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Officials call for recreation survey

Township will use \$50,000 to conduct query to ask residents what they want in recreation upgrades

By **Matt Jachman**
Staff Writer

If Plymouth Township residents want township-run recreation programming – anything from a new walking trail to a full-fledged recreation complex – township officials are ready to listen – and act.

To that end, officials have set aside \$50,000 in the township's 2014 general-fund budget proposal for a professional survey of residents' recreation wants and needs. The total \$13 million budget plan will be voted on Tuesday at the township Board of Trustees meeting.

"I want to see what people want," said Treasurer Ron Edwards, who sat down Monday, along with Clerk Nancy Conzelman, to talk about the effort. "They come up with better ideas."

Edwards said he envisions a project "totally paid for with taxes" that could include multi-purpose fields, walking, running and bicycling trails, a dog park, a skateboarding area, a gymnasium, pool and fitness

center or perhaps a few or some combination of those features – or none of them. He expects officials will narrow down the project to several options, each with a price tag attached, based on survey results.

"It gives us something to act on," Edwards said of a survey. "You're hearing from the constituents that pay the bill."

Public amenities

Conzelman and Edwards say they see a need for public recreation facilities in the township. Communities with such amenities are more successful at attracting and retaining residents, they said.

"Lots of people say, 'We would like to have a Summit in the township,'" Conzelman

See SURVEY, Page A2



Artist Janisse Lahti Larsson painted the Penn Theater's movie posters, which all have a small touch of Plymouth, if one looks closely.

Painted posters perk up Penn's lobby

Local artist decorates theater's walls with paintings depicting movie posters from past decades

By **Matt Jachman**
Staff Writer

Hand-painted movie posters – each with something extra for sharp-eyed patrons – now grace the inner lobby of the Penn Theatre, thanks to two donors and a local artist.

Janisse Lahti Larsson, whose depictions of scenes from *Gone With the Wind*,

The Wizard of Oz and other classics already decorate the exterior of the Penn, painted the works in August, after Penn fans Linda Clements and Jim Hutchings offered to finance the project. Larsson, of Plymouth, tackled the project for just about the cost of materials, said Ellen Elliott, executive director of Friends of the Penn Theatre, which runs the movie house.

"It's just an act of love," Larsson said Monday at the theater. "I don't have a lot of money, but it's something I can do to give back." Larsson said she can imagine grandchildren going to the theater in the future and telling friends that their grandmother painted the posters.

More color

The posters replaced the black-and-white glamor shots of movie stars that



The 'Superman' poster includes the cupola from the Plymouth Gathering. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

See POSTERS, Page A2

Turnout big for silencing trains

Dozens show up to show support for 'quiet zones'

By **Matt Jachman**
Staff Writer

A push to quiet train horns at Plymouth's railroad crossings packed the Plymouth City Commission meeting room Monday.

Resident Neil Lobron, who has researched federal railroad regulations and advocates rail "quiet zones" – areas where operators can sound train horns only in emergency situations – formally addressed the commission during a Monday budget meeting and brought more than 80 backers of quiet zones with him to city hall.

Lobron has a plan he says would put in place extra safety precautions at the city's seven rail crossings for a net cost of \$47,000, making quiet zones, which must be approved by the Federal Railroad Administration, feasible. Hushing train horns, he said, would improve the quality of life in the city, especially for those who live near crossings, and result in an estimated \$36 million citywide increase in property values.

"It's not easy. It's difficult. Nothing worthwhile is ever easy," said Lobron, who offered to help officials research the issue before making a quiet-zone proposal to the federal government.

"There're a lot of things you can do with the additional property-tax revenue," he added.

Safety measures

Quiet zones – in place in 570 communities across the country, according to Lobron – require additional safety devices at rail crossings in order to warn motorists of approaching trains. Such measures could include track side warning horns, extra crossing gates and road medians that cannot be driven over, preventing drivers from going around crossing gates. Lights, bells and other existing warning and safety devices would continue to be used.

The location of Plymouth's seven crossings would call for three quiet zones, Lobron says.

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5

Coffeehouse event to benefit Grace Centers of Hope

Espresso Elevado, a coffee bar and small-batch coffee roaster in Plymouth, will host a holiday fundraiser for Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac, which offers a variety of programs to help people overcome drug and alcohol addictions.

The first Holiday Soiree at Espresso Elevado will be 6:30-

8:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15. Tickets are \$25 each; the menu will include smoked salmon, stuffed endives, spiced cream cheese and other appetizers, which will be paired with a variety of coffee beverages.

"Our staff decided to give the event proceeds to Grace Centers of Hope so that we can not only give a family a

happy holiday, but help them start a new life," said event coordinator Amy Hall, an Espresso Elevado barista.

Soiree guests are also encouraged to bring a toy that can be placed under the shop's Christmas tree and will be donated to the U.S. Marine Corps' Toys for Tots campaign.

Tickets to Espresso Elevado's Holiday Soiree can be reserved by calling 734-904-8323, emailing elevadosoiree@yahoo.com or stopping by the shop at 606 S. Main, on the southwest corner of Main and Wing. Soiree admission will be limited to 30 people; the deadline for ticket purchase is Sunday.



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SURVEY

Continued from Page A1

said, referring to the public recreation and community center in Canton Township.

The effort, Edwards said, would involve not just facilities, but township-run recreation programs. Many of the athletic programs in which township residents now participate are run by the city's recreation department.

Conzelman and Edwards say the potential cost will depend on what types of facilities draw resident support in the survey and that they're not fixed on a certain type of recreation complex or a specific location.

Edwards, however, did estimate the cost of a complete recreation center at \$26 million and said it would need to be on a site of about 30 acres and supported by a 2-mill property tax. Such a tax would cost \$200 a year for the owners of a house with a taxable value of \$100,000.

"They're paying much more than that to go anywhere else,"

Edwards said, referring to private gym memberships. Edwards said he would be against any membership fees for a township recreation center for residents or people who work in the township.

Vote next year?

Edwards said he sees decisions being made by officials within six months and a vote on a township millage question within a year.

Conzelman and Edwards said their effort is distinct from that of the group calling itself the PARC committee (for Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex). That group, a coalition of individuals, cultural organizations and athletics groups, is working on purchasing Central Middle School in Plymouth, once it closes after the 2014-15 school year, and transforming it into a cultural and recreation center.

Conzelman said the township's recreation push shouldn't be construed as an affront to the city or to the PARC effort. Officials in each community, she said, naturally will look after their respective community's interests first.

TRAINS

Continued from Page A1

In the absence of quiet-zone measures, train operators are required to sound train horns as their trains approach crossings. A 2006 regulation change made quiet zones possible.

Lobron compared the property value he said is lost in Plymouth because of train-horn noise to the theft of property from a resident's house, which, he said, police would quickly investigate. Still addressing the commission, he pulled a cellular phone from his pocket to make a mock emergency call.

"You've got \$36 million of my property value," he said into the phone, drawing laughter from the standing-room-only crowd. "Please, come to my house, check it out."

Lobron said it wouldn't cost the city anything to submit a



Neil Lobron, who is spearheading a campaign to reduce the noise of trains as they pass through Plymouth, makes a pitch Monday for railroad "quiet zones" before the Plymouth City Commission and a standing-room-only crowd at city hall.

quiet-zone proposal to the FRA, which would have to accept it before any money is spent on safety measures. "There's no risk," he said. Grant money for additional safety measures is available, he said.

'Not simple'

Mayor Dan Dwyer said he personally favored the quiet-zone idea and that it would be considered by the commission.

But, he added, the plan will be competing for funding and attention in a city where staffing has

been trimmed and revenues have dipped.

"It's not as simple as, 'It's a good idea, let's go do it,'" Dwyer said.

The issue spilled from the half-hour budget study meeting into the commission's regular meeting, as about a half-dozen people used the public comment portion of the second meeting to voice support for Lobron's proposal.

"I think it's a quality-of-life issue," said Tony Arini, a Realtor who said he lost out on the sale of a house on Burroughs Street after a train horn

interrupted his conversation there with a prospective buyer.

"Those horns on those trains shake my house and it really is disturbing," resident Penny Kazmierski said.

Plan critiqued

One resident spoke against the proposal, however. Noah Allor, a city employee, said he bought his house because it's near tracks and that CSX Corp., which owns the tracks, needs to weigh in on the plan.

Allor, an on-call firefighter for the city, also raised the possibility of emergency vehicles getting stuck at crossings by extra safety devices, even when there's no train, and said quiet zones wouldn't completely eliminate horn noise.

"Yeah, they're loud," Allor said of the horns. "They're on there for our safety."

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POSTERS

Continued from Page A1

were hung on the back wall of the inner lobby.

Larsson's eight paintings are reminiscent of posters advertising movies from different decades: *Anna Karenina* (with Greta Garbo), *The Searchers* (with John Wayne), *The Pink Panther*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Patton*, *Superman*, *Amadeus* and *Gran Torino*. Though they contain elements of real posters for those movies, none are exact duplicates, Larsson said.

"I didn't want to copy any one movie poster," she said. Larsson noted she picked each of the movies herself and researched them before launching into the paintings.

"I'm very happy," with the way the posters turned out, she said. "I thought a long time about them before I did them."



Penn benefactor Linda Clements helped make the poster project happen. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"I think she did a wonderful job," said Clements, who also Monday visited the Penn.

"They're all terrific." There are seven of the eight paintings hung in the lobby at any one time, with the *Wonderful Life* poster replacing *Patton* during the Christmas season.

Where's Plymouth?

Larsson threw a bonus into each painting: A specific Plymouth or Detroit reference that'll give patrons something

to hunt for. Some of the references wouldn't have been found in a real poster for that movie, while others are contained within the subject matter (for example - spoiler alert - *Patton* star George C. Scott hailed from Detroit).

Larsson said she picked movies that represented different decades and also different film genres - westerns (*The Searchers*), romances (*Anna Karenina*) and science fiction (*Superman*), for example.

Elliott said the idea for the posters originated during this year's annual benefit auction, "Penny-demonium," in May. Larsson was working on a painting she donated for the auction, Elliott said, and guests began talking about having her paint a mural on the theater's back wall.

But with the Penn's back wall never having had murals historically and mural maintenance costs an issue, Elliott said, she was determined to come up with another project.

"I've got people who want to donate," Elliott said. "I've got an artist who's more than capable."

The idea for the posters struck her one day when she walked into the lobby, Elliott said.

"I came in and it just clicked," she said. "I think stuff like this makes us more unique and more unique."

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CHRISTMAS COMES EARLY

Surprise morning visit lifts grieving Canton family

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

When Chad Rutherford knew death was inevitable after a battle with cancer, he requested – and received – one promise from his fellow teachers at Harlan Elementary School in Birmingham: “Take care of my family.”

The teaching family at Harlan – with a huge assist from the Mojo in the Morning radio show on WKQI-FM (95.5), ACO Hardware and Fathead, among others – delivered on that promise, surprising Kelly Rutherford at her Canton home at 6:30 a.m. with a couple of

thousand dollars worth of Christmas presents for Kelly, her 3-year-old son Carter and 9-month old daughter Melissa.

It was part of Mojo in the Morning’s Breaking and Entering segment and resulted from a letter Harlan staffers sent to the radio host.

“Chad asked us to help take care of his family, so we’re fulfilling his request,” said Harlan teacher Briona McKinney, a long-time Mojo listener who spearheaded the letter writing from the school staff. “Kelly and the kids are our family. We’re just doing what we would do for our own families.”

The gifts come as the Rutherford family has been wondering what happened to their family. Chad was diagnosed with rectal cancer in late 2012 and passed away in July,



Well wishers unload gifts for the Rutherford family. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

leaving his wife, young son and newborn daughter behind.

This was going to be the family’s first Christmas without Chad, who loved the holiday above all others.

“It was his favorite holiday and not because he liked receiving things,” Kelly Rutherford said.

This year, according to Mercurio, the show is answering the nominations made in 13 letters, including the one from Harlan. What the show actually provides depends on the needs of the recipient. For instance, Mercurio said, the show did a Breaking and Entering last week in which the recipient’s request was to meet Selena Gomez.

Gomez happened to be in town and the station arranged the meet-and-greet.

For the Rutherford visit, a couple of dozen people arrived with presents, including a \$500 gift card from ACO, a \$500 check from Fathead and a Fathead of Lightning McQueen from the 2006 movie Cars, a particular favorite of 3-year-old Carter.

“Everyone’s needs are

different,” Mercurio said. “We just try to match their needs.”

The Rutherford’s needs this year were going to include making it through their first Christmas without Chad. Kelly told the gathered supporters Monday that Carter “knows his dad is in heaven and sometimes he asks if he can go to heaven to visit.”

And in the early morning hours Monday, Kelly found a little slice of heaven at her front door.

“I was shocked,” she said. “I feel happy and grateful and a huge sense of family. I’m sure Chad is laughing, happy and very thankful for what these people did to give his kids a good Christmas.”

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New Canton police Sgts. Michael Kennedy, Gregory DeGrand and Dale Waltz are sworn in to their new positions by township Clerk Terry Bennett. CANTON PUBLIC SAFETY

Canton cops earn sergeant rank

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Three seasoned Canton police officers have earned the rank of sergeant in the latest round of department promotions.

Sgts. Gregory DeGrand and Michael Kennedy, 12-year department veterans, and Dale Waltz, with 14 years of service, received their new badges during a ceremony in front of the Canton Township Board of Trustees.

"Obviously they are part of

the greatest police department in the state of Michigan – there's no doubt about that," Supervisor Phil LaJoy said, presenting the three sergeants with their new badges.

DeGrand, Kennedy and Waltz were sworn in for their new duties by Canton Township Clerk Terry Bennett.

In their new positions, LaJoy said, they will serve as platoon supervisors providing leadership, training and direction to road patrol officers. They also will be responsible for adminis-

trative assignments and special projects under the leadership of their assigned shift commanders.

Township Trustee John Anthony, during last week's ceremony, welcomed the sergeants to their new positions in what he called a premier police department.

"There's never a shortage of great personnel," Anthony said, "and I congratulate every one of you."

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CANTON CRIME WATCH

Child neglect

A 28-year-old Canton woman was cited for child neglect and police reported her to Child Protective Services after receiving reports involving her son and daughter, ages 3.

Police went to Trails Court, southwest of Joy and Sheldon roads, after a passerby reporting seeing the boy riding his bike in a street while wearing no pants or underwear, a police report said. Neither the boy nor the girl was wearing shoes in cold, Nov. 30 temperatures, the report said.

The police report described the children's faces and feet as red from the cold. The passerby took the children into her car to warm up until officers arrived. Police went to the mother's apartment and found her sleeping, though the door to her apartment was open.

The mother told police she and the children had been sick and that all of them had laid down to take a nap. But police indicated the children hadn't been bathed in days, what clothes they had on were dirty and the apartment was in disarray. The report said debris was scattered across the family room, dirty dishes were stacked on the counter and sink and a cat litter box hadn't been cleaned.

Drunken crash

Police arrested a 61-year-old woman for driving while impaired after she drove her Ford F-150 into a ditch on the north side of Ford Road near I-275, a police report said.

Police received a tip about 10 p.m. Nov. 27 from a passerby who saw the vehicle in the ditch near the southbound exit ramp. The woman, who was still in the vehicle, told police she was not injured, but

didn't know what had happened, the report said.

Police could detect the odor of intoxicants and reported the woman's eyes were bloodshot and glassy. She told police she had a couple of glasses of wine earlier in Livonia, though a blood-alcohol test revealed she was over twice the legal limit.

Violent threats

A retail fraud suspect fleeing the Kohl's store on Michigan Avenue threatened an employee with a hammer and ordered him to back off during an incident that happened about 4:45 p.m. Nov. 27, a police report said.

The female suspect and another woman fled the scene following accusations they went into fitting rooms, concealed merchandise and left the store without paying.

The employee tried to detain the women, who ignored him and fled to a Ford Explorer before driving off, the police report said. One of the women, however, dropped the purse she had containing stolen merchandise, allowing Kohl's to retrieve it.

The investigation was continuing.

Fraud attempt

A 73-year-old woman who lives in Stoneybrooke Apartments, near Joy Road and I-275, notified police Nov. 26 to report someone had tried for several days to open accounts in her name with Chase Bank, Sprint, AT&T, Discover and Capital One.

She learned of the attempts when credit agencies began calling her. She said none of the tries at identity theft had succeeded, but she wanted to report the incidents to police.

— By Darrell Clem

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Witness foils thief

A thief grabbed a Plymouth woman's purse as she grocery shopped one day last month, but dropped it when a witness began chasing him.

The incident occurred around 4 p.m. Nov. 21 at the Kroger on Ann Arbor Road at Sheldon, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report. No one was hurt.

The victim told police she had left her purse in a shopping cart in the meat and cheese department and walked away from it briefly, but turned back when she heard a noise. She saw a young man with the purse walking quickly away, she said.

The woman yelled, "He has my purse!" and a male bystander began chasing the thief, the report said.

The thief dropped the purse and fled the store and the man who was chasing him picked up

the purse, the report said. There was nothing missing from it. Police said the man who intervened was a 44-year-old township resident.

Police said the incident was captured on a Kroger security video, but that they could not immediately get access to it. The victim told police that if a suspect is caught, she does not want to press charges.

Shoplifter with gun

A 47-year-old Oak Park was arrested on the afternoon of Nov. 23 in the shoplifting of a \$54.99 bottle of cologne from the Kmart on Ann Arbor Road at Haggerty.

A police report said the suspect was carrying a loaded pistol and two pocketknives, but surrendered the weapons after being confronted by a Kmart loss-prevention employee. Police secured the weapons.

The loss-prevention officer told police he had seen the man

remove the packaging from a bottle of cologne, then conceal the bottle in a jacket pocket. The man then went to a cashier with another bottle of cologne, but complained that it was too expensive and left the store without it, police said.

The report said the suspect's pistol was a .45-caliber semiautomatic with 13 rounds in the clip.

\$50,000 trailer gone

A 53-foot semi trailer valued at \$50,000 was reported stolen Nov. 22 from a Penske truck rental facility on Eckles north of Plymouth Road.

The trailer had been taken from the lot between 6 p.m. Nov. 10 and 9 a.m. the next day, the complainant told police.

The trailer was described as a Great Dane model, solid white with no markings and an Indiana license plate.

— By Matt Jachman



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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Saying 'no' to scams

Date/Time: Tuesday, Dec. 10, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Location: Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth
Details: The Better Business Bureau, serving eastern Michigan, presents a Scam Seminar. Lisa Dilg will speak on various scams, especially ones that target senior citizens. The Plymouth Community Council on Aging will host this presentation.
Contact: RSVP at 734-453-1234, ext. 236.

Barefoot auditions

Dates/Times: Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 9-10, 7-9 p.m.
Location: Barefoot Productions Theater, 240 N. Main, Plymouth.
Details: Barefoot Productions is seeking actors for its upcoming dark comedy *The Twilight of the Golds* by Jonathan Tolins. There are roles available for three men (20s, 30s and 50s) and one woman (30s). Character descriptions are: David Gold, mid-to-late-20s, charming, sensitive, aspiring set designer and opera enthusiast; Suzanne Gold-Stein, early 30s, David's sister, bright, attractive, works as a buyer for Bloomingdale's; Rob Stein, early 30s, Suzanne's husband, handsome and genuine, a genetic researcher; and Walter Gold, 50s, husband of Phyllis and father of David and Suzanne, sometimes gruff, but sensitive, a New York businessman. Actors should prepare a one-to-two-minute dramatic monologue and bring their resumes and headshots, if available. Auditions will also include cold readings from the



The vocal choirs, bell choir and orchestra of Plymouth First United Methodist Church will join forces to present a Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas at 10:10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 15. Music provided by the ensembles illuminate the nine scripture lessons, which span the Old and New Testaments, giving the background and full story of Jesus' birth. Congregational carols round out this beautiful service. Plymouth First United Methodist is located at 45201 N. Territorial Road between Sheldon and Beck. For more information, call 734-453-5280.

script. Performances will run Feb. 21 through March 2.

Contact: For more information, visit www.justgobarefoot.com.

Toys for Tots

Date/Time: Saturday, Dec. 7
Locations: Leo's Coney Island (10 a.m. to noon), 9624 Belleville Road, Belleville; Canton Public Library (2-4 p.m.), 1200 S. Canton Center, Canton.
Details: Santa will be on site collecting toys for two Toys for Tots drives hosted by Natalie and Bob Mosher. All proceeds will go to the Toys for Tots program, which collects new, unwrapped toys and books as Christmas gifts for needy children in southeast Michigan communities. As of 2013, the U.S. Marines Toys for Tots program has collected and distributed more than 469 million toys since its founding in 1968.
Contact: For more information, contact Natalie Mosher at 734-502-7244.

Blues @ The Elks

Date/Time: Tuesday, Dec. 10, 7 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge, 41700 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth
Details: Blues @ the Elks features Big Foot Bob & The Toe Tappers. Those who like blues, rock and roll, rockabilly and country should enjoy this group. There's a \$5 donation at the door.

Vendor fair

Date/Time: Thursday, Dec. 5, 4-8 p.m.
Location: Farrand Elementary School, 41400 Greenbriar Lane
Details: Farrand Elementary School's annual Vendor/Craft Fair will feature more than 25 vendors and crafters. It will feature purses, jewelry, health, beauty and fitness items, and

more. Admission is free.

Holiday Evening of Elegance

Date: Friday, Dec. 6
Location: 6739 Fleming Creek, Superior Township (near Ford Road and M-14)
Details: New Hope Center for Grief Support hosts its annual Holiday Evening of Elegance. Attendees will enjoy desserts, hors d'oeuvres from area restaurants as well as wine, beer and soft drinks. Baskets will be raffled off that hold gift certificates for massages, restaurants, golf and other items. There will also be a special raffle for a 50-inch TV, large wine holder with table and chairs and a painting from a gallery.
Contact: Call 248-348-0115.

Sophisticated Ladies

Date/Time: Thursday, Dec. 5, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Location: Emagine Canton, 39535 Ford Road, Canton
Details: Recently

restored and remastered tapes of the 1981 Tony winning Duke Ellington's *Sophisticated Ladies* are now being exhibited on the big screen for the first time. The historic first live-in-performance capture of a currently running Broadway musical will be presented in remastered 5.1 surround sound. The production features the Duke Ellington Orchestra under the direction of Mercer Ellington.

Cookie Walk

Date/Time: Saturday, Dec. 7, 8:30 a.m. to noon
Location: Northville 1st United Methodist Church, 777 Eight Mile, Northville
Details: The Northville 1st United Methodist Church is hosting Cookie Walk 2013, a fundraiser for the Appalachian Service Project. ASP is a Christian home repair/home building ministry through which our volunteers and staff repair and build homes for low-income families in rural Appalachia.

Plymouth boy graces annual Galens poster



Galens Medical Society will conduct its 87th annual Tag Days fundraiser from Thursday, Dec. 5, through Saturday, Dec. 7.
 During this time, University of Michigan medical students will be posted throughout Ann Arbor collecting donations, 100 percent of which will go directly to support children at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital and across Washtenaw County.
 For 100 years, Galens Medical Society has been composed of medical students dedicated to providing assistance to the children of Washtenaw County. During Tag Days, volunteers clad in red ponchos request donations from pedestrians at locations in downtown Ann Arbor and surrounding areas.
 As a display of their generosity, donors receive a tag to wear proudly. For many community members, giving during Tag Days is a time-honored tradition that marks the beginning of the holiday season.
 The child featured on the group's poster this year is a 3-year-old Plymouth boy named Owen, who loves fire trucks and playing with his twin brother and older sister.

Galens officials called Owen "an example of just one of the many children we help support."
 Owen was hospitalized earlier this year with severe anemia, required numerous blood transfusions while at Mott Children's Hospital, but "remained in good spirits throughout his stay," officials said.
 Each year, Galens allocates funds to the Mott Children's Hospital Child and Family Life program, along with other local organizations serving children in need. Past recipients have included Corner Health Center in Ypsilanti, Family Book Club of Ann Arbor, the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan and Special Days Camp, a week-long summer camp for children with cancer and leukemia staffed by U-M Pediatric Heme/Onc doctors and volunteers.
 Galens also supports educational programs such as Project Healthy Schools at sites in Ypsilanti, Ann Arbor and Detroit. In addition to providing funding, Galens members regularly volunteer with Child Life Services at Mott Hospital and at other service sites in the community.

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Huge weight loss changes Canton man's outlook on life

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Brian Flemming had been big all his life, but largely ignored his parents' pleas to become more active.

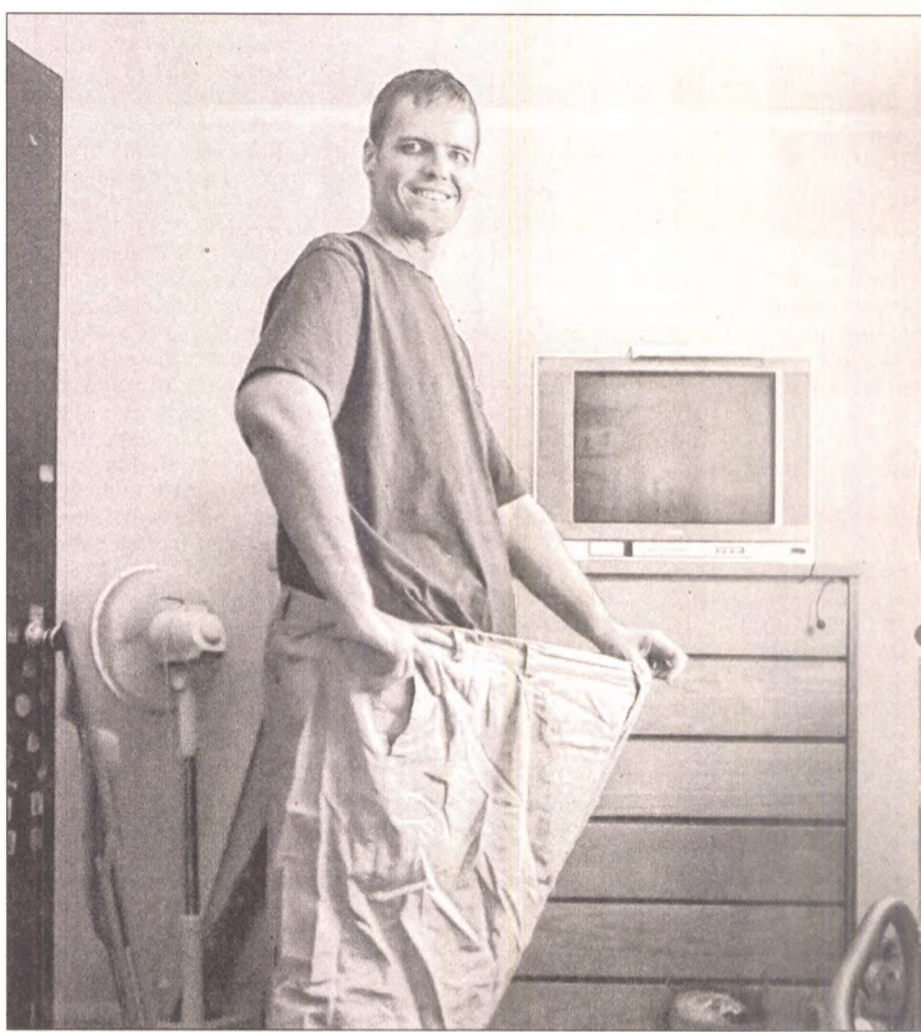
Oh, sure, the 2000 Canton High School graduate was in the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band, so he was getting at least a little exercise. He got winded walking even short distances and was never willing to give up his junk food and unhealthy lifestyle.

At his heaviest, Flemming said, he weighed some 625 pounds.

And still, it took the kind of anger and chastising only a friend could get away with to finally wake him up. That friend, Jackie Eastham of London, is dealing with her own health issues – though she's fit and eats well, she suffers from muscular dystrophy – but still took the time to talk to Flemming about his own health.

Finally Eastham, talking to him via Facebook and Skype and other social media from her home in England, convinced him he was headed toward a tragic ending.

"She's never had to deal with that. ... She has muscular dystrophy to deal with. She's fit, she cycles to work every day. She's been dealing with this and then she sees me living an unhealthy lifestyle," Flemming said. "It made her angry. Nobody had ever reacted to me that way. She's fighting to stay



Brian Flemming of Canton went from a 60-inch waist to a 38-inch waist.

alive and she sees me throwing it away. That was the day I decided to make some changes."

At 625 pounds, the changes had to come slowly. The first thing Flemming, 31, did was to start jogging in place. He'd get up a little earlier and go for five minutes. It was only five minutes, but he did it every day. "The consistency was the important thing," he said.

He graduated to walk-

ing laps around his neighborhood in the Cherry Hill/Lotz area, building up to five miles a day. At the same time, he changed his diet, cutting out red meat and limiting his sugar intake.

His parents, Tom and Mary, had no real idea what he was doing.

"He didn't tell us about it at first," Mary Flemming said. "He didn't often eat meals with us, so we didn't know what he was doing

until he started asking us to get certain items from the grocery store."

He borrowed his father's bike, but found that getting out on it was difficult – "It was tough at first getting over the anxiety, people would be looking at me," he said – but he forced himself to get out and ride, adding a little distance each time.

Eventually, he incorporated it into his commute to work (he works for the Better

Business Bureau in Southfield). Eventually, he'd drive halfway and cycle the last 11 miles into work.

Toward the end of the summer, he cycled all the way to work every Friday.

He's adopted Jackie's European attitude toward eating: It doesn't matter what you eat, it's about portion control.

The number started coming down on the scale. Flemming now weighs 279 pounds and last week walked the Turkey Trot in Canton. It took him about 48 minutes because it was cold and icy.

But he finished.

"I never imagined him being able to do that with the amount of weight he had to lose," Mary Flemming said.

"But he accomplished that and now is anxious to do even more. He tells us he wants to run a marathon and, after seeing what he has done so far, I'm certain he will do it."

Flemming is looking forward to an upcoming 10K he's planning on doing. First, though, he's looking forward to a holiday trip to London to finally meet Eastham, face to face.

"I owe so much of this to Jackie. She's been a huge part of my life," he said. "She got me to appreciate life a little more. She made me realize I was throwing my life away, that I had a lot more to live for."

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313-222-8899
Twitter: @bkadrich

Holidays affect trash pickup

Canton Township officials are reminding residents curbside pickup of residential yard waste ends this week and will not resume until April.

In addition, officials said, Canton Waste Recycling has reshaped its schedule for holiday collections.

CWR will not pick up Tuesday, Dec. 24, Wednesday, Dec. 25, Tuesday, Dec. 31 or Wednesday, Jan. 1. There will be no delay in pickup Monday, Dec. 23, and Monday, Dec. 30, but if a resident's collection day is Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday during the holiday week, that collection will be delayed by two days both weeks.

The weeks of Dec. 23 and Dec. 30, CWR will be picking up Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. CWR will resume its regular pickup schedule Monday, Jan. 6.

CWR will offer curbside pickup of natural Christmas trees Jan. 2-8. Trees should be at the curb by 6:30 a.m. on the regular trash day with all tree stands, lights, ornaments and any other decorative material removed. After Jan. 8, trees will no longer be accepted at the curb.

All refuse, recycling and yard waste must be placed at the curb by 6:30 a.m. to ensure pickup. CWR will not pick up refuse or recycling that is placed past the sidewalk on private property. All recycling must be placed separate from refuse on the opposite side of your driveway.

For questions or more information on solid waste collection, visit www.canton-mi.org or call CWR at 734-397-5801.

"Why All the Household Dust?"

I'm Keith Meadows, owner and operator of American Power Vac, Inc. For years, I've been improving our community's health one family at a time. By now we've all heard the statistics: 50% of all illness is a direct relation to dirty indoor air and our indoor air is up to 90 times more polluted than outdoor air. Yet, 90% of the calls I receive everyday are from desperate people complaining about dust. They tell me they dust the TV on Friday, but by Sun-day they are pushing the dust out of the way again so they can watch Dancing with the Stars, and none of them know exactly where it's coming from. Well, I'm here to tell you that it's not because you're a bad housekeeper, I tell people that by simply having your ducts cleaned will drastically reduce household dust, and the reason is, your cold air returns.

Cold air returns suck in dirty air, and over time it builds up until you have the same type of debris that you would find in your vacuum bag. Visit our website at www.americanpowervac.com for an actual photo of the debris that is pulled from a typical home.

Cold air returns are also the reason new homeowners are experiencing dust. While your drywall was being sanded, your cold air returns sucked all of the dust through the system and it settled on the bottom of the duct lines where a little at a time gets blown back into your home. To prove it, take a walk down into your basement, look up at the

ceiling for thin sheets of tin nailed between your floor joists. These are your cold air return lines. Give them a good pounding. You'll see puffs of dust seeping out of the edges. That my friends, is the reason you have uncontrollable dust problems!

This debris cannot be removed without a professional. Which brings me to my next point: choosing an air duct cleaning company. Most companies use portable units, which are like a shop vac that you would vacuum your car with, obviously a b s o l u t e l y useless. Then there are companies who claim they have a truck-mounted system. In reality, they have a low powered portable system attached inside a van, again, absolutely useless. Visit our website for photos of our equipment

vs. portable or truck mounted equipment at www.americanpowervac.com.



April and Keith Meadows help keep indoor air clean with their local business, American Power Vac.

"One of the best companies I have ever had working in my home. They were very professional and I was very satisfied with their workmanship and clean up. I would hire your company again in a heartbeat, and would gladly spread the word to family, friends and neighbors. Great company you have going."

C. Miller, Bloomfield Hills
"American Power Vac is amazing. You are outstanding in professional manner and in how courteous you are."
L. Bermudez, Sterling Heights
for more testimonials visit us @ www.americanpowervac.com

What makes the difference in equipment? Power! To put things into perspective, your furnace moves 2,000 CFM's (cubic feet of air per minute), basically what you feel coming out of your register. Truck-mounted

equipment only moves 4,000 CFM's. American Power Vac moves over 16,000 cubic feet of air per minute, more than quadruple the power of any truck-mounted equipment.

Beware of companies using cheap equipment and advertising cheap prices... most are unlicensed or advertise that they are licensed and are not!

Avoid Scams by not falling for cheap get you in the door prices.

When asked what sets you apart from your competitors Keith says "Honest service is number one, equipment is number two. I know the importance of being on time, working with a smile, and respecting people's homes and their belongings." There are a lot of duct cleaners around but rest assured you'll receive the same Quality and Service we expect. American Power Vac is family owned and were here to help by offering a

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Smart Meters group hosts film showing, discussion

Michigan Stop Smart Meters is hosting a free showing of the film *Take Back Your Power*, to be followed by discussion and a question/answer period, in a presentation from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Plymouth District Library.

The film focuses on the electric grid and smart electric, gas and water meters that are being placed into service nationwide and worldwide. Group officials say DTE is installing electric smart meters for its entire 2 million-plus customers in southeast Michigan "despite intense protest from many." Michigan Stop Smart Meters officials have taken the position that the new meters are harmful both to public health and to the privacy of individual customers.

With insight from insiders, government representatives, whistleblowers, lawyers, doctors and environmentalists, group officials said *Take Back Your Power* "investigates claimed benefits and emerging risks of this ubiquitous 'smart' grid program."

The film runs 100 minutes and will be followed by dividing the audience into groups to discuss the film and for audience members to discover how they, in turn, can take back their own power.

One of the discussion topics will be the efforts of state Rep. Tom McMillin, who has introduced, with seven co-sponsors, HR 4315 to protect utility customers.

The Plymouth District Library is located at 223 S. Main. The presentation is open to the public.

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Museum hosts pair of fundraisers

The Plymouth Historical Museum hosts its annual Juried Craft Bazaar and Open House from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7.

All artisans have been specially selected for their unique gifts and ideas. Crafts range from jewelry and ceramic art to knit and recycled creations, making it easy to find something for everyone on your Christmas list this year. As in past years, the museum will also hold a bake sale filled with a wide varieties of tasty snacks and refreshments to enjoy while shopping.

Kids will be able to decorate cookies and make ornaments and Santa will be visiting all day; parents can take their own photos of their children with the Jolly Old Elf. The museum's exhibit, "A Red Ryder Christmas Story," based on the beloved movie *A Christmas Story*, will also be open. The exhibit runs through Jan. 19.

All activities are free and open to the public.

Simply Dickens

Visitors can celebrate a nostalgic Christmas with the vocal group Simply Dickens, who will



Visitors can celebrate a nostalgic Christmas with the vocal group Simply Dickens, who will perform "Old World Christmas Carols" Dec. 13 at the Plymouth Historical Museum.

perform "Old World Christmas Carols" at the Plymouth Historical Museum at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13. The show focuses on music of the 18th and 19th centuries, highlighting Christmas carols that were popular long ago.

Some tunes will be familiar, while others may be a first-time experience. Group members incorporate holiday skits, adding comedy and laughter to this seasonal performance. Tickets to the "Old World Christmas Carols" show are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door and can be purchased at the museum or on the website at www.plymouthhistory.org.

chased at the museum or on the website at www.plymouthhistory.org.

Purchase a new or renewed membership to the Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum (\$50 value) and receive two free tickets to this event. Museum doors will open at 6 p.m., the show begins at 7 p.m.

For more information, call 734-455-8940. The museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, one block north of downtown Plymouth. For more information, visit the website at www.plymouthhistory.org.

Daisy bricks part of PCAC art sale

Original artwork by Plymouth Community Arts Council instructors and featured artists, plus a limited supply of bricks from the newly demolished Daisy Wall, will be available during the PCAC's holiday art sale Saturday.

The sale is 3-6 p.m. Saturday at the PCAC, 774 N. Sheldon, at Junction, in Plymouth. The arts council hasn't sponsored a holiday sale for

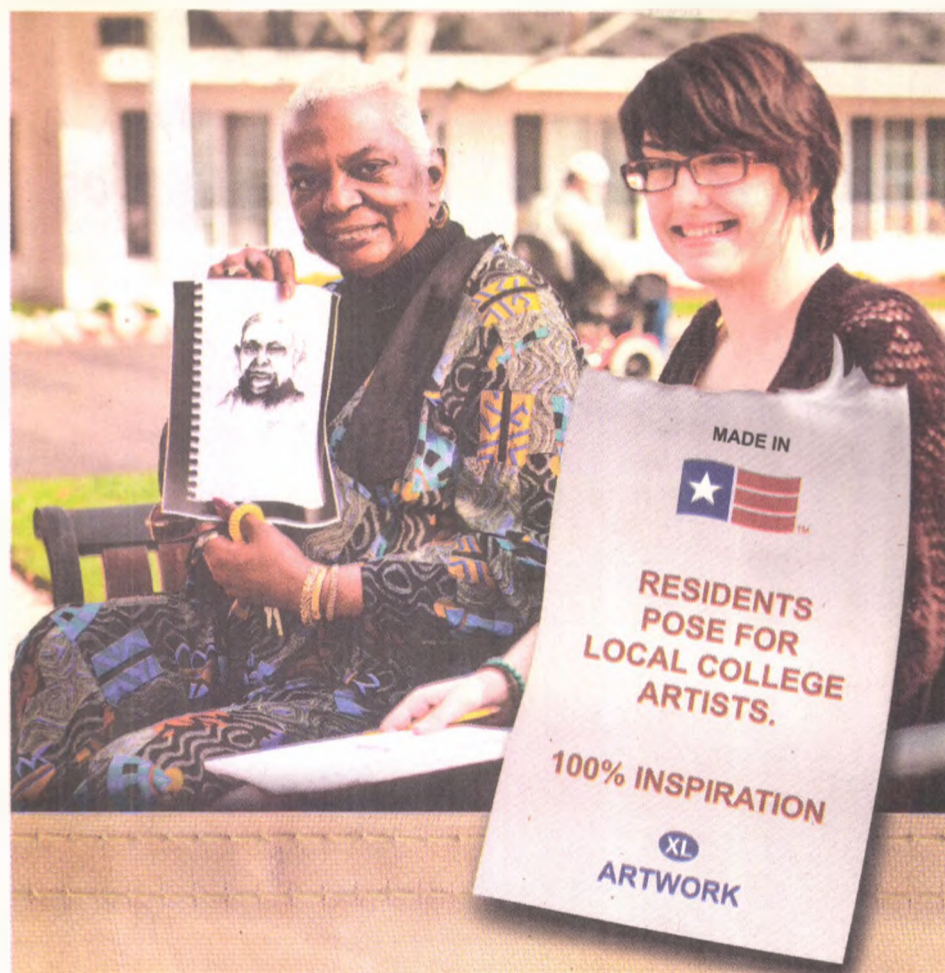
many years, but it is being revived this year as a way to launch the PCAC's winter fundraising campaign, executive director Lisa Howard said.

"I just wanted to give my artists and my instructors a chance to get some sales in before Christmas time," Howard said.

Proceeds will be divided between the artist and the PCAC.

The sale will offer work that includes hand-illustrated ornaments by Nick Bair; wood-block prints by Tony Roko, Brian Rizza and instructor Kirbi Fagan; paintings, prints and cards by instructor Denise Cassidy Wood; felted holiday trees by Jan Waller; vintage-inspired pottery by Howard; and more.

Proceeds will be split between the artists and the nonprofit PCAC.



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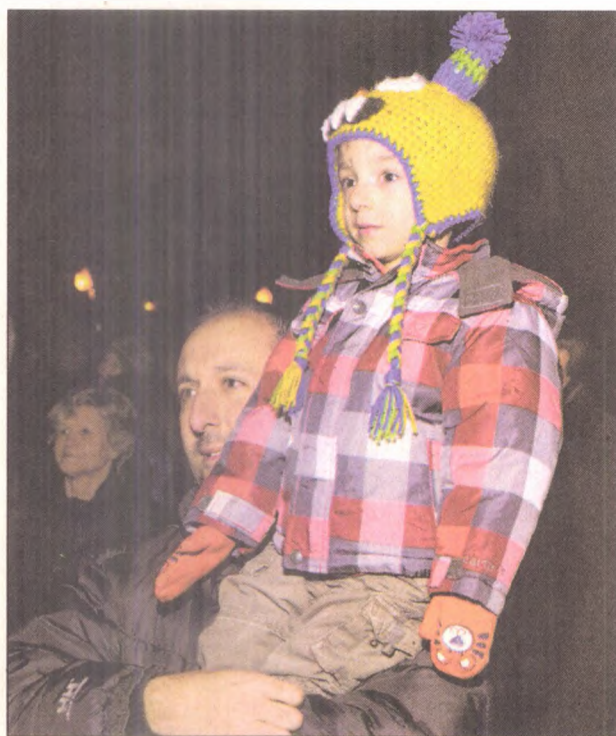
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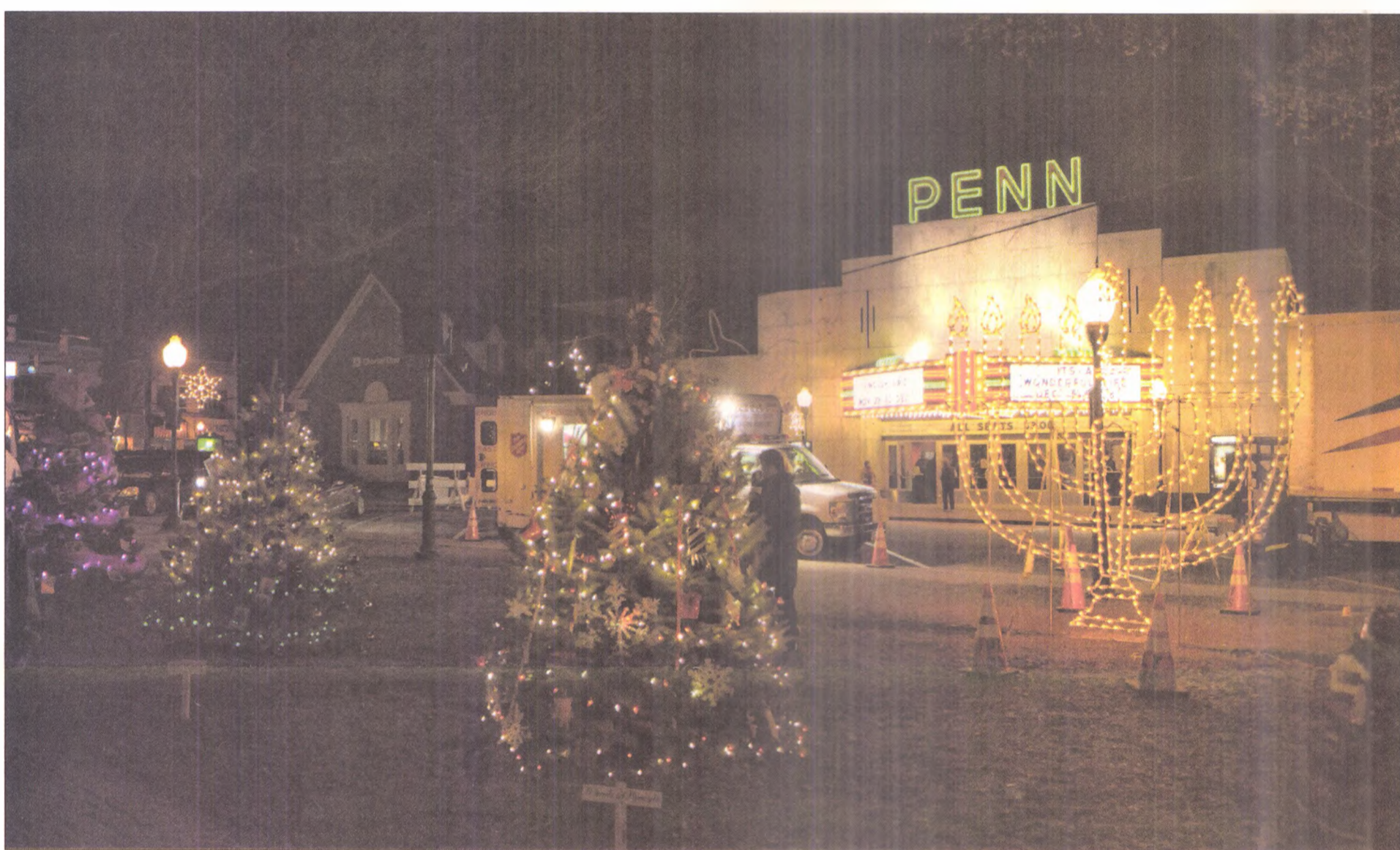


Tressa Priehs of Plymouth enjoys a hot chocolate with her kids, Camden and Aubriana, at Kellogg Park in Plymouth. TOM BEAUDOIN



Canton residents Robert D'Amico and son Luca enjoy a chilly night out as they watch the fun on stage before Santa arrives. TOM BEAUDOIN

PLYMOUTH TURNS OUT TO WELCOME SANTA



Kellogg Park is lit up for the holiday season. TOM BEAUDOIN

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

They might have turned out Friday to try and get a sneak peek at Santa's "naughty or nice" list.

Or they may have come to persuade Santa to get them the treasured gift they're hoping to find under the tree in three weeks.

Or they may simply have come to welcome Santa and Mrs. Claus, along with Christmas Carol, back to Plymouth.

Whatever the reason, kids of all ages turned out Friday as the Jolly Old Elf arrived on the traditional Plymouth firetruck.

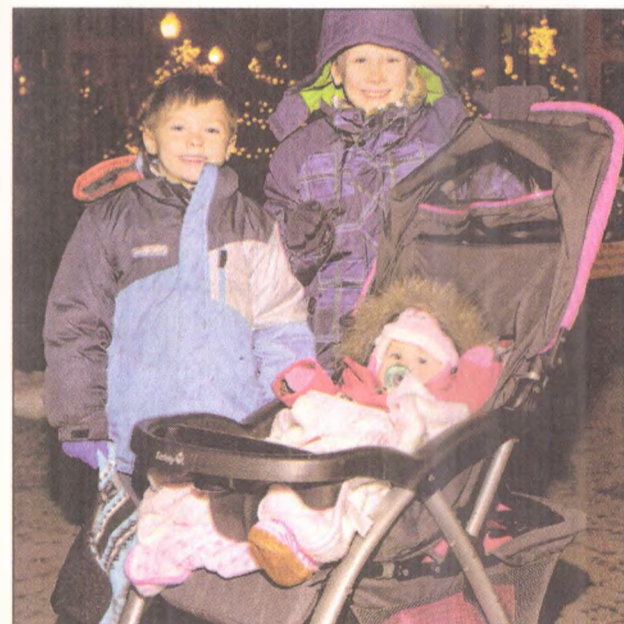
He was greeted by cheers and laughter as he prepared to light the Kellogg Park Christmas trees.

When the ceremony was over and the songs had been sung and the Salvation Army had handed out all the hot chocolate, Santa sauntered over to his house on the outskirts of Kellogg Park and began hearing the thoughts of the children of Plymouth.

And the kids were happy to share them.



The eyes of Canton 4-year-old Austin Gadowski light up after he pulls the switch that lit the trees in Kellogg Park. TOM BEAUDOIN



Brothers Christian and Aydan and sister Alli Shalda of Canton are all smiles as they wait to see Santa. TOM BEAUDOIN



P-CEP members Hannah Rhode and Alexa Rumohr sing Christmas carols in Kellogg Park. TOM BEAUDOIN

Don't let discounts influence choices

I've noticed when paying for a purchase, the cashier asks about signing up for the store's charge card. As an enticement, a discount ranging from 5 to 20 percent is offered on the initial purchase.

Although I am a believer that wherever you can save money you should, I'm not so sure it makes sense in many situations to sign up for these charge cards. Yes, you are saving some money but, in the long run, it can cost you.

How good are these store charge cards? Typically, these types of charge cards carry higher interest rates than a major charge card.

In addition, the grace period (the period you have to pay your bill without paying interest) is sometimes not as long as with other charge cards. Store cards are generally not as consumer-friendly as other charge cards.

Some people sign up for any charge card they can in order to take advantage of the discounts. This sounds like a good strategy, but it can backfire. Whenever you apply for credit, it adversely



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

affects your credit scores.

Credit score

Taking a hit on a credit score can be costly, particularly if you are planning to refinance a home or apply for a car loan. In addition, it is important to recognize that in today's world, credit scores can be used for more than just obtaining credit. Auto insurance companies use them to set rates and employers are beginning to use credit scores when it comes to hiring.

Credit cards are an important financial instrument. Obtaining a new charge card should not be a spur-of-the-moment decision.

Every so often, consumers need to review their charge cards to make sure they have the right ones for their individual situation. How many charge cards do you need? I don't know. However, it is important

to recognize that not all charge cards are the same. Not only can interest rates be different, but in addition, such things as grace periods, annual fees and rewards you receive can all be significantly different.

Selecting the right card depends on how you use your charge card. For example, if you pay your bill on time, then the interest rate is not as much a factor as is the grace period.

If you carry a balance, the interest rate is more important than the grace period. The bottom line - having the right charge card can be a money saver.

As you continue your holiday shopping and every store in town offers you a charge card, my advice is, ignore them. I recognize that savings can be significant; however, having the wrong charge card can cost substantially more. Good luck.

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

Plymouth marks Pearl Harbor Day

Plymouth plays host Saturday to a ceremony designed to "Remember Pearl Harbor."

The ceremony takes place at 1 p.m. Saturday in Veterans Memorial Park, in front of Central Middle School at the corner of Main and Church in downtown Plymouth.

"December 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor Day, is a

day that should be a somewhat quiet memory of those military men and women who never asked questions, but followed orders and died," said Frank Pawlak, commander of Plymouth's American Legion Post No. 391.

This ceremony is a cooperative event of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 6695, the

Vietnam Veterans of America chapter No. 528 and American Legion Post No. 391.

The ceremony will end with the laying of wreaths, a prayer, a rifle salute and *Taps* as a special tribute to the men and women who made the supreme sacrifice and died at Pearl Harbor.



Santa is Coming to Our Livonia Branch

Saturday, Dec. 7th!

10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

37401 Plymouth Road

(Corner of Newburgh)

- ❄️ **Free Stocking Filled With Candy & Surprises**
- ❄️ **Free Fingerprinting Kit**
- ❄️ **Free Snacks & Refreshments**
- ❄️ **Bring in this ad and receive the first \$5.00 to open your account** (not redeemable for cash)
- ❄️ **Pictures With Santa (Bring Your Camera)**
- ❄️ **To open an account, bring in the child's Social Security card.**

Everyone Welcome!



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Whalers host Teddy Bear toss



Chuck Gaidica (left) and George Klempert of Family Heating Cooling & Electrical, Inc., are joining forces Saturday to support the Whalers' annual Teddy Bear Toss.

When the Plymouth Whalers host the Guelph Storm at 7:05 p.m. Saturday at Compuware Arena, they'll be asking fans to bring a furry little friend along to help support a great cause.

Saturday is the Whalers' 14th annual Teddy Bear Toss. For those new to the Teddy Bear Toss, the first time the Whalers score, fans are encouraged to throw their stuffed animals onto the ice. Once the stuffed animals are collected, Plymouth Community United Way will find great homes for the comforting toys.

Last season, Plymouth left wing Matt Mistele scored at 11:21 of the first period to trigger the rain of stuffed animals out of the crowd and onto the ice surface.

After the Whalers' most successful Teddy Bear Toss last season, Plymouth is enlisting the help of Chuck Gaidica from WDIV-TV (Channel 4) and local corporate sponsor Family Heating



A few of Chuck Gaidica's Cuddle Alert Bears watch the Whalers practice.

Cooling & Electrical, Inc., to try to top last season's Teddy Bear Toss.

"We're always very excited and a little anxious to see the first Whalers goal," said Dawn Frey, senior vice president of advertising for Family Heating, Cooling & Electrical, Inc. "But when the stuffed animals come raining down, there's nothing but smiles in the building. Everyone involved is contributing something to make Saturday a special night. It's all about the right stuff - good people contributing to a great cause."

When fans arrive at the game, they'll be invited to purchase one of

Gaidica's Cuddle Alert Bears for just \$5 to throw on the ice. They also have the option to bring a new stuffed animal to the game.

Saturday's game is also Plymouth's 11th annual Salute to Heroes Night. Veterans and current armed forces members will receive a complimentary ticket (with ID), while family members can purchase tickets for \$10.

Tickets are available online at <http://www.plymouthwhalers.com>, or call the Plymouth Whalers box office at 734-453-8400. Military and their families are encouraged to call the box office early for tickets.

HOLIDEALES ALL DECEMBER

AT BILL AND ROD'S APPLIANCES AND MATTRESSES

BILL AND ROD'S KITCHEN APPLIANCES MAKE HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING EASIER

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Queen Inner Spring Mattress
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Offer valid 10/15/2013 thru 12/31/2013




See Store for Details

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Save on appliances that complete your kitchen with this exclusive invitation

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Bring in an Unwrapped gift for Goodfellows and we will pay your sales tax

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Blackwell opens Quick Lane

Blackwell Ford announced the opening of its brand new Quick Lane of Plymouth.

The new location of Quick Lane in Plymouth services all makes and models promptly, to get drivers on their way. With convenient early morning and Saturday

hours, Blackwell officials said the new Quick Lane "makes your oil change experience more than easy."

Blackwell Ford's Quick Lane of Plymouth's hours are 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday; 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and

Friday; 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Quick Lane of Plymouth and Blackwell Ford are located at 41001 Plymouth Road.

Visit www.QuickLane-ofPlymouth.com for complete details.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

Community breakfast

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts its annual Economic Forecast Breakfast 7:30-9 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11, at the Hilton Garden Inn on Sheldon Road.

Keynote speakers will be Bill Lawton, president of Community Financial, and state Rep. Kurt Heise.

Lawton will provide an overview of where the economy is likely headed next year and how to take advantage of future trends. Heise will provide a perspective on potential state legislation that will affect businesses and a preview of the 2014 election. Next year, chamber officials said, one of the biggest issues for business will be a ballot proposal to eliminate personal property tax and provide replacement revenue for local governments.

There will also be a short preview of the 2014 Plymouth Winter Fest, set for Jan. 10-12. There is a new preview of the show and renewed focus on creating high-quality ice sculptures.

To RSVP, email terri@plymouthmich.org or call 734-453-1540 by Dec. 16. Cost is \$12.

Red Ryder

Visitors can celebrate the holidays at the Plymouth Historical Museum with the new exhibit "A Red Ryder Christmas Story." The exhibit is based on the Christmas movie, *A Christmas Story*, as well as the original story by Jean Shepherd from which the movie is based.

The museum will be filled with vignettes of scenes from the movie, including the infamous leg lamp and Flick's tongue getting stuck to the lamp pole. The movie and stories are nostalgic of the late depression era and early years of World War II, which the exhibit seeks to capture by incorporating items from the time period.

Since Red Ryder BB guns were originally sold by Daisy Manufacturing Co. of Plymouth, the story of Ralphie's quest for this particular BB gun is significant to Plymouth's history. "A Red Ryder Christmas Story" runs through Jan. 19.

Also, Santa Claus will be present at the museum for visiting children every Saturday before Christmas. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students 6-17. The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, one block north of downtown Plymouth. Visit its website or call 734-455-8940 for



U.S. Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan (fifth from right) joins the Tognum America executive team in front of the Series 8000 naval defense engine during a visit Nov. 26 to MTU's Canton-based Product Training Center. At this center, MTU, a leading producer of diesel engines and propulsion systems, offers premier training for operators and other service personnel in North and Latin America.

more information.

New bistro

The Post Local Bistro will soon make its debut in downtown Plymouth on Penniman Avenue. The state of Michigan recently approved the liquor license transfer and the new owners will soon be making some renovations before opening in the former Rock Bar location.

Toys for Tots

Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel announce its annual Toys for Tots collection drive has begun. Each of the 16 Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel offices, including the Plymouth-Canton branch, will be a local toy drop-off location.

The Plymouth/Canton branch is located at 177 N. Main in Plymouth. Call 888-819-0691.

The U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program collects new, unwrapped toys during November and December each year and distributes these toys as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children within the community.

Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel has a long history of being involved with this program and as the company grows through the years, it is able to provide more physical locations as official drop-off sites.

Victory Lane Quick Oil Change of Plymouth is supporting the local Toys for Tots chapter this holiday season. Donations will be collected until Dec. 18, when all will be collected. Victory Lane has consistently been a supporter of local organizations that help strengthen the community.

As a part of the program, Toys for Tots collects new, unwrapped toys during the months of November and December in collection bins throughout the community. Around Christmas, the toys are then delivered to local children.

Anyone wishing to support Victory Lane can stop in and drop off an

unwrapped toy in the collection bin. Those who would rather support Toys for Tots financially can do so by visiting www.toysfortots.org. For more information on store locations and hours, please visit www.victorylane.net or call 734-667-4304.

Victory Lane Quick Oil Change is located at 903 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

Goodfellows partners

Showroom of Elegance, a fine jewelry store located at 6018 Canton Center Road, is joining with the Canton Goodfellows to host a canned food drive for Canton families this holiday season. Through Dec. 11, guests who visit Showroom of Elegance and donate either a \$10 non-perishable food item or a \$10 monetary donation receive one of three free gifts. The free gifts with \$10 donation are sterling silver ball earrings, sterling silver hoop earrings or a \$25 gift card for a repair service. These gifts are available while supplies last.

"Being a partner once again for this important cause is so incredibly important to the Showroom staff and the patrons who make the drive possible," said Linda Robin, owner of Showroom of Elegance. "Past years have been successful, but we are hoping to always top our previous level of donations collected."

The Canton Goodfellows was formed in the 1940s by Edward Hauk and Robert Waldecker, Canton residents. To learn about volunteer opportunities with the local charitable organization, contact the Canton Goodfellows at cantongoodfellows@gmail.com

Questions about the food drive can be directed to the Showroom staff at 734-207-1906. Regular store hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.



Zoro's Christmas Lights specializes in outside decorations for residential and commercial properties.

Zoro's Christmas Lights does the decorating for you

Martin Zoro of Livonia, owner of Zoro's Christmas Lights, which specializes in Christmas decor for residential and commercial properties, started his business in 2004.

He has six employees and three home-based offices, including one in Livonia.

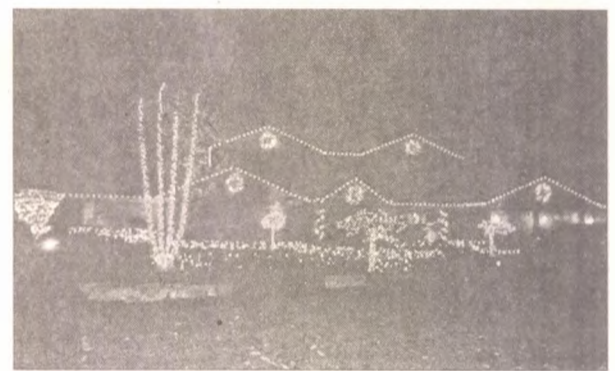
He answered the following questions about his business:

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

We specialize in outside decorations for residential and commercial as well. We also do power washing and gutter cleaning.

What makes your business unique?

My customer service, my prices, my company storage, meaning we



This Livonia home is ready for Christmas.

store our customers' lights so they don't worry about it.

How did you first decide to open your own business?

I wanted to be different. I wanted to own my own company.

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

A lady wanted Christmas lights. She was getting a divorce. I gave her the bill. She added a \$250 tip because her ex-husband was paying the bill.

Zoro's Christmas Lights can be reached 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at 248-408-6393 or www.zoroschristmaslights.com.

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50% off

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For the location nearest you, call 1-888-889-EYES

OUR VIEWS

STEADY DIET

Results show food service continues to be solid program

Remember when the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education made the decision several years ago to cut ties with longtime food service contractor Sodexo and bring the operation in-house?

Remember how there was a lot of loud wailing and gnashing of teeth — some of which was at least initially understandable, since the district was severing a long-term relationship with Sodexo — from people who thought it would never work?

Food services director Kristen Hennessey, hired away from Aramark to run the program in 2009, recently told board members the program once again spent money on updating equipment and still was able to contribute more than \$290,000 to the general fund.

Hennessey and her staff — whom she lavishly credits every chance she gets for the program's success — have improved the program in nearly every way. The food is better, it's more nutritious, it's served more efficiently and more kids are eating it.

Lunch participation increased 7 percent last year and, despite a slight drop in breakfast participation brought on largely by busing issues with the district's move to all-day kindergarten, overall participation is up 1.5 percent. The district, according to a report given recently by Hennessey to the school board, served some 1.6 million meals last year.

How good is the food? Schools are earning honors such as the HealthierUS



Students are benefiting from a more nutritional, balanced diet, as these Allen Elementary students are reminded at the entrance to their cafeteria.

School Challenge Bronze Award in a national initiative spearheaded by First Lady Michelle Obama, to promote healthier school meals, physical activity and fitness opportunities and nutrition education.

Other districts want their services. Plymouth-Canton

continues its agreement with Livonia Public Schools to have Hennessey, who also had experience in Wayne-Westland, run that district's food services program. Hennessey's staff will also continue to provide meals to Our Lady of Good Counsel School this year. The staff participated in the

Gleaners backpack program, building some 49 food bags weekly. They also partnered with local business to give families food baskets and turkeys, plus started the full food service program at Starkweather at Fiegel.

Perhaps the true measure of the district's success: The kids are digging it. Hennessey and her staff are using programs like Jump with Jill and other speakers to present the upside of healthy food habits in a way that has students excited.

The days when the decision to bring the program back in-house drew whispers and outright criticism are long gone. Hennessey and her staff have worked hard to prove it was the right decision. It was then and it is now.

OUR VIEWS



The annual Compassionate Friends candlelight vigil, set for 7 p.m. Sunday in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth, is always an emotional event.

Vigil a tremendous source of support

Chances are, even if you haven't lost a child suddenly, you know someone who has.

If you're looking for a way to support those parents — or to just help others facing something you'd hate to face — Sunday's Candlelight Vigil conducted by the Compassionate Friends' Western Wayne County Chapter would be a good way to do it.

The vigil, meant to honor children lost too soon, starts at 7 p.m. in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth. Families will gather near memory trees specially decorated with the names of children who have died too soon.

The event features poetry readings, songs and the reading of names of children (to register your child, call 734-778-0800 or email tcfcandlelight@yahoo.com). There are trees bearing ornaments honoring the children and the event fills Kellogg Park every year.

Candles are provided and the lighting of them is always an emotional moment. The theoretical idea is for every chapter in the world to hold its vigil at the same time, creating a "circle of light" to honor the children.

For the parents who've lost loved ones, it's a tremendous show of support, a vast demonstration that they're not alone, that others face the same emotional upheaval. It's one of the truly blessed things about The Compassionate Friends, providing a network of help as parents, families and friends work through the grief.

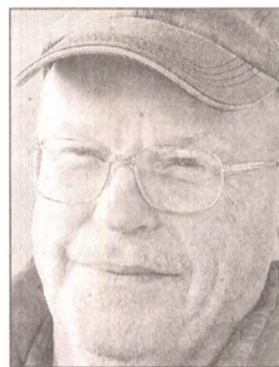
For the parents who haven't lost a child, the event provides an honest "There, but for the grace of God, go I" moment.

If you haven't experienced the emotion, Sunday's a good chance to feel it.

COMMUNITY VOICE

After their win on Thanksgiving Day, do you think the Detroit Lions will make the playoffs?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



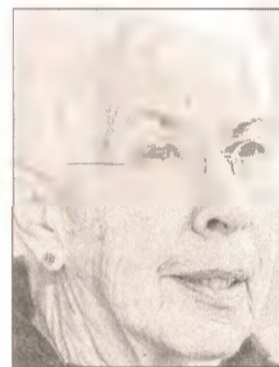
"Yes, they'll make the playoffs, but they're going to get eliminated early. ... Too many mistakes."

Robert Westerkamp
Northville Township



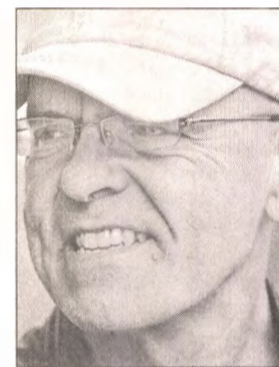
"Yes, I think they will. I don't think they'll win."

Sharon James
Canton Township



"Yes. 'Cause I think they're doing very, very well."

Judy Hennels
Plymouth Township



"Yes. They're doing a lot better this year."

Craig Tripp
Canton Township

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Take Thanksgiving back

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln gave the American people the Thanksgiving holiday. In 2013, corporate America took the holiday away.

Macy's was the first in this area when it announced that it would open its doors at 6 p.m. Thanksgiving day. Other retailers followed suit. Kmart decided to open up at 8 a.m. Thanksgiving day. Kmart also said it would not allow its employees time off for their Thanksgiving dinner. A manager of a Taco Bell closed Thanksgiving day because his employees had been promised the day off. He was fired.

I think we should take the holiday back. We should all refuse not to shop Thanksgiving day. Maybe the sentiment would spread and retailers will get the message to close Thanksgiving and let their employees spend time with their families.

Thomas M. Hartnett
Canton

Censoring the press?

It was with some apprehension that I responded to a knock on my front door. It turned out to be the UPS driver. The reason for my caution was that I feared the Gestapo would be standing on my porch.

When the Nazis came to power, the first thing they did was censor the press to stifle the opposition and end free speech.

According to an article Nov. 28 in *The Detroit News*, a right-wing politician from Troy, John Pappageorge, has introduced a bill in the Senate that sounds like it was drafted in 1935 Germany. The bill would make a criminal out of anyone who dared to share their opinion of politicians in the "Letters to the Editor" section of our newspapers.

These Tea Party hacks have no shame. Even when a law is thrown out by our courts, they have accomplished their goals: fear and intimidation.

Well, Mr. Pappageorge, let's dance. Get your cohorts to make this law, get your "yes man" governor to sign it and give it immediate effect, just like all the other laws you passed that

have hurt my people. Oh, and make it retroactive to include this letter.

Then, make me the first — how did you put it? — oh yeah, bottom-feeder, you persecute, oops, prosecute.

Finally, I would like to know who you are trying to protect with this bill? Never mind, I think I'll ask Patrick Colbeck. I'm sure he knows.

James Huddleston
Canton

Fox in hen house

According to published reports, it appears our Tea Party-ing lawmakers have expanded their pool of potential employers to include the Michigan Oil and Gas Association.

A bill championed by, no surprise, Patrick Colbeck would deprive our poorest northern counties of millions of dollars from oil and gas operations. How will the school districts and local governments make up this huge loss, you ask?

Why, the same way we are expected to in our area: Fire teachers, police officers, firefighters and other crucial workers or raise our property taxes. "People, we have to protect Big Business at all costs" or, at least, that's the theme song of Colbeck and Co.

I hope our northern neighbors now see the consequences of putting the fox in charge of the hen house. The fox doesn't care whose chicken it eats.

James Huddleston
Canton

Consider research

A recent letter from Scott Julian, Ph.D., warned that published scientific research on child outcomes of same-sex parents was not all of the same quality and that inappropriate methodologies could lead to erroneous conclusions.

His point that it is important to consider author biases and methodological appropriateness has wide applicability. Readers and policy makers must carefully consider the best that academic research has to offer to support stands on such issues parenting outcomes.

Unfortunately, Dr. Julian has

presented an inaccurate assessment of the research he cites, reinforcing the imperative that readers must inform themselves and come to their own conclusions. Simply having a Ph.D. does not make one an expert in all fields nor render one immune from personal bias.

The central conclusion of the noted research by Marks (2012 in *Social Science Research*) is that the available data on same-sex parenting "are insufficient to support a strong generalized claim either way." In other words, research methodologies have a long way to go before the question of parenting outcomes for different types of families can be definitively answered.

The research by Regnerus (2012 also in *Social Science Research*), also cited by Dr. Julian, has a variety of flaws, the most critical being that it does not separate out stable same-sex families from single instances of a same-sex relationship nor does it control for the host of other factors that might also impact outcomes for children of same-sex couples such as adoption or age of adoption. In short, the definitions and indicators used have serious flaws.

Based on existing research, it is simply impossible to make the conclusion that "most academic research is showing [same-sex] parenting to be, on average, inferior." And suggesting that such a conclusion has been made is a gross misrepresentation of the state of the research field, generally, and of the articles specifically cited by Dr. Julian. It is thus distressing that anyone with a college education would so blatantly pick and choose facts that suit their own particular argument, especially in a letter that is snidely critical of such actions by others.

Regardless of the topic, we support Dr. Julian's advice to carefully consider the best available scientific research, including the methodology, sampling, representativeness and conclusions, before reaching a conclusion about a particular issue. We are sorry he did not follow his own advice.

Laura Reese, Ph.D.
Plymouth

PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

A GANNETT COMPANY

Brad Kadrich,
Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
Executive Editor

Grace Perry,
Director of
Advertising

Time to clean up undisclosed money

Weeks ago, before our political life got interrupted for important things (Thanksgiving, turkey, football) we were treated to a bombshell from Secretary of State Ruth Johnson.

Responding to a request by the State Bar of Michigan to disclose public disclosure of donors who sponsor millions in so-called "issue ads" in judicial elections, Johnson (a GOP officeholder elected in 2010) proposed to issue a new rule outlawing anonymous spending on all political ads, whether or not they actually use words of express advocacy - vote for, vote against and so forth.

That shook up her Republican colleagues, big-time. The very next day - after an emergency session closed-door recess - the Republican-dominated Committee on Local Government and Elections adopted, without any public discussion, a bill that would gut Johnson's proposed reporting requirement.

The full Senate, more than two-thirds of whose members are also Republican, agreed within less than 24 hours - remarkable speed for a normally "deliberative" body.

Money has long been recognized to be the mother's milk of politics and it is clear that many of those feeding are unwilling to be weaned. A top state elected Republican official gets slapped down by an alarmed Republican-dominated state Senate.

Political reformers are screaming bloody murder. And all eyes are now focused on Gov. Rick Snyder, whose "vision" statement back when he was running in 2010 said:



Phil Power

GUEST COLUMNIST

"Michigan's citizens are tired of the divisive political culture in Lansing. Midnight deals, closed door meetings, lobbyists and special interest influence have stood in the way of long-term solutions. As governor, I will ensure that government is open, fair and accountable to the citizens by making Michigan a national leader in transparency and ethics."

What will House do?

The question now is: Will the state House of Representatives - still Republican-controlled, but by a much narrower margin - pass this bill? And if it does, will Snyder sign or veto it?

In a column published Nov. 24 in *Bridge Magazine*, Rich Robinson, executive director of the non-partisan, nonprofit Michigan Campaign Finance Network, wrote that "The statistical truth is that Michigan has become swamped by dark money."

What is indisputable is that we certainly live in an era when a ton of money - we simply don't know how much - that is spent on elections comes without any public disclosure. And that, in turn, opens the door to all kinds of citizen skepticism about who in the dark of night is paying for all that political campaigning. You don't have to be very sophisticated to know they expect something for it.

Government should do its business in the sunshine. When this became news, we were quickly

inundated by various arguments from those trying to stop full disclosure of campaign contributions.

Opponents of openness said this would violate free speech and expose contributors to retaliation once their names are made known. Maybe so. But nobody's requiring anyone to make those big contributions and, if they want to put their money where their mouths are, they have a corresponding obligation to be accountable to the public for their financial expression of their political will.

How to fix problem

As long as millions of dollars in dark money are sloshing around Michigan - much of it from anonymous, out-of-state donors - most citizens are perfectly justified in figuring that the only reason to keep this stuff secret is that something corrupt or scandalous is going on. And the only way to fix this problem is to require public disclosure for all campaign contributions.

The real solution is very simple: Take all limits off any campaign contribution of any sort - finishing a process the U.S. Supreme Court started in its Citizens United decision in January 2010.

But in return, require immediate public disclosure of all contributions - something the nation's highest court also said was perfectly acceptable. Only if we do that will we clean up the secret dark money mess that has haunted Michigan politics for decades.

Phil Power welcomes comments at ppower@thecenterformichigan.net.

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Student artist group holding holiday sale

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

A community of student artists is offering its first Student Art Sale at the Michigan Art Center in Garden City.

The sale will be held from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, and Friday, Dec. 13, at the center at 32129 Block.

"This will be the first of hopefully many holiday sales," said Mike Kuhn, owner and teacher. "April 15 will be our first-year anniversary."

Almost 40 students will display their artwork of ceramics, pottery and glass fusion. More than 300 pieces will be offered for sale. They range in price from about \$5 to

\$80. The majority are \$20 to \$50.

The students will keep the proceeds, minus 15 percent of the sale, which will go to the center to cover some of the overhead.

"If they were selling things in a gallery, galleries charge 50 percent," Kuhn said.

The holiday sale is student-driven.

"These students aren't beginners," Kuhn said. "This is beautifully and professionally made art. It's gorgeous. This is top-quality stuff."

Some of the students have been practicing ceramics for more than 10 years and "they have become quite accomplished at their art,"

Kuhn said.

Student work

Linda Worthington, a Livonia resident, created necklaces, ornaments and some leaf platters for the sale. Some of Worthington's work reflects her experiences when she lived in Africa. She returned to the area in 2012.

Her husband Ben, an engineer for Ford Motor Co., was assigned to work at a plant in Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

Worthington brought back to the United States in her memory her love of nature and time spent on about 40 safaris for re-creation in her art and photography. She has a love of wild life and na-



Sue Krueger of Livonia applies glaze to one of her pieces. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ture.

"I had to do an extension into pottery," Worthington said.

Some of her ornaments are giraffes, which she saw up close.

"We had lions and leopards and giraffes," she said. "It depends where you went. The elephants were just out-of-this-world beautiful. I'm still trying to develop some patterns with elephants."

Worthington studied the pottery in South Africa, which she described as different because of the techniques used.

"Certain things are not as precise," she said. "They use a lot of beading when they do their artwork."

Kuhn added that much of the African work is more rustic and the residents push the pottery wheel with their feet.

Lamp for sale

Frank Florance, a Northville resident, is offering a lamp that he made for the sale.

"The base was thrown on a wheel," Florance said. "The parts in between, which are hexagon-shaped, were extruded."

Don Oakley, a Redford Township resident, will



Instructor Mike Kuhn talks about a student's work. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

sell about 20 pieces of his artwork. He has vases, bowls and covered jars. He has also produced drums.

Jan Wilkiembyer, a Northville resident, especially enjoys making bowls. She also enjoys sharing them with guests.

"Have a bowl," she tells them as they get to select their choice.

Shoppers who come to the student art sale can have a chance to try out the pottery wheel at the Michigan Art Center.

"We will give them a quick lesson and allow

them to make something," Kuhn said.

Children also have a chance to enjoy an art project. For \$5, they will be given a pendant and instructions on how to make a necklace for their mom or grandmother.

The Michigan Art Center is at 32129 Block, north of Ford and west of Merriman. The center is the third and last building at the end of a driveway in a semi-industrial area.

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HAP is here to help with extended hours before and on December 7, the last day to enroll or change your Medicare plan. **Our phones will be open Monday through Sunday, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m., and 8 a.m. – midnight on December 7.** Call HAP and make sure you have the plan that's right for you.

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BOYS BASKETBALL PREVIEW - PART 1

Trouble with the curve?



One of just three returnees for Plymouth is forward Deji Adebijoyi (No. 5), shown from a 2012-13 contest. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Young Wildcats hoping that adjustment period is short

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

With the 2013-14 boys high school basketball season less than a week away, Plymouth varsity coach Mike Soukup envisions quite a "learning curve" for his squad.

Yet Soukup is hopeful that his young group — there only are three returnees — won't take too long to quickly straighten out that pesky curve.

If hard work and determination are enough, perhaps he'll find out relatively quickly.

"Our group will need to defend ferociously," Soukup emphasized. "We will need to rebound the ball very well in order to be successful early, especially."

"The biggest question will be how much of a learning curve will we have to begin the season. With so many new guys playing for the first time at this level that will be the million dollar question."

A lot of effort will be needed because most of the roster will be adjusting to the varsity level, largely on the fly as Soukup

tinkers to determine where the pieces to his lineup puzzle fit.

That work begins Tuesday, when the Wildcats host Redford Union (where Soukup previously coached at the junior varsity level). Tip-off will be at 7 p.m.

The fifth-year coach for the Wildcats is welcoming back just three players from the 2012-13 team, namely guard Josh Reynolds, forward Deji Adebijoyi and point guard Randall Aikins. All are juniors. Last year, Plymouth finished 11-12 overall and 4-6 in the KLAA South Division.

"We will rely on these three players tremendously at the beginning of the season as new players adjust to playing at this level and the coaching staff gets them comfortable in their team roles," Soukup said.

Reynolds could be an eye-opening talent as he looks to rebound from an injury-plagued sophomore season.

"He can drive to score and can shoot it from the perimeter as well," Soukup noted. "He is a fantastic passer."

Another guard who can create on offense is Aikins, another key to Plymouth's chances in the KLAA South.

"He, along with Josh, is a great passer,"

See WILDCATS, Page B3

Coaching vacancies

The Salem girls track and field team is looking for two assistant coaches for the 2014 season.

Coaches should have a background in sprints, relays, hurdles, high jump or long jump.

If interested, contact the Salem athletic department at 734-416-7774 or head coach Dave Gerlach at 734-416-7708.

Rocks roll in third period

Salem scored four unanswered goals in the third period Saturday to erase a 3-2 deficit and earn a 6-3 victory over Canton at Plymouth Cultural Center.

The Rocks (1-1) were led by Evan Newell's two goals and two assists. Both of his goals were in the third period, when he also assisted on a goal by senior Jack Driscoll.

Other Salem markers were tallied by Noah Saad, Nick Danis and Jason Newell.

Tallying three assists was senior Jake Sealy, with Saad also tallying an assist to enjoy a two-point night.

Earning the goal-keeping win for Salem was Parker Godfrey, who made 16 stops.

Scoring twice for Canton (1-2) was Connor Sherratt with Kurt Snow also registering a goal.

"We picked off slow, but started it up as the game went along," Salem coach Ryan Ossennmacher said. "Our power play was going strong again for 3 for 5 on the night. We need to continue working on our consistency in order to be competitive."

The Rocks host Livonia Franklin 8:30 p.m. Saturday at PCC.

Coles shines for Ocelots

Terrence Coles put on a monster performance and was clutch down to the stretch Saturday in leading the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team to the Muskegon Community College Thanksgiving Classic title with an 86-84 win over the host Jayhawks.

Coles, a 6-foot-4 forward from Redford Thurston, poured in a game-high 43 points and grabbed 16 rebounds and the Ocelots improved to 6-3 overall.

Coles scored the game-winning basket on a layup with only 12 seconds left after tying the game at 84-all with another layup with 1:23 remaining.

Muskegon's Jake Anderson's three-point attempt with only one second left missed the mark and Schoolcraft held on for the win.

Devonta Riley chipped in with 11 points and 12 assists, while Terrell Sewell (Canton) chipped in with 13 rebounds and six assists as the Ocelots fought back from a 45-34 half-time deficit.

Coles, who shot a blistering 19-of-27 from the floor, might have scored 50, but he struggled at the line, going 5-13.

BOYS BASKETBALL PREVIEW - PART 1

Mix and match

Chiefs lineup in flux as team deals with graduations, injury to Williams

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Every season, Jimmy Reddy prepares for turnover on his Canton varsity boys basketball roster.

But this year there is an added wrinkle as starting guard Greg Williams broke his left wrist during the football season and is lost to the team until mid- to late January.

Reddy, entering his fifth season as head coach of the Chiefs, expected a lot this year anyway.

Lost to graduation are five key members of the 2012-13 team that finished 17-7 and won the KLAA South Division, Kensington Conference and districts. Leading that group of former players is guard Josh Mayberry, playing at Division III Dominican University (near Chicago).

"It's all hands on deck," said Reddy, about adjusting to not having Williams on the floor. "Just like last year, we had Davon Taylor in the conference championship game against (Westland John) Glenn who came off the bench and scores the winning basket."

"It's 'Next man in' philosophy. You miss some guy, next guy's got to step up and be able to do what we're asking him to do. Hopefully, all 10 can get that done this year."

Ready to lead

Two players Reddy will lean on during Williams' absence are 6-6 senior forward Taylor and 6-8 senior forward Jordan Nobles (who recently signed his national letter of intent with Eastern Michigan University).

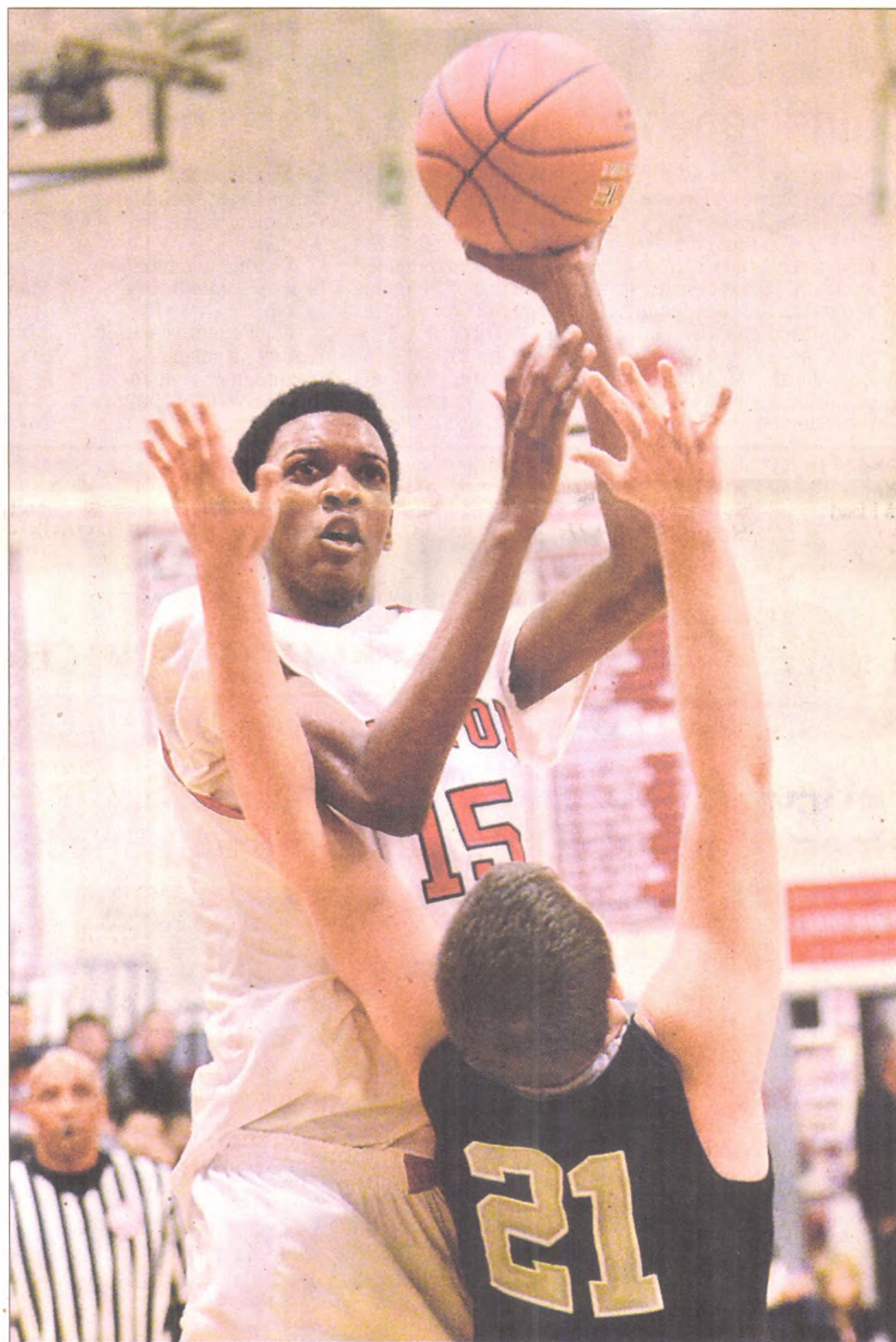
"We're still figuring it out, we've got a long way to go," Reddy said. "But we've got a couple horses. I think Jordan Nobles can do a lot of different things on the basketball court."

"Obviously, he can score. He has a great touch around the rim. He can step out and shoot a three. But he's a very good passer, he can handle the ball and defensively he challenges and blocks a lot of shots."

Pretty much ditto for Taylor, who like Nobles is a co-captain (so is Williams, leading for now from the sidelines).

"Davon can have an outstanding season, it just depends on how he approaches it," Reddy said. "Again, he can help us in a lot of different ways. He can score around the rim, he can step out and knock down a jumper, and he challenges and blocks a lot of

See CHIEFS, Page B3



Eyeing the basket during a 2012-13 game is Canton forward Jordan Nobles (No. 15). He's among the players expected to lead Chiefs this season. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

GIRLS BASKETBALL OPENING NIGHT

Marlins show no mercy in 55-32 rout of Rocks

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

A rough first quarter proved to be Salem's undoing in Tuesday's 55-32 loss to Farmington Hills Mercy in a varsity girls basketball opener for both teams.

Mercy broke out to a 7-2 lead midway through the first and took a commanding 15-4 advantage into the second frame as the Rocks struggled with their own first-game jitters as well as the exceptional opponent they faced.

"I learned a long time ago that if you don't play against quality teams you don't get better," veteran Salem head coach Fred Thomann said. "And we played against a very, very good, quality team."

"... It's a veteran team, and they have very good skill and they finish layups and they hit threes."

Conversely, Thomann conceded some of his players might have become unglued just a bit against the talented, deep Marlins —

led by Division I recruit Candice Leatherwood (Liberty University in Virginia) Taylor Jones, who scored 11 and 14 points, respectively. Jones also had five rebounds.

"I think that's part of it," said Thomann, asked about whether opening night jitters impacted some of his players. "But the other part is, you got to stick it. When you have an open shot you got to stick it."

The speedy Marlins forced Salem players into rushing shots from around the perimeter. But the Rocks also lacked finish on layups and short jumpers.

"I thought as we went through the game we got a little bit better," Thomann said. "We're still not good enough yet, but we're working on getting better. The good news is, in two days we're playing again (7 p.m. Thursday at home against Ann Arbor Pioneer)."

Top scorers for Salem were junior guard Jamyra Wilson (nine points) and senior for-



Farmington Hills Mercy's Claire Koehler (No. 20) looks to dribble past Salem's Katie Latack (No. 15) on Tuesday night. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

See OPENER, Page B3

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Hanna Warren likes CMU's pitch, signs with Chips

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Hanna Warren had opportunities to pitch college softball in Florida, Iowa and North Dakota, among other places.

But the Canton High School senior decided to stick closer to home, recently signing her NCAA national letter of intent with Central Michigan University.

"I am ecstatic to play college softball and am so blessed to be able to play at a school like Central," noted Warren in an email to the Observer. "I am most looking forward to meeting new people in a new environment."

"(Also) I am looking forward to realizing what I want to do in my life and profession."

The Division I Chipewas are likely to pencil Warren in either at pitcher or first base.

Judging from how she fared in 2013 with the Chiefs, CMU procured quite a find. She went 13-3-1 with a 1.63 earned run average over 100-plus innings pitched.

Warren was named to the all-district and all-region (and all-Observer) teams as well as honorable mention all-state for her pitching



Signing to pitch for the Central Michigan University women's softball team is Canton High School senior Hanna Warren, pictured with (standing, from left) co-athletic director Tom Willette and new Chiefs softball coach Al White.

achievements. She swung a good bat, too, with a .392 average.

According to Warren, who still has one more season with the Chiefs (now coached by Madonna legend Al White, on hand for her signing ceremony), a big assist to her development in the circle goes to playing softball on travel teams.

"Through my travel ball I have played against some of the most talented teams and players in the country which I believe has helped prepare me for college competition," Warren added.

Among other colleges looking at Warren were Iowa State University, Eastern Michigan University, Florida Gulf Coast, North Dakota University, Purdue University and University of Northern Iowa.

Ultimately, receiving a full softball scholarship from Central proved too enticing for her.

"The key to me wanting to sign my letter of intent with Central was the coaching staff and academic opportunities that Central offered," Warren stressed.

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Salem swimmer signs with GVSU



Salem senior Julia Suriano, captain for the Rocks' varsity girls swimming and diving team, recently signed her national letter of intent to swim for Grand Valley State University. Seated (from left) are Salem assistant coach Pat Wickerling, Suriano, Salem head coach Chuck Olson and Salem assistant coach Derek Schmidt. Standing are Julia's parents, Rob and Nancy Suriano.

Chiefs give thanks



The Canton Chiefs junior varsity and varsity hockey teams participated Nov. 23 to collect Thanksgiving food donations to support the Salvation Army Thanksgiving Food Pantry Program. Pictured are Nick Borg, Collin Smith, Tommy Kiddle, Bryan Eastman, Hunter Schlamp, Justin Kolbicz, Isaac Salinas, Michael Gaffka, Matt Eastman, Cooper Rice, Jon Winberry, Christian Flack, Connor Wherrett and Hunter Oatman.

GIRLS HOCKEY PREVIEW

PCS Penguins coach happy with effort, not penalties in loss to GPS

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins varsity girls hockey team are off to a 1-1 start to the season.

On Nov. 19, the Penguins defeated the Walled Lake Wild 4-2 and followed that up the fol-

lowing week with a 1-0 loss to Division 1 Grosse Pointe South.

"I feel as though we gave a really good effort against GPS but penalties against us hurt our team really bad," said Penguins' head coach Mary Beth Smith. "Most of the penalties we took were penalties we should have

not taken."

GPS scored the only goal of the night on a 2-on-1 rush where a sharp-angle shot bounced in off the pad of Penguins senior goalie Gwen Gaudulka, who played well.

As for the 2013-14 season, the team will be led by senior defenseman Alexis O'Flynn and sen-

ior assistant captains Jenna Carter and Morgan Cusumano (both forwards).

Another senior is backup goalie Becky Lough.

The Penguins' roster features a sprinkling of freshmen and sophomores as well as juniors as the team looks to con-

tend in Division 2 of the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League.

Juniors are defenseman CeCe Hitch and forwards Emily King, Lizzy O'Donohue and Sydney Smith.

Sophomores looking to make some noise include forwards Megan Brace,

Amanda Hoehn, Kayla Savoie and defenseman Gabby Godre.

Rounding out the 19-player roster are ninth graders Serina Eadeh, Loren Hitch, Jessica Marek (all forwards) and defensemen Bryanna Lanzilotti, Alexis Pheene and Brianna Waggoner.



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BOYS WRESTLING PREVIEW - PART 1

Wildcats will bring 'Mo' than Youssef this season

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

When a team features a stud wrestler such as Plymouth senior Mohamad Youssef, the temptation might be to just see how far "Mo" can carry the load.

But Wildcats head coach Quinn Guernsey won't fall into that trap, not with a roster boasting plenty of skill, strength and versatility.

Of course, it does start with Youssef, who placed seventh in last year's Division 1 state tournament at 103 pounds.

"Mo will be moving up to the 119-pound weight class this year where he has been competing for most of the summer," said Guernsey, adding that Youssef currently is the No. 2-ranked wrestler in his class at 119 according to Michigan Grappler.

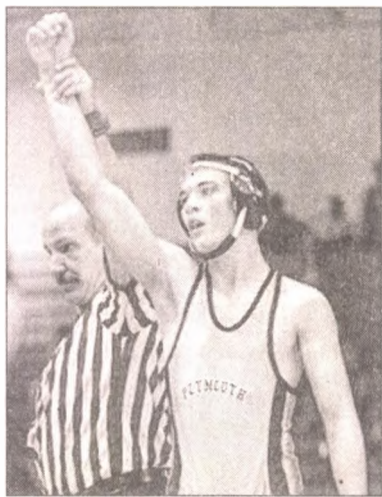
There's plenty of other reasons to like the Wildcats, coming off a strong 19-11 record (fifth in the KLAAs South Division) not to mention plenty of notable showings at tournaments.

The opening test is Saturday at the Northville Invitational. Then comes Wednesday's home quad meet (5:30 p.m.) against Salem and Belleville.

Plymouth placed fourth in the KLAAs, Wayne County, Observance, Yeti Challenge tournaments and the South Lyon Duals. Add to that championship at the Todd Schoenheide Challenge and a third-place showing at the Philip James Memorial Tournament.

Guernsey said the 2013-14 team will be better suited for competition in the tough KLAAs South, with 13 projected starters having wrestled in varsity matches last season.

"(Our) depth has spread to fill multiple weight classes, giving (us) the ability to get matchups



Plymouth's Jon Conn is one of the team's returnees with experience wrestling at the state tournament. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

and strategize which should improve overall success," he continued.

In addition to Mohamad Youssef, the Wildcats' lineup includes two state tourney participants in senior Jon Conn and junior Brandon Harris.

"Jon will be competing at 140 and Brandon will fill the 112 pound weight class," Guernsey noted. "Both will be looking to improve on their earlier successes and earn spots on the podium this year."

Work to do

Plymouth also features three regional qualifiers from 2012-13 in senior Joey Shaver (160), junior Hussein Youssef (171, up from 145) and senior Sofus Nielson, who the coach said "has worked hard this summer and hopes to improve over last year's results."

Shaver and the younger Youssef enter the season with unfinished business, as both fell one round short of qualifying for the

state tournament.

The Wildcats will go to the mat with three sophomores who all have a chance to make a big impact, Guernsey added.

Sterling Schiffrar "turned heads at last year's district tournament with a pair of quality wins. This year as a full-time starter Sterling could turn heads all season long."

Dwyer collected a couple of key victories filling in for injuries at 112 and should have a successful season at 130.

According to Guernsey, Reed "was stuck on JV last season and competed well, placing at every tournament he attended. He expects to keep the tradition of having the 103 pound weight class be a strength" for the Wildcats.

Breaking it down

Following is how Guernsey expects his lineup to roll out this season:

- » 103: Sophomore Collin Reed.
- » 112: Junior Brandon Harris, freshman Alan Farmer.
- » 119: Senior Mohamad Youssef.
- » 125: Sophomore Spencer Schiffrar.
- » 130: Sophomore Dylan Dwyer.
- » 135: Senior Daniel Ahearn, sophomore Keegan Fahey.
- » 140: Senior Jon Conn, freshman Lucas Harden.
- » 145: Sophomore Sterling Schiffrar.
- » 152: Seniors Sofus Nielson, Sam Campbell.
- » 160: Senior Joey Shaver.
- » 171: Junior Hussein Youssef, senior Tarek Tamimi.
- » 189: Freshmen Zach Lohrman, Matt Wayne.
- » 215: Senior Mario Gutierrez, sophomore Ronnie Dancer.
- » 285: Sophomore Michael Jordan.

COMMUNITY-MINDED WHALERS

Teddy Bear Toss on deck for Whalers fans

When the Plymouth Whalers host the Guelph Storm 7 p.m. Saturday at Compuware Arena, they'll be asking fans to bring a furry little friend along to help support a great cause.

Saturday is the Whalers 14th annual Teddy Bear Toss. The first time the Whalers score in the contest, fans are encouraged to throw their stuffed animals on to the ice. Once the stuffed animals are collected, Plymouth Community United Way will find great homes for the comforting toys.

Last season, Plymouth left wing Matt Mistele scored at 11:21 of the first period to trigger the rain of stuffed animals out of the crowd and onto the ice surface.

After the Whalers' most successful Teddy Bear Toss last season, Plymouth is enlisting the help of WDIV's Chuck Gaidica and local corporate sponsor Family Heating Cooling & Electrical Inc. to try to top last season's Teddy Bear Toss.

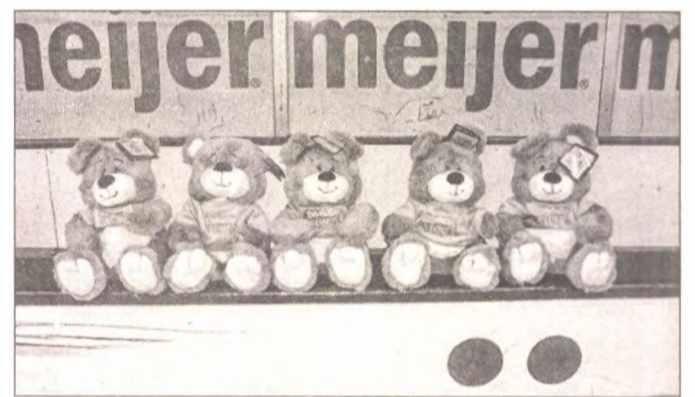
"We're always very excited and a little anxious to see the first Whalers goal," said Dawn Frey, senior vice president of advertising for Family Heating, Cooling & Electrical Inc. "But when the stuffed animals come raining down, there's nothing but smiles in the building."

"Everyone involved is contributing something to make Saturday a special night. It's all about the right stuff — good people contributing to a great cause."

When fans arrive at the game, they'll be invited to purchase one of Gaidica's Cuddle Alert Bears for just \$5 to throw on the ice. They also have the option to bring a new stuffed animal to the game.

Saturday's game is also Plymouth's 11th annual Salute to Heroes Night. Veterans and current armed forces members will receive a complimentary ticket (with ID), while family members can purchase tickets for \$10.

Tickets are still available at plymouthwhalers.com or by calling the Plymouth Whalers box office at 734-453-8400. Military and their families are encouraged to call the box office early for tickets.



At Saturday's annual "Teddy Bear Toss," cuddly stuffed toys such as these will be launched onto the Compuware Arena ice.



Salem's Kayla Kavulich (No. 3) gets a jump on Farmington Hills Mercy's Sierra LaGrande (No. 10) during Tuesday's season opener. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

OPENER

Continued from Page B1

ward Kelly Whalen (seven points). Chipping in with five each were senior guard Kayla Kavulich and junior forward Shara Long.

Marlins head coach Gary Morris gave his team full marks for following the game plan as well as could be expected for an opener.

"For the first game of the season I liked the tempo that we were trying to set," said Morris, whose team returns to Plymouth-Canton Educational Park 7 p.m. Thursday to face Canton. "We wanted to try to play fast and I thought we were able to do that at both ends of the floor."

A sign that it wasn't Salem's night came midway through the first with Mercy already up 11-4. Wilson stole the ball and moved it down the floor, but the Rocks failed to cash in.

Soon thereafter, it was 15-4 following buckets by Jones and senior guard Allie Gorycyca (five points, five rebounds) on a nifty hook shot from the paint.

Mercy built the lead to 26-8 at halftime and enjoyed a 44-14 edge in the final minute of the third following a basket by Leatherwood.

The Rocks made some strides in the final stanza against several Mercy reserves, winning the frame 18-11 to end the game on a better note.

One of the prettiest buckets of the entire

night for Salem was scored by junior forward Haley Rogers, who stole the ball and went coast-to-coast for the layup.

MARIAN 49, CANTON 38: In the opener for the Canton Chiefs on Tuesday, host Bloomfield Hills Marian went up 16-6 after one quarter and never looked back despite 16 points by Paige Aresco.

Canton trailed 32-17 at halftime and 40-25 entering the fourth. A spate of turnovers (25 for the game) cost the Chiefs, coach Brian Samulski said.

In addition to Aresco, other Canton players who played well in the non-league contest were Rachel Winters and Erin Hult (seven points each). Leading Canton in rebounds was Taylor Hun-

ley, with six. "On a positive note the kids hung in there and competed hard in the second half," Samulski said.

"The good thing about these girls is there is no quit in them."

PLYMOUTH 46, DEXTER 35: New Plymouth coach Nick Brandon tallied his first varsity win Tuesday. Leading the Wildcats (1-0) to the opening victory at Dexter were Shelby Cheston (12 points, 10 rebounds), Jada Woody (10 points, six boards) and Kylie Robb (eight points).

"Our experience was the major factor in this win," Brandon said. "... I thought all four of our seniors led the way and showed the intensity and focus that it takes to win at this level."

CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

shots around the rim as well."

With Williams out of the loop for 6-8 weeks, the Chiefs will feature 5-8 senior Chase Wainwright and 6-0 junior Jack Zemanski in the backcourt. Both are energetic players who can pass, defend and connect on their open jumpers.

"Those guys will probably be handling the guard positions starting for us," Reddy noted. "... It'll be kind of by committee (point guard duties). The good thing is they can both handle the ball."

"Jordan Nobles can bring the ball for us, and even Davon Taylor, for a big guy can bring the ball for us."

Reddy, meanwhile, understands the team is starting the season without a major contributor in Williams.

Opportunities

"Greg did a lot as a sophomore," he continued. "You're talking about someone who's going to be a four-year varsity player. As a sophomore last year, he guarded the best perimeter player on the other team for us."

"He did a great job, scored almost 11 points a game, great passer, great feel for the game. All those things we're going to miss. But we got to find a way to go without it."

Reddy's fifth starter when the Chiefs open the season Tuesday at Ann Arbor Pioneer probably will be 6-4 senior forward Shaine Keyandwy.

"Our biggest strength is that we're tall and long and Kewandwy is long, too," Reddy said. "So we've got some length, we've got some height and we're going to use that to our advantage."

Others have the opportunity to step in and be-

come key members of the rotation, including "three sophomores that are all going to play meaningful minutes" in 6-6 forward Logan Ryan, 6-4 forward Jalen Cochran and 5-11 guard Obi Okoli.

Ryan is "very skilled, he can make open threes and score around the rim," noted Reddy.

So is Cochran, who the coach added is "a little bit raw trying to figure out what we're doing, but he can help us with his athleticism and his ability to rebound the ball."

Also athletic is Okoli, as are junior guard Juan Sturdivant and senior forward Jamal Dixon who round out the roster.

Time to jell

Reddy said Dixon is intriguing. The football and track star is playing basketball for the first time since his sophomore season.

"He's one of the guys in terms of, guys that

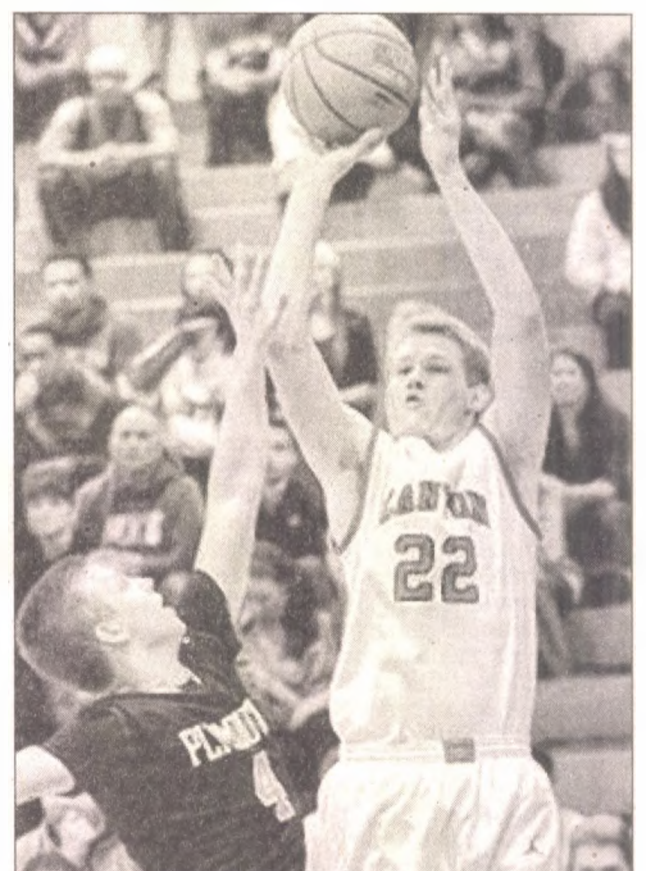
weren't with us last year, that has figured it out quicker than other guys," Reddy said. "Hopefully that continues to happen and he can help us out when we start rolling here in December."

Still, having lost the Class of 2013 (Mayberry, Scott Gring, Ryan Planey, Adnan Bayz, Matt McKoy) as well as Williams to injury, Reddy isn't about to jump to any conclusions should it take a little while for the team to jell.

"Last year we went 2-5 to start the year and finished 17-7," he emphasized. "So it doesn't always happen at the snap of the fingers at the beginning of the season."

"It's figuring out each other, it's figuring out how hard you have to work and what we're trying to do defensively. Just trying to have that championship mentality, sometimes it takes longer."

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Guard Greg Williams (No. 22) is expected to be sidelined until mid-to-late January because of a broken wrist. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

WILDCATS

Continued from Page B1

Soukup said. "He is great at getting to the basket and has really developed into a consistent long-range shooter."

Meanwhile, Adebijiyi will need to be a sturdy two-way player if the Wildcats are to have success.

"Deji Adebijiyi is our founda-

tion on the defensive end," the coach noted. "He does a nice job guarding the other teams best big man. He also is chairman of the boards for us on the glass."

"He has developed into a better offensive player in the last year adding some range on his jump shot."

In the mix

One of the varsity newcomers likely to start is junior

forward Kevin Justice, although he'll be pushed by junior forward Cameron Anstess.

Soukup said Justice "will provide scoring, rebounding and toughness for us."

Strong options up front are junior Xavier Gardner, seniors Abdullah Absulah and senior Jon Schumaker.

According to the coach, Gardner and Absulah "are tremendous athletes, but both

are new to this level."

He described Schumaker as "a great glue buy for us, he will be counted on for lots of hustle plays that can change games, especially for a young team."

Challenging Aikins and Reynolds for minutes on the perimeter will be sophomores Chris Walls and Brent Davis, both intriguing for their abilities to play inside or out.

"Walls and Davis are tremendous athletes with the

ability to strike from the outside as well as get to the basket," Soukup noted.

When the Wildcats need a jolt of offense, Soukup might turn to juniors Khalil Newell or Caden Farrugia.

"Both hit from long range and will be needed to score from beyond the arc," he said.

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All-area spikers net sparkling results

FIRST TEAM

Katie Tomasic, Sr. OH, Liv. Stevenson: The 6-foot-1 outside hitter, who has signed with Miami of Ohio, made first-team Class A all-state honors for the state quarterfinalists.

Tomasic also made all-KLAA, all-district and all-region honors, as well as being a four-time academic all-state selection.

She finished with a school-record 658 kills to go along with 103 blocks and 363 total digs.

"Katie has held up to all the challenges I have given her to be one of the standout players in the conference, region and state," Stevenson coach Kelly Graham said. "She has the capacity to be a total team player, help the younger girls out and is an amazing on-and-off the court leader. She is the type of kid you would want to be able to have just one of in your career. She has been one of those kids. I am very thankful that I have had the opportunity to have such an amazing player be a player of mine these past four years."

Sasha Cucuz, Sr. OH, Canton: One of the powerhouses up front for KLAA South Division champion Canton was the 6-1 senior Cucuz, who registered 268 kills and 41 solo blocks.

Cucuz, a lefthanded hitter who recently signed to play Division I volleyball at the University of New Hampshire, also chipped in with 79 defensive digs as she helped the Chiefs build a 31-13-1 record.

Her efforts earned her selection to the all-KLAA first team.

"Sasha has and will continue to be an inspiration to the younger kids in our program," coach Steve Johnson said. "I have enjoyed coaching her the past several years, and appreciate her abilities on the court."

Olivia Beyer, Jr. MB, Plymouth: The junior, in her third season with the Plymouth varsity, continued to add to her sparkling legacy.

Already verbally committed to play at Louisiana State University, the all-KLAA first teamer dominated across the board for the 28-15-2 Wildcats with 420 kills, 95 solo blocks, 338 digs and 34 aces.

Beyer made just nine errors in 179 receptions and was successful in 90.3 percent of her serves.

"Olivia has been our go-to player all year long," coach Sarah Marody said. "She was our offensive and blocking leader in the front row and a reliable defensive presence for us in the back."

"Her team-first attitude, work ethic and positive leadership were extraordinary and contagious to those around her."

Jenna Lerg, Jr. Libero, Mercy: The junior libero is a three-year varsity player and repeat member of the all-area first team. Lerg, who helped her club team win an AAU national championship last summer, is committed to play at Michigan.

She can do much more than just play defense. She started the season as the Mercy setter and can help in the attack when needed. Lerg was instrumental in the Marlins compiling a 41-16-2 record and being a Class A regional finalist.

"She has great vision on the court and a very good understanding of the game," coach Loretta Vogel said. "She's just a special athlete. You only



Katie Tomasic Stevenson



Sasha Cucuz Canton



Olivia Beyer Plymouth



Jenna Lerg Mercy



Jenna Reinhold Mercy



Ayanna Buckley Clarenceville



Madison KIELTY Canton



Amanda Hawkins Stevenson



Abigail Whitehead Stevenson



Lexu Medina Huron Valley



Jen Malcolm Ply. Christian



Izzy Porada Ladywood



Leah Refenes Lutheran Westland



Mackenzie Hamill Churchill



Jessica Austin Harrison



Haylee Weber Plymouth

2013 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS VOLLEYBALL FIRST TEAM

Katie Tomasic, Sr. OH, Stevenson
Sasha Cucuz, Sr. OH, Canton
Olivia Beyer, Jr. MB, Plymouth
Jenna Lerg, Jr. Libero, F.H. Mercy
Jenna Reinhold, Sr. OH, F.H. Mercy
Ayanna Buckley, Sr. MH, Clarenceville
Madison KIELTY, Sr. Libero, Canton
Amanda Hawkins, Sr. MH, Stevenson
Abigail Whitehead, Sr. OH, Stevenson
Lexu Medina, Sr. OH, Huron Valley
Jen Malcolm, Sr. MH-Setter, PCA
Izzy Porada, Jr. Libero, Liv. Ladywood
Leah Refenes, Sr. OH-Set., Luth. W'sld
Mackenzie Hamill, Sr. OH, Churchill
Jessica Austin, Sr. OH, Farm. Harrison
Haylee Weber, Sr. Libero, Plymouth
Hannah Staples, Sr. OH, West. Glenn
Michelle Begovic, Sr. MH, Farmington

SECOND TEAM

Chelsea Janica, Sr. Setter, Canton
Emily Burkman, Sr. OH, Plymouth
Shanleigh Conlan, Jr. Setter, Mercy
Kayla March, Soph. OH, Ladywood
Megan Damico, Sr. DS, Liv. Churchill
Meghan Hurley, Sr. OH, N. Farm.

THIRD TEAM

Lavondr Covington, Sr. MH, Harrison
Taylor Suurmeyer, Jr. OH, Farmington
Tess Ganich, Soph. OH, Salem
Madison Dest, Jr. OH, H.V. Luth.
Kennedy Gossett, Sr. Libero, Gar. City
Danielle Robbins, Sr. OH, Wayne

FOURTH TEAM

Jessica Rieckhoff, Sr. OH, F.H. Mercy
Lauren Schomack, Jr. OH, Canton
Shayla Smalls, Sr. Setter, Plymouth
Ariana Gregory, Sr. OH, Red. Thurston
Kelly Newton, Jr. Libero, Liv. Franklin
Aryn Dochenez, Jr. DS, Stevenson

FIFTH TEAM

Rachael Fuller, Sr. OH, Ply. Christian
Allison Lynn, Soph. OH, Garden City
Val Ermat, Jr. Libero, Westland Glenn
Lauren Fallu, Jr. Libero, Liv. Churchill
Julia Yancy, Sr. Libero, Luth. Westland
Christa Greenwood, Sr. MH., Mercy

SIXTH TEAM

Olivia Mady, Fr. OH, Ply. Christian
Becca O'Connor, Sr. OH, Farmington
Lauren Caverly, Sr. Libero, N. Farm.
Katie Conrad, Jr. Setter, F. Harrison
Nic. Kurdziel, Sr. Setter, Clarenceville
Jamaya Dixon, Sr. MH, Redford Union

COACH OF YEAR

Kelly Graham, Livonia Stevenson
HONORABLE MENTION
Garden City: Taylor Bejma, Holly Sawyer; Thurston: Hannah Ondayko; Farmington: Kat McAllister, Liz Nahat, Alexa Tipton, Shannon Seegert; N. Farmington: Haley Qasawa, Mykaela Ross; Harrison: Jessica Khoury, Stefanie Jankiewicz, Amari Eadie, Mikkel Coleman, Teresa Malaj, Alexis Artis; Mercy: Kayla Fisher, Jacyln Ruffolo, Kelli McDonald; Marilyn Beth Robert, Monica Shuk; Clarenceville: Sarah Curvin, Kelsey Griffin, Christine Humzic; Churchill: Gabby Beck, Natalie Panek, Rayna Yetts; Franklin: Mikayla Sienkiewicz; Stevenson: Sarah Soave, Carmen Disler, Taylor McCloud; Ladywood: Haley Moores, Tess Laurentius, Lindsey Wagner; John Glenn: Bri Robinson; Wayne: Deja Tamlin, Paige Chalmers;

Huron Valley Lutheran: Dayna Schroeder, Ann St. John; Lutheran Westland: Allie Lange, Sabrina Morrison; Canton: Haley Diedrick, Courtney Kurkie; Plymouth: Daniela Barile; Salem: Nikki Manser, Kelly Whalen; Ply. Christian: Callie Morby.

get so many of them. I've been very, very fortunate; I've had quite a few, including her sister (Lindsey) and Maddy Doyle. I put Jenna in that category, too.

"She does everything. She can be an outside hitter, and she can set when we need her to do that. Jenna has had a defensive role on our team since she was a freshman. That's pretty impressive, especially for a Class A player."

Jenna Reinhold, Sr. OH, Mercy: The 5-foot-11 senior led a balanced attack with her consistent and effective play. A two-year varsity player, the left-handed Reinhold complimented Mercy's other hitters with her powerful hits from the right side.

"Jenna is one of the most improved athletes we've had, from last year to this year and throughout the season," Vogel said. "Jenna continued to add more to her game. She created more shot selections. I think her knowledge of what to call and when to call it enhanced our offense."

"She became our No. 1 person to go to. Her hitting percentage was always extremely high,

which meant very few errors by Jenna, which indicates she is a go-to player. I think her final season at Mercy was her best season."

Ayanna Buckley, Sr. MH, Liv. Clarenceville: The 6-foot senior middle and outside hitter, bound for Ferris State, was a four-year varsity performer who is a two-time team MVP, all-region and Class B third-team all-state honoree.

Buckley finished with 338 total kills and 124 blocks, along with 183 digs (second on the team).

"Ayanna is an all-around player," Clarenceville coach Wendy Merschman said. "Her back row play is as good as her front row play. Most teams thought about serving to her, but soon found out she was up for the challenge is one of the best passers one our team. Her elbows easily go over the net and she can be very intimidating."

"She has grown so much as a volleyball player and continues to get better every time she steps on the court, which is amazing to see. Ayanna has no limits and I have no doubt she'll excel at the highest level."

Madison Kielty, Sr. Libero, Canton: With a mix of senior savvy and never-say-die aggressiveness, Kielty sparked plenty of Canton's considerable success in 2013.

The first-team all-KLAA selection chalked up 660 digs and on serve receive made only 40 errors in 439 chances. She also was stellar from the service stripe, with a success rate of 92 percent along with 45 aces.

"Madison is a true model of what the sport of volleyball encompasses," Johnson said. "She is not only a good player, but she puts as much effort into her IQ of the game as well as the physical conditioning it takes to be successful."

"We will miss not having the Kielty name that has been prevalent here for the past eight years."

Amanda Hawkins, Sr. MH, Liv. Stevenson: The 6-foot middle hitter finished the year with 269 kills and a team-best 222 blocks en route to all-KLAA, all-district and all-region honors.

"Amanda with each season has grown so much in terms of leadership, court dominance and confidence," Graham said of the three-year varsity player and all-academic selection. "It has been a pleasure to have been able to have her be a part of our team these past three years."

She has truly contributed and helped our team gain the success we have had in her career her at Stevenson."

Abigail Whitehead, Sr. OH, Liv. Stevenson: The three-year varsity player, headed to Siena Heights University, had a total of 252 kills, 100 blocks and 212 digs as she made all-region, and honorable mention all-KLAA.

The scholar-athlete and academic all-region honoree was one of big reasons why the Spartans won 41 matches, along with Class A district and regional titles.

"Abby has been a part of the success we have had in her three years as a varsity athlete," Graham said. "On the court she is a true competitor."

Lexus Medina, Sr. OH, Huron Valley Lutheran: The senior recorded 260 kills, 30 solo blocks and 100 digs in 73 sets for the district champion Hawks.

The 5-foot-10 Medina made both all-MIAC and all-region honors, along with second-team Class D all-state.

"Lexi is a very physically gifted athlete," HVL coach Mike Dest said. "She is one of the top 10 outside hitter at any high school level in the state. It looks like she'll be playing at a Division I school next year."

Jen Malcolm, Sr. MH-Setter, Ply. Christian: Whether hammering home points or expertly setting up teammates in the front row, Malcolm was a complete team leader who played a key role in Plymouth Christian Academy's post-season run to the Class D regional finals.

The senior, in her second year as PCA captain and fourth season on the varsity, led the Eagles in assists (361) and blocks (72) while contributing 110 kills.

"Jen is a great leader on the team," coach Katie Decker said. "She's always dependable in tight games and the team really relies on her."

Izzy Porada, Jr. Libero, Liv. Ladywood: The junior captain started the season hitting outside and had 63 kills before going back to her true position at libero where she recorded a team-best 413 digs en route to Class B honorable mention all-state honors.

"Izzy was asked to take on a huge load this season," Ladywood coach Erin Craggs said of the all-Catholic League pick. "She is the kind of kid you want on your team. She's loud, she's aggressive, and she holds her herself and her team-

mates to a very high standard. She wants to make everyone around her better and she wants to win no matter what."

Leah Refenes, Sr. OH-Setter, Luth. Westland: The senior outside hitter and setter finished with a team-best 338 kills and 312 assists go along with 181 digs.

Refenes, an all-MIAC selection, also served at an 87.3 percent clip with 70 aces.

"Leah epitomized what it meant to be a leader," Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade said. "She helped shaped a mold our team and get them to perform to their best by showing that in her heart and emotion on the court. She made everybody better and her drive and determination was second to none, and it was a true joy coaching her."

Mackenzie Hamill, Sr. OH, Liv. Churchill: The four-year varsity performer and senior captain was adept at playing either middle or outside hitter.

Hamill finished with a team-best 309 total kills, while adding 46 blocks, including 16 solo.

"As a coach, I saw her transform about halfway through the season where she played with confidence and passion," Churchill's Anna Gatt said. "Mackenzie was a go-to player during the season."

Jessica Austin, Sr. OH, Harrison: Austin had a big senior year for the Hawks, helping them win a share of the OAA White Division championship. A powerful presence at the outside hitter position, she had more than 200 kills with a .475 percentage and 50 blocks. Austin was an all-round player and a leader in aces and digs, too.

"She was our dominant outside hitter," coach Michael Love said. "She was the go-to player when we needed it the most. She was a senior captain and everybody looked up to her as somebody to look for when everyone else was down."

Haylee Weber, Sr. Libero, Plymouth: Plymouth's team captain had an excellent third season on the varsity, demonstrating a combination of senior leadership and all-out excellence at libero.

Weber, named to the all-KLAA first team, tallied 565 digs (to lead the Wildcats) and augmented that with a high success rate (95 percent) from the service stripe, where she also contributed 56 aces.

She added 33 assists and made just 32 errors in 390 receptions.

"Haylee was asked to fill some big shoes for us this year and she more than rose to the challenge," Marody said. "Her never quit attitude led our team to some amazing comeback victories and consistently kept us in a position to win every night."

"... Haylee improved

in her all-around game and was the one we hoped to be at the service line when the game was on the line."

Hannah Staples, Sr. OH, Westland Glenn: The two-time all-KLAA and all-region player showed her versatility for the Class A district champions by ending the year with a total of 262 kills, 403 digs, 92 assists, 51 blocks and 422 perfect passes.

"Hannah is a natural libero, but is capable of playing all positions as demonstrated this year," Glenn coach Krista DePoy said of the academic all-stater. "We were plagued by injuries this year and Hannah stepped up and filled the void playing outside, right-side, middle, setter and libero while still managing to lead the team in stats and keep them focused."

Michelle Begovic, Sr. MH, Farmington: Begovic was a three-year starter in the front row for the Falcons, who were OAA White Division co-champions this year. The 6-foot middle had 183 kills but did much more for her team. She was an all-round player who also had 249 digs, 52 aces and 142 perfect serve-receive passes.

Begovic was either first or second in every major statistical category for Farmington. Over the past two seasons, she had 360 kills, 513 digs, 91 blocks, 122 aces and 240 perfect serve-receive passes. "Michelle was one of our senior captains and a player the rest of the team leaned on in big games," coach Mike Scott said. "Michelle is a hard worker who played six rotations for us."

"She was thrown into multiple positions in the front row all season and never once complained about her role. She's a sweet girl whom I would welcome back in the gym anytime."

COACH OF YEAR Kelly Graham, Liv. Stevenson: The 20th-year coach guided the Spartans to a 41-13-2 overall record and their second Class A regional title in three years before losing to Temperance Bedford in a five-set quarterfinal battle.

"This season has been one of many challenges for these girls," said Graham, an Indiana University grad and former All-America high school hurdler from Westland John Glenn. "They never gave up and I think going into the end of the season they truly believed in themselves and knew they were a very good team. I can't remember all the times they fought back and turned things around."

After finishing third in the KLAA Central Division, Stevenson won the regional with a comeback victory over Farmington Hills Mercy and captured its third straight district title.

"I was so very proud of them on battling back, but the quarterfinal was just as intense," Graham said. "Even though we did not end up on the positive side winning, I was again so very proud of them for never giving up. They battled and gave it everything they had. How can I not be positive on what they have done this season. My seniors did a terrific job as leaders."

"This season was the second team in my history to reach 41 wins, which is a great memory for them. Plus, our fans were so very amazing this season and they also gave us that extra boost."

WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Crusaders rally for win over Rocky Mountain in NAIA tournament opener

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

It didn't come easy Tuesday for the Madonna University women's volleyball team during the opening round of the NAIA Championships held at

the Tyson Event Center in Sioux City, Iowa.

The fourth-seeded Crusaders, who improved to 39-0, survived a stern test from 25th-ranked Rocky Mountain (Mont.) by rallying for a 22-25, 25-19, 25-27, 25-9 victory.

Five MU players notched kills in double figures led by senior Stacey Catalano's 17 in a Pool D matc.

Emilie Freeman (Livonia/Lutheran High Westland), Kayla Vogel and Samantha Geile added 16 apiece, while

Katie Breault chipped in 12.

Senior setter Evia Prieditis finished with 61 assists, while Amanda Obyrycki paced the defense with 25 digs.

Other digs leaders for MU included Catalano (18), Prieditis (13), Breanna Geile (11) and

Payton Maxheimer (11).

"It was a battle," MU coach Jerry Abraham said. "That was the fourth seed in our pool and they (Rocky Mountain) looked as good as anybody. Our seniors came through and had a great match."

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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CLOSE, DORIS I.

Age 94, of Northville, passed away peacefully November 30, 2013. She was born May 14, 1919 in Plymouth, Michigan; daughter of Harold and Olive (nee Roberts) Compton. She was a graduate of Plymouth High School in 1937. Doris was united in marriage to Donald "Mike" Herrick on December 2, 1940, who passed away April 13, 1973. Doris was then united in marriage to Richard Close on May 1, 1977; they spent 18 loving years together until his death in 1995. Doris worked as a seamstress and designer for Cadillac Drapery in Plymouth, doing freelance seamstress work as well. She has been a resident of Northville since 1990; formerly of Union Lake and Plymouth. She and her husband Richard enjoyed many summers on Round Lake in the home they built together. Doris sang in the church choir for most of her life. She began while a member of the First Baptist Church of Plymouth, and continued her love of singing with the First United Methodist Church of Northville after becoming a member in 1970. She was very active with FUMC throughout the years; her involvement included co-founding the Youth Club program, serving on the Youth Club Board, the FUMC Scholarship Fund, as well as the Christian Education Department. Doris also served as a co-crew leader using her building expertise for the Appalachian Service Project, making homes in that area warmer, safer, and drier. It was a passion she shared with her family, especially granddaughter Kelly. Doris was caring, resourceful, and brilliant. Following her mother's death when Doris was 14, her father taught her and her sisters how to be inventive and creative. She instilled in her own children how to be respectful, goal oriented, and independent; without question her family was raised the right way. She loved to dance, even participating in amateur ballroom dancing competitions with her husband Richard at Arthur Murray Dance Studio; in fact, she and Richard met while dancing.

Doris is survived by her loving children, Judy (Russell) Dore and Nick (Judy) Herrick; her step-daughter, Barbara Close; her grandchildren, Patrick (Karen) Calhoun, David (Cathy) Dore, Kelly (Greg) Moore, Jay (Roseanne DiPonio) Herrick, and Kevin M. Herrick; and her great-grandchildren, Anna and Russell Calhoun, Alice, Charlotte, and Claire Doré, Sophie Moore, and Julianna Herrick. She was preceded in death by her husband Donald "Mike" Herrick and her husband Richard Close; her parents; her step-son, Dale Close; and her sisters, Helen Wallace, Catharine Sherrick, and Jeanne Mettetal. Visitation will be held Friday, December 6, 2013 from 1 p.m. until 7 p.m. at Casterline Funeral Home, 122 W. Dunlap, Northville. A Funeral Service will be held Saturday, December 7, 2013 at 1 p.m. with visitation 12 noon until 1 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 777 W. Eight Mile Rd., Northville 48167. Doris will be laid to rest at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to Appalachian Service Project or FUMC Scholarship Fund. Online condolences at: www.casterlinefuneralhome.com



DEMING, MARGARET J.

Age 94, of Novi, died November 28, 2013. She was the devoted mother of Nancy (Michael) Becker, Terry (Susan) Deming, Irene (David) Rochette; grandmother of eight and great-grandmother of 21. Margaret was preceded in death by her husband, Max; sons, Timothy and Daniel; and siblings Maynard, Raymond, and Kathleen. Memorial Service Thursday, Dec. 5, Visitation 11 a.m., Service at 12:30 p.m. at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. Memorial tributes suggested to Angela Hospice angelahospice.org or Nardin Park United Methodist Church nardinpark.org. Arrangements entrusted to Heeneey-Sundquist Funeral Home heeneey-sundquist.com HEENEY-SUNDQUIST FUNERAL HOME



KNIGHT, RICHARD ALAN

Also known as "Chip", passed away at the age of 58 on November 27, 2013 at Providence Park Hospital in Novi after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. He was a Livonia native and Franklin High School graduate. He worked as an electrician for Shaw Electric in Livonia and retired after 25 years of service. He loved golfing, country music and Friday night concerts in Downtown Plymouth. Chip was also an active member of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Livonia. He was a devoted father and an extremely caring individual who loved helping others. He is survived by his daughter, Danielle McAfee (Ryan), son Tim Knight (Julie), two grandchildren, Tori and Miles with another grandchild on the way and his brother, Phil Knight. A memorial service will be held at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church on 5 Mile Rd. between Middlebelt and Inskster roads in Livonia. The service will be on Thursday, December 5th at 5:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to: Michael J. Fox Parkinson's Foundation, 1(800)708-7644, www.michaeljfox.org.



LOVE, REVEREND JEAN

Age 66, of Novi, a longtime United Methodist Minister, died November 29, 2013. Reverend Love was the former Pastor of Warren United Methodist Church, Oak Grove United Methodist Church, Clarenceville United Methodist Church, Calvary United Methodist Church, Holly, and Bad Axe United Methodist Church. She served on the Board of Ordained Ministers in the Detroit Conference for over 12 years. Reverend Love is survived by her siblings, Katharine Cary and Ronald Love; nephew and nieces, Reverend Michael (Tami) Cary, Diane Cary, Stephanie Love and Brooke Love (Sam) Adame; great-nieces, Kimberly Cary, Mikayla Cary, Rachel Cary, Ava Adame, Emma Adame and Brenna Adame. Visitation Thursday, Dec. 5, 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m., at the Heeneey-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., (btwn 9-10 Mile Rds., just N of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Funeral Service Friday, Dec. 6, 11 a.m. (in state 10 a.m.), at Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt Rd., Livonia. Private burial at Burr Oak Cemetery, Burr Oak, Michigan. Memorial tributes suggested to Clarenceville United Methodist Church clarencevillechurch.com, Angela Hospice angelahospice.org, Color of Joy Foundation, colorofjoy.org, heeneey-sundquist.com HEENEY-SUNDQUIST FUNERAL HOME



MAHON, CATHERINE

A very loved Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother. Survived by husband Ralph, son's Michael, Pat, Ted, grandchildren Kim, Pat, Rachel, Pat, great grandchildren Sydney, Gillian, Zachary, Palmer, Megan, Ethan, Emily, and Rebecca. Step mother to Claudia, Chip Brian, Helen. A service will be held Tuesday December 10, 2-4 p.m. R.G. & G. R. Harris Funeral Home, Livonia.



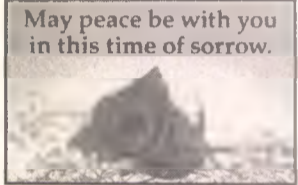
MAINER, JOAN

(Randolph) was born on June 6, 1943, in Cincinnati, Ohio to Samuel and Alberta Randolph. Joan was the fourth in line of eight siblings. Joan graduated high school from Our Lady of Angels High School in 1961 and later married on July 14, 1962 to Walter Clarence Mainer III. Joan was the proud grandmother of four, Christopher Dawson (1992) (through marriage), grandchildren, Erik Dawson (1994), Halley Dawson (1996), and Nicholas Dawson (1998) and loved dotting on them. Joan was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She leaves to cherish her loving memory three children, Anthony Mainer, Lisa Mainer and Brenda Lovett (Greg) and five of her siblings, Carole M. Ellis (Jimmie), Lillie Randolph, Michael Randolph and Benita Gutter along with her nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews and grandchildren. Joan's daughter, Cheryl Dawson, and three of her four brothers, Robert, James and Samuel Jr. Randolph have preceded her in death. Joan passed away on November 27, 2013 at the age of 69, in Westland. Visitation will be Friday December 6, from 5-7 p.m. with services beginning at 7 p.m. at the Gwen Mooney Funeral Home (513-853-1035).



MILLER, BARBARA A.

Age 65, passed away Monday, November 25, 2013, in Farmington Hills, Michigan. She was born December 23, 1947, to James and Virginia (Petrere) Orton, in Stuart, Florida. She married Isaac Miller in 1969 and enjoyed a long and loving marriage. They were best friends who loved and cared for each other through many difficult times. Barbara loved to cook and enjoyed feeding the family as well as friends. She adored her family and pets and took great pride in taking care of them. In addition to her husband, she is survived by her three daughters, Niki (Jack) Honyoust; Jayme and Barbara Miller and her three grandchildren, Samantha, David and Mathew. Also mourning her loss are many nieces, nephews and a host of friends. Arrangements were entrusted to Husband Family Funeral Home in Westland. Donations to The Botsford Foundation, 28050 Grand River, Farmington Hills, MI 48336 or <http://tinyurl.com/jwlocua>



SOUBLY, GERALD "GERRY"

Age 75, December 1, 2013. Longtime resident of Bloomfield Twp, retired to Canton. Beloved husband of the late Sharon Ann for 50 years. Loving father of Michelle (David) Soubly-Jackson, Diane Soubly and Janet (John) Slominski. Proud grandfather of Lyndsey, Tyler, Devin, Paige and Anna. Special companion of Miley and Zoey. Also survived by Gerry's special lady friend Terry Swierb. Funeral services have been held. Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Vincent & Sarah Fisher Center. www.mccabefuneralhome.com

May you find comfort in family & friends



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<p>ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD LIVONIA (734)261-1380</p> <p>WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. TUESDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulsilivonia.org</p>			

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CERAMIC ARTISTS OFFER A HANDS-ON LESSON IN THEIR CRAFT

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

The wet, smooth clay feels like silk under my fingers as it spins slowly on the pottery wheel.

The wheel's motor, operated by a foot pedal, whines like my sewing machine at home.

But I quickly discover that making a pot from slippery, pliable clay is nothing like stitching fabric. I know where to place my hands on a sewing machine, but need a lot of coaching behind the potter's wheel.

And that's exactly what I got recently, when I visited with four area ceramic artists, Jan Bostwick of Royal Oak, Carol Fitzpatrick and Ruth Rycroft of Farmington Hills and Dave Albrecht, of Farmington.

They're among 135 potters who will sell their works at the 38th annual Potters Market, Dec. 5-8, in Madison Heights. Bostwick and Fitzpatrick enjoy making functional pieces, such as dishes, plates and serving ware. Albrecht focuses on sculpture and Rycroft makes a variety of items, including cottage-style buildings called "spirit houses."

I'd be happy to make anything — functional, decorative or merely identifiable. I'm inspired by all of the artists — and their beautiful works — at the Potters Market and dream about joining their ranks. Every year I vow to try my hand at pottery.

Ceramics lesson

This year, Fitzpatrick challenged me to keep my promise and get a behind-the-scenes look at Potters Market.

That's how I've ended up in Bostwick's studio, gingerly touching a dome of spinning clay that she has centered, so it wouldn't wobble on the wheel.

38TH ANNUAL POTTERS MARKET

When: Preview sale is 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8

Where: UF & CW Union Hall, 876 Horace Brown Drive, one block south of 13 Mile, between 1-75 and John R

What: Sale features 135 potters offering nearly 35,000 pieces of pottery ranging from pots, vases, platters, tiles and mugs to bird baths, jewelry, ceramic framed mirrors, sculpture, lamps, tile-topped tables and just about every product possible in clay. Artists include those who have regularly offered their wares at Potters Market, as well as potters statewide, from individual labs to Oakland Community College studios at Orchard Ridge and Royal Oak. No strollers are permitted.

Admission: \$10 on Thursday preview night; free Friday-Sunday; parking is free

Contact: 248-554-5570; the-pottersmarket.com

I'm encouraged knowing I can use ready-made clay after Albrecht tells me that in the "good old days" — when he first began learning the process — the artists made their own medium.

"This is the easy way, just buying it," he explains

Bostwick says the process of transforming the clay into a pot will be fun. "It doesn't have to be easy or hard. You just practice."

Giving it a whirl

Under her guidance, I push my thumbs into the center of the spinning clay and a pot start to take shape. She shows me how to push the side of the



Artist wannabe, Sharon Dargay, gives a thumbs up after creating a bowl on the wheel, with the help of Jan Bostwick (right) and support of artists, Carol Fitzpatrick (left), and Ruth Rycroft of Farmington Hills and Dave Albrecht, of Farmington. PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

pot out toward me, to enlarge its shape. It takes a few tries, but after both Fitzpatrick and Bostwick tell me to brace my hands to make them steady, I finally manage to mimic the movements.

Fitzpatrick also shows me how to make a dish, using hand-building techniques rather than the wheel. Her rolled clay looks like dough that's ready for cookie cutters when she drapes it over a Styrofoam tray that will serve as a mold. We press various "found objects," including braided wire and pine cones, into clay to create textures, a fun process.

Rycroft says that for most potters, creating also is relaxing.

"It's a passion. It's a passion for everybody. It gets in your blood," Rycroft notes. "And you never stop learning."

Adds Albrecht, "Even if you're having a tough time throwing that cylinder (on the wheel), the rest of the world goes away. That's what we love to do."



Sharon Dargay puts gentle pressure on the sides of her bowl, which is taking shape on the wheel in Jan Bostwick's studio in Royal Oak.



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GET OUT! CALENDAR

ART & CRAFTS GALLERY@VT

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, during public performances, or by appointment, through Dec. 28

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: Ohio artist Mary Gaynier exhibits her intricate paper cuts.

Contact: 734-394-5300

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Dec. 14

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: Visit two exhibits, Small Works, an all-media juried exhibit, and Through the Lens: A Northville Camera Club Exhibit. The Small Works show is "cash and carry," meaning buyers may take the art home with them immediately after purchase. The Through the Lens exhibit will feature photos of nature, animals, family, culture and architecture. Many will be for sale.

Contact: 248-344-0497; <http://www.northvillearts.org>

UPPER HALL GALLERY

Time/Date: Through Dec. 7; pub hours are 3 p.m. to mid-

night Monday-Thursday, 3 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, and noon to midnight Sunday

Location: Liberty Street Brew Pub, 149 W. Liberty, Plymouth

Details: Amy Lockard exhibits photos of Michigan's Upper Peninsula

Contact: 734-207-9600

THREE CITIES ART CLUB

Time/Date: View exhibit 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday, through Dec. 29; reception, 1-4 p.m. Dec. 7

Location: Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: "The Gift of Art" exhibit will include two-dimensional styles from traditional to impressionistic to abstract as well as photography. Most will be for sale

Contact: Marilyn Meredith at 313-231-3939

AUDITIONS

BAREFOOT PRODUCTIONS

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Dec. 9-10

Location: 240 N. Main, Plymouth

Details: Actors interested in

auditioning for the dark comedy, *The Twilight of the Gods*, should prepare a one-two-minute dramatic monologue and bring resumes and headshots if available. Auditions also will include cold readings

Contact: www.justgobarefoot.com

COMEDY

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 5-7 and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 6-7

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Ms. Pat from Atlanta, Ga., performs. Tickets are \$22 with dinner, \$12 without on Thursday and \$32 with dinner and \$20 without, Friday-Saturday

Contact: 734-261-0555

MUSIC

BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. the third Saturday of the month through May

Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Contact: Scott Ludwig at BFSpresident@aol.com



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Full Pans	(serve approx. 30 people) \$50
Half Pans	(serve approx. 15 people) \$35
Combination Salad	full pan \$35 half pan \$24
Lasagna	full pan \$75 half pan \$40
Eggplant Parmesan	full pan \$75 half pan \$45
Kielbasa & Sauerkraut	full pan \$75 half pan \$45
Baked or Broasted Chicken	100 pieces \$105 200 pieces \$205
Italian Sausage with green pepper & onion	full pan \$75 half pan \$45
Slab of Ribs	\$16.10 ea
Shrimp	\$1.95 ea
Meatballs	75¢ ea.

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COMFORT FOODS BRING FAMILY TOGETHER

Few dishes have a way of pleasing taste buds and gathering the family together like comfort foods. It's always best to have a repertoire of these classic, tried-and-true recipes on hand.

Whether you prefer a creamy plate of macaroni and cheese or a steamy bowl of chicken noodle soup, nothing warms the senses and takes you back to simpler times quite like your favorite comfort foods.

This winter, try new dishes that include nutritious greens, such as kale and collards, to your list of favorites. They'll feed the need for a comforting meal and provide vitamins A, C and K, as well as several minerals, including potassium, iron and manganese. For more great recipe ideas, visit www.rawl.net.

Courtesy of Family Features

VEGGIE, SMOKED SAUSAGE AND CHEESE BAKE

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 50 minutes
Yield: 12 to 15 servings

- 1 cup water
- 1 (14.5 ounces) can fat-free chicken broth
- 1 (1 pound) bag kale or collards
- 8 ounces rotini pasta
- 12 ounces Italian-style smoked chicken sausage
- 1 tablespoon extra light olive oil
- 4 ounces diced yellow onion
- 2 teaspoons garlic
- 15 ounces part skim milk Ricotta cheese
- 1 teaspoon fine sea salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 1 cup reduced-fat Parmesan cheese

Pour water and chicken broth in large pot and bring to boil over high heat. Add kale or collards into boiling mixture and cover. Reduce heat to medium and cook for 20 minutes, stirring often. Drain greens after cooking and set aside. Cook pasta until tender according to package directions. Drain pasta after cooking and set aside. While pasta and greens are cooking, chop sausage into tiny pieces and set aside. Heat large skillet to high and pour olive oil into skillet. Reduce heat to low; spoon onion and garlic into oil and saute for 2-3 minutes or until onion is transparent. Add sausage pieces and cook for 5 minutes, stirring often. Pour cooked sausage mixture into large bowl; stir in cooked greens, cooked pasta, Ricotta cheese, sea salt and pepper. Spoon greens and sausage mixture into prepared 13- by 9-inch casserole dish. Sprinkle Parmesan cheese over greens and sausage mixture. Bake at 400°F for 30 minutes or until brown on top. Cool for 10 minutes before serving.



KALE AND FETA CASSEROLE

- 1 (1-pound size) bag of kale
- 1 (14-ounce size) can vegetable broth
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup uncooked brown rice
- 2 eggs
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- ½ cup feta cheese, crumbled
- 1 cup Parmesan cheese

Cook kale in vegetable broth and water until desired tenderness. While kale is cooking, cook rice according to package directions. Cool both kale and rice. When kale and rice are thoroughly cooled, mix together and add eggs, salt, pepper, feta, and ½ cup Parmesan.

Put mixture in a 9- by 11-inch lightly greased casserole dish. Sprinkle remaining Parmesan on top and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes or until hot and cheese is browned on top.



GREENS TOPPED GRITS

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 2 ½ hours
Yield: 8-10 serving

- 2 tablespoons extra light tasting virgin olive oil
- 6 slices low-sodium bacon
- 2 teaspoon garlic salt
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 1 teaspoon cumin
- 2 ½ pounds Boston butt pork roast, trimmed of excess fat
- 1 ½ cups barbecue sauce
- 2 cups instant grits
- 2 cups reduce fat cheddar cheese
- 1 (1-pound bag) collards, cooked

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. In a large skillet, cook bacon in olive oil over medium heat until crisp. Remove bacon to paper towels to drain, reserving drippings in pan. Crumble bacon and set aside. In a small bowl, stir together garlic salt, paprika and cumin. Rub mixture evenly over pork roast. Cook pork in hot drippings for 3 minutes per side or until browned on all sides. Transfer pork to oven proof baking dish. Pour 1 cup sauce over pork and sprinkle with crumbled bacon. Cover and bake for 2 hours or until pork is tender. Meanwhile, prepare grits according to package directions. Stir in cheese until melted. Keep warm. Remove pork, discarding pan juices. Pull pork using 2 forks. Toss remaining ½ cup barbecue sauce with pulled pork. Serve collards over grits; top collards with pulled pork.

KALE SOUP WITH CANNELLINI BEANS

Serves: 6-8

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 12 cups chicken stock-divided
- 1 (1-pound bag) kale
- 1 15-ounce can diced tomatoes
- 1 15-ounce cans cannellini beans-drained and rinsed
- 3 carrots, peeled and sliced
- 1 tablespoon Italian seasoning
- 2 tablespoons dried parsley
- 2 teaspoon pepper
- 3 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1/3 cup water

In large stock pot, heat olive oil on medium heat; add onion and garlic. Cook until onions are clear about 3-5 minutes. Add 1 cup chicken stock and kale. Cover and cook until wilted about 3-5 minutes. Add remaining chicken stock, tomatoes, cannellini beans, carrots, Italian seasoning, parsley and pepper. Bring soup to boil on medium high heat, turn down to medium low and simmer for 25 minutes. Place cornstarch and water in jar and shake. Bring soup to boil on medium high heat slowly add cornstarch mixture and stir to thicken soup.

GREENS, SAUSAGE, AND POTATO SOUP

Yield: 9 cups

- 1 (1-pound size) bag Nature's Greens Trio
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- ½ (8-ounce size) container Versatile Veggies
- Diced Yellow Onions
- 2 teaspoons minced garlic
- 6 cups chicken broth
- 4 large potatoes, cut into ½-inch cubes
- 1 (14-ounce size) package smoked turkey sausage, thinly sliced
- ½ teaspoon fresh ground pepper
- 2 tablespoons smoked paprika
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 cup fat free half and half

In a Dutch oven, sauté onion and garlic in oil. Add broth and potatoes. Bring to a full rolling boil. Cover; reduce heat to simmer and cook for 20-30 minutes. Add sausage, pepper, smoked paprika, and salt. Simmer for 15 minutes. Increase heat to boiling and add greens. Boil for 5 minutes; reduce heat to medium and cook for 25 minutes. Stir in half and half and serve.



SAUTEED COLLARDS WITH PASTA

Yield: 6 large servings

- 1 (1-pound size) bag collards
- 6-8 slices bacon, diced
- 1 large onion, diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 red bell pepper, diced
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- ¼ teaspoon crushed red pepper (hot)
- 2 cups whipping cream
- 1 (1½ -ounce size) package Parmesan cheese, divided
- 1 (12-ounce size) package angel hair pasta, cooked and drained

Cook greens in water (may season to taste) for 10-15 minutes. Drain and set aside. Cook bacon in large skillet or large saucepan until crisp. Remove and drain on paper towels. Reserve 2 tablespoons drippings in skillet. Saute red bell peppers, onion, and garlic in drippings until tender. Add greens, salt, pepper and crushed red pepper. Cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally, for 15 to 20 minutes or until greens reach desired tenderness. In a small sauce pan, warm cream over medium heat. Add all but 2 tablespoons of the Parmesan cheese and stir until melted. Toss cream and Parmesan mixture with the pasta. Put pasta mixture on plate and top with greens mixture. Crumble bacon over the top and sprinkle with remaining Parmesan cheese. Serve immediately.

Laurel Park building gains kudos, commercial real estate leaders feted

The Building Owners and Managers Association of Metro Detroit held its annual awards program, The Outstanding Building of the Year (TOBY) and Leadership Awards Presentation on Nov. 15 at the MotorCity Casino Sound Board, Detroit.

The program honors outstanding leaders and commercial properties in the local commercial real estate industry. The TOBY Awards, now in its 29th year, is the most prestigious and comprehensive program of its kind in the commercial real estate industry, recognizing excellence in office building ownership and management. Judging is based on community impact, tenant/employee relations programs, energy management systems, emergency evacuation procedures, building personnel training programs and overall quality indicators. A team of expert industry professionals conducted comprehensive building inspections.

"The winners of this year's TOBY Awards have shown exceptional achievement in their respective categories," said Paul S. Magy, president of BOMA of Metro Detroit. "They are remarkable professionals that provide superior accommodation to Michigan business through their building quality and excellence in property management on par with the best in class



Laura Marble from U.S. General Services Administration received the Outstanding Service Award. She is pictured with Bill Wylonis, BOMA immediate past president, and Paul Magy, BOMA president.

across the country."

With a sold-out crowd of nearly 300 people in attendance, honored were: Kimberly Heslep of Equity Office, Property Manager of the Year; Jon Brach, Newmark Grubb Knight Frank, Facility Manager of the Year; Tom Bartkowiak of REDICO, Building Engineer of the Year; Moylan Energy Management, Inc., Service Provider of the Year; and Neal Hopkins of Mr. Kleen Maintenance, Inc., Supplier Member of the Year.

Dan Kuchersky of PIC Maintenance, Inc., Emerging Leader; Laura Marble of U.S. General Services Administration, Outstanding Service Award; and

Scott Milligan of REDICO, the President's Award.

Detroit properties the m@dison, and Chase Tower; Southfield property Southfield Centre; and Laurel Park Place Office Center in Livonia all took first place in their respective square footage categories as Building of the Year. Detroit's Coleman A. Young Municipal Center was first in the Historical Building class and the Chrysler House first in Renovated Building. Oak Tech Professional in Auburn Hills took the top award in the Medical Office category, and Dearborn's Corporate Crossings top bill as Corporate Facility. The Bingham Office Center in Southfield was recognized in the Suburban Office Park Low-Rise grouping.

Local TOBY winners advance to regional competition and then move on to international competition at the BOMA International North American Real Estate Congress and the Every Building Show in Orlando, Fla., in June 2014.

For additional information on the 2013-2014 TOBY and Leadership Awards, visit www.bomadetroit.org.

Founded in 1908, BOMA of Metro Detroit is a professional, nonprofit trade association whose nearly 400 members either own or manage commercial real estate, or provide goods and services to the industry.

Amsterdam residents often rent

Q: Do you think it is better to buy or rent a home in Amsterdam since I want to live there during the summer?

A: I think that is a no brainer since only 20 percent of the houses in Amsterdam are purchased while 80 percent are rented. It costs you five euros an hour to park in town and eight euros a day outside of the city center, and they will give you a tram ticket to get into town. Obviously, there is an incentive on people to live outside of the metropolitan area. There are approximately 600,000 bikes in Amsterdam with only 800,000 inhabitants. You may be best off renting.



Robert Meisner

Q. How do we deal with a board member of our condominium who doesn't think we need an attorney? We have no one on retainer now and the management company has recommended that we get an attorney, but this board member doesn't want to spend any money. What are your comments?

A: You are running a business. You are a member of the board of directors of a corporation. You have legal issues that come up including the obligation to collect assessments, enforce the bylaws, pursue claims against contractors and/or developers, deal with fair housing issues, FHA certification, procedures to implement your collection and bylaw enforcement policies, and a myriad of other issues that an attorney can assist you on irrespective of whether you have a pending legal problem. Your board member should be apprised of her legal liabilities and the probability of her to be sued. Perhaps she will get her act together at that point in time and overcome her naivete.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling, and Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95 plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. "Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and BarnesandNoble.com. He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$2.20 for tax, shipping and handling. Call 248-644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the weeks of July 29 to Aug. 2, 2013, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS

16933 Beechwood Ave \$245,000
16975 Locherbie Ave \$190,000
32811 Old Post Rd \$370,000
31850 Verona Cir \$410,000
31231 W Chelton Dr \$365,000
31404 Waltham Dr \$370,000

BINGHAM FARMS

32949 Bingham Ln \$500,000

BIRMINGHAM

647 Bennaville Ave \$145,000
444 Chester St # 416 \$124,000
615 Emmons Ave \$295,000
1943 Graefield Rd \$119,000
728 Hanna St \$390,000
663 Harmon St \$455,000
600 Henrietta St \$625,000
1471 Humphrey Ave \$137,000
2263 Manchester Rd \$211,000
833 Mohegan St \$905,000
963 N Old Woodward Ave \$270,000
900 Puritan Ave \$710,000
1607 S Bates St \$619,000
1562 Sheffield Rd \$239,000
1823 Southfield Rd \$110,000

BLOOMFIELD HILLS

1510 Groton Rd \$375,000
1850 Pine Ridge Ln \$212,000
490 Fox Hills Dr N # 5 \$61,000
6721 Inkster Rd \$238,000
6487 Maple Hills Dr \$120,000
345 Martell Dr \$875,000
4250 Sedgemoor Ln \$420,000
3635 W Bradford Dr \$239,000
4041 W Maple Rd # E104 \$59,000

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

960 Westview Rd \$313,000
2795 Ayershire Dr \$265,000
2990 Courville Dr \$240,000
670 E Fox Hills Dr \$69,000
1902 Eagle Pointe \$190,000
5253 Fairmont Hill Ct \$375,000
1769 Golf Ridge Dr \$188,000
1159 Hillpointe Cir \$220,000

2375 Mulberry Sq # 69 \$73,000
2743 Plum Brook Dr \$220,000
1429 Ravineview Ct \$190,000
1190 Rolling Acres Dr \$183,000
1560 S Hill Blvd \$115,000
542 S Spinningwheel Ln \$190,000
3895 Top View Ct \$310,000
4043 W Maple Rd # D203 \$83,000
328 Wadsworth Ln \$190,000
42353 Woodward Ave \$100,000
5744 Woodwind Dr \$428,000
6425 Worlington Rd \$660,000
2633 Indian Mound S \$735,000

COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP

1833 Applebrook Dr \$50,000
6061 Balmoral Way \$399,000
6133 Birchcrest Ln \$382,000
8656 Buckskin Dr \$160,000
3525 Buell Ct \$330,000
2261 Calibouge \$40,000
4690 Cooley Lake Rd \$210,000
3348 Edgewood Park Dr \$1,200,000
515 Farr St \$101,000
8030 Flagstaff St \$459,000
2415 Ivy Hill Dr \$275,000
5726 Lancaster Ln \$440,000
2633 Lauryl Dr \$190,000
2834 Lauryl Dr \$136,000
3675 Loch Bend Dr \$558,000
8888 Orrick St \$305,000
4998 Parkgate Dr \$50,000
5026 Parkgate Dr \$50,000
4665 Vandalia St \$173,000
1455 Vanstone Dr \$85,000
4853 Waldon Woods Dr \$285,000

FARMINGTON

23077 Farmington Rd \$190,000
22418 Hawthorne St \$131,000

FARMINGTON HILLS

37614 Avon Cir \$265,000
37659 Avon Ln \$252,000
27900 Berrywood Ln Unit 26 \$56,000
22748 Bramwell St \$100,000
32370 Dunford St \$223,000
30236 Essex Dr \$275,000
31070 Evergreen Ct \$294,000
29913 Fox Club Dr \$301,000
25905 Kilreigh Dr \$143,000
30083 Kimberly Ct \$255,000
30197 Mayfair Dr \$260,000
29526 Medbury St \$122,000

29926 Mirlon Dr \$185,000
29982 Muirland Dr \$285,000
29255 New Bradford Dr \$302,000
21535 Orchard Lake Rd \$92,000
21420 Parklane St \$240,000
29625 Pendleton Club Dr \$52,000
29638 Pendleton Club Dr \$13,000
23088 Purdue Ave \$162,000
34424 Quaker Valley Rd \$335,000
30465 Ramblewood Club Dr \$208,000
30484 Ramblewood Club Dr \$180,000
25987 Ridgewood Dr \$186,000
33481 Stocker St \$150,000
30707 Turtle Crk \$285,000
30090 Valley Side Dr \$195,000
28811 Village Ln \$305,000
32600 W Wayburn St \$195,000
25576 Wessex St \$210,000

FRANKLIN

26656 Carol Ave \$575,000

MILFORD

400 Burns Rd \$231,000
1719 Indian Garden Ln \$193,000
534 Union St \$223,000

NORTHVILLE

44211 Chedworth Dr \$445,000
21345 E Glen Haven Cir \$130,000
22240 Lujon Dr \$353,000
894 McDonald Dr \$380,000
581 Morgan Ct \$275,000
940 New Haven Ct \$131,000
21734 Taft Rd \$225,000

NOVI

31239 Barrington Dr \$195,000
24407 Bellingham Dr \$561,000
28322 Clymer Dr \$450,000
39515 Country Ln \$125,000
24058 Elizabeth Ln \$440,000
44639 Ellery Ln \$202,000
44641 Ellery Ln \$198,000
47477 Greenwich Dr \$412,000
44410 Gwinnett Loop \$143,000
26513 Mandalay Cir \$190,000
25811 Mulberry Ln \$379,000
41050 N McMahon Cir \$121,000
22425 Plaisance Blvd \$315,000
25616 Portico Ln \$180,000
22773 Renford Dr \$58,000
45306 Sedra Ct \$351,000

47298 Sunnybrook Ln \$525,000
27364 Victoria Rd \$288,000
22138 York Mills Cir \$447,000

SOUTH LYON

1096 Appaloosa Ct \$256,000
24482 Brompton Way \$335,000
24556 Brompton Way \$333,000
1042 Cantor Ln \$278,000
178 Easton Dr \$258,000
824 Glen Meadows Dr \$30,000
54902 Grenelefe Cir W \$309,000
948 Hearthside St \$152,000
815 Huntington Dr \$270,000
204 Maplewood Ct Unit 7 \$50,000

SOUTHFIELD

1040 Paddock Dr \$221,000
58874 Peters Barn Dr \$73,000
28015 Pontiac Trl \$200,000
22205 Quail Run Cir Unit 2 \$124,000
24431 Ravine Dr \$490,000
52277 Red Cedar \$302,000
24488 Ridge Pole Ct \$350,000
60648 S Lyon Trl \$300,000
23464 Sawgrass Ct S \$382,000

WHITE LAKE

28102 Brentwood St \$49,000
28890 Brooks Ln \$160,000
17627 Cornell Rd \$80,000
17250 Dorsett Ave \$105,000
16129 E Bedford St \$144,000
29984 Evergreen Rd \$137,000
26360 Franklin Pointe Dr \$44,000
24125 Martha Washington Dr \$60,000
17670 New Hampshire Dr \$78,000
26962 Pebblestone St \$148,000
16131 Pennsylvania St \$113,000
18602 W Nine Mile Rd \$88,000
29732 Westbrook Pkwy \$77,000
21230 Winchester St \$159,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures. Many sellers are misinformed or not sure about how the procedures work. Organizers will also discuss the internal workings of short sales and the different steps involved.

Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. Thursdays at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon.

Additional parking across the street in back. Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Seminar on Tuesdays, Thursdays

A free seminar on government-insured reverse mortgages is offered by Colonial Mortgage Corp. on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 2 p.m., held at various locations.

RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96.

Email Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosure-Tour.com.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. each first Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership.

Any questions or concerns, call Wayne Koehler at 313-277-4168.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real-estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 19-23, 2013, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

50569 Amberwood Rd \$77,000
7541 Andover Dr \$445,000
2495 Briarhill Rd \$362,000
1935 Barkfield St \$154,000
3930 Brighton Ln \$167,000
1948 Brookfield St \$174,000
48826 Central Park Dr \$430,000
7525 Chichester Rd \$242,000
8772 Columbia Cir \$255,000
48854 Crescent Dr \$310,000
48469 Eastbridge Dr \$215,000
8760 Eastham Dr \$340,000
2036 Echo Woods Dr \$270,000
50792 Federal Blvd \$77,000
43154 Hadley Ct \$180,000
50191 Harding St \$305,000
7363 Hillsboro Dr \$181,000
48859 Ivybridge Way \$460,000
1963 Knollwood Dr \$130,000
43051 Lancelot Dr \$200,000
45193 Lothrop Rd \$345,000
48389 Manor Bridge Dr \$122,000
5836 Meadowview Dr \$355,000
837 Morning Dove Ct \$225,000
4489 Pond Run \$236,000
45044 Prestbury Rd \$168,000
745 Princess Dr \$155,000
408 Princeton St \$179,000
47501 River Woods Dr \$323,000
1875 S Pennfield Ln \$77,000
44845 Seabrook Dr \$325,000
42738 Woodbridge Dr \$146,000
46533 Woodside Dr \$336,000

GARDEN CITY

6916 Arcola St \$85,000
28420 Bock St \$9,000
31333 Bock St \$83,000

33620 Bock St \$80,000
29444 Florence St \$100,000
30720 Florence St \$58,000
32532 Kathryn St \$61,000
30776 Krauter St \$69,000
6516 Lards St \$77,000
30950 Pathero St \$35,000
27636 Windsor St \$82,000

LIVONIA

14373 Barbara St \$174,000
32329 Barkley St \$120,000
19085 Boulder Dr \$395,000
34749 Bristol St \$161,000
16358 Country Club Dr \$198,000
14359 Cranston St \$195,000
19496 Deering St \$76,000
38063 Donald St \$175,000
9804 E Clements Cir \$132,000
15743 Edgewood St \$210,000
20345 Ellen Dr \$250,000
14660 Garden St \$164,000
20641 Golf Ridge Cir \$30,000
32629 Greenland Ct \$190,000
30409 Hathaway St \$160,000
14112 Henry Ruff St \$190,000
29747 Jacquelyn Dr \$95,000
39077 Jamison St \$180,000
9121 Lathers St \$135,000
27604 Lyndon St \$132,000
38321 Mason St \$182,000
39078 Meeting House Ln \$212,000
9555 Middlebelt Rd \$207,000
37637 Newburgh Park Cir \$240,000
14307 Nola St \$172,000
35449 Oakdale St \$260,000
29141 Oriole St \$160,000
17855 Parklane St \$277,000
20235 Parkville St \$87,000
37749 Pickford Dr \$250,000
14734 Richfield St \$165,000
16559 Riverside St \$175,000
36066 Schoolcraft Rd \$171,000
9860 Seltzer St \$85,000

15956 Sunbury St \$160,000
14124 Sunset St \$99,000
15753 Swathmore Ln \$210,000
31065 W Chicago St \$137,000
17230 Wayne Rd \$218,000
9392 Westwind Dr \$108,000
9392 Westwind Dr \$149,000

NORTHVILLE

51025 Belmont Park Ct \$511,000
18301 Blue Heron Pointe Dr \$449,000
42219 Bradner Rd \$321,000
17947 Farmcrest Ct \$365,000
48808 Freestone Dr \$385,000
18874 Grande Vista Dr \$115,000
320 Linden St \$203,000
48067 Manorwood Dr \$1,200,000
19733 Marilyn St \$270,000
17500 Oak Hill Dr \$675,000
49704 Parkside Dr \$453,000
17409 Rolling Woods Cir \$550,000
49118 Running Trout Ln \$395,000
725 Spring Dr \$250,000
17770 Stonebrook Dr \$625,000
15661 Troon Ct \$730,000
15744 Troon Ct \$650,000

PLYMOUTH

46154 Academy Dr \$319,000
46515 Arboretum Cir \$425,000
1377 Beech St \$299,000
13697 Burning Tree Ln \$415,000
980 Carol Ave \$275,000
48708 Chambury Ct \$330,000
40626 E Ann Arbor Trl \$154,000
11355 Eastside Dr \$238,000
47736 Edinburgh Dr \$450,000
44819 Erik Pass \$205,000
8870 Gregory Ln \$182,000
1331 Hartsough St \$260,000
8891 Manton Ave \$200,000
48430 Meadow Ct \$375,000
10843 Millwood Dr \$476,000
45536 N Turtlehead Ct \$275,000
640 Parkview Dr \$123,000
11676 Parkview Dr \$190,000

49826 Plymouth Way \$142,000
549 Provincetown Ln \$200,000
8885 Rocker Ave \$220,000
46201 Rockledge Dr \$271,000
101 S Union St \$269,000
1456 Sheridan St \$329,000

REDFORD

26334 Five Mile Rd \$40,000
16873 Brady \$25,000
13931 Centralia \$45,000
20432 Delaware Ave \$23,000
17619 Gaylord \$77,000
12015 Lucerne \$30,000
17165 Macarthur \$54,000
9927 Norborne \$20,000
20469 Norborne \$34,000
8848 Sarasota \$78,000
17651 Sumner \$62,000
14404 Winston \$85,000

WAYNE

4045 Carnegie St \$9,000
36940 Pinewood Rd \$59,000
4165 Washington St \$30,000
1851 Alexander Dr \$90,000
754 Autumn Ridge Dr \$158,000
36659 Canyon Dr \$98,000
7351 Cavell St \$19,000
7739 Cherrywood Dr \$199,000
8185 Donna St \$101,000
693 Ethan Dr \$169,000
35680 Fernwood St \$115,000
7561 Gary Ave \$100,000
30724 Gladys Ave \$71,000
7362 Manor Cir \$46,000
33106 Melton St \$101,000
8285 Melvin Ave \$74,000
38201 Overbrook Ln \$212,000
909 Patricia Place Dr \$170,000
502 Van Lawn St \$55,000
38111 Warner Farms Dr \$83,000
33639 Warren Rd \$60,000

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Redford, MI

CHIEF ENGINEER
for an independent company in Plymouth, MI engaged in the development of powertrain systems with internal combustion engines as well as instrumentation and test systems. Requires a Bachelor's degree in Engineering, a Physical Science or related field and 7 years experience planning and delivering powertrain base engine design and development programs for gasoline engine calibration and gasoline combustion applications for automotive customers including defining project engineering activities, milestones and staff requirements; meeting with customers and staff engineers to determine engineering project specifications; developing and planning schedules, budgets & finances; identifying and resolving project performance issues according to customer specification requirements; serving as liaison with customers to provide project status reports and ensuring customer needs are met; coordinating preparation and delivery of project deliverables and managing & supervising engineering staff. The position is located in Plymouth, MI with 25% travel. Send resume to AVL Powertrain Engineering, Inc., Attn: Jacqui Kern, 47603 Halvard Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170-2438. Please indicate CE2 in subject line.

COPIER & PRINTER REPAIR TECH
Experienced only. Top pay, plus commission. Call 248-591-4310

DIRECT CARE: Make a difference! Support people with disabilities living their life the way they want to! Assist with personal care, meals, taking care of their homes, getting places etc. Many locations & shifts! Must be at least 18 yrs old, have valid MI Driver's License & are CLS, Inc. trained, call our Job Line 734-728-4201, OH

DIRECT CARE STAFF
needed to work with adults with DD in the Westland/Canton/Livonia area. Must be at least 18 yrs old w/HS diploma or GED, valid Driver's lic. w/acceptable driving record & clean criminal record. CLS, MORG or NSO training preferred. \$4.19/hr to start.
Call 248-661-8795 or Fax resume to 248-788-0264.

DME Biller
Seeking applicant for Canton & West Bloomfield Locations to coordinate all Aspects of DME equipment requests. Send resume to: jobs@savondrugs.com

ESTABLISHED COMPANY IN BRIGHTON
Is seeking quick learners for sorting and inspecting automotive parts, no exp. necessary. Paid training provided. Must have own transportation.
Please call 810-229-6053
btwn 9am-3pm, Mon-Fri

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Help Wanted - General

FORK LIFT DRIVER
Must be dependable, on time and here every day. Must be able to lift 70lbs repeatedly and without assistance. 2yrs. experience is required and must be flexible with schedule/hours. Be able to load and unload trucks in a timely manner also be able to get on and off hi-lo all day long. Must be able to pass a pre-employment screening and random drug testing.
Please contact via email: jcole@victorypackaging.com

FURNITURE INSTALLER
Office furniture installation business in Wixom is looking to fill FULL-TIME INSTALLER. We are looking for dependable individuals. You must be able to travel for out of town projects. Be able to work evenings and weekends. Must have a valid driver's license. Tools required. To be considered for this position, apply in person: Synergy Installation Solutions 29988 Anthony Drive Wixom, MI 48393

METRO DETROIT AREA GOURMET MARKET
Accepting applications for: **Deli Manager**
Experience required in large volume deli including ordering, scheduling, budgets, and merchandising. Send resume, salary history to: livoniainmarket@yahoo.com

Help Wanted - General

KFC
Kentucky Fried Chicken is seeking experienced **RESTAURANT MANAGERS**. Must be goal-oriented, positive role models, motivated to be successful, hands-on leaders, having a passion for the business. If you possess drive and determination to be "award winning", let's talk.
For interview call 248.353.7600 ext.214

PROPERTY MANAGER
Ann Arbor, large full service community mgmt company interested in hiring an experienced FT portfolio Manager, certified credentials helpful. Excellent benefits, please send resume to: charlesb@kramertrud.com Attention: Community Manager

O&E Media Classifieds
Just a quick call away...
800-579-7355

Help Wanted - General

RECEPTIONIST
Fast-paced CPA firm seeks Receptionist. Duties include answering phones, scheduling appointments, assembling tax returns and other administrative duties. Full time during tax season and part time after. Experience using Word and Excel is necessary. CPA firm experience a plus!
Email resume: Box 6004 oeresume@hometownlife.com

TRUCK DRIVER
Office furniture installation business in Wixom is looking to fill FULL-TIME TRUCK DRIVER positions. We are looking for RESPONSIBLE, DEPENDABLE/PRESENTABLE individuals. You must have a valid driver's license, CDL license a plus, be able to travel for out of town projects and work weekends and evenings. To be considered for this position, apply in person: Synergy Installation Solutions, 29988 Anthony Dr., Wixom, MI 48393

Help Wanted - Medical

COOK/UTILITY POSITION
Must be reliable, personable detail oriented. Rotating weekends. Apply in person Mon - Fri, 9am-4pm at Plymouth Inn Assisted Living, 205 Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Pediatric office in Livonia. Exp req. approx 30 hrs/wk 734-591-0220

Observer & Eccentric Media

The Observer and Eccentric is looking for an **Auto Account Executive** to cover the suburban Detroit area. This position will work out of the Sterling Heights, MI location.

This position is responsible for all sales and related activities to advertisers within an assigned geographic territory. Will mainly be servicing auto businesses with the opportunity to sell into the Observer & Eccentric publications and DMP products. Primary responsibility is managing the territory to achieve sales quotas and developing new auto business. The Auto Account Executive will develop strategies, make presentations to new and existing advertisers and be responsive to customer needs. Sales orders, reports and documentation are prepared for management's review.

An Associate's degree and two years of sales experience and/or equivalent. Auto sales experience a plus. Bachelor's degree preferred. Professional communication, presentation and organizational skills are required. Must be highly motivated, analytical, detail-oriented and able to work under deadline pressure. Proficiency using a personal computer is required. Use of personal vehicle, valid driver's license, state mandated auto insurance and good driving record are required.

Gannett is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to a policy of equal employment opportunity for all persons.

Observer & Eccentric Media, a Gannett company, specializes in community-based information on a variety of platforms - print, web, mobile and video. Local is what we do best. Come join our team!

To apply; Email your resume to Frank Cibor at fcibor@hometownlife.com or apply on Careerbuilder.com and look for O&E Media Auto Executive position.

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Observer & Eccentric Media
A Gannett Company

Observer & Eccentric Media specializes in community-based information on a variety of platforms - print, web, mobile and video. O&E Media publishes 13 individually edited newspapers, a website and more than 75 special sections and specialty products annually. The staff includes more than 40 journalists, 25 advertising account executives and other key support personnel in circulation and production. O&E Media - Because local matters. Come join our team.

Observer and Eccentric Media is looking for an Account Executive for the South Lyon, MI Territory. This position will work out of the South Lyon, MI location.

RESPONSIBILITIES: This position is responsible for all sales and related activities to advertisers within an assigned geographic territory. Will mainly be servicing businesses with the opportunity to sell into the Hometown Weeklies, Observer & Eccentric publications and DMP products. Primary responsibility is managing the territory to achieve sales quotas and developing new business. The Account Executive will develop strategies, make presentations to new and existing advertisers and be responsive to customer needs. Sales orders, reports and documentation are prepared for management's review.

REQUIREMENTS: An Associate's degree and two years of sales experience and/or equivalent. Bachelor's degree preferred. Professional communication, presentation and organizational skills are required. Must be highly motivated, analytical, detail-oriented and able to work under deadline pressure. Proficiency using a personal computer is required. Use of personal vehicle, valid driver's license, state mandated auto insurance and good driving record are required.

Our Company
Gannett is a media and marketing solutions company with a diverse portfolio of broadcast, digital, mobile and publishing companies. Gannett provides consumers easy access to the things that matter most to them - any way and anywhere.

Gannett's portfolio of trusted brands helps business customers connect with these highly engaged audiences through its industry-leading marketing services, customized solutions and national-to-local-to-personal reach.

The company's 82 U.S. daily newspapers, including USA TODAY, reach 11.6 million readers every weekday and 12 million readers every Sunday, providing important news and information from their customers' neighborhoods and around the globe. USA TODAY, the nation's No. 1 newspaper in print circulation, and USATODAY.com reach a combined 6.6 million readers daily.

The Broadcasting Division's 23 TV stations reach 21 million households, covering 18.2 percent of the U.S. population. Through its Captivate subsidiary, the Broadcasting Division delivers news, information and advertising to a highly desirable audience demographic on 9,500 video screens located in elevators of office towers and select hotel lobbies in 25 major cities across North America.

Newsquest is one of the U.K.'s leading regional community news providers and its digital portfolio of newspaper and online-only brands attracts nearly 7.5 million unique users each month. It has a portfolio of 17 daily paid-for newspapers and more than 200 weekly newspapers, magazines and trade publications. Newsquest owns a successful online publisher called s1, which is a leading recruitment site in Scotland Gannett is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to a policy of equal employment opportunity for all persons.

Email resumes to: lvernon@gannett.com. Attn: Sales Please specify the territory you are interested in on the subject line of your email.

EEOC

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
A GANNETT COMPANY

Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- Propane holder
- Deep trench
- Gotchal
- Mishmash
- Comics pooch
- Some bout enders
- Downy fungi
- Field mouse
- Genre
- Kyoto rite (2 wds.)
- Young goat
- Phone button
- Skipper's OK
- Help
- Uncertain
- Wishes one hadn't
- Once named
- Dramatic intro (hyph.)
- Flabbergast
- Prefix for classic
- My, my!
- Email provider
- Noisy dispute

DOWN

- Back-fence yowler
- Oodles (2 wds.)
- Nefertiti's river
- Brownie creator
- Took up residence (2 wds.)
- Hound's trail
- Felt under par
- Bristled with
- Like
- Grail descriptor
- Say please
- Government org.
- Make a day —
- Fido's reply
- "Futureworld" name
- Want-ad abbr.
- Family room
- High-tech scanner
- McMahon and Sullivan
- Shaggy-haired ox
- Glide like an eagle
- Strangest
- Take turns
- Dinny's rider
- Zodiac scales
- Carried on
- Twinge
- Neat as —
- Average grades
- W. Hemisphere alliance
- Russian emperor
- Gentle treatment
- Layer

Answer to Previous Puzzle

O	A	F	S	E	L	F	M	I	C	A
A	D	E	C	O	A	L	O	D	O	R
K	A	T	M	A	N	D	U	S	A	L
S	M	E	A	R	E	B	B	S		
			N	F	C		B	Y	R	O
L	O	P	S	E	E	L	S	E	C	O
O	G	E	E	L	E	I	A	N	T	E
B	L	T	I	L	K	S	I	D	O	L
S	E	E	D	S	A	B	S			
			A	M	M	O	A	L	C	O
O	D	I	N	O	V	E	R	E	A	T
B	U	L	K	C	A	V	E	S	T	A
I	D	L	E	S	L	E	D	H	O	N

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Want more puzzles?
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

							1			
2									4	
	8	7								
4	9		5					6	1	
					3					8
		5								
	3	9		5					7	
					1				3	
8		1	7				9			

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

HOLIDAY WORD SEARCH

WORDS

APPRECIATION GATHERING
ATMOSPHERE GIFT
BOXING DAY GUESTS
CANDLES INVITATION
CELEBRATION JANUARY
CHANUKAH KITCHEN
CHEER KWANZAA
CHILDREN MUSIC
CHRISTMAS NEW YEARS DAY
COCKTAILS PARTY
COOKING PRESENTS
DANCING SHARING
DECEMBER SOCIALIZE
DECORATIONS SONGS
DESSERT SURPRISES
FAMILY THANKFUL
FEAST TREE
FRIENDS WINTERTIME

Z F A M I L Y I U G N I K O O C S E H M
M U S I C D F S S K W A N Z A A R L X F
V C X K P N E R D L I H C B C E I T R X
E D O G R G W Y T R A P W B H H I C E
M R C R E O W A S Z T W X P B A E E B I
I K H U S E N G P P E T L S K N D L E F E
T U A S E O U P Z R L O T K D E D T R Y
R G N L N I E R E J M D F S B Z F W X A
E A U I T S E S T K U N R E O L F I D
T T K A S A T C A L I A A D J E N D G
N H A T B T S I G I M T T A C A J E H N
I E H K N I R A A N I T N C S C C W E I
W R T C W V S T Y O I C S T H E J Y Z X
A I N O W N R I N R I R A I M E L E I O
A N V C J I E O H N A I A B R D N A L B
E G W R P R K N G G K U E H B H U R A N
A D E S S E R T O N I R N D S N C S I Z
W S U R P R I T E S A F W A W E B D C B
S G N O S C Z P T F G N T P J S M A O L
U M H S S N O I T A R O C E D H S Y S F

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

6	5	6	3	2	7	4	1	8
4	3	8	9	1	6	2	7	5
1	4	2	4	5	8	6	3	9
1	5	6	7	2	4	9	8	3
8	1	6	6	8	4	7	2	7
3	3	2	7	8	1	5	9	6
6	6	3	4	5	2	4	7	1
4	7							
2	6	3	1	9	8	5	4	7
1	8	2	7	1	8	2		

Word Search

SEARCH FOR THE WORDS LISTED IN THE WORD SEARCH ABOVE. Write the letters in the boxes provided. The words may be written horizontally, vertically, diagonally, or backwards.

JOBS

Food - Beverage

IMMEDIATELY HIRING!
•COOKS •WAITSTAFF
•BARTENDER Exp. a must.
Apply in person: Starting Gate,
135 N. Center St., Northville.

Help Wanted - Domestic

ASSISTANT / HELPER
To provide transportation and care taking services for an active disabled person in and around community. \$11.50/hr. Seeking personable, high-energy individual.
734-718-8928

Position Wanted

SANTA CLAUS FOR HIRE
Book Early for Christmas, Co Parties & Weddings. Contact Santa Chuck: 586-879-8319

RENTALS

apartments.com . HomeFinder

Apartment For Rent

FARMINGTON HILLS ANNIE APTS.
FREE HEAT! 1 bdrm from \$520, 9 Mile/Middlebelt
248-478-7489

NORTHVILLE: Spacious 3 bdrm, 2 bath. Great location. 6 Mile/275/M14. Patio, yard, garage. W/D hookups. No pets \$1100/mo. (330) 806-2815

WESTLAND: Westgate Tower
Is now accepting applications for our beautifully renovated one-bedroom apartments! Rent is based on 30% of income. Heat/water is included. Call or visit Westgate Tower at 734-729-2900; 34567 Elmwood, Westland, MI 48185 for an application to our waiting list.

Duplexes

WESTLAND/NORWAYNE: 3 bdrm duplex with big backyard, fenced 2 car gar, private usage. 248-982-3281

Homes For Rent

CANTON: 1628 Brookline 3 bd 1.5ba, appl's, bsmt, 1933sq ft, no pets or smoking, \$975 \$1600/dep. 734-231-5279

FARMINGTON HILLS: 3 br, 2 ba, crpt, remod, appl, a/c, 2 car gar, deck, fenced, no pets \$1000+ sec. 248-685-8138

GARDEN CITY: 3 br, 1 ba, refridge, stove, immediate Occ \$700 + sec. 29132 Bridge. 248-910-3695

LIVONIA: 1,000 sq. ft. 3 bdrm beautiful ranch, appliances, nice neighborhood, fenced yard, \$890/mo. 248-342-0314

LIVONIA: 3 bdrm ranch, c/a, great schools, best neighborhood, 2.5 car gar. This one has it all! \$1050 RENTED

REDFORD: Open Sun. 2-5, 17713 Northome. 3 bdrm brick, bsmt, appls inc. \$900 + sec. Taking apps. 734-624-5311

Rooms For Rent

LIVONIA: Furnished, kitchen privileges, cable, washer & dryer, all utilities. Retired male preferred. \$360/mo + \$100 deposit. 313-885-3766

O&E Media Classifieds Work Hard!

FREE FREE NO RENT TIL Feb 1st 2014!

\$398* moves you in!
HOMES STARTING AS LOW AS \$999/MONTH!
3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH all appliances including washer/dryer & central AC.
SEVERAL 1 BED homes also available for \$1149/month!
HURRY these homes are going fast!
CALL SUN HOMES TODAY (888) 448-3061 OR APPLY ON LINE AT WWW.4NORTHVILLE.COM
South Lyon Schools! Office hours M-F 9a-5p Sat 9a-1p Sun 12p-4p Offer expires 12/27/13 *Some restrictions apply EHO

Annual Braun and Helmer Auction Extravaganza

Large Auction featuring:
Coins • Guns • Antiques • Toys • Tons more!

Saturday December 7th @ 10:00 am

Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds
Ann Arbor, MI

5055 Saline - Ann Arbor Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI

10% buyer's premium, Complete details w/pics @ BraunandHelmer.com

David Helmer
734.368.1733

Braun & Helmer Auction Service
LC283366-c1

SERVICES

hometownlife.com

Drywall

COMPLETE DRYWALL SRV.
Plaster Repair. All jobs welcomed! Lic/Ins. Free Est. 30 yrs. exp. Mark: 313-363-6738

Electrical

FAMILY ELECTRICAL
City cert. Violations corrected. Service changes or any small job. Free est. 734-422-8080

Hauling - Clean Up

A-1 HAULING
Move scrap metal, clean base-ments, garages, stores, etc. Lowest prices in town. Quick service. Free est. Wayne/ Oakland Central location. 248-547-2764, 248-559-8138

Housecleaning

QUALITY CLEANING SVC.
Commercial & Residential. 20 yrs. exp. insured. Call Peggy: 734-751-2330

Paint Decorating Paper

COMPLETE PAINTING SRVS
All Home Repairs • Paper Removal • Drywall • Plaster. 27 yrs. John's Cell: 313-587-7836

Roofing

Leaks, Repairs, Flashings Valleys, 30 Yrs Exp. Lic/Ins. Member BBB. 248-346-4321

PERSONALS

Advanced Placement Social Studies Tutor. 15 years public classroom experience teaching A.P. classes. \$40 hr. Meet at your home or public place. (248)892-8944

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Free rent till 2/1/2014,
Hurry Homes Won't Last!
\$398 moves you in.
Home comes with all appliances including Washer/Dryer and dishwasher!
All Homes come with A/C!
Select homes include Shed for additional storage space!
College Park Estates
51074 Mott Rd. #248
Canton, MI 48188
(888) 284-9760
www.collegeparkhomes.com

Wanted to Buy

1940s to 1980s car emblems, badges, hood ornaments, horn buttons, nameplates, and trim, prefer excellent condition, all makes. Call Dan: 248-202-5465

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BUY & SELL

hometownlife.com

Antiques & Collectibles

ANTIQUE Round Dining Room Table: Tiger oak, 4' diameter, 4 oak chairs, good cond. \$245. 517-456-4800

Estates Sales

LIVONIA: Huge Estate Sale!
Everything must go in the whole house Dec 5, 6, 7, open 10 to 5 35928 Barkley.

PLYMOUTH ESTATE SALE:
48688 Meadow Dr. Sat. 9-4pm & Sun. 10-2pm. Furniture, misc. household items, old tools, yard structure, patio furn, yard tools, etc.

Garage/Moving Sales

CANTON: HOLIDAY SALE
Dec 4-8th, 10-4pm. 47232 Larchmont, N. of Ford, E. of Beck. Dept. 56 Dickens & North Pole, Hallmark ornaments, many holiday items, winter clothing, Goody Disney Collection. Much more!

Holiday Shopping Event
Brookfield Academy 38945 Ann Arbor Rd. Livonia, 48150 Sat. Dec. 7, Noon-3pm. You're invited to shop at a fundraiser gathering of vendors that include: Pampered Chef, Cutco, Discovery Toys, Party Life, Thirty-One, Mary K, Premier Designs, Princess House & Tupperware

MOVING prices neg. china cabinet, table & 4 chairs, family room furniture, kitchen table & chairs. 248.489.9119

PLYMOUTH MOVING SALE
AWESOME FINDS! Must downsize! 262 Holbrook, S. of Main, E of Mill St. Dec. 6-7, 9-5pm.

Flaws N All Ladies Boutique
Sizes 2-26
Women's Clothing and Accessories
Black Friday Sale and Beyond Support your local small business starting 10am-6pm Nov 29-Dec 31 \$10 off a single item or 30% off your total order with this ad 27224 Southfield Rd, Suite 3 Lathrup Village off of I-696 in the Lathrup Office Center (248)809-6970 www.flawed.name

Household Goods

Computer Desk/Oak 62" x 25.5" D, 29.75" H, \$300. Wood Filing Cab 19" W, 25" D, 28.5" H \$125. 517-546-3589 after 5pm

Crate & Barrel King Size Suede Beige Headboard
Matching bench w/dark wood legs. \$350. 248-202-5191

KITCHEN/DINETTE TABLE
55" long x 40" wide w/round corners. Also 18" leaf, oak turned legs & oak apron. Oak pattern. formal top/trim. Good cond. \$125. 517-456-4800

Walled Lake MOVING SALE
Dec 6 & 7 9a-5pm. Antiques, Furn, household items, Feather weight Sewing machine, Norman Rockwell Figurines, stained windows. 599 Ridge Rd. btw 14 MI & Maple W Of Decker, Lakeland Hills Estate.

Misc. For Sale

6 burial plots for sale in Glen Eden Lutheran Memorial Park located at 35667 Eight Mile Rd, Livonia MI. We will separate into groups of 2 if necessary. We are asking \$850 per plot and that's a savings of \$200 if you purchase these. These will go fast so call quickly to receive this savings (941)725-4200 seagypsy@aol.com

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Cool Yule



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CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXTRAVAGANZA

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY OPEN HOUSE

5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Witches Hat Museum
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PARADE OF LIGHTS

5:30 p.m. in Downtown South Lyon
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MAKEUP MAGIC
FOR THE HOLIDAYS, 37

DECEMBER 2013

woman



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**HOLIDAYS
HARKEN END
TO 2013**

Have fun with holiday fashion

Happy holidays! That's right – look at the calendar. December is here and 2013 is coming to an end.

Today's *Woman* closes out the year with an interesting selection of topics for your reading pleasure.



Susan Rosiek

Barbara Deyo, an internationally acclaimed makeup artist, writes about holiday makeup magic. Great tips for busy women who want to look their

very best this holiday season. Thank you, Barbara, for offering easy-to-follow suggestions.

Be sure to read our feature on holiday fashion – embrace the season with lace, leather and metallic. You owe it to yourself to indulge in a new holiday outfit or accessory. When shopping this holiday, shop for yourself, too.

Want a feel-good story for the season? Read the column on love and adventure by freelance writer Cheryl Rogers. A sweet telling of romance rediscovered.

Today's edition also features stories on a local breast cancer survivor from Beverly Hills and her experience with a clinical trial that saved her life.

Also featured is a story on divorce and the issues that women and families face in putting their lives back together.

Enjoy today's edition – it has substance and sass – and come back next month for a special edition on how women are leading the way in our local communities in 2014.

As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions for future editions.

Happy shopping this season and be sure to patronize our advertisers that make this local *Woman* section possible.

Susan Rosiek

publisher
srosiek@hometownlife.com

Financial planning tips for unmarried couples

Today's "modern family" is decidedly non-traditional. According to the latest U.S. Census data, fewer than 25 percent of American households currently consist of married couples with dependent children, while more than 40

percent of unmarried couples have children under the age of 18.

Even the term "married" can be defined differently, depending on where you live. Some states allow and recognize same-sex marriage, but the majority of states and the federal

government do not. Therefore, it's important for domestic partners to ensure they have legal protections in place to protect their families and themselves.

Legal protections

Unmarried partners lack many of the legal protections granted to spouses in the event of divorce or death. Although most states will consider a claim by an unmarried partner, there is no specific legal precedent in the absence of a written contract.

Domestic partners may wish to consider creating a domestic-partnership agreement that details the sharing of expenses, as well as the ownership and distribution of assets, should the relationship end.

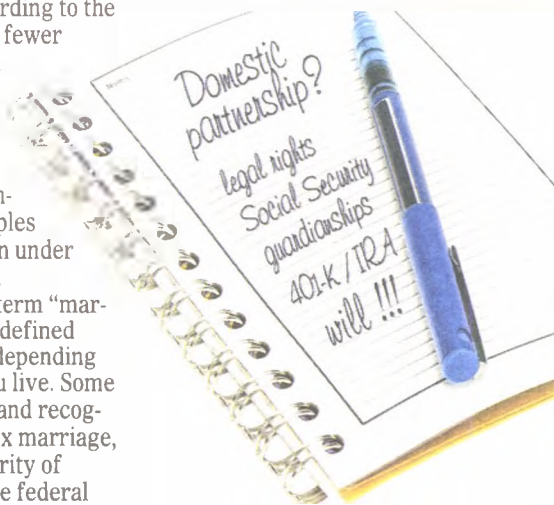
Unmarried couples with children should consider signing a written agreement acknowledging parental rights and responsibilities and having each partner name the other as primary guardian in wills.

Retirement considerations

Unmarried couples are not eligible for their partner's Social Security benefits and, in some cases, employer-sponsored retirement plan distributions.

The IRS allows a non-spousal beneficiary of an IRA to take required distributions over his or her lifetime rather than in a lump sum, allowing for potential tax-deferred growth over a longer period of time.

Domestic partners who can afford to do so may want to contribute the annual maximum to an IRA to capitalize on this benefit.



Estate planning

If an unmarried individual dies without a will, the state may distribute assets to his or her closest blood relatives, leaving the surviving domestic partner out in the cold. To help rebut a challenge to a will, domestic partners may want to videotape their wishes in the presence of an attorney.

Federal tax law allows all assets to pass to a spouse tax-free and no applicable estate taxes are due until the second spouse dies. Unmarried couples, however, do not enjoy this tax advantage.

For those with significant taxable assets, it will be necessary to pursue other avenues to avoid estate tax. One strategy is to purchase life insurance to pay any potential federal and state estate taxes. The surviving partner must own the insurance to avoid it becoming part of the estate of the deceased. Therefore, each partner should own enough insurance to pay anticipated taxes on the assets of his or her partner.

This is not intended to be legal and/or tax advice and should not be treated as such. Each individual's situation is different. Contact your legal and/or tax professional to discuss your personal situation.

Paula Swain CFP® is a financial consultant at Swain Financial LLC, 39111 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Contact Swain at 734-552-7610. Securities offered through LPL Financial, Member FINRA/SIPC.



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Oakland County woman remains **cancer-free** 13 years after breast cancer study

Research:
Treatment provides same outcomes after 10 years

Anita Evans of Beverly Hills was planning her 50th wedding anniversary celebration. She arranged for her husband, their children and grandchildren to spend an entire month in Florida. But in February 2000, during a routine physical examination, her doctor found a lump on her left breast. "I didn't have time for this. I'd been planning the trip for a while and arrangements had been made. I wanted to celebrate my wedding anniversary," Evans says.

Evans was diagnosed with breast cancer and soon after had the tumor, which was the size of a cherry pit, surgically removed. Shortly after the lumpectomy, she



Anita Evans PHOTO COURTESY BEAUMONT HEALTH SYSTEM

See **CANCER-FREE**, Page 15

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HOLIDAY SCENTS TAKE YOU BACK

The holiday season gives people the chance to take a break from their typically hectic lives to catch up with family and friends.

Beyond the festive decorations, music and food that make this time of year so special, it's important to take a moment to enjoy the scents and the great feelings, memories and motivations that they inspire — especially while entertaining. Whether it's the smell of mom's homemade cookies or the woody allure of a fresh-cut tree, these smells have a remarkable way of boosting spirits.

While the holiday season is an especially fragrant and emotional time of year, a new study by Glade shows that many people undervalue the positive impact scent can have on their daily lives.

"Scent is one of our most powerful senses. It brings more meaningful moments to our lives every day by allowing us to feel more, more often. This is especially relevant during the holidays — a time of year rich with fragrance, emotion and memories," says Rachel Herz, Ph.D., who has been researching the intersection of smell, emotion, per-

ception, motivated behavior and cognition since 1990 and is the author of *The Scent of Desire: Discovering Our Enigmatic Sense of Smell*.

This winter, capture the moments and special memories of the holiday season by creating a warm environment for family and friends. Here are some tips to incorporate into your holiday entertaining preparations that will make your home perfect for an inviting gathering:

Evoked the senses through scent

From the sweet fragrance of rich vanilla or the blend of winter berries and greenery, walking into a room with a seasonal scent instantly sets the mood. A lit candle on a side table is always a lovely touch to your holiday decor, though there are other options for enjoying your favorite fragrances such as Glade Wax Melts or Glade Plugs Scented Oil Customizables Warmers.

Turn up memorable melodies

Like scent, music has a way of evoking feelings and memories. When looking for a play list, choose music that

CONNECTIONS BETWEEN HAPPINESS AND SMELL

According to the study, the following scents were listed as those that most inspire happiness:

- Fresh baked bread**, 72 percent
- Fresh laundered clothing**, 70 percent
- Briny smell of the seashore**, 66 percent
- Tang of a fresh-cut orange**, 63 percent
- Sweet bouquet of cinnamon**, 62 percent
- Warm scent of vanilla**, 60 percent
- Decadent smell of chocolate**, 59 percent

speaks to childhood holidays. Or delight older relatives with holiday classics they'll enjoy.

DIY décor

Adding a cheery look to your home can be done without a trip to the craft or home decorating store. Simply fill large glass vases, metallic serving bowls or lanterns with brightly colored glass ornaments for gorgeous centerpieces that will illuminate the room.

Add a sentimental touch by using decorations that have been passed down through generations.

Let it glow

Having the right amount of light is a must for any gathering. Be sure to have a room that is properly lit for guests to enjoy activities, while maintaining an inviting atmosphere. Everyone will love cozying up to a burning fireplace.

Serve treats that please the senses

Give guests a trip back in time to grandma's kitchen and bake up special treats that evoke the sense of nostalgia. Time your baking so the goodies are done right before the guests arrive to thoroughly enjoy lingering baking smells.

This holiday season, encourage your guests to smell, feel and share their best feelings by creating an atmosphere that is warm, inviting and memorable. For more information, visit www.glade.com or follow Glade on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

— Courtesy of Family Features



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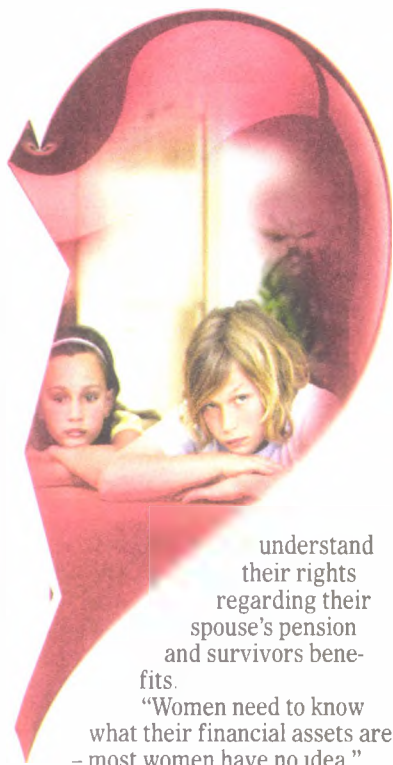
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understand their rights regarding their spouse's pension and survivors benefits.

"Women need to know what their financial assets are – most women have no idea,"

Kelley said, adding that property decisions made in a court of law are not modifiable.

"Once a decision has been made regarding property, that is it," she said.

Keep in mind that the decisions that you make as you move forward through the process will have a lasting effect not only in regards to your finances, but also on a personal level.

It is something that can often be difficult to remember in the midst of the turmoil and angst that most likely is surrounding you, Kelley said.

"I always try and remind parents to take the long view. Years from now, you want your children to be able to come to you and say, 'Mom and Dad, I know you didn't get along, but I thank you for making it easy on me,'" Kelley said.

Despite the immediate pain of the situation, you need to try hard to look beyond it and "start now to make that happen" for your children and yourself, she added.

"If you have children, you and your ex-spouse are going to be tied together for a long time – from parent-teacher conferences to graduations to weddings." Try keeping that in mind instead of squabbling over the petty issues, she advised.

Kelley said that despite your feelings toward your ex, "respect the right of your children to love and enjoy the company of the both of their parents."

Not only should you avoid trash-talking your ex in front of your children, don't allow family or friends to speak ill of your ex in front of your kids, either.

"Kids hate ongoing arguing, it drains them emotionally," Breeden said. "If both parents continue to struggle through the divorce and not move ahead with their lives, how can we expect children to do the same?"

Although it can be a challenge, focus on the behavior you are modeling for your kids.

"Moving on with your life and not getting stuck is very helpful," not just for the child, but also for the parent, Breeden said.

Still, he cautions parents to keep their eyes out for warning signs that their children may require some extra help getting through the divorce.

"Not all children need counseling. But if you notice differences in their behavior in a problematic way, or if your child seems depressed, seek counseling," Breeden said.

Seek support

Stulberg agrees that not everyone needs a therapist to get through a divorce: "Maybe you have a great network of friends and family" that can help support you through the ordeal.

Everyone's divorce experience is unique, said Stulberg, a licensed marriage and family therapist

"While it's going to be different for someone who has been wanting a divorce for a while compared to someone who has been totally shocked by the news that their spouse wants a divorce, you are going to be touched by it is some way; it is a loss," she said.

Self-esteem can take a beating throughout the process.

"They think that they have failed or they begin to second-guess the divorce – 'Maybe it was me' – even if it was not their decision and they start to blame themselves and it becomes an issue of self-worth," Stulberg said.

"You can't second-guess yourself. Most divorces are a long-time coming. No one just wakes up one morning unexpectedly and decides to get a divorce for no reason. Chances are it was a long time coming; maybe it is something that needed to happen for a long time," she added.

Rather than ignore the uncomfortable feelings, Stulberg advises owning them and dealing with them. Face it and move on, she said, even if you were at fault.

"You need to be straight with yourself. It happened and now it is time to pick yourself up, learn from it and move on. I've watched some amazing people come through some very tough divorce situations," she said.

"The trick is resilience. We all have it. It's there for a reason. It is what gets us through tough spots. You need to dig deep, grab it and move on."

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Don't give up on love or on adventure

I'm told that everyone enjoys a good love story, so here's a favorite.

After a bad marriage, the woman was done with men and marriage forever.

Three months after her divorce was final, she impulsively attended her high school class reunion and she met a classmate she hadn't known in high school. At the end of the weekend, they exchanged email addresses, then he went back to his work overseas and she returned to her home in Michigan.

Since they lived on different continents, they used email and instant messenger to get to know each other. By the time they saw each other again, she felt like she knew all about him. Thus began a series of infrequent but fabulous dates and, years later, when his overseas assignment ended, she invited him to come to Michigan. Although she'd softened on men, she was still gunshy about marriage.

Last August, during a Friday night concert, he got on his knee and reminded her that it was six years to the day since they'd met at the high school class reunion. To her stunned surprise, he pulled

out an engagement ring and asked her to marry him. The wedding will be on the seventh anniversary of their meeting, next August.

Yeah, that's my story. Awe ...

So thanks to Mike, for being one of the sweetest, kindest and most patient guys I've ever known.

He's cute, too, but he hates it when I say that.

Awesome adventure

I learned not to give up on love and I recently met a bunch of cool women who haven't given up on adventure, either.

I had vacation time to use, but Mike couldn't travel with me. So since Google holds all answers, I searched for women's travel groups and found an impressive one.

The company's tours have no more than 18 travelers, plus a leader. They said they weren't equipped to handle walkers or wheelchairs, their travelers must be able to handle their own luggage and be up to the physical demands of their trip.

With that encouraging insight, I began drooling over the prospect of exotic international travel. Given that it was my first experience with this group, though, I opted for a more predictable trip: London and Paris.

We were instructed to gather at a particular London hotel on a specific date and time. There, I

met 17 other women who, with the exception of a mother and daughter, were all traveling on their own.

Our ages ranged from 27 to 70. Most said they liked the structure of a tour and also the ample free time to pursue their own interests in each city.

Nearly everyone had the easy-going attitude you need when traveling internationally with a group.

You could pay a supplement and have a single room, but in the spirit of adventure, I opted for a roommate. I was lucky enough to get Nadine, a business owner from Spokane, Wash., who treated herself to the trip for her 70th birthday. Nadine is my new role model for how to live life at age 70.

There were so many unforgettable trip highlights: London theater (*Billy Elliott* and *Jersey Boys*), the Tower of London and Kensington Palace, navigating the tube and Metro, lunch on the Eiffel Tower, Musee D'Orsay, Montmartre and Sacre Coeur. Give me a chance and I'll talk about these and other highlights for hours.

The best part, however, was meeting cool women and discovering a new way for a solo traveler to see the world and have great adventures.

Cheryl Rogers is a freelance writer who lives in Brighton.



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CANCER-FREE

Continued from Page 6

was referred to a radiation oncologist at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, who was leading a clinical trial of time-compressed radiation therapy after lumpectomy.

"At that time, Anita Evans was a perfect candidate for the five-day delivery of accelerated partial breast irradiation by brachytherapy, as opposed to whole breast irradiation delivered by the traditional six and a half weeks of external beam radiation therapy," says Peter Chen, M.D., radiation oncologist at Beaumont.

Fit the profile

"She fit the basic selection profile of an older patient greater than 50 years of age with a small tumor with no spread of cancer to the lymph nodes or elsewhere," he added. "We also wanted to try to do our best to get her back to normal health so she could enjoy her anniversary trip."

Evans agreed to enroll in the clinical trial of radiation treatment called accelerated partial breast irradiation, or APBI, to kill breast cancer cells that may have remained after lumpectomy

"I'm glad I was able to participate in his trial. ... I feel it's a contribution that I can make."

ANITA EVANS

surgery. APBI via brachytherapy is an outpatient treatment, in which Evans had 17 hollow tubes, or catheters, placed into her breast where the tumor was located and removed. A radioactive seed of high activity or intensity was then used to treat the breast twice daily, for five days.

Evans says the treatment was painless. She explains, "I felt no pain. It looked like they just inserted long knitting needles on one side of the breast that came out the other."

And there were no side effects.

"I returned twice every day for one week and felt fine. Two days later, I was driving down to Florida," says Evans, an 87-year-old grandmother.

Today, the treatment Evans received has been perfected. The Beaumont breast cancer team now places a single-entry catheter containing a soft balloon that, once inside the breast, delivers radiation treatment.

Cancer-free

While Evans, an avid gardener, golfer and grandmother, has had no recurrence and has stayed cancer-free for more than a decade, she continues to get regular mammograms and follow-up care with Chen.

"Dr. Chen and I go back 13 years. He's always been very conscientious, pleasant and is very knowledgeable. I'm glad I was able to participate in his trial," says Evans, who has since participated in two additional, unrelated studies. "I strongly believe in them. I feel it's a contribution that I can make. In order to advance medicine, we have to participate in the research. It is certainly worthwhile."

Beaumont radiation oncology resident Jessica Wobb, M.D., presented Chen's updated research results at this year's American Society for Radiation Oncology conference. The results showed that APBI and traditional whole-breast irradiation are comparable at 10 years.

While radiation therapy has traditionally been delivered using whole breast irradiation, APBI is a proven alternative that shortens the length of treatment and may improve quality of life.

The study concludes, at 10 years, there have been no differences in cancer recurring or spreading.

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
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The private brands include Ruff Hewn women's accessories and Laura Ashley women's and accessories.

The private brand offers a variety of gifts that will satisfy everyone on your list.

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MAKEUP **MAGIC** FOR THE HOLIDAYS

You don't have to be an actual magician to pull this off. You just need a few key tools and products and – presto – you are ready for the holidays.

Well, maybe not entirely, but at least you will look like you are. It's all about the illusion. Smoke and mirrors, right ladies? So get out your magic wands, a.k.a. makeup brushes, and let's go.

As busy women, no matter well we have learned how to juggle, the holidays always throw a curve ball in our schedules. Adding one more thing to the "to-do list" can make all the plates come crashing down, which can certainly stress us out.

So for my first trick – how to make dark circles disappear. A good concealer, applied properly, is so important to have in your makeup bag of tricks. Choose a shade a bit lighter than your skin, so you can brighten up the eye area and camouflage imperfections. It's a good touchup trick mid-day, too, to freshen up in a snap.

Now for my trickier trick – make your eyelashes quadruple right before your



Barbara Deyo

very eyes.

If you can master the art of applying false eyelashes, you will be forever patting yourself on the back. It can be a bit frustrating getting them on straight, but once you get it, you will wonder why you never could get them on before.

Tips to keep in mind: don't over-glue. Squeeze about an inch long strip of glue on the back of your hand, pick up the lash with a pair of tweezers and lightly coat the entire length of the lash with glue.

You must give the glue a chance to get tacky or it's never going to stick. So wave it in the air for about 30 seconds then, abracadabra, give it a whirl.

What I find works best is, I tip my head back and look down so I can get my own eyelashes out of the way. Start at the inner corner and press the lash down, as close to the lash line as possible, sliding down to the outer corner.

You can shimmy it closer to the lash line if you take the tweezers and pinch them together with the false lash. Watch your eyelid though; don't get too close. You do have a little hang time to fidget with the lash until the glue completely sets. Once it's all lined up, give it a good press with your finger to secure it and you will have

instant mega lashes – just like magic.

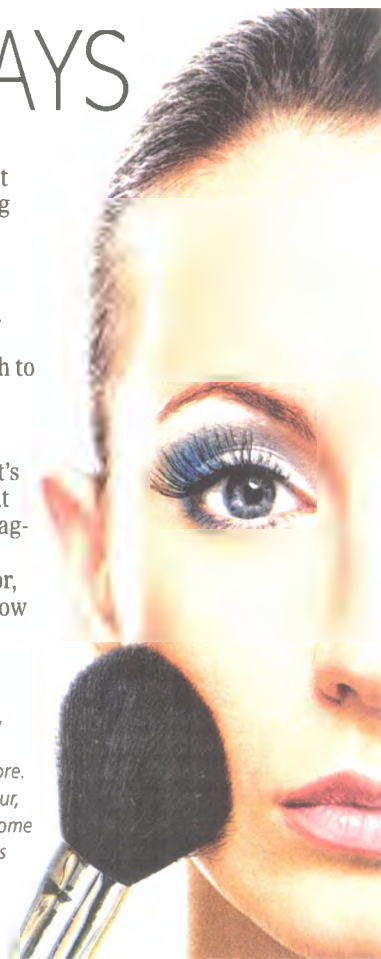
Yes, they are going to feel weird, for at least an hour – maybe all night – but, dang it, it's worth it.

My third and final trick – take 10 years (give or take a couple) off your face, instantly. I talk a lot about highlighting and illumination, that's because it really does work to give you a radiant, flawless finish to the skin and make you look much more beautiful and youthful.

Look in the mirror and see where the light actually bounces off your face. That's where you want to add your shine. I call it "candlelight" skin. So pretty. A simple magic trick so easy anyone can do it.

And as, Terry Pratchett, fantasy author, says, "It's still magic, even if you know how it's done."

Barbara Deyo, owner of Deyo Studio for face and body is an internationally acclaimed makeup artist, having groomed the faces of Paul McCartney, Bob Seger, Kerrie Washington, Shaun Robinson and more. She has been named Best of the Best by Allure, Hour, Real Detroit and WDIV. She also used to rock out some Cobalt blue eyeliner back in the day. Deyo Studio is located at 576 N. Old Woodward Ave, 2nd floor in Birmingham. Call her at 248-203-1222 or visit www.deyostudio.com.



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Gluten-free holiday recipes everyone will love

With a growing number of people eating gluten-free, you may feel guilty serving classics like stuffing, cookies and pies. Luckily, there are now easy and delicious ways to make holiday recipes everyone will enjoy.

"Whether I'm cooking for my family or a large group, it's important that I make something delicious that everyone can enjoy," says Chef Cat Cora, who applauds the use of these versatile in-

gredients. "My twists on holiday classics are a good way to have both taste and tradition this holiday season, for both you and your gluten-free guests."

For additional seasonal inspiration and more gluten-free holiday recipes from Chef Cat Cora please visit <http://www.pinterest.com/glutenfree/coracora-gluten-free-recipes/>.

— Courtesy of Family Features

CHEDDAR APPLE CRUMBLE

Prep time: 15 minutes
Start to finish: 50 minutes
Serves: 6

½ container (15.8 ounces) Pillsbury® Gluten Free refrigerated pie and pastry dough
½ cup finely chopped pecans
1 tablespoon powdered sugar
2 cups finely shredded cheddar cheese
2 tablespoons butter

½ cup sugar
4 medium apples, peeled, cored, diced (about 6 cups)
1 tablespoon lemon juice
¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon

Heat oven to 400°F. In medium bowl, mix pie dough, pecans, powdered sugar and cheese until well blended. Place crumb mixture on parchment-lined baking sheet. Bake 12 to 14 minutes or until golden brown. Cool; crumble. In 12-inch skillet, melt butter over medium-high heat; stir in

sugar. Cook and stir for 2 to 3 minutes, or until mixture begins to caramelize. Stir in apples, lemon juice and cinnamon (caramel will harden). Reduce heat to medium; simmer 8 to 10 minutes, stirring occasionally, or until apples are tender and caramel is dissolved. Cool. Spoon apple mixture into six 6-ounce oven-safe ramekins. Top with crumb mixture. Bake 5 to 6 minutes or until warm. Top with whipped cream or vanilla ice cream, if desired.

CHOCOLATE CHIP, RASPBERRY AND WHITE CHOCOLATE TRIFLE

Prep time: 30 minutes
Start to finish: 2 hours 30 minutes
Serves: 12

2 containers (14.3 ounces) Pillsbury® Gluten Free chocolate chip cookie dough
1 pound white chocolate, chopped
1½ pints whipping (heavy) cream
2 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
3 pints fresh raspberries



Heat oven to 350°F. Make and bake cookies as directed on container, then let cool. Crumble cookies and set aside. In 2-quart heavy saucepan, melt white chocolate with 3 tablespoons of cream over low heat until smooth. Cool to room temperature. In medium bowl, beat cream cheese until smooth. Fold in melted white chocolate. In large bowl, beat whipping cream until soft peaks form. Fold white chocolate mixture into whipped cream. In a 12-cup clear trifle bowl, layer ½ of the cookies, ½ of the white chocolate mixture and 1 pint of raspberries. Repeat layering using remaining cookies, white chocolate mixture and raspberries, ending with raspberries. Top with cookie crumbs.

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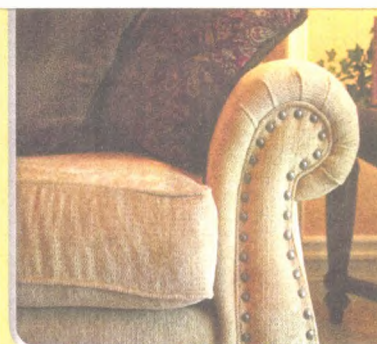


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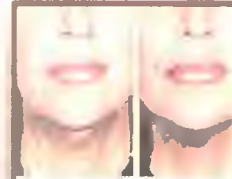


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