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Downtown post office readies for short move

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

The historic building that has housed downtown Plymouth's post office for nearly 80 years will be ready for renewal later this year after the U.S. Postal Service moves operations to a long-vacant former convenience store around the corner.

The Pursell Station on Penniman, built in the mid-1930s,

will be relocated to an old Dairy Mart at Penniman and Harvey once renovations there are complete.

The current building, of more than 20,000 square feet, is expected to be sold to Mark and Patricia Malcolm of Plymouth, who are planning to convert it into a gourmet food market while preserving many of its historical features, like the ornate postal boxes, wood paneling and an interior mural

depicting Plymouth history.

Mark Malcolm said Tuesday he and his wife are feeling good about the project, though closing the sale has taken longer than they expected.

"We are more optimistic and confident than ever that this will be a terrific project that will provide a valued service to the community, while preserving a key piece of Ply-

See MOVE, Page A2



The 1930s post office on Penniman is expected to be sold to Mark and Patty Malcolm, who plan to turn it into a gourmet market while keeping its historical features intact. The postal station is moving into a former convenience store down the street that is undergoing renovations.

HEALTHY FOCUS

Yoga studio reaches out for World Health Day

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Instructor Jennifer Lenders wants people to take yoga out of the studio and into their lives.

To help do that, Lenders is offering a day of free classes Monday in recognition of World Health Day, a designation since 1948 by the World Health Organization for every April 7.

Lenders, a yoga instructor for about 10 years and a certified personal trainer, will be offering free 10 classes throughout the day at her studio, Softstone Yoga and Nia, in Plymouth Township.

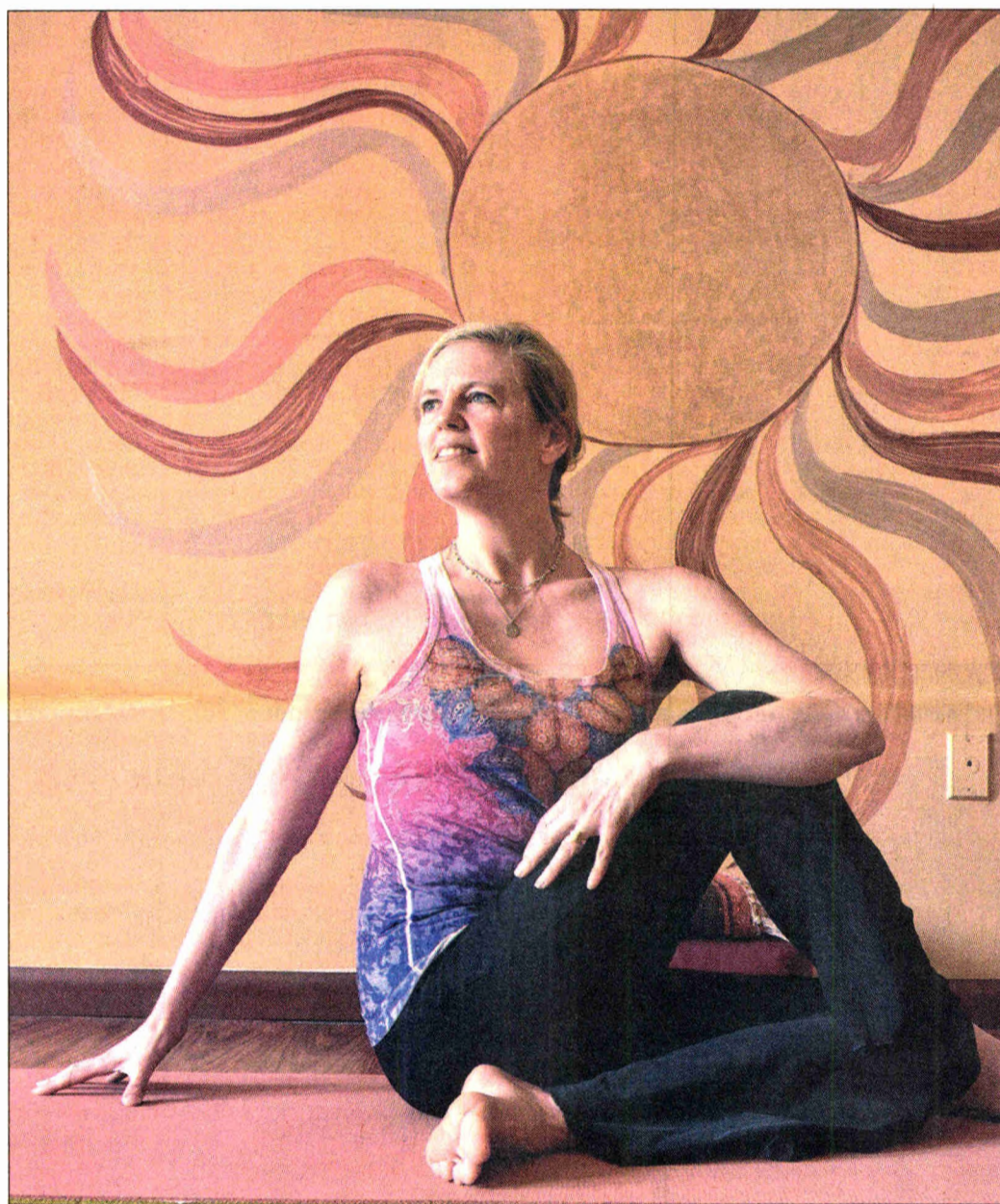
Each yoga class will have a different focus: there will be yoga for building strength and energy, for relieving back pain, for reducing stress and more, as well as a class on meditation offered at two different times.

Lenders started practicing yoga to relieve her own back pain and has since incorporated it into her daily routine.

"I'll do it for the rest of my life," she said at her studio Monday. "I really feel it could be beneficial to so many people."

Lenders teaches satyananda yoga, a style of yoga

See HEALTH, Page A2



Jennifer Lenders owns and teaches at Softstone Yoga and Nia. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, has filed to seek re-election in the 7th District.

Colbeck files for re-election

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, has filed for re-election, submitting signatures to the Wayne County Clerk's office to have his name placed on the ballot for the 2014 election for the state Senate 7th District.

Colbeck was first elected in 2010. The new state Senate 7th District adds the communities of Livonia and Wayne to the current communities of Canton Township, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Northville and Northville Township.

"When I ran for the senate in 2010, our state was not in great shape," Colbeck said. "Michigan was the only state in the nation to have lost population during the 2010 census. Families were being split up as our youth were seeking employment and raising their families in other states."

"After only three years, I'm pleased to report that Michigan is coming back. Not only is our state growing again, we are well on our way to achieving my 2010 campaign goal of our state becoming the number one job-growth state in the nation after years of decline."

In a statement released after his filing, Colbeck pointed out Michigan has "added over 250,000 jobs since January 2011." According to Colbeck, Michigan now has the fourth-fastest private sector job growth ranking in the nation and ninth-fastest growth in per capita income.

Colbeck said more than 73,000 job openings have been posted at mitalentconnect.org, with more than 17,000 of them "within a short commute of our homes in the 7th Senate District."

In addition to a high unemployment rate, Michigan was left with crumbling and hazardous roads. After years of struggling to find federal

See COLBECK, Page A2

It's finally here: I-96 shuts down Saturday

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

The orange barrels are out. The detour signs are uncovered. The equipment is staged.

After nearly two years from when the project was announced, I-96 is finally scheduled to close early Saturday morning through Redford and Livonia for more than six months of reconstruction work.

Compared to other large-scale freeway shutdowns in

recent memory, such as the Southfield Freeway or the Lodge Freeway, Michigan Department of Transportation engineer Jeff Horne said this project is unique in that the entire seven-mile stretch is a full reconstruction.

"The difference between the I-96 project and the Lodge and Southfield projects is that the Southfield project and the Lodge had a combination of different fixes. It wasn't a complete reconstruct through-

See I-96, Page A7



Crews prepare for Saturday's I-96 closure. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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Jake Schultz greeted the Easter Bunny last year at the annual Plymouth Township Easter Egg Hunt. This year's hunt is set for Saturday, April 19. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lions Club hosts egg hunt, sight program

When the Plymouth Lions Club hosts the annual Plymouth Township Easter Egg Hunt this year, the event will have added benefit for kids with existing or potential sight problems.

The Easter Egg Hunt, which draws hundreds of kids to Plymouth Township Park every year, takes place at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 19.

Children will be divided into age groups of 0-3, 4-6, 7-8, and 9-10. Parents and kids are encouraged to bring baskets for the eggs and "cameras to take plenty of pictures of the fun," hunt chairperson and Lions Club members Jo Ellen Hincker said.

Collection boxes will be available as the

Lions collect used or unwanted glasses, cellphones and hearing aids. The hunt is free, but donations are welcome.

Following the hunt, the Lions Club sponsors its Kid Sight Program in the Park Pavilion.

The Kid Sight Program uses a high-tech camera to take a picture of your child's eyes. They are then reviewed by trained personnel to detect possible eye defects in toddlers and young children.

Parents will be required to sign a consent form for a picture to be taken.

For more information, email Hincker at jehincker@comcast.net or call 734-453-7245.

Plymouth Showcase coming up April 14

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Visitors will have a chance to get acquainted with nearly 100 area businesses, nonprofits and other organizations and sample the fare from more than 20 restaurants and food businesses when the Plymouth Showcase and Taste of Plymouth marks its silver anniversary later this month.

The Showcase, a social and networking event sponsored by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, is 5-7:30 p.m. Monday, April 14, at the Inn at St. John's. For the \$10 admission price, visitors can try out a variety of food and drink, talk to local business owners and pick up the trinkets like pens, refrigerator magnets and tote bags that are handed out.

There will also be raffle prizes given away by the non-food exhibitors, a food-judging contest for best appetizer, best main dish and best dessert and Volunteer of the Year awards from many of the area's



Plymouth Showcase regulars Don and Doris Carter enjoyed last year's event. This year's showcase is set for April 14.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

service clubs and community groups.

"It's a great way to reconnect with longtime customers and at the same time expose ourselves to a (new customer group) that's not familiar with us," said Rob Costanza, the owner of the Station 885 restaurant in Old Village, which will be participating in its first Showcase in several years.

Business variety

The 98 businesses scheduled for this year include a number of

newcomers, said Teri Fry, the chamber's events coordinator. Among the eateries new to the Showcase will be Stella's Black Dog Tavern, the Post Local Bistro, the Alpine Chocolate Haus and the Courthouse Grille.

There will also be exhibits by local shops and service businesses, banks and credit unions, real estate companies and health care providers and community organizations as diverse as the Community Foundation of Plymouth, the

Yankee Air Museum, the Plymouth District Library and the Northville City Fire Department.

Costanza said Station 885's booth will be serving osso buco chicken, roasted cuts of the thickest part of a chicken leg, served in a tomato broth. Station 885 will next month be introducing a new menu, which will include a new line of meats, flat-bread pizzas and new vegetarian dishes, Costanza said, and the Showcase and Taste of Plymouth will be a chance to get the word out.

"We just feel the need to stay connected to the community," he said.

Showcase tickets will be available at the door the day of the event. The Inn at St. John's is at 44045 Five Mile, just east of Sheldon Road.

The annual event is usually scheduled for May, but Fry said a scheduling conflict resulted in an earlier date this year.

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HEALTH

Continued from Page A1

that emphasizes meditation and breathing along with the physical poses, as well as the "power yoga" styles, such as vinyasa, that are more familiar to Americans.

She sees a renewed interest in the meditative aspects of practicing yoga. She also teaches nia, an exercise style with elements of martial arts and dance.

Lenders teaches in her studio four days a week and also at other locations and in clients' homes.

She opened Softstone in the summer of 2012;

the studio's name, she said, is intended to convey a duality found in yoga: pushing oneself hard physically while achieving a "soft" or meditative mental state. The name also represents the stacking stones sometimes used in meditation and the balance symbolized by those stacked stones, she said.

Fitness synergy

Softstone shares space in the Provincetown Center, on Northville Road, with Rejuvenation Fitness, which opened in early 2012. Owner and trainer Terry Pratt describes his program as "functional fitness" that incorporates both cardiovascular and strength-building exer-

cises.

"It's movement that people need, that they don't do" in some other routines, Pratt said.

Pratt, a former bodybuilder, uses weighted sleds, sandbags, kettle bells, medicine balls and heavy ropes in Rejuvenation workouts, in addition to more traditional exercises with free weights and stationary bikes.

While there are several exercise machines at Rejuvenation, Pratt said many exercise machines don't always allow those using them to duplicate the kinds of body movements, or planes of motion, people actually go through in their daily lives.

Seventy percent of his clients are women, Pratt

said, but Rejuvenation draws people of all fitness levels and with all kinds of fitness goals. Mondays, for example, bring in a lot of young athletes looking for that extra edge.

"It's definitely all walks of life," said Pratt, who employs two instructors in addition to himself.

Softstone Yoga and Nia and Rejuvenation Fitness are at 15091 Northville Road, at Hines Drive, in Plymouth Township. For a schedule of Monday's free classes, visit the home page of Softstone's website, www.softstoneyoga.com. RSVP for a free class to jennifer@softstoneyoga.com.

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MOVE

Continued from Page A1

mouth's history," Malcolm wrote in an email.

He said they are in talks with a "reputable, high-quality market op-

erator" and have enlisted an architect with experience in preserving historical structures.

The Malcolms have had a purchase agreement for the property with U.S.P.S. since last spring. The building was put up for sale in 2010

for an asking price of \$990,000; Malcolm said he and his wife's offer was below that.

The sale was a cost-cutting move for the U.S.P.S., as a spokeswoman said at the time it went on the market that the building is much bigger than was needed in Plymouth.

No moving date

A closing date for the sale remains uncertain, as the new site for the Pursell Station is still

undergoing renovations. The building, at 885 Pennington, is a former Dairy Mart that has been closed for many years. The postal service will rent the space.

U.S.P.S. spokeswoman Elizabeth Najdich said work there is expected to be completed in early May, but no move-in date has been scheduled.

"We plan for it to be a seamless operation" with the Pursell station open at its current location one day and in its new

location, with regular hours, the next, Najdich said. "There will be no lapse in service or hours."

Najdich said customers who lease post office boxes will be notified of the move and will keep the box numbers they now have.

The new Pursell Station will have three employees assigned to it, she said. It will offer the same services offered at the current Pursell Station.

The cost of renovating the old Dairy Mart is approximately \$240,000; Najdich said U.S.P.S. would not disclose the rent it will pay there.

The Pursell Station is named for the late Carl Pursell, a longtime Republican member of the U.S. Congress who represented the Plymouth area and was the father of Phil Pursell, a former mayor.

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COLBECK

Continued from Page A1

funds to solve the safety and congestion issues at the Ford/I-275 interchange, Colbeck secured state funding last year to kick off a solution to this problem. Colbeck said he's focused much of his efforts on "finding long-term solutions to our state's ongoing road

funding problems." He said he has developed a plan to fully fund roads without raising taxes (a plan that can be found at "Road Funding Plan" at www.SenatorPatrick-Colbeck.com).

"We need to go beyond just the quick fixes that happen during election years and instead put in place a solution that will ensure Michigan has a system of quality roads that last," Colbeck said.

"Road construction should not be a jobs program that places ever increasing burdens upon hardworking taxpayers for diminishing returns. I voted against taxes such as the senior pension tax and the Homestead Property Tax increase because the data clearly shows that we can fund our state's true priorities such as our roads without raising taxes."

If re-elected, Colbeck

pledges to continue his track record of remaining true to his campaign commitments.

"Throughout my service tenure, I have been focused on solving problems not playing politics," Colbeck said. "The political environment can be difficult to navigate. I have chosen to chart my course by focusing on what is noble, true, excellent and praiseworthy."

Help Determine the Future of Patriot Park and Preservation Park

Canton residents are encouraged to attend the following Focus Groups to provide feedback.

Preservation Park, formerly known as the Bartlett-Travis property, is located at 500 North Ridge Road and is currently home to several historic buildings, Community Gardens, the Farmers Market, and Dog Park. Patriot Park, located on the northwest corner of Ford and Ridge Roads, is currently undeveloped.

Join us and give us your input:

Preservation Park Community Forum
Monday, April 7 from 7-8 p.m.
Canton Administration Building,
located at 1150 S. Canton Center Road

Patriot Park Focus Group Open House
Monday, April 14 from 7-9 p.m.
Cherry Hill School, located at 50440 Cherry Hill Road

Please RSVP for these Focus Groups by calling 734-394-5360
or by email leisure@canton-mi.org.


Current Master Plan for both of these sites are available online at cantonfun.org






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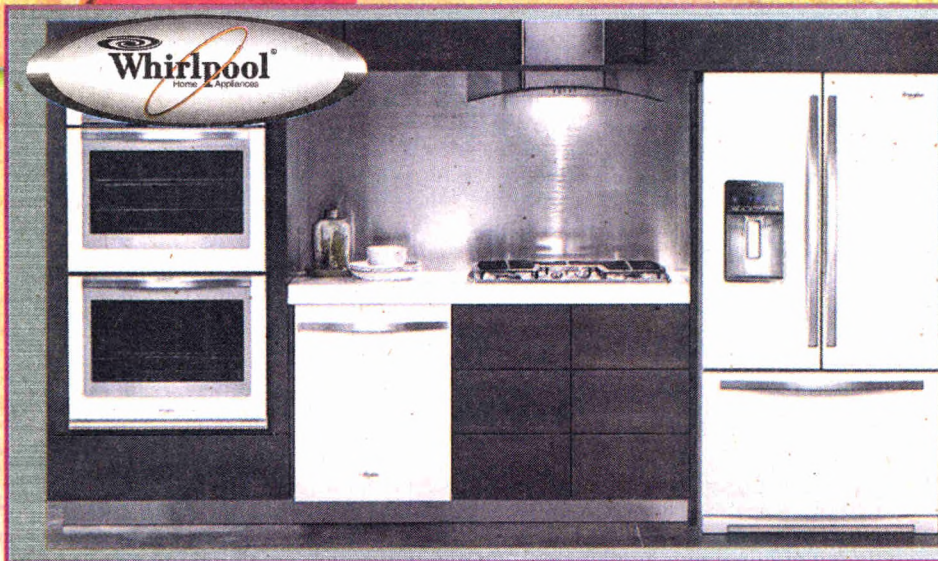
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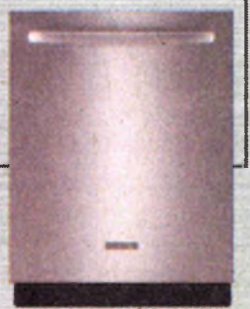
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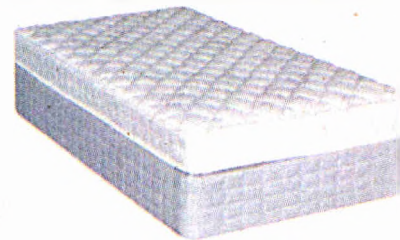
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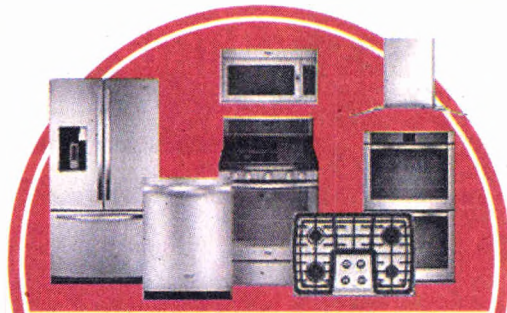


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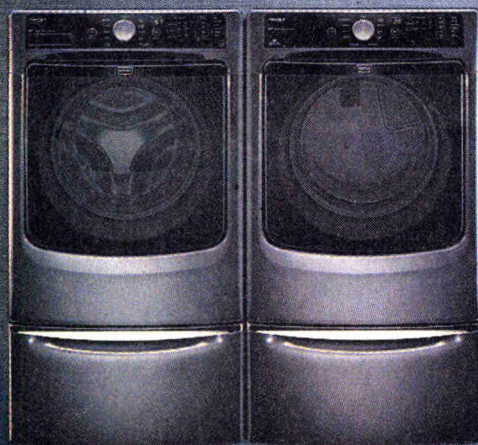
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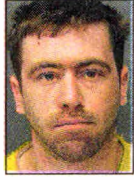
Alleged burglar faces new stalking charges

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A 33-year-old man arrested by Canton police on charges he had burglary tools is facing mounting legal woes after a widening investigation led to additional counts of stalking that involves two women he knew, authorities said.

Thomas Earl Martin of Wayne is facing a preliminary exam Friday in 35th District Court on charges of stalking, aggravated stalking and possession of burglary tools, Canton Detective Sgt. Chad Baugh said.

Martin, arrested at his home, was jailed with a \$100,000 bond when he was arraigned Friday by 35th District Judge James Plakas. Martin could face penalties



Martin

range up to 10 years in prison if he is convicted as charged, Baugh said. A not-guilty plea has been placed in Martin's court file as he awaits the preliminary exam that will determine whether he should face trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Martin's troubles began shortly before 2 a.m. March 21, when Canton police noticed a suspicious man lurking near the Children's Hospital of Michigan Specialty Center, on Cherry Hill east of Canton Center, while it was closed, Baugh said.

According to police reports, the man claimed he believed the specialty

center was an animal hospital and he wanted to obtain information for a girlfriend's dog that had been injured. Baugh said the suspect was walking in the area, but his car was nearby.

Baugh said police found binoculars, a flashlight, a Swiss army-type tool kit and, from the man's car, what Baugh described as a lock-picking set.

Further investigation indicated the man had allegedly been stalking two women with whom he had prior contact, Baugh said, though some details couldn't be divulged because the case was still pending in court.

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CANTON CRIME WATCH

Online threats

A 51-year-old Canton man contacted police Sunday afternoon after a 65-year-old suspect from Fort Wayne, Ind., allegedly made threats against him online, a police report said.

The Canton man said he had chastised the suspect for being rude to people on a website and telling him that he couldn't handle criticism of himself. The suspect, in turn, reportedly told the Canton man he was planning a trip to Canton and warned him to keep looking over his shoulder.

Police advised the man to contact authorities if there are any other signs the suspect is going to make contact.

Identity theft

A Canton couple notified police Friday after it was learned the husband may have become a victim of identity theft.

The man's wife reported the incident. She said an attempt was made to file their taxes electronically and it was rejected. She said H&R Block notified the couple there was an issue with the return.

The couple contacted the Internal Revenue Service, where they learned the husband's Social Security number had been used to file a fraudulent tax return.

Disorderly conduct

Canton police cited a 39-year-old man for be-

ing disorderly and resisting a police officer following allegations he was panhandling outside the Speedway gas station Monday evening at Ford and Lilley, a police report said.

The suspect began yelling and cursing, prompting police to push him to the ground to bring him under control, the report said. He refused to get into a police car.

Police brought him under control and later talked with his father, who said the suspect is schizophrenic. The suspect was released on bond after receiving his citations.

- By Darrell Clem

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Pair cited on shoplifting charges

A Canton Township man, 24, and a Belleville woman, 18, were cited on shoplifting charges Friday following an incident at the Kmart on Ann Arbor Road.

Police were called to the store shortly before 1 p.m. after a security worker confronted the pair outside, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report.

The worker told police he had watched, via a security camera, as the man picked a wallet from a store display, removed the packaging and put it in a pocket of his jeans.

The woman, meanwhile, put some costume jewelry and a pair of headphones in a coat pocket, he said. The two then left the store after the woman bought some candy, he said.

Once confronted, the pair complied with the guard's request to come with him to the security office. Police released the pair at the scene after issuing tickets for third-degree retail fraud.

SUV stolen

A 2012 Ford Edge was reported stolen Sunday from the driveway of a house on Turtlehead Court, north of Ann Arbor Road between Sheldon and Beck.

The complainant told police she was unsure if she had locked the Edge and that she kept a spare key inside. Police found no signs of forced entry, a report said. The complainant noted the Edge was a leased vehicle that she was supposed to turn in

Tuesday

Vehicle burglaries

Cash was reported stolen March 24 from an unlocked Ford Escape that was parked in the driveway of a house on Glasgow Court. The theft occurred late March 23 or early March 24, a police report said.

A navigation device was reported stolen March 26 from an unlocked Jeep Wrangler that was parked in the driveway of a house on Powell Ridge Court.

The complainant told police she suspects the theft occurred between 1:30 a.m. and 2 a.m. that day, as her dogs were barking at that time. When she looked outside, she said, she saw a vehicle driving away.

A purse and its contents, including cash and credit cards, were reported stolen recently from a Jeep Commander that was parked unlocked in the driveway of a house on Wildwood Court. The incident occurred late on March 26 or early the next day, a police report said.

Cash was reported stolen recently from an unlocked Jeep Cherokee that was parked in the driveway of a house on Deer Creek Run. The theft occurred on March 26 or March 27, the complainant told police.

Identity theft

A township man reported March 24 that his Social Security number had been fraudulently used on someone else's income tax return.

The man told police that shortly after he filed his income taxes electronically three days earlier, he re-

ceived notice that his number had been used on another return. He contacted the Internal Revenue Service, he said, and was told to begin the investigation process by filing a police report locally.

Thefts

A child's booster seat was reported stolen recently from the garage of a house on Redbud Avenue.

The complainant told police she put the seat on the trunk of her car, which was parked in the garage, and left the garage door open at about 11 a.m. March 25. When she returned around 1 p.m., she said, the seat was gone.

A leaf blower was reported stolen March 27 from an unlocked backyard shed at a house on Northern. The complainant told police he had last checked on the shed about two weeks prior.

Vandalism

The mailbox outside a house on Cobblestone Circle was knocked off its post last week, police report.

The complainant told police a neighbor had reported hearing a crash about 2:30 a.m. March 25 and looking outside to see two men driving away in a truck.

Funny money

A phony \$20 bill was used last weekend at the drive-through window of the Taco Bell on Ann Arbor Road, police report. The counterfeit was turned over to police early Sunday; the eatery's manager said it had been rejected by an automated safe.

- By Matt Jachman



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"Johnathan Vegas Has Left the Building"

Three Cities club holds art show at Westland library

Three Cities Art Club will present its second annual juried art exhibition Friday through Monday, April 4-7, at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland.

The show is free and features the work of 30 artists. Included is some of the area's finest original art, including oils, acrylics, watercolors, pastels, collage, photography and more.

This year's juror and judge, Elden (Al) Weber, studied at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, Purdue University and Indiana University. As juror, he selected 83 out of 128 pieces submitted. As judge, Weber chose his top five favorite photos and top five drawings/paintings from those he juried into the show.

The top three in each category will receive a cash prize and high-resolution print of their art, created and donated by Westland Printworks. Two honorable mention awards in each category will receive a gift certificate donated by D&M Art Studio of Canton. Westland Mayor William

Wild will select his favorite work of art and the artist will win his cash prize of \$100 "Wild Art Award." This year's prizes for the artists total more than \$1,300.

Everyone attending the exhibition will have the chance to vote for their three favorite works of art, which will enter them in a drawing for a chance to win a print by Westland artist Charlyn Darling of Toad-prince Illustrations.

Show hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday. On Sunday, April 6, Three Cities Art Club will host a free "Art and Appetizers" reception 1-3 p.m. Many of the artists will be on hand to talk with guests. Wild will present his award to the creator of his favorite piece and awards will be presented to the artists whose work was chosen by Weber.

Michael Darling of Westland Printworks will present the high-resolution prints he created for the top award winners. Sharon Lee Dillenbeck of D&M Art Studios will present

gift certificates to the honorable mention winners. J.D. Kilgas of Piano Pleasures will provide music for the event.

There will be free guided tours upon request by volunteer club members to enhance the experience. Learn about the styles and techniques used by the artists whose works are on display. Watch artists demonstrating their techniques Friday and Saturday with a very special pin striping demo Saturday by Dennis Gibbish.

In addition, there will be instructional art books and art magazines available at deep discount prices, plus note cards, refrigerator magnets and prints of the artist's work available for purchase. All sales will benefit the artists and help efforts to proliferate visual arts in our area.

The library is located at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford Road. To learn more about this event or the club, contact Marilyn Meredith at 313-231-3939 or marilynmeredith@wowway.com. The club's website is www.threecitiesartclub.org.

How to establish a statutory pet trust

A recent report stated that Americans spent more than \$53 billion on their pets last year. There is no doubt that Americans love their pets. However, one thing that many pet owners tend to forget about is what happens to their pet when they die or become disabled.

Unfortunately, as much as we care and love our pets, under the law they're treated as personal property. Pet owners who want to make sure that their pet is taken care of after their death need to put something in their estate plan.

The two ways of leaving money for the benefit of a pet is in one's will or a trust.

A will is the easiest method, however, it's not necessarily the best. Remember, wills go through probate and they sometimes can be very time-consuming and expensive. Although amending or drafting a will to provide for your pet may be the least expensive way, it probably is not the best.

I believe the best way to leave resources to a pet so they are cared for is to establish a trust. A pet trust can deal with all the issues regarding care and custody of your pet. In Michigan, laws allow someone to create a statutory pet trust. This type of trust is relatively inexpensive and can be added to an existing living trust.

In establishing a statutory pet trust, one of the key elements, as with any trust, is who is going to be in charge. Since this is a person who will be in charge of your pet, it is important that you select someone who not only likes your pet and who your pet likes as well, but also one that can handle the duties needed to take care of the pet.

In addition, you need to address how much money you should use to fund this portion of the trust. Obviously, the pet's needs and age would enter into the discussion.



Compensate caregiver?

Another item to consider is whether you compensate the caregiver of your pet. What happens to the remaining money after the pet passes on is another issue to decide.

In many situations, people are concerned if upon the pet's death the remainder of the funds goes to the caregiver. It gives the caregiver a disincentive to take care of their pet. That is why in many situations, upon the pet's death, the unused funds go to charity.

I recognize that this may sound a little crazy, however, take into consideration income tax issues when you do a statutory pet trust. If the trust that was established upon death earns at least \$100 in income, then it is liable to pay income taxes. The caregiver would be responsible to complete IRS Form 1041 to pay the taxes.

In establishing a statutory pet trust, make sure you identify what pet the trust is established for and whether the trust includes future pets. After all, most people are very slow to amend their trust. You may want to tackle these issues from the start.

There's no question that Americans love their pets. In today's ever-changing world, things are more complex and that is true in dealing with pets. If you have a pet and you want to make sure they're taken care of upon your death, look into a pet statutory trust.

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, email rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.



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Saturday, April 26th
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DATE TIME PRICE

4/26 11-2 FREE

PLEASE RSVP

More Great Events:

Outstanding Jazz Vocalist
Wednesday, April 2
1:30 p.m.

Sheila Landis is a seven time winner of Detroit Music Award's "Outstanding Jazz Vocalist". Sheila will perform her unique style of jazz, Latin and blues. Join us for great music and refreshments.

RSVP by March 31.

Grand Piano Dedication
Thursday, April 10
1:00 p.m.

The Village Joy Singers, IVP's own Resident Choir, under the direction of Charlotte Worthen will dedicate our 100 year old grand piano. Join us as we celebrate this exquisite addition to our community.

Mingle with Marilyn
Friday, April 25
1:30 p.m.

Entertainment provided by Marilyn Monroe and Debra Jimmerson, a phenomenal mother/daughter duo. Don't miss this great performance. Refreshments provided.

RSVP by April 23.

Stay and Play

Try us out on a complimentary* basis and see why at Independence Village of Plymouth, our residents live life their way, in an affordable but luxurious setting. Call to learn more or stop by for a tour.

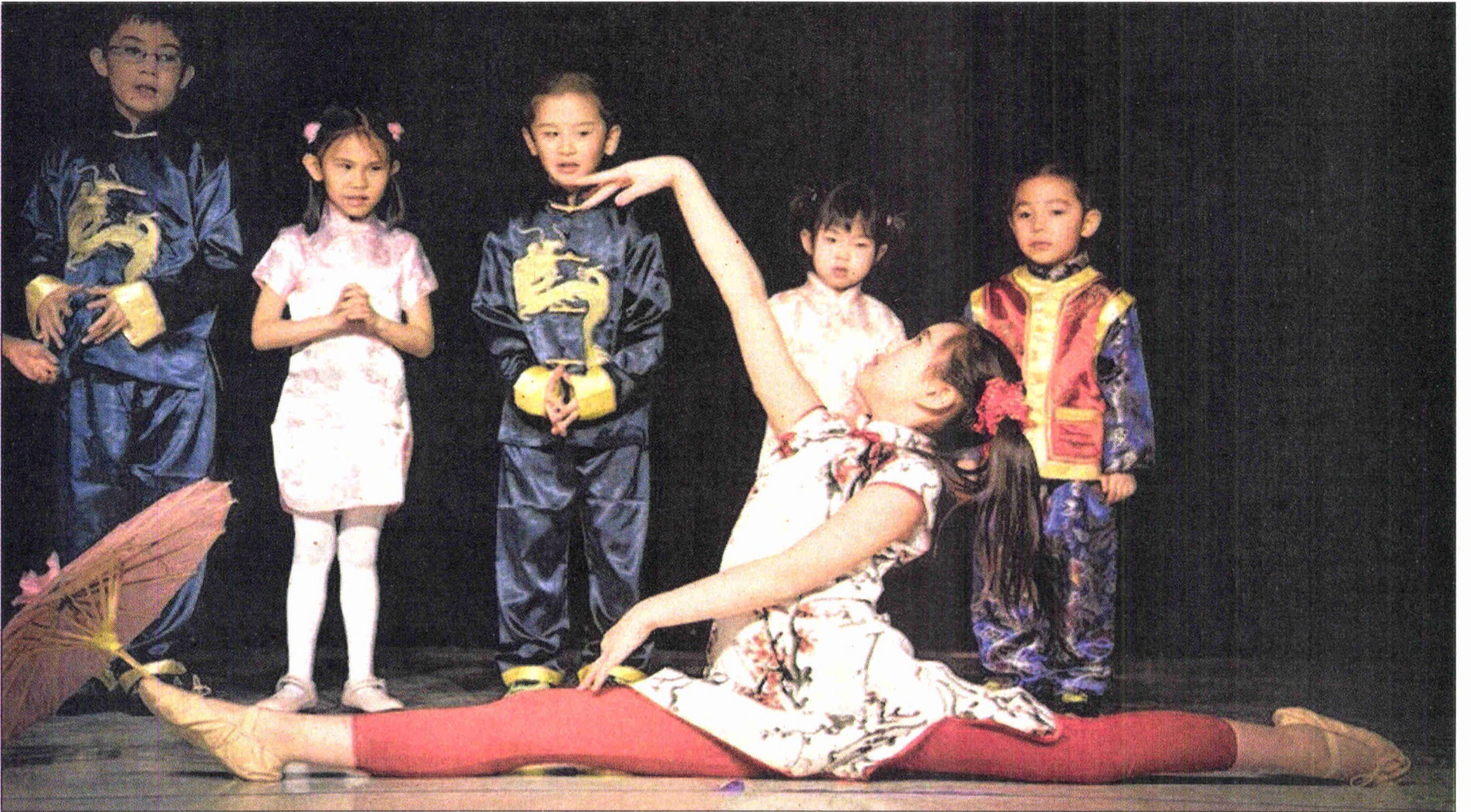
Independence Village of Plymouth

14707 Northville Road Plymouth, MI
South of 5 Mile Road

www.SeniorVillages.com

734-453-2600





Workman Elementary School's diversity celebration included musical and dance performances from the school's students. PHOTOS BY AMY ROSS STUDIO PHOTOGRAPHY

STUDENTS TAKE WORLD TOUR



The Workman choir helped the school celebrate diversity Friday.

Workman celebrates school's diversity

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

When Nikki Grenillo attended Workman Elementary School's diversity night the year her oldest child was in first grade, Principal Jim Burt said something to her that has been with her ever since.

Burt told her, "Our students don't look at each other and see different races."

So a few years later, when Workman was looking for someone to replace former organizer Sabrina Boykin, Grenillo remembered that conversation and stepped up.

"It really resonated with me," said Grenillo, who has three of her four children at Workman now. "I was a Plymouth-Canton student and it was different back then. We had one African-American child in the whole school at the time."

Grenillo organized Workman's diversity program this year. It took place Friday and featured a variety of musical performances and then a "world tour" of classrooms set up to represent various cultures from around the world.

With a big assist from the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Di-

versity Council, the Asian-Pacific American Club and others, students received "passports" and then made the rounds of various classrooms.

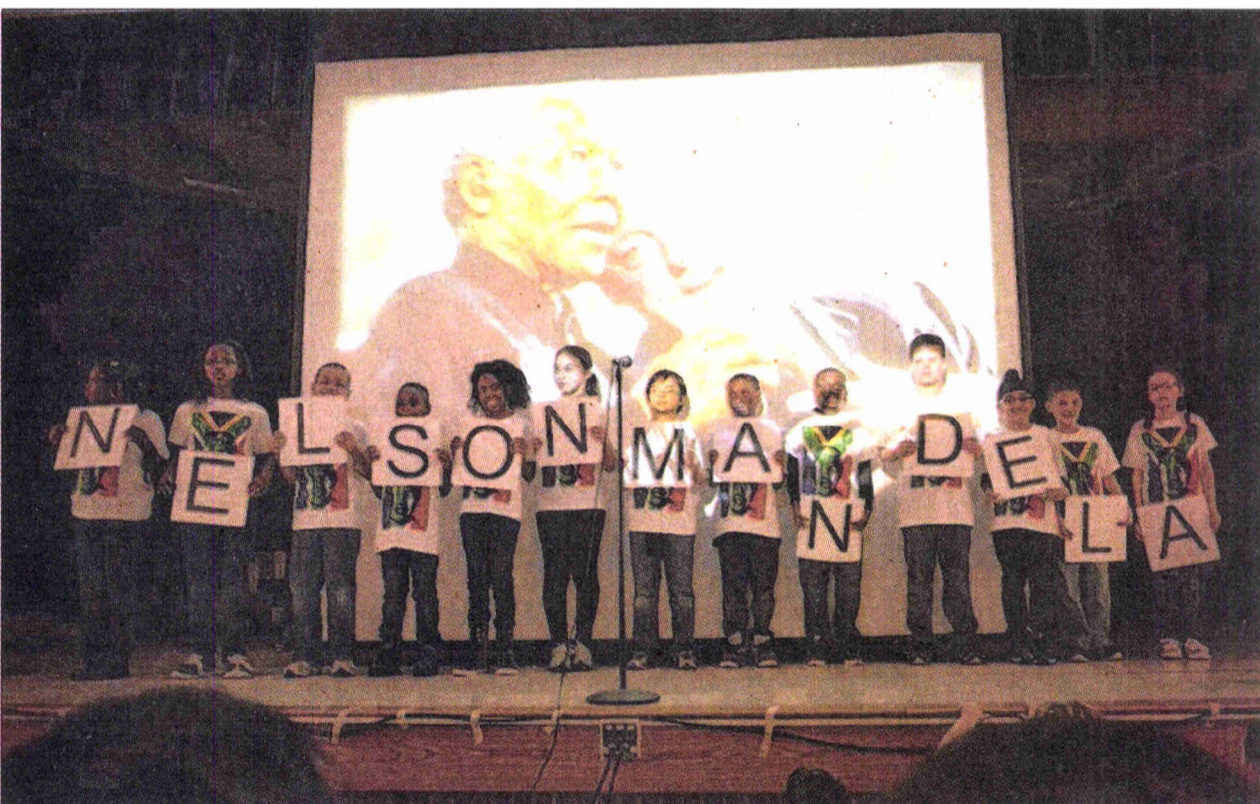
There were 10 countries represented on the world tour. Grenillo said kids were given questions for each "country" and, when they found the answers, their passport was stamped. Prizes were awarded once students received five stamps. Eight of the 10 rooms provided food from the culture, something Grenillo said has become popular.

"My children don't normally eat Japanese food," she said with a chuckle. "But when they come here, they try it."

Grenillo said the school's diversity - and the district's, for that matter - is something that should be celebrated.

"It's important our kids celebrate our diversity and the uniqueness of everybody," Grenillo said. "I really think the kids get a chance to learn about their friends and learn about the cultures they share at their home. It's a chance to see people are different, even though they're in the same school. They do have differences, we're all unique, but we can embrace that."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich



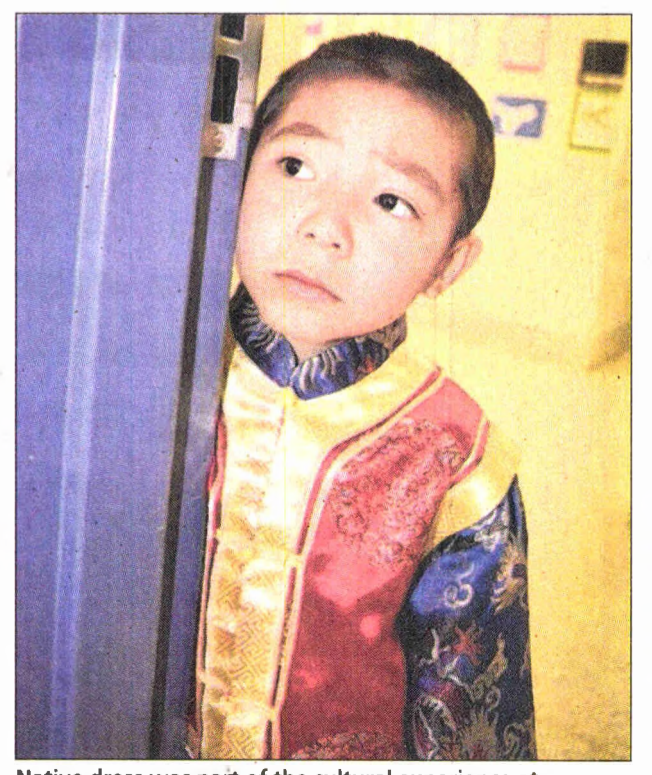
Students pay tribute to Nelson Mandela.



Students learn to use chopsticks in one of the cultural classrooms.



Smiling faces were a big part of Workman Elementary's diversity night, where students learned about the cultures of various nations.



Native dress was part of the cultural experience at Workman Elementary.

I-96

Continued from Page A1

out the whole corridor," he said. "For instance, M-39, Eight Mile to Five Mile, was a reconstruct. But from Five Mile to Ford Road, that was more of an overlay. So this is a full, in-depth reconstruct.

"Those road projects were not as involved as this I-96 project."

The closure, the biggest part of the \$148 million project, is expected to take roughly six months, with the freeway expected to open no later than October. In addition to reconstructing the road in both directions, 37 bridges will see renovations, with two - Inkster and Breakfast Drive - seeing complete replacement. Landscaping work along the freeway will also take place.

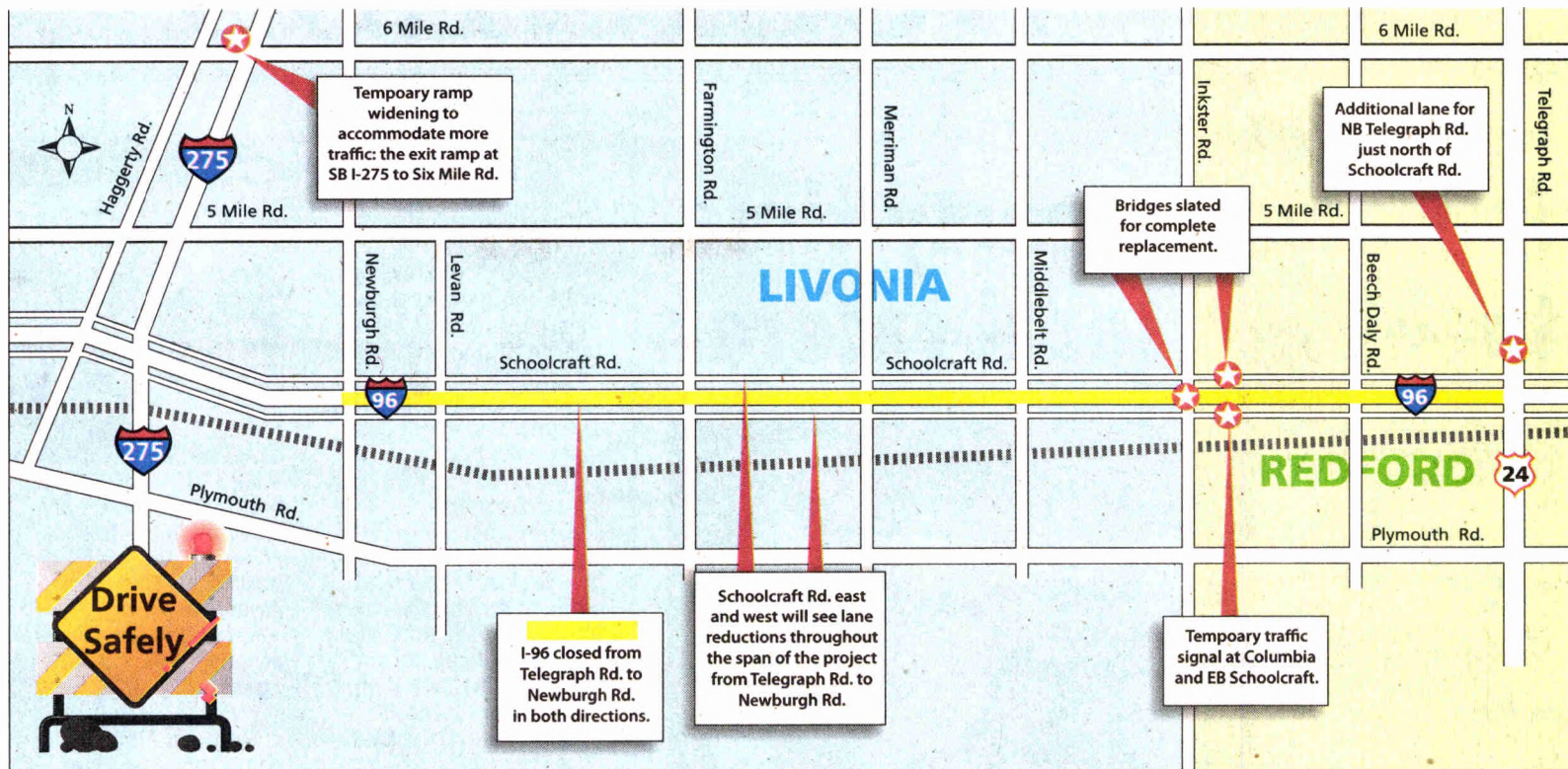
This closure shuts down a stretch of freeway that accommodates more than 140,000 vehicles each day through the two communities, leaving motorists to find another way to work, be it in Detroit or in western Wayne or Oakland counties.

The official detours have drivers going onto freeways such as I-94, I-696, I-275, the Southfield Freeway and the Lodge Freeway, though it's expected many drivers will use the surface streets as alternates.

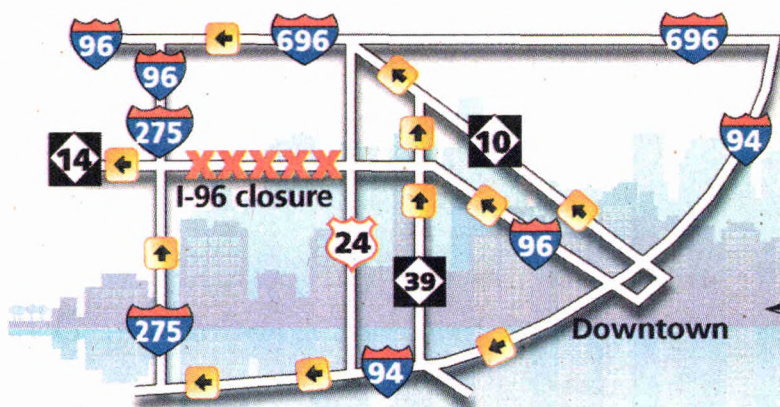
Horne said signals along Plymouth from Haggerty to Telegraph, as well as Schoolcraft along the project route, have been re-timed to allow for longer green lights for drivers heading east and west, as well as along Grand River from Telegraph to the Southfield Freeway in Detroit.

"It's well under-capacity, so it can handle the traffic," Horne said of Grand River.

Several bridges over the freeway will also close down Saturday, with more bridge closure



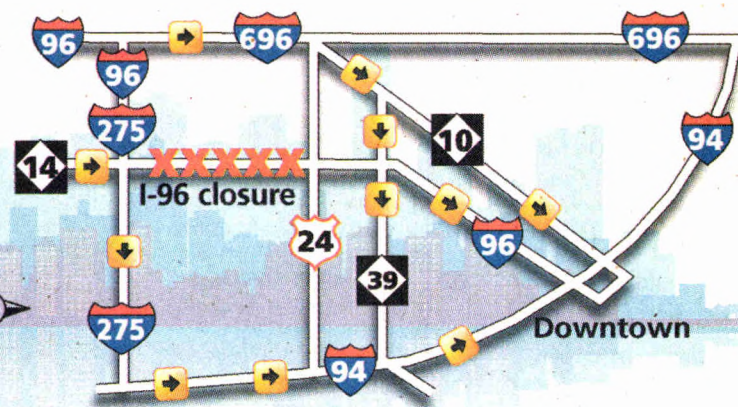
WESTBOUND DETOUR



From downtown Detroit to western Wayne County:

Take I-94 west to I-275 north, Take I-96 west to M-39 north to M10 west to I-696 west to I-275 south, or Take M-10 west to I-696 west to I-275 south.

EASTBOUND DETOUR



From western Wayne County to downtown Detroit:

Take I-275 south to I-94 east, Take I-275 north to I-696 east to M-10 east to M-39 south to I-96 east, or Take I-275 north to I-696 east to M-10 east.

announcements expected as the project moves along. At some point in the project, every bridge will see some closures along the route, except for the pedestrian bridge that crosses the freeway in Redford.

Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey said during his State of the City address last week that residents should experiment with other routes to find one that works for them be-

fore the freeway closes.

"It's going to really create some very, very serious problems," he said. "People are encouraged to try an alternate route. That won't mean a lot once traffic is dumped onto the surface roads. Try to figure out what works best for you."

Drivers driving eastbound from M-14 toward Livonia will not be able to access Newburgh like

they currently can. Access to I-96 from M-14 will be forbidden, though drivers will be able to access the small portion of I-96 open west of Newburgh from north- or southbound I-275.

Horne said it's anticipated many drivers coming from Ann Arbor or Plymouth via M-14 will get off at either Sheldon or Beck roads in Plymouth. A new traffic signal at the eastbound

exit at Beck will help with traffic.

While not installed specifically for the project, Horne said MDOT wanted to have it up and running by the time the freeway closed.

"It was not because of this project," he said. "But because of this project, we sped it up. We wanted it in place before this project. But it was going to get one regardless."

MORE INFO

There are several ways to keep up with the status of the I-96 reconstruction project and request information:

- Twitter:** @96fix
- Facebook:** 96Fix
- Website:** www.96fix.com
- Email:** MDOT_96fix@michigan.gov
- Phone:** (734) 261-0560

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IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

It's always party time thanks to local caterer

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

Angel Food: We are a full-service catering company – give us your dreams and budget and we will do all the rest, as well as your coordinating. One call and we will produce an amazing, worry-free event.

Observer: How did you first decide to open your business?

Angel Food: So many people requesting us to prepare food and decor for their events and our desire to serve.

Observer: Why did you choose the Canton area?

Angel Food: The facility, kitchen equipment and size met our growth and expansion needs and we love the people and the area.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Angel Food: We train our staff, using some "Disney" techniques to go above and beyond customer expectation. We focus on serving with a servant's heart.

Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

Angel Food: We have experienced growth every year and expanded our food and decoration options.

Observer: Do you have a funny story to share about your experience as a small-business owner?

Angel Food: When we first started, we would take our four kids with



Judy and Mike Maynard opened Angel Food Catering in 1996.

us to the store. They loved to stop at the stands for samples. So we would have to stop at each one. On late nights, we brought sleeping bags and videos to the shop to keep them entertained.

Observer: How has the economy affected your business?

Angel Food: We grew 24.5 percent in 2013 and are at 23-percent growth already in 2014.

Observer: Any advice for other small-business owners?

Angel Food: Utilize a network of business advisers who aren't afraid to tell you what they think – not a "yes" man. Train your staff, watch costs and control growth. Don't go beyond what you can realistically handle.

Observer: What's in store for the future of your business?

Angel Food: We want to continue to offer our dinner theaters and will offer a Salsa Showdown, as well as other community functions.

DETAILS

Name/address: Angel Food Catering, Inc., 44850 N. I-94 Service Drive, Belleville, MI 48111

Name and title: Judy Maynard, president; Mike Maynard, chief operating officer

Hometown: Ypsilanti and Saline

Business opened: 1996

Number of employees: 45

Hours of operation: Office, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday; catering, 24/7

Your business specialty: Graduations, open houses, picnics, weddings, anniversaries, grand openings and corporate and private events

Business phone/website: 734-697-1100; www.angelfoodinc.com

PLYMOUTH-CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

Real estate talent

RE/MAX of Southeastern Michigan recognized its top real-estate talent for the region at a recent awards ceremony at the Motor City Casino in Detroit. The event celebrated the accomplishments of RE/MAX's highest performers.

More than 350 of RE/MAX's 700 real-estate professionals were recognized during the event, including Mike and Mary Gladchun, brokers and owners of RE/MAX on the Trail in Plymouth. They received the Showcase Award for average commissions per agent for an office category of 11-30 agents.

"Mike, Mary and all the agents at RE/MAX on the Trail work extremely hard to achieve outstanding results for their clients," said Jeanette Schneider, senior vice president, RE/MAX of Southeastern Michigan. "It was a pleasure to see their efforts rewarded."

RE/MAX on the Trail is located at 1000 W. Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth. For more information, call 734-358-0700 or visit www.mikeandmarygladchun.com.

Magazine honor

The Sweet Afton Tea Room has been featured in the national magazine *Tea Time* as a candidate for Michigan's best tea shops, using the Bella Mia staff as their models for the photo shoot.

Tea Time also made a point to take a professional photo shoot of TranquilliTea. Look for both to be featured in the September/October edition.

Tops in Toyota

Johnson Controls has been awarded top honors in multiple categories by Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing North America, Inc.



Mike and Mary Gladchun, brokers and owners of RE/MAX on the Trail in Plymouth, received the prestigious Showcase Award for average commissions per agent for an office category of 11-30 agents.

Johnson Controls Automotive Seating, Automotive Electronics & Interiors and Power Solutions units received a "Superior" award in supplier diversity for their seating, overhead console, injection molding, headliner, door trim and battery products. The supplier diversity award is given to suppliers who implement diversity activities and exceed Toyota's targets.

Johnson Controls Automotive Seating unit also received an "Excellent" award in launch performance for the seats it manufactured for the Toyota Corolla.

"We're honored to be recognized by Toyota for our efforts and top performance in our product lines," said Beda Bolzenius, president of Johnson Controls Automotive Seating. "This further demonstrates our commitment to providing superior customer satisfaction, which is a key source of our success."

Top nursing home

Regency at Canton announced it has been recognized by *U.S. News and World Report* in its Best Nursing Homes rankings for 2014.

U.S. News and World Report created the ranking system to help consumers, their families,

and caregivers compare nursing homes more easily. To create the list, *U.S. News and World Report* drew on data from Nursing Home Compare, a program run by CMS, the federal agency that sets and enforces standards for nursing homes. They base the ratings on how well the home met health and safety standards for food preparations and other nursing-home activities in the latest three state inspections, the average numbers of hours per day of care received per resident from nurses at all levels and the percentages of residents who got recommended care such as flu vaccinations and percentages of residents who had pain, bedsores, urinary tract infection and other care-related problems.

Regency at Canton offers short-term rehabilitative services and long-term skilled nursing services. It provides physical, occupational and speech therapy, around-the-clock skilled nursing, wound care management, culinary and nutritional services, pain management, dental, podiatry, and psychiatry services and recreational therapy.

"We are so pleased that *U.S. News and World Report* has given our facilities the highest rating possible and named us to their list of Best Nursing Homes," said Mohammad Qazi, president and CEO, Ciena Healthcare. "We are proud of our quality services and outstanding health care professionals and proud that we have created state-of-the-art centers with the latest amenities and safety features to serve and heal our residents and patients."

Regency at Canton is located at 45900 Geddes in Canton.

New concessions OK'd for Metro's McNamara Terminal

The Wayne County Airport Authority has approved the next phase in a major redevelopment program at Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport's McNamara Terminal.

Eight concession agreements were unanimously approved for 25 new food and beverage concepts that will transform the airport's restaurant and dining experience over the next 1½ years.

Featured concepts will include national brands, such as P.F. Chang's, Chick-fil-A, Longhorn Steakhouse, Bruegger's Bagels, Potbelly Sandwich Works, Pinkberry and illy espressamente. The program also introduces many local culinary favorites such as Andiamo, the terminal's first upscale Italian restaurant, Plum Market with Zingerman's Deli, Corridor Sausage Co., Grobbel's Gourmet Deli, Crave Robata Grill and Bar, Papa Joe's Gourmet Market, Mezza Mediterranean Grille, Palazzolo's Artisan Gelato and Sorbetto and a gate holdroom dining experience themed on Detroit's historic Eastern Market.

"This new McNamara Terminal food and beverage program will elevate our passengers' travel experience to new levels," Wayne County Airport Authority CEO Tom Naughton said.

"Combining a great mix of well-recognized, national and international brands with the quality, freshness and local flavor of many of Detroit's finest and most successful restaurant/food concepts, we think our customers will really enjoy and appreciate the new unique dining experience these venues will create."



Plum Market/Zingerman's Deli, Ann Arbor area favorites, are many local culinary favorites that will be added to concessions at Detroit Wayne County Metropolitan Airport.

More convenience

Incorporation of innovative technologies – such as use of iPad and tablet self-ordering stations, mobile point of sale devices, social media and web-based platforms, even a virtual concierge – will enable increased convenience, speed of service and opportunity for travelers to find and order exactly what they are looking for, even from the comfort of their gate areas, in several locations.

In addition to re-soliciting existing concession agreements that will begin to expire later this year, the airport took the program a step further by incorporating new, previously undeveloped spaces into the list of program opportunities. A vacant former Northwest Airlines WorldClub on Concourse B as well as parts of several gate area holdrooms were made available for concessionaires to show creativity and propose new non-traditional food and beverage spaces and service enhancements, within the existing gate areas.

The new program will add approximately 22,000 square feet of additional space to the McNamara Terminal food and beverage program and is expected to generate nearly \$31.6 million of capital investment, more than

\$614 per square foot on average.

'Truly unique'

"The combination of great concepts and design, high-quality chef-inspired menu options, convenient gate-area dining and new technology and service enhancements will make our program truly unique," said Marcus Kemper, Wayne County Airport Authority senior vice president of facilities and development. "Since the Airport Authority is entirely self-sustaining and does not receive local tax dollars to support our operations, the enhanced non-airline-based revenue these new concessions will generate for the Authority are vital and help ensure we maintain a competitive cost structure which encourages new air service development."

During the first full year of the program, sales are anticipated to be approximately \$63 million, an increase of more than 47.5 percent above the current program, and revenue to the authority is projected to be over \$10 million, an increase of \$3.7 million or 57.3 percent.

Design and construction of the new concession spaces will commence shortly and is anticipated to be complete by the fall of 2015.

Open 7 Days a Week, 11-6pm, Wednesdays 11-8pm

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Visit our website at www.personalizedhearingcare.com

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SCORE workshop

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 8, 7 p.m.
Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: The Plymouth District Library welcomes local entrepreneurs and retired business professionals by hosting a free SCORE workshop. Steve Feinman, district director of Michigan's 10 SCORE chapters, will conduct the workshop. SCORE "Counselors to America's Small Business" is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping entrepreneurs succeed as small business owners. More than 11,000 volunteer business counselors in 320 chapters nationwide are available to provide you with advice, mentoring and small business planning assistance at no cost.
Contact: For more information, contact Library Director Carol Souchock at 734-453-0750, ext. 218, or csouchock@plymouth-library.org.

Craft show

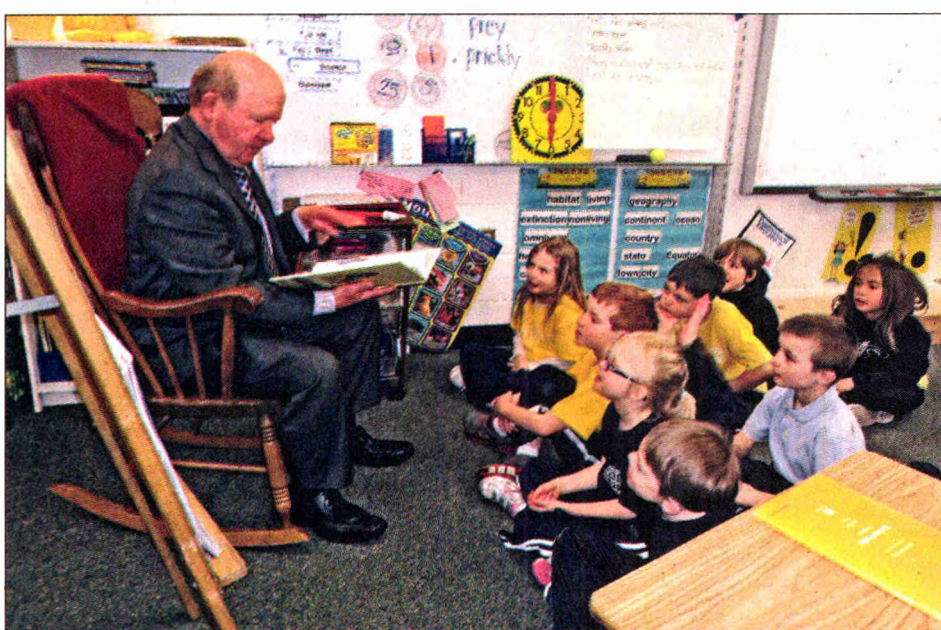
Date/Time: Sunday, April 6, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: Mayflower Lt. Gamble VFW Post 6695, 1426 S. Mill, Plymouth
Details: The Ladies Auxiliary Post #6695 host a craft show at the VFW Post.
Contact: For details, call 734-459-6700.

Confederate flags

Date/Time: Thursday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: Learn all about the formation of the different Confederate flags during the Civil War with speaker John Keller when he presents "Flags of the Confederacy," at the Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum's monthly meeting. Keller grew up in southeast Michigan and graduated from high school in 1950. One year later he joined the Marine Corps, where he witnessed eight of the first hydrogen explosions on Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands in 1954. After leaving the Marines, he worked at Detroit Edison for 42 years and earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering while attending night school at Lawrence Technical Institution. He is a member of the Sons of the Confederacy and has been a docent at the Verdier Museum for 10 years. The talk is free and open to the public.
Contact: Call the museum, 734-455-8940.

Blues @ the Elks

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 8, 7-10 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: Blues @ The Elks happens on the second Tuesday of each month. This month features George Bedard & the Kingpins, with Bedard on guitar and vocals, Pat Prouty on bass and Rich Ishman on drums.
Contact: For more information, call 734-453-1780 or email



Guest reader

It was with great delight that Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy was welcomed into Maggie Hughes' first-grade classroom at All Saints Catholic School. LaJoy joined in the celebration of reading month by surprising his grandson Andrew LaJoy and the rest of the class as mystery reader Friday. The kids were excited to listen to LaJoy read aloud, as well as hear some interesting facts about Canton Township.

plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com.

Jazz @ the Elks

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 29, 7-10 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: Jazz @ The Elks happens on the last Tuesday of each month; there is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres. This month features Johnny Trudell Quartet playing jazz favorites with Trudell on trumpet and flugelhorn, Ray Tini on bass, Chuck Shermetero on piano and Bill Cairo on drums.
Contact: For more information, call 734-453-1780 or email plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com.

Price speaks

Date/Time: Friday, April 11, 11 a.m. to noon
Location: Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth
Details: The Plymouth Community Council on Aging hosts a guest speaker, Wayne County Commissioner Shannon Price, talking about "Scams and Frauds." The presentation overview will include subjects such as home repair, equity scams, identity theft, investment fraud, phone and mail scams and residential care choices.
Contact: RSVP to 734-453-1234, ext. 236.

Surgeon's seminar

Date/Time: Friday, April 25, 10:30 a.m.
Location: Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth
Details: Dr. Ryan Mollie, orthopedic surgeon and hip and knee replacement specialist, will offer a free educational seminar. Mollie is an international proctor/teacher of this technique. This event is hosted by the Plymouth Community Council on Aging.
Contact: RSVP to 453-1234, ext. 236.

Grief to New Hope

Date/Time: Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
Location: Living Peace Church, 684 Deer St., Plymouth
Details: A free six-week educational grief support group for those suffering the loss of a loved one (sessions end May 7). Sponsored by Vermoulen Funeral Home and New Hope Center for Grief Support.
Contact: If you'd like to attend this free workshop or know someone else who could benefit from it, call Nancy at 734-895-7408 or New Hope at 248-348-0115.

Antique appraisal

Date/Time: Wednesday, April 23, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: The Plymouth Historical Museum will be holding an antique appraisal clinic with Doug Dalton Auctioneer and Schmidt's Antiques. Items to be appraised include antique furniture, art and small objects. No jewelry, coins or stamps please. Appraisals are by appointment only and time slots are filling up quickly. Oral evaluations will be provided for \$10 per item. There is a maximum of four items to be appraised per 15-minute time slot.
Contact: For an appointment, call 734-455-8940 or sign up at <http://www.plymouthhistory.org/events.html>.

Fair Housing month

Date/Time: Thursday, April 10, 6-8 p.m.
Location: Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton
Details: As part of the Fair Housing Month celebration, Canton will be hosting a fair housing presentation led by Neighborhood Legal Services of Michigan and including topics like whether you're a landlord or a tenant, learn why it is important to know your rights

and duties; discriminating when renting, buying or financing; and legal rights. Attorneys will also be on-site to offer free one-on-one legal consultations. The presentation is open to the public and refreshments will be provided.
Contact: RSVP required to Mike Sheppard at 734-394-5225.

Crafters wanted

Date/Time: Sept. 5-7
Location: Plymouth Fall Festival, downtown Plymouth
Details: The Plymouth Fall Festival has openings in the Craft Show, that runs during the festival. Applications are available on the Craft Show page at www.plymouthfallfestival.com. Deadline for Jewelry booth applications is June 30. Deadline for all other craft applications is July 15th. More information can be found on the website.
Contact: Email Colleen craftshow@plymouthfallfestival.com.

Trivia night

Date/Time: Friday, April 4, 7-9:30 p.m.; doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Location: Koppernick Tech Center, 40525 Koppernick, Canton
Details: The Plymouth-Canton American Association of University Women host its fourth

annual Trivia Night. Proceeds benefit college scholarships for women and girls in the community. Cash prizes for first and second place. Cost is \$20 per person or \$100 per team (up to five people)
Contact: Register: www.aauw-pcmi.org Trivia Questions: email AAUW_PlymouthCanton@yahoo.com or call 734-453-5009.

Prom dress sale

Date/Time: Saturday, April 5, 9 a.m. to noon.
Location: Plymouth High School, 8400 Beck Road, Canton
Details: The annual Prom Dress Sale features what organizers call "a wonderful collection" of new and used dresses, both long and short dresses, as well as some formal shoes and jewelry. No dress is priced over \$20. Dress donations are greatly appreciated and being accepted in the office at Plymouth High School.
Contact: For more information, contact Lisa Benages@pcscmail.net

Get out of debt

Date/Time: Saturday, April 5, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton
Details: The Financial Health Fair Corp. and St. Michael Lutheran Church present "How to Get Out of Debt in 5-7 Years - Including Mortgage" with Bob Marett. Admission to the event is free (additional materials will be available for purchase) and child care is provided. Bring a list of your creditors, balance, monthly payments and a calculator and leave with an idea of when you will be out of debt.
Contact: Call 734-459-3333 to sign up and request your registration packet and personalized, confidential report.

Montessori open house

Date/Time: Sunday, April 6, 1-3 p.m.
Location: Plymouth-Canton Montessori, 45245 Joy Road, Canton
Details: Plymouth-Canton Montessori School hosts an open house for parents interested in enrolling children in preschool or kindergarten programs. Teachers and staff will be available to provide classroom tours of the school and light refreshments will be served.
Contact: For additional information, call 734-459-1550 or visit www.pcmontessori.org.

Air Force Band

Date/Time: Wednesday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.
Location: Pease Auditorium at Eastern Michigan University
Details: The U.S. Air Force Band of Washington, D.C., will present a free public concert, featuring the U.S. Air Force Concert Band and Singing Sergeants. The concert is sponsored by Eastern Michigan University Bands and the EMU Department of Music & Dance. Tickets are not required for this event.
Contact: To request free tickets by mail visit emich.edu/music/ and fill out a request form. Tickets can also be picked up in person at the EMU Department of Music & Dance main office, located at N101 Alexander Music Building in Ypsilanti.

BNI meeting

Date/Time: Each Thursday, 7:30 a.m.
Location: Red Olive Restaurant, 1051 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: The BNI Northville-The \$1 million Referral Chapter meets every Thursday morning.
Contact: For more information, visit www.NorthvilleBNI.com

Ask a lawyer

Date/Time: Thursday, April 24, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Location: 598 N. Mill, Plymouth
Details: The Law Office of David C. Helm, PLLC, will host a free "Ask a Lawyer" event. Local attorneys will be on hand to meet with community members regarding a variety of legal issues in areas such as criminal offenses, employment law, real estate, probate matters, estate planning, personal injury and many more.
Contact: Call David Helm at 248-679-8804.

Win a bike

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 22, 6:30 p.m.
Location: Max & Erma's of Canton, 2240 N. Canton, Center
Details: Diners can join Max & Erma's each Tuesday through April 22 for "Kids Eat Free" and enter to win a bicycle and helmet. The drawing will take place 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 22. Donors can help Max & Erma's give bikes to everyone by dropping off used bikes April 5. Donors will get a coupon for a free hamburger, redeemable during May.
Contact: For more information, call 734-981-3370.

LEGAL NOTICE
1954 PA 188 PROCEEDINGS
NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING
Charter Township of Plymouth
Wayne County, Michigan

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that as a result of Petitions of property owners within the Township signed by the record owners of land whose front footage constitutes more than 50% of the total front footage of the hereinafter described Special Assessment District and the Township Board of the Charter Township of Plymouth proposes a road paving project in the Woodlore South Subdivision and to create a Special Assessment for the recovery of the cost thereof by Special Assessment against the properties benefited therein.

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested, that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth has tentatively declared its intention to make the hereinafter described improvement:

The proposed improvements to the existing two-lane concrete roadway shall consist of complete and/or partial concrete pavement replacement, subbase and subgrade preparation, and miscellaneous driveway and drainage work, which may be needed to facilitate the replacement of the concrete road pavement. The project commences at the east right-of-way line of Timberwood Drive and proceeds eastward on Timberwood Drive approximately 985 to its point of termination at Marisa Court, proceeds eastward on Marisa Court approximately 250 feet where it turns into Woodlore South Drive, proceeds southward and westward along Woodlore South Drive approximately 1,240 feet, and southward on Woodlore South Drive approximately 240 feet to the north right-of-way line of Joy Road. The project also includes Marisa Court commencing at the intersection with Timberwood Drive and proceeding westward approximately 750 feet to its point of termination, Corey Court commencing at the intersection with Timberwood Drive and proceeding eastward approximately 190 feet to its point of termination, Rockledge Drive commencing at the intersection with Marisa Court and Woodlore South Drive and proceeding eastward approximately 275 feet, and Tania Court commencing at the intersection with Woodlore South Drive and proceeding westward approximately 525 feet to its point of termination.

That it has further been tentatively determined that the following described lots and parcels of land will specially benefit from said improvements and will constitute a Special Assessment District against which the cost of said improvement shall be assessed:

The district limit for frontage along Timberwood Dr., Corey Ct., Marisa Ct., Rockledge Dr., Woodlore South Dr., and Tania Ct. consists of Lots 1 through 63 of Woodlore South Subdivision, located in the Southwest ¼ of Section 33, T.1S, R.8E, of Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth shall meet on **Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, Michigan 48170**, for the purpose of reviewing said proposed Special Assessment District, and hearing objections to the improvement, creation of the Special Assessment District, and the assessment thereon. All persons may then and there appear and make any objections they may have to such improvement and assessment. Appearance and protest at the hearing is required in order to appeal the amount, if any, of the special assessment to the state tax tribunal. An owner or party in interest, or agent thereof, may appear in person at the hearing, or may file an appearance or protest by letter. All parties or agents appearing in person at the hearing for purposes of protest should request the appearance be entered into the record of the meeting.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the plans, specifications, estimates of cost and recommendations of the engineer for said proposed Special Assessment District have been filed with the Township and are available for public examination at the office of the Township Clerk. The estimate of costs of such construction is in the approximate amount of \$278,206.20.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that periodic redetermination of costs for the proposed Special Assessment District may be necessary and may be made without further notice to the record owners or parties in interest in the property.

Nancy Conzelman
 Charter Township of Plymouth
 9955 North Haggerty Road
 Plymouth, Michigan 48170
 (734) 354-3224

We are pleased to announce that Abbey Park at Mill River is the recipient of the **2014 Caring Stars Award**, presented to the top 1% of senior living communities in the nation. Only nine communities in Michigan were presented with this award for service excellence. At Abbey Park, we are committed to making each day the best that we can and attribute our success to our wonderful employees, residents and professionals.



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Grand Blanc

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 Grand Blanc, MI
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Lyon Township

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 New Hudson, MI
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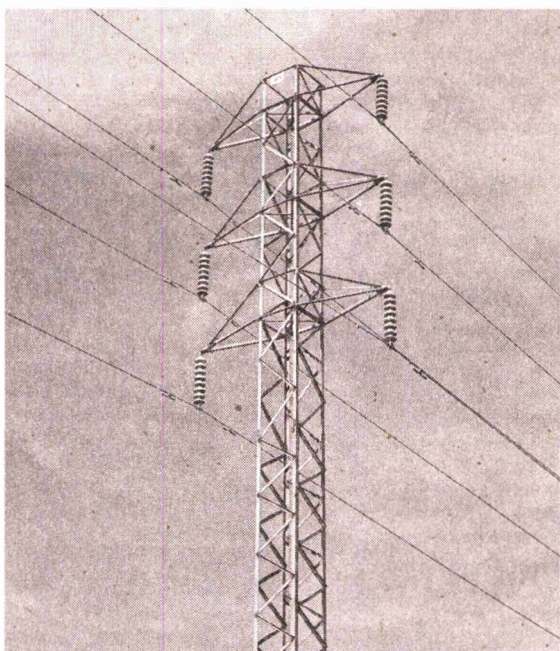
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*Lyon Township location only.

LD-0000182926

OUR VIEW



Making electricity deregulation work

We're all about paying less for electricity, but we're unconvinced that a bill pending in the Michigan House would lead to lower bills and we're satisfied to see this legislation on a slow track.

Energy deregulation is getting a lot of attention recently, in spite of the fact that a bill that would allow more utilities to sell electricity in Michigan seems unlikely to advance in the Legislature.

Gov. Rick Snyder has already indicated his skepticism, while Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville, R-Monroe, calls the idea "a strategic mistake."

Even so, Michigan's big utilities are making known their opposition, with Consumers Energy already bankrolling issue ads on television and radio opposing House Bill 5154.

Sponsored by Rep. Mike Shirkey, R-Clark Lake, the bill would remove the current cap on electric choice. Michigan law allows customers to choose another electricity provider, but only up to 10 percent of a utility's electric sales.

The bill also would deregulate rates for Detroit Edison Co. and Consumers Energy, allowing rates to fluctuate with the market without Michigan Public Service Commission review.

The utilities' opposition to deregulation will no doubt trigger skepticism among consumers and lawmakers understandably wary of monopolies and their impact on rates.

Michigan residents already pay more for electricity than consumers in neighboring Ohio and Illinois, both of which allow competition. A recent poll found that 58 percent of likely Michigan voters would support lifting the cap, a majority that held up in both political parties.

Yet the allure of reducing rates through increased competition may be illusory. Among the 24 states that have enacted electricity deregulation plans, the results are mixed.

Utility executives hoping to reverse public opinion on the issue could point to Pennsylvania. Hundreds of thousands of consumers who signed up for variable-rate plans were surprised to find their monthly bills had tripled or quadrupled in January and February as the demand for power increased during unusually cold weather and the price of electricity went through the roof.

The lesson in Pennsylvania, however, isn't that deregulation can't work, but rather how deregulation is implemented requires careful attention to detail and regulatory oversight of how retail providers of electricity set rates. Transparency, of course, is essential.

It's disheartening to see campaign-style ads used to, essentially, head off the legislative process. Given the public's interest in electric choice, Shirkey's bill deserves cautious study.

Now would be a good time to learn from the experiences of other states where electricity deregulation is already part of the landscape.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Earned retirement

A lot has been said and printed regarding the Detroit retirees accepting Kevyn Orr's package. They earned their retirement and the Michigan State Constitution guarantees that! So they should accept a 26-percent reduction?

The banks make millions, and yet someone who is getting a \$19,000 per year pension should voluntarily give up 26 percent? Come on now.

Tom Kelly
Plymouth

Colbeck's accomplishments

Sen. Patrick Colbeck has been one of the primary drivers to bring about a responsible balanced budget, while not voting for any tax increases or imposing unfunded liabilities on future generations. In the three years he has held office, state education funding has increased from a low of \$10,705,300,000, in 2009-10 to \$12,169,000,000 in 2014-15 (with the FY 2013-14 amount a projection, and the FY 2014-15 amount, the governor's recommendation).

He also was instrumental in creating an environment that is conducive to improving the state's job prospects, culminating in the increase of 250,000 jobs, creating hope for young people just entering the work force, and reversing the outflow of people from the state to increasing the state's population.

Sen. Colbeck became the 7th District's senator in January 2011. The state had just gone through a serious decline in Michigan's automobile industry, with a job loss of 217,000 auto workers (primarily union jobs) and a loss of 400,000 manufacturing jobs (including many union members). The state's revenues declined as the state's economy faltered. Besides Chrysler and General Motors going through bankruptcy, there was a substantial increase in small business bankruptcies, there also was an increase in personal bankruptcies and home foreclosures.

There are people who want us to forget history. Gov. Jennifer Granholm was in office from Jan. 1, 2003, through Jan. 1, 2011. In the 10 years - 1999-2000 to 2009-10 - the state increased spending by \$761,650,923, while state revenues declined due to job losses in the state. The state used up its "rainy day fund," incurred debt, while not balancing its budgets.

Gov. Granholm increased the state income tax from 3.90 to 4.35 percent and increased the gasoline tax; there were three straight years when education funding was cut. There was a reduction of 8,244 state government workers, 13 percent of the state's workforce (primarily union workers), while spending on state employees increased 37.7 percent (an increase of \$1,305,851,500), a total cost increase per employee of 58.2 percent. These figures reflect an increase of 21.3 percent in State Employee Base Payroll outlays, a 134.9-percent increase in retirement contributions and an increase of 65.3 percent in insurance costs. This occurred while automobile and related supplier workers were being laid off or experienced reduction in pay and while graduates were unable to find employ-

ment.

One wonders if the union members in the automobile and the related supplier industries, state and other workers who lost their jobs or experienced a reduction in pay feel that there has been a shared sacrifice.

Michael Hansel
Canton

Lack of character

Tim Smith's article regarding the firing of coach Scott Duhl speaks volumes about the character (or lack thereof) of the Plymouth-Canton district administrators and board members. I think all would agree there was likely an inappropriate comment made during a coaching session and one person took offense. On the surface, it sounds like something that should have been addressed in house with a simple reprimand. Coach learns his lesson and moves on.

But no. We have to apply a different set of rules because this is an employee of a sub-contractor. Conveniently, Michael Meissen chooses to pass the buck and let his sub-contractor fall on the sword for a bad decision. And when a large group of parents, players and ex-players shows up to offer support, Mr. Meissen cowers by suggesting the decision was "cast in stone regardless of the many testimonials."

Mr. Meissen, you and your board don't get off that easily. I've managed sub-contractor companies for much of my career and one fact remains. Ultimately, I'm responsible for their actions and decisions. I have no doubt you had an opportunity to weigh in on "their" decision before it was cast in stone. Shame on you for suggesting otherwise. I, for one, don't believe you.

Frankly, I'm curious about the rules you apply to coaches holding teaching positions. I suspect you have multiple standards. Have you ever seen an effective football coach that didn't have some "colorful" exchanges with players? Heaven forbid you apply the Duhl standards to them.

And while I would never dissuade a student from filing a complaint, I think as a society we are becoming too thin-skinned. Life is full of disappointments and sometimes is unfair. Character is built on how we react to those experiences. Mr. Meissen and his characterless board turned their heads to many supporting coach Duhl and gave their input zero regard. That, too, speaks volumes.

Richard Bantau
Canton

Food for thought

I would like to submit some "food for thought" regarding the headline article in the Sunday, March 23, *Canton Observer*, "Dems forum intended to spur action."

Here is a quote from Libby McGaughey, vice president of Planned Parenthood of Michigan. She said Democrats should work to "keep politicians out of your doctor's offices" and mentioned one group, Michigan Women Are Watching, that plans to campaign against certain lawmakers. "Our plan is to go after people who are continually voting against our

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:

Web: www.hometownlife.com
Mail: Letters to the Editor, *Plymouth Observer*, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226
Fax: (313) 223-3318
Email: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Deadline: Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

values." Values? What values?

Is it morally right to kill God's most defenseless, the unborn? Is it morally right to kill the baby that is the result of rape, when the father goes free? Is it morally right to teach our young school children (through Planned Parenthood "education") that, regarding sex, anything goes? Planned Parenthood is the largest promoter and provider of abortion.

May God help us. We are living in a culture that espouses there is no right or wrong; it's your choice. To quote Mother Teresa: "It is a poverty to decide that a child must die so that you may live as you wish."

In closing, here is something to ponder: Abortion kills a baby every 24 seconds - over 50 million abortions thus far.

Barb Schmid
Canton

Enough facts?

I see where a writer from Northville took me to the woodshed for saying Patrick Colbeck voted to raise our taxes. Well, let's delve a little more into his assertions.

It's true Colbeck and six other Republicans joined the 12 Democrats to vote "no" on HB 4361. But, dear writer, you failed to mention that, within minutes, all seven joined the other 19 Republican senators and voted to give the bill that raised our taxes immediate effect.

Now what was that? A case of "I hate that bill so much, I can't wait to get it on the books as soon as possible?" No, the first vote was just a sham, a dog-and-pony show to give senators in swing districts some cover in the next election, which is this year. That vote was a forgone conclusion, with the lieutenant governor's being the icing on the cake.

I won't bother to comment on the writer's fawning over Colbeck's tenure. I keep picturing dollar signs - like the original \$73.3 million (now over \$100 million, according to the state House), that Colbeck (helped) cost our state when he refused to give the Medicaid expansion bill immediate effect. And, according to the latest plan floating around the Capitol, will cost every motorist an extra \$25 to make up the shortfall.

Are those enough facts, Mr. Cushman?

James Huddleston
Canton

GUEST COLUMN

In Washington, need for compromise is still great

Not long ago, Northern Michigan University invited me to address students there as part of a series of addresses on public policy. The subject I chose for my address is, in many places, a scandalous subject: compromise.

Almost all of us in Congress have strong opinions on public policy, strong values that guide us. And on rare occasions, all of us agree on what is the right thing to do.

But we live in a large, complex nation. The interests of our state or region are different than those of others. And aside from local interests, sometimes the an-



Carl Levin
GUEST COLUMNIST

swer to a problem just isn't easy or clear. Sometimes we honestly disagree about what's best for the country.

The challenge for the Founding Fathers was designing a system that could accommodate the widely varying opinions of a nation that needed at least some unity to survive.

The solution to that puzzle was our Constitution, which ensures that, while everyone has some voice in our government,

no single voice dominates. The whole system forces us to accommodate the views of others, even those who disagree strongly with us, in order to accomplish our goals. It forces us to compromise.

But that system breaks down when compromise is in short supply. And it is a rare commodity these days. Leaders in Washington are influenced by constituents back home who believe "compromise" is a dirty word.

Six months ago, that attitude got us a government shutdown. Some of my colleagues in Congress refused to approve funding to keep the government running.

They demanded that any legislation to keep the government open also repeal the Affordable Care Act.

Now I can respect a strong I held opinion, even if I disagreed with it. But when you refuse to allow basic government functions to continue

unless you get your way - your whole way - our system breaks down.

After all, I have strong opinions of my own. I feel strongly that the tax burden in this country has shifted so that working families bear more of the load and wealthy people less. Suppose that I, as chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, told my colleagues, "I will not allow our annual defense authorization act to come before the committee unless Congress passes a bill that closes unjustified tax loopholes used by corporations and the wealthiest individuals." What if every member of Congress adopted such an attitude? Each of us would refuse to allow government to function unless we won total victory - and nothing would get done.

And we have so much to do. We have to deal with immigration - with the millions of people who now live in the shadows as undocumented

immigrants - and with the economic costs of maintaining the status quo. We have to continue building our economy. We have to discover new worlds and new cures for deadly diseases.

We can't do any of that if we're not willing to compromise.

There have been some signs that the wave of hostility to compromise is cresting. Early this year, Congress passed a two-year budget agreement. There were provisions that many of us disliked. But partial agreement meant we avoided the cycle of budget crisis after crisis that has done our economy so much harm.

And just last month, Congress passed a farm bill that had been delayed for almost two years by a variety of disputes. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, who chairs the Senate Agriculture Committee, did a remarkable job getting this bill passed.

Nobody agreed with every part of that bill.

But we were willing to compromise. We knew that settling for half a loaf, so to speak, was important to the farmers who put the bread on our tables.

These compromises are not so remarkable when you compare them to the scope of the challenges before us. But I hope they are a start.

I don't want to spend my remaining months in the Senate fighting over who can be tougher and more uncompromising. I'd rather spend that time working together on the challenges our country faces - challenges that will affect the lives of the NMU students I spoke to long after I am gone from Washington.

It is time for us all to recognize that if we are to be remembered in a positive light, it will not be for political opponents we hold down, but for the future generations we come together to lift up.

Carl Levin is the senior U.S. senator from Michigan.

PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

A GANNETT COMPANY

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Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
Executive Editor

Grace Perry,
Director of
Advertising

Classes help young and old become Money Smart

Help is coming for consumers who want to learn how to better manage their personal finances. Classes will be offered next week at area libraries during the state's 10th anniversary of Money Smart Week®.

The week is coordinated by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, which serves most of Michigan, and hundreds of partner organizations promoting financial education. It is designed to teach consumers about money management and generate awareness of the resources available on a wide range of topics, such as saving, investing, using credit wisely and avoiding fraud, scams and identity theft.

Among the programs are:

» Kids & Money, Saturday, April 5, 10-11 a.m. – A 45-minute program of stories and games that promote a better understanding of money takes place at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main. Door prizes will be included, with one family winning a Kindle. Sponsored by Community Financial Credit Union, Library of Michigan and the Michigan Credit Union League, the program is aimed at kids 4- to 6-years old. RSVP by calling 734-453-0750, ext. 237, or emailing cchamp@plymouthlibrary.org.

» Understanding Financial Statements, Monday, April 7, 7-8 p.m. – Learn what financial statements are, under-

stand what they say and mean, and how to use them to start, manage, and grow your business. Geared toward the business user. Canton Public Library, 1200 Canton Center. Call 734-397-0999, ext. 1252.

» Personal Finance 101/Budgeting, Tuesday, April 8, 7-8 p.m. – “Budgeting 101: A Balancing Act,” covers the basics of creating and maintaining a personal budget, including how, why & how to stick to one. Also addresses the issue of tackling debt at the Canton Public Library, 1200 Canton Center in Canton. Target audience is kids 18-25 years old and adults 26-64 years old. RSVP at 734-397-0999, ext. 1252, or email welzn@cantonpl.org.

» Educational and Financial Planning, Wednesday April 9, 7-8:30 p.m. – Sylvan Learning Center and Edward Jones Adviser Kristina Wittner talk about financial and academic strategies to adopt as you plan for college. Canton Public Library, 734-397-0999, ext. 1252.

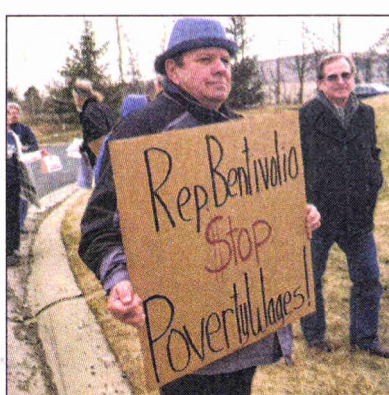
» Kids & Money, Thursday, April 10, 10-10:45 a.m. – “Money Smart Start Storytime & Songs: Money Smart Kids Read!” features stories and songs to celebrate Money Smart Week. Target audience is kids 4-6 years old. Sponsored by CFCU, the Library of Michigan and the Michigan Credit Union League. RSVP to 734-397-0999, ext. 1252, or email welzn@cantonpl.org.

Protesters want minimum wage hike

Members of MoveOn.org protested Tuesday outside U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio's office in Commerce Township, encouraging him to support increasing the minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour.

MoveOn members carried signs reading things like “We Deserve a Fair Wage” and “Rep. Bentivolio: Stop Supporting Poverty Wages.” The group said it presented petition signatures from 523 residents within the 11th District, which the Milford Republican represents. The district includes western Wayne and Oakland counties, as well as a portion that stretches east to Bloomfield Hills.

“Raising the minimum wage is common-sense policy with



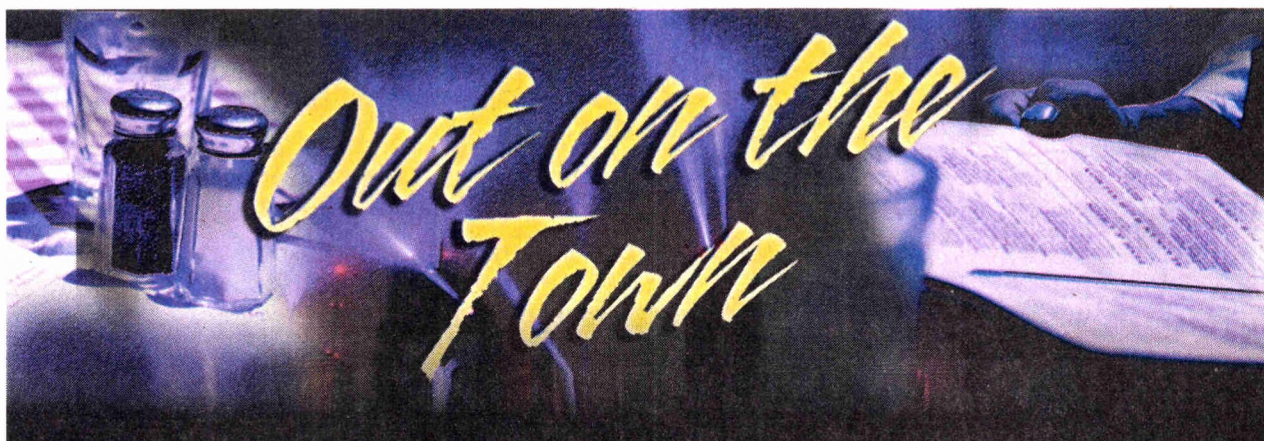
Virgil Schave protests Tuesday afternoon outside U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio's Commerce Township office, supporting an increased minimum wage. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

strong support, even in Republican held districts,” Ilya Sheyman, executive director of MoveOn.org Political Action, wrote in a release. “Republicans in Congress, who are standing in the way of pay raises for millions of American workers, should be ready to pay at the ballot box in November.”

Susan Temere organized the local event.

“Raising the minimum wage shows we value hard work. A \$10.10 per hour minimum wage would directly boost the wages of about 28 million workers, giving them more money to spend, which feeds back into the local economy,” she said.

Tuesday's event was part of the political group's National Day of Action in support of increasing the minimum wage.



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WHY BE CATHOLIC?

The popular series of personal stories and testimonies continues its 5th season with an exciting roster of new speakers, sure to intrigue and inspire your own faith life, regardless of denomination.

Wednesday, April 9th at 7 PM
Dcn. Scott Jablonski, a seminarian at Sacred Heart "on loan" to St. Michael's Church, shares his journey from Univ. of Wisconsin premed undergrad to Evangelical Protestant ministerial candidate to Catholic deacon, soon to be priest.

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MEETING THE OCR DEADLINE

District steps up to Title IX plate

Plymouth baseball seats torn down, new scoreboard looms for softball field

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

What once was a seating patio along the third-base line at Plymouth High School's baseball field Monday was a pile of rubble, having been torn down by the district in order to comply with a mandate from the U.S. Education Department's Office for Civil Rights.

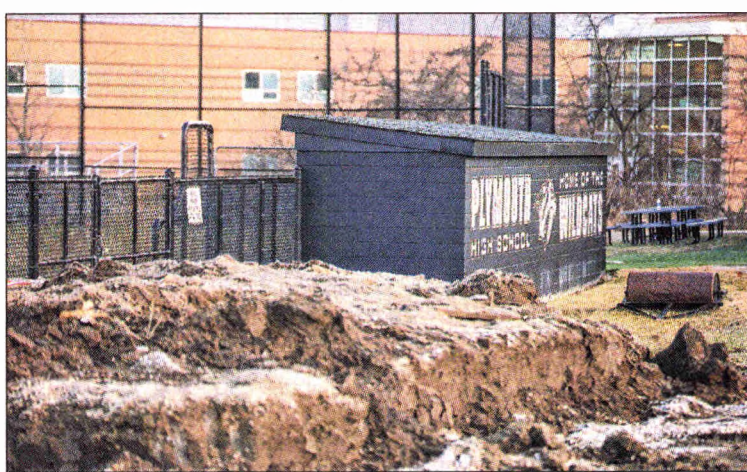
Will that be enough to halt the Wildcats season opener Wednesday against Holt? That remains to be seen, although varsity head coach Jason Crain emailed Monday night that the

field is ready for action.

At the heart of the matter is a recent ruling that the district violated Title IX — a federal law requiring school districts to provide equal opportunity for boys and girls — because the Plymouth baseball seating and scoreboard were deemed superior to the softball facilities.

An on-site audit late last summer also found that the baseball seating patio lacked a ramp to be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The seats on the baseball



This pile of rubble is all that remained Monday of Plymouth High School's raised baseball seating patio JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

side are gone, likely to be replaced this week (hopefully in

time for the Plymouth-Holt twinbill) with the same kind of

aluminum seats that the softball field features.

Crain, meanwhile, noted that the handsome-looking scoreboard in right field will not have to be removed because the district will be erecting the same kind of structure on the softball field later this month, per OCR orders.

On time

The district needed to remove the seats as of Monday in order to comply with the OCR mandate.

Beth Savalox, director of activities and athletics for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, responded to several questions about the issue via

See SEATS, Page B2

PREP SOFTBALL PREVIEW - PART 1



Plymouth's Brooke Senkbeil will focus on sparking the team with her hitting and catching talents. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Future college players still have work to do with Wildcats

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

In future seasons, area college softball teams will be bolstered by Plymouth Wildcats alums.

But first, those programs will have to wait until the 2014 high school season plays out. Three key seniors — all slated to play at the collegiate level beginning in 2015 — have some unfinished business to attend to for their alma mater.

In 2014, the Wildcats nearly went the distance, going 31-5-1 while winning the Kensington Lakes Activities Association championship. But then came a disappointing loss to Canton in the districts.

Then came the graduation of No. 1 pitcher Elaine Gerou, second baseman Bri Giordano and first baseman Kayla Reban.

"We lost talent at pitcher, first and second base, players who all went on to play softball at the collegiate level," Plymouth co-head coach Bev McManus said. "Which hurts to

a certain degree. However, we are stacked with more talent to fill those positions (and) I am confident this team will exceed our expectations."

Talented veterans

It doesn't hurt to have junior lefthanded pitcher Mikayela Marciniak ready to fill the void lost by Gerou's departure. Marciniak (committed to Oakland University) also has thrown plenty of innings for the varsity Wildcats the past two seasons.

Plymouth also returns seniors Lindsay Lutton, Brooke Senkbeil and Celeste Miller, three players who will go on to play collegiately.

Lutton is a fourth-year varsity player who will play shortstop. She is signed to go to OU in 2015.

Aquinas College-bound Senkbeil is a spark plug catcher, beginning her fourth season. She also can chip in at second base.

Third-year player Celeste Miller is another key

See SOFTBALL, Page B3



Plymouth lefty pitcher Mikayela Marciniak is a key to the Wildcats' chances. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

White primed to guide Chiefs

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Madonna University softball coaching legend Al White figured he had retired for good from the sidelines.

Then came an offer the Canton resident could not refuse — a chance to become varsity girls softball coach at Canton High School.

White takes over a very successful program. The 2013 Chiefs won the Division 1 regionals and sported an impressive 29-6 record.

"I'm very excited to be here, giving back to these girls," White said. "I owe a lot to the game. That's what I live for."

Of course, most coaches would be excited to inherit the kind of roster that White did.

Seniors Hanna Warren, Paige Aresco, Kendyl Richter, Kaitlin Keys and Bryn Birchler lead the cast into the challenging waters of the KLAA.

Warren is the team's ace pitcher (who also can play first base). She will pitch beginning in 2015 at Central Michigan University, but for this spring she leads

See CHIEFS, Page B3



Delivering a pitch last season is Canton's Hanna Warren. In the background is shortstop Paige Aresco. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO



Power hitter Daniel Jipping will again spark the Plymouth Christian Academy offense. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PREP BASEBALL PREVIEW - PART 2

Eagles bank on Jipping to power team

PCA roster features key returnees, impressive newbies

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Last year's Plymouth Christian Academy varsity baseball team captured a Class D district title, spearheaded by the slugging of Daniel Jipping.

The all-Observer first teamer and future Central Michigan University Chipewa is expected to pick up where he left off as the 2014 season gets underway. That spells trouble for rivals in the

Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

That is, unless opponents give Jipping the Barry Bonds treatment and pitch around him, stressed PCA coach Joe Bottorff.

"Daniel had a monster year last year and if he can come close to duplicating that this year it is good news for the Eagles," Bottorff said. "Daniel, however, is no secret to our conference opponents, so there should be plenty of intentional walks mixed in."

Jipping will be penciled in third in the batting order and either catch or pitch most days in addition to other in-field duty at times.

Another important senior returnee is Johnny Lauch, who will pitch, catch and play shortstop.

"Johnny will also be a table setter for the big bats in the lineup and will be a terror on the basepaths," Bottorff noted.

Designated hitter/outfielder Jared Cobb and infielder/outfielder Reuben Galang are the team's other seniors.

Juniors key

PCA's hopes also will be helped by a quartet of juniors, starting with No. 1 pitcher Michael Slater.

"Michael will likely bat second and will have plenty of scoring opportunities batting

in front of Daniel," said Bottorff, adding that Slater also will see PT at shortstop when not on the slab.

Junior Lucas Albrecht is new to the Eagles, but brings skill and speed.

The Eagles will bank on that element of Albrecht's game, whether potentially at the top of the lineup or out in center field.

"Lucas is probably the fastest kid on the team," Bottorff noted. "And he gives us a lot of flexibility to run plays when he is on base."

Junior Tanner Hay is expected to play first base and

See PCA, Page B2

GIRLS SOCCER PREVIEW - PART 3

Familiar look to Rocks' roster

Salem's hopes strengthened with nine starters returning from Class A district finalist squad

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

With a strong nucleus of returning players from the 2013 Class A district finalists, Salem's varsity girls soccer team looks to overcome controversy surrounding its former coach.

Scott Duhl recently was fired from the position and is being replaced for the 2014 season by George Kithas, who is a coach in the Livonia Churchill boys soccer program.

"I am very excited about the upcoming season," Kithas said. "I know we have a very talented team and look to make a run at the state title."

Salem went 15-4-1 overall last season, including 7-3-0 in the KLAA Central Division.

This year got off to a losing start, with the Rocks falling 1-0

against Ann Arbor Pioneer on a late goal.

"Despite the result, I was very happy with the team's performance," Kithas said.

Salem's nine returning starters provide the team with strength and versatility across the board.

The defense is expected to be stellar, led by co-captains Olivia Kaye and Taylor Jaaska along with Katie Binsfield and Kaitlyn Pelech.

Slated for the midfield will be co-captain Morgan Siterlit along with sophomores Caroline Simko and Leah Moss.

Up front, junior co-captain Hayley Rodgers will provide scoring punch.

Ably handling goalkeeping duties will be senior Ally Mann.

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Salem's Olivia Kaye (No. 8), shown from a 2013 contest, is one of nine returning starters for the Rocks this season. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

It's a footrace!



Canton's Chloe Donlin (No. 20) gets a step ahead of a Novi player during Tuesday's KLAA varsity girls soccer game at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. Novi won 2-1 to drop the Chiefs to a 0-1-1 record for the early season. Canton opened last week with a 1-1 tie against Saline. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

PREP BASEBALL PREVIEW - PART 2

Salem vets look to finish strong

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Led by a nucleus of players intent on finishing their high school careers on a winning note, the Salem varsity baseball team is ready to take on all comers in 2014.

Last season, the Rocks finished with a 21-12 record overall, losing to Livonia Churchill in the Class A Districts.

Senior leaders will abound all over the diamond, including first baseman Justin Sydlowski, shortstop Jack Driscoll, third baseman/pitcher Colin Pietron, catcher Brendan Bird, outfielders Andrew Hunt, Nick Minnichello and Mike Vernon.

Power-armed junior Tyler Brooks is another key player. He also will play third base and likely head the starting pitching rotation for longtime head coach Dale Rumberger.

Up the middle, the Rocks will feature Bird or junior Colin Savage at catcher, a double-play combination of Driscoll and either junior Josh Penn or sophomore Cameron Shaughnessy at second base.

Junior Brandon Gillen



Slick defensive plays such as this one from Salem shortstop Jack Driscoll should keep the Rocks in plenty of games in 2014.

and sophomore Alex Nicholson are expected to contribute plenty both at the plate and defensively, in the outfield.

Rumberger has plenty of pitching options. In addition to Brooks and Pietron, players who will see time on the mound include Gillen, Hunt, Nick March, Penn, Wes

Ross and Eric Scott. Ross and Scott also will help the cause at first base and third base, respectively.

Salem hopes to open the season (weather permitting, of course) with Thursday's twinbill at Adrian.

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SEATS

Continued from Page B1

email. "The district fully cooperated to find a resolution agreement to make facilities equitable for

both genders," Savalox said. "We believe in the spirit of Title IX and have witnessed first-hand its dramatic impact on females in sports.

"Witness the championships secured at the Park this year alone (including gymnastics, girls

hockey and a Class A finalist berth) for Canton girls basketball) to understand that our district believes in the educational value of co-curricular activities and their ability to develop qualities of teamwork, tenacity, persistence and dedication

for both males and females."

It was anonymously reported in October 2012 to the OCR about the apparent disparity in seating facilities and scoreboards at the Plymouth baseball and softball fields (which jut out on opposite sides of a shared press box/concession area).

Last year, Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's entire athletics facilities were visited and inspected by the OCR; the district was informed last

September that it needed to make corrections by March 31.

Because the district met Monday's deadline, any blots on its Title IX record will be wiped clean.

The enhanced seating had been constructed several years ago, after Plymouth Baseball Boosters generated money for the project by selling seats with special nameplates (some in honor of the memory of loved ones). Both Plymouth fields and their original

facilities (including bleachers behind home plate) were built in 2001.

The raised patio, located past the third-base dugout, enabled fans to see the game from above the black chain-link fencing that surrounds the field.

Savalox said the removed seating plaques "could be displayed in another fashion and we will work with the booster club to find a creative solution."

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PCA

Continued from Page B1

the outfield as well as help with pitching duties. "Tanner had a bit of a breakout year last year and we expect him to build on that for this season."

The fourth junior is second baseman/outfielder Jordan Talbott, who Bottorff said "has also made great strides in the cage and should have a big year at the plate."

Youthful promise

PCA also boasts a couple of solid sophomores in Josh Slater and

Nick Andres.

Josh Slater will play first base and catch and provide some thump in the batting order.

"Josh is a powerful left-handed batter and contributed greatly last year as a freshman," Bottorff said. "So far in the cage this year, Josh has built a powerful swing and should be more aggressive at the plate once we get outside."

Nick Andres, meanwhile, "can play just about every position on the field and will probably get that chance throughout the season."

The Eagles' long-term future is looking bright, too, with four promising

freshmen ready to chip in this season.

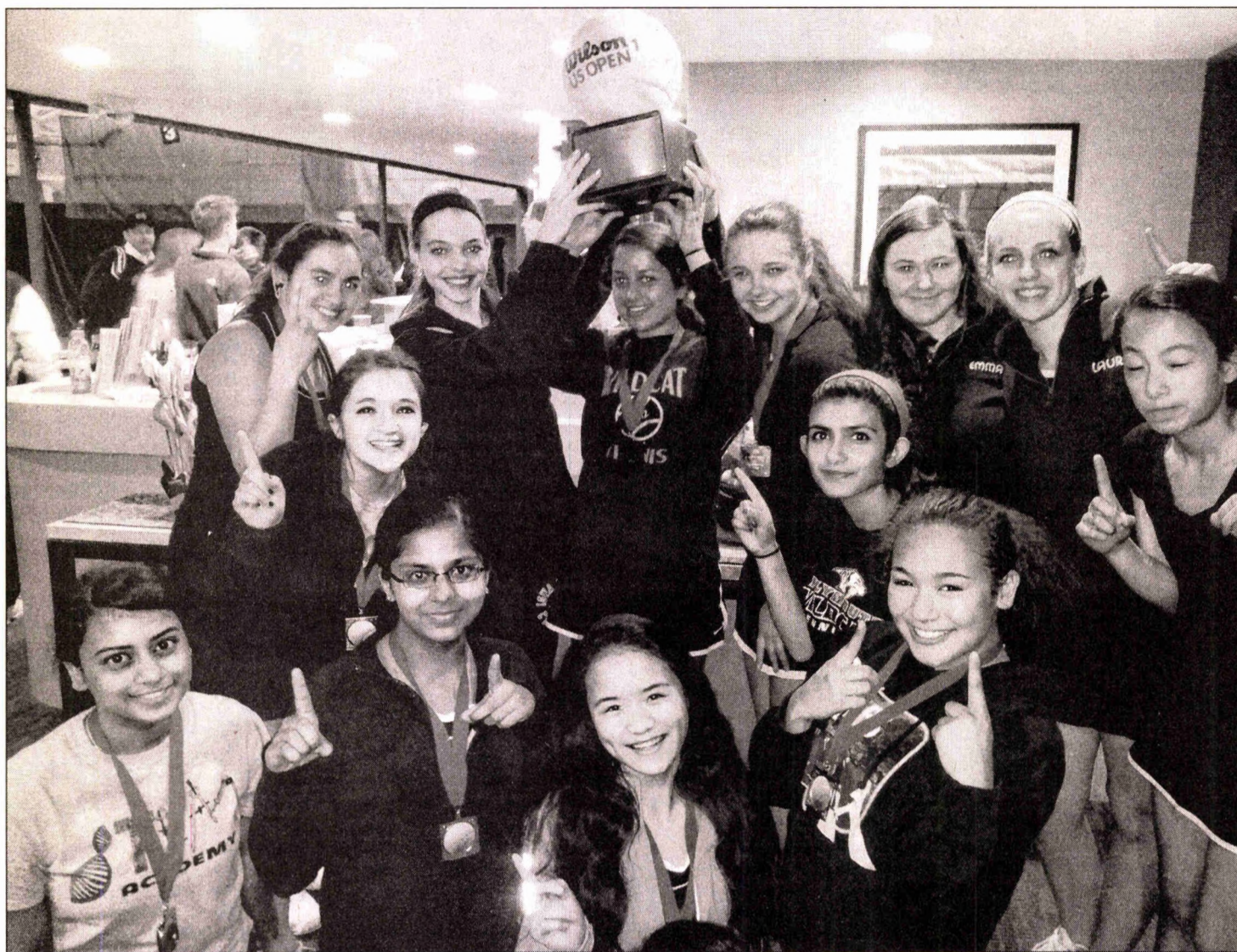
Those players include Austin Andres (third base), Nathan Bishop (catcher, third base), Matthew Cusumano (infield) and Josh Mason (infield).

"All four are looking strong in the batting cage," Bottorff said.

Rounding out the roster are juniors Isaac Middleton, Joseph Iacopelli, Torre Crown; sophomores Will Crecelius, AJ Greuber, Jake Shook, Aaron Wolak, Sam Jose; freshmen Adam Albert, Ian Hay, Brendan Hess and Andrew Schuester.

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GIRLS TENNIS PREVIEW



Plymouth's varsity girls tennis team celebrates after winning the recent Midnight Madness tournament at Huron Valley Tennis Club.

Plymouth netters to take swing at success

Wildcats feature experience, depth throughout lineup

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Plymouth varsity girls tennis coach Rob McLaren welcomes 11 returnees from the 2013 team that captured the KLAAs South Division with a 5-0 record.

While plenty of excellent talent is back on the courts, the Wildcats — like all other tennis teams in the area — have had to deal with winter weather challenges that made it virtually impossible until this week to get much practice time outdoors.

“Due to weather conditions, we haven’t been able to play as many challenge matches as we would like,” McLaren said. “This is a vital part of determining our lineup.”

Plymouth did get in some indoor work, however. The Wildcats prevailed in mid-March to win the seventh annual Midnight Madness

scrimmage at Huron Valley Tennis Club.

“It was a very close contest of seven flights of doubles,” McLaren said. “It was especially gratifying to win it this year, because we came in last a year ago (in the tourney) against the same teams.”

Top spots filled

Regardless of weather and practice time issues, the Wildcats return last season’s No. 1 and No. 2 singles players in junior Keerthi Chekuri and senior Miranda Cerny, respectively.

“Both Miranda and Keerthi have a ton of singles experience, so I expect that to really pay off this year,” McLaren said.

Looking to fill the remaining singles spots will be last season’s No. 1 doubles unit of Sarah Gamble and Swetha Duraiswamy and Amber Tseng (a part of the No. 3

doubles team last year). Gamble is a sophomore while Duraiswamy and Tseng are sophomores.

“All three of them have worked extremely hard in the off-season to improve their games, and it really shows,” McLaren said. “Just hitting with them (recently), I could tell their games are at another level.”

“I’m looking forward to see how the challenge matches turn out. They are all very talented singles players. Unfortunately, one of them will have to play doubles, but having a lot of talent in singles is a good problem to have.”

Depth at doubles

Returning to doubles play are juniors Emma Mullenax, Lauren Conley, Te’ahn Horton, seniors Katie Weyers, Nisha Patel and sophomore Alyssa Lopez.

“These girls have all put in

time in the off-season becoming doubles specialists,” McLaren said. “Many of them practiced with each other in groups of four all season long, which is a real bonus for us.”

“I’m going to try to keep partners from last year together, where possible, but some of that will be determined by how the singles lineup shakes out.”

Others who are in the mix for remaining doubles spots include returnees Amanah Fatima (senior), Sumayyah Ahmed (junior) and newcomers Ria Mahesh (freshman), Justine Ko, Amy Luo, Sindhuja Borra and Gabriella Robles (all sophomores).

McLaren said that having most of last season’s top doubles players back “is going to be a huge advantage for us. This is the most balanced team we’ve had.”

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PREP LACROSSE

Canton girls turn it around

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Thanks to a strong all-around performance Monday night, the Canton varsity girls lacrosse team managed to wipe away the memory of Saturday’s season-opening defeat.

The Chiefs, who lost 12-7 to Ann Arbor Skyline on Saturday, bounced back with a 14-7 victory Monday over defending Kensington Conference champion South Lyon United.

Leading Canton (1-1) with four goals was junior Jordan Church, with seniors Annika Nuler and Connie Cox each contributing three goals.

Helping the cause were junior midfielder Kelsey Tucker (1 goal, 2 assists), sophomore attacker Casey Bower (1 goal, 2 assists), senior attackers Sarah Davenport (1 goal) and Alexis O’Flynn (1 assist).

“We came out tonight a completely different team than we were during our opening loss to Skyline,” Canton head coach Dave Bower said. “Our midfielders dominated play, winning draws and getting after ground balls, forcing turnovers and scoring on the offensive end 12 of our 14 goals.”

Canton carried an 8-4 lead into halftime.

He cited Davenport for playing a strong, sure-handed game “especially in the second half when we were able to chew up a lot of clock after we had the lead.”

That six players scored and five others garnered assists showed how much the Chiefs emphasized “good ball movement and unselfish team play.”

Making saves when needed to ensure the win was senior goalkeeper Melissa Neal.

“We certainly have plenty to focus on and improve,” Bower said. “But it was nice to get a win under our belt, especially against such a historically tough opponent.”

In the loss against Skyline, Cox scored two goals with single tallies by Davenport, O’Flynn, Church, Tucker and Nuler.

SALEM 19, WEST BLOOMFIELD 5: The visiting Rocks took a commanding 11-2 halftime lead and went on from there to post the lopsided girls lacrosse victory on Monday night.

Joslyn Longe led the way with four goals. Collecting three goals each were Jenna Carter, Rose Krasofsky, Bridget Kerwin and Lauren Britton.

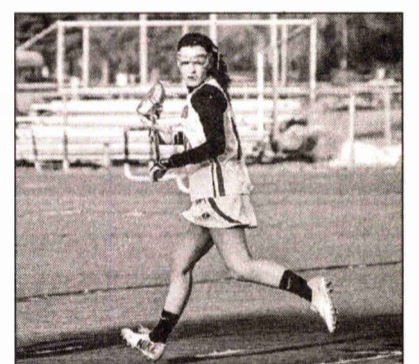
Also getting on the scoreboard were Kiersten Vaila (2 goals), Leah Tardiff and Sarah Edgecomb (1 goal each).

CANTON (BOYS) 10, GRAND BLANC 7: In the home opener for Canton’s varsity boys lacrosse team on Monday, the Chiefs prevailed to improve to 2-0 on the season.

Junior midfielder Jay Krebs sparked Canton’s attack with three goals while sophomore attacker Carson Pakula, junior midfielders Gerald Belanger and Nolan Gilo each scored twice.

Senior attackman Kyle Topper augmented those players with four points (1 goal, 3 assists).

Making 18 stops was senior goalkeeper Collin Smith, who was helped out by solid defensive work by Jake Evalold (4 ground balls, 4 takeaways), Tom Gassman (2 takeaways) and Brian Newton (5 ground balls to lead the team).



Canton’s Connie Cox sprints down the field during Monday’s contest. LORETTA O’FLYNN

Chiefs show promise as season begins

After the Canton varsity girls tennis team finished second last season in the KLAAs South Division, a number of players dedicated the summer to classes, conditioning and lessons.

According to head coach Barb Lehmann, all of that extra effort could really pay dividends during the 2014

season, which was expected to begin Tuesday against Allen Park.

Helping the cause are returning No. 1 singles player (and co-captain) Maddison Johnson and co-captain Anna Scheppele, moving up a slot to No. 2 singles.

Returning varsity players include Jasmine Njam-Henry,

Alexis Madau, Nikki Cotham, Julie Stevenson, Abby Wampler, Sarah Kalasky, Amy Dalton and Angie Distelrath.

Looking for enhanced roles on the squad are returnees Olivia Turbaro and Melissa Karbon, while newcomers Kaylee Rivera and Lila Pita round out the roster.

“While we have a great

start to the lineup we still have more challenge matches to determine the strongest team for the Chiefs,” Lehmann said. “I am very encouraged by the strong practices we have had, the new junior varsity players and the improvements they have already made.”

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‘FootGolf’ coming to Fox Hills

Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center of Plymouth is proud to announce that it is the first and only golf course in Michigan that has partnered with the American FootGolf League.

FootGolf is a combination of the very popular sports of soccer and golf played on a golf course on shortened holes with 21-inch diameter cups. On Saturday, May 10 (9:30 a.m. on the Strategic Fox Course), Fox Hills will host a FootGolf kick-off tournament open to the public.

These rules are similar to the rules of golf. FootGolf is a game that is played throughout the world in many different forms, but as a sport, it is regulated by the Federation for International FootGolf.

The game is widely popular in youth both boys and girls and becoming popular across the United States and international.

“I was very excited to learn about FootGolf when we had the opportunity to play it at the National Golf Course Owner’s Association annual meeting in Orlando (Florida),” owner Sandy Mily said. “We are excit-

ed to bring this sport to our golf course.”

The American FootGolf League is organizing tournaments throughout the country working with golf courses to bring FootGolf to their clubs as another avenue for revenue and to develop the game further.

Fox Hills Golf Course is currently looking into hosting a tournament for the AFGL.

Meanwhile, Fox Hills (located at 8768 N. Territorial) is celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2014 and will continue to bring new and innovative programs, technology and opportunities to the golf community in Michigan. To sign up for the May 10 FootGolf Kick Off Tournament, visit www.foxhills.com.

JUNIOR GOLF OPEN HOUSE: Fox Hills Saturday hosted a Junior Golf Open House at the Fox Classic Clubhouse.

Parents and families received information on all of the Fox Hills’ spring and summer programs and took advantage of early registration discounts for 2014.

Golf professionals were on hand to assist parents on deciding what programs are best for their child.

The 2014 Junior Programs include programs available for youth ages 2-12, Junior Strategic Fox Summer Leagues, Junior Match Play, week long Junior Day Camps, Elite Team Training, Junior Memberships, private lessons and more.

For more information on FootGolf or Junior Programs, contact Sherrie Handrinos, 734-341-6859 or Sherrie.Handrinos@gmail.com.

SOFTBALL

Continued from Page B1

senior who has signed with University of Michigan-Dearborn. She will start in the outfield.

Two other seniors on the roster are second-year player Hallie Barkume (outfield) and newcomer Vicki Urquhart (outfield).

Another college-bound

Miller is junior third baseman Brittney Miller. She also has committed to play at OU.

The Wildcats lineup also will be helped by juniors Alex Rakovitis (outfield, third year on varsity), Caylin Waters (first base/outfield, first year) and Janel Eiland (pitcher/outfield, first year).

Rounding out the roster are sophomore second baseman/catcher Rachael Ring

and sophomore outfielder/second baseman Rachel Zerona. They are beginning their first and second seasons on the varsity, respectively.

Helping McManus will be co-head coach Dave Senkbeil and manager Allison Raylean. New to the program are junior varsity coaches Pam Cameron and Dan Bressler.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

a deep pitching staff of six.

Shortstop Aresco is “very smooth, just a great athlete” while Richter will start at second base. Warren, Aresco and Richter are the tri-captains.

Another leader is Keys, set to be the starting catcher. “She has a good presence behind the plate. She will call her own game,” White said.

The fifth senior is outfielder Birchler, who the coach said is equipped with a strong arm to gun down way-

ward runners.

Juniors include pitcher/first baseman Hannah Shuler (who White said throws “very hard” from the circle), hard-hitting outfielder Nicole Clark, third baseman Halee Warren (a strong hitter who can fire the ball from the hot corner) and infielder Nikki Johnson.

Ready to step in

Speedy sophomore Elizabeth Yager will probably bat from the leadoff spot and White will give her the green light to run at will.

Also promising are sophomores MacKenna Payne (pitcher/infield), Valeria

Lentine (infield), Aziza Afzal (pitcher/second base), freshmen Peyton Philbeck (pitcher), Olivia Grant and Sydney Dawson.

White added that several players on the junior varsity will be brought up from the time to time for a number of weekend tournaments.

Those players include sophomores Victoria Porter, Shelby Rachwal, Molly Main and Emilee Keys.

“These girls are every coach’s dream as they know how to play at a high level, as most of our girls do,” White added.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

All-area basketball players rise at the rim

FIRST TEAM

Isaac Everette, Sr., John Glenn: The 6-foot-4 senior guard-forward, who missed Glenn's first six games with a broken finger, averaged 20 points per game for the Rockets.

The all-Kensington Lakes Activities Association pick, who could also play the point-guard position, led Glenn to the KLAA Association, Kensington Conference and South Division titles.

Everette is being courted by Wayne State and Grand Valley State.

"Isaac was a three-year starter on teams that won 52 games and three South Division titles, along with a KLAA championship," coach Dan Young said. "He had a tremendous year at Glenn, one of the best I've ever coached. He was a leader in every way on-and-off the floor."

Davon Taylor, Sr., Canton: The 6-6 senior forward was a force at both ends of the court this season for the Chiefs, earning all-KLAA accolades in the process.

One of the region's most improved players, Taylor averaged 17 points, 11 rebounds and 1.5 blocks per contest and set a new Canton High School season rebounding record with 244.

"His ability to score inside and rebound for us was outstanding," coach Jimmy Reddy said.

Reddy added that Taylor deserves "all the credit" for the strides he has made as a players since ninth grade to become one of the area's best players.

"I couldn't be more proud of the young man Davon has become in his time here at Canton, he was an absolute pleasure to coach," he said.

Jeron Rogers, Jr., N. Farmington: The 6-foot-6 junior is a three-year starter for the Raiders, who compete in the highest division (Red) of the Oakland Activities Association.

Rogers is a versatile player who can shoot the three, but he does his best work in the paint, scoring on post-up moves and competing for rebounds.

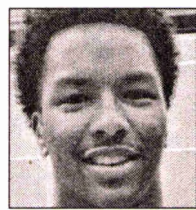
He had many double-double performances while averaging 21 points and 11 rebounds. Rogers also looks for his teammates and had four assists per game, an impressive number for a big man.

"Jeron had a great junior year, proving to be one of the best inside-out threats in the state," coach Todd Negoshian said.

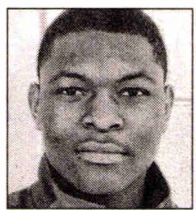
"He is a tremendous competitor with a fierce desire to win and is a great teammate. All the time he has put in really has started to pay off."

Otis Kemutambah, Sr., Thurston: Fueled by an incredible vertical-leaping ability, Kemutambah was a force in the paint for the Eagles, averaging 13.7 points and 8.9 rebounds per contest. In addition to shooting 50 percent from the field, the 6-foot-5 All-Western Wayne Athletic Conference Red Division first-teamer protected the rim on a steady basis.

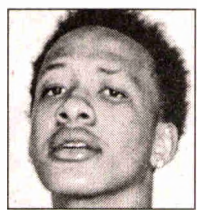
Jordan Nobles, Sr., Canton: The numbers were down slightly this season for East-



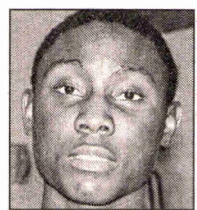
Isaac Everette
John Glenn



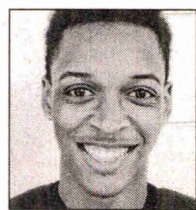
Davon Taylor
Canton



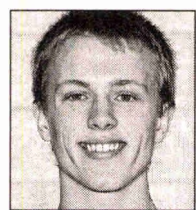
Jeron Rogers
N. Farmington



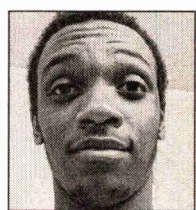
Otis Kemutambah
Thurston



Jordan Nobles
Canton



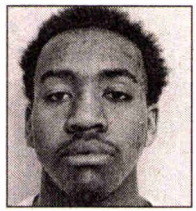
Connor Cole
Salem



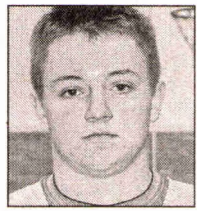
James Pruitt
John Glenn



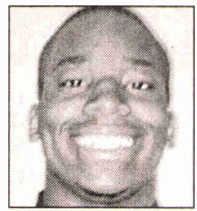
Noah Campbell
Stevenson



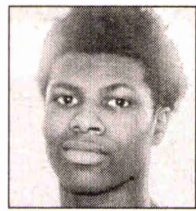
Randall Aikins
Plymouth



Jacob McKiddie
Redford Union



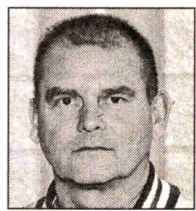
Donte Jackson
Churchill



Xavier Crofford
Thurston



Dan Young
Glenn coach



Bob Brodie
Salem coach

2014 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS BASKETBALL

FIRST TEAM

Isaac Everette, Sr., F, John Glenn
Davon Taylor, Sr., F, Canton
Jeron Rogers, Jr., C, N. Farmington
Otis Kemutambah, Sr., F, Thurston
Jordan Nobles, Sr., F, Canton
Connor Cole, Sr., G, Salem

SECOND TEAM

James Pruitt, Sr., F, John Glenn
Noah Campbell, Jr., G, Liv. Stevenson
Randall Aikins, Jr., G, Plymouth
Jacob McKiddie, Sr., F, Redford Union
Donte Jackson, Sr., G, Liv. Churchill
Xavier Crofford, Sr., G, Thurston

THIRD TEAM

John Rexroth, Jr., C, Harrison
Kimani Dooley, Sr., G, Clarenceville
Anthony Qasawa, Jr., F, N. Farmington
Avon White, Sr., G, Farmington
Kevin Brown-Bayko, Sr., G, Garden City
Allante Wheeler, Jr., G, Salem

FOURTH TEAM

Calvin Butler, Sr., G, Harrison
Justin Banks, Jr., C, Farmington
Adam Monroe, Sr., G, Liv. Franklin
Joan Andoni, Soph., G, Liv. Churchill
Josh Reynolds, Jr., G, Plymouth
Jermell Johnson, Jr., G, Clarenceville

FIFTH TEAM

DeAngelo Kirksey, Sr., G, John Glenn
Michael Hoover, Sr., F, Salem
Jacob Joubert, Soph., G, N. Farmington
DeAndre Carter, Sr., G, Wayne
Ryan Schaffer, Sr., F, Luth. Westland
Daniel Jipping, Sr., G, Ply. Christian
Jailen Webber, Jr., G, Liv. Stevenson

CO-COACHES OF YEAR

Dan Young, Westland
John Glenn
Bob Brodie, Salem

HONORABLE MENTION

Churchill: Jon Hovermale, Mark Leja;
Franklin: Nick Guest; Stevenson: Devin Kelly;
Clarenceville: Carlton Davis; Huron Valley Lutheran: Milan Monk; Lutheran Westland: Nick Flanery, Jake Davenport, A. J. Seltz; Wayne: Aaron Journey, Brian Williams; John Glenn: Michael Bradley, Mo Fanni, Raphael Parks, Jamie Melchor; Farmington: Chris Seaborn, Corey Shelton, Austin Thompson; Harrison: KJ Justin, Trevon Dixon, Justin Whitted; N. Farmington: Alex Darden; Salem: Brady Cole, Alec Winfrey, Tyler Brooks; Canton: Greg Williams, Logan Ryan, Jack Zemanski, JaJuan Sturdivant; Plymouth: Deji Adebisi, Brent Davis, Chris Walls; Ply. Christian: Michael Slater; Redford Union: Jerime Koger; Thurston: Rickey Hudgens, Brandon Marshall; Garden City: Joe Pummill, Brad King, Julius Sanders, Zack Maszatics.

ern Michigan University-bound Nobles, but the 6-8 senior forward still had a strong year and outstanding prep career.

Nobles helped the Chiefs' cause with 12 points, seven rebounds, three assists and two blocks per game as his play around the rim made an impact at both ends of the floor.

"We asked Jordan to do a lot for us this year and he did an outstanding job," Reddy said. "He was put in a tough situation where he had to bring the ball (up the court) a lot because of the Greg Williams injury and he showed a lot of flexibility to his game by doing that for us."

"Jordan had an outstanding career at Canton, he did so much for our program the last three years. He is a great teammate (and) competitor but more importantly he is a young man with very high character."

Connor Cole, Sr., Salem: The Rocks never were out of

a ballgame thanks in large part to the talents and tenacity of senior guard Cole, who earned team MVP and all-conference honors.

Examples of Cole's stellar play under pressure included 35 points against Novi in a district semifinal win and 24 against Grand Blanc in the Class A regional finals. Cole drained two treys in the first quarter against the Bobcats to stake Salem out to a lead that nearly held up the rest of the way.

Cole led Salem in most categories. He averaged 12 points, five assists and three steals per game and was a dead-eye shooter — hitting nearly 60 percent from the field and 83 percent from the foul line, along with a 31 percent accuracy rate from behind the arc.

"Connor was our go-to guy who always seemed to want the last shot when the game was on the line," coach Bob Brodie said. "He was the most versatile player and made things happen for us both on offense and defense."

SECOND TEAM

James Pruitt, Sr., John Glenn: The 6-6 senior forward, who averaged 10 points and eight rebounds per game en route to all-KLAA honors, was high-riser and one of the area's most explosive players and dunkers.

"James was the most improved player in our program," Young said. "He became a leader in effort and attitude. I'm very proud of him."

Noah Campbell, Jr., Stevenson: The 5-10 junior guard averaged 17.5 points, 2.5 assists and 3.7 rebounds per game while shooting 90 percent from the foul line.

The all-KLAA pick had 36 points at South Lyon and 31 at Salem.

"Noah is a natural scorer who has a terrific outside shot," coach Brandon Sinawi said. "He did a better job this season in attacking the basket and getting to the free throw line. He needs to work on becoming a better defender in hopes to be a great all-around player for us next year. He's got the tools to play at the next level."

Randall Aikins, Jr., Plymouth: Although the Wildcats had a slightly disappointing season, next year could be a different story because of the continued improvement of Aikins in the backcourt.

Aikins, an All-KLAA selection, collected 13.15 points

and 3.55 rebounds per game and was a key player both on offense and defense during his junior season.

"Randall did a nice job of running the point for our team," coach Mike Soukup said. "He has an uncanny knack for getting into the lane and breaking down defenses."

"I am looking forward to seeing him grow as a point guard and as a leader for next season."

Jacob McKiddie, Sr., Redford Union: McKiddie's relentless style of play mirrors his favorite NBA player, Minnesota Timberwolves forward Kevin Love. With an assortment of effective inside up-and-under moves, he can also knock down three-point shots with regularity, which is reflected in his 14.3 scoring average. A double-double machine, the first team All-WWAC Red Division performer gobbled up 11 rebounds per contest and rose to the occasion in the Panthers' pair of Division 2 district games when he average 21 points.

"In my three years of serving as the head coach at Redford Union, Jacob is definitely one of my favorite players," coach Randall Taylor said. "He's probably the most consistent player I've coached and he brings it every day, to games and practices. Along with being an outstanding player, he's a great character kid who I think can play at the next level."

Donte Jackson, Sr., Churchill: The 6-foot senior point-guard averaged 15.6 points and 6.5 rebounds per game en route to all-KLAA honors.

"Donte worked extremely hard in the summer and fall, and his leadership carried over to the season," coach Jim Solak said. "He led us in scoring and rebounding and carried us until we were able to find ourselves and turn the season around. He kept us together and was great leader on-and-off the court. Just a great kid on and off the court."

Xavier Crofford, Sr., Thurston: The Eagles' senior leader was the epitome of the dual-threat guard as he could punish opponents with his polished perimeter shots as well as his elusive drives to the rim. He averaged 10.8 points per game while shooting 37 percent from the field and 68 percent from the charity stripe. He also dished out 2.2 assists per contest and

hailed down 3.7 rebounds.

CO-COACHES OF YEAR

Dan Young, John Glenn: The eighth-year coach, who stepped down following the season, guided the Rockets to a 15-6 record after sweeping the South Division, Kensington Conference and KLAA Association championships.

Glenn captured 14 of its final 16 games after a 1-4 start which included losses to Detroit Pershing, Detroit East English Village, East Kentwood and Class A state champion Muskegon. The Rockets were ousted in the district by defending state champion Romulus.

Young, a Central Michigan University grad, coached previously as an assistant at Detroit Catholic Central and his alma mater Canton High.

"I feel very fortunate to have coached at Glenn for the past eight years," said Young, who posted a career record of 113-60. "It has been a great experience. This past season was very special winning, but I'm most proud and happy with the former players that come back and the great relationships we have built over time."

Bob Brodie, Salem: The dean of KLAA coaches just completed his 40th season as a coach and 30th season as head coach of the Rocks.

Brodie led his team to the KLAA Central Division championship and a district title. The Rocks finished 17-6 and nearly won the regional final against Grand Blanc, falling in the final seconds (53-52).

As has been the case in recent seasons, Brodie mixed and matched his players to fit certain situations on the floor, relying on a deep rotation. The Rocks also played with spunk to never give up on a play or game.

"This year's team was the type of team that all coaches love," Brodie said. "They played with intensity, competitiveness, unselfishness and gave everything they had in games and practices."

"In our opinion as a staff, they over-achieved our expectations because of this and made our jobs as coaches easier. It was a very exciting team to watch. They had a lot of fun playing the game, which in turn, made our coaching fun."

Helping Brodie this season were assistant coaches Ryan Nimmerguth (in his first season with the varsity) and Steve Aspinall.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Think spring golf

PGA teaching professional Tami Bealert is offering a series of spring golf classes and events at Hickory Creek Golf Course, 3525 Napier Road, Superior Township.

Among the first sessions for adults include: Get Golf Ready - 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 8; Thursday, April 17; or 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 7; Senior Casual Golfer - 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 15 or May 6; Senior New Golfer - 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 15 or May 6; Ladies clinics, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 6.

Among the first sessions for youths include: Junior (ages 8-17) - 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 9 and 5 p.m. Thursday, May 8; Little Linksters (ages 5-8) - 5 p.m. Monday, April 14 and 11 a.m. Saturday, May 3.

Bealert will also host three open houses, which feature

free golf games for the whole family, from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, April 13; Saturday, April 26; and Sunday, May 18, at Hickory Creek.

Adult drop-in clinics are also available including: Golf Enhancement sessions - 6:45-8 p.m. each Monday (locations and times subject to change by season); Golf Simulator sessions - 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 1 at High Velocity Sports, 46245 Michigan Avenue, Canton; and Golf Conditioning - 10:30-11:30 a.m. each Saturday (Jan.-Nov.) at Hickory Creek.

To register for classes, visit Bealert's Facebook page at TrainwithTamiGolf.com. For more information, email TrainwithTami@gmail.com or call 734-731-0238.

Bucks host games

The Michigan Bucks of the Premier Development League

will host four top collegiate women's soccer teams, including Michigan and Michigan State, in a series of exhibition matches Saturday, April 5, at Pontiac's Ultimate Soccer Arenas, 867 South Boulevard.

MSU and Michigan, along with OU and Northwestern, will square off in the Best of the Midwest games.

Tickets are also \$8 for an all-day pass if purchased online. Group rates are also offered for 20 or more for \$7 apiece if purchased by a parent, coach or manager.

For more information, visit www.bucksoccer.com. You can also call Wayne Pirmann at 248-701-0526 or email wpirmann@bucksoccer.com.

Varsity pom clinic

The Livonia Stevenson varsity pom clinic (grades 3-11) will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 12, at

the high school fieldhouse (courts Nos. 1 and 3).

The cost is \$25 (includes light snack, T-shirt and CD). You must register by Wednesday, April 2, to be guaranteed a T-shirt. Students must wear gym shoes and workout clothes.

For more information, email Stevenson athletic director Lori Hyman at lyman@livoniapublicschools.org.

MU cross country

Madonna University will stage its summer cross country base camps for serious high school runners from 8:45-9:45 a.m. July 28 through Aug. 1. The cost is \$75.

MU will also hold long runs from 7:30-9 a.m. Saturday, July 12, 19, 26 and Aug. 2, at Cass Benton Park. The cost is a \$2 donation each long run.

For more information, email Madonna cross country

coach Pat Daugherty at pdaugherty@madonna.edu.

Sponsor needed

The 11-and-under Livonia Rockets, a travel baseball team which will play six to seven tournaments this summer, is seeking a team sponsor. Any donation is appreciated.

For more information, call Steve at 734-716-5194 or coach Ed at 734-670-6768.

Women's golfers

The Livonia Whispering Willows Golf League will be expanded to 18 holes for \$28 per week (includes greens fees and cart) beginning at 8 a.m. Thursday, May 1.

Non-residents are encouraged to join the 20-week league.

For more information, call Beth at 248-473-9068 or email tbw4boys@aol.com.

VERSATILE INSTRUMENT

Harp Quartet hits high notes

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Larry Gage promises a rare treat when The Modern Harp Quartet performs Sunday, April 6, at First Presbyterian Church of Farmington.

"When you consider the number of strings and chords possible to play with that instrument, it is absolutely remarkable," said Gage, who coordinates the Great Performances in a Sacred Space concert series at the church. "It is a rich sound, and when you get four harps together, all four are unbelievable. The sanctuary will be filled with a sound that most of our audience has never heard.

"One reason I wanted so much to bring in the ensemble is that I always try to program unique kinds of experiences for the audience. We're always trying to enlarge the musical experience of folks."

"Menuet a la mode," will include pieces that incorporate the French minuet along with other similar works in 3/4 time by French and British composers. It starts at 4 p.m. in the church, 26165 Farmington Road, north of 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills. Admission is a donation of \$15 per person or \$25 per family. For more information call 248-474-6170, Ext. 208, or visit www.farmington-pres.org/performing-arts.



The Modern Harp Quartet, Lydia Cleaver (left), John Wickey, Anne Brege and Maurice Draughn, will perform Sunday, April 6, at First Presbyterian Church of Farmington.

Cass Tech alumni

The Quartet members — Maurice Draughn, Lydia Cleaver, John Wickey and Anne Brege — are Detroit Cass Tech High School alumni who began their harp training as members of the school's harp choir, under the direction of Patricia Terry-Ross.

Wickey lives in Atlanta, Ga., where he teaches, composes and arranges. He received a bachelor of music degree from Boston University and a master of music degree from the University of Michigan and has performed with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, the

New World Symphony, and the Eastern Musical Festival Orchestra in North Carolina.

Cleaver, director of the harp program at Cass Tech, earned bachelor's, master's and specialist degrees in harp performance from the University of Michigan. She has performed with Aretha Franklin, Diana Ross, Mannheim Steamroller and orchestras throughout the Midwest.

Brege, who has master's degrees in music history and in harp performance from Wayne State University, lives in Wisconsin and has performed with the Wayne State Symphony Orchestra, the Wayne State Wind Symphony, and Detroit

Civic Symphony Orchestra, the Dearborn Symphony, Royal Oak Symphony, and Grosse Pointe Symphony.

Draughn, an academic adviser in the Wayne State University School of Music, earned a bachelor of music degree from Wayne State and a master's degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. He has performed with Aretha Franklin, Ray Charles, Robert Sims, the Three Irish Tenors, and Glen Campbell and has appeared as a soloist in several symphony orchestras. He also arranges and composes music for the harp, voice and choir and performs as a studio harpist.

Rare ensemble

"When you see a harpist, they're usually playing solo for a wedding or a reception. Even in an orchestra you might see one or two. A harp ensemble is a rare thing. We use music arranged for two harps and then double it," Draughn said, adding that the group has begun to arrange and commission works for four harps.

Although the group plays some contemporary pieces, including jazz standards, the "modern" in its name refers to the instrument, rather than music.

"The modern harp is comprised of an intricate array of mechanisms controlled by seven pedals," Draughn noted.

"The instrument is capable of producing a vast number of sound effects and tones. A large portion of our repertoire consist of pieces composed in the 20th century to showcase the tonal possibilities of the instrument."

The upcoming concert will be a reunion of sorts for Draughn, who served as the church's organist a few years ago.

"There have been several occasions since then where I have either played for a service at the church or ran into members who were in attendance at one of my performances in the area," he said.

Great Performances in a Sacred Space wraps up its current season May 18 with Canadian organist Devon Hansen.

Its 2014-15 season starts Sept. 21 with Jerry McKenzie's Just Jazz, followed by Gary Greenfelder's Dynamic Resonance Brass Quintet, Oct. 19; The Paul Vornhagen Quartet with jazz standards, Nov. 16; The Cantata Academy Chorale, Dec. 12; Pierre Fracalanza, organist and vocalist, Feb. 13, 2015; Bob Milne, ragtime/boogie-woogie pianist, March 15, 2015; The Wayne State University Symphony, April 19, 2015; and The Vanguard Voices, May 17, 2015.

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ANIMALS

DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Labor Day, with closing time at 8 p.m. Wednesdays in July and August

Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

Details: Admission is \$14 for adults 15-61, \$10 for senior citizens 62 and older, and for children ages 2-14; children under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5. Detroit Zoological Society members get free admission and parking

Contact: 248-541-5717

ART & CRAFTS

CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: Through April 22; gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday; and 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday

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

Details: Oil paintings of Anthony Macioce

Contact: 248-473-1856

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Gallery hours, 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, April 4-26; opening reception and artist talk, 6-9 p.m., Friday, April 4

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "Detritus," an exhibit of works by airbrush master, Tom Thewes

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

WESTLAND LIBRARY

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 4-5; noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 6; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, April 7

Location: 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford Road, Westland

Details: Three Cities Art Club presents a juried exhibition of oils, acrylics, watercolors, collage, pastel and , photography. An art and appetizers reception, with son artists on hand, runs 1-3 p.m. Sunday. Free guided tours on request. Art demonstrations Friday-Saturday

Contact: Marilyn Meredith at 313-231-3939

COMEDY

EMERGENT ARTS

Time/Date: Open mic, 8 p.m. Sunday, April 6, 13, 20 and 27, following 5 p.m. "Comedy Dojo" classes

Location: The Mix Studio Theater, 8 N. Washington Street, Ypsilanti

Details: Chili Challis, national headliner comedian and former staff writer for *The Tonight Show With Jay Leno*, coaches new and experienced comics in the nuances of their craft during his Comedy Dojo. Mark Sweetman emcees the open mic. \$5 suggested donation at the door. For more about the fee-based classes, visit ChilliChallis.com

Contact: 734-985-0875

FILM

MJR DIGITAL CINEMAS

Time/Date: Saturday-Sunday, April 5-6

Location: Westland Grand Digital Cinema 16, 6800 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: *Nut Job* screens. Free to children 12 and under; parents pay \$1. Admission on a first-come, first-served basis. Call for times.

Contact: 734-298-6257



"Jonathan Vegas Has Left The Building," is among the art works on display April 4-7 at the Westland Library.

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 4-5, 4:30 and 7 p.m. Sunday, April 6, and 7 p.m. Thursday, April 10

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*, admission \$3

Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penn-theatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 11 and 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. April 12

Location: 17360 Lahser, north of Grand River Avenue, Detroit

Details: *Ben Hur*; \$5

Coming up: Three Stooges Film Festival, 8 p.m. Friday, April 25, and 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, April 26, \$6 admission

Contact: 313-537-2560

MUSEUM

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 10

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: John Keller of Port Royal, S.C., will present "Flags of the Confederacy." The former Michigan resident is a docent at the Veredier House Museum in South Carolina and a member of Sons of the Confederacy

Coming up: Antiques appraisal clinic with Doug Dalton Auctioneer and Schmidt's, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 23. Items include furniture, art and small objects. No jewelry, coins or stamps. A maximum four items. Call for appointment. \$10 per item

Contact: 734-455-8940

YANKEE AIR MUSEUM

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 5

Location: Hangar 1 on the northwest side of Willow Run Airport. Enter under the awning of M2 Aircraft Management, at Willow Run, Kirk Profit Drive, Building 2601, in Ypsilanti

Details: 19th annual Bomber Buffing Party, is an airplane polishing party for all ages. Polish the "Yankee Lady," a B-17, and the "Yankee Warrior," a B-25. You're encouraged to bring clean, soft rags. A pizza luncheon will be served

Contact: yankeeairmuseum.org

MUSIC

BLUES@THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: On Tuesday, April 8, George Bedard & the Kingpins will perform blues, jazz and rockabilly. \$5 donation at the door.

Contact: 734-453-1780

JAZZ CAFE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Friday, April 4

Location: Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison, Detroit

Details: Simon Philips, drummer for The Who in their 1989 American reunion tour, performs with Andy Timmons on guitar, Ernest Tibbs on bass and Steve Weingart on keyboards. Tickets are \$20, available at StarTicket.com, ticketmaster.com or the Music Hall Box Office

Contact: 313-887-8501

MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 5

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

Details: Fiesta! will include music from Latin America. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$25 for senior citizens and \$10 for youth

Contact: 734-451-2112; michigan-phil.org

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Jan Krist and Jim Bizer, April 5; Empty Chair Night featuring Annie and Rod Capps, Joel Palmer and Dave Boutette, April 6; Shari Kane and Dave Steele, April 11; Dave Boutette, Derek Daniels and Tike Anderson in the Round, April 12; Erin Zindle, April 25; Michigan Fingerstyle Guitar Society presents Muriel Anderson, April 26; Gurf Morlix, April 27. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks accepted.

Contact: 734-464-6302

VIVACE MUSIC SERIES

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, April 12

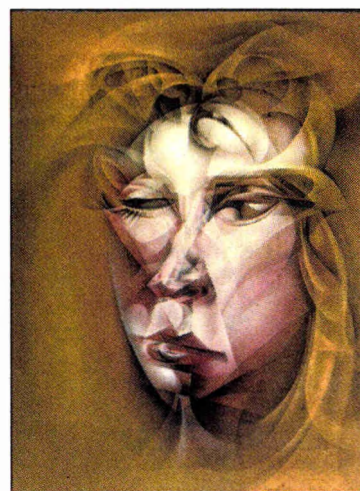
Location: The Birmingham Temple, 28611 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: The Manhattan Piano Trio with Milana Strezeva on piano, Wayne Lee on violin and Saeunn Thorsteinsdottir on cello, perform music of Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Schumann and Babadjanian. Tickets are \$23 general admission and \$20 for seniors and students

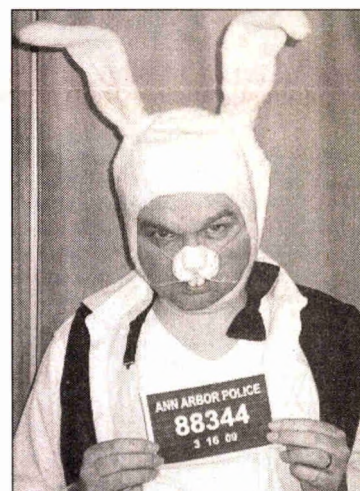
Contact: Joyce Chersh at 248-788-9338 or Ann Sipher at 248-661-1348



The Yankee Lady is one of the airplanes that will be polished during a buffing party, April 5, at the Yankee Air Museum, Ypsilanti.



BRASS by Thomas Thewes is on display in his solo artist show, *Detritus*, April 4-26 at Northville Art House.



Steve Elliott portrays The Easter Bunny in *Confessions of The Easter Bunny*, at The Mix Studio Theater in Ypsilanti.

THEATER

BERMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Sunday, April 6

Location: On the campus of the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: The Kibbutz Theatre performs *Address Unknown*. The play recounts the breakup of a friendship between a Jewish art dealer in California and his German business partner, who returns to Germany in 1932. The story is told solely through their letters. Admission \$20; \$15 for Jewish Community Center members

Contact: 248-661-1900

EMERGENT ARTS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, through April 6

Location: The Mix Studio Theater, 8 N. Washington Street, Ypsilanti

Details: An original play, called *Confessions of the Easter Bunny*, has the iconic Easter character going to therapy while seeking meaning and a new sense of purpose. Tickets are \$12 general and \$10, students and seniors. Buy online with a credit card or at the door with cash or check only

Contact: 734-985-0875; emergentarts.com

MAGENTA GIRAFFE THEATRE COMPANY

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 4-5, 11-12, 18-19 and 25-26 and 3 p.m. Sunday, April 13

Location: Abreact Performance Space, 1301 W. Lafayette, #1301, Detroit

Details: Playwright Sean Paraventi of Redford presents a twisted love story about predators and victim in *Love is Strange*. No minors will be admitted without a parent for this play that includes mature content. Tickets are \$18; \$15 for students and seniors

Contact: 313-408-7269; info@magentagiraffe.org

SPOTLIGHT PLAYERS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 10-12, 2 p.m. April 12-13

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

Details: In *The Drowsy Chaperone*, characters come to life in a man's apartment. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$16 for seniors and students

Contact: spotlightplayersmi.org

TWO MUSES THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, through April 13

Location: Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 6800 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield

Details: *The Current*, by Redford playwright Sean Paraventi, centers on a bachelorette party that takes an interesting turn when the bride-to-be and her friends visit a psychic on their way to the bar. Opening night includes a bachelorette party with prizes and games at 7:20 p.m. in the theater lobby. Audience members who stay after the show on Sundays will hear readings by area psychics. Donate a gently used bridal gown and receive two free tickets. The gowns go to The Bride's Project, which supports cancer research. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$15 for students and seniors

Contact: 248-850-9919; twomuses-theatre.org

UDM THEATRE CO.

Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 4-5 and 2 p.m. April 6

Location: Grounds Coffee Haus on the McNichols Campus of the University of Detroit Mercy, 4001 W. McNichols, Detroit

Details: Ashé Lewis of Westland plays "Katia" and Stephanie Nicols of Troy, a guest Equity artist, plays her mother, "Maggie," in *Memory House*, by Kathleen Tolan. Tickets are \$20; \$10 for students and \$5 for UDM and Marygrove students

Contact: 313-993-3270; theatre.udm-mercy.edu

Whether you're entertaining for a big group or a small gathering, a successful Easter brunch or dinner starts with finding the right recipes to impress with less stress.

"Colorful individual desserts, like Easter-egg cake bites, cupcakes and mini cheesecakes, are easy to make ahead," said chef Kevan Vetter of the McCormick Kitchens.

Those tasty sweets can be as fun to make as they are to eat. Set out a tempting array of single-serving treats so guests won't have to pick just one.

For more Easter serving ideas, visit www.mccormick.com.

ADD FUN, COLOR TO EASTER GATHERINGS WITH

BITE-SIZED TREATS



EASTER EGG CAKE BITES

Serves: 24
Serving Size: 2 cake bites

1 package (2-layer size) white cake mix
2 teaspoons pure lemon extract or pure vanilla extract
McCormick Assorted Food Colors & Egg Dye
1 cup marshmallow creme
1 bag (14 ounces) white confectionery coating wafers

Decorating Glaze:
½ cup confectioners' sugar
2 teaspoons water
McCormick Assorted Food Colors & Egg Dye

1. Prepare cake mix as directed on package, adding lemon extract and desired food color. Bake as directed on package for 13x9-inch baking pan. Cool completely on wire rack.
2. Crumble cake into large bowl. Add marshmallow creme; mix until well blended. Shape into 1-inch balls then roll to form an egg shape. Refrigerate 2 hours.
3. Melt coating wafers or white chocolate as directed on package. Using a fork, dip 1 cake bite at a time into the confectionery coating or chocolate. Tap back of fork 2 or 3 times against edge of dish to allow excess to drip off. Place cake bites on wax paper-lined tray.
4. For the Decorating Glaze, mix confectioners' sugar and water in small bowl until well blended. Tint with desired food color. Using a fork, drizzle glaze over cake bites. Let stand until glaze is set.



EASY MINI CHEESECAKES

Serves: 12

2 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
½ cup sugar
2 eggs
2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
½ teaspoon pure almond extract
12 vanilla wafers
1 cup fresh berries

Preheat oven to 325°F. Beat cream cheese and sugar in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add eggs and extracts; beat well.

Line 12 muffin cups with paper baking cups. Place a wafer in bottom of each muffin cup. Spoon batter into each cup, filling each ¾ full.

Bake 22 to 24 minutes or until centers are almost set. Cool in pan on wire rack. Mini cheesecakes will deflate in center upon cooling. Refrigerate 4 hours or overnight. Garnish with berries.



EASY LEMON DAISY CUPCAKES

Serves: Makes 18 1-cupcake servings

1 package (2-layer size) white cake mix
1 tablespoon (plus 2 teaspoons) pure lemon extract, divided
1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
½ cup (½ stick) butter, softened
2 tablespoons sour cream
1 package (16 ounces) confectioners' sugar
10 drops McCormick yellow food color
18 large marshmallows
Decorating sugar
Jelly beans
Green sprinkles

Prepare cake mix as directed on package, adding 1 tablespoon of the lemon extract. Spoon into 18 paper-lined muffin cups, filling each cup ¾ full. Bake as directed for cupcakes. Cool cupcakes on wire rack.

For the frosting, beat cream cheese, butter, sour cream and remaining 2 teaspoons lemon extract in large bowl until light and fluffy. Gradually beat in confectioners' sugar until smooth. Stir in food color until evenly tinted. Frost cooled cupcakes.

To decorate cupcakes, cut each marshmallow crosswise into 5 slices. Sprinkle 1 side of each marshmallow slice with decorating sugar. Arrange 5 marshmallow petals on top of each cupcake to resemble a daisy, pressing the marshmallows into the frosting. Place jelly beans in the center of the petals. Garnish with sprinkles.



FESTIVE MERINGUE COOKIES

Serves: Makes 6 dozen or 12 (6-cookie) servings

4 egg whites, at room temperature
½ poon cream of tartar
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
25 drops McCormick Assorted NEON! Food Colors & Egg Dye

Preheat oven to 225°F. Beat egg whites in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until frothy. If using a freestanding mixer, use wire whisk attachment. Add cream of tartar; beat until soft peaks form. Increase speed to medium-high. Add sugar, 1 tablespoon at a time, beating until sugar is dissolved and stiff peaks form. Beat in extract and food color until well blended. Gently stir in chips, if desired.

Drop by rounded measuring teaspoonfuls about 1 inch apart onto 2 large foil-lined baking sheets sprayed with no stick cooking spray. Bake both sheets of meringues at the same time 45 minutes. Turn oven off. Let meringues stand in oven 1 hour or until completely cooled.

CITY BITES

Vegetarian cooking

Farmington Hills — Learn how to make B-B-Q Veggie Beef and Veggie Meat Sauce, 10 a.m. to noon Friday, April 11, at Zhong Shu Temple, 23845 Middlebelt. A ceremony and potluck lunch follows the class. Participants may bring a vege-

tarian dish to share. RSVP to michigantemple@yahoo.com. The Temple phone is 248-579-4791.

Eating gluten-free

Farmington Hills — Mark your calendar for Tri County Celiac Support Group's Southeast Michigan Gluten-Free

Food Fair, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at First Presbyterian Church, 26165 Farmington Road. The 13th annual fair will include free samples, shopping, door prizes, raffles and vendors selling gluten-free products. No charge for Support Group members; \$5 for nonmembers.

Visit www.tccsg.net for more information.

Fallen heroes

Livonia — Andiamo Restaurant will donate 25 percent of proceeds from its new "Chef's Signature" menu items to the Fallen Heroes Monument at Larry Nehasil Park. Wild

Mushroom Risotto and Surf and Turf featuring portabella mushrooms and Andiamo's signature zip sauce, are among the 19 new dishes on chef Brandon Schatko's dinner menu. The restaurant is located at 38703 Seven Mile, west of I-275. 734-953-3200.

RELIGION CALENDAR

APRIL

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday, April 13
Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: Pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, milk, juice. Adults pay \$3; children 2-10 pay \$1.50
Contact: 734-425-4421

EASTER FUN DAY

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 12
Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile one block west of Inkster Road, Livonia
Details: Crafts, stories, an Easter egg hunt, games and more for children 3-12. The church also seeks donations of white socks, Chapstick, chewing gum, individually-wrapped hand wipes, snack bars, pocket Bibles and pocket-sized tissue packs for Comfort Kits for the homeless.
Contact: 734-422-1470

EGG HUNT

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 19
Location: First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile, Northville
Details: Children hunt for more than 15,000 eggs in five different age groups. Hot dogs, chips, cookies and drinks will be served; pictures available with the Easter Bunny; games, prizes, music and "eggcellent egg-speriments" with Madam Scientist. Bring an Easter basket to collect eggs. Get a gift for bringing a friend. Registration is required at dfcnazarene.org. Closes after 600 children sign up or on April 16, whichever comes first
Contact: 248-348-7600

EGG HUNT

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 19
Location: Plumb Line Community Church, 9435 Henry Ruff, Livonia
Details: Games, crafts, face painting, prizes, lunch and photos with the Easter Bunny; for ages 12 and under
Contact: Shirley Stephan at 734-522-7916

FAMILY EASTER CELEBRATION

Time/Date: Register at 12:45 p.m. Saturday, April 12
Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merri-man, Livonia
Details: Family Easter celebration includes an egg hunt, games and crafts for children, 10 and under, along with the Easter story. Bring a basket to collect eggs
Contact: Melissa at 734-466-8694

FILM

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, April 11
Location: St. Simon and Jude Catholic Community, 32500 Palmer, Westland
Details: Bishop Thomas Gumbleton: A Prophet Among Us? part 2 screens, following Stations of the Cross at 6:30 p.m.
Contact: 734-722-1343

LENTEN REFLECTION

Time/Date: 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 11
Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City
Details: Includes dinner at 5:30 p.m. and concert at 7 p.m.
Contact: 734-427-3660

LENTEN SERVICE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday,

through April 9

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford
Details: Theme is "From Garden to Glory"
Contact: 313-532-8655

LENTEN SERVICE

Time/Date: Noon to 1 p.m., Wednesday through Lent
Location: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Worship followed by a light lunch
Contact: 734-522-6830 for additional information

LENTEN SOUP, DISCUSSION

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. soup dinner; 7:15 p.m. video presentation and discussion, Tuesday, April 8
Location: Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, between Levan and Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: "Emotionally Healthy Spirituality" by pastors Bob Hoey and Allen Kannappell
Contact: 734-425-2800 for additional information

Passages
 Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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

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

BECKER, RUTH LOUISE (FALLOWFIELD)

Age 80 of Zionsville, Indiana, passed away March 27, 2014. She was born July 15, 1933 in Detroit, Michigan to the late William Henry Fallowfield and Lillie Crozier Fallowfield. She is survived by son Ron (Jane) Becker; granddaughters Hannah and Erica Becker of Zionsville, IN; and sister Mavis Sewell of Trenton, MI. She was preceded in death by her brother Wallace. Ruth danced ballet professionally in New York City and Detroit and taught ballet for thirty years afterward while living in Birmingham, MI. A lover of animals, music, nature and people, Ruth found beauty in everyday items and moments. Memorial contributions may be made to the Humane Society or the Alzheimer's Association. A private memorial service will be held at a later date.



GRUSCHOW, JOANNE (JO BEATTIE)

Widow of Willard (Bud) Gruschow. Loving mother of daughters, Sue, Nan, Barb, and Joan, and companion of Jack Childs for many years, died Wednesday, March 26, 2014 surrounded by family at her home in Bluffton, South Carolina. Jo and Bud were high school sweethearts and graduates of Michigan State College (University). She graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration. Widowed at age 43 with 3 girls in college and 1 in junior high school, Jo was the glue and suddenly, head of the household. Jo attended night school at Wayne State University and received her Masters in Business. She went on to teach math and business classes at Seaholm High School in Birmingham until retirement. Jo was an active member of Indianwood Golf Club, and the Troy Tennis Club. Many special family vacations were shared on Lake Michigan and Lake Huron. Jo is remembered by her daughters Susan Keys/Kusz (Larry) of Bonita Springs, Florida, Nancy Gruschow of Lakewood, Colorado; Barb (Chuck) McCollom of Mt. Pleasant, MI; grandchildren Tracy (Federico) Bordignon, David McCollom, and Joan (Gregg) Carnicello of Golden, CO.; Kevin and Christine Carnicello, and her sister Janice (Tom) Mellen of Williamsville, New York along with a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends that might as well have been relatives. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later time in Jo's home state of Michigan. Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 11 Mallet Way, Suite 301, Bluffton, SC 29910 or Hospice Care of the Lowcountry, PO Box 3827, Bluffton, SC 29910. Share your memories on Jo's Tribute Wall: saulsfh.com Arrangements by Sauls Funeral Home of Bluffton.

HINES, SUZANNE HELEN (nee HUTCHINSON)

Of Canton, Michigan. October 23, 1947 - March 28, 2014. Loving daughter of Blair Hutchinson and Helen (Huntington) Hutchinson. Loving sister of Janet Blair Hutchinson. Loving mother of Paul Blair Hines, Lori Jean (Clevenger) Hines; and loving grandmother of Jonathan (Jack) Blair Hines and Samantha Blair Hines. Loving mother of Jeffrey James Hines, Maya Amie (Ganatra) Hines; and loving grandmother of James Jayant Hines, Ravi Alexander Hines, and William Kieran Hines. She is survived by many loving cousins, extended family and caring friends and colleagues. Longtime Healthcare Manager at John Hancock/Unicare. She had an abiding passion for her family, grandchildren and her life-long hobby of genealogy, establishing a family tree of more than 12,000 people. She was a member of the Blair Genealogical Society and participant in the Huntington Family Association. Funeral Service was 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 1st at the Dearborn Chapel of Howe-Peterson Funeral Home, 22546 Michigan Ave. Visitation was 2-6 p.m. Sunday and 12-8 p.m. Monday. In addition to or in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan. She will be interred at Glen Eden Memorial Park on 8 Mile Road in Livonia, MI, Evergreen Garden (Section #99, Block 12, grave 4).
www.howepeterson.com



KAYFES, CAROL J., PLYMOUTH, MI

Age 80, passed away Saturday, March 22, 2014, with her loving husband by her side. She was born March 26, 1933, to William and Bessie Goldsworthy, and grew up in Lake Linden. On June 23, 1951, she married Thomas Kayfes of Ahmeek. She was known for her kindness to others, including sharing her faith in the Bible's promises. She was a member of the Plymouth Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. She also is survived by her daughters, Judy (David) Bonga, Gloria (Alan) Arndt, and Donna (Robert) Reimer; six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and five nephews. A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, April 5, at 5:30 p.m. at the Kingdom Hall, 47343 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI.



RUE, LOIS ANNE

March 31, 2014. Age 83 of Westland, Michigan, passed away peacefully. She was a lifetime resident of Michigan, an avid Detroit Tigers' fan, loved summers on the lake, retired from Ford Motor Credit Co., and a former Garden City Hospital Guild volunteer. She was the beloved mother of Cliff Berger (Janet), Darcy Berger-Batherson, and loving grandmother of Ryan, Erin, Renée and Ross. She is also survived by her sister Joyce Radloff and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents Walter and Molly Briskorn, her sister Shirley Hagan and her precious son Joseph Scott Berger (Jo-Jo). In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in her honor to Meals on Wheels, Wayne County, Michigan; or The Arbor Hospice Foundation, Ann Arbor, Michigan. The family has entrusted care and services to the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, (734) 522-9400. Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com



FREESE, LAWRENCE A., SR. (LARRY)

Passed away in St Petersburg, Florida on February 18, 2014. He was born on June 16, 1920, in Detroit, the third of three children to Charles E. and Irma Freese. He was preceded in death by his brother Charles E. Freese II (Bill), and sister, Marjorie Draper. He attended Lawrence Institute of Technology, in Detroit, and graduated Aero Industries Technical Institute, in Glendale, California. From 1941 to 1943, he was a tool designer for North American Aviation, and General Motors Corp. In 1944-45 he served as a Midshipman, MMR, USNR. In 1946 he married Helen M. Fitzgerald (Peggy). They were married 61 years (until her death in 2007), and raised their three children in Birmingham, Michigan, and Walloon Lake. Also in 1946, he began a 40 year career in the insurance business by joining his father, Charlie, at the Freese Insurance Agency. Larry was a past President of the Old Guard of the Detroit Commandery #1, Knights Templar, and member of Corinthian Lodge #241. He was a member: The Detroit Athletic Club, Bayview Yacht Club, The Recess Club, and the Walloon Lake Country Club. After retiring to Florida, he enjoyed playing golf with good friends as a member of the Stuart Yacht & Country Club. Among other things, he enjoyed fishing, bowling, boating, and golf. He worked hard, played hard, and tried to combine the two whenever possible. He will be greatly missed by his children, Skip Freese, Pat Trusler, Joan Griffith, and three grandchildren.



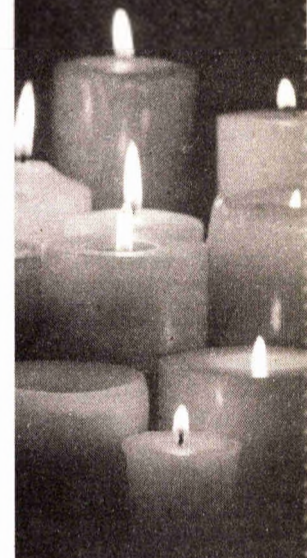
Let others know...

When you have lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages", a directory located in every edition of your Observer or Eccentric newspaper.

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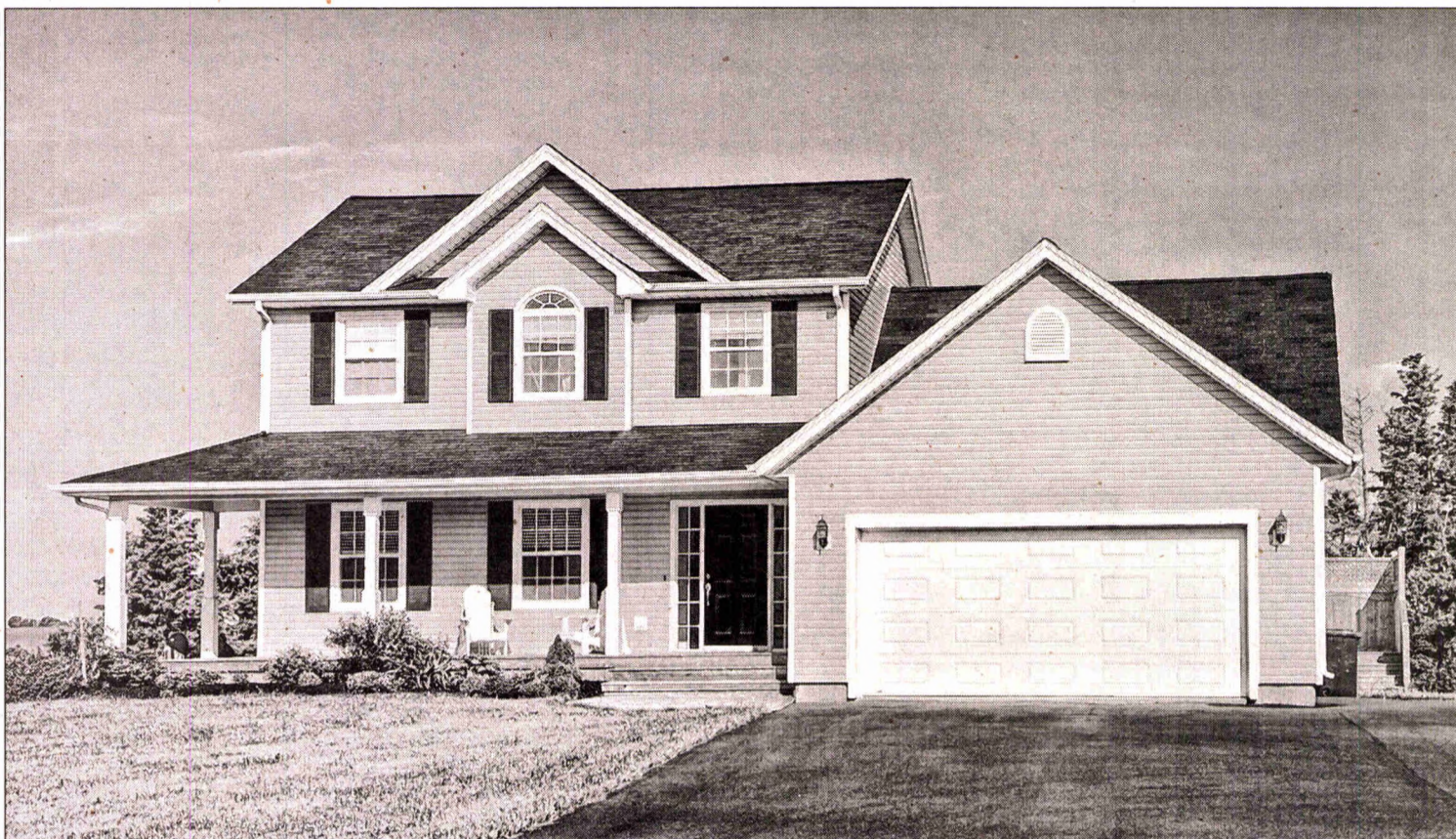
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 Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
 Services held at: **Saint Andrews Episcopal Church**
 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road
 Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org AT15063

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



Metro Detroit Realtors are pleased to see area home prices coming back up. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

GOOD NEWS: METRO DETROIT HOME PRICES SEE AN UPSWING

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Gary J. Reggish, broker/owner of Remerica United Realty of Novi, wasn't too surprised by a recent report on metro Detroit home prices rebounding.

"Good things are happening in Michigan," said Livonia resident Reggish. "It's all of metro Detroit."

Some housing markets are seeing jumps of 20 percent or more in median list prices, according to the website realtor.com.

Median list prices are up 7.57 percent over the last year, according to a report from realtor.com, which reflects October data for 146 metro markets.

"Monthly prices fell slightly in October (down 0.25 percent month-over-month), but remained resilient against the usual seasonal patterns of stabilizing inventory," realtor.com noted in its report.

Detroit has seen the largest year-over-year increase, with median asking prices rising 44 percent in the past year, according to a November 2013 report. Eighty-five percent of the 146 markets that realtor.com tracks reported year-over-year increases.

Realtor.com recently highlighted some of the hottest markets to buy, based on the largest year-over-year median list price gains from February 2013-14. These are the cities that top that list:

1 **Stockton, Calif.**, +38.9 percent year-over-year gain, median home price: \$248,600

2 **Las Vegas**, +26.9 percent, median home price: \$177,500

3 **Reno, Nev.**, +26.8 percent, median home price: \$259,900

4 **Detroit**, +26.3 percent, median home price: \$119,900

5 **Riverside-San Bernardino, Calif.**, +24.6 percent, median home price: \$292,800

6 **Orange County, Calif.**, +23.7 percent, median home price: \$599,900

7 **Fresno, Calif.**, +21.2 percent, median home price: \$229,000

Source: "Top 10 Markets for Increasing Median Home Prices," realtor.com® (March 21, 2014)

"We're resilient," said Reggish of Detroiters. "We were the first to lead the country out of this crisis."

Reggish now sees many more metro Detroiters returning to work, as well as a shortage of homes in inventory. "We're just in an awesome, awesome market right now. Every home is selling," he said.

He sees fewer bank-owned homes, more private property sales in his work. "They're selling for top dollar. Every house is selling and selling quickly," Reggish said. Even bank-owned homes in rougher shape and needing more work, if priced correctly, are selling.

Interest rates are low, and he encourages seller clients not to wait too long to put a home on the market.

"What we're experiencing now is a true real estate correction," he said. Prices will at some point level off as the market corrects.

Reggish joked that only the oft-quoted "polar vortex" kept few home shoppers at home. "We haven't missed a beat during these winter months," he said.

His work includes a "nice blend" of customers, from young buyers to empty nesters moving often to condos. There isn't just one sector, "which is what we want."

Reggish anticipates the federal government will raise interest rates on mortgages, and work with the industry to avoid another real estate bubble. "We are definitely near stabilization," he said.

He finds it's too early to say just what interest rates will be, but anticipates gradual climbing. Even 1 percent will make a big difference in the monthly payment for a \$200,000 home, he said.

"I am not surprised at all," the 15-year Realtor concluded of the recent report. "I have never been more proud of the state I live in. We are survivors."

Sharing the views of Reggish is Duane Marsh, CEO of the Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors, which is completing a move from Farmington to Southfield for its offices.

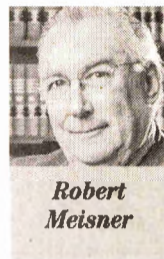
"The metro area of southeast Michigan continues to show great strength in the housing market," said Wixom resident Marsh. "We anticipate that going forward for the next period of time."

Marsh and GMAR members and leadership have noticed local home prices on the upswing. "We've been seeing that all over the area," Marsh added.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

WiFi install: Check with lawyer first

Q: I live in a subdivision and our homeowner association owns the clubhouse. They are thinking of installing and providing free WiFi in the clubhouse. The board is wondering if they should require that users agree to a terms and conditions policy. Do you think that is necessary and what do you think about the idea of providing free WiFi?



Robert Meisner

A: The board, if the board is in control of the clubhouse because the association owns it, has the right to run the clubhouse in a reasonably prudent fashion. Providing WiFi is not, in my judgment, unreasonable, but it is important that those persons who agree to use the WiFi must comply with its terms and conditions and that there should be a terms and conditions policy just like the use of any other WiFi when you go into a hotel or other place of accommodation where WiFi is provided. You are best advised to tell the board that they need to get a policy drafted by a lawyer who understands the obligations imposed by the use of the WiFi.

Q: We are getting our tax assessment notice and I am wondering whether it is worthwhile to pursue the matter as the increase was only several thousand dollars. What do you think?

A: There will always be a time limit and procedural requirement for you to follow in regard to tax appeals. The resulting increase may or may not be justifiable, and you should talk to a Realtor about the tax assessment and whether it is in excess of what it should be even though the median average of homes in the metropolitan Detroit area has increased approximately 17 percent over the last year or so. Each person must make their own evaluation with whatever assistance they can obtain in determining whether a tax appeal is appropriate. However, it doesn't hurt to learn about the procedure for appealing your assessment so that in the future, should it become necessary again to appeal, you are able to do so and the tax assessor is aware of your presence.

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.

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.

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

Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Seminar each Tuesday, Thursday

A free seminar on government-insured reverse mortgages is offered by Colonial Mortgage Corp. at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday and at 2 p.m. each Thursday at various locations.

RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 11-15, 2013, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office.

Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS

19661 Beverly Rd \$449,000
18208 Buckingham Ave \$410,000
16253 Kirkshire Ave \$77,000
20675 W 13 Mile Rd \$189,000

BIRMINGHAM

852 Bird Ave \$585,000
369 E Southlawn Blvd \$248,000
1930 Washington Blvd \$335,000
1387 Webster St \$140,000
680 Willits St \$725,000
35300 Woodward Ave # 507 \$153,000

1159 Worthington Rd \$357,000

BLOOMFIELD HILLS

1194 Rolling Hills Dr \$116,000
3731 Lane Lake Rd \$490,000
6984 Woodbank Dr \$215,000

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

3665 Bradford Ct \$315,000
75 Devon Rd \$435,000
755 E Fox Hills Dr \$45,000
3681 Forest Hill Dr \$710,000
1979 Golf Ridge Dr \$560,000
2276 Pine St \$610,000
2517 Rambling Way \$265,000

635 South Hills Rd \$1,051,000
6380 Sunningdale Dr \$370,000
883 Tartan Trl \$390,000
517 Westbourne Dr \$366,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP
4541 Driftwood Dr \$343,000
5600 Ford Rd \$110,000
6060 Ford Rd \$205,000
1555 Huron Springs Ln \$350,000
1129 Island Dr \$290,000
4483 Lynne Ln \$255,000
1311 Sleeth Rd \$163,000
2424 Solace Dr \$63,000
1583 Trace Hollow Dr \$25,000

FARMINGTON

33455 Alta Loma Dr \$180,000
33705 Hamlin Ct \$217,000
35616 Heritage Ln \$115,000
33266 Meadowlark St \$148,000

FARMINGTON HILLS

29305 Bannockburn St \$170,000
34800 Bunker Hill Dr \$220,000
29205 Chelsea Xing \$347,000
30117 Club House Ln \$217,000
23157 Cora Ave \$150,000
30004 De Orr St \$118,000
37585 Dorchester Dr \$270,000
29203 Earth Ln \$101,000
36104 Fredericksburg Rd \$274,000
29319 Glenbrook Dr \$290,000
33039 Hearthstone Rd \$147,000
39030 Lancaster Dr \$230,000
22820 Lisa Ct \$270,000

25553 Lynford St \$159,000
21313 Ontaga St \$90,000
27948 Quail Hollow Rd \$168,000
36531 Quakertown Ln \$162,000
29320 Regents Pointe \$130,000
21772 S Brandon St \$110,000
30304 Stratford Ct \$315,000
35689 Vicksburg St \$234,000
29624 W 10 Mile Rd \$43,000
31993 W 12 Mile Rd Unit 113 \$65,000
32641 W 13 Mile Rd \$145,000
22778 Watt Dr \$37,000

MILFORD

321 Dorchester Way \$255,000
2678 E Maple Rd \$175,000
2822 Lone Tree Rd \$249,000
3226 Mapleridge \$265,000
408 Mill Pond Ln \$265,000
1292 N Milford Rd \$206,000
750 S Duck Lake Rd \$265,000
1924 Scenic Dr \$520,000
1307 Yosemite Valley Dr \$292,000
1315 Yosemite Valley Dr \$278,000

NORTHVILLE

1118 Washington Cir \$150,000

NOVI

23912 Broadmoor Park Ln \$500,000
22275 Chelsea Ln \$200,000
22689 Cheshire Ct \$372,000
44725 Ellery Ln \$144,000
44836 Ford Way Dr \$310,000

23022 Gilbar St \$159,000
24624 Highlands Dr \$90,000
31156 Kingswood Blvd \$168,000
40440 Ladene Ln \$162,000
23410 Meadowbrook Rd \$130,000
23833 Meadowbrook Rd \$110,000
24669 Naples Dr \$315,000
24983 Portsmouth Ave \$234,000

SOUTH LYON

58656 Bridge House Ct \$86,000
52591 E Fremont Dr \$463,000
52619 E Fremont Dr \$378,000
61212 Greenwood Dr \$65,000
59163 Peters Barn Dr \$363,000
58763 Swing Beam Ct \$114,000
301 Wellington Dr \$150,000

SOUTHFIELD

27800 Arlington Dr \$190,000
28201 Bell Rd \$100,000
20365 Briarwood Ct \$100,000
19215 Eldridge Ln \$52,000
17472 Gateway Cir \$58,000
16306 Harden Cir \$130,000
22865 Kenwyck Dr \$6,000
15983 Meadowood Ave \$110,000
19721 Silver Spring St \$163,000
29112 Wellington Rd W # 89 \$52,000

WHITE LAKE

8030 High Point Trl \$330,000
1255 Lake Jason Dr \$334,000
968 Mallock St \$79,000
8955 Van Gordon St \$126,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 2-6, 2013, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office.

Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

43044 Avon Rd \$209,000
45932 Bartlett Dr \$300,000
45671 Baywood Blvd \$260,000
2233 Brookhaven Rd \$205,000
50312 Colonial St \$298,000
878 Constitution St \$265,000
51247 Federal Blvd \$81,000
50216 Grant St \$271,000
41606 Haggerty Woods Ct \$164,000
6418 Harrow Ct \$320,000
468 Merrimac Rd \$152,000
1614 Orchard Dr \$50,000
7928 Oxford Dr \$110,000

7942 Oxford Dr \$60,000
218 Patriot St \$255,000
41919 Riverwood Ct \$175,000
48919 Stanton Ct E \$395,000

GARDEN CITY

5667 Gilman St \$90,000
5917 Gilman St \$67,000
117 Greenwood St \$105,000

LIVONIA

36910 Ann Arbor Trl \$133,000
9855 Camden St \$148,000
38509 Elsie Dr \$146,000
14244 Garden St \$105,000
14244 Garden St \$166,000
20649 Golf Ridge Cir \$43,000
36514 Joy Rd \$199,000
15583 Liverpool St \$195,000
18550 Loveland St \$235,000
9833 Mayfield St \$125,000
14736 Melrose St \$105,000
19815 Norwich Rd \$283,000
29459 Oakley St \$125,000

19490 Saint Francis St \$98,000
31206 W Chicago St \$158,000
16862 Yorkshire St \$289,000

NORTHVILLE

16917 Dunswood Rd \$335,000
18905 Edenderry St \$560,000
19525 Maxwell St \$230,000
16527 Mulberry Way \$359,000
16984 Niagara Ct \$560,000
49832 Parkside Dr \$430,000
39567 Village Run Dr \$285,000
PLYMOUTH
9229 Ball St \$240,000
500 Ford St \$67,000
40435 Greenbriar Ln \$225,000
44800 Gregory Ln \$177,000
48463 Meadow Ct \$380,000
51298 Plymouth Ridge Dr \$478,000
8918 Whittlesey Lake Dr \$227,000
REDFORD
9339 Beech Daly Rd \$83,000
11340 Beech Daly Rd \$37,000

12074 Columbia \$60,000
14151 Lucerne \$53,000
15874 Macarthur \$45,000
20524 Norborne \$33,000
14006 Royal Grand \$85,000
26941 W Davison \$47,000

WAYNE

4011 Mildred St \$61,000
WESTLAND
30837 Beechnut St \$100,000
34732 Blackfoot St \$33,000
34732 Blackfoot St \$155,000
35690 Fairchild St \$70,000
8494 Haller St \$189,000
32328 Hazelwood St \$75,000
5788 Herbert St \$95,000
34461 Hivley St \$85,000
32723 Lone Pine Dr \$75,000
35208 Sheridan St \$50,000
2289 Stieber St \$18,000
27664 Trailbrooke Cir \$50,000

HOMES

apartments.com
HomeFinder

BRAND NEW HOMES STARTING AT \$799!*

Rentals starting at \$729 3 bed, 2 bath, all appliances plus washer and dryer.

BRAND NEW HOMES STARTING AT \$799!*

Rentals starting at \$729 3 bed, 2 bath, all appliances plus washer and dryer.

WESTLAND - Open April 6th 1-5pm
33726 Hazelwood mint cond., 1,825 sq. ft. ranch, 3 BR, 2 full BA, HUGE family room w/ frpic, 2 car attached gar, new roof, large beautiful lot \$134,900
Real Estate One
Virginia Donohue
248-974-5012

Open Houses

SOUTH LYON - OPEN HOUSE April 6 12-3pm
61440 Richfield St. Adorable 3 BR, 1.326 sqft ranch, half acre private lot, \$149,900
Darlene Hamilton
Team Hamilton Real Estate
248-345-6780

WESTLAND - Completely remodeled, all new appliances, furnace, plumbing, electric, 3 bdr, brick ranch, bsmt, 1 bath, familyroom w/frpic, large lot backs to elementary school. A Must See! Open House April 6, 2014 1-4pm: 38360 N. Jean Court, Westland (behind P.D. Graham Elementary School) 734-837-6317 (Mike)

Lakefront Property

LAKE ERIE LIVING! Kingsville, Ontario
Sandy walkable beach, lg deck, 1400 sq ft, heat/air, lake lot - 60X200, garage lot is 100X40, 35 mi from Ambassador Bridge. Contact Realtor John Peterson at 519-999-1607

RENTALS

apartments.com
HomeFinder

Apartment For Rent

FARMINGTON HILLS MAPLE RIDGE APTS.
Spacious 1 br/1b, 2 bath, c/a, \$525-\$600. 50% off 1st 3 mos. Rent with good credit & income. 248.473.5180

GARDEN CITY:
Beautiful remodeled 2 bdrm. Heat & water incl., credit friendly. (248) 474-3005

Duplexes

LIVONIA: 2 bdrm, bsmt, garage, A/C, fresh paint, new carpet \$825/month
Call: 248-377-1596

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Homes For Rent

BRAND NEW HOMES STARTING AT \$799!*

Rentals starting at \$729 3 bed, 2 bath, all appliances plus washer and dryer.

CHILD'S LAKE ESTATES

4377 Old Plank Road, Milford
248-820-5835
www.childslake.com

DETROIT: 7 Mi & Lahser area. 2 bdrm with large gar., spotless, secure, fresh & super clean. \$400 313-657-8125

SOUTH LYON - Really nice 2 bdrm, 2 bath cond., large master w/huge walk-in closet screened-in porch, pool, great location. \$975/mo.
734-751-1081

SERVICES

hometownlife.com

Drywall

COMPLETE DRYWALL SRV.
Plaster Repair. All jobs well-completed Lic/Ins. Free Est. 30 yrs. exp. Mark 313-363-6738

Housecleaning

QUALITY CLEANING SVC.
Commercial & Residential. 20 yrs. exp. Insured. Call Peggy: 734-751-2330

Paint Decorating Paper

FRANK'S PAINTING SERV.
Residential repainting, work myself. Free estimates. (248) 225-7165

PAINTING BY ROBERT
• Wallpaper Removal
• Ext Plaster/Drywall Repair
• Staining 25 yrs exp. Free Est. 248-349-7499. 734-464-8147

Roofing

Leaks, Repairs, Flashings, Valleys, 30 Yrs Exp. Lic/Ins
Member BBB. 248-346-4321

JOBS

careerbuilder.com

Help Wanted - General

Appointment Setter
Local Accounting firm is looking for cold calling appointment setters. This job includes light paper work, & minimal computer skills. Applicant must be able to work at minimum 3 days a week. No experience is necessary. Compensation includes hourly rate, plus commission. Looking to hire immediately. Please bring resumes to the office on Friday (4/4) for an interview, anytime between 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM. Please call 734-464-3660 with any questions, ask for Ryan

WAREHOUSE Full-Time
Entry Level opening for Delivery Driver/Shipping & Receiving. Must have clean driving record. Will Train. Benefits. Daytime hours. Call: 586-843-2313

Help Wanted - General

AUTOMOTIVE PARTS SALES
Full & Part-Time. Must have a positive attitude & be available to work nights & weekends. Hry, plus commission. Please fax resume: 734-397-4683 Att Mgmt or Email: jlein@nppdlink.com or fill out application at counter. You can visit us at: nationalpartsdepot.com

Service Advisor
North Brothers Ford in Westland, MI is currently seeking a Service Advisor. No experience necessary. The Service Advisor is responsible for building strong customer relationships and selling the technicians' time. They promptly greet and consult customers on service needs, perform a thorough vehicle walk around inspection as part of the write-up, sell and up sell services by emphasizing value, keep customers updated on services, field all live service calls and take ownership of the customer's experience by carrying out those additional assignments that allow the dealership to leave an impressionable experience with the customer.

LABORER & MAINTENANCE
Swimming pool co. offering outdoor physical work. Exp'd. req. Top dollar paid. (248) 477-7727

Automotive TECHNICIAN

If you have recent Ford Dealership experience as a technician and current State certifications, then we have an immediate opening for you. Due to increased business, we are in need of technicians. This is a full time position. Monday through Friday and rotating Saturdays. We offer flexible hours, medical and dental insurance, 401k plan and great people to work with. If you have the required qualifications, then we want to talk to you.

AUTO PORTER

Sellers Buick GMC
has Immediate Opening Used Vehicle Detail Shop Auto Porter position Good driving record mandatory Apply in person to: Ken Moore from 9am -5pm Mon-Fri, 24755 Hathaway Street Farmington Hills, MI 48335

AUTO TECHNICIAN

Mercedes Benz of Novi
is looking for a state certified Technician. Full-Time, excellent benefits. In house & Mercedes factory training provided.

CAMPUS SAFETY OFFICER

Full-Time for Lawrence Technological University
Provide security for campus & residence halls. Duties: perform initial investigations, compose and produce corresponding incident reports, perform dispatcher duties and other duties as assigned. A high school diploma, 2 yrs preferred security, police, fire, military experience and must be computer literate. Experience in a college or university setting is preferred.

DIRECT CARE STAFF

Work with developmentally disabled adults. Westland. (734) 722-4580 x9

DISTRIBUTION ANALYST

Neapco Drivelines, LLC
Full-time position responsible for scheduling outbound freight, ensuring all shipping documents are completed accurately and on time. Excellent communication skills, judgment & decision-making ability required. Proficiency in a variety of software packages including Microsoft Office, as well as a sound understanding of MRP flows. Bachelors Degree with Supply Chain focus required.

Help Wanted - General

ORTHOTREATMENT COORDINATOR
Wayne County. Great pay/benefits, FT hours. Ortho experience and success in previous sales position required. www.greatexpressions.com

Help Wanted - Medical

COOKS EXPERIENCED
Immediate Openings For Beautiful Assisted Living Facility in Westland. Benefits available. Please fax resume to: (248) 350-9083

Help Wanted - Sales

Sales Associates
Growing company has opportunity for motivated, and personable sales professionals possessing strong self management skills to join our face to face sales team. Excellent Commission Advancement Opportunities Immediate Openings Avg. \$525-\$700 Wkly Experience preferred Reliable transportation required Full time including weekends

Help Wanted - General

DRIVER - OWNER OPERATOR: Livonia, MI to Chicago IL. Home Daily Dedicated Run. Great Pay. Fuel Surcharge. Apply: mtstrans.com 800-748-0192

Help Wanted - General

DRIVERS: Gravel Train, Exp'd only & TRI-AXLE DRIVERS
Immediate openings for spring start up. Milford area Call: 248-327-0444

Help Wanted - General

DRIVER-WRECKER
Afternoons & Nights Experience not necessary Call Mon-Fri: 9-5pm (734) 591-0456

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Help Wanted - Medical

Marycrest Manor
has immediate job openings available. At Marycrest, we cultivate wellness for mind, body and spirit. If it is your calling to work with our residents, please join our team! Marycrest Manor 15475 Middlebelt Road Livonia, Michigan

Help Wanted - Medical

CENAS
Full/Part-Time for Afternoons/Midnights and Part-Time CENAS for Midnights. CENA's assist Elders with daily living functions such as dental care, feeding, bathing, dressing/undressing, nail care, hair care, and shaving according to expressed preference.

Help Wanted - Medical

Nurse RN Managers/ LPN Managers
Full-Time for Days/Afternoons & Part Time for Midnights. The primary purpose of your position is to provide direct nursing care to the residents, and to supervise the day-to-day nursing activities performed by nursing staff.

Help Wanted - Medical

Environmental Support Assistants
Contingent. Full/Part-Time. Ensure assigned work areas are maintained in a clean, safe, comfortable, sanitary and attractive manner. Ensure established infection control & universal precautions practices are maintained when performing duties.

Help Wanted - Medical

Community Life Assistant
Contingent. Will assist in the planning, implementation, & evaluation of recreational, social, intellectual, emotional and spiritual programs, in accordance with the resident's assessment & care plan.

Help Wanted - Medical

Medical Assistant
25-30 hrs/wk. Exc Salary and Health Benefits. Experience Preferred Full-Time. Exc Salary and Health Benefits. For West Bloomfield Allergy Office. Cover Letter. Resume & References to: miallergy@comcast.net

Help Wanted - Medical

Medical Billing Specialist
Needed with 2 yrs. minimum experience in coding & billing. Immediate Start. Livonia area. Resume only: skb35ls@yahoo.com

Help Wanted - Medical

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Doctor's office in Novi. 28+ hrs/wk. Insurance knowledge & verification REQUIRED. Multi-tasking is required. Attention to detail expected. Word, Excel. Outlook necessary. Resume to: taughnans@aol.com

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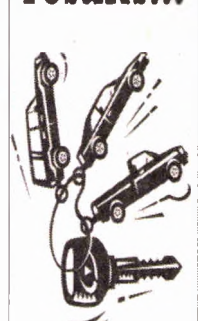
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Challenging fun for ALL ages Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- Traipse about
- Silly
- Long spear
- Sapporo sash
- Actress — Falco
- She taught in Siam
- Urge
- It may be decorated (2 wds.)
- Flower oil
- What X marks
- Talk a lot
- Unfold, to a poet
- "The Thin Man" pooch
- 33 or 45
- Gneiss or chert
- First space lab
- Sooner than anon
- Shade
- Spring perennial

DOWN

- "The Naked Maja" artist
- Be a party to
- By — of hard work
- Striped equine
- Oklahoma town
- Aught or naught
- Toady's reply
- Mollycoddle
- Data
- Stretchy fabric
- Yvette's date
- Cleopatra's snake
- Ottoman official
- Bakery output
- Prognostications
- Yvette's date
- Polite word
- Part of TNT
- Snoop
- Resistance unit
- Actor's prompt
- Mammoth Cave loc.
- Tribal healer
- Colony member
- Wiedersehen
- Web pages
- Mascara target
- Big Dipper bear
- Woodworking tool
- Yin complement
- Stir-fry vessel
- Disposed of
- Type of poem
- Lincoln's st.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

FOLK	PCS	SOL
IRENE	ROO	TAI
NEVER	OBSCURE	
EASEL	LOUD	
NEED	LIB	RIF
OASES	XII	ORR
PR	DID	LCD
ALB	BEG	YAWNS
LEAN	RIG	SACK
DEW	LIGHT	
HOGTIED	AISLE	
ALE	LYE	SKOAL
IDS	TED	INDY

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SUDOKU

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13							

hometown life

Benefits of reflexology
Barbara Deyo, page 14

Strength and sisterhood
Derby Girls, page 6

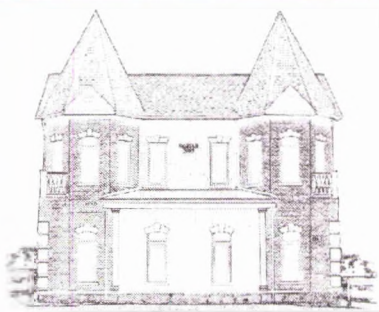
woman

APRIL 2014



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IN YOUR
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Clothes Mentor is looking to buy your 'gently used' spring and summer clothing and accessories. We are looking for tanks, capris, shorts, dresses, spring coats, designer handbags, and sandals that are still in great condition and current styles. No appointment is necessary, so turn them into cash TODAY!

What's 'in' this Spring?...

Bold Colors & Floral Prints

Bold graphic patterns and floral prints are turning up in unexpected ways. Black and white color combos will also be popular in tops and dresses!

Handbags

Handbags are one of the accessories all women wear. You don't have to have a huge collection, but carrying the same bag everyday can age you. Start with one for warm weather and one for cold weather and then add a fun bag for going out. Structured bags will be a big look this year.

Femininity and Pastels

Femininity is huge this year. Lady-like cuts and patterns are becoming a strong favorite. Feminine colors are also big in 2014. Pastels in all shades will be making a comeback!

Footwear

Bright colors, chunkier heels, fun patterns, and embellishments are all big this season. Gladiator and other ankle strap sandals are just as popular as last year.

***HAVEN'T SOLD TO US BEFORE?**

No problem! We operate on a first-come, first-serve basis so you do not need an appointment. Stop by any day, at anytime up to an hour before close.

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VALUABLE which is why we have a computer-automated system to make the process as quick and efficient as possible. Our trained buyers will go through your items and select the pieces we would like to buy.

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Located in Novi Town Center

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***WHAT DO WE BUY?**

Our buyers are trained to purchase items that are free of stains, wearing, pilling, holes, etc. Items must be a current style & less than two years of age. Some decisions may be made based on store inventory or past experiences. We do not buy any juniors brands, sizes or styles.

***WHEN DO YOU GET PAID?**

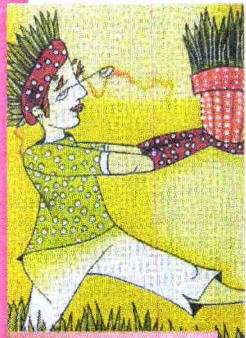
Once your items are processed we will make you an offer. If you accept, we pay you CASH on the SPOT!



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Start now for
great legs, feet
this summer

Today's edition of *Hometown Life Woman* is focused on getting legs and feet ready for spring and summer. Contributing Writer Jill Halpin talks to area experts about new products and services available to help your legs and feet look their best when warm weather finally arrives. If you want great looking legs and feet, start working on them now.



Susan Rosiek

And don't miss today's feature on Derby Girls. Read about the lingo of roller derby and how this all-female sport fosters strength and sisterhood. And then if you discover that you're a derby girl at heart, bring your skates, helmet and pads April 26 to the tryout in Detroit. See the story inside for details.

As always, I welcome your comment and suggestion for upcoming editions of *Woman*.



GETTY IMAGES | ISTOCKPHOTO

Send a photo of you and mom

Help us celebrate Mother's Day with a special salute to women. Send in your favorite photo of mother and son, mother and daughter or a photo of you and your grandmother, aunt, niece or any other special woman who has made a difference in your life.

Send the photo to me at srosiek@hometownlife.com. Send the photo (jpeg format only) as large as possible. Attach it to an email with your name, address and contact number. Identify who is the photo (first and last names, please) and briefly state why this woman is special to you.

Deadline to submit photos is 6 p.m. Monday, April 14. All photos and information must be submitted online.

Then come back for the May edition of *Hometown Life Woman* for a photo album salute to women.

Sue Rosiek
publisher
srosiek@hometownlife.com



VOTED BEST LAWYER 2014!

Milford Attorney Jack W. Bolling loves the historic surroundings of his office now located in a renovated 130-year old home at 334 Union St. in downtown Milford.



LAW OFFICE OF JACK W. BOLLING, P.C.

248-684-9742 • www.jackbollinglaw.com

An avid history buff, Milford attorney Jack W. Bolling is passionate about keeping the past alive for future generations.

He is just as interested in preserving your family's legacy by helping you make decisions that will keep your memory alive through your children and grandchildren.

As an estate/legacy planner, Bolling has trademarked his approach to the estate planning process and accompanying legal services as Legacy LifeLines™. This process includes three steps: 1) counseling and plan design; 2) funding of the revocable living trust; and 3) an on-going maintenance plan that is unique to Bolling's practice.

Bolling encourages his clients to think beyond their financial matters and look into their own life's fulfillment by asking themselves questions like: What really matters most to me? What would I really like to accomplish? What legacy

Specializing in estate planning, elder law, Medicaid, and will/trust estate settlement.

NEW! Unmarried and same sex couple estate plans that address issues for committed life alliance partners who have no legal recognition or rights automatically afforded to married couples.

do I really want to leave behind?

These important life questions are all the more reason that Bolling has expanded his practice to include Medicaid planning.

He believes that estate planning and Medicaid planning go hand in hand.

"Through proper planning, it is possible to provide for your long-term care while preserving assets for you and your loved ones," Bolling said. "Why should you give up something that you've worked your whole life for when

your spouse becomes ill?"

Bolling is also an accredited VA attorney and can help people who have either served or whose family member has served in the U.S. military. "There are many veterans' programs available, but you need to know who to ask and what to ask," Bolling said. "I am the person who can help you sort through these issues."

While helping people on a one-to-one basis with their legacy planning, Bolling reaches an even broader

audience as a guest columnist for Gannett Newspapers, including The Milford Times. He is also a guest speaker for many local groups and organizations.

With a deep respect and passion for history, Bolling is pleased that his practice is now housed in a 130-year old Victorian home at 334 Union St. in downtown Milford, which has been renovated to the period of time in which it was built.

Original pine wood planked floors, a cupola, winding staircases, tall ceilings and etched glass front doors are just a few of the features that drew Bolling to this location in November 2008.

"History comes alive to me while conducting my practice in this historic home," Bolling said. "It gives me a sense of the past and a vision for the future — exactly what I want to bring to my clients."

— By Sally Rummel

Accredited Veterans Affairs Attorney. Member: National Network of Estate Planning Attorneys; National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys; President, Michigan Forum of Estate Planners and the Michigan Conference of Estate Planners



Tina Iulianelli, also known as Tiny Ninja, jammer for the D-Funk All-Stars, poses after a bout with 10-year-old fan Kristen Fleming of Farmington. PAMELA A. ZINKOSKY

DERBY GIRLS

ALL-FEMALE SPORT CULTIVATES SISTERHOOD, STRENGTH

By Pamela A. Zinkosky
Contributing Writer

“Screw you, Peaches!” Ghetto Barbie yells. The D-Funk All-Stars have just lost the lead in an important roller derby bout against the Grand Prix Madonnas and Peaches N. CreamYa, the Madonnas’ blocker and co-captain, criticized Barbie’s hit. Barbie skates to the start, ready to hip-check Peaches as hard as she can.

Moments later, the players’ toughness evaporates into a center-track hug. The bout is over, so it’s back to being best friends.

“There’s no awkwardness,” said Barbie, in real life Angell Whittie, a 34-year-old waitress who lives in Ferndale. “The same women who are pushing me are encouraging me to get better.”

It’s that camaraderie of “sisters” that makes Whittie, a single working mom with kids ages 7 and 10, spend 10-15 hours weekly on roller derby.

“I enjoying interacting with the other women,” she said. Through roller derby, she’s befriended lawyers, doctors and other women she may not have otherwise met.

Ferndale resident Lauren Uchalik, also known as Wham!tramck of the Detroit Pistoffs, echoed Whittie’s sentiments: “We have a diverse group of skaters. I am a stand-up comedian and former barista and I have had people tell me I don’t seem like someone who would play roller derby. That’s the great thing about the sport. Anyone can do it and find this inner and outer strength, as well as this huge community to be a part of.”

Whittie, a self-proclaimed “rink rat” who played on the Flint City Derby Girls seven years ago before moving to the Detroit area, plays on the D-Funk All-Stars and the All-Star travel team, so she’s almost always

training.

Most nights, it’s kids’ activities, homework and dinner, then her mom watches the kids while she practices at Riverside Arena in Livonia. Most Saturdays she plays, so the kids either come with her or are home with a sitter.

“It’s nice to have a wonderful family who helps me,” she said.

Whittie is one of 100 skaters ages 20-48 on the Detroit Derby Girls league. Five home teams face off from October through June at Detroit’s Masonic Temple, with an end-of-season championship bout – this year June 7.

Three travel teams compete nationally and sometimes internationally year-round. This month, the All-Stars travel to London to play the London Rollergirls, the Rocky Mountain Rollergirls and the Toronto Rollergirls.

The league also includes 25 volunteers who act as referees, officials, statisticians and announcers. Each skater also performs a league function. Uchalik, for example, handles

publicity. Whittie is the after-party coordinator.

“If someone can skate, we can teach them how to hit and if someone can hit, we can teach them to skate ...”

LAUREN UCHALIK
Detroit Derby Girl

YESTERDAY AND TODAY

Roller derby owes its existence to promoter Leo Seltzer, who in 1935 founded the Transcontinental Roller Derby Association and hosted the first derby in Chicago’s Coliseum. Derbies lasted several days. They featured combined male-female teams – Seltzer is said to have included women for entertainment value – racing around a track.

A February 1936 *Time* magazine article sums it up: “Contestants ... sleep in full view of the spectators and each other on cots in the center of the rink. They eat six meals. Their skates have maple wheels. ‘Jams’ and sprints for small prizes are encouraged. When a contestant is injured ... the contestant’s teammate takes the track.”

Roller derby lost popularity in the 1970s, made a brief comeback in the 1980s and was revived as an all-female sport in Texas in 2001. Shortly thereafter, the Women's Flat Track Association, which regulates the national sport, formed. The Detroit Derby Girls debuted in 2005 as the first Michigan league. Detroit is now one of five Michigan leagues and 243 nationwide.

Contemporary roller derby is a five-on-five bout, as games are called. One jammer from each team tries to break through and lap the pack of four blockers from the opposing team – including a pivot, who sets the pack's pace.

The blockers conspire to prevent the other team's jammer from getting through, while at the same time helping their own jammer get through the opposing team's pack. Jams last two minutes or less and there are two 30-minute periods in a bout.

Hitting is allowed, but there are rules. You can't use your elbows and you can't hit in the back or the head. Players use their mid-sections to block and hit, while referees monitor them and call penalties.

The sport draws a wide range of spectators. There are the stereotypical young, heavily tattooed fans, but also couples of all ages, senior citizens and even kids, who get into Derby Girls bouts free with a paying adult.

AN ALL-FEMALE SPORT

Seltzer likely never intended to create an international all-female sport that requires speed, strength, endurance, agility and strategy, but that's what today's roller derby is.

Jammers must be fast and powerful enough to break through the pack and lap it, plus they must have endurance, since a jam could have them sprinting for a full two minutes. Blockers must be strong enough to keep jammers out.

Derby Girls training consists of not only skating, blocking and hitting, but cross-training. The Derby Girls coach, Rob "Speedypants" Dunn, gives the players at-home interval workouts to build strength and endurance.

Dunn is a longtime speedskating coach who taught Olympic skater Kelly Gunther.

In roller derby, a little extra weight is an asset, not a liability. That's why Ferndale resident and league president Tina Iulianelli, also known as Tiny Ninja of the D-Funk All-Stars, has gained 25 pounds since joining the league in 2005. "I needed to bulk up," she said.

Whittie, who's always been weight-conscious, went from 118 to about 140 pounds since she started derby. "I gained weight – some muscle and some fat," she said.

"Even though I got a little bit bigger, I got more comfortable in my body.

Derby taught me that."

Beyond athleticism, there's strategy in roller derby. Players work defensively – keeping jammers out – and offensively – breaking through the opponent's pack – at the same time.

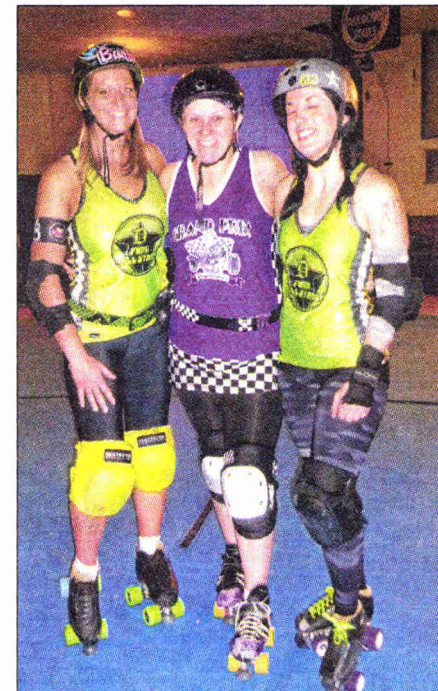
The pack of skaters must stay together in order to block or assist. The lead jammer – the one who legally breaks through the pack first – can call off the jam (signaled by putting both hands on hips) at any time.

DERBY! U

Uchalik said the most important qualities for roller derby are "dedication and an open mind. If someone can skate, we can teach them how to hit and if someone can hit, we can teach them to skate, and if they can't do either but are passionate, they can absolutely make it all happen."

Think roller derby might be for you? Attend the Derby! U session from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at the Masonic Temple. Bring your skates, helmet, mouth guard, knee and elbow pads and wrist guards. The session costs \$50 and is a must to try out for the league in June. Register by contacting the Derby Girls at hr@detroitderby-girls.com.

Find more information about the Derby Girls at www.detroitderby-girls.com.



Local Derby Girls include (from left) Angell Whittie, also known as Ghetto Barbie, jammer and blocker for the D-Funk All-Stars; Ashley Attaway, also known as Peaches N. CreamYa, blocker for the Grand Prix Madonnas; and Tina Iulianelli, also known as Tiny Ninja, jammer for the D-Funk All-Stars.

PAMELA A. ZINKOSKY



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Woman • April 2014 • 7

Sexy legs:

Time to get in shape for warm weather

By Jill Halpin
Contributing Writer

Amazing feet and legs are within your reach if you begin taking steps now to prepare for warm weather.

Starting soon to address unsightly issues such as spider veins, cellulite and excessive hair can help you make a big splash when it is time to hit the beach or picnic scene, according to local beauty practitioners.

"Women want to look their best and feel confident about themselves. It really boosts self-esteem when you are looking good and feeling good," said Beth Jaber of New Face, New Body in Canton Township.

The key to looking good is making the time to care for your body.

"Everyone wants to stay young looking," Jaber said. "I always tell my clients that taking care of their body is like buying a new car – if you care for it and maintain it properly, it will look just as good after 10 years. It is the same for your body. Take the time for upkeep and maintenance and it will pay off in the end."

Jaber said exfoliating your legs – removing the dead cells on the skin's outermost surface – and then moisturizing on a regular basis can go a long way toward helping your

legs look their best.

"Moisturize, moisturize, moisturize – and drink water," she said. "Proper hydration is so important for young-looking skin."

Hair removal

Jaber advises considering laser hair removal treatments if you are looking for smooth and youthful legs.

"Laser hair treatments reduce the amount of hair growth on the leg and eliminate the need for shaving, whack is an added bonus," she said.

In addition to doing away with the tedious task of shaving, you will also get rid of the ugly bumps that often appear on the skin when you are through shaving, she said.

"Your legs will be glowing," she said.

Stacey Hoskow of Birmingham MediSpa said that a new, simple hair reduction treatment called Light Sheer® reduces the need for shaving in as little as six visits.

Light Sheer® uses an advance laser that destroys hair follicles in the active growth stage and leaves legs looking fabulous, Hoskow said.

Hoskow said that starting now before the weather warms and you begin to tan is advisable because the treatments work best "on

See **SEXY LEGS**, Page 13

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ISTOCKPHOTO

Treat your feet to a pedicure

Sandal season is approaching, so it's time to make sure your feet and toes are in good shape to start going bare.

Making your feet look fabulous is as easy as getting a great pedicure, said Lynn Dang of Royal Oak Nails.

"Everyone wants their feet looking and feeling fresh" when warm weather approaches, Dang said.

Choosing the right pedicure can mean the difference between hurried and hectic or soothing and luxurious, so make sure your pedicure includes a foot and leg massage, Dang said.

"Make sure they will take their time" as they make your feet look great, she said.

Laura Roberts, cosmetologist and nail artist at Posh Nail Salon in Milford, agrees.

"A pedicure is all about the client from beginning to end. From allowing them a chance to relax and a long, rejuvenating soak, it is all part of the experience," she said. "Don't rush it."

Roberts offered some additional tips to help you put your best foot forward this season and make sure you are getting a top-of-the-line pedicure:

» **Exfoliate and moisturize:** Make sure your technician is using a good exfoliator to remove the dead skin cells from your feet, followed by a high-quality light moisturizer. "This is key to helping your feet feel fresh," Roberts said, "and plus, it feels so good."

» **Address issues:** If you have callouses or blisters, make sure the technician is aware. "I want to make sure

that I help my clients keep their feet healthy, not only by taking care of them in the salon, but making sure they know how to follow up care at home," Roberts said.

» **Polish:** An important issue that can make or break a good pedicure, she said.

"The type of polish that is used is very important. Some clients need shellac to get longevity and some just want an all-natural product," Roberts said. Make sure your pedicure provider takes the time to hear your needs, she said.

"You only get one pair of feet. It is really important to take the best care of them possible," she said.

— By Jill Halpin

Foot fashion that feels good, too

By Jill Halpin
Contributing Writer

If you are looking forward to trading in winter boots in favor of light and sexy spring summer footwear, this season's fashions will definitely put a spring in your step.

The season's newest shoe silhouette – the strappy and sleek "city sandal" – is making a big splash, with designers everywhere showing their own versions of this effortlessly chic sandal.

"It's simple, it's clean and is so wearable," said Gregg Andrews, fashion creative director for Nordstrom, with stores in Novi and Troy.

Featuring a square, block heel, "usually 1-1/2 inches" thick "and ranging in height," the sandal also features wide bands across the foot for a very modern look, Andrews said.

"Any type of color, from neutrals to metallic, works for this sandal," he added. "It's so feminine and pretty and works for day to night."

Flats are also popular this season, Andrews said.

He advises to look for contrasting textures, such as black leather shoe with a black patent toe, to stay on trend.

Choosing a spring and summer shoe that looks and feels great is easier that you might think, said Rimon Warra of

Pete's Shoes in Plymouth.

If the shoe doesn't fit

"If a shoe does not feel right on your foot the first time you put it on, you shouldn't buy it," he said.

"Often you hear people say, 'Just wear it and break it in,' but that is not a good rule to follow. A shoe should feel good on your foot right away," he added.

Warra said he often recommends Birkenstock and Sofft® brand shoes and sandals for spring because of the extra comfort they provide.

"The Birkenstock shoes are so comfortable because they fit right to your foot. They offer soft foot bedding and cushioned options, as well as some with hard foot bedding and an arch for those with flat feet," Warra said.

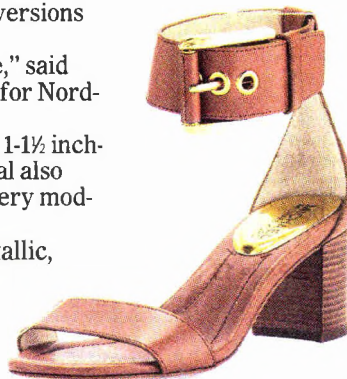
Birkenstock has expanded its line. It now offers more than 200 different styles of shoes and sandals, for a wider appeal, he said.

Sofft®, which offers leather-wrapped latex foot beds, is a brand that Warra recommends for style and comfort.

"When you put on one of these shoes or



The Birkenstock Women's Kairo Pool Patent Leather Sandal is available at Pete's Shoes in Plymouth and at petesshoesonline.com for \$89.95.



The Calder Open Toe Sandal by Michael Kors is available in both luggage and black at Nordstrom stores and Nordstrom.com for \$149.95.



The Sofft® Women's Pedra Blue Wedge Shoe offers both color and comfort for \$86.90. Available at Pete's Shoes in Plymouth and at petesshoesonline.com.

See FOOT FASHION, Page 13

How to establish a personal financial safety net

I was talking with a woman recently about how her current financial situation has her stressed. She felt like she was never going to get ahead, that she would always be trying to catch up.

I asked if she had an emergency or savings account. I was not surprised when she replied, "I do not."



Paula Swain

She knew she should have an emergency account but, based on her current financial situation, it just wasn't happening. If an emergency arose, she would charge it on her credit card with the best intentions of paying it off quickly. Because her best intentions didn't happen, her credit card debt ballooned and was on the verge of going out of control.

"I need help," she said.

When a crisis hits, you don't want to panic about where to get the funds you need. And to avoid going into extended debt, you don't want to have to use your credit card unless you can pay it off when

you receive the statement. Having a financial safety net in place can ensure that you are protected in an emergency.

A good rule of thumb is to have three to six months' worth of expenses in a cash reserve.

CASH RESERVE

A cash reserve is a pool of readily available funds that you can access during a crisis or emergency. The actual amount needed in reserve will vary based on your particular circumstances.

So how much do you personally need in cash reserves? First, determine your fixed expenses, which is relatively easy to determine on a monthly basis. Your fixed expenses can include – but are not limited to – mortgage payment, utilities, insurance, loans, automotive, taxes and other. Don't forget those expenses that come once or twice a year.

Next, determine how many months you should have in reserve. If you are single or married and only one spouse is employed, it is recommended that you have at least six months. If you are married and both of you are employed, it is recommended that you have at least three months.

See SAFETY NET, Page 12



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New moms dish on helpful tech aids

The intersection of new technology and parenthood has given many millennial women an alternate way to handle motherhood. App-based computing and advanced mobile devices are helping shape the way moms balance their busy work and home lives. From feeding schedules to shopping, emerging media have helped add convenience and ease to jobs traditionally not easy nor convenient at all.

"My favorite piece of technology is, honestly, my baby monitor app," said recent mother and Royal Oak resident Whitney Chiriboga. "It acts like a baby monitor when you aren't home.

You can hook it up so that you leave your phone near the baby and the app calls any other number once the baby starts to cry."

There are dozens of baby monitor apps available for Android and Apple devices, as well as Wi-Fi baby monitors, video baby monitors and more traditional monitors. One popular monitor is the Belkin Wemo

Baby Monitor that runs off your home wireless Internet and pings your mobile device via its smart phone app when your baby cries.

Belkin is a trusted brand in the Wi-Fi space because it offers a diverse line of Wi-Fi products. The Wemo Baby Monitor is about \$50 and can be purchased from AT&T and other retailers.

If you prefer using existing devices, you can simply download a baby monitor app for a few dollars. The Best Baby Monitor has 4.5 stars in iTunes and sells for \$3.99, but it does require leaving your smart device near your child.

Other moms lean on smart phone apps to track much more than their baby's crib activity.

"I used an app called Total Baby on my iPad, which was really helpful as a first time mom," Bloomfield Hills resident Anja McNab said. "You can keep track of growth, vaccinations, milestones, bottles, intake and outtake of diapers. It even helps you keep track of breastfeeding, pumping, fridge and freezer storage and expiration dates."

McNab also used the app to track sleep and wake times. All told, the app is much quicker than keeping a journal.

"It's not free," McNab said. "But I used it constantly."

Social media have also proven to be a great resource for new mothers looking to gain information about parenting and more. Niche mommy blogs and parenting communities have long helped tech-savvy moms learn valuable information. But most recently, mothers are taking advantage of more mainstream social networks to leverage the help of other moms.

"I'm obsessed with Instagram for mom-to-mom shopping," said Heidi Muglia, who works at a Farmington Hills-based insurance company. "You can buy anything from clothes to handmade headbands."

Instagram shopping has safe transactions through PayPal and moms that work can fly under the IT department's radar by shopping via their smart phone.

Muglia, who is also a mommy blogger at www.bestdressedbabes.com, has written extensively about her experiences as an Instagram shopper.

She is also a member of a secret 2,000-member Facebook group that shares tips, parenting advice and success stories.

There is plenty of available technology

for new moms to leverage, whether they are very advanced in the emerging tech space or just a novice. Easy-to-use apps and social media sites are available to everyone with a smart phone – which accounts for just about every new mom.

Just don't use that technology too much. A recent study published by the *Journal of Pediatrics* found parents heavily involved in their phones are more likely to scold their children. With any type of technology, it's good to remember the rule of moderation.

Tech notebook: Have older children? You can still utilize resources in your mobile device's app store or third-party software to help you parent. For example, Norton Online Family can help parents comb through activity on your children's devices, while an app called Mama Bear tracks similar activity. Text Guard allows parents to track texts on their children's phones, while cellphone providers have parental controls to limit what children can do on their mobile devices.

Jon Gunnells is a freelance writer and social media planner. Comments or suggestions for future columns? Email jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com or follow him on Twitter at @GunnSh0w.



Jon Gunnells

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Let your dessert table BLOOM

Let springtime blossoms bloom on your dessert plate. Cupcakes make a great and easy foundation for trying new things. With a small surface to work with, you can top your treat with one fabulous larger-scale flower or multiple smaller-scale flowers to showcase your skills, practice decorating techniques or even experiment with color and arrangement.

"Spring celebrations provide a great opportunity to try a new decorating technique," says Nancy Siler, vice president of consumer affairs at Wilton. "Decorated cupcakes and other mini treats let you experiment with multiple new ideas while having fun in the kitchen. Plus, who can resist the 'oohs' and 'ahhs' that your beautiful floral cupcakes will certainly elicit?"

Try these tips from Wilton to create your own bouquet of sweet treats:

» **Botanical Beauties:** Planning a bridal shower or other special occa-

sion? Make cupcakes that mimic the flowers used for the event or those planned for the bride's bouquet.

» **Fun with Flowers:** Pick up fresh decorating inspiration in the new Wilton Method Course 1 – Building Buttercream Skills at your local craft store. You'll learn the techniques and discover the tools that make it easy to create extraordinary decorating projects, including six beautiful flowers, for cupcakes, sweet treats or a layered cake.

» **Floral Fantasy:** Adapt techniques to suit your floral style. Sometimes, just changing the size of the decorating tip changes the look of a flower dramatically. Experiment with tip size, color and design to create a garden full of icing flowers. After all, who says you can't create the flowers you see in your dreams?

» **Bloom Where You're Planted:** Carry the floral theme from the bottom of your treats to the top. Highlight your



STAR DROP FLOWERS

Drop flowers are a great way to make flowers quickly. The star drop flower is the easiest to make because the tip does all the work for you. Use to fill in bouquets or borders, or to top individual sweet treats, like cupcakes, brownies and cookies.

Icing color

Decorating bags

Drop flower decorating tip (use tip 2D for practice)

Buttercream icing (medium consistency)

Fit decorating bag with drop flower decorating tip 2D and fill half full or less with medium consistency icing.

Hold decorating bag at 90 degree angle to treat with tip just touching surface. Squeeze, letting icing build up to make flower.

Stop squeezing, then lift tip away.

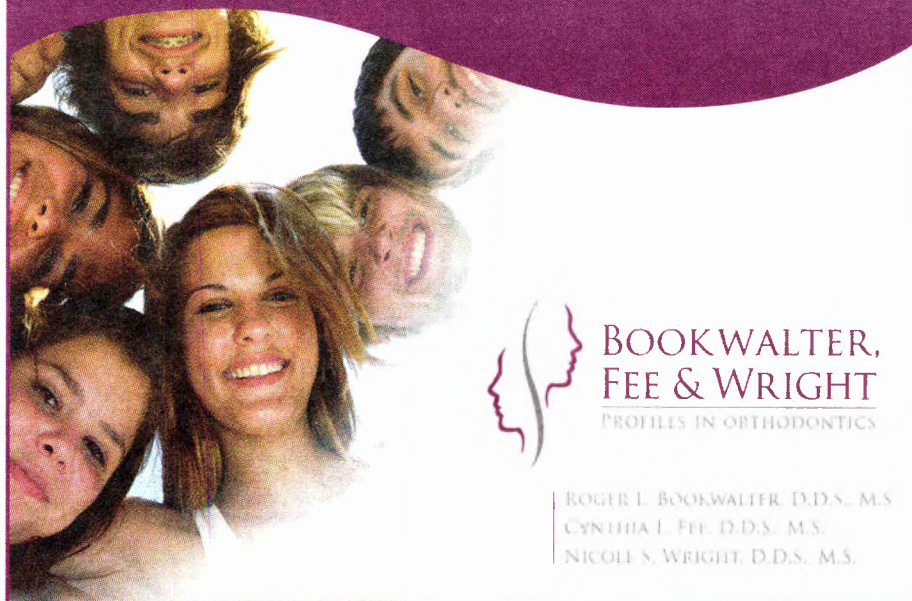
Hint: Pipe drop flowers in buttercream icing directly on cupcake. Piped dots or candy can be used for flower centers.

gorgeous icing flowers by using Wilton Petal Baking Cups for your cupcakes rather than traditional baking cups. The petal-shaped top edge will beautifully accent your cupcake blooms.

For more spring flower ideas, baking tips, inspiration and where to take a class, visit www.wilton.com.

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SAFETY NET

Continued from Page 10

Another option is to have enough in reserve for the time it would take to find other employment if you were to lose your job. If the career you have chosen has limited employment opportunities or your salary is relatively large, it may take more than three to six months to find another job.

If you haven't established an emergency account or it is not completely funded, you can take steps to build it. It would be great if you could set up and fund an emergency account in a few months, but let's be realistic. Depending on the amount needed, it could take a few years.

SET FUNDING GOALS

When I began to build my cash reserve account, it took about three years to completely fund it. Since I live on a budget, I determined how much I could contribute monthly and added it to my budget until I met my goal. Along the way, I had to use some of the funds for emergencies, but I didn't have to borrow the funds or use my credit card.

What a great feeling it was not to have to panic about how I was going to come

up with the funds. If you use some of the funds, use the same process to replenish your emergency account.

If you have a hard time saving, consider using a payroll deduction at work. To fund your reserves faster, consider cutting back on your discretionary spending (i.e., dining out, lottery tickets and entertainment).

Your reserves should be kept in a readily available account with little to no risk, like savings, money market and short-term CDs.

Your personal and financial circumstances can change, so it is important to check periodically or annually to make sure that your emergency account fits your current needs.

My message in life and through this column is aimed at guiding women though the steps needed to take control of their financial future and prepare for a secure retirement.

Paula Swain CFP® is a financial consultant at Swain Financial, LLC, 1225 S. Main, Plymouth. Contact her at 734-552-7610. Securities offered through LPL Financial, member FINRA/SIPC. The opinions expressed here are for general information and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual. Consult with an adviser about your specific situation.

SEXY LEGS

Continued from Page 8

dark hair follicles and light skin. She added, "On darker skin tones, the treatments can take longer."

Now is also the time to think about cellulite – as unpleasant as it can be – and eliminating it from your legs.

"Women want to feel good and sexy when they start wearing bathing suits and shorts," said Rita Filippini, owner of Body & Soul Medical and Holistic Spa in Novi.

She recommends Velashape II, a new technology for skin tightening and fat and cellulite reduction that works wonders on cellulite. The technology involves vacuums and specially designed rollers that manipulate and smooth out the skin to facilitate safe and efficient energy delivery.

"Velashape treatments will reshape the legs, in addition to reducing cellulite," she said. "It is so rejuvenating. It feels like a deep-tissue massage."

Filippini said four sessions are typically required, although some clients require more.

"It really depends on the individual and their needs," she said.



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Spider-vein removal

Spider veins are also an area of concern to some women, said Filippini, who advises taking time to check the back of your legs with a mirror.

"Sometimes women aren't even aware that they have spider veins, because they cannot see the back of their legs," she said. "They come in for something else and, when I tell them, they are surprised."

Fortunately, Filippini said, new laser technology can remove unsightly spider veins quickly and painlessly with no down time.

"It is really amazing – most women don't even feel a thing," she said, adding that most veins will disappear after two to four treatments, depending on the size of the veins.

"Once women address these issues, they start to feel good again about baring their legs in public," she added.

Adrienne Huddleston, a sunless tanning technician in Livonia and Dearborn, recommends an airbrush tan to add both color and definition to the leg.

"Airbrushing allows you to get the maximum benefits of a tan without experiencing harmful and damaging rays from the sun," Huddleston said.

In addition to the color it provides, sunless tanning can also help camouflage minor flaws and imperfection such as scarring, veins and age spots, she added.

"Sunless tanning can be customized to suit any skin tone; you can go as dark or light as you would like," she said. "It can also be very slimming."

FOOT FASHION

Continued from Page 9

sandals, you fall in love," he said. "It is so comfortable and it's good for your foot, too."

Support is key

Be sure to consider arch support for your spring foot fashions, cautions Dr. Anthony Mastrogiacomo of South Lyon Foot and Ankle Specialists.

"A lot of people come in after wearing boots they've gone all winter with no arch support," he said.

The lack of support can cause lower leg pain, as well as aching and pains in the heel and arch, he added.

He advises choosing a sandal or shoe that offers arch support and even adding an "off the shelf" arch support to sneakers, if necessary.

Mastrogiacomo also suggests that warmer weather is a good time to purchase new athletic shoes if you have been wearing the same ones since last summer.

"Broken-down sneakers can cause additional foot issues," he said.

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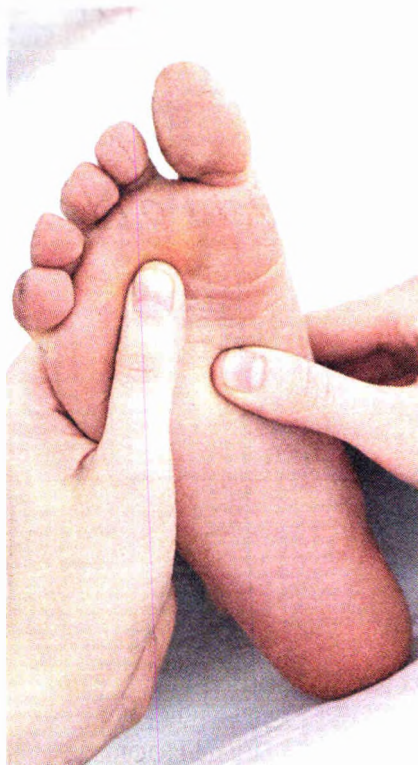


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Standing on your own two feet



I have a love/hate relationship with my feet – mostly the latter. They hurt me, so I abuse them. I stand on them all day at work while wearing inappropriate shoes. I stretch them to their limits in revolved crescent pose. I clobber them continuously while kick boxing. I pound them relentlessly while running. Poor feet – yet, they are still there for me.

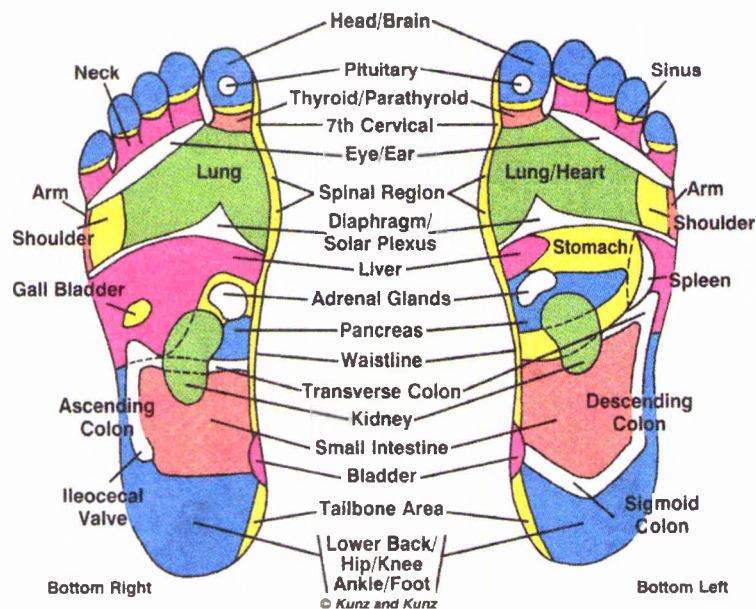


Barbara Deyo

The human foot and ankle are a strong and complex mechanical structure containing 26 bones, 33 joints and more than 100 muscles, tendons and ligaments. They are the foundation that literally support our bodies, yet so judged, abused and neglected. It's not their fault – they didn't do anything wrong, they are just doing their job.

Technically speaking, there are more than 7,000 nerve endings on each foot that correspond to every organ and system within our body. So when those pinky toes are finally

FOOT REFLEXOLOGY CHART



This reflexology chart indicates how our feet are connected to the rest of our body.

unveiled from those winter boots and wool socks, we better give them some TLC, if we know what's good for us – or we could endure a “nervous breakdown,” figuratively speaking.

By pressing on those reflex points, you stimulate the nervous system and open energy pathways that may be blocked or congested, a treatment otherwise known as reflexology.

Reflexologists believe that these areas and reflex points correspond to different body organs and systems and that pressing them has a beneficial effect on the organs and a person's general health.

Not to be confused with a traditional massage – in which therapists work “from the outside in,” manipulating specific muscle groups or fascia to release tension – reflexology practitioners see themselves as working “from the inside out,” stimulating the nervous system to release tension. Sometimes you can get lucky enough to find someone that does both.

Nicolena Inniss-Stubbs, Deyo Studio's massage therapist extraordinaire, suggests adding reflexology to any therapeutic massage.

“Everyone can benefit from reflexology, whether you are having internal issues or you just want your feet to feel better,” Inniss-Stubbs said. “Reflex points of the feet correspond

to each vital area of the body. During this healing Eastern foot massage, each of these points are manipulated and stimulated to achieve balance in the entire body.”

Although reflexology is not used to diagnose or cure health disorders, it's widely used to complement other treatments when addressing conditions like asthma, cancer treatments, cardiovascular issues, diabetes, headaches, kidney function, PMS, arthritis and sinusitis. It can also reduce stress and anxiety in the entire body – and it feels good, too.

Thank goodness our feet love us unconditionally – they forgive and forget. Maybe it's time we start taking the cue and follow our feet's rules. After all, nobody ever got mad at a foot rub.

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, Erin Cummings and many more. Barbara has been named Best of the Best by Allure, Hour, Real Detroit and WDIV. Deyo Studio is located at 576 N. Old Woodward Ave., 2nd floor in downtown Birmingham. Contact Barbara at 248-203-1222 or visit www.deyostudio.com.

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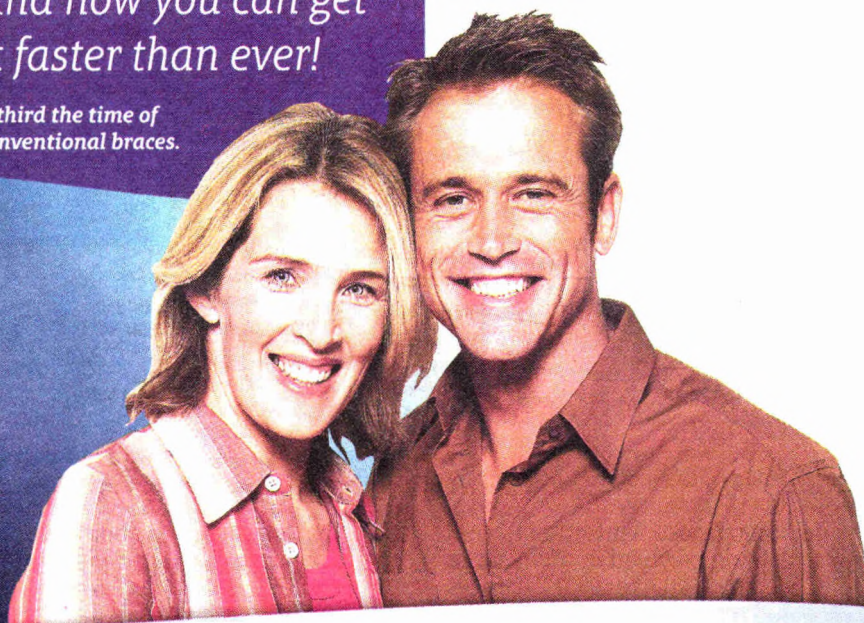
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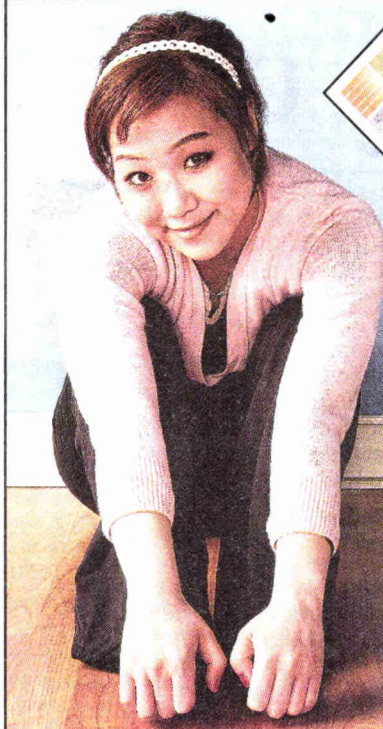
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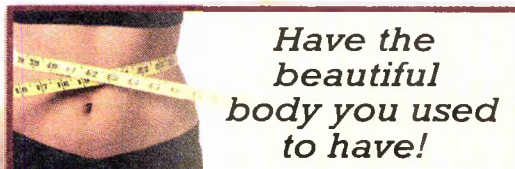
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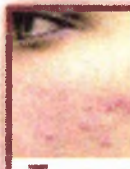
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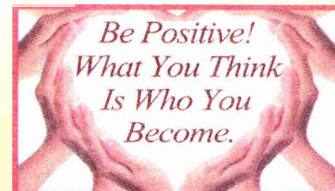
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