the bond passes, officials have said they will close Central and build a new middle school on district-owned property in Canton. But what they haven't said is what happens to the building and the property at Church and Main in downtown Plymouth.

There are factions in the community who say the building has long since passed its prime as an educational facility and should be sold. Others say there are different uses for it — it does have a pool that some think would make a nice asset for the city of Plymouth — and want it preserved.

Please see **CENTRAL, A2**



Plymouth-Canton officials will close venerable Central Middle School if the \$114.4 million bond proposal passes May 7.

Cheers, skepticism greet streetscape's next phase

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

A 1.25-mile extension of the Ann Arbor Road streetscape in Plymouth Township is the next step toward a dream long held by township officials of a more attractive, inviting place for businesses and their customers.

The \$784,000 project, approved last week by the township's Downtown Development Authority and the Board of Trustees, could begin in a matter of weeks and is expected to be completed over about three months. It will mean the construction of brick pillars, decorative fencing and sidewalk ramps along the right of way, plus a stamped-concrete "verge" between the curb and the grass. New sod, flowering annuals and an irrigation system will also be put in.

The project will focus on the stretch of the south side of Ann Arbor Road between General Drive and Sheldon, with a small portion of it going on the north side of the road west of Sheldon.

Signature look

The streetscape has already been installed along parts of Ann Arbor Road, mostly between Eckles and Haggerty, and township Supervisor Richard Reaume said the extension will offer the same curb appeal.

"Everybody likes to drive

Please see **STREETSCAPE, A3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

More streetscape projects like this one at the northwest corner of Ann Arbor Road and Haggerty will be done in the second phase of the Plymouth Township DDA's program.

Chamber has 'app' for mobile phones

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce has extended its electronic outreach with a just-launched mobile application for smartphones.

The app, "Plymouth Rocks," provides a listing of both chamber-sponsored events and general community events in Plymouth and Plymouth Township. It joins the chamber's two websites, two Facebook pages, email blasts and Twitter feed as another facet of its effort to use new media to market the community.

"The key is to diversify and use lots of different ways to reach people," said Wes Graff, the chamber president.

Between the several methods of computer-based communication, Graff said, about 13,000 people follow the chamber, including 11,000 on Facebook. "We have a huge following on social media," he said.

But "mobile technology's so important now," Graff said, and as smartphones have become more common, the chamber needed an events app people can carry with them.

"It's all part of the puzzle," he said. Graff said the cham-

Please see **CHAMBER, A3**

Old Village yard and trunk sale coming up

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Bargain hunters and folks looking to unload old vinyl records, spare household goods, electronics, athletic equipment and more will meet up in Plymouth's Old Village later this month for the neighborhood's annual yard and trunk sale.

Saturday, April 27, is the date for this year's edition of the sale, which is a chance for residents there to do some spring clean-

ing, a fundraiser for the Old Village Association and a major social event.

"A lot of neighbors get together and buddy up and have sales together. It's really neat, especially if it's a good-weather day," said Mark Oppat, a longtime Old Village resident and the event chairman.

"It's just a nice day in Old Village, really," he added. More than 1,000 people are estimated

Please see **SALE, A2**



Plymouth's Old Village will again become a giant flea market during the neighborhood's annual yard and trunk sale from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 27. The event is a fundraiser for Old Village Association beautification projects as well as a spring social event.

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This couple, pictured at Genuine Toy Co. in downtown Plymouth, is being sought in connection with the March 27 theft of cash from a neighboring business, Michigan Custom Boutique.

Downtown Plymouth theft reported

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Police and downtown Plymouth merchants are on the lookout for a couple suspected of taking cash from a downtown store late last month.

Plymouth Officer Josh Carroll, the detective in charge of the case, said the theft took place at Michigan Custom Boutique, a store in

the Westchester Square, on Forest between Ann Arbor Trail and Wing, that sells yarn and other products for knitting, on March 27.

The couple walked in, Carroll said, and the woman distracted the store clerk while the man reached over the counter, opened the cash register and took money. Carroll would not say how much cash was stolen.

The same couple was also spotted

at the nearby Genuine Toy Co., also at Westchester, but are not suspected of taking anything there, Carroll said. Police were able to get still photos of the pair from a Genuine Toy security camera.

Anyone with information about the couple is asked to call Carroll at (734) 453-1234, ext. 258.

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CENTRAL

Continued from page A1

"That question has still not been addressed," said school board Trustee Mark Horvath, who has been asking it since the beginning of bond discussions. "The unfortunate part is if we don't have an answer before we go for the bond, there are people on either side who might have had feelings about whatever happens."

If the bond passes, the new middle school will be built on property the district bought at Canton Center and Cherry Hill.

Board Vice President Judy Mardigian has said at recent meetings she is "adamant the district be reimbursed" from the sale of Central Middle School, should the May 7 bond pass.

Highest bidder

Horvath and others agree.

"I've been very clear I want that property sold as quickly as possible and the money returned to the general fund," Horvath said. "And by 'as quickly as possible,' I mean to the highest bidder. Once the bond passes, I'd put it on the market immediately. We've got to look at what option can bring us the best financial deal for the school district."

A variety of suggestions has been made as to what to do with the property. Some have suggested giving it to the city to use as a recreational facility. Others want the athletic fields adjacent to the school preserved.

Plymouth resident Chuck Conn went to Central in the 1980s, and his

children went through the school in the 2000s. In an email to the *Observer*, Conn wrote he is "truly saddened" by the school's demise.

"Central Middle School should become a Plymouth recreational facility," Conn said. "I do not agree with dismembering the football field as that is where the Plymouth Steelers have always and should always remain."

Plymouth City Manager Paul Sincok said while the city doesn't have any express interest in the building, city officials would like to maintain "the green spaces" adjacent to it: the football field, the Miracle League baseball field for special-needs players, etc.

"The city has adopted it as part of its recreational master plan," Sincok said. "Should the schools

leave the green space out there, we'd be very interested in developing it. There's a lot of community use on those fields."

Top value

As far as the building itself, Sincok said, there are no specific plans, "but we've expressed an interest to the school board to talk about it" if officials are interested.

School board Trustee Mike Maloney agrees the question of Central's fate hasn't been answered and said the district has to do what it can to maximize the property.

"I think the school district should try to get as much value as we can for that property," he said. "We have a little bit of discretion as a board as to what the use is, and I think we want to collaborate as much as we can

with the city to try and do something that makes sense for everybody.

"(But) our first responsibility is to the children of the school district," he added. "We need to maximize the value of that property. Where it's possible to create a win-win, we ought to work toward that, but our first responsibility is to the kids and the five communities that encompass the school district."

Viable options

Horvath and Mardigian agree Central has outlived its usefulness as an educational facility — "I agreed with that 20 years ago ... once we decided not to do a major renovation with the 2004 bond, Central's fate was sealed," Horvath said — and should be closed.

"We don't have a via-

ble option for Central," Mardigian said. "The only (other) option for Central is to leave the kids in that learning environment."

Maloney doesn't necessarily agree, although he did say the building "doesn't provide equity for the students." He pointed out that several studies show the district losing middle school population over the next few years, and the district likely would have to close a middle school anyway.

"The school will close in two years if the bond does pass, and probably in three years if it doesn't," Maloney said. "I wish we had spent more time looking at rehab alternatives (for Central). That was one of the reasons I didn't support the bond."

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SALE

Continued from page A1

to have visited last year's sale.

The sale hours are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; refreshments will be available, and more than 20 households and businesses, including the Funky Money resale shop at the Presbyterian thrift store, are expected to

participate in the yard, driveway and sidewalk sales.

A separate "trunk sale" will be held in the parking lot at the Station 885 restaurant on Starkweather. Sellers rent parking spaces at \$15 each, \$10 for each additional table, and can set up tables or simply open the backs of their vehicles to display their wares.

"You'll find everything and any-

thing, from sinks to stereo equipment to power tools," said Tony Sebastian, the OVA president.

The sale, Sebastian said, has become a social time for Old Village residents to enjoy the early spring weather. Maps of the neighborhood will be available at each sales point and at Station 885 to guide visitors to households and businesses participating in the sale.

Sebastian, himself a garage-sale shopper who restores old electronic equipment, said the nature of Old Village makes for some interesting finds.

"There's always a lot of vinyl to be had," he said, in addition to compact discs and video games. "My neighborhood's quite the vinyl world."

Money raised through the sale — mostly through renting space

for the trunk sale — is used for OVA beautification projects.

Old Village residents interested in participating in the sale, or people interested in renting space for the trunk sale at Station 885, should e-mail Mark Oppat at moppat@comcast.net.

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STREETSCAPE

Continued from page A1

by and look at a pleasing landscape," Reaume said, explaining the streetscape is designed to be identified with the township. "What we're doing is continuing the place-making of this corridor."

In addition to matching the look already in place between Eckles and Haggerty the next phase will match streetscape work that's already been done in front of some individual businesses further west, including the Kroger supermarket, the Bank of Ann Arbor branch, Victory Honda and the Speedway gas station at Ann Arbor Road and Sheldon.

News of the coming project was greeted with a mixture of enthusiasm and skepticism by people at businesses on the strip.

"I love the look," said Kris Mayer, branch manager at the Bank of Ann Arbor, outside which the streetscape was put in when the building was built nearly nine years ago. "I get to enjoy it at the bank. I'm all about making it look nice."

'We get compliments'
Mayer said her daily commute takes her along

Ann Arbor Road between I-275 and the bank, and that the streetscape closer to Haggerty makes a difference. She also enjoys the plantings outside the bank.

"When all the lilies are in bloom, it's beautiful out there," she said. "We get compliments from customers all the time."

Further east, however, Victor West, owner of Vanessa's Flowers, said the extension, which will bring the streetscape to the strip mall where his shop is located, probably won't make a difference for him.

"It makes it more attractive, but I don't think it brings customers in," said West, whose business has been at the same location for 21 years.

At the Old Village Yarn Shop, in the PMC Center on Ann Arbor Road east of Mill, employee Pat Girbach said she'd rather have a sign for the store at the side of the road, rather than a streetscape. A co-worker, Ethel Putala, said she'd rather see tax dollars going to something else, and that public safety would be her priority.

"It looks nice near Haggerty, but it doesn't get anyone to stop and shop," Girbach said.

The streetscape is being paid for through money the DDA has on hand,

plus \$300,000 the DDA plans to borrow from the township's Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. The loan will be paid back over two years at a 4-percent interest rate.

Economic delay

The existing streetscape, between Eckles and just west of Haggerty, was completed in 2005, and Reaume said the lapse in getting the next phase under way was due to a poor economy, uncertain DDA revenues, and officials' determination to repay a loan from the general fund that helped finance the first phase.

"The general fund was really tight. We were asking for concessions and laying people off," so it was hard to justify more streetscape construction, Reaume said.

In the meantime, he said, the DDA was able to bank revenue for a few years, and officials found they could borrow from the brownfield authority, which has more than \$1.5 million in its coffers and no current projects.

The general contractor on the next phase of the streetscape is Eric Construction, the low bidder.

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Canton firm partners with Diaper Bank

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Once Upon a Child, a company in Canton and Monroe that buys and sells gently used children's clothing, toys and equipment, has chosen the Canton-based Detroit Area Diaper Bank as its first partner to receive ongoing cash donations this year.

Once Upon a Child has announced the first donation of around \$1,000. The diaper bank will use it to help nonprofit agencies assist families in need and low-income, incontinent adults.

"A hundred percent of the funds will be used to purchase diapers for our neighbors in need," Marybeth

Levine, DADB founder and director, said. "I can turn that \$1,000 into nearly 10,000 diapers."

Levine credited Once Upon a Child as making "a huge difference" for a nonprofit diaper bank that marked its fourth birthday Friday after distributing more than 1.6 million diapers across southeast Michigan.

"This is a huge step forward, not only for having a great partnership, but also it's really our first kind of ongoing stream of funding from an outside, corporate source," Levine said. "That's a big deal for us."

Once Upon a Child, which partners with clothing recycler Planet Aid, plans to provide aid to the diaper bank

through its "Clothing for a Cause" campaign.

Once Upon a Child announced that it asked its Facebook fans to nominate local organizations, and the Detroit Area Diaper Bank became a finalist, moved on the final round of voting and took the lead in vote totals.

Once Upon a Child can be found at www.facebook.com/OnceUponaChild.CantonMonroe. The company is a resale shop that offers discounts up to 70 percent off original retail prices.

The diaper bank has a website, www.detroitareadiaperbank.org and also can be found at www.facebook.com/detroitareadiaperbank.

CHAMBER

Continued from page A1

ber will rely on its social media followers to help promote the new app.

The app, which is free and available for both iPhones and Android-based phones, includes a listing of upcoming major community events, such as festivals and the free concerts in Kellogg Park, but the events listing isn't as detailed as the one on the chamber websites, Graff said.

Chamber members are able to go to a separate section of the app to look at a calendar of chamber events.

The app can be identified by the "Plymouth Rocks" logo featuring a green guitar, an image the chamber uses in a lot of its marketing.

"That has been one of our things that has made our social media so successful, is there's a consistent branding in everything," Graff said.

The Plymouth Downtown Development

Authority last November launched a free app that links users to listings of downtown events, DDA Facebook postings, maps, weather updates, parking information and the websites of downtown restaurants and shops. The DDA app has been downloaded more than 600 times in five months, said Tony Bruscato, the DDA operations director.

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P-CEP schools head to state Science Olympiad

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

When teams gather at Michigan State University later this month for the state Science Olympiad, the competition is going to have a distinct Plymouth-Canton flavor.

At the high school level, all three Plymouth-Canton schools — Canton, Salem and Plymouth — qualified, while Pioneer and East middle schools also made the cut.

Canton, Plymouth and Salem finished 2-3-4 (the top four qualify) at the 29th annual Wayne/Monroe Science Olympiad tournament recently at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. At the same tournament, Pioneer Middle School finished third and East Middle School placed fourth in the middle school competition.



Sean Porter, Tyler Dew, Lucas Harden, Ben Pyko, Jason Xu and Cameron Dixon were happy campers after the Wayne/Monroe regional Science Olympiad at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

It's the fourth straight year the 7-year-old program at Pioneer has qualified for the state tournament. According to Coach Barb Johnson, an eighth-grade science teacher and

the only coach the team has known, said the rigorous season schedule on which the team embarked paid off at the regional. She said the team traveled often two hours away to

invitationals in places like Troy, Ionia and Hudson.

"We compete against the top teams in the state ... When you do that, the kids get a chance to practice taking the test and

to practice the events," Johnson said. "It gives you a chance to work out the bugs. In the past, we didn't do the invitationals, so we went into the regionals not really knowing what to expect."

The 19-member team is smaller this year than in past years — "We've had up to 25 or 30 kids in the past," Johnson said — and has to cover 23 separate events. The events cover the gamut from technology and biology to earth science and physical science.

"Each student has to do at least two events," Johnson said. "Most of them do two to four separate events."

High schools

It'll be the second straight appearance at the state meet for the Science Olympiad team at Plymouth High School. The

team finished 14th a year ago and is hoping for a better finish this year.

"It's always hard to tell (how the team will do) because every year is different," Plymouth coach Jim Gell said. "But we're going to give it our best and try to finish at least in the top 10."

The team is fueled by students who've been in the program since their middle-school years, Gell said, including their captains — senior Shirley Chen and juniors Rima Das and Bob Shi.

"We have a core group of dedicated and motivated students," Gell said. "They really enjoy competing, and they enjoy learning."

The 31st state tournament takes place April 27 at Michigan State.

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Plymouth student earns Science Fair grand award

Plymouth resident Mackenzie Zierau, 15, was one of six students to receive a grand award at the Science and Engineering Fair of Metropolitan Detroit, held recently at Cobo Center in Detroit.

More than 1,500 students from schools in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties competed at the SEFMD, one of the longest running and largest fairs in the world.

As one of the grand award winners, Mackenzie, a sophomore at Mercy High School in Farmington Hills, has received an all-expense paid trip to the INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair in May in Phoenix,

Ariz. At the ISEF, Mackenzie will compete against more than 1,200 students from more than 30 countries. She is also eligible for scholarship opportunities from several local universities.

Mackenzie's project "The Effect of GM-CSF on Classical and Alternative Activation of Macrophages" was entered in the Medicine and Health category. Mackenzie has had a lifelong interest in science and medicine and hopes to be a doctor one day. A neighbor of hers recommended that she submit a resume to Dr. Steven Kunkel at the University of Michigan, asking permission to do research in his

pathology lab during the summer of 2012. Dr. Kunkel accepted her into his lab and assigned her a mentor, Dr. Beau Carson.

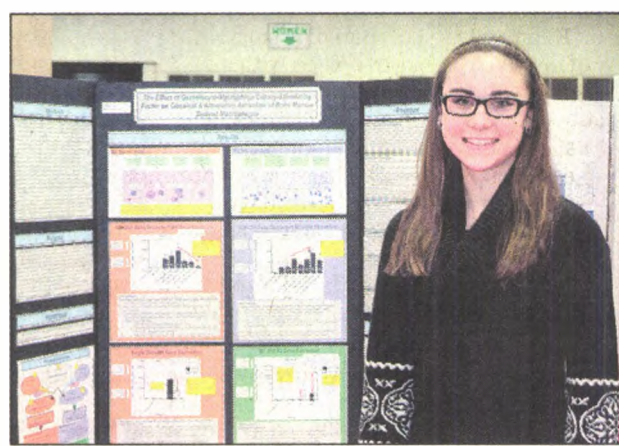
After spending several weeks learning various lab techniques and doing background reading on immune cells, macrophages, and cytokines, Mackenzie developed the idea for her Science Fair research project.

"The macrophages are the first level of defense for the body, so that interested me," Mackenzie said. "Then I learned that there was a cytokine known as GM-CSF (Granulocyte-Macrophage Colony-Stimulating-Factor) that many cells have the ability to

produce. I found that very little research has been done on how GM-CSF affects mature macrophages, so that became the subject of my research."

At the beginning of the summer, Mackenzie ended her day in the lab around 2:30 pm. Then, her mother, Christine Zierau, reports, "Mackenzie would call and say pick me up at 3 pm ... then 5 ... then 6." "And she would keep working on her research when she got home at night," added her father, Ken Zierau.

And what has Mackenzie discovered? "The results suggest that GM-CSF may not be helpful in the treatment of cancer; rather it would be helpful in the



Plymouth resident Mackenzie Zierau, a student at Mercy High School in Farmington Hills, was one of six students to receive a grand award at the Science and Engineering Fair of Metropolitan Detroit.

treatment of arthritis" is the conclusion on Mackenzie's project display board. She also found GM-CSF may be used as a new method to make a type of

white blood cell (which may be used for patients deficient in these white blood cells). Mackenzie plans to continue her work this summer.

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Canton Acts of Culture week will feature an exhibit of Jack Kenny's photography detailing life in Cuba.

Cuba exhibit part of culture week

"Cuba: Revolution/Evolution," a special presentation showcasing the works of photographer Jack Kenny, will be held during the third annual Canton Acts of Culture Week at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill 7:30-9 p.m. Friday, May 3, in the Biltmore Studio.

This free presentation, featuring more than 300 photos from Kenny's numerous trips to Cuba, will offer a glimpse of modern day life on this small island country located just 90 miles offshore from the United States.

Kenny will tell his personal story of how he came to love Cuba with his images of life in Cuba and also talks about the political and historical situations currently facing that nation. Learn about the real Cuba, enjoy light refreshments and then have all your questions answered in a Q&A session after the presentation.

RSVP in advance to Mary Falzon at 734/394-5362 and be entered in a drawing to receive a free copy of Kenny's coffee table book, "Cuba - Photographs by Jack Kenny."

Photographer Jack Kenny, who currently resides in Ann Arbor, MI, made

his first trip to Cuba in April 1996 and fell in love with everything about the island and the people. That same year, Kenny returned three more times to capture Cuban life in still-photography and has continued to revisit the island more than 40 times in the past 13 years. When in Cuba, Kenny is based in Havana, but strives to visit new locations on each trip, sometimes returning to old favorites to update his work.

In 2005, Kenny's award-winning book of modern day life in Cuba, "Cuba: Photographs by Jack Kenny," was published by Corazon Press (CorazonPress.com), featuring many of the 4,000 pictures of Cuba he has captured during his travels. This 12 inch x 12 inch hard-cover coffee-table book features 106 duo-tone images of life in Cuba today.

Kenny continues to travel to Cuba and hopes to publish a book of his color work in the near future.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. For more information about this lecture/presentation on Cuba, call (734) 394-5300 or visit cantonvillagetheater.org.

Local GOP adds second bond forum

Plymouth Republicans have added a second public forum that will give Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials a chance to explain their \$114.4-million bond proposal, set for a May 7 election.

The second forum takes place 7 p.m. Thursday, April 18, at the Pilgrim Village Apartments Clubhouse, 7655 Balmoral in Canton. The complex is located off Lilley on the west side and north of Warren.

It will be the second forum of the week. The first is in Plymouth 7 p.m. Monday, April 15, at Praise Baptist Church, which is located at 45000 N. Territorial in Plymouth.

Plymouth-Canton Schools has called

for a special school election on Tuesday, May 7. If approved, the bonds would finance technology improvements for classrooms, teachers, and students; replacement of school buses; a new middle school to replace Central Middle School; and maintenance and repair of school buildings. Dr. Jeremy Hughes, the district's superintendent, will make the pitch.

"The (district) has asked for an opportunity to share information about this election with us and we have invited (Hughes) to make a presentation to us at this special meeting," Republican spokesman Mark Hutchins said.

RSVP to Hutchins at PlymouthCanton-Republicans@gmail.com.

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League of Women Voters hosts meet & greet

Are you looking for a way to become more engaged in your community and state?

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County is hosting a "Meet & Greet" 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, April 17, at Claddagh's Irish Pub, 17800 Haggerty Road, in Livonia.

Find out what the League of Women

Voters is all about. Members of the League have many opportunities to create a lasting impact on local, state and even national issues. Bring spouses and friends to mix and mingle. The League of Women Voters is not for women only. There will be raffle prizes, including a free membership for a new member. Call (734) 591-0995 or visit www.lwvww.org.

All Saints Catholic School

"K Day"

Join us at 9:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 18, 2013, for our **Kindergarten Preview**. Bring your future kindergartener in for an exciting storytelling adventure, while parents visit our three kindergarten classes and take a personal tour of the school.



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McCotter files civil suit against former aides

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

Former Congressman Thaddeus McCotter is accusing two former aides of deliberately forging petition signatures to keep him off of the Republican primary ballot and ultimately from seeking reelection.



McCotter

McCotter filed a civil suit Thursday in Wayne County's Third Circuit Court against Don Yowchuang, a former deputy district director, and Dillon Breen, an intern with McCotter's office.

McCotter's complaint seeks damages in excess of \$25,000 for each of seven counts, including fraudulent misrepresentation, silent fraud, negligent misrepresentation,

breach of fiduciary duties, among other counts.

The complaint alleges that there are "inconsistencies" in the defendants' depositions with Michigan's Attorney General and outlines "misrepresentations" the defendants made to investigators, according to McCotter's attorney David Ottenwess.

"With the power of the subpoena in this civil suit, we will get to the bottom of what really happened to sabotage former U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter," said Ottenwess in a prepared statement.

Ottenwess was not available to discuss the complaint on Friday, but a copy of the 55-page complaint was e-mailed to the *Observer*.

Messages were also left for Timothy Dinan, an attorney representing Yowchuang, and Breen, but calls were not returned.

Yowchuang, formerly of

Farmington Hills, pleaded no contest before Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Margie Braxton Nov. 27 to 10 counts of forgery, a five-year felony, and six counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor. Yowchuang was sentenced by Braxton Jan. 18 to three years' probation.

Braxton dismissed a charge against Yowchuang of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner, a five-year felony filed against both defendants. That dismissal was appealed by the Attorney General's office. Both sides await a ruling.

Breen was not charged in Attorney General William Schuette's investigation into the signature fraud. He ran unsuccessfully in November for Livonia school board.

In May 2012, elections officials notified McCotter that there were duplicate signa-

tures on his nominating ballots, which made him fall short of the minimum 1,000 signatures. McCotter quit Congress in July.

On Aug. 9, Schuette announced the results of an investigation by the Attorney General's Public Integrity Unit into the alleged fraud surrounding the nominating petitions. At that announcement Schuette explained the former congressman was "asleep at the switch" and that staff members were to face criminal charges.

Schuette alleged that members of McCotter's Michigan staff were involved in a deliberate fraud involving a pattern of copying and altering petitions in order to qualify the five-term congressman for the 2012 Michigan ballot.

Paul Seewald, 47, of Livonia, who worked as district director for the former congressman, pleaded guilty Nov. 27

before Braxton to nine counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail. Seewald was sentenced by Braxton Jan. 18 to two years' probation; 100 hours of community service, and repayment of all court costs and fees.

On Sept. 18, Lorianne O'Brady of Livonia, who worked as a scheduler to the former congressman, pleaded no contest in Wayne County's 16th District Court before Judge Kathleen J. McCann to five counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor. She was sentenced to 20 days in jail or 20 days in a work program. Following that sentence, she was to serve 18 months' probation and was also ordered to pay \$2,625 in fines and court costs.

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Mama Mia hosts 'Quarter Auction'

Two families from Belleville and Royal Oak, who established Quarters for Kids, will hold a benefit "Quarter Auction" to help children and adults with disabilities served by the Macomb-Oakland Regional Center (MORC) at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 20, at Mama Mia Italian Cuisine, 27770 Plymouth Road, Livonia.

The event proceeds will fund food, clothing and furniture for people with disabilities served by the new MORC Human Services Wayne County office in Livonia.

Registration is \$15 for the event, which includes a classic Italian dinner. Participants can purchase tickets through Shelly Papineau at smp@saberfg.com or on the website <http://www.quartersandkids.com>. Event organizers are seeking vendors to participate, local businesses to sponsor the event and donors to contribute items for a silent auction.

"We are a group of families that believed we needed to step up to help people and do it in a creative way," said Papineau, an administrative assistant with Blue Cross/Blue Shield. "Every quarter

counts for people who are struggling to have enough to eat or a bed to sleep on."

The families behind Quarters for Kids, John and Shelly Papineau of Belleville, and Dr. Gary and Carol Shelburne of Royal Oak, have made it their mission to help local nonprofits through a bi-monthly series of "Quarter Auctions" held at different venues in the tri-county area. Their first event raised funds for Judson Center.

"I came to know the needs of people with disabilities and their families through my job at Carhartt," said John Papineau. "I delivered clothes and food to MORC donated by Carhartt and its employees and learned how desperate some people are."

The Papineau family was moved to provide furniture and housewares to a MORC family with a young daughter with autism that MORC got out of a homeless shelter and into an apartment, but had no furniture. Since then the Papineau family has donated beds, dressers, winter coats and more to MORC families.

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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 bkadrich@hometownlife.com. Be sure to identify (first and last names please) you and your mom and where you live (i.e. Birmingham, Milford, Plymouth). And tell us in two sentences or less why your mom, grandmother, aunt or other person 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 in 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 photo 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.

Lions set for White Cane Week

The Canton Lions will be raising funds needed throughout the communities of Belleville and Canton during their annual "White Cane Week" April 26 to May 5. The club will be working at the L. George's Coney Island on Michigan Ave., Holiday Market at Lilley and Cherry Hill and WalMart at Ford Road and Lotz. Lions will also be found in the streets of Belleville during their upcoming White Cane Week for the blind. The Lions are assisting people in both communities during these tough economy times. The Lions are called upon to purchase many pairs of eyeglasses for kids who parent cannot afford to buy them. They also sponsor a scholarship program which allows for the sight-impaired to attend college. These programs, along with Penrickton Center for Blind and Handicapped Children, Michigan Eye Bank, Leader Dog School for the Blind

or Seedlings (which writes Braille books) are just a few that the club contribute to. According to Lion Larry Wegrzyn, president of the Canton Lions Club, it takes many fund-raising events for the Lions Club to assist those in need. The club holds fund-raising events such as a Euchre tournament, pancake breakfast at the Canton Liberty Fest, corn roast in August during the Canton's Village Faire. "The Lions are dependent on the public's contribution to complete all these worthy projects," Wegrzyn said. "We encourage the public to support our efforts and contribute what they can." The Canton Lions Club features a group of men and women who identify needs within the community and work together to fulfill those needs. For more information or to get involved contact Lion Bill Van Winkle (734) 254-9404 or email govbill1@wowway.com.

SEMCOG reports on public's view of infrastructure

SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, has released the results of an extensive regional survey conducted to understand what the public thinks about southeast Michigan's infrastructure network - roads, bridges, transit systems, rail, airports, water systems, sewer systems, ports, and recreational trails and pathways. Overall, the vast majority of residents feel that the region's infrastructure condition is deteriorating, while perceptions of water and sewer systems are strong, with the majority of residents rating their condition as good/excellent. One exception is the City of Detroit, where fewer than half of residents rate these systems as good/excellent.

number of miles they drive rather than the current method based on the amount of fuel they use.

The survey reveals that the public is willing to take some personal actions to reduce costs rather than pay more for services. The most popular options are:

- Occasionally working from home (81 percent),
- Refraining from using the dishwasher and washing machine during peak hours (81 percent),
- Using a less congested route (80 percent),
- Reducing the amount of water used each day (78 percent).
- Traveling earlier/later to avoid the rush hour (76 percent).

The survey also reveals the public's willingness to engage in action when presented with either/or choices:

- Most would rather live with current levels of traffic congestion (63 percent) than pay more to reduce traffic congestion (37 percent).
- Most would rather carpool to work (55 percent) than pay more to fund road improvements that reduce traffic congestion (45 percent).

The vast majority of residents (80 percent) also believe "we must reinvest in the region's infrastructure so we can prosper economically." Residents agreed that to prosper economically requires reinvestment in infrastructure and they understand that this will save money in the long run.

Residents also have strong opinions about the road system, with most strongly agreeing that "better roads will extend the life of a vehicle" and that "the condition of our road system directly impacts each one of us."

SEMCOG will use the results of the survey to complement a myriad of planning activities, most notably development of the 2040 regional transportation plan and to inform its policies and actions.

SEMCOG is the only organization in southeast Michigan that brings together all governments to solve regional challenges and enhance the quality of life for the seven-county region's 4.7 million people.

Water and sewer conditions also are expected to stay the same or get better, according to the survey.

The survey also shows that:

- The outlook for the transportation system is much more pessimistic. Roads are only rated good/excellent by 25 percent of residents, and most people predict road conditions will stay the same or get even worse in the future.
- By a ratio of 2:1, residents rate the current transit system as fair/poor vs. excellent/good, and nearly half expect the transit system condition to stay the same.
- While most residents believe they understand how infrastructure is funded, about 25 percent of residents answered "not sure" or "don't know" for all specific funding questions.

Furthermore, one third to one half of respondents gave incorrect answers to specific funding questions. Of particular note, 51 percent mistakenly believe that most road funding comes from local property taxes.

Few believe the current level of funding is adequate (29 percent).

Nearly half believe the current ways of funding infrastructure won't work in the future (49 percent),

70 percent indicate more funding is needed. But, 73 percent also say the amount of funding is not the problem; it's how efficiently we're using it.

Slightly more people (51 percent) would rather pay for roads based on the

number of miles they drive rather than the current method based on the amount of fuel they use.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF BID FOR SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM

Sealed proposals will be received for the construction of the 2013 SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM by Charter Township of Plymouth as Owner, until 10:00 A.M. Official Local Time, on Tuesday, April 30, 2013 at the office of the Clerk, Plymouth Charter Township, 9955 North Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, at which time they will be publicly opened and read.

Major Estimated Quantities are:

4" Concrete Sidewalk	10,000 SF
6" Concrete Sidewalk or Driveway Approach	1,800 SF
8" Concrete Sidewalk or Driveway Approach	700 SF

Copies of plans and specifications may be obtained at the Office of the Clerk, Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, MI 48170 on or after April 11, 2013. Bid documents may be mailed for a charge of \$10.00.

Michigan State Act PA 517 of 2012, Iran Economic Sanctions Act, requires notification that Iran-linked businesses may not bid on this Contract. Successful bidders will be required to provide certification that they are not an Iran-linked business.

The right is reserved by the Owner to reject any or all proposals, either in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities therein.

If you have any questions, please contact Patrick Fellrath, Division of Public Utilities, at 734/414-1450.

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Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

"Around Town" 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.

PRICE HOURS

Date/Time: Monday, April 15, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center

Details: Wayne County Commissioner Shannon Price (R-District 10) will be conducting district office hours in the Purple Room. The session will allow constituents the opportunity to sit down with Price and discuss matters of concern within the community.

Contact: For more information, contact Michael Mitchell, staff aide to Price, at (313) 224-0882.

MILLER WOODS TOURS

Dates/Times: Sundays, April 14, 21 and 28, 2-4 p.m.

Location: Miller Woods (Powell Road, east of Ridge between N. Territorial and Ann Arbor Road)

Details: Free, guided tours will occur in April to see the native spring wildflowers in Miller Woods. Tours depend on when the flowers are blooming, but are tentatively scheduled for Sunday, April 14, 21 and 28. Check the website at millerwoods.com for up-to-date tour dates. Tours start every half hour. Park on side of road. Sorry, no dogs allowed in the nature preserve.

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 Neigh-

Tea time



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 PayPal (http://www.plymouthhistory.org/events/Pink-Delicious-Tea_ET710.html?SortBox=201305). 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.

bors 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 ally 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

OUR CAMP OPEN HOUSE

Date/Time: Saturday, April 21, noon to 2 p.m.

Location: O.U.R. Camp, Northville Christian Academy, 41355 Six Mile.

Details: O.U.R. Camp, Inc. (www.ourcampinc.org), a summer day camp for young children with developmental needs, will have an open house. At the event, parents can register their children for camp, meet the counselors and take a tour of the camp facilities. This event is free and open to the public.

Contact: For more information, contact Claudia Pietron, (734) 718-5734.

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

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 crafftshow@plymouthfallfestival.com or (734) 455-1614.

SEWING GUILD

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

Location: First Presbyterian Church, 701 Church Street, Plymouth

Details: This Plymouth-Canton neighborhood group is open to sewists of all levels. The Feb. 7 meeting features "Machine Embroidery Primer," followed by "3D Flying Geese-hands on" on March 7; "Charity auction" April 11 (note date change); and "Machine or Hand Applique Quilt Block-hands on" on May 2.

Contact: For more information e-mail asgpc@comcast.net

MASTERING MEDITATION

Date/Time: Saturday, March 23, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Location: The Center - Massage, Yoga Wellness Studio, 1200 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth

Details: Dr. Kapila Castoldi offers a free introductory

series on mastering meditation. Topics include concentration, relaxation and meditation techniques; creating a meditative lifestyle; self-awareness through meditation. Castoldi has studied meditation under the guidance of Indian spiritual teacher Sri Chinmoy for 27 years. It is offered free of charge by the Sri Chinmoy Centre of Ann Arbor as a community service.

Contact: For information call (734) 994-7114.

BIPOLAR SUPPORT

Date/Time: Second and fourth Tuesday of the month, 6-7:30 p.m.

Location: Lincoln Behavioral Services Center, 14500 Sheldon, Suite 1608 in Plymouth.

Details: The Depression Bipolar Support Alliance is a self-help group for people suffering from depression and bipolar disorders. Meetings are open also to family members. All DBSA leaders are professionally trained and attend two trainings for every year to update their skills in leading the group.

Contact: Call Nancy at (734) 536-3457 for directions.

HOSPICE SUPPORT

Date/Time: Third Saturday of the month, 10-11:30 a.m.

Location: Compassionate Care Hospice, 5730 Lilley, Canton

Details: Compassionate Care Hospice conducts a grief support group, "Compassionate Words," providing emotional support to any adult grieving the loss of a loved one. The group focuses on the various stages of grief, and incorporates basic journal writing as a way to express feelings. The program is free of charge.

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

MOPS MEETINGS

Date/Time: First-third Fridays, 9:15-11:30 a.m.

Location: St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 Haggerty, Plymouth

Details: The St. Edith/St. Kenneth Catholic Parishes' Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group invites all mothers with children aged newborn through kindergarten to join. The group provides the encouragement, nurturing, and support and features a schedule of activities that include speakers, crafts, and group discussions.

Contact: Heather at (734) 437-9517 or email stekmops@gmail.com, or visit www.stekmops.org.

DIABETES SUPPORT

Date/Time: 2nd Thursday of the month, 2-3:30 p.m.

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main

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

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



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FRI/SAT LS 11:40
OSCARY MOVIE 5 (PG-13)
12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:25, 9:35
FRI/SAT LS 11:45
3D JURASSIC PARK (PG-13)
\$2.50 PREMIUM PER 3D TICKET
12:40, 3:40, 6:35, 9:20
EVIL DEAD (R)
12:10, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 9:50
FRI/SAT LS 12:00
3D G.I. JOE: RETALIATION (PG-13)
\$2.50 PREMIUM PER 3D TICKET 4:30, 9:25
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MAGIC TO MOVIES- D-BOX LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE: 4:30, 9:25
G.I. JOE: RETALIATION (PG-13)
11:20, 1:55, 6:55 FRI/SAT LS 11:50
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MAGIC TO MOVIES- D-BOX LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE: 11:20, 1:55, 6:55 FRI/SAT LS 11:50
THE CROODS (PG)
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'Heyyy!' Glenn brings back those 'Happy Days'

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Richie Cunningham, Potsie Webber, Ralph Malph and The Fonz will light up the stage of John Glenn High School this week, as students present *Happy Days A New Musical* Thursday-Saturday, April 18-20, in the high school auditorium.

The musical is based on the hit television series *Happy Days* that aired for 11 years on ABC. But the musical isn't a continuation of the TV show. Ritchie won't croon about finding his thrills on *Blueberry Hill*. The songs are more reflective of the story which revolves around Arnold's closing and the wrestling match that characters come up with to try to save it.

"There's references in the play to 80 percent of the *Happy Days* shows," director Kevin Gidley said. "There's no reference to Fonzie jumping in the shark tank, but many references to Howard Cunningham being the grand poobah of the Leopard Lodge."

The cast includes Arnold Delvecchio, the affable owner of Arnold's, a hybrid of Arnold, the original owner, and Al who came later on in the television series. The Fonz's cousin Charles "Chachi" Arcola and Richie's sister Joanie are already in love. And there's even a reference to Richie's brother Chuck, who disappeared early on in the television series, and Laverne and Shirley.

Gidley is doing a 90-minute version of the musical. It's very song-oriented vs. dialogue, he said.

"It's like a full seven seasons condensed and swooshed together," co-director Belinda Walakonis added.

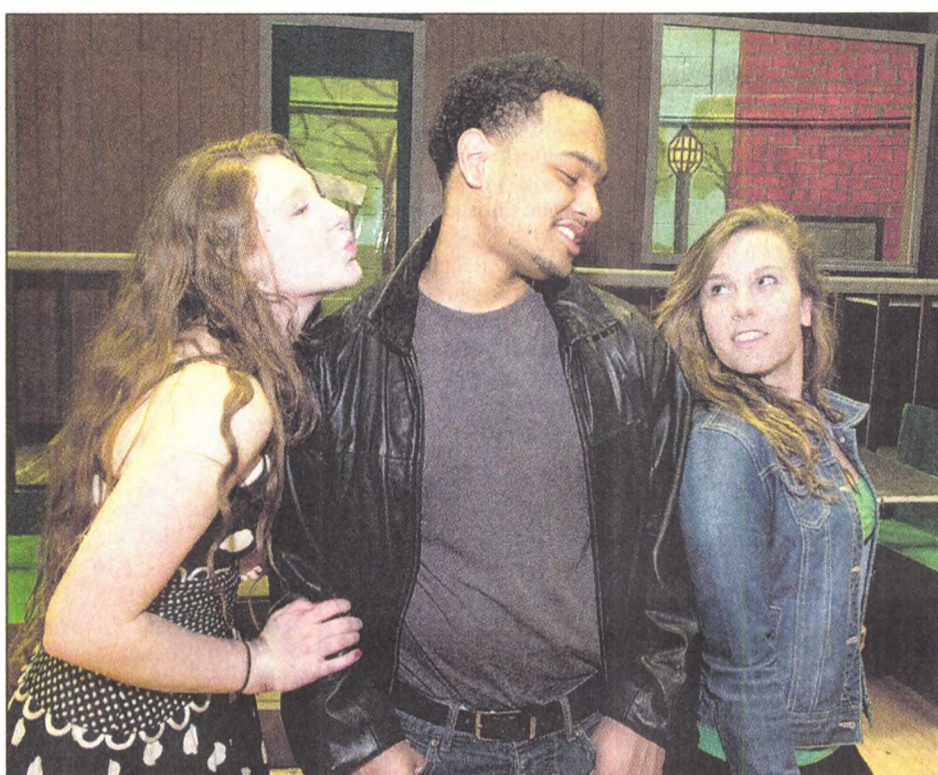
Wide appeal

Gidley selected the show for two reasons: It can be done without live music and the wide appeal of *Happy Days*. However, the music technology has been the biggest challenge. Gidley had thought he would get the music on CDs, instead it came "very iTunes-like."

"You have to download it, it can be started and stopped and customized," Gidley said. "It has a very specific app. This is one of the first shows to do that, this and *Grease*." With both the mid-winter and spring break falling during rehearsal time, Gidley had to get some special licensing to download songs to phones or IOS devices.

"Without that, they didn't have the ability to practice at will," he said.

"A couple of times they've practiced at dif-



Olivia Junk (from left), Marcus Allen Jr. and Morgan Gratwick rehearse a scene from the John Glenn High School Theater Guild's production of "Happy Days the New Musical."

ferent homes on the weekends and during the week," Walakonis said. "With mid-winter and Easter breaks, it made it hard, but they didn't miss a beat."

Also serving as co-director is Glenn grad Steven Goldberg. He had been school in Chicago last semester, but came back home to continue his studies at community college. He's familiar with the directing responsibilities. As a Glenn student, he was an assistant director last year.

"I want to go into film directing. This was a volunteer opportunity," he said.

"This is very different, a new perspective. While you're acting on stage, you see the directors talking between themselves, but when you're back here, you realize what's going on."

"To have him come back is a testament to the program in and of itself," Gidley said. "His going to film school in Chicago gives him a better perspective because he was on stage and he has a knowledge base."

Johnny Pesnecker has been cast as Richie, with Corey Corona playing Potsie and Steven Mirabittur as Ralph. Playing the

leather-jacketed Arthur Fonzarelli is Marcus Allen Jr. Playing Richie's parents Howard and Marion Cunningham are Morgan Gratwick and Matthew Karpuik, with Alyssa Weeks as Joanie.

Double duty

Olivia Junk is pulling double duty for the show as one of the student directors and one of Pinky Tuscardero's Pinkettes. A junior, this is her second time as an assistant director. She's always loved the opportunity to assume a leadership role.



Richie (Johnny Pesnecker) meets up his girlfriend Lori Beth (Bethany Lilygren) in the show.

OH, HAPPY DAYS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 18-20

Location: John Glenn High School Auditorium, 36105 Marquette, west of Wayne Road

Details: Based on the hit television series *Happy Days*, the musical reintroduces one of America's best loved families, the Cunninghams, and the days of 1958 Milwaukee.

Arnold's, the famed drive-in malt shop and No. 1 hangout, is in danger of being demolished so the gang teams up to save it with a dance contest and TV-worthy wrestling match.

Tickets: \$8 for students and \$10 adults. Available at the door or in advance by contacting Kevin Gidley at (734) 419-2342.

"I'm able to push my limits and learn the other side of the business," she said. "A Pinkette is a little part and that makes it a lot easier to be a director."

As an assistant director, Junk isn't there to tell her fellow cast members what to do, but more as another set of eyes for the official directors.

"I give my opinion, but

I'm there to look out for the whole group," she said.

This is Junk's fifth production at Glenn and loves everything about *Happy Days*.

"I really enjoy it. As a kid, I watched *Happy Days* with my parents," she said. "The feeling people will get from this show is great, a happy, laughter thing that people forget to do."

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For the Winders of Livonia, performing is all in the family

When people head to the Village Theatre in Canton April 19-28 for the unique musical theatre show *Barnum*, they're going to see a lot of Winders listed in the program.

The Livonia family is well-represented in the Spotlight Players production. Mom Rebecca, a classically trained operatic singer with a long list of theatrical credits, plays Jenny Lind, the "Swedish Nightingale." Lind proves irresistible to circus pioneer P.T. Barnum, who hires her for his circus — then falls in love with her, nearly ruining his marriage. Rebecca sings *Love Makes Such Fools of Us All in Barnum*.

Husband Eric is also in the show, along with 10-year-old Adam, 8-year-old Daniel, 6-year-old Bradley and 5-year-old Dorothy. The younger Winders do not have lines, but they will be adding lots of movement and excitement to the stage as costumed mimes with painted faces.

Rebecca said her children had fun searching the internet to choose what their mime faces would look like. "It's helped them feel a sense of autonomy and owner-



Eric and Becca Winder of Livonia with their children, from left: Adam, Daniel, Dorothy and Bradley.

ship of their characters and the process of doing a show," she said.

Eric will also be costumed as a mime, but his role in *Barnum* will largely be to help shepherd the children.

"With young kids, you never know exactly what might happen, and it's good to have someone there whose sole focus is on tending to the children," said Rebecca.

No newcomers to theater

While Rebecca has the longest theatrical resume in the family, with roles in shows like *Harvey*, *I Hate*

Hamlet and recently, the opera *Gianni Schicci* at Madonna University, she's not the only Winder with acting experience. Prior to Barnum, all four children acted in *Amahl and the Night Visitors* and *Children of Eden* at Madonna University.

Eric and two of her sons (Adam and Daniel) joined her in the cast of the Spotlight Players' *The Music Man* in 2011. In a neat twist of fate, Rebecca understudied the role of Marian and Eric the role of her love interest, Prof. Harold Hill — and they performed those roles during several shows.

"My favorite experi-

ence of all was *The Music Man* with my husband. It felt like date night three nights a week for two months!" said Rebecca.

She adds: "It was such a positive and wonderful experience that I couldn't wait for the chance to do a show where the entire family could participate. *Barnum* created just such an opportunity."

Rebecca said her kids are excited to be in the show, and she enjoys seeing each of their unique personalities emerge during the experience.

Adam and Bradley are not enthusiastic about dancing, but Daniel is game for anything. "He jumps right in and works hard to try and learn the choreography. It's been really cute to see him just throw himself into the steps," Rebecca said. Dorothy, who impressed the director during her audition with her dancing ability, "is aware that eyes are watching her, and she's become a little more self-conscious."

The Winders went to the first night of auditions so they had to wait a few days to hear whether they'd gotten cast in the show. "The children were so anxious to hear the results that they had trouble sleeping for two nights," recalled Rebecca. When the call finally came

one night, the children had already been put to bed. Because they were not yet asleep (too excited), Rebecca went into their rooms to tell them they'd be playing little mimes.

"They were thrilled and started jumping up and down on their beds, cheering. Finally, Bradley paused in his jumping and looked at me and asked, 'Wait! What's a mime?'"

Story of P.T. Barnum

The show tells the heartwarming story of circus pioneer P.T. Barnum and his conclave of circus acts, including 3-foot tall General Tom Thumb and Joice Heth, billed as "The Oldest Woman in the World." Barnum himself narrates the show, telling the audience a bit of his life story and explaining the art of humbug, while a cast full of unicyclists, stiltwalkers, jugglers, tumblers, mimes and clowns creates a spectacle unique to this show.

With opening night drawing near, what do the Winder youngsters look forward to most? The cast party!

The casts of Spotlight Players traditionally exchange inexpensive but fun gifts after each show — something the Winders learned about with *Music Man*. "It really brings the cast members together

and provides a wonderful closure to each production," said Rebecca.

In addition to being at evening rehearsals with her kids, Rebecca spends her days home schooling them. That's a lot of togetherness, but she considers that a good thing.

"In a day and age when there are so many demands made on our time and attention, it takes genuine focus and effort to keep our families together and make them the priorities that they should be in our lives," she said. "I treasure this time that we have when the kids are young enough to still think my husband and I are cool. I want to do as much as possible with them while they are young and still like me! I value the memories we are helping to create with our children, and my hope is that these memories will be a sustaining influence in their lives and help them always feel grounded and connected to a loving family unit. Hopefully the effects of that will serve them throughout their entire lives."

Tickets for *Barnum* 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.spotlight-playersmi.org.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH LEGAL NOTICE

Public Test of the M-100 Optic Scan Voting System For the Special Election Tuesday, May 7, 2013

A public accuracy test of the M-100 Optic Scan Voting System will take place at 1:00 p.m., on April 17, 2013 at the Charter Township of Plymouth Clerk's Office, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170, for the May 7, 2013 Special Election.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer program used to tabulate the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of law.

For further information contact the Clerk's Office at (734) 354-3228.

Nancy Conzelman
Township Clerk

Publish: April 14, 2013

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS THURSDAY MAY 2, 2013 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, May 2, 2013 commencing at 6:00 p.m., to consider:

1. ZBA application 1506, 11385 Cedar LN: the applicant is an R-1 zoning district and is requesting one variance to allow (1) six (6) foot fence around the backyard whereas a four (4) foot maximum fence height is allowed. *The variance requested is two (2) feet of fence height.*

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

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

Publish: April 14, 2013

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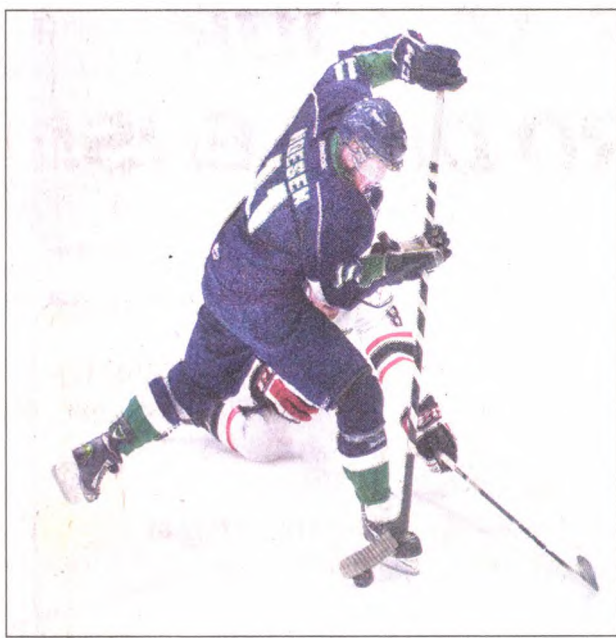
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SPORTS



Battling for the puck Friday night are Plymouth Whalers forward Stefan Noesen (No. 11) and Owen Sound's Cody Ceci (No. 8).

Whalers romp in Game 5

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Not in the Plymouth Whalers' house — no way would Owen Sound have even a sniff of going up in the OHL Western Conference semifinal.

That proved to be the undeniable theme Friday night in Game 5 of the best-of-seven series at Compu-ware Arena.

Led by forward Stefan Noesen, Plymouth took it to Owen Sound for 60 minutes en route to a 5-0 victory before just over 3,000 fans.

The Whalers started fast and never wavered, scoring five times in 20 shots over the first 24-plus minutes and wound up with a 43-19

edge in shots on goal.

Plymouth now holds a 3-2 series lead entering Sunday's Game 6 in Ontario with a chance to clinch.

"I think we played a very good game tonight," said Noesen, who scored twice and assisted on another. "In Owen Sound (a 4-3 loss Wednesday in Game 4) we didn't come out ready to play, we only played half a game."

"With a team like that, they're very fast, very competitive and we can't get down that early."

Full speed

Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci noted how on task his team played, unlike the previous game. He stressed that's how things must

continue for the Whalers to finish off the Attack in the series.

"When we're focused, we're good," Vellucci said. "I thought we were aggressive, we wanted the puck and we had a lot of jump."

Exhibit A was Noesen, who came out flying Friday, although he had plenty of company.

With 13:19 left in the period, Noesen collected a bouncing puck in the low slot in front of Owen Sound goalie Jordan Binnington after it was misplayed by an Attack defenseman. The Ottawa Senators prospect didn't waste any time ripping a low shot into the left corner. It was Plymouth's first of

Please see WHALERS, B3

GIRLS SOFTBALL PREVIEW — PT. 2

Power ball

'Cats feature pitching duo, college-bound talent

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

An interesting thing happened during the 2012 softball season for the eventual KLA South Division champion Plymouth Wildcats.

The ace pitcher from 2011, Elaine Gerou, injured her shoulder and had to give up the circle to freshman Mikayela Marciniak.

Instead of derailing the team, Marciniak was outstanding. And now, for the rest of the story: Gerou (who signed with Concordia University) is healthy again, and Marciniak isn't going anywhere.

With that 1-2 pitching punch, first-year head coach Bev McManus can only smile about what 2013 might bring.

"Kudos to Marciniak, who pitched the distance last year," McManus wrote in a preview overview emailed to the *Observer*. "But this season together, this duo packs a punch that will knock out our opponents."

It's far from a two-play-

Please see 'CATS, B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Bri Giordano connects for another line drive during a 2012 contest. She is one of a number of key returnees for a team expected to contend in the KLA South Division.

Nucleus back for Chiefs

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Canton varsity girls softball coach Jim Arnold is pretty optimistic that the 2013 season will be a successful one for the Chiefs.

The fact that senior co-captains Sarah Wagner and Catherine Porter (center field and catcher, respectively) are back from a team that went 18-10 overall is one of the reasons.

So is having a shortstop (junior Paige Aresco) that catches everything hit in her area code on the left side of the infield.

"Overall, this year looks very promising," Arnold said. "Our defense is good and our hitting is getting stronger every day. The team has worked hard in the off-season preparing and is looking forward to a very rewarding season."

Arnold, of course, is looking for one significant difference from 2012. "Win the last game," he said.

Canton will bank on the pitching of returnees Hannah Warren and Hanna Shuler to keep opponents at bay.

They will pitch to power-hitting catcher Porter, who recently signed a national letter of intent



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Canton shortstop Paige Aresco (No. 14) rips into a pitch during a 2012 KLA softball contest. Aresco is one of the team's top all-around players entering the 2013 season.

with Trine University (Division III).

Aresco will anchor the infield, although the Chiefs boast solid returnees at other positions in Jessica Webster (third base), Kendyl Richter

(second base) and Shannon Watson (first base).

Webster also is set to continue her softball career after graduation, having signed with the

Please see CHIEFS, B3

Zuzo follows Brindza's D-I lead

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Brenton Zuzo will play college football next season in the scorching-hot desert, for the University of Nevada Wolf Pack.

But where the Plymouth High School senior and all-stater is coming from also is blazing hot — especially when it comes to developing Division I kickers.

Zuzo last month became the second Plymouth kicker to sign an NCAA national letter of intent with a D-I program, following Kyle Brindza (now kicking at Notre Dame).

"He saw (Brindza's) pressure kicks, a pretty good mentor to have," Plymouth head coach Mike Sawchuk said about Zuzo having Brindza as a role model.

Can Zuzo step right in and handle the kicking and punting duties on the D-I stage the way Brindza did with the Irish beginning in 2011?

"I don't know what their circumstances are, where they're at with kickers," Sawchuk said. "But the kid certainly has a strong leg. He's not too far behind Brindza in leg strength. He's pretty powerful, he's done a lot of work (to get stronger)."

"We require the kickers to do everything all the position play-

ers do as far as being in the weight room and conditioning."

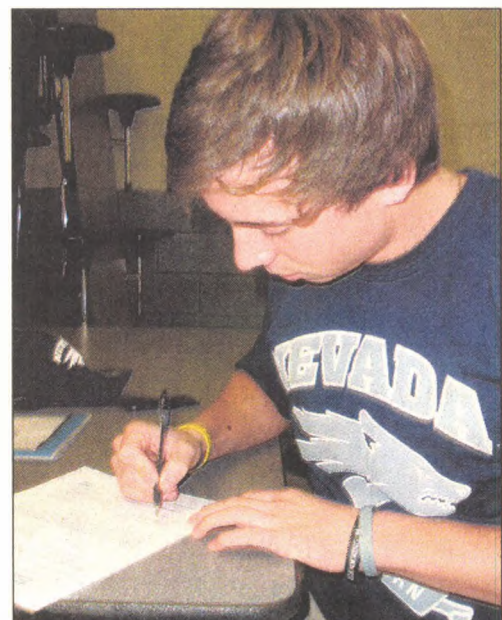
Under his wing

Zuzo also benefited from keeping tabs on his friend and teammate.

"He (Zuzo) was very interested ... because he saw what kind of opportunity he could have as far as getting a scholarship kicking after he saw Kyle," Sawchuk said. "And Kyle kind of took him under his wing. But after that, after you give them a chance, they kind of do everything on their own."

According to Zuzo — also a team-

Please see ZUZO, B3



Plymouth senior Brenton Zuzo signs his national letter of intent to go to the University of Nevada.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO



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Chiefs fall short; 'Cats, Rocks open with victories

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Despite several top-notch individual performances, Canton could not match the overall depth Livonia Franklin brought to the track for Tuesday's regular season opener.

The visiting Chiefs dropped a 71-66 decision to the Patriots, in a KLAA South Division varsity boys track and field dual meet. "In some areas we came through stronger than we thought," Canton head coach Bob Richardson said. "In other areas we just couldn't match what they were able to put on the track, especially their sprint groups. "They did well in the 100, 200 and the two sprint relays which piled up quite a few points for them."

Alex Perelli and Dan Dun-

can sparked the Patriots with wins in the 100- and 200-meter dash, respectively (11.4, 24.1) and teamed up with Spencer Opie and Jordan Bickham to win the 400-meter relay in 45.1 seconds.

"Keenan Jones, we couldn't overcome him, either," said Richardson about Franklin's distance runner, who placed first in the mile run with a time of five minutes-flat.

There were pluses for the Chiefs, however, who will get back at it with meets Tuesday against Plymouth and Thursday at the annual City Meet involving Plymouth-Canton Educational Park teams.

"Jamal Dixon went 6-foot-4 - which was his best all of last year - in the high jump, so he's peaking early," Richardson said. "(Olaniyi) Owagbemi, the shot putter, took first. We were happy for that.

"Two of our pole vaulters actually tied for first (Kyle

Zander and Ryan Jimenez, 10-6 each) and Evan Dunklee had a real nice race in the open 3,200 (first, 10:18)."

Canton senior co-captain Andrew Stephens chipped in with a first-place finish in the 300 hurdles with a mark of 43.9, and also was part of the Chiefs' winning 1,600-meter relay (3:53.9) "so he had a really nice meet for us."

Other Chiefs to score points in open events included high jumpers Akil Wade (second, 5-6), Josh Richards and Brett Lee (tied for third, no marks available); Dixon, third in the long jump (18-11.75); Bryan Eastman, second in the 110-meter hurdles (18.8); James Hildreth, second in the 300 hurdles (44.6); Colby Morris, third in the 100 dash (11.8); Alan Jones, third in the 200 dash (24.7); Bryant Chen and Josh Joy, second and third, respectively, in the 800 run (2:11.7, 2:17.0); Tom Walkinshaw and Ammar Chishti, sec-

ond and third, respectively, in the mile run (5:02.06, 5:08); and Billy Toth, third in the two-mile run (11:15.8).

PLYMOUTH 109, JOHN GLENN 28: Jeff Pattison set the tone for the victorious Wildcats in Tuesday's season opener against Westland John Glenn.

Pattison won the long jump with a mark of 17-4 and placed second in the pole vault (10-6), 110 hurdles (17.39) and took third in the 300 hurdles with a time of 47.07.

"The weather wasn't great, but the guys still came out and competed at a high level," said Plymouth head coach Jon Mikosz, adding that 14 firsts went a long way to the victory.

Distance runners Brandon Dalton and Zane Berlanga continued where they left off last year. Dalton won the 1,600 run with a time of 4:43 (with Max Rogowski second, 4:55) and Berlanga's time of 10:26 in the 3,200 run nipped Liam Cardenas (10:28).

Plymouth excelled in throwing events, too. Finishing first in the shot put was Kyle McMillan (42-9) while Daniel Goertz won the discus (101-4). Victorious in the pole vault and high jump, respectively, were Alex Teasdale (11-0) and Nate Harris (6-1). Rogowski (800, 2:08), Alex Rog-

ers (100, 11.05), Lucas Bunting (400, 53.38) and Caton Hacker (300 hurdles, 44.31) also posted individual wins for the Wildcats.

SALEM 76.67, NORTHVILLE 55.33: The Rocks opened the season on a strong note, sparked by strength in numbers and dominance in field events.

In the 100 dash, Salem swept the top-four places. Steven Homrich finished first, followed by Drake Jordan, Chris Dierker and Michael Hoover. In throwing events, the team of Hoover, Tony Avant, Devin Cameron and Nick Howie swept the proceedings while Jordan, Dierker and Harsha Sajja finished 1-2-3 in the long jump.

Salem had multiple scorers in the vault (Jineet Gandhi, Mick Girardot) and high jump (Dierker, Austin Whited).

There also were excellent performances in the sprint relays. The tandem of Drake Jordan, Sean Davis, Gu'Woin Ingram and Steven Homrich prevailed in each.

Colin McCormack won the 400 dash with second-place showings turned in by Miles Mason (110 hurdles), Steve McEvilly (mile run) and Justin Broughman (400). Finishing third in the 300 hurdles was I'Van Rhodes.

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Rocks top Northville, make statement

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Something special could be percolating with Salem's varsity girls track and field team, and first-year head coach Dave Gerlach wouldn't mind one bit.

The Rocks opened the 2013 season Tuesday with a convincing 80-51 victory over visiting Northville in a KLAA Central Division match-up.

"I thought it was a great way to start off the season, with a big victory against a great team in Northville," said Gerlach, familiar with a number of the athletes as Salem's varsity girls cross country coach.

"They (Mustangs) have some standout athletes, some great hurdlers, a couple very good sprinters and obviously a very talented distance team.

"We're trying to change the culture of this team this year, and for us to come out with a win off the bat, gets us knowing that we're taking a step in the right direction."

Across the board, the Rocks were strong.

For example, senior Nancy Krutty set a new school record in the pole vault, finishing with a mark of 11-feet, 0-inches.

Returning junior all-stater Kayla Kavulich picked up right where she left off last year, with victories in three events. Kavulich won the

1,600-meter run with a time of 5:19.13 and also captured the 800 and 400 with times of 2:19.66 and 1:01.03.

Senior Khyli Ray and sophomore Sheikina Johnson "showed tremendous speed going 1-2 in the 100 and 200" dashes.

Ray's finish of 12.84 seconds earned her first place in the 100, with Johnson trailing closely behind (13.04). They switched places in the 200; Johnson's 26.70 nipped Ray's 26.83.

Junior Katie Binsfeld finished first in the long jump, with a mark of 14 feet, 6.25 inches while sophomore Jamyra Wilson tied for the top spot in the high jump (4-6).

"And our throwers were dominant, sweeping both the shot and the discus," Gerlach added.

In the discus, senior Dana Blankenship prevailed with a toss of 94-01; Shara Long's mark of 33-4.25 was best in the shot put.

DUAL MEET RESULTS SALEM 80 NORTHVILLE 51 April 9 at Salem

Shot put: 1. Shara Long (S), 33 feet, 4.25 inches; 2. Dana Blankenship (S), 31-5.5; 3. Rebecca Falzon (S), 27-7.5.
Discus: 1. Blankenship (S), 94-1; 2. Falzon (S), 85-4; 3. Que Evelline (S), 78-9.
High jump: 1. (tie) Chloe Smither (N), Jamyra Wilson (S), 4-6; 3. Julia Hopkins (N), 4-4.
Long jump: 1. Kathryn Binsfeld (S), 14-6.25; 2. Sarah Martin (S), 14-4.25; 3. Chinese Mbanugo (S), 13-8.25.
Pole vault: 1. Nancy Krutty

(S), 11-0*; 2. Alejandra Beltran (S), 7-6.

100-meter hurdles: 1. Lauren Rodriguez (N), 15.42; 4. Krutty (S), 18.12; 5. Martin (S), 18.40.

300 hurdles: 1. Rodriguez (N), 49.01; 3. Beltran (S), 51.82; 4. Kelly Whalen (S), 52.80.

100 dash: 1. Khyli Ray (S), 12.84; 2. Shekinah Johnson (S), 13.04; 5. Areon Kirk (S), 14.94.

200: 1. Johnson (S), 26.70; 2. Ray (S), 26.83; 4. Brynna Samuels (S), 28.45.

400: 1. Kayla Kavulich (S), 1:01.03; 4. Rebecca Grossmann (S), 1:10.34.

800: 1. Kavulich (S), 2:19.66; 4. Anya Cho (S), 2:29.13.

1,600: 1. Kavulich (S), 5:19.13; 4. Annie Patterson (S), 5:58.30.

3,200: 1. Taleen Shahrigian (N), 11:35.25; 4. Cho (S), 12:12.30.

400 relay: 1. Salem (Ray, Wilson, Samuels, Johnson), 54.13; 2. Northville, 54.17.

800 relay: 1. Salem (Alexandra Davis, Grossmann, Mbanugo, Samuels), 1:55.22; 2. Northville, 1:55.55.

3,200 relay: 1. Northville (Erin Zimmer, Rachel Coleman, Alison Robinson, Hailey Harris), 10:43;



Salem junior Kayla Kavulich won three individual events in the Rocks victory over Northville.

2. Salem (Binsfeld, Natasha Stevenson, Patterson, Elizabeth Tripp), 10:48.

Dual meet records: Salem, 1-0 overall, 1-0 KLAA Central Division; Northville, 0-1 overall, 0-1 KLAA Central.
* - Salem school record.



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ZUZO

Continued from page B1

mate of Brindza's with Plymouth's varsity boys soccer team — it was Brindza who inspired him to get serious about kicking.

Meanwhile, Zuzo credited his dad, Gary Zuzo, for paving the way for him to get such top-notch instruction as received at Kornblue Kicking Camp in Ann Arbor and other camps around the country.

"Back in my sophomore year, Kyle invited me to join him in a Kornblue Kicking Camp," Zuzo wrote in an email to the *Observer*. "Up until then, my kicking was mostly booting the soccer ball from deep in the defensive end.

"It was at that initial exposure that I realized kicking required more than just a strong leg, but actual technique."

Zuzo stressed that Brandon Kornblue's teachings motivated him even more. "During the off-season, I attended Kornblue Kicking Camps and set my sights on becoming listed on his Fab 50 Kickers list," he stated. "I set up a net in my basement and basically worked on form and consistency."

On target

In 2011 and 2012, Zuzo demonstrated he could deliver the goods the way Brindza did before him.

"Brenton hit some good field goals for us," Sawchuk said. "He hit a really important one against (Livonia) Churchill."



Plymouth's Brenton Zuzo (No. 18) launches one of many clutch field goals during his career with the Wildcats. Setting up the kick for Zuzo is Nate Emminger (No. 3).

According to Zuzo, one of his personal highlights came in 2011, when his 40-yard field goal with seven seconds left gave the Wildcats a 31-30 victory over Canton.

"These opportunities came due to team effort," Zuzo added. "The team effort to beat Churchill to win the KLAA Division 1 district championship trophy would qualify as one of my best memories of my senior year."

Hard work during Plymouth practices also helped Zuzo to hone his craft.

"Every day, the kickers not only worked on our drill work, but the

team gathered at times to practice against the stop watch for speed and accuracy," Zuzo said. "Credit to the coaches for drilling us like that, and I couldn't have had my opportunities without the skilled long snapping of Matt Janke, as well as the sure-handed holding of Nate Emminger."

Sawchuk said it is a feather in the program's cap to have athletes such as Brindza and Zuzo continue to earn high-profile football scholarships.

Another Plymouth alum, linebacker Brennan Beyer, is playing at the University of Michigan.

"We've been fortunate enough to have kids that, one, have the talent, two, have the grades," Sawchuk said. "And three, have the desire to work hard. That's the name of the game, to buy in to what we're trying to offer them. They've done it and hopefully we can continue."

"Brenton's just a great character kid, great support from his family (parents Cheryl and Gary). It doesn't surprise me that he got what he got."

More to come

Now Sawchuk will be looking for the next great kicker.



Brenton Zuzo (right) and Plymouth varsity head football coach Mike Sawchuk are in a mood to smile after the senior kicker signed with Division I Nevada.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

He already has junior Viet Nguyen in the pipeline. Like Brindza and Zuzo before him, Nguyen is a Plymouth soccer player, too.

"One of the first things I did when I got there (Plymouth) was talk to our soccer coach (Jeff Neschich), because I know how important it is to have a kicking game," Sawchuk said. "If you can get somebody to kick it into the end zone with no returns, it's a big advan-

tage. Every year I ask him."

And it seems there will be an answer that's to Sawchuk's liking as Plymouth continues producing kickers with NCAA potential.

Brindza, and now Zuzo, are merely starting what could be a long, upright-splitting trend at the Park. Just like their kicks.

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'CATS

Continued from page B1

er team that McManus takes over from Val Canfield, who accepted an assistant coaching position with Oakland University. McManus was an assistant coach for Canfield from 2007-12.

There are 10 returning players from the team that finished an impressive 24-4 overall and 14-2 in the KLAA South, including Gerou and three other seniors.

All of the 12th-graders will continue their softball careers in college, including second baseman Bri Giordano and utility player Kayla Rebain (both headed to Madonna University), outfielder Lindsay Gryniwicz (Hope College) and Gerou.

There's a pretty talented junior class, too. Shortstop Lindsay Lutton, catcher Brooke Senkbeil, infielder/outfielder Celeste Miller and outfielder Halle Berkume all are "a huge asset to this squad," McManus noted.

In addition to Marciniak, the Wildcats feature "powerhouse sophomores" in third baseman Brittney Miller and outfielder Alex Rakovitis.

KLAA rivals also will find out quickly about promising freshman infielder/outfielder Rachel Zerona.

"She is as fast as the wind and hits from the left side," McManus said. "Which is a great addition to an already stacked lineup."

McManus stressed that players are coming to Plymouth ready for the varsity limelight, having been prepped for a number of years in travel programs.

They are leaving ready to make good on their dreams to play collegiate softball.

With Canfield now at Oakland University, perhaps some of them will find a spot there.

Despite the anticipation of another big season on the field, it still will be a bit of a transition from Canfield to McManus.

"I, too, was devastated like the girls when coach Canfield decided to leave Plymouth softball," McManus said. "But I felt compelled to take this team under my wing and attempt to take them to the next level."

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CHIEFS

Continued from page B1

University of Michigan-Dearborn.

A valuable backup is utility player Kaitlyn Keys.

Returnees set for the outfield, in addition to Wagner, include Delainey O'Donnell, Megan Grant, Brynn Birchler and Nicole Clark.

Newcomers include catcher Brooklyn Sellers and infielders Valerie Lentine and Halee Warren.

"We feel we are strong in all positions with good backups," Arnold said. "We have two good pitchers that will keep us in the games, our catchers are strong and we have our infield back."

And, for good measure, Wagner is back to give the Chiefs an excellent outfield, too.

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WHALERS

Continued from page B1

three unassisted goals in the game.

"I just kept trying to get on the forecheck," Noesen said. "I was ready to play today and I got a lucky bounce. That's what it takes to win."

A string of Owen Sound penalties also helped Plymouth get the offense fired up, but it took the Whalers until their fourth power play to score.

At 17:19, defenseman Connor Carrick took a pass from Noesen and sent a low shot from the left point that forward Tom Wilson tipped past Binnington.

Just 16 seconds later, the Whalers had a three-goal bulge thanks to a goal by center Mitchell Heard (two goals), who raced down the left wing before firing it home.

Insurmountable

Plymouth then chased Binnington to the bench with two more goals in the first 3:44 of the second period.

A point-blank shot by center Rickard Rakell was stopped, but not controlled. Noesen then slammed the rebound in with a wraparound stuff at the right post.

Moments later, Heard picked up the puck along the left half-wall, veered into the middle of the ice and snapped a shot over Binnington's blocker to make it 5-0.

At that point, with Plymouth holding a 20-6 edge in shots, Owen Sound coach Greg Ireland pulled Binnington and replaced him with Canton native Brandon Hope.

The Whalers did not ease up on Hope, peppering him with seven shots on a five-minute power play.

Hope proved to be Owen Sound's bright spot, stopping all 23 shots he faced in



Mitchell Heard (No. 15) fires the puck to give Plymouth a 3-0 lead in the first period. At left is teammate Sebastian Uvira (No. 17) while Owen Sound's Kurtis MacDermid (No. 23) gets there too late.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



If there was a bright spot for Owen Sound Friday against Plymouth it was goalie Brandon Hope (No. 33), a Canton native who stopped all 23 shots he faced after entering the game in the second period.

his first postseason action of the season.

With the victory in the books, the Whalers are one win away from reaching the

conference finals.

According to Noesen, the team knows it won't be easy. "We're feeling pretty good

right now," Noesen said. "But there's always a little something in there that we know they're going to come out flying."

"And I think we just need to focus on every shift. We have 60 minutes to prove ourselves there."

OWEN SOUND 4, PLYMOUTH 3: The host Attack rolled to an early 4-0 lead Wednesday night and hung on to win Game 4, tying the series at 2-2.

After Artur Gavrus scored at 5:14 of the second period to give Owen Sound a four-goal cushion, the Whalers relieved starting goalie Alex Nedeljkovic (15 saves) with Matt Mahalak, who blanked the Attack the rest of the way. Mahalak also stopped 15 shots.

Plymouth cut the gap to 4-2 before the end of the second on goals from Connor Carrick and Stefan Noesen, while Vince Trocheck made it 4-3 with a goal at 17:47 of the third. Trocheck assisted on the Whalers' other goals.

Stopping 21 of 24 shots for the win was Owen Sound netminder Jordan Binnington.

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Canton girls win back-to-back

Canton built a quick 4-0 lead Wednesday and went on to defeat Salem 9-5 in a KLAA South Division girls lacrosse match.

Annelise Niermann and Kelsey Tucker each scored three goals for the Chiefs, with Kelly Harris contributing two markers. Tallying the ninth goal was Sarah Davenport.

"We opened the game

there when needed. "We definitely have things to work on as a team," Bower said. "But it was satisfying to come away with the victory."

On Tuesday, the Chiefs defeated perennial KLAA conference champion South Lyon 12-9 in a game described by Bower as a huge win for the Canton program.

He said the win was the first posted by a Park team against South Lyon.

A balanced attack led the charge, with eight different players tallying at least a point. Niermann scored three goals while Cassidy Tucker netted two goals. Annika Nuler scored a goal and was outstanding in the midfield to help stymie the Lions.

Observerland's best swimmers, divers receive honors

FIRST-TEAM INDIVIDUALS

Jason Zhang, Salem: The co-captain and scholar-athlete (4.21 GPA) got it done in the pool, too, capturing Salem's Most Valuable Swimmer Award (shared with Turner Solterman) along with numerous other honors.

Zhang was named to the All-KLAA team and scored at the Division 1 state meet for the fourth consecutive year, also collecting the Mike Kilgore and Salem Coaches awards.

"Jason had an outstanding four years at Salem," coach Chuck Olson said. "He is the example of what can be done as a student-athlete."

At the KLAA meet at Novi High School, Zhang finished third in the 100 backstroke (55.42) and fourth in the 200 freestyle (1:48.97) while being part of the runner-up medley relay (1:40.03) and fourth-place 400 free relay (3:18.56).

Zhang followed that up at the D1 state meet, finishing 12th in the 200 medley relay with Turner Solterman, Jerry Bai and Matt Pairitz.

Nick Leshok, N. Farmington: Leshok makes his third straight appearance on the all-area team after a standout junior season. He finished third in the D2 state meet in the IM (1:53.27) and eighth in the butterfly (52.22). He swam season-best times of 1:53.0 and 51.68 in the state prelims.

Leshok is the OAA Red Division champion in the 200 freestyle (1:44.11) and butterfly (51.90). He is the Oakland County runner-up in the IM (1:56.72) and 100 freestyle (47.55).

"Nick had one of the best seasons ever for a North Farmington Raider," coach Mike Harfoot said. "Whatever we need him to swim for the team, he's willing to swim. He's a tremendous team guy. He's always looking to make the team better by pulling

his teammates along and making everybody better. It's been a pleasure to coach him the last three years, and I'm really looking forward to next year and more good things."

Jackson O'Dowd, Stevenson: The ninth grader was the 10th in the Division 1 state finals in the 50 and 100 freestyles with times of 21.72 and 47.19, respectively.

"This is a tremendous accomplishment for any high school swimmer and being a freshman makes it that much more extraordinary," coach Jeff Shoemaker said. "Jackson had a remarkable freshman year. Without a doubt, before his career is over at Stevenson, Jackson could become one of Stevenson's greatest sprinters of all time."

O'Dowd also captured the 50 freestyle title at the KLAA Kensington Conference meet and added a third in the 100 freestyle.

"Being short on sprinters, he was put into a situation where we relied on him almost every meet," Shoemaker added. "He was able to continually step up and certainly made a name for himself."

Ethan Burke, Churchill: The first-year freshman diver was undefeated during the dual meet season, KLAA South Division champion and third overall in the Kensington Conference meet scoring 338.65 points (12 dives).

Burke's personal best dual meet score was 198.80 (six dives). He also finished 14th at the Division 1 regional, missing the state cut by mere six 10ths of a point.

"Ethan has only one season of training on the diving board, but it didn't take long for him to excel," coach Aaron Rieder said. "Ethan's best dive this season was a back somersault with 2½ twists. It is also his favorite. He is off to an incredible start in the sport of diving and will accomplish

much more before he is through."

Danny McNeece, N. Farmington: McNeece posted the area's second-best time in the butterfly (53.08). He qualified in 10th place for the B final at the D2 state meet. McNeece, who was 14th in the fly at the Oakland County championships, also was a state qualifier in the backstroke. He was third in the fly (54.39) and 10th in the back at the OAA Red Division meet.

"Danny had a real nice season," Harfoot said. "He was very consistent in the 100 fly. He was a little up and down his sophomore year. His junior season was fantastic; he was consistently fast in the fly all season. He worked on the backstroke a lot, because that was what the team needed. He did a really nice job swimming the back and fly on the medley relay all year. He's a good all-around swimmer."

Matt Pairitz, Salem: The junior showed so much this season that he won the Most Improved Swimmer Award and was selected one of Salem's captains for next year.

Pairitz qualified for the D1 state meet with strong showings at the KLAA meet, including sixth in the 100 freestyle (49.16) and fourth in the 400 free relay with Danny Lynch, Jason Basanese and Zhang (3:18.56).

He teamed up with Zhang, Solterman and Bai to finish 12th in the 200 medley relay at the D1 state meet and placed at Holland Aquatic Center in two other relays (14th, 400 free, 3:16.87; 16th, 200 free, 1:30.45).

Pairitz also finished 23rd at Holland in the 100 free, with a time of 48.57. "Matt served notice to the state that he had arrived as a freestyler to watch for 2014," Olson said.

Nick Arakelian, Stevenson: The junior, a 2012 U.S. Olympic Trials qualifier and Junior National competitor,

made the most of his inaugural high school season by breaking the MHSAA Division 1 state record in the 500 freestyle (4:27.75) as well as a runner-up finish in the 200 individual medley (1:48.22).

Arakelian also shattered a Kensington Conference record in the 200 freestyle (1:40.57) was champ at the same meet in the 100 freestyle (47.0).

He now holds four of Stevenson's eight individual swim marks, and also helped the Spartans set new school records in two relay events.

"Nick was certainly a welcome addition to this year's team," Shoemaker said. "Nick also received All-American status in every event he swam at this year's state meet."

"He is without a doubt one of the premier high school swimmers in the country. Nick's great personality and his devotion to success have certainly benefited this program as well as our community."

John Ferrara, Stevenson: The senior, bound for Oakland University, took second at the Division 1 state finals in the 100 backstroke (56.26 in the prelims) and was fifth in the 200 IM (1:54.54).

Ferrara also broke the 100 backstroke record (51.31) and won the 200 IM (1:56.7) at the Kensington Conference meet. He also helped the Spartans set two new school relay records.

"John completed his four-year swim tenure at Stevenson in high fashion," Shoemaker said. "He was able to better his own school record in the backstroke, which was also fast enough for him to earn automatic All-American status."

"His absence next year will certainly be noticed and his shoes will be hard one to fill. It has been an honor to coach him and he will undoubtedly have a successful college career."

Grant McNamara, Stevenson:

The junior placed 10th in the 100 breaststroke (59.88) at the Division 1 state finals and also qualified in the 500 freestyle.

In the Kensington Conference meet, McNamara was champion in the 100 breaststroke (1:00.79) and added a fourth in the 500 freestyle (4:55.86).

"This year Grant was able to drop even more time and place higher at the state meet," Shoemaker said. "Next year Grant will be captain and we expect great things from him as he expects them for himself."

FIRST-TEAM RELAYS

200 medley, Stevenson: The quartet of senior John Ferrara, along with juniors Nick Arakelian, Bradley Bielicki and Jake Goeddeke, posted a school record time of 1:34.42 on its way to a runner-up finish in Division 1, while earning All-American status.

"This relay had been strong for us the entire season," Shoemaker said. "We had tried many combinations throughout the season and most came with success. The combination we ended up with proved to be very successful."

"This relay also claims the seventh fastest time ever in the history of Michigan high school swimming."

200 freestyle, N. Farmington: Matt Morgott, Jake Wasko, Brody Clarke and Nick Leshok finished fifth in the D2 state meet and swam the area's fastest time (1:26.02) in the final. The same foursome also was second in the OAA Red Division (1:27.91) and third in Oakland County (1:28.81).

"All four are coming back and they've already set some high goals for next season," Harfoot said. "I'm not going to be the one to tell them they can't achieve those

Please see ALL-AREA, B5

Canton sophomore Donnie Trosper, shown following through on a tee shot in 2012, is looking for another outstanding season.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BOYS GOLF PREVIEW

Canton golfers eager to get going

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Canton's varsity boys golf team can't wait to tee off, literally and figuratively, for the 2013 season.

It's been dicey for 19th-year head coach Tom Alles and his team, due to brutal weather conditions that have put a crimp in team tryouts.

But once the weather clears up, the Chiefs will feature several top returnees from the team that went 8-2 last season in the KLAA Central Division and placed 14th at the 2012 Division 1 state finals.

"I am encouraged and excited about the quality of our returning players from last season's state finals qualifying team," Alles noted. "The experience the boys have from last year's competition will hopefully help our 2013 team

achieve their goal of returning to states."

Sophomore Donnie Trosper, a first-team all-state and All-Observer selection, is one of the golfers who the Chiefs will feature in their lineup.

Others include senior co-captains Alex Champagne, Brent Perry and Terry McMahan.

Sophomores Chris Dooley, Noah Lindlbauer and Carter Schenk also show promise.

"As a result of our success last year we have been invited to play in numerous highly competitive tournaments during our 2013 season," Alles added. "Hopefully doing well in these events will help to prepare us for post-season competition."

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Cool 'Cats

Weather doesn't bother Plymouth against 'Stangs

Wet, cold, miserable weather did not bother the Plymouth Wildcats one bit in Thursday's 3-0 victory over host Northville in a KLAA crossover varsity girls soccer match.

Leading the way for the Wildcats (3-0 overall) was Madi Lewis, who scored two goals. Setting up her second goal with an outstanding play was Zoe Foster.

Registering her first Plymouth goal was freshman Olivia Janke while Stephanie Dillon and Sydney Rouse "had solid games in the mid," head coach Jeff Neschick said.

He added that the Plymouth back line "really limited Northville's attack."

Plymouth played Salem Saturday in a KLAA crossover that took place after this issue of the Observer went to press.

Next for the Wildcats is Tuesday's 4 p.m. KLAA South Division matchup at Wayne Memorial.

Salem rally makes it three straight

A three-run rally in the bottom of the seventh Tuesday sparked host Salem to a 7-6 victory over Adrian, for the Rocks' third consecutive win to open the season.

Salem went up 4-0 in the first but gave up the lead in the fifth, largely due to sloppy defense.

But the Rocks rallied to give relief pitcher Jeremy St. Laurent the victory.

Justin Sydlowski started it off with a walk and Alex Starr was hit by a pitch. One out later, Lucas Salinas doubled hope Starr and pinch runner Derrick Vergolini to knot the score at 6-6.

Salinas came around to score the winning run on a fielder's choice and wild pitch.

Freshman pitcher Alex Nicholson threw three scoreless innings in his first start for the Salem varsity.

SUMMIT ACADEMY 15, PCA 5: Eight errors Tuesday proved to be the downfall for Plymouth Christian Academy in the Eagles' season opener against the visiting Dragons.

Bright spots for PCA were provided by Josh Slater (single, double, two RBI), Daniel Jipping (two RBI), Johnny Lauch, Tanner Hay and Nick Andres (each with a single).

Making several excellent catches in right field was AJ Grueber.

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ALL-AREA

Continued from page B4

goals. I can see all of them improving and going faster next year. It should be the first All-American 200 relay we've ever had at North (based on this year's time)."

400 freestyle, Stevenson: The foursome of Jackson O'Dowd, John Ferrara, Parker Belmore and Nick Arakelian finished only second to Birmingham Brother Rice's MHSAA all-class record time of 3:03.78.

This quartet set a school record at the Division 1 finals with a All-American clocking of 3:07.7, as well as the ninth fastest time ever recorded in the MHSAA.

They also combined to break at Kensington Conference meet mark (3:12.13).

"This relay had similar success to our medley relay," Shoemaker said. "It was an unbelievable time, which broke one of the oldest records on our record board by over four seconds. It was truly remarkable and the four boys swam better than anyone thought they could."

SECOND-TEAM INDIVIDUALS

Matt Laporte, Stevenson: The 10th grader was a state qualifier in the 500 freestyle where he placed 23rd overall with a clocking of 4:50.0.

He was also the Kensington Conference champion with a personal best 4:48.62, while contributing a seventh in the 200 freestyle (1:49.93).

"Matt had quite an impressive sophomore year," Shoemaker said. "He was able to continually drop time in all his events and qualify for the state meet."

"Matt has the personality that without a doubt stands out and is quite a joy to have on deck. Matt continually works hard at each practice and with two more years left in his high school career we expect big things from him. With his ability and work ethic, Matt will return next year and score points for us at the state meet."

Nick Weber, Plymouth: The senior co-captain ended his four-year varsity career on a prestigious note, winning team MVP honors while leading the Wildcats to the KLAAs South Division championship.

Weber was on the 200 free relay team that set a new Plymouth record at the D1 state meet in Holland with a time of 1:42.64. Sharing in that achievement were relay mates Cameron Earls, Ryan Heinze and Alex Wilson.

He also qualified in the 200 medley relay and was a versatile contributor throughout the Plymouth lineup, stressed first-year coach Kenn Forbes.

"Nick Weber is one of the most talented, hardest working and gifted kids I've come across in my years of coaching," Forbes said. "He has the innate ability to continually push himself beyond what I thought was possible and then improve off of it drastically."

Weber, lauded for his leadership capabilities, plans on attending Grand Valley State University and pursue a degree in biology. He is undecided about going out for the men's swim team.

"Whatever he puts his mind to he achieves," Forbes said. "I have no doubt that he will continue to achieve throughout college and whatever career path he goes down."

Jake Goeddeke, Stevenson: The junior was a state qualifier in the 100 backstroke (55.84) and 50 freestyle (22.41) en route to 24th- and 26th-place finishes, respectively.

Goeddeke was also a valuable relay team member at the Division 1 finals helping the Spartans to a second in the 200 medley and a seventh in the 200 freestyle.

Goeddeke also placed fourth in the 50 free (22.48) along with a fifth in the 100 back (55.78) at the conference finals.

"Jake was mainly trained as a mid-distance swimmer with a specialty focused on backstroke," Shoemaker said. "As the year progressed he became stronger and his sprinting ability started to surface. Towards the end of the season Jake became very sick and missed a week-and-a-half of training. Rather than making him too tired, we placed him in the sprint events and this proved to work out perfectly as he qualified in two events. Jake will return next year as a senior captain."

Nick Nader, N. Farmington: Nader was a three-time D2 state qualifier in diving. He was usually a lock to win the event in dual meets. He finished third in the OAA Red Division and 15th in Oakland County.

"Nick has been a fantastic diver for us the last couple years," Harfoot said. "He's been just a rock for us in the diving spot all season. We could count on him to get first or second in the big meets and finish high in the championship meets."

"He also was a fantastic captain to our five freshmen divers. He wasn't just concerned with what he had to do. He brought them along and taught them how to be good divers. That will help us the next couple years."

Jake Wasko, N. Farmington: Wasko finished 10th in the butterfly at the D2 state meet, posting his best time (53.12) of the season. He also qualified in the 50 freestyle. Wasko was fifth in the OAA Red Division (55.34) and 10th in Oakland County (54.55). He also placed eighth in the 200 freestyle in the OAA finals.

"Jake is really starting to come into his own," Harfoot said. "He's been a good swimmer but has the potential to be a great swimmer, and he's starting to realize it. He worked hard in the off season to get better and it showed. He carried it through to the state meet and had a great state meet."



Jason Zhang Salem



Nick Leshok N. Farmington



Jackson O'Dowd Stevenson



Ethan Burke Churchill



Danny McNeece N. Farmington



Matt Pairitz Salem



Nick Arakelian Stevenson



John Ferrara Stevenson



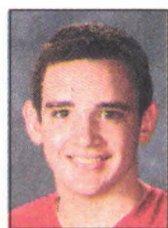
Grant McNamara Stevenson



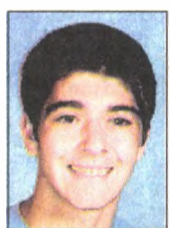
Matt Laporte Stevenson



Nick Weber Plymouth



Jake Goeddeke Stevenson



Nick Nader N. Farmington



Jake Wasko N. Farmington



Brandon Shatter Stevenson



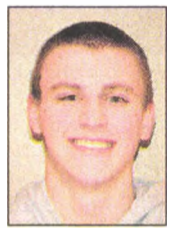
Turner Solterman Salem



Parker Belmore Stevenson



Tommy O'Donohue Stevenson



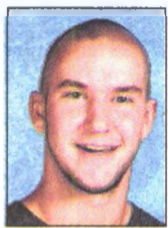
Bradley Bielicki Stevenson



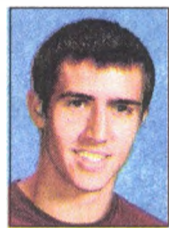
Jerry Bai Salem



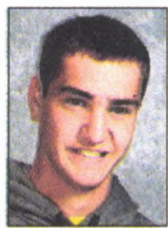
Kenny McManimon Salem



Brody Clarke N. Farmington



Matt Morgott N. Farmington



Rob Chapekis N. Farmington

BOYS BEST SWIM TIMES

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY

Livonia Stevenson 1:34.42
Salem 1:39.03
North Farmington 1:40.57
Plymouth 1:42.62
Canton 1:49.14

200 FREESTYLE

Nick Arakelian (Stevenson) 1:40.57
Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 1:44.11
Jason Zhang (Salem) 1:48.97
Jake Goeddeke (Stevenson) 1:49.08
Jackson O'Dowd (Stevenson) 1:49.40
Matt Laporte (Stevenson) 1:49.93
Jake Wasko (N. Farmington) 1:50.18
Danny Lynch (Salem) 1:50.84
Michael Chen (Stevenson) 1:51.22
Brandon Shatter (Stevenson) 1:51.34

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

Nick Arakelian (Stevenson) 1:48.22
Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 1:53.00
John Ferrara (Stevenson) 1:53.83
Parker Belmore (Stevenson) 2:01.17
Jason Zhang (Salem) 2:01.93
Nick Weber (Plymouth) 2:04.51
Brad Bielicki (Stevenson) 2:04.80
Luke Crompton (Thurston) 2:05.56
Keith Erichsen (N. Farmington) 2:06.14
Charles Liu (Salem) 2:06.24

50 FREESTYLE

Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 21.69
Jackson O'Dowd (Stevenson) 21.72
Jason Zhang (Salem) 22.24
Nick Arakelian (Stevenson) 22.26
Matt Pairitz (Salem) 22.27
Jake Wasko (N. Farmington) 22.36
Jake Goeddeke (Stevenson) 22.41
Matt Morgott (N. Farmington) 22.46
Brody Clarke (N. Farmington) 22.75
Peter Romero (Farm. Unified) 22.99
Justin Larkins (Franklin) 22.99

ONE-METER DIVING

Ethan Burke (Churchill) 338.65
Nick Nader (N. Farmington) 326.10
Connor McManus (Plymouth) 287.00
Jesse Damesworth (Stevenson) 286.25
Brian Atiyeh (Stevenson) 260.95
Dave Cunningham (Glenn) 257.10
Chas Eisenhardt (Stevenson) 228.30
Zach Bartolec (Salem) 226.90
Austin Tetlow (Canton) 225.95
Kameron Stancer (Churchill) 217.45

100 BUTTERFLY

Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 51.68
Danny McNeece (N. Farmington) 53.08
Jake Wasko (N. Farmington) 53.12
Luke Crompton (Thurston) 54.62
David Ptashnik (Stevenson) 55.59
Cameron Earls (Plymouth) 55.70
Jerry Bai (Salem) 56.32

Brad Bielicki (Stevenson) 56.45
Nick Weber (Plymouth) 57.34
John Ferrara (Stevenson) 57.64

100 FREESTYLE

Nick Arakelian (Stevenson) 47.00
Jackson O'Dowd (Stevenson) 47.19
Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 47.55
Jake Wasko (N. Farmington) 48.48
Matt Pairitz (Salem) 48.57
John Ferrara (Stevenson) 49.02
Brandon Shatter (Stevenson) 49.31
Brody Clarke (N. Farmington) 49.74
Rob Chapekis (N. Farmington) 49.89
Matt Morgott (N. Farmington) 50.21

500 FREESTYLE

Nick Arakelian (Stevenson) 4:27.75
Matt Laporte (Stevenson) 4:48.12
John Ferrara (Stevenson) 4:53.94
Jason Zhang (Salem) 4:54.87
Grant McNamara (Stevenson) 4:55.66
Turner Solterman (Salem) 4:56.56
Keith Erichsen (N. Farmington) 4:57.97
Eric Ferrara (Stevenson) 5:00.02
Charles Liu (Salem) 5:00.07
John Stover (Wayne) 5:02.75

200 FREESTYLE RELAY

North Farmington 1:26.02
Livonia Stevenson 1:27.46
Salem 1:29.99
Plymouth 1:32.14
Farmington-Harrison 1:33.94

100 BACKSTROKE

John Ferrara (Stevenson) 50.26
Parker Belmore (Stevenson) 53.47
Jason Zhang (Salem) 55.32
Jake Goeddeke (Stevenson) 55.78
Cameron Earls (Plymouth) 55.87
Patrick Casey (Salem) 56.99
Danny McNeece (N. Farmington) 57.86
Benjamin Yang (Plymouth) 58.73
Brian Kuang (Salem) 59.28
Michael Chen (Stevenson) 1:00.45

100 BREASTSTROKE

Nick Arakelian (Stevenson) 57.01
Grant McNamara (Stevenson) 59.88
Tommy O'Donohue (Stevenson) 1:00.88
Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 1:01.23
Turner Solterman (Salem) 1:01.34
Luke Crompton (Thurston) 1:01.64
Justin Larkins (Franklin) 1:02.51
Smaran Bhaktawara (Salem) 1:03.38
Rob Chapekis (N. Farmington) 1:04.76
Matt Della Mora (Stevenson) 1:06.07

400 FREESTYLE RELAY

Livonia Stevenson 3:07.07
North Farmington 3:11.46
Salem 3:16.87
Plymouth 3:26.28
Farmington-Harrison 3:29.37

"He was a key member of the sprint relays all season. He could swim any slot from leadoff to anchor. He's another one we're looking to have a big season as a senior."

Brandon Shatter, Stevenson: The senior was first-time state qualifier in the 100 freestyle where he took 38th overall (50.2), while also lifting the Spartans to a seventh-place finish in the 200 freestyle relay.

"Brandon had a remarkable senior year and without a doubt left the program on a good note," Shoemaker said. "Swimming just during the high school season, it would take Brandon awhile to get back into shape."

"Brandon is a remarkable student in-and-out of the pool. I could not be happier with what he has achieved for himself and certainly enjoyed watching him grow up the last four years."

Turner Solterman, Salem: Solterman capped off an outstanding Salem career, qualifying for the D1 state meet and All-KLAA team two years in a row. His dedication carried over to the classroom, where he compiled a 3.45 GPA.

Also a co-captain, Solterman shared Salem's Most Valuable Swimmer Award (with Zhang), and also

earned a Salem Coaches award.

He nearly was conference champion in the 100 breaststroke, finishing second with a time of 1:01.34. His time of 1:01.60 at the subsequent D1 state meet was good for 21st overall. His fifth-place finish of 4:57.16 in the 500 freestyle gave him a state cut in that event.

Solterman comprised one-fourth of the 200 medley relay team that took 12th at the state meet.

"Turner set the pace for the team with his work ethic for every practice, which led to his success as a senior," Olson said.

Parker Belmore, Stevenson: The junior placed 11th in the 100 backstroke (53.47) and 20th overall in the 200 IM (2:01.17) at the Division 1 state meet.

He also helped the Spartans take runner-up honors in the 400 freestyle relay as well as a seventh-place finish in the 200 freestyle relay.

At the Kensington Conference meet, Belmore was runner-up in the 100 backstroke (54.95) and was a member of Stevenson's first-place 400 freestyle relay team.

"Parker certainly did an exceptional job this year of stepping up and he played an integral part to our success this season," Shoemaker said. "He had

some of the biggest time drops at the state meet to earn both All-State and All-American honors.

"Next year Parker will be one of our four captains that will lead this team to success. I have full confidence in Parker and look forward to his success next year."

Tommy O'Donohue, Stevenson: The junior placed 13th in the 100 breaststroke (1:00.88) to earn All-State recognition.

"Tommy is one of the hardest working swimmers we have on our team," Shoemaker said. "His dedication and hard work paid off for him this year. After a very successful sophomore season of continually dropping time, Tommy certainly repeated this success his junior year. Next year we will be counting on him once again. There is no doubt in my mind he will come through for us as he has in the past."

SECOND-TEAM RELAYS

200 medley, Salem: The quartet of Zhang, Solterman, senior Jerry Bai and senior Kenny McManimon qualified for the D1 state meet with a sparkling second-place time of 1:40.03.

At the Holland finals, the Rocks — with Pairitz in for McManimon — topped that with a 1:39.03 to earn 12th place overall.

2013 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING TEAM INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

200-yard freestyle: 1. Jason Zhang, sr., Salem; 2. Matt Laporte, soph., Livonia Stevenson.

200 individual medley: 1. Nick Leshok, jr., North Farmington; 2. Nick Weber, sr., Plymouth.

50 freestyle: 1. Jackson O'Dowd, fresh., Stevenson; 2. Jake Goeddeke, jr., Stevenson.

Diving: 1. Ethan Burke, soph., Livonia Churchill; 2. Nick Nader, sr., North Farmington.

100 butterfly: 1. Danny McNeece, jr., North Farmington; 2. Jake Wasko, jr., North Farmington.

100 freestyle: 1. Matt Pairitz, jr., Salem; 2. Brandon Shatter, sr., Stevenson.

500 freestyle: 1. Nick Arakelian, jr., Stevenson; 2. Turner Solterman, sr., Salem.

100 backstroke: 1. John Ferrara, sr., Stevenson; 2. Parker Belmore, jr., Stevenson.

100 breaststroke: 1. Grant McNamara, jr., Stevenson; 2. Tommy O'Donohue, jr., Stevenson.

RELAY TEAMS

200 medley: 1. Stevenson (sr. John Ferrara, jr. Nick Arakelian, jr. Brad Bielicki, jr. Jake Goeddeke); 2. Salem (sr. Jason Zhang, sr. Turner Solterman, sr. Jerry Bai, sr. Kenny McManimon).

200 freestyle: 1. North Farmington (soph. Matt Morgott, jr. Jake Wasko, jr. Brody Clarke, jr. Nick Leshok); 2. Stevenson (fr. Jackson O'Dowd, jr. Parker Belmore, sr. Brandon Shatter, jr. Jake Goeddeke).

400 freestyle: 1. Stevenson (fr. Jackson O'Dowd, sr. John Ferrara, jr. Parker Belmore, jr. Nick Arakelian); 2. North Farmington (jr. Jake Wasko, jr. Brody Clarke, jr. Rob Chapekis, jr. Nick Leshok).

COACH OF THE YEAR

Jeff Shoemaker, Livonia Stevenson

HONORABLE MENTIONS

The following are additional state qualifiers who are not recognized on either the first or second all-area swim team:

Franklin: Justin Larkins; N. Farmington: Keith Erichsen; Plymouth: Cam Earls, Ryan Heinze, Alex Johnson, Alex Wilson; Salem: Dan Lynch, Jason Basanese; Thurston: Luke Crompton.

Co-captain Bai (who won a Salem Coaches Award) and McManimon were named to the All-KLAA team for the second year in a row.

"Jerry was very competitive all four years," Olson said. "Both in the pool and the classroom (3.96 GPA)."

McManimon's stellar attitude and work ethic augmented his swimming ability, Olson noted.

"Kenny was all about the team and whatever he could do for the team he was willing to do," Olson said. "The improvement displayed all four years did not go unnoticed by his teammates or coaching staff."

200 freestyle, Stevenson: The grouping of Jackson O'Dowd, Parker Belmore, Brandon Shatter and Jake Goeddeke earned seventh overall in Division 1 with a 1:27.46.

"This was a relay that had me most concerned all year long," Shoemaker said. "I know I needed to score all three relays in order to place high at the state meet. Since we swam so well at the conference meet, I knew we had an outside chance. I never thought we would be able to place in the top eight and receive All-State honors. These four stepped up and were the main reason we were able to finish third as a team at the state meet."

400 freestyle, N. Farmington: Jake Wasko, Brody Clarke, Rob Chapekis and Nick Leshok swam the area's second-fastest time (3:11.46) in the D2 prelims and finished seventh in the final. They broke the school record by two full seconds and met their own goal of swimming under 3:12.

"Again, all four guys are going to be back next year, so our sprint relays are looking good going into next season," Harfoot said. "They improved all year, and I was really proud of how they swam at the state meet."

COACH OF THE YEAR

Jeff Shoemaker, Stevenson: The 13th-year coach, a math instructor at Stevenson, guided the Spartans their best finish since 2006 by scoring 191 points and a third-place finish in Division 1.

The Spartans also captured the KLAAs Central Division and Kensington Conference championships this season.

"I could not have asked for a better season," said Shoemaker, a former swimmer stand-out at Eastern Michigan University. "From start-to-finish each of these boys dedicated everything for us to become successful. This year we broke more records than any team in Stevenson high school swimming history."



Jeff Shoemaker Coach of Year

Stories Worth Telling

Woodcox pairs images, writing for foster kids' benefit

By Sharon Dargay
 Staff Writer

Rob Woodcox hopes to raise approximately \$26,000 in the next 11 days to help NorthRidge Church in Plymouth Township send foster children to camp this summer.

His campaign page on Indiegogo.com, a crowd-funding website, is called Stories Worth Telling and it has earned more than \$4,000 since going live last month.

Woodcox designed the project — which will generate both funds for camp and a book of stories and photos about foster children — after he volunteered as a counselor at a Royal Family KIDS Camp last summer. The California-based non-profit offers a network of summer camps for abused, neglected and abandoned children, with a mission of creating “life-changing moments” for children of abuse. Camps are sponsored and run by churches, with help from social service professionals, throughout the country.

For the past few years, Northridge has partnered with Brightmoor



This is one of the many photographs by Rob Woodcox, featured in the fundraising campaign, “Stories Worth Telling,” which pairs photos with stories about foster children.



Rob Woodcox is raising funds to send foster children to summer camp.

Christian Church in Novi, which offers a Royal Family KIDS camp. This year, Northridge will launch its own Royal Family KIDS camp for approximately 32 children from Wayne County. Woodcox hopes to off-

set the church's cost for the camp and year-round mentoring through his online fundraising campaign.

“He is dreaming big with great vision and heart,” said Beth Harris, NorthRidge Church outreach coordinator. “Rob participated with Brightmoor and us last year and fell in love with the program.”

She figures the church will need about 40 or more volunteers to help staff the camp, which has a ratio of one counselor for every camper, in addition to trained professionals and those who help with camp activities.

“The people who apply to camp counsel are in the interview process right now. It's a commitment. These are not all

healthy kids,” she said, adding that some may have emotional or behavioral problems. “It's challenging and you've got to know you're going in there to love on this child, which may be the only love they are going to receive. You need to go in knowing it's going to be a lot of work.”

Focusing on fosters


Woodcox, who grew up in Livonia and now lives in Ypsilanti, said the Royal Family KIDS Camp is the only summer camp tailored to foster children.

“When I learned that, I was drawn to it,” he said. “I think the thing that struck me the most right off the bat was how



This is one of the photos that Rob Wilcox is offering to individuals who pledge to his fundraising campaign. He is known for including surreal elements in his work.

Please see BENEFIT, B7




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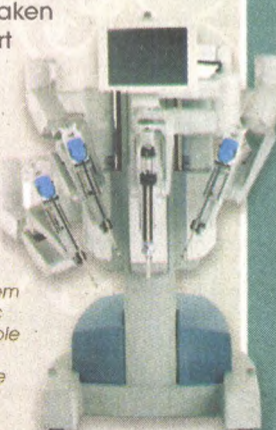
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The St. Michael Children's Choir will perform at the Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast May 2.

Angelic voices will entertain at annual community breakfast

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Jerry Smith has selected the entertainment for the Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast the past 20 years and he knows what guests like to hear.

"People like to have groups come in and sing and they like young people," said Smith, a Livonia resident and the music director for First Presbyterian Church in Plymouth. "I go out and fish the waters and see what is the best thing out there."

This year Smith hooked quite a catch — youthful, angelic voices that will "delight everyone."

The St. Michael Children's Choir, from St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia, will sing at the Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m. Thursday, May 2, at Laurel Manor Banquet and Conference Center, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia. The event also features Smith's wife, Sharon, who will play piano while food is served, and national speaker and author, Tony Campolo, president of the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education, who will address the gathering after breakfast. Campolo, professor emeritus of sociology at Eastern University and a former faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania, has written more than 35 books and blogs regularly at his website, redletterchristians.org.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for K-12 students. Make checks payable to Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast, Inc. Mail to the organization to the attention of Sally Butler, 33300 Five Mile, Suite 105, Livonia, MI 48154. Tickets will be mailed upon receipt of payment. Purchase deadline is Friday, April 19. For more information call (248) 476-9427.

The St. Michael Children's Choir is part of the church's music ministry. It

sings at the 8 a.m. Mass once a month, at the children's Christmas liturgy, on other holidays and for special events, such as the upcoming May Crowning, which honors the Virgin Mary, and for Mother's Day, when the youngsters sing alongside their moms.

"We have more than 50 (children) on the roster, although you won't see all 50 at the prayer breakfast," said Cindy Stempin, church music director and a counselor at St. Michael School. "They start at third grade and go all the way to eighth." This year all of her singers also attend St. Michael School, but that's not a requirement for choir membership.

When she became the church organist 20 years ago, Stempin continued the children's choir that had been in place at St. Michael.

"We wanted to have a children's choir sing at the liturgy. There is a lot of literature out there specifically for children's choir, in their range, with harmonies that are simpler. But I will tell you that kids pick up things fast. We can teach by rote."

At the prayer breakfast, the group will sing mostly sacred music, including one piece in Latin and a gospel tune. Youngsters will lighten the mood with a kazoo song at the end of their performance. Stempin said selections range from slow and meditative to peppy.

"I listened to the kids last fall. They were wonderful," Smith noted.

In addition to singing at church, the choir participated in a convention for private schools a few years ago at Cobo Center, in Detroit, and has sung at a festival in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. It performed last week at Barnes & Noble in Northville.

Stempin ranks the upcoming prayer breakfast with those events.

"This is going to be major," she said. "It's such an honor. We're excited."

BENEFIT

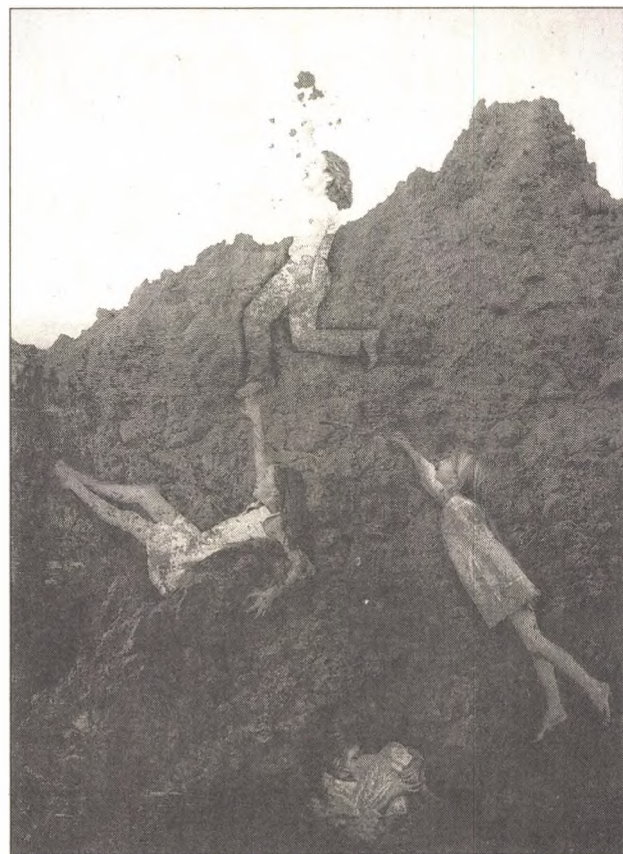
Continued from page B6

focused the camp is on showing these kids love. It's not about discipline or getting on the right track. You demonstrate through your actions that they are valuable and they matter.

"I was abused and neglected as a child. I'm lucky that I was adopted. I was not in foster care, but what makes me so passionate about his project is if I hadn't been adopted I would have been in foster care. I would have been one of those kids."

Woodcox created a team of artists to help produce online videos and the photos that will illustrate written stories of foster children. The group includes his creative partners Jakob Skogheim, a filmmaker, and Tabatha Plomaritas, a producer, graphic designer Casey Maxwell and screenwriter Aubrey Warner.

The photos and stories eventually will become part of a book that Woodcox hopes to use as a vehicle to raise awareness and additional funds for foster children. Images also are used as perks for those who contribute to the campaign. Those who pledge \$10 receive their choice of a photo as digital wallpaper. Contribute \$25-\$50 or more and you'll receive a print from the collection. A \$100 donation offers a ticket to the group's book-signing party, a limited-edition T-shirt and a digital version of the book. A pledge of \$250 or more lands the coffee table book version of *Stories Worth Telling*, along with a digital copy of the book and a ticket to the party. Perks increase with donations of \$750, \$2,500 and \$5,000. The top pledge



Individuals who pledge \$25 or more can receive one of the photographs, like this one, that make up the fundraising campaign, "Stories Worth Telling."

includes a custom workshop with Woodcox, who was nominated for the Best Emerging Photographer award from Framed Network, an online network for photographers.

Church ministry

All money raised through the campaign will go directly to Northridge Church for the camp, which is a part of the church's "Orphan Care" ministry.

"We're trying to make sure we're standing in the gap for kids in crisis and raising awareness of the foster care crisis in Michigan," Harris said.

"According to the statistics we've (received), we have about 17,000 kids in the state in foster care."

Harris said the Orphan Care program allows church members to help foster children in a variety of ways. They

can become foster parents. They can help create "comfort bags" filled with clothing, toys and other items that children may keep as they transition from home to foster care. They can help with summer camp or tutoring. The quilt ministry at the church, for example, creates personalized quilts for each camper. Harris added that no one is paid for their involvement in the summer camp.

"We're privileged to provide it. It's a blessing to us," she said.

To contribute or learn more about *Stories Worth Telling*, visit www.indiegogo.com/projects/stories-worth-telling. For more about Rob Woodcox visit robwoodcoxphotography.com or facebook.com/robwoodcoxphotography. Visit the church's website at northridgechurch.com.

REUNIONS

Send information to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

BELLEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1963

50th reunion will be held Sept. 28. Contact Kathy (Toth) Hay at khay@reinhardrealtors.com or Dianna (Basnaw) McDaniel at djmcDaniel45@comcast.net.

CLASS OF 1973

40th reunion will be held Sept. 28. Send

inquiries to Belleville-Mi1973.40@comcast.net or call Laura (Kingsley) Delsh at (734) 485-2744 or Sterling at (734) 265-6132.

DETROIT BURT ELEMENTARY

Classes of 1960-79
A reunion is planned for April 20 at Big Tommy's Parthenon, 40380 Grand River Ave., Novi. A limited number of tickets are available. They will not be sold at the reunion. Presale tickets are \$25; 5-7 p.m. March 15 at Panera at Six Mile and

Newburgh in Livonia. Pattypure@yahoo.com or Burtreunion@yahoo.com for more information.

DETROIT GESU CATHOLIC SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1956

A reunion is planned for Aug. 17. Call Jack Sayed at (810) 231-9230.

DETROIT MUMFORD

CLASS OF 1963

A 50-year reunion is set for 6:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 5, at Somerset Inn, 575 W. Big Beaver, Troy. \$85. Visit www.mumford63.com.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

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



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

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

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the

subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

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

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

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Animal groups need forever home, mystery players

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Sandra Mezza of Guardian Angel Animal Rescue in Livonia isn't sure why Rufus, hasn't found his "forever home" because she says he's playful, sweet, silly, loving and ready to kiss everyone he meets.

Rufus is an 11-month-old Brittany Spaniel-American Staffordshire Terrier mix who has been with the rescue "for some time" and who needs a little PR to help get him adopted. He's being fostered in Wixom with Kasey Mack and her family, which includes cats, dogs and kids. Despite a rough start in life, he is doing well.



"Rufus was rescued from a home that had chained him to a so-called doghouse, with very little food and very little human contact," Mezza said. "The people had moved and left him behind he was rescued just in time. It was freezing cold at night and he was soaking wet from the freezing rain. He wouldn't have made it

much longer." Mack said the dog was rescued from the backyard of an abandoned home in Detroit.

"There were some concerned people in the neighborhood that got in touch with a mutual friend of my sister's and she got a hold of me and we did a temperament test," she said.

Rufus is micro-chipped, neutered and up to date on his shots. He is housebroken and crate trained. Mack said he received several inquiries about adoption, but also noted that the rescue had "a lot of puppies this winter, so he had to compete with little pups (for adoption) which is always hard."

Mack describes him as "very smart," and would do

well with continued training.

Does he sound like your kind of furry companion? E-mail to guardian_angel_rescue@hotmail.com or call (734) 516-2171.

Tail Wagger's 1990 benefit

Here's your chance to play CSI detective and solve "The Case of the Dead Paparazzi" while helping Tail Wagger's raise funds for its new Wellness & Spay/Neuter Center.

Tail Wagger's 1990, founded by Laura Zain, is the animal welfare group that helps pet owners in need. The organization offers a pet food pantry, low-cost vaccinations, spay and neuter services, as



Rufus is looking for his forever home. He is being fostered through Guardian Angel Animal Rescue in Livonia.

well as funding for animal emergencies.

Teams of four can sign up now for the fundraiser, which is set for 8 p.m. Saturday, June 8, in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth. Only 25 teams will be registered.

Participants will hunt for clues, problem-solve, figure out riddles and meet actors portraying

various characters in the murder mystery. An after-party will include pizza, munchies and non-alcoholic beverages. A cash bar will be available.

Tickets are \$25 each. Register at www.tailwaggers1990.org, e-mail to tailwaggers.1990@yahoo.com or call (734) 855-4077.

Readers' questions teach us all

By Joe Gagnon
Guest Columnist

I want to thank so many of you who said hello during the four remote broadcasts I did during the month of March. It was so nice to meet and chat with all of you. Meanwhile, just keep

sending those e-mails to the address below and I will answer as many as I can. The following are very informative and help to make you a smarter consumer.

Sue writes: On 11-20-12 I bought a new G.E. washing machine. After it was installed and I started to use it, I noticed that every time I unplugged or plugged it in, it sparked.

I changed the electrical outlet thinking that was the problem. It was not. It continued to spark. I called G.E. and they sent a man out to check it out. He said there was nothing wrong, that the circuit board in the motor had a light that needed to remain on and that it should not be unplugged. He wanted to know why I unplugged it. I told him that when I had an energy audit done by DTE that they told me to unplug anything that I wasn't using with the exception of the refrigerator. He said that the story sounded a bit funny and asked what was name of the repairman. I told them he left me nothing with his name on it and that their records should show who it was. They sent a second man who also indicated that the machine needed to be left plugged in and there was no more harm in that sparking than there was from the igniter on the

stove.

Reply: I will direct this to those companies that are now doing these energy audits which I think are very worthwhile. The spark effect is normal on products that hold electrical current and may appear alarming to many homeowners. It is nothing to be afraid of but if you are going to tell homeowners to start unplugging their appliances, you may be the cause of many needless service calls. I will bet that energy consumption on major home appliances doesn't equal \$5 per year. Appliances with control boards may need to be re-programmed if left unplugged for more than 15 minutes. Hope this helps Sue and sorry you had to replace the wall outlet.

Bob writes: I have a high efficiency 6-year-old hot water heater located in the basement of our condo unit which works

well and provides adequate hot water. Our concern is that strange noises are coming from the tank. They sound like a hammering noise. The noise makes us think it may be water super-heated turning into steam and rising inside the tank. Not sure if that sounds feasible. Sounds just last a short second and are spaced several seconds apart for part of the heating cycle. A local handyman who does work in our complex says, he has heard this noise before in other tanks and not concerned. However I would rather hear an opinion from an appliance professional. Any suggestions?

Reply: I wonder how many people have purchased a new hot water because their old one made sounds like the ones described by Bob. These are normal sounds of a hot water heater where the consumer does

not drain a few buckets of water from the bottom of the tank every four months. In reality, few homeowners drain their tanks on a regular basis. With a gas hot water heater, after a few years you will have a build-up of minerals that will accumulate in the bottom of the tank. This can reach a height of 4 to 6 inches and looks like a pile of shale-type flat rock. When the burner heats the bottom of the tank it must heat the rock and water at the same time. The water rises and goes through the rock causing the snap and pop sounds. The efficiency factor is reduced but is not a danger to the homeowner. Stay tuned.

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

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

Miller Woods Tours

See native spring wildflowers blooming at Miller Woods in Plymouth Township during free, guided tours from 2-4 p.m., leaving every half hour, Sunday, April 14, 21 and 28. These dates are weather dependent because the flowers don't always bloom when expected.

Check the Miller Woods website, www.millerwoods.com, starting in April for last-minute changes to the dates when flowers are in bloom.

Entrance to the nature preserve is on Powell Road, just east of Ridge Road, between North Territorial and Ann Arbor Roads. No dogs are allowed in the nature preserve.

Guide to Employment

Check out these exciting career opportunities!

For even more opportunities see our "award winning" classified section!

To place your ad here contact us at careers@hometownlife.com or call 1-800-579-7355

<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>ADULT FOSTER CARE WORKERS NEEDED FOR Grace Rae's Place Alzheimer's, Dementia & Strokes. Adult foster care for up to 6 women. Afternoon shift, full-time. Ask for Margie, New Hudson/Milford. 248-240-3274, 248-486-9322</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>DIRECT CARE STAFF Work with developmentally disabled adults. Westland. (734) 722-4580 x9</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>LEASING CONSULTANT For retirement community in Westland. Enthusiastic, pleasant, energetic, a real go-getter. Training provided. Full-time with Sat's. Compensation includes benefits and 401K. E.O.E. Fax resume: 734-729-9840 Email: westhavenmanager@associatedmanagement.net</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>SUMMER PLAYGROUND COUNSELOR</p> <p>Charter Twp. of Redford E.O.E. For more info call: 313-387-2761 or visit our website at: redfordtwp.com/personnel.php</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Medical</p> <p>Busy Orthopaedic office located in Southfield is looking to hire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certified Prof. Coders Surgical Schedulers <p>1-2 YRS MEDICAL OFFICE EXPERIENCE REQUIRED employment@moimd.com</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Medical</p> <p>PHYSICIAN, FP/IM</p> <p>Full time & part time, flexible hours, needed to provide services to patients at a psychiatric facility in Westland, MI.</p> <p>Send resume to Toya Wilson Fax: (734) 722-9524</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Sales</p> <p>SALES ASSOCIATES NEEDED Growing co has an opportunity for motivated and personable sales professionals, possessing strong self management skills to join our sales team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent Commission Advancement Opportunities Immediate Openings Avg \$525-\$950 weekly Sales experience preferred Reliable transportation req'd Full time including weekends <p>If interested please call Circulation Promoters, Inc. Patrick Brady: 734-657-7143 Call between 12-3pm Ken Wuorenma: 734-377-1398 Call between 9am-3pm</p>
<p>Apartment Help Full-time painting/ grounds/ apt. prep for Farmington Hills community. Call (248) 478-4664 Mon - Fri 11am to 4:30pm. Must have valid driver's license, good driving record, reliable transportation, pass drug test & background ck.</p>	<p>DISPATCHER/ PRISONER ATTENDANT</p> <p>Charter Twp. of Redford E.O.E. For more info call: 313-387-2761 or visit our website at: redfordtwp.com/personnel.php</p>	<p>MACHINISTS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS AVAILABLE</p> <p>Precision Aerospace machining facility is looking for skilled machinists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HONE & LAP I.D. / O.D. GRIND <p>Required experience varies with each position, from 1-4 years. Must be capable of setting and reading gauges. Overtime with excellent benefit package offered. Apply between 7:00-4:00 in person or send resume to: Ventura Aerospace 46301 Port St. Plymouth, MI 48170 Call: 734-357-1010 Fax: 734-357-0117 tina@venturaaerospace.net</p>	<p>VEHICLE DISMANTLER Parts Salvage/Scrap/Torch Exp. steady good pay & benefits 734-423-3121</p>	<p>Director of Nursing Retirement home for Religious Sisters of Mercy, Farmington Hills. Manage and supervise clinical services, staff & department budgets. BSN graduate, MI RN license, 3 - 5 yrs. exp. in geriatric nursing & operational mgmt. Exc. benefits. Submit resume: awilhelm@mercywmw.org</p>	<p>MANAGERS, PT & FT</p> <p>Checkers General & Shift. Exp. req. Competitive pay with benefits. Good References. Email: jgross@dakota-restaurants.com</p> <p>Observer & Eccentric Hometown Weeklies Classifieds Just a quick call away... 1-800-579-SELL</p>	<p>results.</p> <p>Every week we bring buyers and sellers, employers and employees, landlords and tenants together. You can rely on us to deliver results. "It's All About Results!" 1-800-579-SELL</p>
<p>Are You Looking For a Rewarding Career in Property Management?</p> <p>Dart Properties II LLC, a full service property management company, is seeking qualified, customer-service oriented individuals to join our team. We are currently looking to fill the following positions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance Technician Remodel Team Member Dart Services Team Member Groundskeeper Utilities Clerk Seasonal Painter Leasing Consultant <p>Applicants must have and maintain a valid Michigan driver's license with an acceptable driving record. Please visit www.dartproperties.com today for a detailed description of these positions and also to apply. EOE</p>	<p>DRIVER - CDL A (BELLEVILLE)</p> <p>Contractors Steel Company is looking for a semi truck driver with a valid CDL A license and a good driving record to work in our Belleville, Mo. We offer excellent starting pay and benefits, such as medical, dental & 401k/profit sharing. Send resume to 734-452-3919 or in person to our Livonia office @ 36555 Amrhein Rd. Livonia, MI 48150</p>	<p>PERSONAL ASSISTANT For the South Lyon, New Hudson, Novi & Wixom areas. Rewarding positions available serving persons with special needs in their homes or in group homes. Must be over 18 & have valid MI driver's license. Paid training. Please call to join our team: 734-239-9015, 248-946-4425</p>	<p>ANSWER TELEPHONES Full-Time in Westland office. Starts at \$7.40/hr. Apply at: 987 Manufacturers Dr. For directions: 734-728-4572</p>	<p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT Full time for a busy ENT practice & an Allergy practice in Farmington Hills. Exp with office medical procedures & electronic medical records preferred. SCRIBE/EMR Full time will work directly with physician of busy ENT practice in Farmington Hills. Exp with medical terminology & electronic medical records preferred (EMR). Excellent typing skills required. Benefits for openings incl paid time off for holidays, sickness, and vacations, health care & life insurance. Fax resume, Attn JP page: 248-737-0636</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Dental</p> <p>DENTAL ASSISTANT Temporary. Full-Time. Start April 15 - June 7. Fax resume 248-304-1387</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Sales</p> <p>SALES ASSOCIATES NEEDED Growing co has an opportunity for motivated and personable sales professionals, possessing strong self management skills to join our sales team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent Commission Advancement Opportunities Immediate Openings Avg \$525-\$950 weekly Sales experience preferred Reliable transportation req'd Full time including weekends <p>If interested please call Circulation Promoters, Inc. Patrick Brady: 734-657-7143 Call between 12-3pm Ken Wuorenma: 734-377-1398 Call between 9am-3pm</p>
<p>COMMUNITY MANAGER How much do you care? Some folks dream of success. Others wake up early and work at it. Full-time Property Manager. Exp. a must. Fax resume (248) 473-5480</p>	<p>DRIVERS CDL-A: Lots of Miles. Great Pay/ Benefits & Bonuses. Dedicated Team Routes. 5400mi/wk. Home Wkly. No Slip Seat. No Touch. Newer Equip. 877-723-8932</p>	<p>Personal Lines CSR With Applied experience, able to work in multi company insurance agency. Fax resume: 248-349-2548</p>	<p>DENTAL ASSISTANT WITH SURGICAL EXPERIENCE Excellent opportunity in high quality specialty practice \$40,000-\$50,000 annually plus excellent work environment & benefits. Call: (248) 357-3100</p>	<p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT Looking for an exp'd medical assistant with three plus years to work in busy FP/IM office. Must be familiar with in office procedures, phlebotomy, immunizations, x-ray and pediatrics. Position is full time with medical/dental & vision benefits. Fax resume to 734-728-2626</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Dental</p> <p>DENTAL HYGIENIST PART-TIME We need your skill & enthusiasm in our well established family practice in Farmington Hills. Fax resume: 248-855-5459</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Sales</p> <p>SALES ASSOCIATES NEEDED Growing co has an opportunity for motivated and personable sales professionals, possessing strong self management skills to join our sales team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent Commission Advancement Opportunities Immediate Openings Avg \$525-\$950 weekly Sales experience preferred Reliable transportation req'd Full time including weekends <p>If interested please call Circulation Promoters, Inc. Patrick Brady: 734-657-7143 Call between 12-3pm Ken Wuorenma: 734-377-1398 Call between 9am-3pm</p>
<p>CUSTOMER SERVICE: Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart. Call Mon-Fri 9-5: 734-728-4572 or email: phoneworkinfo@aol.com</p>	<p>DRIVER (TRUCK) Asphalt co. taking immediate applications for tri-axle dump truck drivers. CDL. Class A required with a minimum 2 yrs. exp. Top pay with benefits. Applications being accepted at: S&J Asphalt 39571 Michigan Ave. Canton, MI 48118</p>	<p>STAFF ACCOUNTANT Quality driven Moving & Storage Company looking for a self-motivated, team-work orientated individual for position in our Romulus location. Computer skills a must, knowledge of excel, outlook and data entry. Experience with General Ledger required. Excellent benefits, profit sharing, 401K and room for advancement. Send resume to: email resumes@morsemoving.com or fax to 734-485-0640.</p>	<p>DENTAL TECHNICIAN Experience preferred. Will train if necessary. Full-Time Farmington Hills 248-626-3144</p>	<p>MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST Seeking Medical Receptionist with at least 3-5 years experience in the medical field. Must have a strong background in insurance verification and knowledge of benefit coverage. Must have good customer service skills and a background in scheduling and experience with referrals, outside appointments and managed care. Must have strong computer skills along with some billing experience. Must possess ability to multi task. Fax resume to 734-728-2626</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Sales</p> <p>SALES ASSOCIATES NEEDED Growing co has an opportunity for motivated and personable sales professionals, possessing strong self management skills to join our sales team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent Commission Advancement Opportunities Immediate Openings Avg \$525-\$950 weekly Sales experience preferred Reliable transportation req'd Full time including weekends <p>If interested please call Circulation Promoters, Inc. Patrick Brady: 734-657-7143 Call between 12-3pm Ken Wuorenma: 734-377-1398 Call between 9am-3pm</p>	<p>Thumbs Up!</p> <p>Whatever you're after, you'll find it in the Classifieds. That's all there is to it!</p>
<p>DIETARY SERVERS Part time, needed for Senior Retirement Community in Livonia. Great hours. Apply in person at 14265 Middlebelt in Livonia from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (734) 261-2884</p>	<p>HVAC SERVICE TECH Commercial/Residential. Must have own tools. 3 yrs. exp. in field primarily service. Benefits. Fax resume: 248-486-4420 deanmechanical@comcast.net</p>	<p>TELEMARKETER/ INSIDE SALES Exp'd. Dimension Systems, Walled Lake. Motivated person to make outbound B2B calls to set up calls with executives. Effective communicator, confident, professional, able to overcome objections. Resume joemish@dsys.com or call Jim 248-926-3400 x210</p>	<p>Observer & Eccentric Hometown Weeklies Classifieds Just a quick call away... 1-800-579-SELL</p>	<p>Observer & Eccentric Hometown Weeklies Classifieds Just a quick call away... 1-800-579-SELL</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Sales</p> <p>SALES ASSOCIATES NEEDED Growing co has an opportunity for motivated and personable sales professionals, possessing strong self management skills to join our sales team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent Commission Advancement Opportunities Immediate Openings Avg \$525-\$950 weekly Sales experience preferred Reliable transportation req'd Full time including weekends <p>If interested please call Circulation Promoters, Inc. Patrick Brady: 734-657-7143 Call between 12-3pm Ken Wuorenma: 734-377-1398 Call between 9am-3pm</p>	<p>Thumbs Up!</p> <p>Whatever you're after, you'll find it in the Classifieds. That's all there is to it!</p>

Milestones



Riccio-Dobos

Dana Riccio and Matthew Dobos announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Noreen and Robert Riccio of Elk Grove, Ill., attended Rush University and is employed as a vascular ultrasound technologist. Her fiancé, son of Otto and Carol Dobos of Livonia, attended Churchill High School and is employed as a hospital contractor. A November 2013 wedding is planned in Chicago, Ill.



Goachee-Fine

Mrs. Carol Goachee of Garden City announces the engagement of her daughter, Kerrie Lynn, to Steve Fine. Kerrie is the daughter of Carol and the late Thomas Goachee. She is a graduate of John Glenn High School, attended Eastern Michigan University, Madonna University and has lived in greater Los Angeles, Calif., for the past nine years.

Her fiancé is the son of JoAnn Fine of Riverside, Calif., and the late Roger Fine. Steve is a graduate of Rowland High School, in Rowland Heights, Calif., and served in the United States Navy for eight years. Their wedding will take place in July 2013 in Los Angeles, Calif. They will continue to reside in Los Angeles, and work together at a large nonprofit that serves the underprivileged of Los Angeles.



Arciero - Sparks

Carl and Kathy Arciero of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Julia Concetta, to Todd Gregory Sparks, son of Wilma and Sam Kepler of Florida.

The bride-to-be graduated from Churchill High School in 1999. She received a B.S. in mathematics from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. in applied mathematics from the University of Arizona. She is an assistant professor of mathematics at Indiana University-Purdue University, in Indianapolis, Ind. Her fiancé graduated from Centerville High School in Ohio in 1996 and received a bachelor's degree from Bowling Green University. He manages a commercial credit division for PNC bank in Indianapolis, Ind. A May 2013 wedding has been planned.

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday, April 21
Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: Pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, juice, milk. Adults pay \$3 and children, 2-10, pay \$1.50. Sponsored by Men's Club
Contact: (734) 425-4421

CAMP ENROLLMENT

Time/Date: Now through May 31
Location: Consuming Fire Christian Center, 31463 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland
Details: Enrolling kids and teens, age 5-15, for six-week Bible/Homework 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. 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

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

How to reach us:
1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oeobits@hometownlife.com

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

View Online
www.hometownlife.com

ALSBRÖ, RICHARD

Hamburg Twp., MI
Richard Alsbro passed away April 8, 2013. He was born January 3, 1943 to Oscar and Alice Alsbro. Richard attended Michigan State University where he met his lifelong companion Carol Baker and received a degree in agriculture. Richard served in the US Navy in Viet Nam. He had a passionate love for our country. Richard owned and operated Dahl Tent and Awning. After retiring from Dahl Tent and Awning he worked for the State of Michigan at the Army for several years. He was an accomplished photographer and an avid Detroit Tiger and Michigan State sports fan. He is survived by his lifetime companion, Carol Baker, his brother Donald (Sharon) Alsbro, his nieces Lynn (Mark) Sneddon, Barbara (Tom) Van Akkeren, his nephews Alan (Leah) Alsbro and Steven Alsbro. He is also survived by three great nieces, seven great nephews and one great great nephew. Richard was predeceased by his parents and his step-sister Margaret Blasey. The family will gather with friends on Monday, April 15, 2013 from 6:00-8:00 PM and Tuesday April 16, 2013 at 2:00 PM until time of Healing Farewell at 4:00 PM at Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Hamburg Chapel. Memorial contributions may be made to Veteran's Hospital, Ann Arbor or Hamburg Historical Museum. Please leave a message of comfort for Richard's family by calling 877-231-7900 or visit his guestbook at www.borekjennings.com



HORTON, MAX BAILEY, Jr.

Passed away peacefully March 12, 2013 at his home at Canterbury-on-the-Lake, Waterford; age 91. Born August 13, 1921; Max Horton was a lifelong resident of Birmingham until moving to Waterford in 2002. He attended Kenyon College, graduating in 1943 cum laude, with honors in History. From college, he served in the US Army 15th Weather Squadron in New Guinea during World War II. Returning to Michigan after the war, he attended graduate school at the University of Michigan and Middlebury College Language School. He taught German at Dondro High School, Royal Oak for many years, retiring in 1978. After retirement, Max became more active in the Birmingham Historical Society including helping establish the Birmingham Historical Museum and Park; he also traveled frequently with the Nomads Travel Club and with friends. He was preceded in death by his brother, Edward Fowler Horton, and sister, Elizabeth Horton Buckheit. He will be dearly missed by niece, Betsey Buckheit and her husband Justin London and their daughter Elizabeth London Buckheit, of Northfield, MN and nephew Bill Buckheit of Shawnee, KS, and many, many friends. A memorial service will be held on Thursday, April 18, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. at St. Luke's Memorial Chapel at Canterbury on the Lake, 5601 Hatchery Road, Waterford. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Max's name to the Richard G. Salomon Memorial Scholarship Fund, Kenyon College, Development Office, Gambier, OH 43022 or Friends of the Birmingham Historical Museum & Park, 556 W. Maple Road, Birmingham, MI 48009. Arrangements by the RIVERSIDE CHAPEL, Simpson-Modetz Funeral Home, Waterford. Online guest book: www.modetzfuneralhomes.com

Modetz Funeral Homes

ERBEN, ROBERT F.

Of Birmingham, Mi.
His Legacy.....Age 88 passed away in Ann Arbor on April 7, 2013. Robert was born on February 2, 1925 in Wadsworth, Ohio to Frank and Millie Erben. Robert served our country in the United States Navy during WWII. On July 1, 1950 He married Edna Hath and together they raised a daughter and two sons. Robert received a Bachelor's Degree in Business and worked for Graybar Electric until his retirement in 1990. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham and belonged to Stonecroft Golf Club and the Senior Men's Club, both in Birmingham. His Family..... Surviving Robert are his sons, Robert Erben Jr. of Saginaw, and William Erben of Ann Arbor and daughter, Dr. Anne Erben of Troy. Also surviving him are his grandchildren, Lindsay, Leah, Hannah and Daniel. Preceding Robert in death is his wife, Edna Erben, sister, Shirley Erben and daughter-in-law Cheri Erben. His Farewell..... The family gathered with friends on Friday, April 12, 2013 at the First Presbyterian Church in Birmingham. Memorial contributions are suggested to Ann Arbor Christian School. Please leave a message of comfort to Robert's family by calling 877-231-7900 or sign his guestbook at www.borekjennings.com



CLARKE, ROBERTA (CARTER)

12/26/26 - 4/3/2013
Roberta Ilenc (Carter) Clarke, 86, passed away at her Temecula, California home in the early morning hours of April 3, 2013; she was surrounded by her family. Bobbie was born to Edward Stacey and Carolyn (Valch) Carter in Fordson, Michigan on December 26, 1926. She was raised and attended schools in Detroit, and finished her academics at Thomas M. Cooley High School. There she caught the eye of a burgeoning artist named Richard Allen Clarke, who penned her love letters until she paid him mind. The two were married in 1948, and began their family in 1952 with the birth of their one and only daughter, Janis. Three boys followed Richard, William, and Robert and the family found themselves in the west where the Clarks settled into La Canada, a Southern California suburb. The two to follow epitomized mid-century America. A devoted mother, she was there for her daughter's late-night high school sewing projects, and every one of her sons' track-and-field meets, baseball tryouts and football games. Then this stylish homemaker deftly transitioned into the role of working single mother in 1971. As a Travel Agent she saw the world after her offspring flew the coop. Traveling through Europe, the Mediterranean and beyond, her sense of adventure came alive as she experienced the full spectrum of international offerings-no opportunity left untaken. After moving to her happy home in Temecula in 1995, she forged herself a desert paradise. She taught herself to ski in her forties, and conquered the computer age in her sixties and seventies. Ever the optimist and a romantic at heart, her retirement was spent tending her garden, which seemed always to be in full bloom; shepherding her expanding family, which grew to include seven grandchildren; and watching Hallmark movies, which spoke to her belief in happy endings. Through all its peaks and valleys she crafted an impeccable life of simple refinement-one lived with intention, vivacity, grace and humor. She reveled in her role as mother and grandmother, and cherished every second spent surrounded by her progeny, the great loves of her life. Her attention to detail, her razor-sharp wit, that mischievous wink and the warmth of her smile made her a woman with no equal. With heavy hearts she is survived by her sister, Donna Tidderington of Westland, Michigan, and all her children and grandchildren: Janis Meldahl, and her daughter, Nicole; Richard, his daughters, Jennifer and Ashley, and his wife, Diana; William, his wife, Mary, and their children, Margaux and Carter; Robert, his wife Alicija, and their children, Natalia and Allen. This amazing woman will be put to rest at Temecula Public Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be given to the COPD Foundation: (www.copdfoundation.org).



DITZHAZY, JOSEPH A., SR.

89, formerly of Farmington, MI, died Monday, February 18, 2013 in Beloit, WI. He was born December 23, 1923 in Escorse, MI, the son of Joseph and Mary (Tomasko) Ditzhazy. Joseph entered the Civilian Conservation Corp at 16. He completed high school in the UP at Trout Creek, MI and entered the WWII U.S. Army 104th Division Timberwolves. He was wounded in Germany just before the Battle of the Bulge, receiving a purple heart. On the GI bill, Joseph went to Michigan State where he met and married Helen E. Ringle on September 11, 1948. He graduated in Forestry and had his son, Joseph Jr., in the campus Quonset huts. Moving to Detroit, he worked 20 years at GM, Omni Spectra, and other auto industry companies as a quality control engineer and had his daughter, Carol. Joseph also wrote original patent materials on the use of polyurethane foam for insulating refrigerators with Kelvinator. Joseph then got his Masters in Education and worked 20 more years as a middle school math and science teacher in the Plymouth-Canton Schools. Joseph retired and supported Helen in her 20 years as a professor at EMU in Ypsilanti. Together they hosted 20 YFU students from Europe, Africa, and South America and mentored hundreds of students of education. Joseph enjoyed travel, driving over a million miles in Michigan and across the USA and visiting most of the world's continents. He and Helen played bridge for 40 years with many sets of couples who were lifelong friends. After Helen's death in 2008, Joseph left Fox Run, Novi to live in Beloit, WI near his daughter Carol's family and other loving caregivers. Survivors include his daughter, Carol (Walter) Vogel of Beloit, WI; eight grandchildren, Kira (Shannon) Shuman, Hillary, Whitney, Joseph A. III, and Hunter Ditzhazy, Kimberly, Alexander, and Christina Vogel; one great-grandchild, Quinlan Shuman; three brothers, George (Ruth) Ditzhazy of Saginaw, MI, William Ditzhazy of Detroit, MI, and Frederick Ditzhazy of Florence, OR; numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents; son, Joseph A. Ditzhazy Jr.; brother, Frank; three sisters, Ellen, Ethel, and Catherine "Mavis". Sat. April 20, 2013 Pastor David Owen will lead a Funeral Service in Hess Chapel at Ward Church, 40000 Six Mile Rd., Northville, MI 48167. Family gathers at 10:00 am, friends join at 10:30 am and service begins at 11:00 am, ending at 12 noon. Committal ceremony with VFW will be held in Glen Eden Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Livonia, MI at 1 pm. Tickets for 2 pm lunch at the nearby Leather Bottle will be given to family at the funeral. Friends who wish to attend, R.S.V.P. by e-mail to Carol at carolrejoice@charter.net

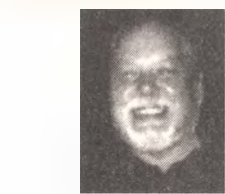
Memorials may be given in Joseph's name to Ward Church or to EMU Foundation - Joseph and Helen Ditzhazy Leadership and Counseling Scholarship Endowment. Further information and online obituary at: www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

LeCLAIR, Georgia C. (KLOPP)

Age 88 of Farmington Hills, passed away on April 5, 2013. www.thayer-rock.com

OLSON, ELIZABETH B.

Age 96, of Farmington. Passed away April 8, 2013. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home.



RUSNOCK, DONALD S.

Age 63. April 6, 2013 of Flat Rock and formerly of Westland. Beloved husband of 22 years to Linda. Loving dad of Dawn (John) Jucha, Heather (Rob) Smith, Tonya Byrd, Kristy (Michael) Stolkey and Stephen (Jennifer) Rusnock. Proud papa of 10. Dearest brother of Carol (Bert) Rakotz, Nancy (Ron) McKague and the late Ileen DenOtter. Also survived by many loving family and friends. Donald devoted his life to the mental health population. He loved cooking and sports. He was so loved and will forever be in our hearts. Memorial contributions to honor his memory may be made to American Cancer Society. Visit www.martenson.com



SAYLOR, JAMES C.

Of Birmingham, April 6, 2013. He was born March 26, 1935 to Frank and Florence (nee Cutler) Saylor of Royal Oak, Michigan. James was a graduate of Cranbrook School and earned degrees in engineering from Michigan State and Stanford. He was a longtime automotive engineer for Ford Motor Company. Proud veteran US Army. Beloved husband of Millie (nee Brock) for 54 years. Dear father of Mary Potter Saylor (Bill Potter), Susan Saylor and Alison Saylor. Grandfather of James, Tom, Brent, Diego and Isabel. Brother of Frank (Peggy) and Janet Bronson (Dan). Also survived by many nieces and nephews. A Memorial Service was held at Christ Church Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills. Memorial tributes to Amnesty International. A.J. Desmond & Sons (248) 549-0500. view obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



SPEAR, KENNETH J.

January 27, 1918 - August 30, 2012. There will be a memorial service celebrating Ken's life at 11:00 a.m., Sat., April 20, 2013, at The First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, 701 Church Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

STEWART, EVELYN M.

Age 86 April 6, 2013 was the wife of the late Edward Stewart. She is survived by children: Diana (Craig), Larry (Debra) and David (Debbie), grandchildren: Steven, Russell, Brian and Jason, four great-grandchildren and siblings: Robert DeGeorge, Don DeGeorge and Joanne Page. She was preceded in death by her parents Charles and Violet DeGeorge. Evelyn and Edward were married 57 years. They both were very active in volunteer work for Veterans. Evelyn volunteered for over 60 years. She was also an usher at the beautiful Fox theater and was a member of the Gamble post 4626. She enjoyed boating, dancing, bowling, playing pinocle, music and spending time with her family. Visitation will take place at Harry J. Will Funeral Home 25450 Plymouth Rd. Redford, MI 48239 on Wed. April 10 from 3-8pm with the funeral service on Thur. April 11 at 11am. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the veterans wounded warriors. For more info go to: www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



TERHUNE, NONA E.

Age 65, of Marshall and formerly of Livonia died Tuesday, April 9, 2013. She was born on March 22, 1948 in New Castle, Indiana to Clarence and Ina (White) England. She had been employed as the Office Manager for Custom Metal Products and retired in 2012. Survived by her husband, Stephen; sons, Tyson (Sarra) Terhune of Lena, IL and Gregory (Maya) Terhune of Ewa Beach, HI; grandchildren, Lorelei and Chesley Terhune; mother, Ina England; Siblings, Glennis (Mike) Schofield, Garry (Amy) England, Raola (Chris) Lucas. Visitation will be on Sunday at the Craig K. Kempf Funeral Home, Marshall from 2 PM to 4 PM and 6 PM to 8 PM. A funeral service will be held Tuesday at 2 PM at the Doan & Mills Funeral Home, Richmond, Indiana. Memorials are to the American Cancer Society. To sign the online guest book, visit www.kempffuneralhome.com



ZAHN, WILMA GAIL

Born July 29, 1920 passed away April 7, 2013. A 50 year resident of Farmington Hills. Mother of nine: Barb, Donna, Jack, Tim, Mike, Marty, Linda, Tom and Etta. Grandmother of 24, great-grandmother of 29. Married to William M. Zahn for over 60 years. Funeral arrangements are set for Saturday, April 13th, 2013 at St. Clair of Assisi in Farmington Hills, at 11am. reception to following.



Dr. Sofia Merajver (right) and genetic counselor Kara Milliron talk with a patient.

Learn the latest in breast cancer care, research

University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center experts will discuss breast cancer risks — and how you can reduce yours — as well as screening, treatment and research at a free Breast Cancer Summit Saturday, April 20 at Washtenaw Community College.

"Understanding your risk of breast cancer is empowering. Women at high risk, whether because of family history or other circumstances, can take steps to prevent cancer or detect it at its earliest, most treatable stage," says Dr. Sofia Merajver, M.D., Ph.D., scientific director of the U-M's Breast Oncology Program and director of the Breast and Ovarian Cancer Risk Evaluation Program.

The summit, which is open to the public, will run from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Morris Lawrence Building at the college, 4800 E. Huron River Drive, Ann Arbor. It will give women an opportunity to learn about their breast health and the latest advances in breast cancer. The event will include information for women currently being treated for breast cancer, cancer survivors and those at high risk of the disease.

Experts from U-M's Breast Care Cen-

ter will discuss research advances and will outline ways to get involved in supporting research, whether as a clinical trial participant or as an advocate. In addition, the day will include an opportunity for participants to interact directly with the experts during a strolling lunch.

"We've seen some exciting advances recently in breast cancer treatment. The more that patients, survivors and women at high risk can partner with physicians and researchers, the more we can learn about this disease and take even greater leaps in reducing the burden of breast cancer on women and their families," says Dr. Daniel F. Hayes, M.D., co-director of the Breast Oncology Program at the U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center.

The Breast Cancer Summit is presented by the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center Breast Oncology and Community Outreach Programs, with support from the Mid-Michigan Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure and the University of Michigan School of Public Health.

The event is free but registration is required. Visit www.mcancer.org/breastsummit or call (734) 998-7071.

Study shows some breast cancer patients avoid endocrine therapy

Twenty-five percent of women who should take hormone-blocking therapies as part of their breast cancer treatment either don't start or don't complete the five-year course, according to a new study led by University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center researchers.

Five years of daily tamoxifen or aromatase inhibitors — two types of endocrine therapy that are taken as a pill — is recommended for many women whose breast cancer expresses the hormones estrogen or progesterone. The drugs reduce cancer recurrence and increase survival. Recent studies also suggest there may be even more benefit for some women to continue this therapy for 10 years.

Despite this, the study of 743 women eligible for endocrine therapy found that about 11 percent never initiated the treatments and 15 percent stopped taking it early.

"We're doing well with women taking endocrine therapy, but there's work to do," says lead study author Christopher Friese, Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor at the University of Michigan School of Nursing. "If guidelines begin to shift so that some women at high risk of breast cancer recurring need 10 years of endocrine therapy, then the number of women who persist with treatment will likely worsen. We need to develop better ways of supporting women through this therapy."

The most common reason patients said they either discontinued or never started endocrine therapy was side effects. Many women experience menopause-like symptoms such as hot flashes or vaginal dryness, and both types of drugs can cause joint pains.

The study surveyed women in the Detroit and Los Angeles, Calif. areas who were diagnosed with breast cancer and reported to Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results, or SEER, tumor registries. Women were surveyed at about nine months after their diagnosis and again about four years later with questions about their use of tamoxifen or any type of aromatase inhibitor.

Women who expressed more worry about their cancer recurring were more likely to complete endocrine therapy, as were women who already took medication regularly.

Women who reported receiving less information about endocrine therapy were less likely to begin taking it, suggesting that doctors need to address patient education before treatment starts. Women who saw a breast surgeon as their primary follow-up, rather than a medical oncologist, were also less likely to begin endocrine therapy.

"It was particularly interesting that greater fear of recurrence was associated in our patient sample with greater adherence to endocrine therapy," says senior study author Dr. Jennifer J. Griggs, M.D., M.P.H., professor of internal medicine at the U-M Medical School and a medical oncologist who sees patients with breast cancer at the U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center.

"We don't want our patients living under a cloud of fear, so we need to develop creative ways to both reassure and motivate them. This means providing better education about the importance of staying on these medications and partnering with primary care and cancer doctors to help patients manage symptoms."

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The Diabetes Epidemic ...a real concern for local families

Ask A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Cavell
Family Practice

In the last 10 years, diabetes has gone from public health concern to a crisis of epidemic proportion. Affecting 25.8 million Americans, nowhere is the impact of diabetes more evident than here in Michigan. Current estimates predict more than one in three children born this year will develop diabetes, a statistic that will continue to rise unless drastic changes are made. Garden City Hospital Health Expert, Dr. John Cavell, has been healing generations of local families for more than 30 years. Dr Cavell shares important information about this debilitating disease.

Q: My father and brother are both diabetics, so I wasn't very surprised when I was diagnosed with pre-diabetes. What exactly is pre-diabetes and does it mean I will develop diabetes and be on insulin for the rest of my life?

A: Pre-diabetes means your blood sugar levels are higher than normal, but not high enough to be diabetes. Higher than normal blood sugar levels can start to damage your heart and cause problems with how your blood flows through your body. People with pre-diabetes usually develop type 2 diabetes within eight years. There are two different blood tests your physician can order which can detect pre-diabetes. The first is called a finger prick/finger stick test. Blood sugar levels between 100 - 125 indicate you have pre-diabetes, and a blood sugar reading over 126 means you have diabetes. The second test is called a Hemoglobin A-1-c. An A-1-c between 5.7% and 6.4% means you have pre-diabetes, and an A-1-c over 6.5% means you have diabetes.

Many people with pre-diabetes and diabetes do not have symptoms. Sometimes symptoms develop slowly so you may not recognize them. Those most at risk include people who are over 45 years old and overweight, and people who are under 45 years old and:

- Are overweight
- Have a family member with diabetes
- Have high blood pressure or high cholesterol
- Are African-American, Native-American, Hispanic, or Asian
- Women who had diabetes while pregnant
- Women who had a baby weighing over 9 pounds

A diagnosis of pre-diabetes does not destine you to a future of having diabetes. Instead, it should be taken as a wake-up call to make healthy lifestyle changes such as eating a balanced diet, eliminating excessive sugar and carbohydrates and replacing them with fruits and vegetables, and adopting some type of exercise program. These changes can help to eliminate your pre-diabetes condition.

If you have concerns about diabetes, and would like to make an appointment with Dr. Cavell or one of his colleagues at the GCH Center for Family Medicine, please call 734.421.7474. Garden City Hospital has a number of ongoing community health programs dedicated to the fight against diabetes. For more information and a complete list of upcoming events, classes and free testing, visit GCH.org.