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**COMMUNITY LIFE, B5** 

# **Board OKs deal for former complex**

Bank could be built by end of the year

By Matt Jachman

Redevelopment plans are taking shape at the site of the former Plymouth Township complex, more than six years after township officials and employees left for brand new facilities on Haggerty.

The township Board of Trustees Tuesday unanimously approved a tentative purchase agreement for the last parcel of township-owned land at Ann Arbor Road and Lilley, nearly 2.8 acres, for a price of \$1.5 million. The buyer, Eugene Sherizen, represents 1-800-Mini-Storage, which operates climate-controlled storage facilities with units for lease.

Supervisor Richard Reaume said a three-story, brick, enclosed storage building is planned, though no formal site plan has been submitted.

plan has been submitted.
But Fifth Third Bank, which
bought an adjacent site on the
very corner from the township
for \$2 million in 2006, is accelerating its plans to build a bank
branch there, and is planning

to soon tear down the existing building, the former office of the township clerk. Reaume said Fifth Third plans to complete a new building by the end of the year.

"I think it's outstanding that there's going to be a development there," said Reaume. "It'll provide some hope for the other corners."

Vacancies in the area also include the former Fox Hills Chrysler Jeep dealership, which Chrysler jettisoned in 2009 during bankruptcy proceedings.

Reaume said an enclosed storage building will fit with

neighboring properties on the northeast corner of Ann Arbor Road and Lilley: Three tooland-die shops, a warehouse and a storage yard for boats, trailers and motorhomes. "A storage facility is a low-intensity use," he said.

The deal is contingent upon

The deal is contingent upon the developer obtaining the necessary governmental approvals for things like a site plan, curb cuts onto both Ann Arbor Road and Lilley, and a stormwater retention system. The prospective buyers also has six months to complete an environmental study.

Board members met in a

closed session before Tuesday's vote to discuss the purchase with legal counsel. The asking price for the site had originally been \$2 million. The buildings on the former township site, except for the one purchased by Fifth Third, have been demolished.

Sherizen did not return phone calls Thursday or Friday; 1-800-Mini-Storage currently has facilities in Troy, Oak Park and Redford Town-

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# Township offers fun for Fourth of July

By Matt Jachman

With a pyrotechnics show and a free picnic, Plymouth Township has Fourth of July festivities covered again.

The township is launching its annual Community Fireworks Spectacular, Wednesday, July 3, and the annual Good Old Fashioned Picnic, Thursday, July 4, in celebration of Independence Day. The events, both at Plymouth Township Park, are free; parking for the fireworks will be \$5.

The \$35,000 fireworks show, by Zambelli Fireworks Manufacturing Co., will include thousands of shells and last about a half hour. It will start promptly at 10:15 p.m. The show is paid for by business sponsors and private

The picnic, the next day, is 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the park. It will include picnic favorites – hamburgers, hot dogs, soft drinks and ice cream, a bicycle-decorating contest and a pie-eating contest – along with new features, like live music and an obstacle course for kids. Donations and sponsors also cover the

picnic.
The new picnic coordinator is Kelly Latawiec, who took over after Board of Trustees member Bob Doroshewitz resigned earlier this year after three years as chief organizer. Latawiec is an administrative assistant in the township's Division of

Public Services.

"I'm having fun planning it, so I hope it goes as well as I think it should," she said.
Latawiec is getting help from husband David, a builder, and other volunteers, but anyone

who wants to volunteer for a two-hour stretch on the day of the picnic can email Latawiec at klatawiec@plymouthtwp.org.

Latawiec has signed a rock oldies band, the Detroit DeVilles, to play during the picnic between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. The band will be playing near the park's pavilion.

She's also putting together

She's also putting together an obstacle course for children ages 3 and up, a crafts tent, also for kids, and is bringing in an inflatable bounce house, a picnic staple.

The bike-decorating contest is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. on the front sidewalk near the parking lot for picnic shelter No. 2, while the pie-eating contest will take place at 1:30 p.m. at shelter No. 1. The pies are being donated by Grand Traverse Pie Co.

Latawiec grew up in a small Ohio town where there were regular ice cream socials, and said she's trying to bring that sensibility to the township picnic.

"It's been fun, it really has," Latawiec said of organizing the picnic. "I think that it's a very important part of the small-town experience" found in the Plymouth area, she said.

Parking at Plymouth Township Park for the July 3 fireworks show will open at 7:30 p.m., and the gates will close at 9:30 p.m. Overflow parking, if needed, will be at the vacant property at Beck and Powell roads. Township officials ask that spectators not leave the park before the fireworks are over at about

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Cats and the Fiddler bring a little folk, newgrass and bluegrass to Kellogg Park. The band is from Milford and they all just graduated this spring. Members are, at left, Brad Simovich on mandolin, brothers Shaun and James Richardson on guitar and bass and Carmen Gibes on ukulele. ALL PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# MOVING TO THE BEAT

Crowd enjoys sounds, sun at Kellogg Park concert

By Matt Jachman Staff Writer

It wasn't just the warm weather, but a combination concert, picnic and family dance party that turned Kellogg Park into Plymouth's hot spot Wednesday afternoon.

Hundreds of people gathered in the park under mostly sunny skies to listen to, and sometimes bop along with, Cats & The Fiddler, a country bluegrass/"newgrass" quartet making its third appearance at the free Music in the Park Wednesday concert series.

"It's just fun to be outside and listen to the music and

See CONCERT, Page A2



Plymouth, dances with son Alexander. His 20-month-old twin sister Skylar is waiting her turn.

Debra Ladd, of



The sprayscape at Plymouth Township Park is always a popular place during the annual picnic. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# District delays school design pick

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

One story or two, big footprint or small, Discovery Middle School or Walled Lake Middle School?

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education put off Tuesday answering those questions about the design of the new middle school, approved last month when voters passed the

district's \$114.4 million bond proposal. The school will be built on district-owned property on Cherry Hill just west of

Canton Center.
Instead, trustees sent the district's administration back to the drawing board, asking for more information, including the opinions of the district's existing middle school

principals.
At issue is the administra-

tion's recommendation of a two-story, 126,000-square-foot building modeled after three schools built in the last 20 years in the Walled Lake Consolidated district. All three buildings are patterned after a design from TMP Associates, the architectural firm Plymouth-Canton administrators want to hire to build their new

See DESIGN, Page A3



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## Holiday delays trash pickup

The curbside pickup of trash, yard waste and recyclables in Plymouth Township will be delayed by one day later this week because of the Fourth of July holiday.

There will be no pickups Thursday, July 4; neighborhoods that normally have Thursday pickups will have pickups Friday. Pickups normally done Friday will be done Saturday, July 6.

Pickups Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday will not be affected by the holiday.

The holiday will not affect pickups in the city of Plymouth, as the city is on a Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday pickup schedule.

## Cyclists sought for parade

Plymouth Township is looking for more than a few good bicyclists.

The township is represented annually in the city of Plymouth's Good Morning USA parade by a contingent of cyclists - young, old and in between - who ride down Main Street on decorated bikes. The parade through downtown Plymouth is an Independence Day tradition. The grand marshal for Thursday's parade is retired astronaut Jack Lousma and the theme is Salute the Troops.

Many riders have already signed up, but more are welcome. Interested cyclists should call township Treasurer Ron Edwards' office at 734-354-3216 by Wednesday.

This year's parade begins at 9 a.m. Thursday at Main and Theodore streets in Plymouth; the route to Hartsough Street is just over a mile.

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Twenty-two-month old Olivia Hunter sits with mom, Dana Hunter, and looks like she might be contemplating good **MUSIC.** ALL PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

#### CONCERT

Continued from Page A1

people-watch," said Joyce List of Plymouth Township, who brought granddaughter Lexi Lynch, 6. The two also had been to concerts during previous seasons, List said.

They had attended the first concert of this season, by Guy Louis, on the previous Wednesday.

"He was very good. He's a lot of fun," said List.

Lexi, who lives in Livonia, said she likes all the series performers she's seen, and playing in the park with friends.

"Sometimes she meets her friends here," her grandmother said. "They have fun by the fountain before it starts.

"We just come for the whole experience," said Lirio Gonzales of Plymouth Township, who was in the park with daughter Anna, 6. Guy Louis, who makes a return appearance Aug. 14, and Gemini - acoustic musicians and twins



Two-year-old Owen Lijek and mom, Kerry Lijek put a helmet on before checking out the fire truck.

Sandor and Laszlo Slomovits, who will appear July 24 - are their favorites, Gonzales said.

#### **Community spirit**

Series organizer Deb Madonna, president of the Plymouth Community Arts Council, joked she was responsible for the good weather, which contradicted forecasts of rain. "I was working hard all night on this," Madonna said.

The noontime Music in the Park series is in its 29th season, and Madonna said it's built a fan

base that includes several generations and fosters a sense of communi-

"This is what the town's all about," she

said. Cats & The Fiddler is made up of twin brothers Shaun and James Richardson, their cousin Carmen Gibes, and friend Brad Simonich. All four graduated this year from Milford High School; the Richardson brothers are planning musical careers, while their cousin is planning to study ar-

chitecture and Simonich

intends to major in pre-

Their instruments include guitars, banjo and mandolin, and they share singing duties.

#### 'Great atmosphere'

Shaun Richardson said their musical style the quartet played mostly originals and a handful of cover tunes Wednesday - started out as folk and bluegrass, evolved into "newgrass" and is now "country-popgrass" ("with a hint of jazz," adds his brother). Their influences include Nickel Creek, Brad Paisley, John Mayer and just about anything country, he said.

The four said they love playing in Plymouth.

"Everyone's here to hear some good music and have fun in the sun," Shaun Richardson said. "The town is beautiful."

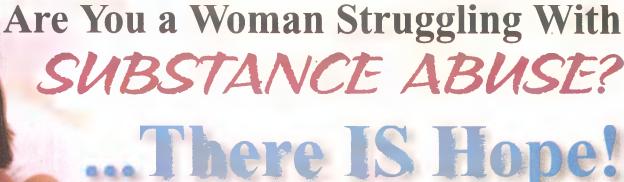
"It's a great atmosphere," said Gibes. "It's like a really friendly town."

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Board Vice President Judy Mardigian said she'd like to "know what we're buying" before a decision on a design for a new middle school.

#### **DESIGN**

Continued from Page A1

school. But board members are waffling between that recommendation and re-using the footprint used to build Discovery Middle School back in the late 1990s. Board members want to hear from Fanning Howey, the architectural firm that designed Dis-

"It's important to reach out to Fanning Howey," board Vice President Judy Mardigian said. "If we go with a two-story footprint, I don't know what I'm buying. I do know what we're buying with Discovery."

District administrators, though, recommended the two-story building designed by

"(The two-story design) gives us an opportunity to have more green space around the building and it fits much better on the site," said Phil Freeman, Plymouth-Canton's assistant superintendent for facilities and operations and a former middle school principal. "There are better sight lines within the building itself and, from an energy efficiency standpoint, it's

more efficient."

The two-story design was chosen from a variety of designs presented to board members and the district's bond steering committee. Among them was a three-story building patterned after one built in Saginaw, which administrators discarded because it's the first of its kind, and the footprint of Discovery Middle School, which Plymouth-Canton officials built from bond

proceeds in 1998. Trustee Mike Maloney, while acknowledging he wasn't involved in the effort to pass the bond, said district officials indicated the new \$23 million school would be patterned after Discovery. He said he was "nervous" about making a judgment on the twostory building.

"This is a big right turn," Maloney said. "I think we told the community what kind of school we were going to build and I think we should

hold ourselves to that." Board members also want to see members of the administration, including all five middle school principals, conduct a site visit to the Walled Lake schools in an effort to develop an opinion on the viability of the two-story building.

All five participated in talks about the design -

and advocated for the two-story footprint – but none had made a site

"It's crucial we get those people who are going to use the facility on a daily basis to see if it fits what we need," board President John Barrett

Administrators had asked for a decision on the design, and the hiring of TMP to design it, because the clock has started on the project. They estimate a 26-month design/build time in order to get the school, which will replace aging Central Middle School, open in time for the start of the 2015-16 school year, which the board has pledged to do.

Board members are considering a mid-July special meeting to make the decision. But Bill McCarthy of McCarthy & Smith, the construction manager, urged board members to make the decision sooner rather than later. While he wouldn't go so far as to put a deadline on it, Mc-Carthy said a quick decision is preferable.

"We need to get going on this," he said. "September 2015 isn't going to be easy to do if we don't get moving soon."

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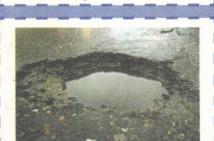
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# This time it's for real

# District superintendent ready for latest retirement

By Brad Kadrich Staff Writer

Jeremy Hughes is gone, having entered his most recent retirement from education after his contract with Plymouth-Canton Community Schools expired today (Sunday).

But many observers figure the imprint left by Hughes' two-year tenure as the district's superintendent is likely to be felt for years.

Hughes, hired in 2011 as an interim superintendent (he had that caveat removed about a year later), leaves behind a legacy that includes three new academy programs at the high school level, new curriculum opportunities at both the middle and elementary school levels and improvements from a \$114.4 million bond he pushed the Board of Education to pass.

That's quite a bit to accomplish in two years. School board Vice President Judy Mardigian, the longest-serving trustee who was a member of the board that hired Hughes, said the bond may very well be Hughes' legacy.

"(Hughes) believed (the bond) was something we really needed in Plymouth-Canton and a very large percentage of voters agreed with him," Mardigian said of the bond, which passed with a 65-35 percent margin May 7. "In the end, every student in the district will be positively affected by that bond, either through technology, improvements to their building or the new middle school. I think we'll forever be in debt to Jeremy for having spurred us to go for that bond."

#### New challenge

Hughes, who owns a Ph.D. in education administration from the University of Minnesota, had been retired from the

Michigan Department of Education, where he was the deputy superintendent, when Plymouth-Canton was looking for an interim leader in the summer of 2011. Board members were impressed by his pedigree – he was superintendent in the 2,500-student Haslett district and spent 13 years leading the 18,000-student Dearborn Public Schools – and tabbed him to replace Craig Fiegel.

Hughes was familiar with Plymouth-Canton schools – he'd consulted on the park principal leadership model at the three-school Plymouth-Canton Educational Park – and knew controversy had swirled around the district for months before his hiring.

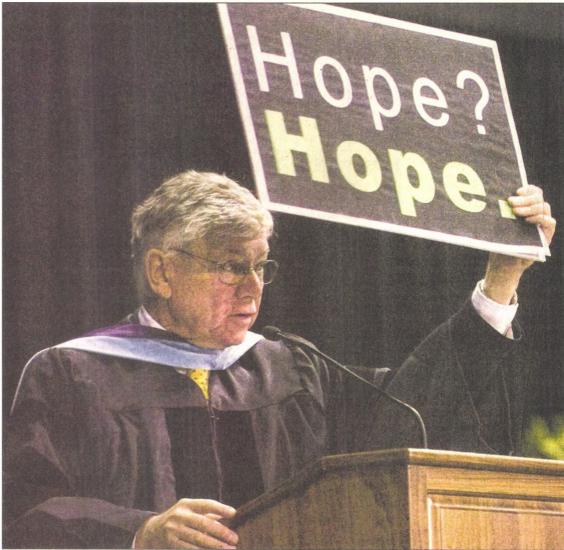
He said at the time he had no intention of "just being a caretaker," that he was coming in to get some things done and he believes he did that.

"There were so many people who had ideas for what needed to happen in the district, (but) I got the impression because of some of the controversies a lot of things had been put on the shelf," Hughes said. "I was able, I think, to help people, pursue some of their projects."

The bulk of those projects were curriculum-related. In the last two years, the district has added the arts, International and the incredibly popular STEM academies (they're adding staff next year to deal with the STEM waiting list) at the high school level. The district has also added world language at the elementary level and brought STEM to the middle schools.

#### Solid staff

Hughes acknowledges those things happened in his tenure, but directs credit for them to his staff – notably Assistant



Plymouth-Canton Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Hughes retired Sunday, leaving a legacy of a successful bond election and curriculum additions. BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Superintendent of Instruction Jeanne Farina, Assistant Superintendent for Facilities and Operations Phil Freeman and Executive Director of Business Services Brodie Killian, among others.

"One of the things that really helped me was the ability to bring on some pretty outstanding administrative staff members," Hughes said. "It obviously wasn't just me. Leadership is about choosing the right people and giving them a lot of room to work. I think that was pretty critical."

It hasn't all been peaches and cream. Hughes and his staff drew resistance in some quarters over the closing of Fiegel Elementary School two years ago, and again as they

got ready for the bond election.
But the darkest hour came
last year when Hughes, without waiting for a committee
review as district policy dic-

tates, banned the use of Graham Swift's 1983 novel Waterland from use in an AP English classroom because of its sexual nature.

The complaint from the Canton parents of an AP student, and Hughes' subsequent decision to ban it, sparked an angry response from supporters of the program. A ninemember committee eventually approved its use.

"I was a little scarred by the book incident," Hughes said. "I felt at the time I was doing the right thing for kids and for the curriculum. But as things turned out, it was an unwise decision to move in so rapidly without letting the normal processes take place. That's something I regret."

#### **Doing more**

It's about the only thing he regrets. Hughes said he would have liked to have gotten the

#### THE HUGHES FILE

Who: Dr. Jeremy Hughes
What: Plymouth-Canton superintendent
Whom History 10 2011; patiend by

When: Hired June 2011; retired June 30, 2013

Highlights: Helped pass \$114.4

Highlights: Helped pass \$114.4 million bond; helped establish STEM, arts and International academies; brought STEM to middle schools and world languages to elementary schools

district moving on an International Baccalaureate program at the middle schools and maybe lay the groundwork for a language immersion school.

And he would have liked to have done more to close the achievement gap for the district's minority students.

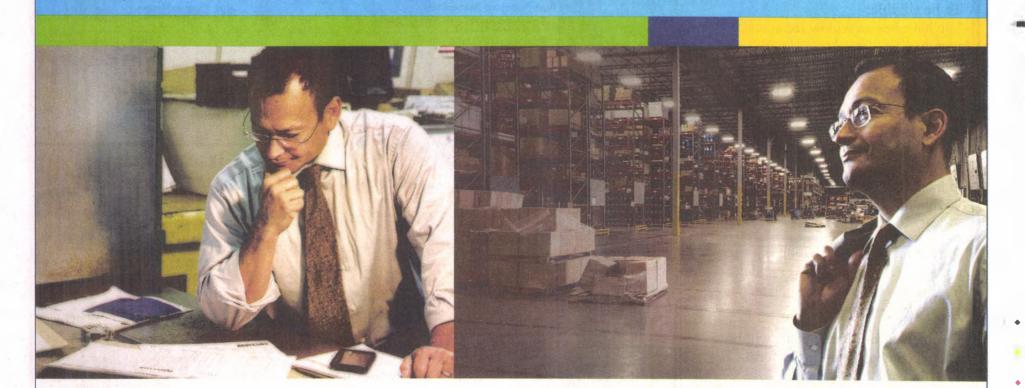
One thing that still haunts

See HUGHES, Page A5

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### HUGHES

Continued from Page A4

me is the issue of bringing our minority kids up to grade level," Hughes said. "I guess every school district talks about the achievement gap. We've made some progress this year with our equity transformation project, but there's a long way to go.

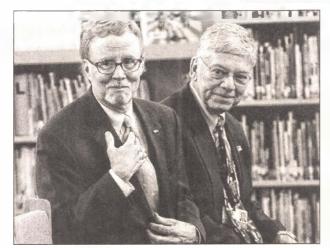
He saves his highest level of personal pride for the passage of the bond. After failed bond proposals in 2006 and 2007, and even with some board members questioning the timing of this one, Hughes could have been excused for a little reluctance this time.

Hughes, some staffers and some board members made approximately 50 presentations to civic groups, parent organizations and municipal boards and the bond passed overwhelmingly. Hughes earned the respect of supporters and parents around the district.

"It's hard to believe you've only been here two years," Plymouth resident Denise Zander told Hughes at last week's board meeting. "One would think you've been here much longer given all the things we accomplished. Rather than shy away from the challenges, you spearheaded initiatives that have made a difference in our children's lives for the rest of their lives.

But Hughes again deflected credit for most of that to his staff and, especially, to the district's 1,100 teachers. With the divisiveness in the district in 2010, and with Gov. Rick Snyder making changes to education that made the job much more difficult, Hughes said morale was certainly down.

But not out. "The thing I saw here



Michigan Superintendent of Schools Mike Flanagan, here during a visit to Farrand Elementary School, recorded a congratulatory video about retiring Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Hughes that was played at Tuesday's Board of Education meeting. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

was the (teachers') energy and the desire to be innovative," Hughes said. "There's something in Plymouth-Canton, an energy about wanting to be better than what we are, and that's catching. People respond to it when they see energetic people making changes. It's very motivating to work in Plymouth-Canton. You don't feel the status quo is good enough. People always want to do better.'

#### 'Jeremy effect'

Michigan Department of Education Superintendent Mike Flanagan taped a message to Hughes that was played at last week's board meeting, teasing Hughes about "staying retired." Hughes said this retirement is likely his last.

"I think so. ... The past two years have been very enjoyable, but they've been very stressful," the 74-year-old Hughes said. "I have a lot of energy, but my stamina is less than what it used to be, I guess because of my

An Irish fiddle player, Hughes will make his summer pilgrimage to Asheville, N.C., with a group of musicians to a fiddle camp. He and his wife of 45 years, Dorinda, have rented a cabin on Mullett Lake for a three-week stay and they'll travel to Europe in September.

Dorinda has heard that song before.

"She's hoping I stay retired," Hughes said. 'We have our first grandchild now, so we're hoping to spend some more time with her, doing family things.

Mardigian believes Hughes' impact will be felt, even though he'll be

"I am so thrilled and grateful we had Jeremy for as long as we did," Mardigian said. "I think he made a tremendous contribution to Plymouth-Canton. In two short years, he's made a tremendous contribution that will benefit many, many students. Virtually every student in the district will feel the 'Jeremy effect.'

bkadrich@hometownlife.com 313-222-8899 Twitter: @bkadrich



Plymouth-Canton's maintenance department won the Old Hickory Stick at the recent Educational Excellence Foundation golf outing. The team, sponsored by Arch Environmental, featured P-CCS staffers Gene Montagne and Bruce Haarla and Arch representatives Scott Staber and Jeff Heydanek.

#### outing raises

By Brad Kadrich Staff Writer

Getting a lot of people out to your golf outing when they don't even want to golf may be a pretty good indication of the success of the event.

That was true of last week's golf outing hosted by the Plymouth-Canton Educational Excellence Foundation, which organizers said drew a record number of "phantom" golfers supporters who wanted to be on hand to help out, but weren't interested in golfing.

They joined nearly 100 golfers who actually took part in the annual outing at Fox Hills, all of them taking advantage of great weather to help raise some \$25,000.

"The weather could not have been more

perfect. ... It was absolutely the best weather we've had in 10 years,' said Carole Kody, the EEF's executive director. "From an organizer's standpoint, if you have good weather, the rest is easy."

The event featured 24 raffle items, including everything from a barbecue to a "mystery" prize in a plain brown paper bag. Turns out the mystery prize - which Kody said caused a lot of buzz - was "an expensive bottle of men's cologne" won by Bentley Elementary School Principal Jerry Meier.

And while the tournament hands out prizes for the three lowest scores, the real "prize" of the tournament is the Old Hickory Stick. The tournament's iconic prize can only be won by teams with at least two

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools employ-

There were seven such teams (despite the annual protestations of West Middle School Principal Clint Smiley that there should only have to be one PCCS employee) in the 2013

event. It was won this year by the maintenance department, sponsored by Arch Environmental. Team members included P-CCS employees Gene Montagne and Bruce Haarla and Arch representatives Scott Staber and Jeff Heydanek.

It all made for what Kody said was a very successful day.

"Everyone had a fabulous time," she said.

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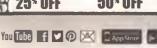
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# Plymouth community center backers see momentum

By Matt Jachman Staff Writer

Momentum is building for a Plymouth area community center at the site of Central Middle School following the school's planned closure in 2015, but what such a facility would include and how it would be paid for remain open questions.

To begin sorting out those issues, community center backers have planned a second public meeting for 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 9, at the Plymouth Community Cultural Center.

"There's a lot of interest out there, I know that," said Bob Doroshewitz, a Plymouth Township trustee who is promoting the community center idea. "I think it'll come down to what's included and how it's going to be paid for."

"This is something that, everybody's going to have to work together," said Deb Madonna, president of the Miracle League of Plymouth, whose Bilkie Family Field, a baseball field designed for players with special needs, is on school property.

"Now's the time to at least put the conversation on the table," Madonna added.

The Miracle League was one of several community organizations represented at a meeting earlier this month for those interested in a community center. Doroshewitz has invited members of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' Board of Education to

the July 9 meeting, but said none so far have confirmed they will attend. The school board is planning to replace Central with a new middle school in Canton Township.

Doroshewitz envisions a center that would appeal to many segments of the community, from athletic teams and fitness buffs to local clubs and senior citizens, and is looking to get even more groups represented at planning meetings. A swimming pool was high on many wish lists at the first meeting, Doroshewitz said.

Madonna said the community center idea offers a chance to repurpose Central into something that benefits everyone, and pointed to the success of institutions such as the Miracle League, the Penn

Theatre, the Plymouth Historical Museum and an array of concerts and festivals as examples of what the community can do when it works together.

"A community center is possible because it already exists" at Central, Madonna wrote in an email. "The green space is vibrant with so many activities NOW. The pool is used by community groups. And the parking area would benefit the community."

Madonna said she tries to imagine walking through the Plymouth Community Veterans Memorial Park, which fronts Central, and seeking a strip mall, offices or condominiums on the school site. "I can't," she said.

Doroshewitz, however,

cautioned that until it is studied in detail, it will be unclear whether it would be cost-effective, or even practical, to save all or part of the Central building if a community center is built.

"If we can do that and save the building and repurpose the building, then that's a double win," he said.

Fans of developing a community center at what is now Central Middle School have an email address, PlymouthPARC@gmail.com, for correspondence, and a Facebook page, Central School Property & Recreation Space/Plymouth Community Center.

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# National advertising campaign features piece of Plymouth

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Plymouth residents already know their Main Street matters, but now a national advertising campaign has affirmed that hometown pride.

Benjamin Moore recently launched its "Main Street Matters" initiative, which includes a national ad campaign prominently featuring Wiltse's Community Pharmacy in downtown Plymouth. The campaign asks people around the country to cast their vote online for which 20 Main Streets should be revitalized of the more than 100 North American cities nominated at

www.paintwhatmatters.com.
"Plymouth is not one of the
towns you can vote for," said
Wes Graff, president of the
Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce. "They got a
nice picture of Wiltse's."

Dale Knab and wife Andrea, both pharmacists, own Wiltse's and were contacted by an East Coast advertising agency. "They obviously were traveling around our part of the country" he said

country," he said.

The Wiltse's owners were sent a prototype of the ad and sign an authorization for its

"A lot of folks have seen it," said Dale Knab, an Ann Arbor resident and 33-year owner of the business. "Our son who lives in Texas, he's seen it."

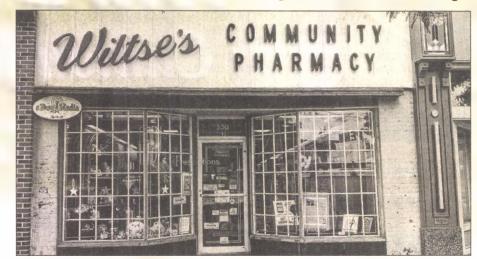
Knab himself hasn't yet.
His wife recently called to him at home when he was on the computer as the commercial was airing, but he looked too late.

"It's been a lot of fun,"
Knab said. "I think it's good
for Plymouth. The ad is talking
about how important downtowns are. People have been
very positive about the exposure. The local folks, I think,
get a real kick out of that."

The Wiltse's Community Pharmacy name is prominent in the ad, although there's no indication of the location.

The effort has been undertaken with the help of multiple partner organizations around the country, including Make It Right, a longtime partner of Benjamin Moore founded by actor-philanthropist Brad Pitt. He is lending his voice in support of the effort that Benjamin Moore is undertaking with Main Street Matters.

In addition to partner organizations, the effort includes local Benjamin Moore dealers working in conjunction with



Wiltse's
Community
Pharmacy, a
downtown
Plymouth fixture,
is featured in a
national ad
campaign by
Benjamin Moore.
TONY BRUSCATO

local municipalities, small businesses and local chambers of commerce. The effort will begin this summer and the work on repainting these Main Streets will be completed over the next year.

"Our Main Streets are the vital hubs of our communities – and Benjamin Moore and our network of independent dealers have always been integral parts of Main Street," David Melançon, chief marketing officer of Benjamin Moore, wrote in a statement. "This investment we're making in communities around North

ness and to who we are; Main Streets make us who we are and we're proud to honor that with this effort."

Benjamin Moore will provide the paint and supplies needed for façades, porches, railings, shutters and other exterior building trims. Its color experts will consult on choices to enhance the architectural style, regional influences and historic references in each community. Skilled professional painters, many of them members of the Painting and Decorating Contractors of America, will be hired, putting another segment of local busi-

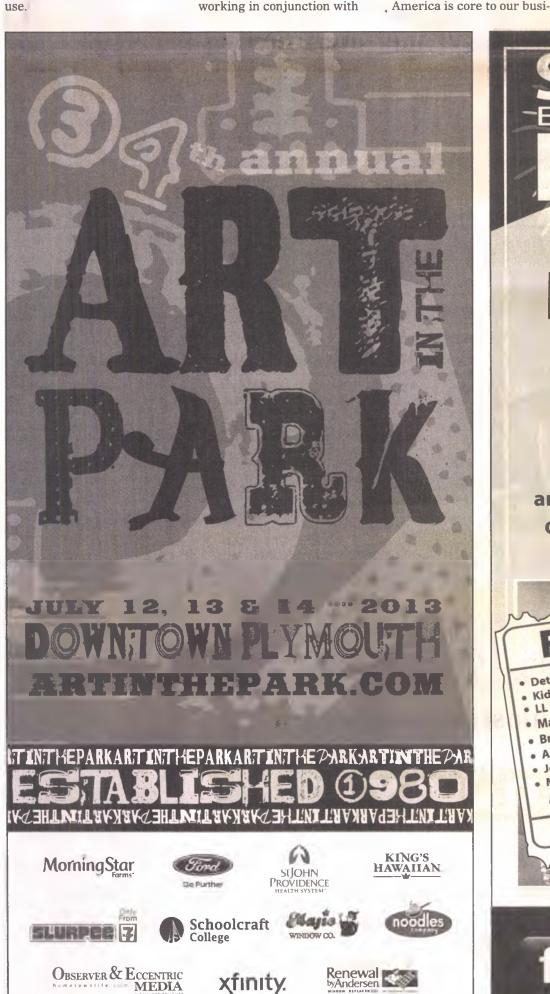
ness to work along with the local Benjamin Moore retailer who will mix the paints used.

A mix of national and local market TV, radio, online and print ads hit North America starting in May as part of the company's overall increase in marketing, which is up 61 percent compared to the previous

Voting ends June 30. Benjamin Moore will post the final list of Main Streets and towns to be repainted on www.paintwhatmatters.com. in July.

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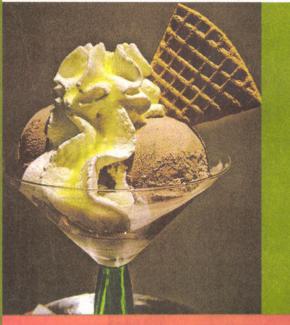








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# FIGHTING FOR THE UNION

## RE-ENACTOR TELLS STORY OF NORTH'S COLORED TROOPS

By Sue Mason Staff Writer

Of one thing Geoff Blair is 100-percent certain: Abraham Lincoln couldn't have won the Civil War without black soldiers.

A re-enactor and president of the U.S. Colored Troop/Black History Group, Blair offered the observation in talking about the 1st Michigan Colored Regiment, formed in July 1863, and 102nd U.S. Colored Troops which served in the Union Army during the Civil War. His presentation last Saturday was part of the Wayne Public Library's current Civil War 150 exhibit.

The USCT/BHG was founded in 1986 for Michigan's sesquicentennial. It's dedicated to fostering and preserving the history of the Civil War by enhancing the public's understanding of Michigan's African-American contributions

"The thought Abraham Lincoln put forth was that the war was to preserve the Union; he was ambivalent about freeing the slaves," Blair said. "But his plans went horribly wrong. A majority of the battles were won by the South in 1861 and 1862. Robert E. Lee was wiping up the floor with every general Lincoln put in front of him."

According to Blair, the political tone of the war changed with the Emancipation Proclamation. When it took effect Jan. 1, 1863, it didn't end slavery completely. It applied only to states that had seceded from the Union, leaving slavery untouched in the loyal border states. It also exempted parts of the Confederacy that had already come under Union control. It did, however, open the door for the inclusion of blacks in military ranks legally.

"A few states were ahead of the curve," Blair said. "The smaller states not meeting their quotas of troops like Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Delaware jumped on the idea."



Re-enactor Geoff Blair represents a soldier in the 102nd U.S. Colored Troops, which fought for the Union in the Civil War. ALL PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

#### **Important to war**

The black troops were an important part of the war effort. As the war dragged on, they became a way of replenishing the ranks. In all, 180,000 blacks served in the Union Army. By the end of the war, one in 10 soldiers was black. It was even higher during the Reconstruction years.

Henry Barnes. publisher of the Detroit Advertiser newspaper, used the power of the printed word to bemoan the fact that blacks who wanted to fight for their country couldn't because of the color of their skin. With the blessing of Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, states began forming colored regiments in May 1863. Barnes, a colonel, set out to recruit blacks for the 1st Michigan Colored Regiment.

"There were 1,500 blacks in Wayne County unofficially, so he sent feelers across the river to Canada to North Buxton, Ontario, where many free



Patterson of Detroit and Shari Welch of Wayne listen to Geoff Blair's presentation at the Wayne Public Library.

**Bobby** 

slaves had settled," Blair said.
"He told the folks that it was
an opportunity to fight for
those who were still slaves."

Three hundred fifty men came from Canada to join the regiment, but Barnes was still short the 1,000 men needed to form a regiment, so he loaded Company A on a train and did a tour of southern Michigan, stopping in towns like Ypsilanti, Ann Arbor and Niles and places believed to be stops on the Underground Railroad.

By the end of 1863, Barnes had his full regiment housed in barracks "no better than tar paper shacks" at Camp Ward in Detroit. A historical marker sits on the site, which is now the playground of Duffield Elementary School.

The regiment joined the Union Army in February 1864 when it was given a new name, the 102nd U.S. Colored Troops. It reported to Annapolis, Md., and was sent to South Carolina. It saw action in South Carolina,

Georgia and Florida, with one of its finest moments displayed in battle at Honey Hill S.C.

in battle at Honey Hill, S.C.
Noting that "you won't see
many mentions of colored
troops in history books," Blair
said that at Honey Hill the
colored troops were given the
task of tearing up rail lines and
cutting off Confederate supply
lines in support of Sherman's
march to the sea.

"This was a Union defeat. Orders may have been given, but they weren't necessarily followed," Blair said.

As a result, a battery of cannons was caught between the two battle lines. Lt. Orson Bennett led 30 men from the regiment to rescue a battery from being captured by the Confederates. As a result, Bennett received the first Congressional Medal of Honor for the unit.

#### **Beyond footnote**

With the end of the war, the 102nd was dismissed and disbanded in October 1865, becoming "a footnote in history."

The members of the USCT/BHG portray actual people and several members of the group trace their lineage to original enlistees. Ross Fowler, one of the founders of the group, is a descendent of Alfred White who, in 1864, left his home in Cheshire Township in Allegan County and walked to Kalamazoo to enlist.

Blair, who joined the group in 1998, has portrayed Isaiah Doorman, who rode with Gen. George Custer and was the first soldier killed in the Battle of Little Bighorn. His goal is to one day teach history at a community college.

"Our goal is to get this untold story told of the sacrifices of the colored troops," Blair said. "Lincoln began the war by fighting with his hand behind his back. When he brought out the other hand, he started to win the war. Lincoln couldn't have won this war without the help of the blacks. Of this, I'm 100-percent sure."

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Students at Stevenson Middle School show off the rockets they designed with the help of the stuff and students from the William D. Ford Career Technical Center.

# Math + science = rocket science

It is rocket science! That's what the students at Stevenson and Franklin middle schools found out as they flew their handmade rockets in a competition at the athletic fields.

More than 480 students from Stevenson and 260 from Franklin spent a week researching, building and then flying their creations. Sharon Wasik, Jim Schirmer and Mary Hermatz, the innovators behind the project, were trying to tie math and science skills into a hands-on project so that the students could see some tangible (and flyable) results.

"I was astounded at the enthusiasm of the kids on this," Wasik said. Students in seventh-

and eighth-grade science classes built the rockets from scratch, using paper, tape and card stock. They had to design the components, using math concepts, geometry and good old common sense.

"This is an excellent way to blend science and math to excite the students about engineering," said Julie Nicastri-Tankard, who along with fellow science teacher Brion Anderson spear-



Science teacher Robert Miller helps students build their rockets.

headed the project at Franklin Middle School.

Students from the **Automotive Technology** Class at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center went to Stevenson and Franklin equipped with tools to prove the rockets' mettle. They had designed a launching rig and a measuring tool using trigonometry to see how high the rockets would fly.

And fly they did. Using an air compressor and an inclinometer, they flew more than 1,500 flights, some reaching as

high as 350 feet. Career Tech senior graduates Travis St. Clair and Karl Ptasysanski along with a host of juniors - loaded, launched, measured and repaired rocket after rocket as the students followed each

flight into the sky.
Students would launch and measure their height, then go to "rocket repair" to tweak their creations, trying to improve their performance.
"The students worked

hard to improve their design of fins and aerodynamics after each launch and it showed in the performance," said Jim Schirmer, auto tech instructor at William D. Ford Career Technical Center.

Later, the best rocket builders were recognized by Steven Kay, the center principal.



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## Slavens calls for Colbeck's Medicaid vote

State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, called on state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, and his Senate Republican colleagues to return July 3 to Lansing to complete the work started by the House and vote on Medicaid expansion.

Last week, Senate Republicans failed to take a vote on the measure before starting a two-month summer vacation. The legislation, House Bill 4714, passed June 13 with bipartisan support in the House and has been backed by Gov. Rick

Snyder, medical professionals and small-business owners.

"I am proud of the way the House was able to move Medicaid expansion by putting aside partisanship and politi-cal ideology," Slavens

"We worked late into the night to do the right thing for the state of Michigan. The very least Senator Colbeck can do is go back to Lansing for one day to take an up-ordown vote."

Colbeck said he has no plans to go to Lansing for such a vote.

"I'm not going to be forced to vote on a bill that's flawed," Colbeck said. "We want to be deliberative and truly solve the problem in front of us."

Passage of this legislation would provide health care coverage for roughly 400,000 struggling Michigan residents and secure nearly \$20 billion in federal funding. Forty-seven percent of uninsured people in Wayne County, or 130,000 people, will gain health care coverage if Medicaid expansion legislation is enacted.

Snyder and a bipartisan coalition blasted the Senate Republicans last week for failing to vote on the legislation before leaving on their summer

vacation. Senate Democratic Leader Gretchen Whitmer, D-East Lansing, has called on Senate Republicans to hold session July 3 — a tentative date previously scheduled - in order to vote on Medicaid expansion, with the entire Democratic caucus having announced its plans to be in attendance on that day.

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his wife learned their

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surgery didn't accom-

hoped it would. Saying

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blessed that she's still

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three children. He gave

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in the suburbs. Goodbye

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run-in with the hippo a lot of the stories seemed

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was attacked by hippo is

"But I knew before

whole lot of life needed

jgrossman@hometownlife.com

maimed for life.' I kind

of wanted my story to have a different ending,"

that could happen, a

said Templer.

to be lived."

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"When I first had my

plish everything we

# **Accident on I-96** sends MDOT worker to hospital

By David Veselenak Staff Writer

A Michigan Department of Transportation worker has been released from the hospital after being injured Thursday afternoon on I-96 near Merriman after an accident involving a vehicle and a cleanup crew.

Rob Morosi, spokesman for MDOT, said crews were working all week cleaning and sweeping the side of the freeway, which resulted in small, rolling lane closures.

He said at about 2 p.m. Thursday, a car driving eastbound on I-96 struck the arrowboard truck in the right lane, injuring one of the workers.

Morosi said he did not know what caused the accident.

"With the limited knowledge I have, I don't know if the driver was cut off," he said.

Morosi said the worker was taken to a nearby hospital and did not have life-threatening injuries.

Lt. Michael Shaw, public information officer for the Michigan State Police, said Friday morning the worker had been released from

the hospital.

The accident left the freeway with some lane closures while police and emergency crews responded to the scene. Livonia police and fire, along with Michigan State Police, responded to the scene.

It was unclear what caused the accident. Shaw said he did not have all the details of the accident, just that the MDOT truck had been rear-ended and that a white Jeep had flipped upside-down. The driver of the Jeep had minor injuries and did not got to the hospital, Shaw said.

He said he was unsure if any citations were issued at the scene.

Morosi said the freeway was re-opened no later than 3 p.m. Thursday, and believed work crews were sent home. He said he expects they will be out again early next week cleaning up the roadway of loose debris. Crews were back on the freeway Friday, picking up debris along I-96 in Detroit.

"I'm sure today they were sent home," he said. "I would imagine they'll be out early next



An MDOT staffer was injured Thursday in this crash. BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Attack changes his life wasn't so good."

By Jay Grossman Staff Writer

In 1996, Paul Templer found himself head first down the throat of a hippo in a vicious confrontation on the Zambezi River in southern Africa.

The attack left another man dead and cost Templer his entire left arm. Yet looking back, he'll tell you in many ways it made him become a better man.

Seventeen years later, he's married to a woman who grew up in Southfield and they're now raising a family in Beverly Hills. He's formed a nonprofit called the Templer Foundation that supports disabled and chronically ill children, along with veterans affected by PTSD.

He's also a motivational speaker and runs his own consulting firm, Opus Dynamic. Plus, he's an author with a dry sense of humor — his autobiography is titled What's Left of Me (Hawkings Post).

Most of all, he's a dad. Another part of his life that might never have happened were it not for

the hippo. "My kids are the fun-niest," said Templer, 44. "They're the ones who put this in perspective: Every Christmas, that song I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas comes on and they just think it's the funniest. They love to give me grief — my daughter Kate will go, 'What if you hadn't been eaten by the hippo? Then you never would have met mom and we never would have been here."

Templer met with the Birmingham Eccentric at the Commonwealth Cafe and shared his remarkable story.

#### Fast times in Africa

He grew up in Rhodesia (now called Zimbabwe) and left his home at an early age to join the British military and travel the world. After a few years of adventure, Templer returned to Africa and became a safari guide, taking tourists along the crocodile-infested Zambezi River.

On March 9, 1996, three canoes and a kayak journeyed down the river. Each canoe carried a guide and two tourists. Templer was steering the lead canoe. Everything was unfolding just the way it was meant to, until they came upon a bend in the river.

As the third canoe negotiated the bend, a rogue male hippo weighing approximately 8,000 pounds attacked the boat and knocked the guide



Paul Templer of Beverly Hills fought a terrific battle - and lost an arm - to a hippo in an African river.

into the river. Templer immediately turned back to rescue the man, Evans Namasango. He was reaching over his canoe to grab Evans when the hippo came between

The hippo literally plucked Templer from the boat and dragged him into the river. It took him a moment or two before he realized what was happening.

"I could feel that my legs were wet. The top part of me wasn't dry, but it wasn't water wet either. There was this huge pressure crushing down on me and I couldn't move -- except for my hand. I started to feel around and I touched the bristles on the hippo's snout. So I knew exactly where I was: head first, up to my waist, down a hippo's throat.'

#### **Survival mode**

Even given the bizarreness of the situation, Templer said rational thinking kicked in and he tried to focus on survival. After a bit of underwater thrashing, the hippo spit him out. Templer managed to reach the surface and grab a few gulps of air before the hippo bit him again — this time by the leg — and dragged him down.

The hippo released Templer, only to attack him a third time in the river. When the giant beast spit him out again, one of the other guides bravely managed to get close enough in his canoe to grab Templer and drag him to safety.

"Safety being relative," Templer said. "It was a cluster of rocks in the middle of the river. My arms are barely attached and part of my lung was exposed. My leg was a mess and there's an angry hippo just off the rocks. We have six clients, two canoes, a kayak and one paddle. It was dusk and we knew it would be hours before

anyone missed us. A decision was made quickly that one of the guides and Templer would take one of the canoes and reach help.

#### A winding river

Fortune then smiled on Templer, as a shock trauma specialist happened to be nearby. He was stabilized and transported to a hospital in Zimbabwe, where his arm was amputated during surgery.

Templer parlayed his newfound fame to raise money for other amputees in Africa. Two years after the attack, he tried do something that had never been done before, kayak the Zambezi from source to sea. Wright & Filippis, a Michiganbased company and one of the largest providers of prosthetic devices, built him a kayak paddle that could be maneuvered with one arm.

While preparing for the trip, he met Carrie through her brother, Chris Walton, a former Free Press writer who was planning to cover the expedition. They fell in love, decided to marry and build their lives together in Michigan.

#### **Changing tides**

"Life was good," Tem-pler said. "And then it

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**WILD** Summer Day Trip contest

#### Livonia Public Schools Opens Renowned Academically Talented Program to Out-of-District Students

#### Four seats are open to students entering 7th grade in fall 2013 Limited Registration window: July 8 - 31, 2013

Livonia Public Schools is opening its Middle School Alternative Classrooms for the Academically Talented (MACAT) program to Limited Schools of Choice for the 2013-14 school year. This program is geared toward academically talented students looking for a specialized learning experience.

Registration will open from July 8 - 31, 2013 Application materials and program information is available at the Livonia Public Schools Administration building at 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia MI 48154 (8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. M - Th) All candidates MUST meet the MACAT selection testing criteria.

Contact Steve Archibald, Director of Secondary Programs at 734-744-2520 with any questions.

# THE RISE AND FALL OF STATE **PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS**

Filmmaker looking for local connections to help tell the story

> **By Kurt Kuban** Staff Writer

Even as Northville Township officials scramble to find a way to tear down the former and long-vacant Northville Psychiatric Hospital, Joshua Pardon is trying to bring it out of the

shadows. In fact, the 39-year-old Ann Arbor filmmaker is in the midst of a multiyear quest to shine some light on the rise and fall of Michigan's state hospitals for the mentally ill and the developmentally disabled, which have largely been abandoned a fact local people who drive by the hulking facility on Seven Mile

know all too well. Pardon is in year two of the unnamed project about the state hospitals, which he feels will take at least four years to complete. The story of Michigan's treatment of its mentally ill population is long and somewhat convoluted. It is a story that Pardon thinks has yet to be told with the kind of depth and breadth it deserves. And he is looking for local people who may have had a connection with the Northville Psychiatric Hospital to help tell the

#### **Hospitals in decline**

For more than a century, the State of Michigan created, expanded, and maintained a vast network of state-run hospitals for the mentally ill and the developmentally disabled. They were self-sufficient facilities

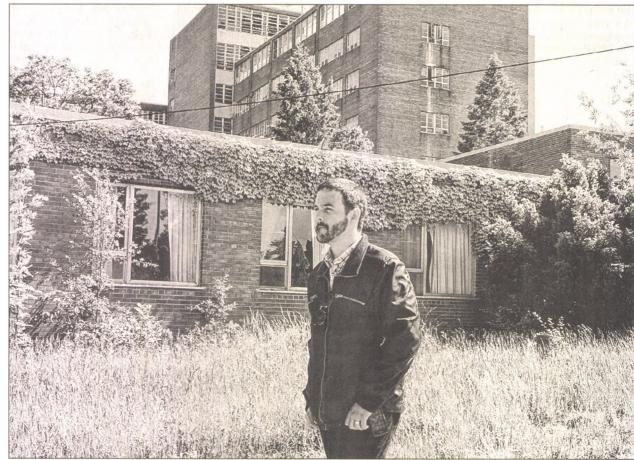
where the patients did everything from farming to manufacturing. They truly were refuges from the larger society. However, as treatment methods evolved and new drugs and therapies were developed in the mid to late 20th century, attitudes about the institutions began to change as well. As a result, Michigan's State Hospital system experienced an overwhelming decline beginning in the 1970s, which continued into this centu-

One hospital after another closed, including the Northville facility in 2003. Care and treatment for the mentally ill was largely transferred to regional and countybased community mental health boards and other "mainstreaming" efforts.

Yet, society now seems to be grappling with an explosion of mental health issues, according to Pardon, which has been highlighted by the many mass shootings in recent years by individuals suffering from mental illness.

Pardon knows he is wading into controversial territory. He says people get very emotional about the topic, but from different points of view. He said some people rue the day the hospitals were closed because many mentally ill people have nowhere to go and end up living on the streets. Others, he said, have nothing but disdain for the old hospitals, which they feel were prisons used to lock away the mentally ill.

"Everybody I've talked to about this project - their reactions told me there's a story here that has never been told, so I really want to



Filmmaker Joshua Pardon is beginning a documentary on the history of the Northville Regional Psychiatric Hospital, specifically focusing on those who worked at the facility on Seven Mile Road over the years. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

do it," said Pardon, who has been working on the project for about a year now.

Local interviews Pardon, with assistance from the Northville Historical Society, will be conducting interviews July 23-24 at Mill Race Village. Anyone who has a story to share about the Northville Psychiatric Hospital - their own or a family member's - is invited to contact Pardon at 734-353-9575 or video@vantagepointvisual.com to arrange an appointment for an oncamera interview ses-

Pardon is looking for people who may have been employees at the hospital, friends or family members of patients, local historians, government officials or even former patients (if he can find any).

Pardon is also interested in seeing photographs and other artifacts and memorabilia. Those with stories about any other state hospitals and facilities such as the Plymouth State Home and Training School are also welcome. Pardon has already done similar interviews for the state mental hospitals in Ionia, Kalamazoo, Pontiac and Traverse City - "all of the towns where there were very large facilities like in Northville." And he will be filming up in Upper Peninsula town of Newberry, home of another former state hospital, in the next week or

The Northville Psychiatric Hospital and its 400-acre campus, with more than a dozen buildings and a network of underground tunnels, have attracted more trespassers than one could count, not to mention ghost hunters and other thrill seekers. The township Police Department is constantly writing tickets for trespassing. Part of the property is being commercially developed. The township owns much of the proper-

ty, including most of the buildings, and hopes to have them demolished as soon as the money can be found to do it.

Pardon wants everyone to know, he isn't out to make something other than a serious documentary. "This isn't muckraking, or a ghost story, or some cheap thrills film," he said. "This is a Michigan story that needs to be

Not only does Pardon want to look at the people who were impacted by the institutions, but he will also focus on the physical institutions themselves, and what has happened to them since they closed. Some, like in Northville, are still standing and vacant. Others have already been torn down, like in Pontiac. The hospital in Ionia was converted into a prison. The hospital in Traverse City, however, was purchased by private developers, who transformed it into a mix-use development including shops and eat-

#### **INTERVIEWS FOR** THE FILM

Dates:

July 23, 24, 25 Where: Mill Race Village Contact: Call Joshua Pardon for an interview time at 734-353-9575 or email him at video@vantagepointvisual.com

Pardon hopes the film, when complete, will find its way to public television or small film festivals. He realizes by the time it is finished, the hospital itself may be gone, which is OK, because his goal is really to make people aware of the rise and fall of the state's hospital system.

"We're trying to lay the foundation of why these places were built. They were massive places - basically cities unto themselves. They grew their own food, and made their own products. When they were built, they were considered very progressive, forward-thinking places."

see faces.





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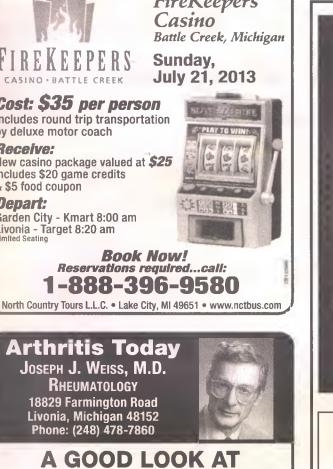
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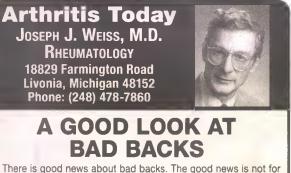
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# There is good news about bad backs. The good news is not for

all bad backs, but only those people who experience inflammatory

To be in that inflammatory back pain group, a person needs to between the ages of 18 and 45. The back pain needs to be located in the low back, be worse in the morning, improve with activity and then return at night. Finally the back pain must keep this pattern for at least three months or longer.

The good news for men and women with inflammatory back pain is that therapy exists that can control and even end that pain. The drugs known as the anti-TNF alpha group were developed to treat rheumatoid arthritis, but investigations revealed that these same medications are excellent in treating inflammatory back pain.

But not exactly. Further experience indicates that individuals with inflammatory back pain and other conditions along with the back pain such as iritis, psoriasis, colitis or Crohn's disease are the ones who do well when treated with anti-TNF alpha drugs, It is not clear what rheumatoid arthritis and inflammatory back

pain have in common that allows the same anti-TNF medication to treat both conditions, but the success of such treatment is consistent with studies done in the United States, Europe and in Asian countries such as China and Singapore.

The key to treatment is early diagnosis; medical schools and conferences of medical societies are sponsoring lectures to bring to the attention of the medical community how to make an early diagnosis and initiate timely therapy.



# Bosch honored by DEQ for environmental stewardship

**By Aileen Wingblad** Staff Writer

A commitment to sustainability and "green" practices by Robert Bosch LLC has grabbed the attention of the state's Department of Environmental Ouality and earned the company the DEO's Clean Corporate Citizen Award for Environmental Stewardship.

"This is one of the highest environmental awards, to recognize good companies like Bosch that go above and beyond," said Bryce Feighner, chief of the DEO Office of Environmental Assistance.

Four of Bosch's Michigan operations - Farmington Hills, Plymouth, Novi and Flat Rock received the award.
"I'm very honored to

achieve this award," Robert Bosch LLC President Mike Mansuetti said, adding that environmental stewardship is "part of our 125-vear-old culture and is also good for our business ... achieving our targets, lowering our costs and

making for a good bottom line."

The award, he said, is important to the company "because it demonstrates that Bosch has earned the confidence and trust of the state of Michigan in establishing robust practices that will help protect and preserve the environment."

Clean Corporate Citizen, or C3, is a voluntary program which recognizes companies dedicated to bettering the environment through compliance with state and federal regulations,

pollution prevention and facility-specific environmental management systems.

Bosch is the 11th company in Oakland County to be recognized with a C3 award.

The Bosch Group manufactures and markets technology and services, including automotive original equipment and aftermarket solutions, tools, communication systems, software solutions, appliances and other products in the United States, Canada and Mexico.



Robert Bosch LLC President Mike Mansuetti receives the Clean Corporate Citizen award from Bryce Feighner, chief of the Office of Environmental Assistance for the state Department of Environmental Quality.

# Do the math when refinancing your home mortgage

O: My company is transferring me overseas for at least two years. Originally, I was going to sell my house, however, because my daughter has one year left in high school, my wife and daughter are going to stay here until she graduates and then they will join me. At that point we will sell our house. I guesstimate it will be about a year from now. In one of your recent columns, you suggested that someone who is going to be in their house for short term should consider refinancing under an adjustable-rate mortgage. Does it make sense for me? Currently, my mortgage is approximately 5.75 percent. I talked to a mortgage company and was quoted a one-year adjustable at about 2.5 percent. It would cost about \$1,000 in fees. What do you

think? A: I like this strategy in your situation and I believe it does make sense. The key is how long will it take to recoup the \$1,000 in fees. For example, if your mortgage payment goes down by \$400 a month, after the first 2½ months, you

Rick Bloom MONEY MATTERS

will start making money. Factor in that you are going to hold this house for at least another year and it becomes a substantial savings

On the other hand, if vour payment only went down by \$50 a month. it would take you more than 18 months to start making money. In this case, it would not be worth it.

The key is how much your mortgage payment will go down and how many months it will take to recoup your costs. If you can recoup your costs in six months or less, then it makes sense. If it take longer, then it probably does not make sense to refinance.

There is another issue to consider.

Adjustable-rate mortgages mean that they do adjust. In other words, you need to factor into the equation the possibility that your plans may change. Therefore, you must pay attention to the terms of the adjustment.

Does it adjust every year or every three years? In addition, you need to look at the cap. Can it adjust more than 1 or 2 percent a year or what amount? In today's world, there are all sorts of different options that adjustablerate mortgages have and the key is to use one that bests suits your situation.

On the whole, in today's interest rate environment, adjustable-rate mortgages are not in favor. Most will agree that the direction of interest rates is up and not down. Therefore, fixedrate mortgages are preferred. However, there are situations such as the case at hand where adjustable-rate mortgages make sense.

Whether you're looking for an adjustable-rate mortgage or a fixed-rate mortgage, it always pays to shop around and to make sure you understand the terms. Also, always remember that costs do matter. Different companies have their own terminology for costs and that is why I always want to know the out-the-door cost of the mortgage.

The mortgage market is very competitive and

consumers have lots of options. Don't be taken in by an aggressive salesperson, take your time, ask questions and deal with someone you can

trust and who has experience in the mortgage industry.

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





# CHANGING A LIFE

Teens raise money to provide a service dog

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

It's amazing what eight teens can do when they decide to change a life

"I'm blown away,"
Sheryl Staumbaugh said
as she received a \$700
check from the 12-, 13and 14-year-olds Thursday at the Farmington
Hills Ice Arena.

Last September, Sydney Smith, 14, decided she wanted to get a group of kids together to do something good for someone else. Staumbaugh was that someone else.

Almost a year ago, Staumbaugh, who has cerebral palsy and is in a wheelchair, lost her 13year-old golden retriever service dog Kahlua. Not only did Staumbaugh lose a friend and companion, but a lifeline of sorts.

"We were a working team for 13 years," the Farmington Hills resi-

dent said.

Kahlua was Staumbaugh's helper. If she dropped a pen, he would pick it up. If she fell, Kahlua got help one way or another. Whatever she needed, Kahlua was

"He also could break down barriers," Staumbaugh said. "A lot of times, people won't approach me in my wheelchair. But when they saw Kahlua, they would come up and ask about him."



The teens are captivated with Sheryl Staumbaugh.

JOHN STORMZAND I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

#### A sense of security

Not only did Staumbaugh lose her best friend, but she hasn't had a helper since Kahlua passed away.

"I lost my security," she said. "If I fall, I don't have anyone to get the phone. I'm not able to get up off the floor by myself."

But service dogs come at a price — about \$24,000 for a dog trained specifically to help a person with disabilities. And the way it works is that Staumbaugh has what is called a successor account for money that will one day be used to get her another special dog.

The teens' contribution and any others she may receive will go into her account to help offset the costs of a new dog through Paws with a Cause.

Some of the teens knew Staumbaugh when she worked at the ice arena some years ago. So when Smith knew she wanted to help someone, Staumbaugh's name came up.

That's when Smith and the other teens decided to raise money to help Staumbaugh get another service dog.

"We did it about once a week. We sold pizza for a dollar a slice, plus sometimes we got donations like the \$150 a person gave us. That was great!" said Ashley Bartram, 13.

And still others would buy some pizza with a larger denomination and tell the kids to "keep the change," Bartram said.

"I had no idea they were doing this," said Staumbaugh, who works part time at the Center for Exceptional Families.

Not only did the \$700 put a pretty big smile on Staumbaugh's face, but it was pretty evident Thursday that the kids were taken with the young woman who graduated with a master's degree in social work from the University of Michigan in 2008.

Gathered around Staumbaugh, the teens listened intently as she offered them advice. And it was pretty clear as the kids talked that this is only the beginning of their efforts to get Staumbaugh her dog.

"It could take years and years to get a dog," Staumbaugh said. "I'm ready for one, like yesterday."

Though Staumbaugh made it clear nothing can replace Kahlua, she would still like another golden retriever. She is full of Kahlua stories, including the one about her U-M graduation: "He went everywhere with me. He was even hooded at my graduation ceremony."

And when she realized that Kahlua was really unhappy around clowns, he worked with a trainer to overcome his discomfort – for Staumbaugh, who is 100 percent an advocate of Paws with a Cause.

"They pick a dog and they send the trainer to your home," she said. "They are able to work with you in your natural environment."

Between the caring teens and Staumbaugh's renowned determination, there's little doubt that a new dog will arrive some day.

#### The future

The future is what
Staumbaugh is all about –
always has been. She has
spent a lifetime hearing
the word "no" from people who were afraid that
if she expected too much
from herself, she would
be disappointed.

Todd Lipa, coordinator of youth and family services for the city of Farmington Hills, knows that all too well. Some years ago, Staumbaugh challenged him to a ski ride down a tough hill, which was near Traverse City.

The hill was called Awful Awful. But Staumbaugh made it down, leaving Lipa in the powder — until he made a second try.

"When you think you

#### **DOING GOOD**

The following teens raised \$700 to toward Sheryl Staumbaugh's quest to get another service dog through Paws with a Cause:

- » Sydney Smith, 14
- » Veena Thamilselvar, 12» Ashley Bartram, 13
- » Elizabeth Bor, 13
- » Taylor Smith, 12 » Daniel Gumma, 13
- » Shelby Smith, 11

» Shelby Smith, 11
» Michael Curry, 14

can't do something, just remember Sheryl," Lipa told the teens, as he thanked them for their help. "Just to know how much you care and without even knowing Sheryl is very special."

Lipa described Staumbaugh, whom he has known a long part of her life, as someone whose "will is stronger than most people's."

It's a good thing. For every step she has taken in her life, beginning with community college all the way through graduate school, if she had listened to others and their fears, Staumbaugh said would not be who she is today.

"I had no doubts I was going to graduate," she said.

Her goal now is to find a full-time job working with families who have children with disabilities. But as Staumbaugh said, people see her wheelchair before getting to know her and her strengths and abilities.

She's not giving up though. Law school or a doctoral program are in her dreams — as is a new service dog.

Donations to help provide Staumbaugh with a service dog may be made by calling Lipa at the Costick Activities Center at 248-473-1841.

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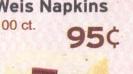




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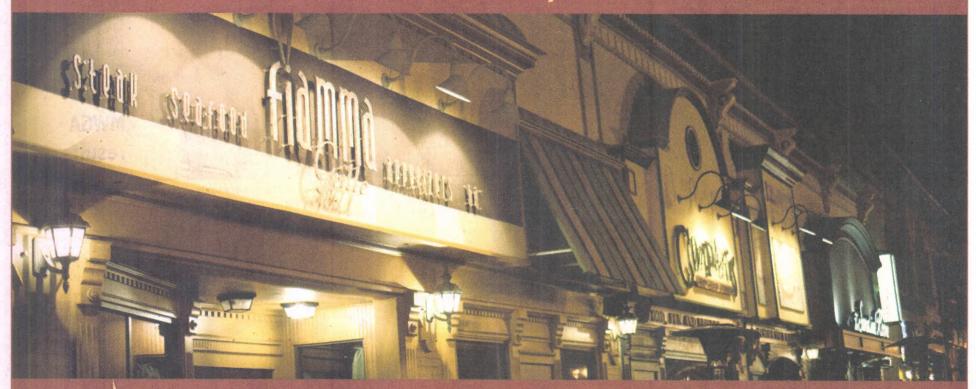
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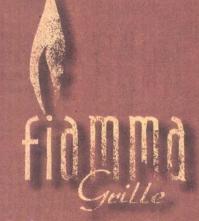
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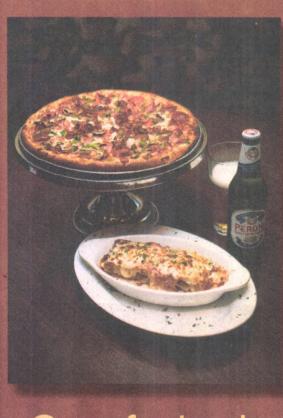
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# **SPORTS**

**TIM SMITH, EDITOR** TSMITH@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 734-469-4128

# Despite leukemia, Clarenceville coach Moody remains resolute

**By Brad Emons** Staff Writer

Amanda Moody's hair is significantly shorter than normal.

But it's only a small sacrifice for the long and difficult journey the Livonia Clarenceville girls soccer coach has endured after being diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia on July

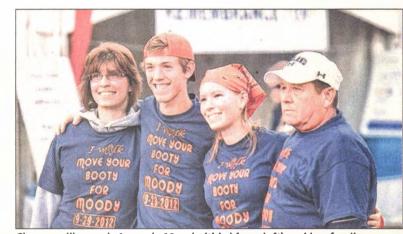
Moody, who originally went to the doctor's office for a sore throat and a slight fever just four days earlier, was just 21 when a bone marrow biopsy procedure revealed she had acute promyelocytic leukemia.

Her world was turned upsidedown and Moody said she'll

never forget the words of her doctor at Beaumont Hospital.

"You have leukemia," Moody recalled. "Just like that. Like it was so simple to say. I laid in my bed, frozen. My first reaction was, 'What do I have to do to nip this in the butt?' I couldn't break down just yet. I couldn't do anything about it since it was already in my body. I wanted to get rid of it. I still thought the questions: How? Why? I'm 21, exercise daily and have always been healthy. How did this happen? I never felt the cancer in my body. That's why it was the strangest thing. I still felt healthy and that nothing was

See COACH, Page B4



Clarenceville coach Amanda Moody (third from left) and her family including mother Laura, brother Jimmy and father Jim participated in a benefit walk last fall for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society in Ann

#### **Glenhurst**

Canton resident Don Rauch regis-tered his second career hole-in-one June 19 at Glenhurst Golf Course in Redford Township.

Using a 6 iron, the 66-vear-old Rauch knocked his tee shot in the cup on the 144-yard 17th hole. Rauch, who has been playing golf for 30 years, carded a 44 for his nine-hole round

#### **MWGA** results

Three Observerland-area golfers performed well at the Michigan Women's Golf Association tournament played June 22 at Huron Meadows Metropark Golf Course in Brighton.

Eleven four-women teams competed in the event with prizes being awarded for low gross and low net team scores.

Plymouth's Barbara Coury joined forces with Yvette Gagnon, Debra Horning and Nancy Serra to place second in the low-net standings after they carded a score of 161 (120

Plymouth's Jane Kersjes and Farmington's Pat Shelton teamed up with Unha Murray and Carol Rudder to finish third in the the low-net standings with a round of 163 (127 net). Coury also won a

prize when her tee shot on the 151-yard 12th hole came to a rest just 26 inches from the hole.

#### Redford Soccer club sign-ups

The Redford Soccer Club is hosting a summer camp from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each day July 22-25 at Bell Creek Park, Inkster and Five Mile roads in Red-

Current Mary-grove College coach and former Detroit **Ignition coach Matt** Johnson will lead the camp for players ages 5-18.

The camp will teach all the essential skills necessary for success on the soccer field.

Johnson will be assisted by former Ignition players and current Marygrove

players.
Youth participants should bring shin guards, a ball, a water bottle and be

dressed to play.

The camp costs \$85 per player and includes a T-shirt. For more information, contact RSC vice president Jim Gibbs by July 15 at 313-995-4234.

# HALF-PIPE HAVENS

Local skateboarders enjoy hobby's laid-back appeal

> **By Ed Wright** Staff Writer

With the noise of the world blotted out by the tunes blaring from his headphones, 24-year-old Charles Mott glided over and above the ramps and half-pipes of Westland's Concrete Jungle skate park with ease and precision Wednesday after-

With his board following around the soles of his black and neon-green Nikes like a shadow, Mott erased the cares of his day - at least for an hour or so – while getting a high-energy workout on a partly cloudy, mostly humid summer afternoon.

"I love this because there are no rules and it's peaceful," Mott said. "I'm older now so I pretty much just cruise around. I have a job, so I don't want to get injured and have to miss work.

"Once in a while I'll try a different move or something, but for the most part I'll just come over here before work and get some exercise. It's relaxing."

An estimated 10 million people in the United States list skateboarding as a hobby. The sport can be both calming and edgy, depending upon how each boarder attacks it. Sparked in part by the

surging popularity of ESPN's X Games, skate parks like the Concrete Jungle have been popping up with regularity throughout the Detroit area, serving as proving grounds for boarders who are in relentless pursuit of perfecting moves like switchfoot pogos and street plants.

In addition to Westland, you can find skate parks in Garden City, Redford and Farmington.

#### **Gathering spot**

On Wednesday afternoon, five teenagers from three different neighboring communities converged on the nine-month-old skate park in Garden City to share some laughs and sharpen their 360-degree flips.

Among them was 15-yearold Garden City resident

See SKATEBOARD, Page B4



Charles Mott gets some air while relaxing at the Concrete Jungle skate park in Westland. ED WRIGHT





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# Park golfers shine at 35th Junior Amateur

**By Ed Wright** Staff Writer

Murphy's Law nearly presided at this week's 35th annual Michigan Girls Junior State Amateur tournament at Forest Hills West Golf Course in East

Plymouth's Kelsey Murphy advanced to the championship match in the grueling four-day event before falling to Brighton's Hannah Pietila, 3-and-2.

Murphy, who will be a freshman at Eastern Michigan University in the fall, is no stranger to success in the tournament as she blazed a trail to the final match in 2011 before making it to the semis last year.

"It's not that I played poorly in the last match, but the girl I was playing played really well," said Murphy. "We both played shot-for-shot most of the day, but she stuck a few

closer than I did."

Murphy was one of three Plymouth-Canton Educational Park golfers who advanced to the 16-player match-play portion of the tournament. Canton senior-to-be Kelsey McDougall's 36-hole score of 156 earned her the eighth seed heading into match play.

Recent Plymouth graduate Sarah Thompson was the 10th seed after firing rounds of 76 and 81 in Monday and Tuesday's qualifying rounds.

Two other Observerlandarea golfers - Farmington's Sophie Kollin and Plymouth's Sydney Murphy - did not qualify for match play. Kollin, who carded rounds of 81 and 80, missed making the match-play cut by one shot. Sydney Murphy finished tied for 33rd with rounds of 88 and 84.

Kelsey Murphy, who entered match play as the No. 3



Plymouth-Canton Educational Park golfers (from left) Kelsey McDougall, Kelsey Murphy and Sarah Thompson..

seed, ousted Jordan Duvall, 7-and-6, and Kaitlyn Watkins, 5-and-4 on Wednesday before edging Sarah White, 3-and-2, in Thursday's semifinal match.

played in a while on Wednesday," said Murphy, who recorded seven birdies in 14 holes. "The putts weren't dropping in

"I played the best golf I've

my second match (on Thurs-

McDougall won her first match-play contest, 2-and-1, over Jamie Greene before dropping a 5-and-4 decision to No. 1-seeded Hailey Hrynew-

"I thought I played OK, but I always think I could have played better," said McDougall. "My goal coming into the tournament was to make it to match play because last year I didn't play so well and finished 39th. I was in the top 10 after the stroke play, so I was happy with that.

'Match play is completely different than stroke play. There's a totally different mindset in that you only have to think about beating the person you're playing on each hole. It was intense, but it was fun at the same time.'

Thompson had high expec-

tations given that Forest Akers West is one of her favorite courses, but an early deficit led to a 2-and-1 setback in the first round of match play against Lily Pendy of Grosse Pointe Farms.

'After the first day (when she shot a 76) I felt pretty good," Thompson said. "There were some weather issues the second day (including two lengthy delays) and I didn't play as well as I would have liked. I felt relieved when I found out I made the top 16."

Thompson pulled to within two after 16 holes, but her downhill eight-foot putt on 17, which would have extended the match to the 18th, didn't find the mark.

"I love the course, which if one of the reasons I felt pretty good coming in," she said.

ewright@hometownlife.com

# Farmington's Aaron Howell places fifth at junior nationals

By Dan O'Meara Staff Writer

The USA Track and Field junior national championships were good preparation for Farmington's Aaron Howell as she gets ready to begin her collegiate career.

Howell, who will be a heptathlete at the University of Michigan, placed fifth in the seven-event competition June 19-20 at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

It was just the second heptathlon for Howell, who won the New Balance outdoor national championship last sum-

"I'm excited but also a little scared at the same time," Howell said about moving to the next level. "When I get there, I don't want to feel like I can't compete with anybody.

"Going through this meet was good. I think I've got enough down on my plate, so I can feel more confident going to college. I'm feeling like I'm not a newbie at the sport. I'm feeling more confident in making a way for myself.

Howell was squarely in the middle of the pack after two

events, finishing seventh in the 100-meter hurdles (14.53) and high jump (5-4.5) among the 14 athletes ages 16-19 in the heptathlon.

She followed that with a sixth place in the shot put (35-4) and ended the first day with an 11th-place finish in the 200 dash

"She got a great start with the hurdles," Farmington coach Charles Bridges said. "She was a little off in the 200. Twentysix seconds is not her. I don't know if the heat got to her. She wasn't on top of her game. We talked with her that night.

Thursday morning she was ready to go and had what I thought was a great second day, especially with the first day not going as she had hoped. I thought she bounced back really well and showed great character."

Howell, who was the Division 1 state runner-up in the long jump the last two years. began the second day of competition with fifth place in that event (17-9.5).

Then, she had her best finish of the two-day meet, getting second place in the javelin with a throw of 122 feet even. In the



Aaron Howell placed fifth in the girls heptathlon June 19-20 at the **USA Track & Field junior national** championships.

last event, Howell ran a time of 2:26.54 in the 800 meters and finished sixth.

'Going into the second day, I wasn't too happy with my per-formance," Howell said. "I was really determined. I didn't get a PR in the long jump, but I did better than I have. I was proud of the score I got.

"I just felt really good going into the javelin. That's where most people are their weakest. I moved up a place after the

long jump, and I got two PRs that day (in the last two events), which was pretty nice.

Though it's not a high school event and Howell has had little practice time with the javelin, it has become one of her favorite and best events.

'That's only my second time throwing it," she said. "It's pretty fun. I'll enjoy it a lot in college. It's just my experience prior (that makes her a natural in that event). I've played a lot

"I played softball, which helped. It's pretty much the same thing (throwing motion). It's like playing the outfield, which is what I did in my freshman year."

Coincidentally, Howell scored the same amount of points (5,071) as she did a year ago at the New Balance meet in Greensboro, N.C.

Kendell Williams won the competition with 5,481 points. The other three ahead of Howell were Kendall Gustafson (5,189), Nikki Larch-Miller (5,123) and Ashlee Moore (5,082).

"Most of them are from college," Howell said. "You can tell they've been doing it for a

while. It was tougher but I like having tougher competition. I can push myself a lot harder."

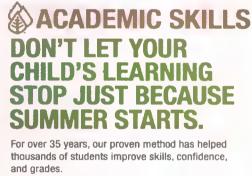
Howell just missed qualifying for the Pan Am Games Aug. 23-25 in Medellin, Colombia. The top four get to go. Howell was 100 points away from the qualifying standard, which she might have hit with a little better first day, according to Bridges.

"All in all, I thought she did very well," he said. "She enjoyed being there and being around the top kids in the country, the professionals and top college kids. Overall, it was a great experience for her.'

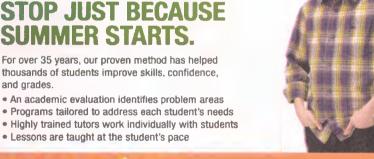
One of the other top athletes was Bettie Wade, another former Farmington High standout and heptathlete who just missed making the U.S. Olympic team last year.

Wade was in Des Moines for the senior nationals at the same time, and Howell had a chance to spend some time with her between their competitions..

She was really nice," Howell said. "She told me to treat it just like a regular track meet and have fun. She said it was nothing to stress about because I've done it all before."



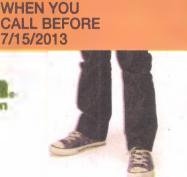
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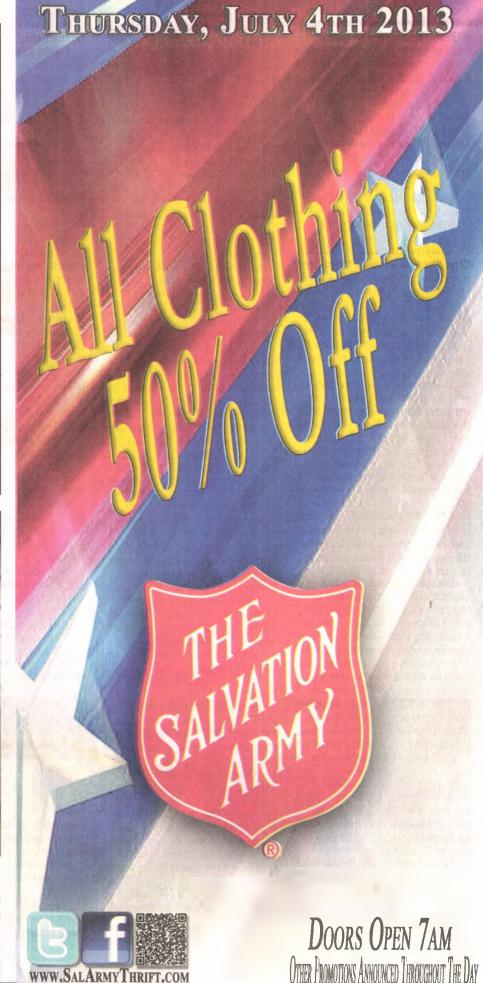
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# All-Observer softball team packed with power

**ALL-AREA FIRST TEAM** Catherine Porter, sr., Canton: The catcher was a key factor in Canton's season, which featured Division 1 district and regional championships.

Porter led the team in batting average (.533) with 12 extra-base hits (.787 slugging percentage) and drove in 20 runs to earn allconference, all-district and allregion honors.

"Catherine is what Canton High School represents," coach Jim Arnold said. "She's a hard worker, she's extremely dedicated to the program and she will be very successful at the next level."

A solid performer behind the plate, she committed just two errors while calling all the pitches for her battery mates.

Porter will play college softball at Trine University.

Brooke Senkbeil, jr., Plymouth: For three seasons, the catcher has been an offensive and defensive spark plug for the Wild-

This season was no different as she batted .480, scored 40 runs, clubbed five home runs and drove in 47 while posting an impressive .998 fielding percentage

"Brooke was our leadoff hitter for the past two years and our quarterback on the field at catcher," coach Bev McManus said. "It takes a special player to be confident enough to start every game as the No. 1 hitter and (be the) one to get thing started.'

Senkbeil earned all-conference and scholar-athlete honors, as well as Plymouth's Unsung Hero

Andria Gietl, sr., Ladywood: The first baseman, who has signed with Northwood University, hit .452 with 14 doubles, 32 RBI and 34 runs scored for the district and regional champion.

Gietl, who batted cleanup, is a three-time all-district, all-region and all-Catholic League selection.

"Andria is a true captain and leader," coach Scott Combs said. "Her hitting prowess protected Celeste (Fidge) and made teams pitch to her. She has had a great career, a state championship and three Final Fours."

Alex Sobczak, soph., Mercy: The third baseman was the leading hitter on a team that set a state record with 51 home runs. Sobczak hit 17 of those dingers and knocked in 52 runs.

Her 57 hits included 13 doubles and three triples and her teambest average was an impressive .613. She also scored 58 runs and had just two strikeouts in 117 plate appearances. Her on-base and slugging percentages were .692 and 1.366, respectively.

"Alex is a once-in-a-lifetime player to be able to coach," coach Brandon Malinowski said. "You can put her pretty much anywhere and she's going to make a difference in the game

"It's going to be great to see what she can do in the next two years, because she already has done so much. I look forward to seeing how far she can take it.

Katlyn McIntosh, jr., Garden City: She was a top-of-the-order spark plug for the Division 1 semifinalist Cougars. Batting in the No. 2 hole, she hit a robust .433 with a .587 on-base percentage. In addition to providing solid glove work at second base, McIntosh scored a team-high 44 runs and knocked in

"Mac is a very versatile player who has developed into one of the premier second baseman in the state," coach Barry Patterson said. "She's one of those players that can do it all. She bunts both right and left, hits for average, hits with power when needed, has great range defensively, a strong and accurate arm, aggressive and smart on the bases and most of all she comes everyday with a smile on her face and just loves playing the game. She is truly a privilege

Nicole Salloum, sr., Chur**chill:** The shortstop, headed to Madonna University, earned Division 1 all-state first-team honors with a .600 batting average, 11 homers and an astounding 77 RBI.

The team's cleanup hitter, Salloum also earned all-district, all-region and all-KLAA honors.

"Nicole hit a ton with an unbelievable amount of RBIs," coach Steve Gentilia said. "She's a great player and does everything right. She did a lot of good things for

Celeste Fidge, sr., Ladywood: The third baseman, bound for the University of Toledo, hit .500 this season with five homers, 18 doubles and 35 RBI for the

Division 2 state semifinalists. Fidge, a three-time first-team all-stater, earned Miss Softball Field Player of the Year honors for

"Celeste is Ladywood's second straight Miss Softball (joining Briana Combs), which has never been done by any school," Comb said. "She is, according to most



**Catherine Porter** 

Katlyn McIntosh

**Garden City** 



**Nicole Salloum** 

Churchill





**Celeste Fidge** 



Ladywood



N. Farmington

Alex Sobczak

Mercy



**Abby Joseph Garden City** 





Sarah Gutknecht

Farmington

**Lindsay Lutton** Plymouth



Haley Lawrence

Ladywood





**Casey Bias** 



**Elaine Gerou** Plymouth

coaches I talked with across the

earned her these well-deserved

accolades and is a tribute to our

Megan Keller, jr., N. Far-

mington: The shortstop makes

her second appearance on the

All-Area first team after hitting

Boston College to play hockey,

had a dozen doubles, six triples

and two home runs, including a

grand slam against Mercy in the

district tournament, among her 48

It's a coach's dream to have a

hits. She had just three strikeouts

in 107 at-bats, stole 10 bases and

kid like her on your team," coach

Dave Brubaker said. "She's just a

es in her game. If she wasn't an

have been heavily recruited for

either softball or basketball."

complete, all-round ballplayer. She

all-world hockey player, she would

Sarah Gutknecht, sr., Far-

mington: Gutknecht completed

an outstanding four-year varsity

career and made the coaches

association's Division 1 all-state

for three seasons and moved to

volleyball player, was the D-1

nominee for the Miss Softball

Award as a position player, and

she has a softball scholarship to

She batted .598 with 58 hits,

which included 14 doubles and 14

strikeouts in 97 at-bats, scored 36

runs and had 44 RBI. Gutknecht

hit .556 in her career with 232 hits

and 134 RBI. Her total hits include

I have ever coached," coach Stefa-

nie Volpe said, adding Gutknecht's

number will be retired. "Her work

something that cannot be taught.

With all those qualities, it's easy to

Haley Lawrence, jr., Lady-

wood: The shortstop, a three-year

Lawrence batted .402 with six

"Haley worked for everything

she is getting now," Combs said.

started for three years and is a

"She made herself a shortstop, has

Abby Joseph, soph., Garden

City: Joseph swung a potent bat

in the heart of the Cougars' bat-

ting order. She recorded a team-

high 42 RBI, while hitting a siz-

zling .400. Garden City's primary

two home runs, six doubles and six

"A year ago as a freshman, we

asked Abby to catch and she was

outstanding," Patterson said.

"This year we asked her to play

third base and the results were

the same. This is just an example

third baseman, Joseph blasted

starter, earned all-state first-team

honors in Division 2 along with

all-district, all-region and all-

Catholic League.

great captain."

triples.

homers and 32 RBI.

"Sarah is by far the best athlete

55 doubles and 24 home runs.

ethic cannot be matched. Her

determination to succeed and

reach her achievable goals is

say she will only achieve great

things at the next level.

home runs. She had just two

third base this year.

Michigan State.

first team. She started at shortstop

Gutknecht, also an All-Area

"There really are no weakness-

Raiders (25-10-1).

scored 28 runs.

can do it all.

.449 and driving in 40 runs for the

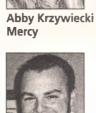
Keller, who has committed to

state, truly one of the most feared

hitters in Michigan. Her hard work



Canton



Brandon Malinowski



**Bev McManus Plymouth** 

of the complete player that Abby has become. I'm confident that she'd be a standout no matter where we played her. Abby is an intimidating force at the plate who hits the ball with great power and consistency. She's a very gifted athlete that plays with great toughness and composure. But the biggest quality she brings to our team is her leadership out

Paige Aresco, jr., Canton: There was virtually nothing Aresco could not do in the field and at the plate this season, getting it done whenever the Chiefs needed a big hit or a defensive play at shortstop.

She contributed in all aspects of the game. Aresco batted .500 out of the leadoff spot in the batting order, scoring 32 runs, and provided power with seven hom-

"Paige is very athletic," Arnold said. "She can play any position."

As proof, Aresco made a smooth transition from third base to shortstop, making just nine errors in 90 chances.

She was named to the allconference and all-district teams.

Lindsay Lutton, jr., Plymouth: One of the key components to Plymouth's KLAA championship team was the all-out play of this shortstop. Lutton got after it for numerous clutch defensive plays and made just seven errors in 96 fielding attempts (.927).

"(Her) range is incredible and the diving play made in the district game against Canton is one that will not be forgotten anytime soon," McManus said.

Lutton also was an offensive force. She batted .464 and compiled a .550 slugging percentage, boosted by her team-leading nine

She was named to the all-KLAA team, was a scholar-athlete and earned the team's Golden Glove

Katelynn Devers, sr., Franklin: The shortstop was a four-year player who earned all-KLAA and all-district honors, batting .472 (58-for-123) with one homer, eight doubles and 15 RBI.

Devers, an academic all-state and all-KLAA honoree, also boasted an on-base percentage of .561. She made 57 putouts with 100 assists (.946 fielding average).

"Katelynn is a speedy lefthanded hitter," coach Linda Jimenez said. "but none of her hits were on bunts, just solid base hits. Her arm is good, but it's her quick release and soft hands that are key to her success. She had the highest batting average on our team and was one of our team

Jacquelyn Murphy, sr., Mercy: A repeat member of the All-Area first team, the center fielder batted .427 with 10 home runs, 10 doubles and 35 RBI. She had 41

total hits and scored 43 runs.

Murphy, who will play at college ball at Loyola (III.) University, was Mercy's primary pitcher for much of the season, too. She was 13-1 with six shutouts and a 1.76 ERA. She led the team in innings pitched (83 3/3) and strikeouts (78).

"Over the four years, I don't think you can find anybody who defines 'team first' more than she does," Malinowski said. "There is so much you can say about her in a non-softball aspect - the way she leads and handles things.

'And then you see what she can do on the field. She's another one who can play anywhere and make a difference. After those things, then you get to her hitting. She hits for power and average. She has a great softball IQ."

Alexa Cherney, fr., N. Farmington: The pitcher had an outstanding rookie season for the Raiders, starting 32 games and compiling a 21-9 record. Cherney posted a dozen shutouts and had five one-run games. She recorded 233 strikeouts and just 37 walks in 182 innings. She faced 756 batters, held the opposition to 134 hits and 44 earned runs and had a 1.69

"She totally blew us away this year as a coaching staff," Brubaker said. "We were extremely thrilled with the way she played like a seasoned veteran. She had never played at the level of competition she got to see this year and I think she handled it extremely well.

'She had poise and command of her pitches. She wasn't afraid to challenge players and she did a great job at fielding the position for a freshman.'

Elaine Gerou, sr., Plymouth: An outstanding four-year career had a winning final chapter as Gerou went 16-2-1 on the mound (1.82 ERA) and helped the offense big-time with a .405 batting average along with a .437 slugging percentage.

She was named to the all-KLAA, all-district and all-region teams, garnered team MVP honors and earned kudos as a scholar-

Gerou's pitching really made a big difference for the Wildcats. In 119 innings, she gave up just 96 hits and walked 25 while striking out 115 batters.

"It has been a treat to have coached Elaine over the past four years," McManus said. "She has touched the lives of many of us with her ability to make others laugh and just go with the flow. Elaine is not only effective in the circle, she is very strong both as an infielder and outfielder."

She will play softball at Concordia University next year.

Hanna Warren, jr., Canton: She proved her immense value to the Chiefs time and time again throughout the 2013 season.

Featuring a varied repertoire and good control, Warren went 15-4 with a 1.74'earned-run average, pitching Canton into the D-1 state quarterfinals. She walked just 22 while striking out 107.

She also was a spark plug for the offense, batting .392 with 11 extra-base hits.

Her efforts were rewarded with selection to the all-KLAA. all-district and all-region teams. She also was honored as an allstate scholar-athlete.

Abby Krzywiecki, fr., Mercy: The pitcher and first baseman had an immediate impact for the Marlins and made a significant contribution. Krzywiecki shared the pitching load with 62 1/3 innings worked. She was 10-1 with a 1.57 ERA; she recorded 37 strikeouts against 11 walks.

She was equally effective with the bat, hitting nine home runs with a .419 average. Krzywiecki counted 13 doubles among her 39 hits, had 33 RBI and scored 27 runs. Malinowski knew the first day of practice she was going to be a good player.

"She didn't disappoint us at all," he said. "It was not only the way she hit the ball, but the way she played the field. Then she pitched.

"You can always tell when watching somebody swing in practice. The first pitch – she just smacked it! From there we knew she was somebody who could help the varsity. She's going to be a

Casey Bias, sr., Churchill: The fourth-year catcher, headed to Ferris State, earned first-team All-Area honors for the second straight year after hitting .426 with six homers and 28 RBI.

The nine-time scholar-athlete was an all-district at-large selec-

"Casey is one of the best defensive catchers you'll see," Gentilia said. "Hardly anybody got a steal attempt off her. She's just a great kid, good student and good athlete.'

Brandon Malinowski, Mercy: Malinowski's first year as head

**CO-COACHES OF YEAR** 

#### **ALL-OBSERVER SOFTBALL TEAM**

FIRST TEAM

C - Catherine Porter, sr., Canton

C - Brooke Senkbeil, jr., Plymouth
INF - Andria Gietl, sr., Ladywood
INF - Alex Sobczak, soph., Mercy
INF - Katlyn McIntosh, jr., Garden City
INF - Nicole Salloum, sr., Churchill
INF - Celeste Fidge, sr., Ladywood
INF - Megan Keller, jr., N. Farmington
INF - Haley Lawrence, jr., Ladywood
INF - Abby loseph, soph., Garden City
INF - Paige Aresco, jr., Canton
INF - Lindsay Lutton, jr., Plymouth
INF - Katelynn Devers, sr., Franklin
OF - Jacquelyn Murphy, sr., Mercy
C - Casey Bias, sr., Churchill
P - Alexa Cherney, fr., N. Farmington
P - Elaine Gerou, sr., Plymouth
P - Hanna Warren, jr., Canton
P/INF - Abby Krzywiecki, fr., Mercy
COACHES OF THE YEAR
Brandon Malinowski, Mercy
Brey McManise, Plymouth FIRST TEAM

Brandon Malinowski, Mercy Bev McManus, Plymouth SECOND TEAM C – Sarah Gallagher, Jr., Farmington
INF – Leah Koulouras, sr., N. Farmington
INF – Meghan Tarrance, sr., Mercy
INF – Bri Giordano, sr., Plymouth
INF – Brittney Miller, soph., Plymouth
INF – Jordan Ewald, Jr., Mercy
INF – Jessica Webster, sr., Canton
INF – Seah Cramton, soph. Franklin INF – Sarah Cramton, soph., Franklin INF – Brooke Kuehn, jr., Huron Valley INF – Kayla Rebain, sr., Plymouth INF – Kayla Rebain, sr., Plymouth
INF – Chandler Davenport, sr., Luth. Wsld.
INF – Erica Selakowski, fr., Ladywood
INF – Nikki Wald., jr., N. Farmington
OF – Julia Cavagnini, jr., Churchill
OF – Jamie Squires, fr., Salern
P – Rozlyn Price, fr., Ladywood
P – Rachel Bommarito, jr., Garden City
P – Morgan Copperstone, sr., Stevenson
P – Julie St. John, soph., Huron Valley
HONORABLE MENTION
tton: Sarah Wagner, Kendyl Richter: Plymou

HONGRABLE MENTION
Canton: Sarah Wagner, Kendyl Richter; Plymouth:
Mikayela Marciniak, Celeste Miller, Rachel Zerona;
Salem: Lexi Epley, Kristi Zink, Gabbi Zott, Marisa
Hunley, Emily Marcero, Maranda Armstead; Farmington: Rachel Walsh; N. Farmington: Jessica
Sherbin, Stephanie Strother, Bre Paholak; Mercy:
Sam Bauer, Elizabeth Carlson, Molly Murphy, Courtney Ayromov, Harrison: Samantha Lalonde, MelisArrisos, Sanden Bland, Hadder, Siegel, Allin Blair. ney Avromov, Harrison: Samantina Laionde, Meiss-sa Krass, Sydnee Bland, Hayley Siegel, Allie Blair, Leah Petrak, Alexa Alagon; Churchill: Jenny Bour-lier, Katie Shereda, Maggie McGowan, Mellanie Richardson; Franklin: Becky Giacobbi, Mackenzie Lukas; Stevenson: Becca Koestering, Kaitlyn Lipin-ski Erica Randall, Allison Koestering, Megan Coliton, Alex Knorp; Ladywood: Christina Meyer, Rachel Hendrickson, Lauren Hayes, M.K. Warner; Wayne: Sharon Carpenter; John Glenn: Danielle Saunders, Brittany McGrath, Alexis Lester, Cassandra Huren; Huron Valley: Jessica Strauch, Dayna Schroeder, Bethany Schroeder; Lutheran Westland: Aldrean-a Eliza Stanpon Albott: Livania Clarancaville: na Fikes, Shannon Abbott; Livonia Clarenceville: Jodi Ankiel, Mikala Kieling, Emily Schwartz; **Garden Chty**: Kaylen Glenfield, Gabby Joseph, Julene Pummill; **Redford Union**: Nicole Cumming, Ashley Hen-

coach was a good one. After three straight runner-up finishes, the Marlins won their first Catholic League championship since 2003 and another district title, too. Mercy finished with a 29-3 record and set a state record with 51 home runs.

"It was a great year," Malinowski said. "We broke the 10year drought in the Catholic League and won some big-time tournaments. We did some great

The Marlins lose three seniors, all of them starters - Jacquelyn Murphy, Meghan Tarrance and Elizabeth Carlson.

'Those three will be tough to replace," Malinowski said. "They started from day one as freshmen and have been in the lineup every game for the last four years.

With everyone else slated to return, the future looks good for the Marlins, according to Malinowski, who will have to be content with being a spectator next year. He has since taken an administrative job in the Catholic League

"It's a dream job and I couldn't pass it up," he said, adding he'll help with scheduling, assigning officials and overseeing different sports. "I'm definitely going to miss the coaching.

"These girls were a great group to coach. There will be a void there, but it'll be fun to watch them from the standpoint of a league administrator."

**Bev McManus, Plymouth:** McManus had a triumphant first season at the Plymouth helm.

After a long tenure as the top assistant coach for former head coach Val Canfield (who left for Oakland University), McManus stepped right in and the Wildcats did not miss a beat, finishing 31-5-1.

Plymouth was ranked No. 7 in Division 1 and captured the KLAA South Division, Kensington Conference and overall association championships – a trifecta never previously reached by the team.

A team batting average of .427 and a team motto of T3 (Trust, Together, Team) sparked the continuous run of victories, stopped only by the eventual regional champion Canton Chiefs in the district.

"These championships show accomplishment, but my true focus this season was more about self accomplishments," McManus said. "As head coach, I taught them the real importance of believing in who they are and what they are capable of. They are in charge of their own destiny both on and off the softball field."

McManus said being named All-Area coach of the year is "a tremendous honor (and) I'm so very thankful for this team and grateful for having the opportunity to coach them."

She also credited the contributions of assistant coach Dave Senkbeil and team managers Allison Raylean and Karen Rebain, who augmented her own efforts to give the Wildcats "the tools necessary to becoming successful."

# Runners triple their pleasure in annual Father's Day run

By Ed Wright Staff Writer

While many fathers were enjoying breakfast in bed June 16, East Lansing resident Josh McAlary was gobbling up the competition in the Plymouth YMCA Father's Day Run's marquee event.

Day Run's marquee event.
The 23-year-old McAlary
won the event's challenging
"Triple," which requires runners to complete one-mile, 5K
and 10K runs in one grueling
morning.

McAlary's combined time of 53 minutes, 4 seconds bested runner-up Matt Fecht of Warren by a healthy 45 seconds

East Lansing's Rachel McFarlane won the tightlycontested women's "Triple" title when she outdistanced Fenton's Lisa Veneziano by 3:08. Kylen Cieslak placed third.

John Graham won the

master "Triple" crown when he edged second-place Joel Kozlowski by less than two minutes.

The 48-year-old Veneziano was the women's masters "Triple" champion.

Derek Gielarowski and Liam Cardenas, both of whom starred in cross country at Plymouth High School, placed fourth and ninth, respectively, in the "Triple." More than 2,200 runners

between the ages of 5 and 80 competed in the annual event that features a shady, picturesque course that runs through the streets of Plymouth.

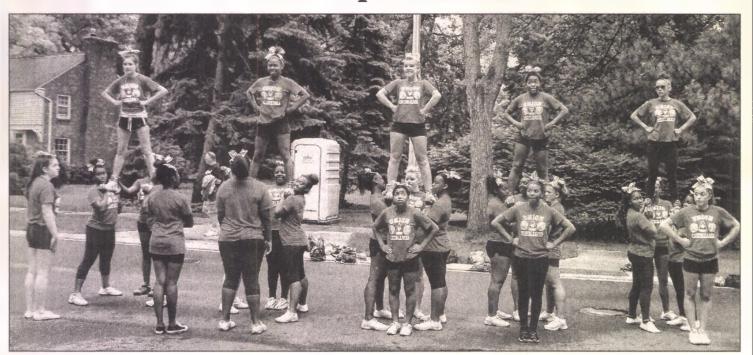
The highlight of the race for many competitors is crossing the finish line with a parent or child.

The final 100 yards of the course is routinely lined with cheering well-wishers, who provide a surge of adrenaline for fatigued runners.



The father-daughter duo of Al and Lindsey Johnson near the finish line of the 34th annual Plymouth YMCA Father's Day Run 5K. ANDY RUBENSTEIN. M.D.

## 'Cheer'ful performance



The Redford Union cheerleading team performed at the fifth annual Run for the Ribbon 5K Run/Walk at the Detroit Zoo on June 16. Over 1,600 participants received encouragement from the cheerleaders during the final leg of the event.

### COACH

Continued from Page B1

wrong."

Moody, who was a threesport athlete at Clarenceville, relied on her sports background to help her get through numerous months

and rounds of chemotherapy.

"I think it had a lot to do
with it because of my determination to just keep going
and trying to win the game
made me think of it as a cancer perspective – to keep
going and not let it get to me
mentally, to keep exercising
and keep walking around, and
not letting it get to my head,"
Moody said.

#### **Hail to Victors**

After transferring from Beaumont to the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor to begin treatment, Moody is grateful and happy to report that she's been in remission since Sept. 12, 2012.

"They (U-M) had a specialist that specialized in leukemia rather than at Beaumont that didn't have one doctor that specialized in what I had," Moody said. "The doctor that I have now (Dr. Dale Bixby) has seen rare cases like mine, and has cured them.

"It's a rare type. With APL, two chromosomes usually mutate and switch with each other, but only one of mine mutated. It was just gone and that's what made it even more rare because there was only one of them. I'm the first one in my family to get it. I can't pass it down to my children. It's not genetic, but it just kind of came out of nowhere.

"It's fast moving in your bone marrow, but it can kill you quicker than like a chronic leukemia. They said I probably had it three to four weeks prior than when I went into the hospital."

Moody said there are only five other known cases of her form of leukemia in the country, so there were many complications at the start.

"Right when I got transferred, I was getting worse," Moody said. "I started getting



In remission from leukemia, Clarenceville girls soccer coach Amanda Moody is getting stronger every day.

102-degree fevers. I had pneumonia in my lungs, my blood count were dropping and the leukemia was spreading so fast that it was getting into my eyes."

#### Difficulty seeing

Moody's vision even became blurred.

"I could only see outlines of people and objects, I couldn't tell who a person was or see the TV or my phone," she recalled. "At this point it was getting scary. I knew that if more treatments weren't going to happen soon, my body was shutting down. It was my birthday, turning 22 and starting chemo. Not the best birthday present, but I was ready to live to my 23rd."

Moody could barely walk, see or move. And the day after her 22nd birthday she noticed her hair was falling

"That was probably more difficult than chemo," she said. "Getting my identity taken away from me was one of the hardest things to watch or go through."

But Moody had a strong support system starting with her mother, Laura, along with her father, Jim, and brother Jimmy, who got a tattoo in her honor. They formed an

even stronger bond.

Laura even took a leave of absence from her job as an pharmacy technician at CVS.

"She was there all day, all night, 40 days straight in the hospital," Amanda said. "She never left my side. She helped me through the night, through the days. She's considered my hero throughout it."

#### Stay the course

Moody, an assistant volleyball coach at Clarenceville, took the fall off from coaching, but continued to take two classes at Eastern Michigan University where she is majoring in early childhood education.

And she made her daily visits to U-M, Monday through Friday, receiving an additional 10 weeks of chemotherapy

"It got better," Moody said.
"There were days when I wanted to have my moment and flip out, but I didn't. I had to stay focused and know that the chemo was helping me at the same time, so I just had to chuck through it."

After the initial shock of being diagnosed with leukemia, Laura Moody could only step back and admire her daughter's intestinal forti-

"Her attitude was incredible," Laura Moody said. "She refused to let herself get down. She refused to even go that way. I can say she was my inspiration in there. She had the best outlook from Day One on this. She's very strong-willed, very determined. With this she just took it head-on and just said, 'What are we going to do? Let's get going so I can get

out of here."
Moody eventually returned to the bench in January, serving as Clarenceville's assistant girls basketball coach. She also began her first semester of student teaching. Her last chemotherapy treatment was March 7, although she'll be on prescription drugs for another year.

#### Ridding itself

But no more orange Kool-Aid.

"I knew that poison would never run through my body ever again," Amanda said. "I take 112 chemo pills a month until next April. I'll do that

any day over chemo."
In February, Moody was back with her varsity girls soccer team for conditioning at Clarenceville. On May 5, the Trojans played Dearborn Heights Crestwood in a match to help promote cancer awareness.

"They (the team) would text me, send gifts to me in the hospital," she said. "They wore ribbons in their hair for me and wore different things for their jerseys like the soccer orange game that they had. We wore orange for leukemia."

Moody said Clarenceville may be a small school district, but it has a huge heart. The outpouring of prayers, cards and visits from friends and family made quite an impact

"It's very overwhelming because they were there emotionally and physically," she said. "They supported me throughout the whole thing. (Athletic director) Kevin Murphy was there every step of the way, organizing things, sending out letters for me. They were all there for me."

On Tuesday, Moody visited her doctor from a three-month check-up and all signs are pointing in the right direction.

"She is getting there,"
Laura Moody said. "She's
more tired than she wants to
be, but the doctor tells her it
can still take her a few more
months. She had a lot of chemo. She hates feeling tired
and feels like she's being lazy.
But she's definitely on her
way. I've seen more energy in
her these last couple of
months than I've seen in a
long time."

Amanda also believes she has turned the corner.

"I feel like I'm getting there now," she said. "I'm slowly, but surely getting there. By the end of the summer I'll fee more like myself."

But one question remains.

What about the hair?
"I'm going to keep growing it down to my butt,"
Amanda declared.

bemons@hometownlife.com 313-222-6851

### **SKATEBOARD**

Continued from Page B1

Nick Bullard, who picked up the sport six years ago after his dad – a former skateboarder – bought him a board for his birthday

day.

"I work a lot, but I try to get up here as much as I can," Bullard said. "I like to do back-side flips and front-side spins. Sometimes there are people up here with cameras and they put us on videos."

Bullard said he and his fellow boarders often have to share the concrete with kids with similar, yet different, interests.

"They let anything with wheels on this, so you'll see kids riding BMX bikes and scooters," he said. "They're usually smaller kids, so it's not too bad. There are other parks around where the kids don't respect the skateboarders, but not here."

Dearborn Heights resident Patrick O'Leary made sure he packed his skateboard during his recent cross country move to Michigan from San Francisco.

"Skateboarding is bigger in California; you'll see huge, million-dollar parks out there," he said. "The parks are smaller here and not as many people are into it, but I like that it's more localized. Skateboarders here are dedicated to local shops, which I like. It's bigger out there, but that doesn't mean it's more fun."

#### **Band-aids needed**

The activity comes with builtin hazards, especially for the daring teens who are trying to sharpen their moves at an accelerated rate.

O'Leary learned about the risks first-hand when he took a bone-jarring tumble a few weeks ago.

"I'm still waiting for my eyebrow to grow back together and there's a small hole in my forehead from a fall I took," he said. "We super-glued the cut shut and I was back out here the next day. There's still some blood over there on the quarter pipe from my fall."

One of the hobby's primary appeals is its low cost. Most skate parks are free of charge, which leaves only the purchase of a basic skateboard (and possibly some super glue) between a potential boarder and the half-nipes

"My actual board was about \$50, my trucks were \$50, the wheels are about \$50 and the bearings are \$10 a piece, so I've put about \$150 to \$200 into it," Westland resident Derek Carpenter said. "I can usually get a few months at least out of the board, but my bearings are bust-

ing constantly.

"When you add up all the fun you get out of it, buying the parts is totally worth it."

ewright@hometownlife.com



Westland resident Derek Carpenter reaches the top of the quarter-pipe at the Garden City skate park Wednesday afternoon. ED WRIGHT



Mike Cavanaugh grabs his board after scaling the quarter-pipe at the Garden City skate park. ED WRIGHT

# COMMUNITY LIFE

**ECCENTRIC MEDIA** 

# Teacher marks Civil War battle by recalling two Livonia brothers



The Grand Army of the Republic is similar to the veterans groups of today. It placed a special marker at the Ryder brothers' graves.

**By Sharon Dargay** Staff Writer

Tim Gabel can't help but think about John and Alfred Ryder whenever he drives past Newburgh Cemetery.

During the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, July 1-3, he hopes others will,

"I think that people in Livonia should know that this important national historical milestone is part of our history as well," said Gabel, a Ply-mouth resident who teaches social studies at Livonia Stevenson High School. "Union soldiers from Livonia were in the thick of the action, but no story is more compelling than the Ryder brothers."

John Ryder was 20 years old and an infantryman in the 24th Michigan when he was killed in action July 1, 1863 at Gettysburg. His brother, just two years older and a corporal in the cavalry, was wounded in action July 3 and died from his wounds three weeks later.

They initially were buried in a German Lutheran graveyard, but then were sent north.

"Their father arranged to have their bodies shipped home and they left Gettysburg for Livonia on the same day Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address," Gabel said. "It was expensive to do that. Most families just did a historical marker. John had a good friend, Forest Brown. who was killed at Chancellorsville. His grave is known to no one. He is buried in Virginia, but there is a marker in Newburgh Cemetery.'

Gabel became interested in the brothers two years ago. after discovering that Civil



Livonia Stevenson teacher Tim Gabel has researched the Ryder brothers, who fought at Gettysburg during the Civil War. This is their family plot. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

War soldiers from the 24th Michigan regiment were buried at Newburgh Cemetery.

"I stopped in there and

that's what got me going. There is a good-sized family

There is a monument to the

Ryder brothers," he said, referring to a special marker placed at the site long ago by the Grand Army of the Republic, a fraternal organization for veterans of the Civil War.

See TEACHER, Page B8



# Summer: A good time to take stock, vacation

ith temperatures rising into the 80s the past week, there's no mistaking what season it is. Summer has arrived.

Psychologically, most of us equate summer's beginning with Memorial Day weekend, even though it officially starts

June 21. For most, this season is synonymous with vacation time, being out of school, having a break from work and an abundance of neighborhood garage sales.



Len

McCulloch

#### Too much work

In Greek mythology, the character Sisyphus was portrayed as having been condemned for eternity to work. His job was to push a large, heavy ball of clay up a steep

hill. No matter how close he came to the top, he would always backslide and have to start over again, forever.

The problem for poor Sisyphus and ourselves is that this excessive work and pressure to produce cause stress. And stress kills. One antidote to stress is to give oneself a break from it. For many this takes the form of vacationing. By destressing, we build our resiliency and adaptive self-care. This starts and fosters positive attitudes and is the foundation for embellishment of other helpful ways of thinking about ourselves, our work lives and our down time.

#### **Travel anxiety**

For some people, down time will include traveling. Unfortunately, traveling can be an anxious and worrisome event for some people, whether by air, land or sea. While there may be deep-rooted factors that account for such anxiety, there is also a more current and conscious concern about foul weather. We have had much news lately of devas-

tation from tornadoes, floods, hurricanes and the like. We have been inundated with news portrayal of horrific tornadoes in states designated as "Tornado Alley" to our southwest. In late May, tornadoes in nearby Fenton were simply "too close for comfort and too close to home!"

#### **Preparedness**

Some practical ways to deal with stress associated with travel can be to arm oneself with tools (emotionally) to take with us on our trips. A good source of anxiety reduction techniques can be found in the inexpensive paperback book Feel the Fear and Do it Anyway by Susan Jeffers. This provides readers with steps to take to manage anxiety and face one's fears.

Another resource to increase one's preparedness for untoward events while vacationing is, in fact, the American Red Cross. Whether we are vacationing away from home or staying put for rest and relaxation, it is important to have a realistic awareness



Kits and other preparedness items are available from the American Red Cross store. COURTESY OF THE

of danger from our environment. We can keep informed without becoming obsessed with the forecasts and the occurrence of storms and potential dangers and hazards. With increased awareness one can "keep a weathered eye out."

The website for the Red Cross is www.redcross.org. Scrolling to its store, one finds a wealth of resources such as preparedness kits, emergency suggestions and supplies. Its very thorough list also gives one ideas about common household items with which to

make a personal "home bag" or "go bag." The "go bag" can accompany you regardless of your mode of travel and is often best kept in your automobile. Just as we can supply ourselves with emotional and psychological tools for our travel attitudes and stress reduction, we also can provide ourselves with appropriate and reasonable physical items which aid our preparedness and offer an increased sense of security. This can only lead to greater enjoyment of our much needed time to "get away from it all." Happy summer to all from "Our Mental Health.

Columns are archived at www.farmlib.org/heritagecollection/newspapers.html.

Leonard J. McCulloch has written 150 published articles. He is a diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association and is credentialed in mental health, brain injury, addictions, traumatic stress and social work. He is a member of the American Red Cross, Mental Health Disaster Team. He can be reached for consultation at 248-474-2763, Ext. 22.

# Salvation Army thrift stores open July 4

The Salvation Army Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center family thrift stores will celebrate Independence Day with an annual Fourth of July sale. All 34 metro Detroit thrift stores will keep their doors open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday, July 4.

In addition to saving 50 percent on clothing, shoppers will have opportunities to pick up deals on accessories, home goods and other items during bonus sales announced each hour.

"America is the land

of the free and the home of the brave," said Merle Miller, administrator of The Salvation Army Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center. "The Fourth of July sale is our way of celebrating the community that makes America great, and by shopping at The Salvation Army you're helping the brave men and women facing their addictions at our

rehabilitation centers." Proceeds benefit The Salvation Army Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center, an independently funded,

180-day residential rehabilitation program for adults.

The Adult Rehabilitation Center is an integral part of The Salvation Army's mission and offers substance-abusing adults the opportunity to rebuild their lives through a voluntary, short-term residential self-help program. It draws its entire operating budget from the revenue of the 34 Salvation Army Thrift Stores. For more information, visit www.salarmythrift-.com or call 313-965-7760.

#### 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 BellevilleMi1973.40@comcast.net or call Laura (Kingsley) Delsh at 734-485-2744 or Sterling at 734-265-6132

#### **DETROIT CENTRAL CLASS OF 1953**

The class will celebrate its 60th reunion at 6 p.m. Sunday, July 21, at Glen Oaks Country Club, 13 Mile at Orchard Lake Road,

in Farmington Hills. For more information call Bernice Nedelman Betman at 248-737-5773 or Marcia Sussman King at 248-661-3422.

#### **DETROIT CODY CLASS OF 1963**

The 50th reunion is set for Friday, Aug. 16, at Joy Manor, 28999 Joy, Westland. Tickets \$40. Contact Jerry Marszalek at 313-532-0134, Jmarsares@sbcglobal.net, or Phil Varilone at 313-562-3579. Pvarilone@wowway.com

#### **CLASSES FROM '50S AND '60S**

Annual picnic, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 18, at Edward Hines Park, Nankin Mills Pavilion, at Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive, will include music, memorabilia, door prizes, hot dogs, chips, bottled water, baseball hats, T-shirts, tassels Special parking will be available for classic cars along with regular parking. Bring chairs. No need to register, just show up. Questions? Call Phil Varilone at 313-562-3579, pvari-Ione@wowway.com or Jerry Marszalek at (313) 532-0134, jmarsares@sbcglobal.net.

#### **CLASSES FROM THE 1970S**

Anyone who attended school at Cody during the '70s may bring photos or yearbooks, noon-dark, July 20 at Nankin Mills in Hines Park, Westland. Bring own food or drink. Information at https://www.facebook.com/ groups/493604553984247/

#### **DETROIT GESU CATHOLIC SCHOOL CLASS OF 1956**

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



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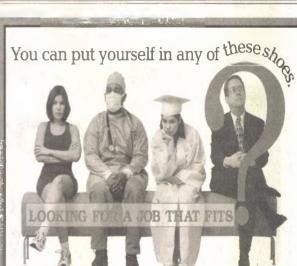
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# Keep pets safe in the summer heat, during holiday

**By Sharon Dargay** Staff Writer

I know exactly where my two dogs will be July 4 while I'm out watching



display And that's where the Michigan

Humane Society suggests pets should be when pyrotech-

nics light up the sky. MHS suggests that dog owners resist the urge to take their fourpawed friends to fireworks displays and points out that "even those who are normally unflappable may be frightened by sudden,

loud noises and may run off."

Dragging your dog to a fireworks display, near fire crackers or sparklers is an accident waiting to happen. I've watched owners pull their dogs, tails between legs — and, in one case, limping — through crowded fireworks viewing areas. I've seen family dogs share a backyard where kids waved and tossed sparklers. I know if my dogs weren't leashed during evening walks, they'd bolt at the first sound of fire crackers that seem to go off every other day during the summer months.

For your pet's sake, take the advice from MHS to heart this Fourth

» Keep pets inside and secure. Frightened animals may jump tall fences, bolt out gates or run through screens during fireworks displays in order to "escape."

» If you know your pet is afraid of loud noises, confine him in a safe, quiet room with his favorite toy and comfortable bedding.

» If your dog shows signs of distress, give him a peanut butterstuffed toy to help distract him and calm his nerves. Playing soft music may also help relieve the animal's stress.

» Make sure your pets are microchipped and wear up-to-date tags.



Dogs love to cool off in the water on hot summer days, but make sure they are supervised.

MHS also offers advice on keeping pets healthy on hot summer days. It suggests keeping dogs home on hot days if a car ride might include some time locked inside the vehicle while it's

parked.

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

The organization says that "even on a relatively mild 85-degree day, parked in the shade with the windows cracked, the temperature inside a car could reach 102 degrees

in just 10 minutes."

If you see an animal that appears distressed inside a parked car, or kept outside without adequate food, water or shelter, call police or animal control. You'll likely save the animal's

At home, MHS suggests that animals go inside during hot or humid weather. Make sure they have access to fresh, cool water and if you open windows in your home, make sure screens are secure. Never leave pets unattended around pools and avoid walking dogs during the heat of the day.

For more, visit www.michiganhumane-

## **Saluting Suite Dreams**



Michelle Dillon (left) of Plymouth and Sandy Nida of Rochester Hills wear their best chapeaus at Suite Dreams Project's popular Hats Off Luncheon, held at Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester Hills. Suite Dreams has brightened the homes and bedrooms of sick children and area hospitals for

#### Send material for the Garden & Nature Calendar to Sharon Dargay, sdargay@hometown-

Flower show The Livonia Garden Club presents "Spellbound," a small standard flower show, 3-5 p.m. July 19 and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. July 20 at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 3277 Five Mile, Livonia. The show will include numerous displays of design and horticulture. All exhibits are provided by members of the Livonia Garden Club. There is no admission charge

#### **English Gardens**

» Garden experts will share their list of best garden perennials and will provide tips on selecting plants and caring for them throughout the season, during "Perennial Gardening 101," a free presentation at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 26 and 10 a.m. Saturday, June 29. » Learn to keep critters at bay

in the garden, at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 6. » Get tips on selection and care of hydrangeas at a free presen-

tation, 7 p.m. Wednesday, July

17 and 10 a.m. Saturday, July

Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, 734-332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, 313-278-4433; 4901

Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, 248-280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield: 248-851-7506

#### In the moonlight

Listen for nocturnal animals. observe the night sky, and heighten vour senses during a Full Moon Friday Night Hike in Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road, between 10 and 11 Mile Roads, Farmington Hills. The hikes are from 9:30-10:30 p.m. July 19 and 9-10 p.m. Aug. 23. Hikes are designed for families and children, 5 and up. No flashlights are needed. Hikes will meet at the Nature Center in the park. Cost is \$3 per person. Pre-register for the hike at recreg.fhgov.com. You also can pay at the event, however space is limited. In case of inclement weather, the hike will be canceled and refunds given. The Nature Center also will offer a campfire from 7-9 p.m. Fridays through Aug. 23. Marshmallows, s'mores and beverages will be sold. Call the Nature Center at 248-477-1135.

#### Kids and nature

Free summer nature programs are designed for kids of all ages through Aug. 23 at Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road, in Farmington Hills. Programs include a nature movie, 2 p.m

Monday; story and a craft, 2 p.m. Tuesday; a scavenger hunt, 2 p.m. Wednesday; nature hike,

2 p.m. Thursday; and family campfire, 7-9 p.m. Friday.

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Continued from Page B5

"What fascinates me is that at one time, these guys would have been prominent in Livonia."

#### **Personal letters**

Gabel spent the next seven months researching the pair — with a focus on John Ryder — and then penned a novel, Borne A Thousand Times. It became available as an ebook at barnesandnoble.com earlier this year.

He read all of John's letters and skimmed Alfred's journal, items available from the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michi-

Then he matched
John's letters to incidents
described in Orson Blair
Curtis' book History of
the Twenty-fourth Michigan of the Iron Brigade,
known as the Detroit and
Wayne County regiment,
written in the late 1800s.

Gabel describes the older brother as "more thoughtful" and philosophical in his writings.

Alfred attended the State Normal School (now Eastern Michigan University) in Ypsilanti before quitting in 1861 to join the cavalry.

He was captured at Second Bull Run in August 1862, but like many prisoners at the time, was paroled and allowed to return home.

"Initially in the war, they would take prisoners after battle, but no one wanted to hold prisoners," Gabel said.

"They'd let the guys go and then the leadership would sit down and say, here are 5,000 you captured, here are 5,000 we captured and they would be exchanged like swapping baseball cards."

Alfred returned to the cavalry and served mostly in the Washington, D.C., area. As an infantryman, John saw more battles and offered more "nitty gritty" details in his letters.



The original memorial stone for Forest C. Brown is badly deteriorated. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Rueben Farwell, though wounded, survived the Civil War. In hospital, Farwell met the poet Walt Whitman, serving as a nurse. Whitman later wrote a letter to the U.S. government, helping to secure a pension for Farwell.

"They slept in the open and the food was terrible. They got child-hood diseases that city people would be immune to and the hospitals were terrible," Gabel said.

#### **Chance meeting**

Although the brothers hadn't seen each other in two years, they both ended up at one of the most important battles of the Civil War.

"In June 1863, Robert E. Lee could see he was running out of guys and he wanted to do something dramatic," Gabel said. "He took the fight to (the Union) and invaded the North. It was the biggest battle fought in

North America — 150,000 men (were involved).
Robert E. Lee was like a gambler who put his chips on the table and lost. From there, it was downhill."

John spotted his brother as Alfred's cavalry brigade rode by the 24th Michigan.

He secured a pass to visit the cavalry's encampment, where the brothers sat by the campfire and reminisced about home for the last time.

A few days later, John was killed in action and his brother was mortally wounded.

Gabel said writing about John Ryder was recreational, but also "felt voyeuristic" after reading his letters.

reading his letters.

He'd be thrilled if
Livonia officials named
something in the city
after the brothers or if
motorists driving by
Newburgh Cemetery
simply paused to think
about the pair.

"These are a couple of young men that are part of the historical heritage of our community," he said.

"They should not be forgotten."

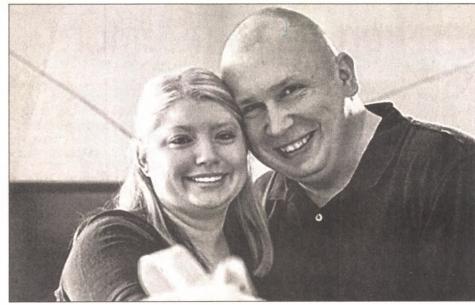
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#### **ENGAGEMENTS**



Sitler-Bierkamp

#### Sitler-Bierkamp

Amanda Sitler and David Bierkamp announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Thomas and Marisa Sitler of Livonia

and Donald and Cynthia Castelli of White Lake, is a graduate of Oakland University. She received a degree in general management with a minor in human resources management.

Her fiance is son of

the late David Bierkamp and the late Debera Stevens. He attends Schoolcraft College and plans a career in nurs-

A July 2013 wedding is planned in Las Vegas,



Jack Wilson and Jackie Madgy with Vista Wilson, Jack's German shepherd.

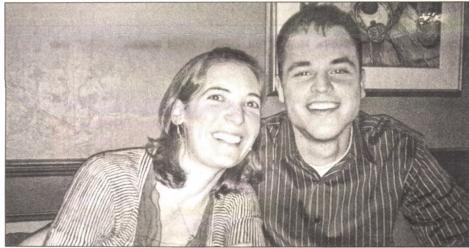
#### **Madgy-Wilson**

Vista Wilson announces the engagement of her dad, Jack Wilson of Plymouth, to Jackie

Madgy of Farmington

Madgy is a teacher at a charter school in Detroit. Wilson is an automotive account manager.

Vista, Wilson's German shepherd dog, has been busy spreading the word around town that an August 2013 wedding is planned.



Heller-Reynolds

#### **Heller-Reynolds**

Lauren Heller and Thomas Reynolds announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Steve and Joan Heller of Lorton, Va., holds bachelor of music and master of music degrees in music education from the University of Delaware and a doctor of music arts de-

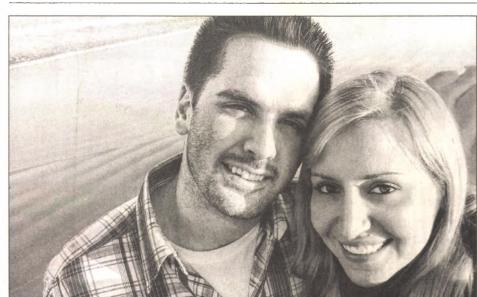
gree in wind conducting from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music. She currently is director of bands at Central Connect-

icut State University. Her fiance, son of Brad and Mary Reynolds of Farmington Hills, earned a bachelor of music degree in music education/bassoon perfor-

mance from the Univer-

sity of Michigan and a master of music degree in bassoon performance from University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music. He currently is a petty officer first class in the United States Coast Guard Band as co-principal bassoon-

An October 2013 wedding is planned in Alexandria, Va.



Misiolek-Tertin

#### **Misiolek-Tertin**

Autumn Marie Misiolek and William Edward Tertin announce their engage-

The bride-to-be, daughter of Paul and Tammy Misiolek of Livonia, is a graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and the University of Detroit Mercy, where she earned a bachelor of arts degree. She holds a juris doctor degree from Western New England University School of Law

in Massachusetts. She is a July 2013 New Hampshire State Bar candidate.

Her fiance, son of David and Diane Tertin of Browntown, Wisc., is a graduate of Black Hawk High School in Wisconsin and Winona State University in Minnesota, where he earned a bachelor of science degree. He is a composite materials engineer at Albany Engineered Composites in New Hampshire.

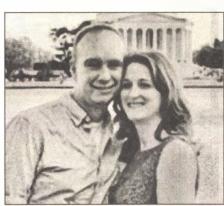
A September 2013 wedding is planned

in Hamtramck.

#### **Sullivan-Bieligk**

Beverly J. Sullivan of Canton, along with David J. Sullivan of St. Clair Shores, Cindy M. Hollingsworth of Springfield, Va., and Louis H. Bieligk, III of Woodbine, Md., happily announce the engagement of their children, Lindsey E. Sullivan and Jeremy A. Bieligk.

The bride-to-be, a graduate of the University of Michigan, School of Dentistry, is employed by Aesthetic Dentistry of Lorton as a dental hygienist. Her fiance is a graduate of Virginia Tech University with a computer science degree and is employed as a property account manager with New Year Tech, Inc. of Virginia.



Sullivan-Bieligk

A June 2014 wedding is planned on Mackinac Island.

View Online www.hometownlife.com

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#### AGINIAN, VIRGINIA

Age 94, a resident of Birming-ham, MI, passed away on Satur-day, June 22nd with her family by her side. Beloved wife of the late Hrant. Loving mother of Richard (Diane) Aginian, Robert (Jeaanette) Aginian and Michael Aginian. Cherished grandmother of Dawn Aginian, Marla (Eric) Whaley, Julie Aginian, Andrew and Alex Aginian and great-grandmother of Raffi Simon Whaley and Aren Rees Whaley. Also loved and will be missed by nieces, nephews, cousins and Funeral services were friends held Friday, June 28th at St John Armenian Church, Southfield. Interment followed at Woodlawn Cemetery, Detroit. Family requested memorial gifts in her memory be made to St John Armenian Church, 22001 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, MI

Arrangements entrusted to the Edward Korkoian Funeral Home Spiller Spitler Chapel, Royal Oak, 248-541-8325 To send a loving message, please to Virginia's obituary at

www.ekfh.net Edward Korkojan funeral Home, Inc.



GILL, HARRIET KIESLING Age 86 died June 13, 2013. Born August 26, 1926 to Earl W. and Hester Allen Carrier in Chicago, IL, attended school in Decatur, IL and Monticello College, Alton, IL, received her BS from the University of Illinois in 1948, where she was a member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority and elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She received her MA degree from the University of Michigan in 1967, was a math teacher for 25 years in Ann Arbor Schools, retiring in 1986. In 1964 she married Robert Kiesling, who died in 1998. In February 1999, she married Donald Gill. She leaves her hus-1999, she married band, Don, and son, Erik (Nicky) Smythe of Thousand Oaks, CA, a daughter, Sunny Dian Cordell Principati (Michael) of Ukiah, CA, two grandchildren, Jennifer Smythe and Aric Cordell, a brother, Fred (Marry) Carrier of Winter Haven, FL, and a sister, Emily (Larry) Hamilton of Spring Hill, FL. She was a mem-ber of the Mary Martha Circle at West Side United Methodist Church until transferring membership to Dixboro United Methodist Church, where she and Don did volunteer work for the Dixboro Senior Exercise Class. She will be remembered for her love of her family and friends, the joy of living, dedication to teaching, hospital volunteer teaching, hospital volunteer work, and creating many yarn bead necklaces for friends and relatives. There will be no visitation. A Memorial Service will be held at Doxboro United Methodist Church, 5221 Church Road, near Plymouth Road, east of U S 23 on Saturday, July 13, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. Kathy Freeman officiating. Please wear bright colors, no black, as this will be a celebration of Harriet's life. Entombment has taken place in the Hope Alcove of the Washtenong Memorial Park and Mausoleum. In lieu of flowers donations may be offered to Dixboro United Methodist Church, Please visit http://www. muehligannarbor.com/ to leave

the family your condolences. Muehlig Funeral Chapel

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KELEL, ANITA ELIZABETH (NEE SHERRON) Age 92, of Farmington Hills, MI. Wife of MG Naiff H. Kelel (deceased), mother of Kathie Kelel Brown, James Kelel and Robert Kelel (Cynthia). Grandmother of Tanya, Jerry, Jeni, Jason, Jim, John, Ross, Katie and Kim and great grandmother of Matthew, Alex, Jesse, Gunner, Jacob, Cameron, Kirsten and Skyler. Other surviving family

members are sisters Patricia Ringswald, Louisville, KY, Rose

Strickland (George), Jefferson-

ville, IN and Joan Hofman (Emil), South Bend, IN. Called Sharon by family and friends, she was born in McQuady, Kentucky on the family farm, attended high school at Mount St. Joseph Academy for Girls in Owensboro, KY and graduated as a Registered Nurse from St. Joseph Infirmary in Louisville, KY. She joined the Army Nurse Corp in 1944 and was stationed at Fort Benjamin in Harrison, IN and Crile General Hospital in Cleveland, OH. As a First Lieutenant, she served in the Pacific Theatre in the Philippines as Chief Nurse of the 2nd Field Hospital and was transferred with the hospital and the occupation forces to Japan after the war. While in Japan, she served at the 2nd Field Hospital in Hiro, 365 Station Hospital in Kyoto, 165th Station Hospital in Kobi and the 42nd General Hospital in Tokyo. She was released from active duty in November 1946. Sharon and Naiff married at Ft. Sheridan, IL on November 23, 1946 and through the next 63 years continued to enjoy traveling to many countries around the world. She enjoyed her summer cottage at the Old Club on Harsen's Island for 25 years, and was a member of the Detroit Yacht Club, Detroit Athletic Club, Bloomfield Hills Country Club and the Beaumont Hospital Foundation. When spending winters in Fort Lauderdale, FL, she was a member of the Coral Ridge Yacht Club, Oak Tree Country Club, Gold Coast Jazz Society and a life member of the Ft. Lauderdale Philharmonic Society. Sharon was President of Sherron Enterprises and AEK, Inc., Past President of the Michigan Reserve Officers Association (Ladies), Director of the Association Pacemakers Michigan, a member of the Presidents Club at Oakland University and a Gilder of Meadowbrook Hall, Rochester, MI. She enjoyed gardening, golf, bowling and reading. Funeral Mass was held Thursday 10:00am at Our Lady

of Sorrows, Farmington Hills. View obituary and share memories at: Desmond FuneralHome.com



MICKLASH, LULA L.

Age 72, of Farmington Hills, died Tuesday, June 25th. Be-loved mother of the late Richard Bowers (d. 1997), Robbin Micklash, Renee (Mark) Storms and Rodger "Char" (Bonnie) Micklash: loving sister of Barbara Linley; devoted grandmother of Melanie, Christina, Ammie, Renee, the late Gary, Doug, Blake, Jenny, Erika, Justin, Joey Cassie, Charles and Destiny; and cherished "GGma" to 27 great grandkids and 3 granddogs. Additionally, Lula was preceded in death by siblings, Sonny, Mary, Larry and Bob. Funeral services were Friday, June 28th, 11:30 am, at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Burial at Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia, followed. Memorial gifts suggested for the use of the family. heeney-sundquist.com HEENEY-SUNDOUIST

#### MOLNAR, **FAY IRENE**

June 25, 2013, Age: 90 Beloved wife of the late Ernest. Loving mother of Sandra (Terry) Ciesielski, Carol Crisler and William (Clarice). Also survived by 10 grandchildren, 12 greatgrandchildren and one greatgreat-grandchild. Resting at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, 7707 Middlebelt Rd. (S of Ann Arbor Trail), Monday 4-9 p.m. Instate Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. at Peace Lutheran Church, 9415 Merriman Rd. (N of Joy Rd), until time of service at 10:30 a.m.

Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com

#### GKIFF L.J. GRIFFIN FUNERAL HOME, INC.



NEIDING, RICHARD CRAIG

Age 49, of Vermilion, died Tues-day, February 19, 2013 at Mercy Regional Medical Center, Lorain after a sudden illness. He was born May 19, 1963 in Royal Oak, MI and had been a Vermilion resident for the past 13 years moving from Traverse City, MI. Craig graduated from Wylie E Groves High School, Birmingham, MI and attended Oakland County Community College for culinary training. He worked as a gourmet chef at Ric's in West Bloomfield, MI for eight years and several other restaurants in Michigan, the Florida Keys, and Little Palm Island. He is survived by his mother, Gretchen (nee Kishman) Neiding of Vermilion; sister, Karin N. Hoover of Mt. Juliet, TN; Aunt and Uncle Karin and Dave Rathbun; Uncle Roger Kishman; nephew, Richard Paul Lentz; numerous cousins including, D. Drew Rathbun DDS, Shelly Innes, Teri Howe, Monica Jenkins DMD, and Ashley Kishman; and many wonderful friends including, Dave and Mary Paul of Vermilion. Graveside services will be held Thursday, July 5, 2013 at 2:30 p.m. at Brownhelm Cemetery, Vermilion. Reverends Louis Bertoni and Bob Richardson will officiate. The family suggests memorial contributions to the United Church of Christ Congregational, 990 State Street P.O. Box 228, Vermilion, OH 44089. Online condolences may

be made at: www.riddlefuneralhome.com

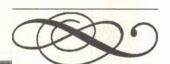
Riddle Funeral Home

### PHILLIPS, CHARLES EDWARD

Also known to his family and friends as Charlie, 75 of Naples died June 26, 2013. He was a graduate of Xavier University where he played basketball and was an ardent fan. Charlie, was formerly of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan retired from the Ford Motor Company in 1994, moved to Florida in 1995, residing in Bonita Springs then moved to Naples in 2011. Charlie loved his family, survived by his wife, Judy, three daughters, Lisa (Brian) Parker of Cincinnati, OH, Pattie Gardner of Collierville, TN, and Kathy Drysdale of Bellefonte, PA. He was a beloved grandfather survived by six grandchildren, Lauren (Michael) D'Errico, Morgan Parker, Brian Parker II, Sean Gardner, Shaela Gardner, and Dereck Lively II, and great granddaughter, Eva D'Errico. A memorial mass will be celebrated in his honor Wednesday, July 3, at 11:00 am at St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, 5130 Rattlesnake Hammock Road, Naples FL. Inurnment will follow in the church columbarium. Donations in his memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Support Network, 660 Tamiami Trail North, Suite 21, Naples, FL 34102. Their love, support and valuable guidance was so helpful

Online condolences may be made at www.fullernaples.com

the past few years.



# HBALLIH

**SHARON DARGAY, EDITOR** 

SDARGAY@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 313-222-8833 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# Radiation therapy targets fibrotic skin tumors

**Botsford Cancer Center is** using radiation therapy to successfully treat patients suffering with keloids or keloidal scars.

"Keloidal scars are very difficult to effectively treat by surgery or other means due to high recurrence rates," said James Fontanesi, M.D., a board-certified radiation oncologist with the Botsford Cancer Center. "Studies show that the use of radiation therapy can dramatically reduce the rate of recurrences. Our patients at Botsford have shown excellent improvement rates with both external beam therapy and high dose rate brachytherapy, which target only the lesion and not surrounding

and underlying healthy tissue."

Keloids are fibrotic tumors and appear as a hard, smooth, pinkish raised growth of scar tissue at the site of an injury.

These growths occur 15 times more frequently in highly pigmented people, such



**Fontanesi** 

as persons of African, Asian or Hispanic descent.

Keloidal lesions can cause significant pain, physical disfigurement, itching or burning, secondary infection and psychological distress. They may not improve in aplimit mobility if located over a

Medical insurance companies have accepted this new treatment and have been covering radiation therapy for

Botsford Cancer Center is a part of the Botsford Hospital campus in Farmington Hills.

#### JULY

#### **CANCER SURVIVORSHIP**

Living With, Through and Beyond Cancer is a free program that offers information from leading oncology experts to help those coping with cancer. Presentations will be followed by a question and answer period with doctors and health care providers. The four-part series will be held July-October at Josephine Ford Cancer Institute (JFCI) sites. The first session, Communicating with Your Health Care Team, is set for 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 10, at Henry Ford Medical Center-Columbus, 39450 W. 12 Mile, Novi. For more information about the series, call Ted Varkas at 734-479-1007, Mary Rewers at 586-263-2237 or Gwen Roediger at

#### **CONTROLLING JOINT PAIN**

Henry Ford Health System's Joint Preservation Program offers free classes on ways to slow down the progression of joint pain without surgery. The focus is on the knee and hip joints,. Participants learn how the joints work, self-management of pain, medical treatments, physical therapy, how and exercises to strength joints. Classes run 10 a.m. to noon July 11 and 1-3 p.m. Aug. 15 at Henry Ford Medical Center-Fairlane, 19401 Hubbard Drive, Dearborn, and 1-3 p.m. Aug. 22 at Henry Ford Medical Center-Columbus, 39450 W. 12 Mile,

#### JOINT REPLACEMENT

Jeffrey Mendelson, M.D., will answer questions, discuss joint pain, joint replacement procedures and available implant options 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, July 24, in Classroom 10 at St. Mary Mercy's Center for Joint Replacement, located on the hospital campus at Five Mile and Levan, in Livonia. To register, call 734-655-2345.

#### **LUPUS SUPPORT**

The Michigan Lupus Foundation will hold a support group meeting 1-3 p.m. Tuesday, July 13, at Providence Hospital, Conference Room C, 16001 W. Nine Mile, Southfield. The meeting is for individuals with lupus, their families

and friends. For more information, visit www.milupus.org or call 800-705-6677. **WALK WITH A DOC** 

Dr. Annette Carron, geriatrics specialist, will talk about understanding and improving memory to sharpen your mind and boost your brainpower, during Botsford Hospital's monthly Walk with a Doc, noon Thursday, July 18, at Heritage Park Nature Center. located on the west side of Farmington

Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, in

Farmington Hills. Meets rain or shine.

Call 877-477-3621, option 1, to registe.

#### **ONGOING AQUATIC CLASSES**

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease the pain of arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch; 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch; and 2-3 p.m. Wednesday and Friday at the Birmingham branch. All classes are offered to members and non-members of every age and participants do not need to know how to swim to participate. To join or for more information, interested individuals can contact their local YMCA branch or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

#### **BLOOD PRESSURE**

Garden City Hospital offers free blood pressure testing, cholesterol (\$5), and lipid panel (\$10) testing, 10 a.m. to noon the first Tuesday of each month in the main lobby of the hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. No registration is required. Senior citizens can have their blood pressure tested monthly, free of charge, at 8:30 a.m. the first and third Tuesday and second and fourth Thursdays of each month at Westland Mall, 35000 Warren Road, Westland; 9 a.m. the second and fourth Mondays at the Berwyn Senior Center, 26155 Richardson, Dearborn Heights; and 10:15 a.m. every other Wednesday at Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, Garden City; and every second Tuesday at the Redford Community

Center, 12121 Hemingway, Redford Township. For information, call 734-458-

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

**BREAST CANCER SUPPORT** Meets 6:30-8 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan Road), Livonia. Call 734-655-1100, or visit

#### www.stmarymercy.org. **BIPOLAR SUPPORT**

Depression Bipolar Support Alliance meets 6-7:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday at Lincoln Behavioral Services Center, 14500 Sheldon, Suite 160B, Plymouth. It is accessed through the Plymouth Executive Park driveway north of M-14. It is a self-help group for people suffering from depression and bipolar disorders. Meetings open to families. All leaders are professionally trained and attend two trainings for every year to update their skills in leading the group. Call Nancy at 734 536-3457 for directions

#### **CAREGIVERS SUPPORT**

» St. John's Support Group for the Caregivers of Alzheimer's Patients or patients with other forms of dementia meet the first and third Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at 734-895-1426 for information. Authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

» Wayne Metro's Caregiver Support Groups offer assistance to those struggling to find or give quality care to loved ones. Meetings are held 10 a.m. to noon the third Tuesday of each month at the Kay Beard Building on Michigan Avenue, Westland. Meetings are also held at the Village of Redford on Six Mile. The morning group meets 10 a.m. to noon the second Thursday of each month; the evening group meets 6-8 p.m. the fourth Thursday of each month. Adult care may also be available. Call Nancy Coman at 313-843-2550, ext. 233

#### **CHOIR THERAPY**

The Therapy Choirs of Michigan extend an invitation to individuals with any kind of special needs or disabilities and their able-bodied family and friends, to participate in singing. Times and dates of sessions in January vary. Call Len McCulloch at 248-474-2763, ext 22, or visit www.therapychoirs.org.

pearance over time and can

#### **CPAP/BIPAP**

The Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan offers a free CPAP/BIPAP mask fitting clinic, 5-6 p.m. each Wednesday at 35600 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland. Most insurances cover new supplies. No appointment needed. For information, call 734 458-7251.

#### **CPR CLASSES**

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

#### **DIABETES SUPPORT**

An adult diabetes support group sponsored by the Plymouth Lions Club meets 2-3:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, in downtown Plymouth. Fern Vining, a registered nurse, certified diabetes educator and Plymouth Lion will facilitate. Discussion topics will focus on understanding diabetes and self management strategies. Call 734-454-0859

#### **FOOD ADDICTS**

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous is a recovery program for people having trouble controlling the way they eat. It's based on the 12 steps of AA. Open to all and free. Weekly meetings are held 9-10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Geneva Presbyterian Church, 5835 Sheldon, Canton. 248-320-6842; www.foodad-

#### **HEALTH PROGRAMS, SUPPORT**

The Garden City Hospital Health Enhancement Center offers classes designed to strengthen your heart after a cardiac event. It also offers an array of fitness classes, such as yoga, tai chi, zumba, hula and polynesian aerobics to keep you moving or to help you relax. For information, call 734-458-3242.

GCH Community Education offers classes in CPR (adult and infant), first aid, and diabetes self-management education. The hospital hosts various support groups including Nar-Anon, Alzheimer's, Alcoholics Anonymous, Focus on Living and Diabetes, which are held monthly. For more information, call 734-458-4330.

#### **HEARING LOSS** ASSOCIATION

The Western Wayne Chapter provides information, education and support for those with hearing loss, their families and friends. Meetings are 6:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster. Garden City. Contact aferack@comcast.net or 734-664-3297

#### **INCEST SURVIVORS**

"LIVE," a self-help group for women who were victims of incest as children, meets 7-9 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at St. Paul of the Cross, 2333 Schoolcraft, Redford. Call Antoinette at 313-971-4747 or Cheri at 586-489-1785.

#### **LOW VISION SUPPORT**

Meets 1-3 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, For information, call Ellen Stross at 734-453-0750, Ext.

#### **LYME SUPPORT**

Meets at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month, except January, July and September, at Northwest Unitarian-Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield; 248-354-4488. For more information, visit the Michigan Lyme Disease Association website, www.mlda.org, or call 888-784-LYME.

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# Good to the Bone!

#### Ask A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Barbat Radiology

Often taken for granted, bone health is as important to our overall well-being as a proper diet. Our bones provide structural strength, protect our internal organs, anchor muscles and store vital calcium. It's important to build strong and healthy bones during childhood and adolescence. Board Certified Radiologist and GCH Health Expert, Dr. Jehan Barbat, explains why as adults, it becomes equally important to protect the bones we've built.

Q: What is bone loss?

A: Bones may seem like hard, lifeless structures, but in fact they are living tissues like muscle. They respond to exercise and a healthy diet by becoming stronger. Throughout a person's lifetime, old bone is broken down and new bone is added to the skeleton. When more bone is broken down than is added, bone loss occurs. Bone loss can lead to low bone density, weakness of the bone, and eventually osteoporosis. Osteoporosis, a serious disease in which bones become weak and fragile, affects millions of people worldwide.

Q: How can bone loss be prevented?

A: A number of factors may lead to bone loss. Some, such as age, cannot be controlled. However, there are some rather simple steps you can take to prevent or slow bone loss, such as:

Eat a Diet High in Calcium - Not getting enough calcium significantly increases the risk of developing osteoporosis. A diet low in calcium is associated with low bone mass, rapid bone loss, and broken bones. Vitamin D is also very important for the body to absorb calcium from the diet. Without enough vitamin D, people are unable to absorb calcium from the foods they eat. When not enough calcium is absorbed from foods, the body has to take calcium from the bones, causing bone loss and weaker bones.

Exercise - Physical activity during childhood and adolescence increases bone density and strength. Children who regularly exercise are more likely to reach their peak bone density, which usually occurs by age 30, and are less likely to have significant bone loss or osteoporosis.

Limit Alcohol Intake - Regular consumption of 2-3 alcoholic drinks a day may be damaging to bones, even in young women and men. Heavy drinkers are more likely to have bone loss and fractures.

Don't Smoke or Quit - Smoking is bad not only for the heart and the lungs, but also the bones. Women who smoke have lower estrogen levels compared to women who do not smoke. Lower estrogen levels lead to increased bone loss. Women who smoke often go through menopause earlier. Remember, bone loss is most rapid in the first few years after menopause, but it continues even in the postmenopausal years.

Take a Bone Density Test - A bone density test shows the amount of bone a person has in the hip, spine or other bones. It is routinely recommended for postmenopausal women and men age 50 and older.

Read more from Dr. Barbat about bone health and bone density in the online Summer 2013 issue of GCH's Health Generations magazine at GCH.org. To schedule a bone density test at GCH's Center for Breast Care, call 734.458.3471.

Do you have a health or medical question for one of the GCH Health Experts? Visit GCH.org or call 877.717.WELL.

# JOBS

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# The fastest growing allied healthcare careers

**By Nancy F Higgins Contributing Writer** 

Some of the fastest growing professions in the country are allied healthcare occupations. But what exactly does allied healthcare mean and how is it different from healthcare? Allied health refers to the services outside of the three main healthcare disciplines of medicine, dentistry, and nursing.

Allied healthcare covers a whole gamut of services including physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech pathologists, home health aide workers, dental assistants, medical sonographers, speech pathologists, laboratory technicians, etc.

The list is by no means comprehensive and there are tons of other allied health professions that are growing in demand. However, there are a few that stand out because of their minimal training requirement and immense potential. Some such fast growing allied healthcare careers are:

Medical Transcription: Medical transcriptionists held about 95,100 jobs in the year 2010.\* The medical transcription practice involves listening to recordings of doctor dictations and converting them into factually and grammatically correct written reports. Being able to understand medical terminology, typing efficiency and editing skills are the

core competencies required for this job. Medical transcriptionists may work at hospitals, offices of physicians, or firms that provide transcription services. Many of them are also self-employed and work from home.

To start a career in medical transcription, it's important to complete a postsecondary training program in the field. It's also desirable, though not mandatory to have a Registered Medical Transcriptionist (RMT) or Certified Medical Transcriptionist (CMT) certification awarded by the Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity (AHDI).

Pharmacy Technician: Pharmacy technicians are professionals who assist licensed pharmacists in performing a number of clerical, administrative pharmacy-related tasks. A typical work day for a pharmacy tech includes completing tasks like helping pharmacists in filling prescriptions, responding to patient queries, mixing medications, maintaining patient profiles, managing cash register, packaging and labeling bottles, etc.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the projected growth in employment of pharmacy techs in the 2010-20 decade is 32 per cent\*\*, much faster than average for all occupations. Formal training requirements are none, but completing a pharmacy tech course and

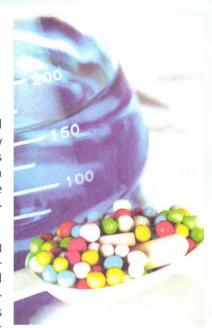
getting certified definitely provide aspirants to this career a competitive edge in the job mar-

Medical Coding and Billing: Medical coding and billing specialists use various classifications

systems to assign codes to treatments, diagnoses, tests, and other clinical performed procedures on patients. These coded documents are used for healthcare reimbursement purposes as well as to maintain patient records, medical histories and hospital databases.

According to the Department of Labor data, the annual median pay of medical coding and billing specialists in 2010 was \$32,350.\*\*\* Postsecondary medical billing and coding training and professional certification from organizations like the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC) are the credentials typically required for gaining entry in to the field.

Medical Assistant: There are fast growing allied healthcare professions, and then there are real fast growing professions. Medical assistance belongs to the second category. According to the Labor Department, the occupation is likely to add 162,900 jobs in the 2010-20 period.\*\*\*\*



Medical assistants provide a range of administrative and clerical services to physicians, chiropractors, podiatrists and other healthcare practitioners. Depending on the state they are employed in and their training, medical assistants may also perform basic clinical tasks such as taking vitals, recording patient histories, administering drugs and injections, removing sutures and dressings, etc.

But their primary responsibilities are to welcome patients in to a facility, help them fill forms, get them ready for examinations, explaining to them the procedures to be performed, maintain patient records, handling billing related tasks, follow up on insurance claims, manage inventory, etc.

Sources:

\*http://www.bls.gov/ooh/Healthcare/Medical-transcriptionists.htm \*\*http://www.bls.gov/ooh/Healthcare/Pharmacy-technicians.htm

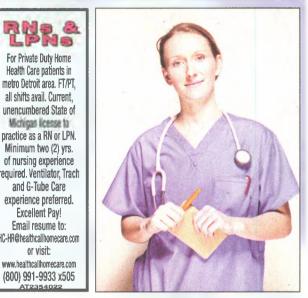
\*http://www.bls.gov/ooh/ healthcare/medical-records-andhealth-information-technicians.

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- "—, humbug!" 4 Carnaby Street
- locale
- 8 Ant horde Tabloid topic
- Whitish gem 14 Go first
- 15 Devotee 16 Percussion
- instruments 18 Cold 20 LAX regulators
- 21 Letter before sigma
- 22 Ocean waters 26 Wound a matador
- 28 "I came," to Caesar
- 31 Grandfather clock number 32 Big flap
- 33 Shady nook 34 Autumn mo.
- 35 RSVP word 36 Got in debt 37 Havens

35

50 Embroider 51 Plunging necklines 52 Comet's

46 Based on

38 Spiral or coil

committee

41 Sleep-stage

acronym

43 Dutch exports

observation

40 Ad -

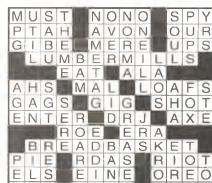
- gaseous cloud 53 ŇASA
- counterpart 54 Foot part
- 55 Former spouses

#### 56 Hog's abode **DOWN**

- 1 Polish
- 2 Way, way off 3 Dean's list

attraction

(2 wds.) voce Nashville **Answer to Previous Puzzle** 



DEED 1-10-12 © 2012 UFS, Dist. by Univ. Uclick for UFS

- 6 Shogun's yes 7 Viking name Viking name
- Seaweed 9 Aunt or bro.
- 10 --- West of "She Done
- Him Wrong" 11 Fabric meas.

NEST

- Lowest ebb 19 Yacht's
- pronoun 23 Banishes a
- ghost 24 Make a
- selection 25 Convenes
- 26 Nasty cut 27 Garfield's victim
- 28 Solemn promise 29 Wool supplier
- Beatty of films
- 33 Kind of shorts Yahoo! rival
- 39 From Kilkenny
- 40 Luau numbers 42 Attic problem
- 43 Blah
- 44 Mosquito, to us 45 Move to and fro

45

44

53

- 46 Zsa Zsa's sister
- 47 Mal de 48 Delt neighbor 49 "Friends"

actress Courteney -

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BLACK SPOT

CONSERVATORY

CULTIVAR

DEADHEAD

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ENGLISH

**EXHIBITION** 

FLORIBUNDA

**FUNGICIDE** 

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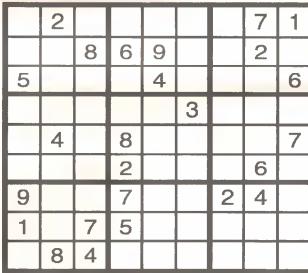
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40

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9 8 6 7 9 5 9 6 Þ ε Sudoku 3 Þ 182 7 9 9 6 6 9 b l 7 2 ε 9 ε 1 6 9 8 7 9 8 8 9 Þ 6 9 8 ε 2 Þ Į. 6 L 2 S L 6 9 8 Į. 6 9 8 3 7 9

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Search

Word 3 7

## Car Report

Advertising Feature

## Acura doubles down in new campaign for the luxurious 2014 MDX



By Dale Buss

Acura wants to elevate itself to the first tier of luxury brands, and so the Hondaowned marque is betting its biggest-ever marketing campaign on its most important vehicle in the effort.

The brand has unveiled a new multichannel advertising initiative for the 2014 MDX sport-utility vehicle which brand stewards said will be its most expensive effort ever, comprising more than double Acura's estimated spending of \$39 million on a campaign for its new RDX SUV last year.

"For us to create five video ads isn't something we've done in the past," Gary Robinson, manager of Acura national advertising and the brand, told journalists, calling the push "the biggest launch in Acura history in terms of scope and dollars."

Acura year-to-date sales through May were ahead of 2012 by 10 percent, and the brand has been overhauling its lineup and its marketing for the last couple of years. But Acura essentially has remained outside the top tier of US luxury marques consisting of the German brands and Lexus, and Honda wants to change that proposition for the short and long term, starting with this campaign for the vehicle that often has been its volume-leading nameplate.

More than the unprecedented dollar outlay alone, Robinson believes that Acura also is finally taking the right tack in terms of positioning the brand. "We stumbled on to identifying a really interesting niche within luxury that we believe is untapped: a new generation



The new 2014 MDX is an important vehicle for Acura.

of very technology-oriented kind of doers out there that are quietly out there changing the world," he said.

"They have a lot of money but they aren't interested in the traditional trappings of luxury. [They're a] new kind of young, affluent class that is interested in the finer things in life but not for the sake



Image from the "Made for Mankind" campaign.

of showing off, but looking for things that are highly functional and highly part of their lives."

To that end, Acura's new campaign takes an oblique approach to promoting the new MDX that it calls "Made for Mankind." Seeking to highlight the "synergy between man and machine," the first 60-second TV spot in the campaign, "Human Race," features dreamlike images of people scuba-diving in underwater caves, scrambling up large trees and gazing at starlight. The ad consumes 40 seconds before it even shows an MDX.

"Man is a determined creature," the voiceover says. "No matter the circumstance, opposition or even understanding, there is an inherent calling to seek, push, improve, transcend. It's a perpetual process, a necessity of the human spirit, that inspired our own evolution. Because if your quest is to build the world's smartest luxury SUV for mankind, you must hold yourself to the standard of mankind."

Whether such flattery of the target market sells the new MDX remains to be seen. It's the first campaign produced by Mullen, Acura's new agency, and actually stemmed directly from the pitch that Mullen made to land the account in March from incumbent RPA.

The campaign "gets less of the intellectual part going, which is well known and accepted with this target, and actually makes them start to feel something," Peter Rosch, Mullen's executive creative

director, told journalists. "It's a little bit of [creating] a gut feeling that I want to get myself into that car."

But as abstract as the first ad is, Robinson and Rosch promised that the campaign also will highlight the practical manifestations of the new mood in the MDX, such as a design shift from 41 buttons for the infotainment controls down to just nine, with a touchscreen. "The direction is simplicity and ease of use," Robinson said, "While there are lots of people doing different things with touchscreens, we think ours works well and is intuitive."

In other "video concepts" that are central to the campaign, Acura gets more practical. "Re-Invention" depicts how the MDX has been completely rethought and improved to the point that the only remaining component of the previousgeneration model is a small metal bracket.

And "Choose" focuses on the 2014 MDX's all-new system that offers "sport" and "comfort" driving modes in addition to normal, adjusting steering effort, throttle response and other aspects of the ride and environment to suite the tastes of the driver.

Robinson said that Acura's previously announced partnership with Jerry Seinfeld also fuels the kind of vibe it's attempting to create with the new MDX campaign. Acura is the sole sponsor of the Seinfeld online-only video series, Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee.

And although Seinfeld spends a lot of time in an old Volvo station wagon on the show that features interviews with David Letterman, Alec Baldwin, Carl Reiner and others, Robinson called the deal with Seinfeld "smart and efficient in terms of how to use advertising."

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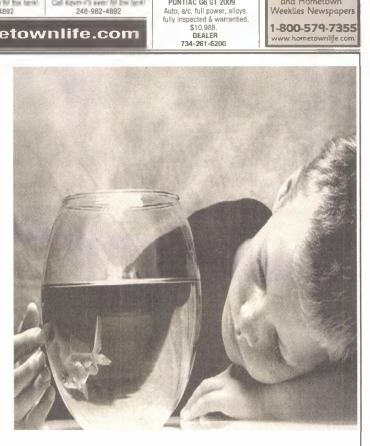
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