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Vietnam vets rejoin parade in new slot

By Matt Jachman Staff Writer

The Plymouth area's Vietnam Veterans of America chapter is apparently back in this year's Fourth of July parade and parade organizer Fred Hill promises the vets will be given a place of honor toward the front.

"They're going to be in there," said Hill, the chief organizer of the Good Morning America Parade, which is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth. "I'm 100-percent sure I'm going to make it happen."

Hill's assertion came after the Kiwanis and VVA Chapter 528, which has been part of the Parade 'means a lot' annual parade for years, this week worked past what Hill called "miscommunication" and "misinformation" about the chapter's parade status.

The VVA chapter membership had voted in March to not participate in the parade over concerns the chapter's entry was slotted too far back. The chapter typically has its color guard marching in the parade, carrying flags and a chapter banner, with several dozen chapter members walking behind the color guard, acknowledging cheers from the

"It just means a lot to our members to be in the top 10, representing the community," said Ron King, president of VVA Chapter 528.

But, King said earlier this month, the vets had been toward the back of the parade for several years and that spot made it difficult for some with health problems to complete the route after waiting a couple of hours in the staging area. The route is about a mile

Vietnam veterans, King said, are in their 60s and 70s

See PARADE, Page A2



The Vietnam Veterans of America will be part of this year's Good Morning America Parade. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

District launches academy with aim to help parents

By Brad Kadrich Staff Writer

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials are hoping to hone the relationships between the district, its students and their parents with the launch of the P-CCS Parent

Parent Academy is designed to create a "true 'parents-as-partners' relationship," according to Kate Dietrich, the district's director of communications, community engagement and marketing, by presenting free, informative and interactive workshops on a variety of education topics at schools and community centers in the Plymouth-Canton area.

Parent Academy's focus, Dietrich said, is to help parents learn, share and connect

"The goal is to offer parents the chance to attend sessions on a host of different topics from tech support/training by the P-CCS tech dept and college financing to gaming addiction and workshops on how to talk to your kids about sex and healthy relationships,' Dietrich wrote in an email to the Observer.

The academy is designed to help parents learn the best ways to advocate for their children, share parenting experiences with other parents and guardians and connect with educators, administrators and content experts.

Canton resident Kate Borninski, who's already had one child graduate from Plymouth High School and has a high school junior and a seventhgrader still in the district, was one of the first parents to sign up for the committee trying to get the academy off the ground.

"I think it's something our district has been lacking and

TALKING EARLY

What: "Talk Early & Talk Often"

When: 6 p.m. Monday, May 5 Where: Discovery Middle School, 45083 Hanford, Can-

Why: A Parent Academy workshop designed to help parents of middle and high school youth talk with their children about abstinence and

Details: Find out more on the district website at www.pccs.k12.mi.us

I'm excited about it," Borninski said. "Being in meetings with other parents, I find there are common questions that come up and there are things parents need help with in order to help their kids. The academy can help by giving parents information and, in some cases, training on how to do that."

The program kicks off with the "Talk Early & Talk Often" workshop at 6 p.m. Monday, May 5, at Discovery Middle School. According to information posted on the district website, "Talk Early & Talk Often" is a nationally recognized parent workshop aimed at helping parents of middle and high school youth talk with their children about abstinence and sexuality.

The workshop helps parents recognize and use opportunities to open the door for conversation, listen and respond with greater confidence and skill and to feel comfortable seeking outside sources of information. The workshop is free; however, space is limited and participants must register. Registration can be

See ACADEMY, Page A2

WRITTEN RELEASE

Woman's book recounts husband's abuse, deceptions

By Matt Jachman

Beverley Dunn's husband of about eight years cheated on her and physically abused her, but what was perhaps his biggest betrayal began years before they met.

The man she knew as Santiago Hernandez was actually Jacer Medina, a fugitive wanted for the 1994 shooting death of a man in a Chicago suburb.

Dunn, who grew up in Memphis, Tenn., and now lives in Plymouth, recalls coming to that realization while watching the television show America's Most Wanted toward the end of their rocky marriage.

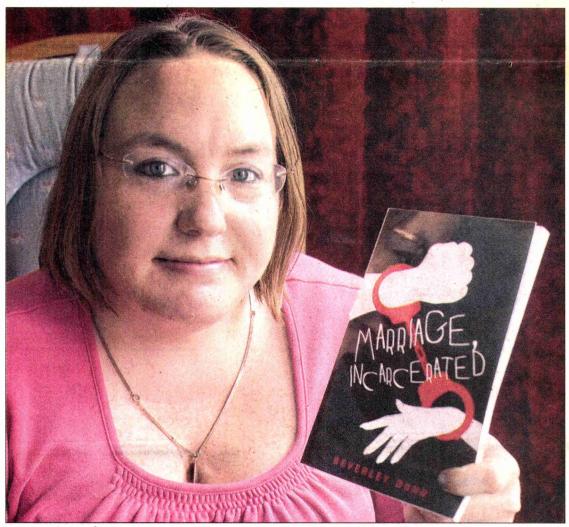
"Everything clicked at that time," Dunn said in a recent interview, explaining that the show included a photo of her husband. The family had a picture of "Santiago" from around the same time and "we knew it was him," she said.

Her husband, who arrived home as the show was ending, at first denied he was Medina, Dunn said, then threatened to hurt her if she went to authori-

Fear outweighed

"The next two years were horrible," Dunn said. Later, though they were in the process of divorcing, Dunn's fear of what Medina would do to her even if she didn't tell outweighed her fear of what he would do if she did, so she went to police in Memphis. The FBI and Tennessee investigators got in touch and Medina was arrested in February 2008. He is serving a 56year sentence for the murder of Ricky McDaniel, who was killed in front of his fiancee and her daughter, according to

See BOOK, Page A2



Beverley Dunn of Plymouth wrote a book, "Marriage, Incarcerated," on her personal experiences. BILL

Community groups honor top volunteers at Showcase

By Matt Jachman Staff Writer

Margaret Harris chairs the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce's ambassadors committee – the group works on recruiting and retaining members and represents the chamber at public events - and is on the chamber's board of directors and in line to join the Plymouth Historical Museum's board.

Despite her activism, Harris, who runs a Plymouth Township-based promotions business, was surprised at being named the chamber's volunteer of the year, an honor bestowed Monday during the

chamber's Plymouth Showcase and Taste of Plymouth.

"I was surprised. I wasn't even thinking about it," Harris said after being recognized during the event at The Inn at

"I just appreciate the community," Harris added. "I love what I do."

Showcase highlight

Harris, in business for 20 years, was among 26 volunteer of the year honorees named Monday by various community, civic and service groups. The awards are a highlight of the Plymouth Showcase, which marked its 25th anniversary this year.

Gerald Sabatini, a former Plymouth City Commission member, was named the Plymouth Historical Museum's top volunteer. Sabatini edits the museum's newsletter; museum director Liz Kerstens

called him an unsung hero. "I have an admiration for those who have faithfully nurtured and maintained the museum to help preserve the history of Plymouth," Sabatini said. "After serving with the city for 25 years, volunteering at the museum is a continuation of my commitment to the community and a sincere plea-

The other volunteers of the year and their organizations

Tony Bruscato, Plymouth Community United Way; Bob Cooper, Plymouth District Library; Carol Saunders and James Ryan, Rotary Club of Plymouth; Carolyn Setty, The Salvation Army; Claire Pomerson, Plymouth-Canton Jaycees; Debora-Grace Stanczak, Plymouth-Canton Community Literacy Council; and Donald Green, American Legion Post 391.

Also: Frank Allen, Trailwood Garden Club; Geff Phillips, Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M.; James Lampson, Plymouth Lions Club; James Vermeulen Sr., Kiwanis Club of Plymouth; Judy Morgan, Educational Excellence Foundation; Mark Minier, Plymouth YMCA; Marlene Donoghue, Community Foundation of Plymouth; and Nan Cooper, Plymouth District Library.

Also: Pamela Kosteva, Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth; Pat Ford, Plymouth Garden Club; Phil Merrow, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6695; Ron Wendland, Plymouth Community Council on Aging; Suzanne Parent, Plymouth Community Arts Council; Terry Crorey, Plymouth-Canton Civitans; and Tom Piesik, Plymouth Goodfellows.

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Veterans Marion Jones and DeLee Grimes enjoy their steak luncheons.



The Plymouth Elks' Stewart Israel, in apron, and Frank Pawelak, commander of American Legion Post 391, pose April 9 with four former prisoners of war during a steak luncheon for veterans at the Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780. Seated are (from left) E. Wayne Byrum, a POW from the Vietnam War, Tom Houdek and James Green, both World War II POWs, and Bob Armstrong, a Vietnam War POW.

Veterans treated to lunch at Plymouth Elks

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About 100 military veterans, including several former prisoners of war, visited Plymouth Elks Lodge for a steak luncheon April 9 provided by the Elks with help from members of American Legion Post 391.

On the menu were
12-ounce New York strip
steaks, baked potatoes,
rolls, salad and dessert.
Music was provided by
Fred Conn.

"The Elks and American Legion appreciate their service to our coun-

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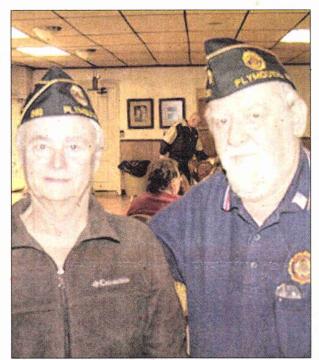
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try and the freedoms that service guaranteed to us all," said Stewart Israel, the Elks' chairman of veterans affairs.

The semi-annual luncheon at the lodge on Ann Arbor Road is one of several projects the Elks organize each year to help war veterans. Others include hot dog lunches, ice cream socials at the Detroit veterans hospital and the distribution of Christmas time gift bags to homeless veterans.



Veterans Doug Ringer and Paul Miner pose at the luncheon.

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PARADE

Continued from Page A1

and some in his chapter have had hip and knee replacements. "They can't stand and march like they used to," he said Thursday. Additionally, he said, some saw placement in the back of the parade as a slight.

After the Kiwanis and Hill agreed to slot the VVA toward the front of the parade, King took that back to his membership, which voted Monday to rejoin the event.

"They're really adamant about being 10th or less," King said.

Best entries

Hill said that the choreography desired for the parade makes it difficult to promise the VVA a

specific slot, but that he'll work to get them up front. Hill said he plans to have all war veterans – World War II veterans and a veteran of the Korean conflict also participate – walking the parade together.

"They are some of the best entries – the best," Hill said.

King said his membership is touched by the sustained applause and cheering for them from parade-watchers lining Main Street.

"It brings tears to your eyes, because it's so heartfelt," he said. "It affects every one of us."

King said this year's parade will be especially meaningful, as it comes 50 years after the U.S. began sending significant numbers of troops to the conflict in Vietnam.

ACADEMY

Continued from Page A1

accomplished on the district's website (www.pccs.k12.mi.us).

On May 19 and May 22, 7-8:30 p.m., the district collaborates with the Canton Public Library to host Parent Academy seminars to help parents learn about how they can best support their children in the upcoming 1:1 computer program. District officials are encouraging parents to attend those programs, "particularly if they will have kindergarten, firstgrade, sixth-grade, or ninth-grade students next year."

Borninski said those tech programs could really benefit parents, especially those who aren't used to using tools such as Chromebook or Google Documents.

"I've used Google docs

a bit, but it's different than using Microsoft Word or Office," Borninski said. "I think the parents do need a little help."

Among other possible
Parent Academy topics:
"> Texting/Internet
Addiction

» Pathways to Prosperity: Are you college or career ready? (with students)

"Drugs 101"Anti-Bullying /CyberBullying

» Financial Awareness
» The Common Core –
what does it mean to you?

» Love and Logic » Parenting the Strong-Willed Child Dietrich said possible partners for the Parent Academy include local

businesses, health care organizations, law enforcement, school administration and teachers and other local experts. "We are interested in partners and sponsors to

partners and sponsors to support this initiative," she said.

BOOK

Continued from Page A1

Illinois court records.
Dunn, who has two
sons and works part time
with autistic students,
has recounted her life
with Medina in a memoir,
Marriage, Incarcerated,
that was published last
year. The first-time author said she had kept
her experiences bottled
up and that it was therapeutic for her to write
them down.

"My friends and family encouraged me to get it out there," she said. "They were all shocked" by some of the revelations, she added.

tions, she added.
She describes a well-traveled relationship:
She and Medina met in
Memphis, lived in Connecticut and Maryland
early on and then moved
back to Memphis, where
the physical abuse, she
said, became more in-

"There are times he hit me so hard I couldn't hear for a little while," Dunn said. Medina even lived in Mexico, from where he had come at age 16, for a time.

Medina was a drywaller and did odd jobs, while Dunn worked in a Memphis call center for years and earned two degrees from the University of Memphis.

Moving on

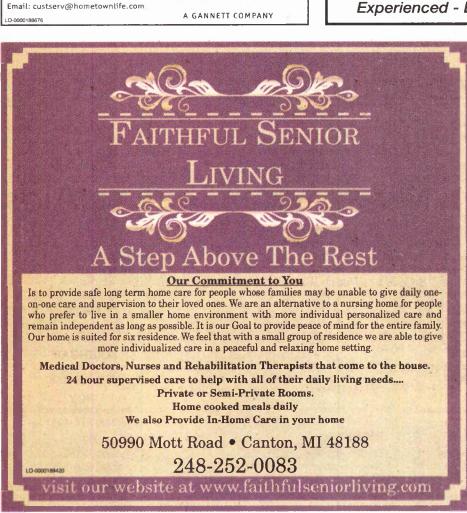
Dunn began writing her book in Chicago, where she had gone to live, after the divorce, with her ex-husband's family. ("It was a little bit awkward at times," she said of the arrangement, adding that the family was also generous and supportive.) She later moved with her sons to Plymouth – she has family in the area – and finished writing at the Plymouth District Library.

"I got lots of rejections" upon sending the manuscript to publishers, she said. But she eventually got two contract offers around the same time and went with Tate Publishing.

Marriage, Incarcerated is available through the Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Tate websites and at some stores. Dunn has attended several book-signings and other events, including an October 2013 authors fair in Memphis, during which a lot of old friends came to see her.

"It was like a reunion for me," she said.

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Teen challenges classmates to raise money for Burger

By Sue Mason Staff Writer

Jonathan Wyman saw a need and decided to do something about it.

So the 14-year-old Canton resident stood before his fellow students at South Pointe Scholars Charter Academy and did a presentation about autism and the Burger School for Students with Autism. His goal was to educate his classmates about autism and Burger and to raise money to allow students at the Garden City school to go on field trips.

It wasn't an easy task for Jonathan. He has autism.

"I want to help raise money for Burger, a school that works with people like me. I hope to raise \$757, so they can go on field trips with that money," Jonathan wrote in an email. "April is Autism Awareness Month and I think people should know that we are people with feelings."

"Every year, Jonathan has done a presentation on autism. This year, he focused on the problem of having the kids at Burger get to go on field trips,"

his mother Paulette said. "He realizes autism makes him different, but not that different than other students."

Founded in 1978, Burger School for Students with Autism is operated by Garden City Public Schools. The school, which serves 32 school districts in Wayne County, is the largest public school in America to serve children with autism.

Burger students range in age from preschool to 26, at three locations. Garden City's Lathers Early Childhood and Preschool Center houses preschool children, while Burger West has students through 10th grade and Burger East is home to students ages 17-26.

His challenge

Jonathan's challenge at South Pointe was to raise \$757 — \$1 for every student who attends the academy — that will be divided between Burger East and Burger West. He armed himself with plenty of facts and figures about autism and even visited Burger and interviewed eight staff members in preparing



Jonathan Wyman and his brother Zachary are both autistic. Jonathan, who attends South Pointe Scholars Academy, has created Burger Bucks to raise money for the Burger School for Students with Autism in Garden City, where his brother goes to school.

for his presentation. "I learned about this special school and how they help educate students that are very much like me and students very much not like me," he said in his presentation. "See, people with autism are very different. Mr. Joe Valdiva, principal of Burger East, said this quote: 'When you have

met a person with autism,

person with autism.' That

means when someone has

autism, they are different

you have met only one

than someone else who has autism."

His message to South Pointe students was that he's different, they're different, everyone is different. In the case of autism, "we see the world a little differently," he

He pointed out that while he doesn't like to say the word bananas, others are fine with it. While visiting Burger, he met a student who needed to turn off the light three times before leaving a

room and another student who had a gift for memorizing just about any-

In researching his presentation, Jonathan asked if it costs a lot of money to run a school for students with autism. He found out that it does. That's when he decided he wanted to do something nice for the school that "has been helping kids like me and not so much like me for a long time.'

"Since, April is Autism Awareness Month, I think this is a good time to show support for Burger," he said. "I want to challenge everyone at South Pointe to bring \$1 to school, so Burger can buy some technology stuff or let some of the students go on a field trip. I learned that sometimes kids with autism do not get to go places. Many of them go to school and then back home. They do not go anywhere else. Sometimes people in the community do not like people with autism, because we are not like them.

'I am calling this Burger Bucks. It would make the kids at Burger very happy to get to go someand home," he added.

Caring kids

Paulette Wyman said it's second nature for students at South Pointe to donate and the response to her son's Burger Bucks campaign has been wonderful.

'I had a little girl run up to me and give me \$5 and tell me it was for Jonathan and Burger," she said. "There are so many at South Pointe who want to come to Burger's Autos for Autism show and make Rainbow bracelets to sell for Burger."

While Jonathan has challenged South Pointe students to raise money for Burger, he also is accepting donations from the community. People interested in helping can their donations — checks should be made payable to the Lyman Foundation and mail them to Jonathan at 41690 Metaline Drive, Canton, MI 48187. The Lyman Foundation is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to raising funds for Burger School for Students with Autism.

smason@hometownlife.com

Fundraiser helps victim's family

killed in a

tragic car

accident at

the school

By Brad Kadrich Staff Writer

Emily Taylor's school family, still reeling in the aftermath of the accident that claimed her life too soon, is now turning its attention to helping her immediate family cope with the loss.

Officials at Eriksson Elementary School in Canton are conducting a fundraiser aimed at helping the family of Emily Starr Taylor, the 9-year-old Eriksson sec-



penses.

Monday morning.

Emily Taylor Eriksson officials hope to raise enough money to help the family with medical bills, funeral costs and other ex-

The school is partnering with PNC Bank to collect donations aimed at helping the family as

much as possible. ond-grader

Donations can be dropped off at Eriksson Elementary School, 1275 Haggerty, or at any PNC Bank branch. Online donations can also be made at www.gofund me.com/emilytaylor memorial. Checks should be made to Emily Taylor Memorial Fund.

For more information, call Eriksson at 734-981-

bkadrich@hometownlife.com Twitter: @bkadrich

P-CEP station takes part in Radio Day

High school radio station WSDP-FM (88.1) will participate in Wednesday, April 23, High School Radio Day, when high school radio stations in the United States will come together for a one-day celebra-

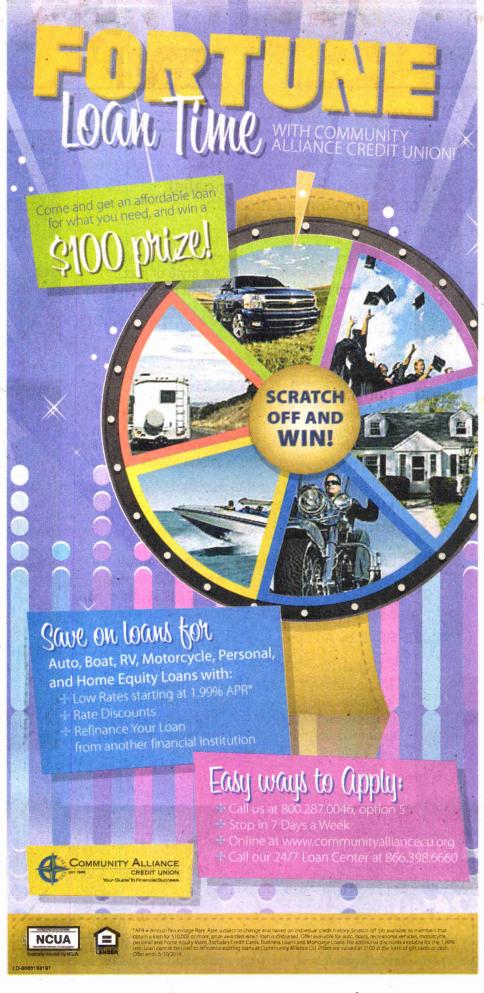
Since there are so few high schools with radio stations, organizers hope that High School Radio Day will raise a greater awareness of the ones that are still broadcasting after so many have

been shut down due to school district budget

High School Radio Day founder Pete Bowers (the station manager at WBFH-FM, also 88.1, in Bloomfield Hills) launched High School Radio Day in 2012. Bowers estimates that there are only about 200 high schools in the nation with either an over-the-air non-commercial educational radio station or an Internet-only radio sta-

"And that number is dropping," Bowers said. "That's why we need to unite on High School Radio Day and make the public aware of what we do, how we do it and the service we provide our communities.'

The Park has been serving the community for 42 years. The station signed on the air Feb. 14, 1972, and is staffed by students at Canton, Plymouth and Salem high schools. More information is at 881thepark.com.





Bowling event raises funds for First Step

New Canton Community Foundation President Michelle Malamis believes First Step, the western Wayne County organization serving victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault, is a "gem of an agency."

That's why Malamis was happy when the inaugural bowling fundraiser the foundation recently hosted turned out to be such a success. More than 200 bowlers turned out to help raise some \$3,000 for First Step's assault response program.

"This was a great family-friendly opportunity to have fun together, raise awareness and much-needed funds to help First Step serve survivors of violence in our community," First Step CEO Amy Youngquist said. "We are thrilled that so many

people signed up for this event and are thankful to the Canton Community Foundation and everyone who helped to make this event a success.'

Relevant mission

Malamis said First Step's mission is particularly relevant now, since April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. She said it's a time to acknowledge the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse and neglect and to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families.

During the month of April and throughout the year, she said, communities are encouraged to share child abuse and neglect prevention awareness strategies and activities and promote prevention across the

country. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.

"In this community, we have a gem of an agency in First Step, Malamis said. "Their services include temporary emergency housing, 24-hour help line, counseling, domestic violence and sexual assault advocacy programs."

Programs provided

The sponsors for the bowling event included Sam's Club Canton, Community Financial Credit Union, Jack Demmer Ford, Containers Limited, Canton Firefighters Charity Foundation, Emagine Theatre, Specialty Pet, Partnership for the Arts and Humanity, Signarama and Sweet

"First Step provides free and confidential

programs designed to help survivors of violence overcome the lack of intervention and support, the feelings of powerlessness, isolation, physical danger and fear and the financial, emotional and cultural barriers that victims of violence often face when seeking help," Young-quist said. "We also offer counseling for children to help overcome the effects of witnessing violence in the home and, in some cases, the effects of being victimized directly by physical or sexual abuse.'

First Step's 24-hour helpline is 734-722-6800 or toll-free 888-453-5900.

For more information about the Canton Community Foundation, contact Malamis at 734-495-1200 or mmalamis@cantonfoundation.org. For more information about



Michelle Malamis, Canton Community Foundation president, with First Step CEO Amy Youngquist and First Step President Jennifer Hartke.

First Step, visit its website at www.firststepmi.org or contact Theresa Bizoe at 734-656-0730 or tbizoe@firststep-

Lions Club hosts membership drive

Canton Lions Club officials point out the club is made up of a diverse membership and they're looking for more.

The Canton Lions are holding a membership drive at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 15, at Palermo Pizzeria & Restaurant. The idea is to gain more members who can help with Lions fundraisers such as euchre tournaments, the Liberty Fest pancake breakfast, the August corn roast or working at various locations collecting money during White Cane Week or selling Candy Canes during the Christmas holidays.

Officials said prospective members can expect:

- » Working with a diverse group of people for one cause
- » Involvement with organization locally and around the state of Michigan.
- » Assisting young people with guidance and direction.
- » Gain valuable skills
- » Learn to be a leader and lead a respected organization. » Make an impact of peo-
- » Network with business

people in the community. » Become part of Lions

International with 1.4 million members.

The Lions assist the blind and hearing-impaired and are called upon to purchase eyeglasses for kids throughout the community. Lions also work with the Penrickton Center for Blind and multiple handicapped children, Leader Dog School for the Blind and the Michigan Eye Bank, which restores sight to threeplus people per day.

To become a Lions member, you must be of legal age and good moral character. Membership is by invitation, so those interested in joining should contact the Lions or visit one of the club's meet-

The Canton Lions meet at 7 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month at Rose's Restaurant at the corner of Canton Center and Cherry Hill roads. For more information, call Lions member Bill Van Winkle at 734-254-9404, visit www.Cantonlions.org or email govbill1@wowway.com.

Wayne-Westland district gets state aid for razing former Inkster school

By Sue Mason Staff Writer

Three western Wayne County school districts are getting additional assistance from the state in addressing unanticipated expenses related to the dissolution of the Inkster School District last

The Wayne-Westland, Romulus and Taylor school districts will get some \$2 million from the state part of a supplemental school aid appropriations bill that was signed by Gov. Rick Snyder last week. It will be used to demolish school buildings that the districts received when the Inkster district was dissolved by the Wayne County RESA Board.

The decision came after state officials determined the district was unable to show that it had money to operate through the end of the 2013-14 school year. It was divided up between Westwood and the

three districts, with the latter three receiving both students and school buildings.

'We're grateful for this," Wayne-Westland Superintendent Greg Baracy said. "We worked diligently with our legislators who realized that this was omitted from the original bill. This was an unanticipated expense."

The largest of the four receiving districts, Wayne-Westland received the smallest portion of the former district an area on its eastern edge that is bordered by Michigan Avenue on the south, Middlebelt on the east and Avondale on the north. It also included Blanchette Middle School.

The Romulus district received an area bounded by Michigan Avenue on the north, Van Born on the south, Henry Ruff on the west and Middlebelt on the east that included three school buildings and 380 students. The Taylor district received the largest portion

an area bounded by Van Born, Middlebelt, Michigan Avenue and Inkster Road - that included three school buildings and 376 students.

The money will not come directly to the three districts, but will go to the Wayne County RESA, which was tasked in overseeing the dissolution of the district. According to Baracy, RESA will handle the request for the proposals to demolish the schools, which he described as being in "extremely poor condition.'

The supplemental appropriation earmarks about \$1 million each for demolition work in the Taylor and Romulus districts and \$500,000 for Wayne-Westland.

Baracy is pleased that lawmakers agreed that the receiving districts shouldn't be left with the tab for tearing down the schools

"We lobbied hard for this money," he said. "We're glad it's being made right."





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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.

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Barefoot Productions of Plymouth stages "Five Women Wearing the Same Dress" beginning Friday, April 25, and running for two weekends, through May 4.

Barefoot presents 'Five Women'

Officials at Barefoot Productions of Plymouth announced Five Women Wearing the Same Dress, the fourth main stage show of the 2013-14 season.

The show opens Friday, April 25, and run for two weekends, through May 4. Friday and Saturday shows begin at 8 p.m., with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.

Directed by Barefoot veteran Samantha Lowry, Five Women is a raunchy comedy about five reluctant bridesmaids at the wedding reception of a mutual friend. Each one of the ensemble cast of ladies has her own reason to avoid the party and they come together to share jokes, tears and revelations.

"Unlike many shows out there, this production at times doesn't follow a noticeable story arc and is essentially a snapshot of these women's lives," Lowry said. "I think the audience will appreciate all of the comedic aspects, as well as being able to see a bit of themselves in every one of

the characters."

The script by Alan Ball is full of irreverent dialogue and clashing personalities, with a great deal of situational comedy.

"It's a very funny character study of five women who are, for their own reasons, in a wedding and want to avoid a wedding," said Beth Duey, who plays Georgeanne. "You will definitely be entertained and it makes you think about your own perspective on things."

With a small cast and the Barefoot stage only feet from the audience, Five Women has an intimate, personal feel. Jennifer Beitzel, who plays Trisha, said, "I like that it's a smaller cast and it's laid back and really cool, so it's easier to relate to each other and get our characters to feel like real people."

Patrons are encouraged to attend the first Saturday evening of the run, 8 p.m. April 26, when a special afterglow reception will take place following the performance. Au-

TAKING THE STAGE

What: Barefoot Productions' Five Women Wearing the Same Dress

When: 8 p.m. April 25-26, May 2-3; 2 p.m. April 27 and May 4

Where: Barefoot Productions Theatre, 240 N. Main, Plymouth

Tickets: \$15 April 25 and 27, May 2-4; \$20 April 26 (includes show admission and afterglow reception catered by **Bode's Corned Beef House)**

dience members will be treated to the show, appetizers provided by Plymouth's famous Bode's Corned Beef House and a special meetand-greet with the cast and

Five Women Wearing the Same Dress contains adult language, suggested drug and alcohol use and brief nudity, so will not be open to those 18 and under.

Bookstock returns April 27 to Laurel Park Place mall

Bookstock, metro Detroit's biggest used book and media sale, returns April 27 through May 4 to Livonia's Laurel Park

All proceeds benefit literacy and education projects in metropolitan Detroit.

Bookstock's pre-sale will kick off at 8:15 a.m. Sunday, April 27, with a performance by the Larry Callahan and Selected of God Choir, made famous by the Chrysler Super Bowl XLV commercial. There is a \$20 admission charge for the pre-sale only, which runs through 11 a.m. and offers shoppers and collectors first crack at Bookstock's more than 100,000 donated used books, DVDs, CDs, books on tape, magazines and records for sale at bargain basement prices.

The sale will continue through Sunday, May 4, running 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

This year, Bookstock will feature five days of special sales:

Monday Madness - Monday, April 28: One lucky buyer will receive a \$500 gift card and 750 shoppers will receive giveaways.

Teacher Appreciation Day -Tuesday, April 29: Bookstock will give 50 percent off to all teachers with a valid ID, 3-9

Bookbuster Special Days -Wednesday, April 30, and Thursday, May 1: Buy three books and get the fourth book free (the least expensive item), 3-9 p.m. Spend \$25 or more and be entered in a special drawing for a football signed by Detroit Lions quarterback Matthew

Stafford. Half-Price Finale, Sunday, May 4: All remaining books and media will be sold for half

Marking 12 years of supporting the need to read, Bookstock has generated close to \$1 million for literacy and education projects throughout the Detroit area.

Bookstock is brought to the community by the Jewish Community Relations Council and a consortium of communal nonprofit organizations that support education and literacy projects throughout metro Detroit. For more information, call the Bookstock hotline 248-645-7840, ext. 365, or visit bookstock.info.

Laurel Park Place is on Six Mile, east of I-275.

Make a difference: United Way still in need of volunteers

Plymouth Community United Way desperately need volunteers Saturday, April 26, to clean yards and do light chores in Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Canton during its Rake-N-Go.

The event helps senior citizens and developmentally disabled adults.

Volunteers can come alone, with their family or as a team of co-workers or friends and enjoy a complimentary breakfast beforehand.

Volunteers are asked to bring rakes, garden tools, hedge trimmers and gloves. PCUW will supply the yard waste bags.

To volunteer, call 734-453-6879, ext. 7, or e-mail randi.williams@pcuw.org.

Plymouth Community United Way organizes two raking events a year: Make a Difference Day in fall and Rake-N-Go in spring.

Last November, more than 300 volunteers cleaned 67 yards of senior citizens and people with disabilities.

Serving the Plymouth and Canton community since 1944, Plymouth Community United Way addresses human service needs of individuals and fam-

For more information, visit www.plymouthunitedway.org.







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Bloomfield Hills physician joins 11th congressional race

By Brad Kadrich Staff Writer

Dr. Anil Kumar, a native of India who came to the United States 30 years ago from England, has seen life change particularly for his patients — in three decades practicing medicine

And he doesn't necessarily think it's changed for the better.

Kumar, 63, a urologist and women's rights advocate, believes he can help effect a positive change, which is why the Bloomfield Hills Democrat has filed to run for the U.S. congressional seat in the 11th District, currently held by Republican Kerry Bentivolio.

"I'm at the stage of my life where I could retire and play golf, but my golf game sucks," Kumar said. "(Instead) I can give back to society. I know health care inside-out. Congress is where I can use my knowledge and experience. If I can make one change, that will be worth it.'

Kumar came to the U.S. in 1984, accepting a chance to do research and residency in urology at Wayne State University. In 30 years practicing medicine, he said he's seen changes - not necessarily good ones - for both patients and other medical students.

Heart-breaking choices

Where patients used to ask to avoid generic drugs, he said, now some of his Medicare patients can't even afford those.

'Medicare patients are telling me, 'I can have food or I can have medicine," Kumar said. "It's heart-breaking."

And medical students. he said, are now choosing their specialties based on what pays better. When



he was deciding the course of his medical career, Kumar said, it was based on something less tangible than money.

"I grew up thinking I could cure cancer ... I didn't think about what specialty pays me the most money," he said. "That change is disturb-

Kumar thinks he can affect change best from a seat in Congress. Though he harbors no illusions about the campaign — "It's going to be an uphill battle," he said - he believes his longstanding practice has given him an edge.

He said he had conversations with mentors who "advised me this race would be a good one (to get into)." His patients, he pointed out, come from all over the 11th District.

"Democrats have a better chance this time," Kumar said. "The middle class is realizing Democratic values are far closer to their own than Republicans'. This district is predominantly middle class. I've served this community with my heart and soul for 30 years and I have the pulse of what's going on."

As a Democrat and a health care professional, Kumar calls the Affordable Care Act — dubbed Obamacare — "one of the best things to ever happen to Americans who didn't have insurance."

Nothing perfect

However, he knows it isn't perfect.

THE KUMAR FILE

Who: Dr. Anil Kumar What: Running for U.S. Congress in the 11th

Family: Wife of 27 years, Marjorie; sons Andrew and Nathan Professional: Vice chief of urology, St. Joseph Hospital-Pontiac: vice chief of surgery, Crittenton Medical Center Education: Bachelor of medicine, bachelor of surgery, University of Bombay, March 1976; master of surgery, University of Bombay, 1980; American Board of Urology, February 1997.

"No civilized country should have citizens without health care ... no law is perfect," Kumar said. "There are changes to be made. I have the knowledge of health care from a patient's perspective and from a doctor's perspective and I've seen how insurance companies work. From a health care perspective, I would be one of the best candidates.

Kumar and his wife Majorie, also a physician, have been married for 27 years and raised their two sons, Andrew and Nathan, in Oakland Coun-

"I'm running for Congress because we need leaders with fresh ideas to get our state and our economy back on track," Kumar said. "People are frustrated because Washington isn't working. Now more than ever, we need to create goodpaying jobs, make education affordable, protect Social Security and Medicare and assure health care is accessible to everyone."

Dress up for a chance to win Christmas in July cover contest

You've got the (Christmas) look that we want.

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Dress up in your zaniest, brightest, most traditional or goofiest Christmas outfit (Santa, elves, trees or any other holiday angle that you can think of) then come 2-7 p.m. Tuesday, April 29, to the Observer & Eccentric Media Spring Expo to get your photo taken.

Adults, teens, children and families are invited to participate.

The winner will be selected in part by readers voting at facebook.com/OE Hometown and by O&E Media



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staff. Voting on Facebook begins May 2 and ends May 23. Staff selection will follow May

The winning adult, teen, child or family will be featured on the cover of the O&E Media Christmas in July publication beginning July 24 and receive a \$100 gift card.

Schoolcraft College is at 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, in Livonia. Enter the VisTaTech Center and follow the "Christmas in July Cover Contest" signs.

Contestants must be photographed Tuesday, April 29, at the Spring Expo to be eligible for the contest.

Dust off those holiday decorations and we'll see you April 29.

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Eastern VP: We're doing great things for students

By Julie Brown Staff Writer

Eastern Michigan University undergraduates are likely to graduate, noted Leigh Greden, the university's vice president for Government and Community Relations.

"A lot of exciting things are happening at Eastern," he told an attentive audience Thursday, April 17, at Westland Rotary. "We were hon-ored to enroll our largest class in history.'

Last April, EMU also had its largest graduation class. Greden, an attorney who's been on the job at EMU about four years, noted the Board of Regents in 2010 froze tuition, room and board for the year.

EMU tuition has risen 2.84 percent per year over the last four years, the slowest rate of growth in the state.

"We do serve a lot of folks in western Wayne County and areas that have been hit hard." he said at the luncheon at Joy Manor in Westland. That includes a leased facility at Six Mile and I-275 in Livonia, offering programs such as nursing, educational leadership, accounting/business management and com-

A point of pride for Greden and other EMU leaders is the Natural Science Complex renovation, along with nursing studies for R.N. graduates who wish to earn a bachelor of science in nursing degree.

Growing campus

Greden also pointed to on-campus housing growth.

"We've had some media coverage lately on safety," including two student murders.

The EMU police force has been beefed up 30 percent. "Campus is safe," Greden said. "All the students tell us that."

The EMU safety officers now patrol off-campus, where there have been crime problems. Greden touted the Eastern-Washtenaw Safety Alliance, which includes the Washtenaw County sheriff and the local bus system, which has some security cameras.

"This is the No. 1 question we're getting from parents right now," Gre-

den said of safety. He touted the new physician assistant program.

"This is a high-demand area," he said, and the program has drawn many applicants. Greden noted an aging population with health care needs, but not necessarily a need for many more physicians.

EMU has an information assurance program to train undergrads and graduate students in the scientific, technical and management disciplines needed for computer/ network security. That program has been designated by the National Security Agency as a Center of Academic Excellence.

Most of those program's students have job offers by their junior year, in the close to

\$60,000 range, he said. EMU in Ypsilanti is also home to the Autism Collaborative Center, which trains students and also offers clinical services such as music therapy, speech therapy and life skills training.

Feeder schools

Greden said 2,758 students from Westland, Wayne, Livonia, Plymouth and Canton are in EMU's approximate 23,000-student enrollment. Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is the No. 1 feeder district for EMU.

The Bright Futures program offers student support, including in



Leigh Greden, EMU vice president for Government and Community Relations, speaks to Westland Rotarians and guests Thursday, April 17. JULIE BROWN

Wayne-Westland elementary, middle and high schools. Lynne Malinoff, director of Bright Futures, was at the April 17 luncheon and was thanked by Greden.

Greden highlighted the partnerships with local community colleges, which focus on transferring credits and

easing student transition to EMU.

"We do a lot of programming with School-craft," which follows Washtenaw Community College in transfers to EMU. Road maps guide transferring students, some of whom come in with up to 90 credits.

Greden also touched

on the state higher education budget.

"Higher education took a beating about three years ago," he said. "We had to make a lot of tough decisions at East-

Gov. Rick Snyder has now made higher education a priority, Greden said, adding that college graduates tend to earn more, have less unemployment and commit less crime. Greden urged attendees to contact their legislators on the budget, adding business leaders, including chambers of commerce, support higher education.

Greden was asked about Ypsilanti's development compared to neighboring Ann Arbor and said Ypsilanti was hard-hit by auto industry

The University of Michigan Medical Center and related research are huge factors, said Greden, a former Ann Arbor City Council member.

He said this idea wasn't his own originally, but he'd like Ypsilanti to be "the Brooklyn to Ann Arbor's Manhattan." Ypsilanti is less expensive to live in, he said, and can be up and coming for its residents.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Converting traditional IRA to Roth almost always makes financial sense

Q: Dear Rick: I read your article about converting traditional IRAs to Roth IRAs. I contacted my bank, but it did not recommend the con-

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version because of my age – 72. Is a Roth IRA conversion good for me

JOSEPH W

MERCY

HEALTH SYSTEM

considering my age? When do I pay the taxes that I owe? Do I wait until I file my 2014 tax

return?

A: I totally disagree with the bank. Your age is relatively immaterial. Age says nothing about you or how you should handle your finances. What is material are your goals and objectives and whether your tax situation warrants a Roth conversion.

I see brokerage houses, banks or financial salespeople who look to age as a deciding factor as to how someone should handle his/her finances. Someone who is 72 is not old and needs to think long term. He or she can easily be around another 20 years.

to be. In the past, people were told when they retire they could live on a fraction of what they did while working. That is no longer the case. In today's world, where people are living longer and healthier, they need a

Rick Bloom MONEY MATTERS

rising income throughout

their lifetime. The bottom line when it comes to making financial decisions is not age, but your goals and objectives.

The rules I use to determine whether a Roth conversion makes sense from a tax standpoint are:

» Doing the conversion and recognizing the amount (for tax purposes) won't throw you into a higher tax bracket.

» Without touching the money that you are converting, you have the resources to pay the addi-

» You won't need the money for at least five to seven years.

If you meet these criteria, then the Roth conversion makes sense. Remember, you don't have to convert your entire traditional IRA in one lump sum. You can spread the conversion out over as many years as you choose.

As to when to pay the tax, I recommend that you make an estimated payment now. People think that since their tax return was due April 15, that's when the money is owed. Unfortunately, that is not the case. Our tax laws are much more complex and confusing. Therefore, to avoid hassles and potential penalties, making an estimated payment at the time of conversion is best.

Roth conversions are something that more people ought to take advantage of. After all, if you can have money growing tax-free, why not?

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

The Senior Alliance

The Senior Alliance

will host three Public Hearing Sessions for input regarding the FY 2015 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for services to persons age 60 and older in Southern and Western Wayne County.

Monday, May 12, 2014 2:30 p.m. The Senior Alliance

3850 Second St., Ste. 100

Wayne, MI 48184

Thursday, May 15, 2014 10:00 a.m.

Ford Senior Center 6750 Troy Taylor, MI 48180

Friday, May 16, 2014

1:00 p.m. Livonia Senior Center North Dining Room 15218 Farmington Road Livonia, MI 48154

On May 1, 2014, the AIP draft will be available online at www.aaa1c.org Written comments will be accepted until June 2, 2014. Please send written comments to: The Senior Alliance 3850 Second Street, Ste. 100

Wayne, MI 48184 Attn: Planning & Programs Manager

Publish Date: 4/20/14

For more information, call 734.727.2061

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a proposal for **Custodial Services**. Specifications of the Request for Proposals (RFP) are available by contacting Tiffany Brindza, Purchasing and General Ledger Associate, Plymouth Canton Community Schools at tiffany.brindza@pccsmail. net or (734) 416-2975. Technical questions should also be directed to Brodie Killian, Deputy Superintendent of Business & Operations at brodie.killian@pccsmail.net or (734) 416-2740. Sealed proposals are due to the PCCS - E.J McClendon Educational Center located on 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI on or before 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 6, 2014. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Kimberley Crouch, Secretary

Publish: April 20, 2014

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Westland Shopping Center (Next to Kohl's) 35000 Warren Rd., Westland, MI Thurs-Sat 10a-7p, Sun 10a-6p

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Agent Orange town hall

Date/Time: Saturday, April 26, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (registration 8-9 a.m.)

Location: Northville High School, 45700 Six Mile, North-

Details: Vietnam Veterans Chapter 528 sponsors an Agent Orange Town Hall to inform and register veterans, their families and community, that have been affected by Agent Orange and other dioxins used during the Vietnam War up to the present. The effects of these dioxins are carried in the DNA of the affected person for up to seven generations. The National Academy of Sciences and Veterans Administration has connected Agent Orange and other dioxin exposure during this period, to include 12 diseases, 38 cancers and 20 birth defects. Reservations are required for this event.

Contact: To RSVP or for more information, go to www.VVA 528.org

Relay fundraiser

Date/Time: Friday, May 2, 6:30 Location: Plaza Lanes, 42001

Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth Details: The American Cancer Society and the Relay for Life of Plymouth will benefit from an annual bowling fundraiser at Plaza Lanes, Cost is \$20 per person, which includes three games of bowling, shoe rental. pizza and soda. The event will also feature a DJ, silent auction and door prizes. Want to join the Relay For Life of Plymouth? Visit www.relayforlife.org/ plymouthmi or email abigail.stonerook@cancer.org.

Contact: For more information or to register email team captain Nancy Little at wfl2009@wowway.com or call 734-455-6605.

Open Mic night

Date/Time: Saturday, April 26, 7

Location: Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: The eighth Open Mic of the season for the BaseLine Folk Society will celebrate the Emerald Isle in merriment and song. Open Mic welcomes performers, who can sign up 6:15-6:45 p.m. This month's event features a quartet called Soundcheck consisting of Frieda Dickason. Carol Sissen, John Craven and Steve Heavrin. The host is 26year-old Jessica Carmichael, a singer/songwriter who first

performed in September. Contact: Email BaseLine presi-

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dent@aol.com.

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 maxi-

Contact: For an appointment, call 734-455-8940 or sign up at http://www.plymouthhistory.org/events.html

praised per 15-minute time slot.

mum of four items to be ap-

Teen drug series

Dates/Times: 7-8:30 n.m. Wednesday, May 7 (Part 1) and 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 14 (Part 2)

Location: Canton High School Media Center, 84015 N. Canton Center, Canton.

Details: Growth Works presents a two-part series on how to understand and identify teen substance abuse and how to help when a young person may have a problem with alcohol or other drugs. Part 1, "What To Know," concerns how to understand teen substance abuse problems and recognize when a teen may be harmfully involved with alcohol and other drugs. Part 2o, "What To Do," is about what should and should not be done to effectively help when a teen alcohol/other drug problem is suspected or identified. The program, presented by Brian Spitsbergen, is coordinated and presented by Growth Works with supporting sponsors for this event including Dawn Farm, the Livingston/Washtenaw Regional Coordinated School Health Program Advisory Team and Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. The program is targeted primarily to parents, guardians and relatives of teens, but is inclusive of teens, people who work with or care about teens/families, students, and anyone interested for any reason. Admission is free.

Contact: For additional information visit www.teensusingdrugs.org, call 734-495-1722, ext. 1102, or email bspitsber gen@growth-works.org.

Blood drives

Dates/Times/Locations:



Snow Melt winners

The Mayfair Village Homeowners Association in Canton announced Al and Jan Rosevear are the winners of its Facebook Group Snow Melt Pool. For their keen snow-melting sense, the Rosevears won \$25 in gift cards to the local ice cream eatery of their choice - Dairy King in Plymouth. The Mayfair Village Snow Melt Pool helped to lighten the 2014 winter doldrums for Mayfair Village residents who participate in the subdivision's private Facebook group. About one-third of the 120 residents in the group participated in the pool.

Church of Christ, 9301 Sheldon, Plymouth » Monday, April 28, 1-6:45 p.m., VFW Post 6695, 1426 S. Mill,

Details: The American Red Cross sponsors a variety of blood drives in the month of April. Donors will be entered into a raffle for a \$150 Kroger gift card. Contact: To make an appointment, call Diane Risko at 313-549-7052 or email Diane. Ris-

Potluck

ko@redcross.org

Plymouth

Date: Friday, April 25 Location: Plymouth Friendship Station, 42375 Schoolcraft Details: The Plymouth Friendship Station is looking for new

members. In addition to the complimentary potluck dinner, participants can play pinochle, euchre or mah jongg. Contact: Call Martha Shipman

for more information at 734-420-2026

Medicare 101

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 29, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Location: Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth Details: The Plymouth Community Council on Aging will host Bettie Hughes and her expert staff from the Senior Alliance in

Plymouth to answer questions and guide beneficiaries to the most beneficial plan for their Medicare coverage Contact: RSVP at 734-453-1234,

Spring pottery sale

Date/Time: May 2, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; May 3, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; May 4, noon to 4 p.m.

Location: Village Pottery Guild studio, 340 N. Main, Plymouth (behind the Crossings restau-

Details: The Village Potters Guild hosts its annual spring sale. Functional and decorative pottery created by members of the guild will be available at this yearly event. Tableware, tiles, jewelry and a wide range of decorative and framed pieces will be sold

Contact: For more information or directions to the studio, visit www.villagepottersguild.org or call 734-207-8807.

Bowling for scholars

Date/Time: Thursday, April 24,

Location: Plaza Lanes, Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth Details: The Rotary Club of

Plymouth A.M. hosts an afternoon of bowling to raise money for scholarships. The club has reserved lanes for everyone to bowl two games that includes your shoes, pizza and soda for \$20. Each lane will have five players. Tickets for the event are available at Travel Leaders at the Kroger Plaza on the corner of Ann Arbor Road and Sheldon, International Minute Press on South Main and the Michigan Philharmonic at the Plymouth Community Arts Council on Sheldon. Tickets can also be purchased from members of the A.M. Rotary Club.

Contact: Email Leslie Greeneisen at greeneisenIt@aol.com.

Museum tea party

Date/Time: Sunday, May 4, 2

Location: Plymouth Historical Museum, corner of Church and Main

Details: Kids and their dolls are invited to a tea party at the Plymouth Historical Museum. Children can dress up, choosing from an assortment of outfits with fancy boas or beautiful hats. Kids can get their photos taken while dressed up and also participate in make-and-take activities, where they will make a Mother's Day card, a frame for their photo and will get a flower to plant in the yard. A discussion of dolls through the years will also be a part of the mix, providing ample entertainment for the kids, while giving them a delightful tea party they are sure to remember for years to come. Tickets for the tea are \$25 for one adult and one child; additional children's tickets can be purchased for \$13 each. Tickets purchased after April 25 will be

Contact: Tickets may be purchased at the Plymouth Historical Museum or at the museum's website using Paypal (http://www.plymouthhistory. org/events/Hello-Dolly-Tea_ ET710.html?SortBox=201405).

Pamper Yourself

\$5 more.

Date/Time: Wednesday, May 7,

Location: Sunflower Clubhouse, 45800 Hanford, Canton

Details: The Canton Newcomers and Neighbors host an evening of pampering. The evening features a cocktail-like setting with pampering stations, a charity raffle sponsored by ItWorks! to benefit Warm Hearts, refreshments from Mango's Fruit Market and raffles

Contact: RSVP is required to holliearnett@me.com. For more information on the club and/or to request a May newsletter, contact Noreen at nrybar@yahoo.com or 734-981-0486.

Drive 4 UR School

Plymouth Road, Plymouth

Date/Time: Thursday, May 22, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Location: Blackwell Ford, 41001

Details: Test drive any vehicle at Blackwell Ford and it will donate funds to help support Salem High School football, Blackwell Ford and the Salem Linebackers Booster Club are partnering to help raise up to \$6,000 in support of the Salem High School football program as part as part of Blackwell Ford's Drive 4 UR School program. For every person who test drives a new Ford vehicle at this one-day event, Blackwell Ford will donate \$20 to Salem's football program (limit one donation per household). Funds raised from this event will help the Salem football team "Go Further" through the purchases of new equipment, improve current

supplies for players in training. Contact: For additional information, contact Blackwell Ford at 734-453-1100.

facilities and provide necessary

Wildflower walks

Dates/Times: Sundays, April 27 and May 4 Location: Miller Woods (en-

trance is on Powell, just east of Ridge), Plymouth Township Details: Join the Friends of Miller Woods for their annual wildflower walks through Miller Woods, Tours start on the half hour and are led by members of the Friends. The walks will highlight the beautiful native spring wildflowers along with the history of the woods and the Miller family's donation to our community. Tours are free and last about 60 minutes. Dogs are not allowed and strollers are not recommended.

Contact: For last-minute weather changes that may affect the bloom times of the flowers, visit the website at millerwoods.com.

BNI meeting

Date/Time: Each Thursday, 7-8:30 a.m.

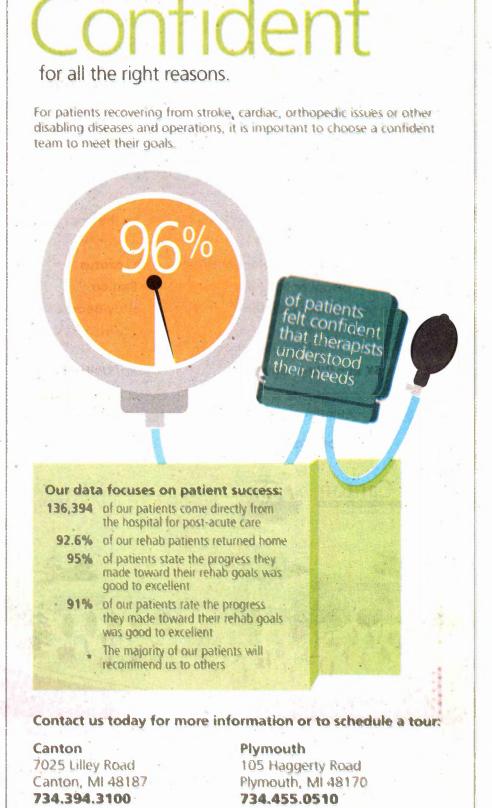
Location: Red Olive Restaurant, 1051 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth Details: The BNI Northville-The \$1 million Referral Chapter meets every Thursday morning. Contact: For more information,

visit www.NorthvilleBNI.com





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Artists recognized for work at Three Cities exhibition

More than 350 people, some from as far away as Benton Harbor and Jackson, attended the recent four-day art exhibition by the Three Cities Art Club held at Westland's William P. Faust Public Library

At a reception, club president Marilyn Meredith presented the awards to the winners selected by judge Elden Weber. Westland Mayor William Wild presented his award and announced that the city will provide a place for works by local artists to be displayed in the new city hall, which is expected to be open in the fall.

Weber selected his top five favorites in photog-

» Las Vegas Has Left the Building by Jonathan

» Colors of the Marsh by Dena Warren.

» Violet Blue by Joseph Haney.

» Interchanges by John R. Mittelstadt. » Rose's Rose by Rose

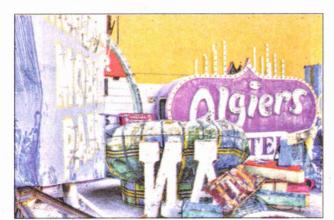
Weber's top five drawings/paintings selections

» Great Lakes Tall Ships, pastel by Barbara Gage Rex.

» River, pastel by Cathy Vettese.

» Emmett the Clown, mixed media by Kay Masini

» Fawn Lake, water-



Jonathan Warren won first place in photography for Las Vegas Has Left the Building.

color by Sharon Lee Dillenbeck.

» Epiphany, mixed media by Elizabeth Gullikson.

Three Cities Art Club provided \$600 in cash prizes to the top three winners in each category. Printworks of Westland provided each of these winners with a digital scan and print of one of their works, either on photo paper or stretched canvas

The two honorable mention winners in each category each received a \$30 gift certificate to D & M Art Studio of Canton.

Wild's two daughters selected their favorite work of art, Flowers in the Window, a pastel by Nancy Poat as winner of the Wild Art Award. The prize was \$100, donated by the mayor.

Those attending the

show were invited to vote for their three favorite works for a chance to win a prize. Samantha Coshatt of Garden City won a stretched canvas print titled Ella by Westland artist Charlyn Darling of Toadprince Illustrations. The three artists whose works received the most points received prizes as well.

Anyone interested in submitting work in next year's show can contact Meredith at 313-231-3939 or marilynmeredith@wowway.com. After the first of the year, artists can download the application form by visiting the club website at www.threecitiesartclu-

The Festival of the Arts exhibition hosted by Three Cities Art Club and Garden City Fine Art



Barbara Gage Rex's pastel, Great Lakes Tall Ships, was among the top five selections for pastels and painting.



Westland Mayor William Wild's two daughters selected their favorite work of art, Flowers in the Window, a pastel by Nancy Poat, as winner of the Wild Art Award.

Association will be held this fall at Westland Shopping Center. Details will be available in late

Soil survey beginning in area this week

By David Veselenak Staff Writer

Residents living in several western Wayne County communities may begin seeing people dig holes in the ground this week.

They're not looking for buried treasure: Those digging the small holes are soil scientists from the National Resources Conservation Service working to evaluate the soil around the county.

Joseph Calus, a Flintbased soil scientist with the NRCS, said the digging will complete the soil analysis for the state of Michigan, a process that started several decades ago, but omitted the urbanized area surrounding and containing Detroit. Now, years later, scientists are back to complete the survey. The area is the last in Michigan to receive the first look.

"Wayne County was done in the '70s, but they didn't bother to go into the urbanized areas," Calus said. "Once the soils got into being predominantly urbanized, they left that

area blank. Starting Monday, crews employed with the NRCS, part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, will begin taking soil samples from public land in Redford Township.

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"We'll be hitting most of the parks, anything from (Interstate) 96 up to Eight Mile," he said.

Crews are expected to take samples of soil in other communities such as Garden City, Westland and east of Farmington Road in Livonia throughout the spring. Other areas of the county, including Detroit, the Grosse Pointes, Dearborn and some Downriver communities, also require surveying as well.

The benefit of having a soil analysis, Calus said, really comes out when dealing with real estate and home building, as well as renovations. With more homeowners opting to install sump pumps, knowing more information on the soil the home is built on could help.

Another major benefit is predicting sinkholes, which have been seen this winter in surrounding communities such as Detroit, Royal Oak and Farmington Hills.

"Some soils are very susceptible to sinkholes. Other soils are not so susceptible," Calus said. "The map will point those out."

Crews will be out in the community digging holes about the size of golf holes and going no more than about seven feet deep. The soil will be laid out on a tarp, evaluated and crews will then replace the hole, sometimes being left looking so natural crews cannot find the spot they dug at if they need to return, Calus

Maps for the region will be available to the public in a few years after all tests are completed, Calus said. They will be available online for reference.

Workers will mostly remain on public land. though there is a chance samples would be needed from private property. If that is the case, crews will ask the homeowner's permission before venturing onto the property.

"We don't go onto residential property without permission," he said. "Nobody has to worry about anyone trespassing onto other people's property."

dveselenak@ hometownlife.com 313-222-5379 Twitter: @DavidVeselenak

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 OCULUS (R)
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FRI/SAT LS 12:00
 DRAFT DAY (PG-13)

1:20, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20 BI/SAT LS 11:45

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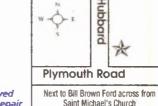
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Wayne High celebrates Easter with Spring Fling

By Sue Mason

It was very much a win-win event for Wayne Memorial High School's first ever Spring Fling.

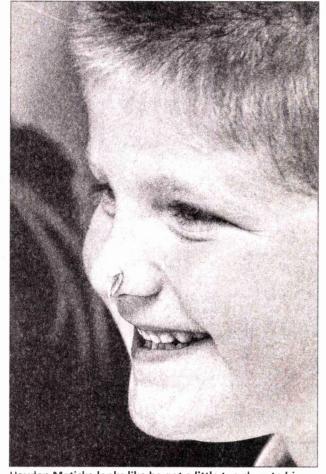
Patterned after its highly successful Holiday Night, the staff and students threw open the doors to the school and invited to community to come in for an evening of Easter festivities and an invitation to see the drama department's presentation of Shrek the Musical.

"It was our first Easter event and it was crowded and the Easter Bunny was busy," said Jan Tomlinson, director of the TRIO Upward Bound program at the high school. "I was pleased with the turnout and how it continued over to Shrek. It was pretty incredible.'

Tomlinson said 625 adults and children attended what became known as the Spring Fling and Sing. They enjoyed a pancake dinner, an Easter egg hunt on the front lawn of the school, cookie decorating and a giant obstacle course. Costumed members of the Shrek cast circulated through the crowd throughout the evening, passing out coupons for \$1 off admission to the play.

"They had to start the play a half-hour later because there were so many people waiting to get in; people just flooded the area," Tomlinson said. "At intermission, the director, Katie Sullivan, made a speech and told the audience that it was the best-attended play Wayne's ever had. It was almost a sellout.'

Tomlinson, Sue Webb and Lou LeBlanc chaired the Spring Fling committee, but received help from many members of the high school staff and at least 50 students. Organizers received plenty of donations for the



Hayden Matiska looks like he got a little too close to his work while frosting cookies.



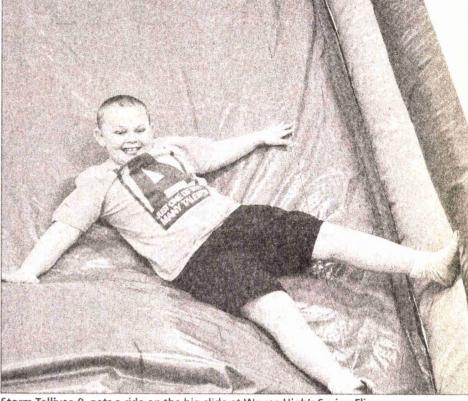
Teacher Jackie Martin watches 3-year-old Caleb Murphy frost a cookie.

event, with major contributions coming from the Wavne-Westland Federal Credit Union, Norplex Industries, Wayne High's Z-PAC committee, Chiropractic Dr. Amanda Apfelblat and district

Superintendent Greg Baracy.

"(Baracy) was the 'Cookie Monster.' He donated 800 cookies for the children to decorate," Tomlinson said

Tomlinson added that



Storm Tolliver, 9, gets a ride on the big slide at Wayne High's Spring Fling, PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Ledjona Cela was among costumed characters from "Shrek the Musical" that entertained the crowds.

volunteers made 3,000 pancakes that were dressed up with M&Ms and had more than enough goody bags filled with candy and toys for youngsters, who claimed them after finding three

eggs in the Easter Egg Hunt.

Social science teacher Reavis Olive dressed up as Harvey the Rabbit and was a hit with the youngsters, who had their pictures taken with the Ol-

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'It was a wonderful event and a wonderful collaboration with with the musical," Tomlinson said

smason@hometownlife.com

Livonia Public Schools Announces Section 105c Limited Schools of Choice To Out-of-District Students for 2014-15 School Year

Accepting from Wayne County and contiguous Intermediate School Districts (Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, Washtenaw)

10 seats are open in each grade level K-4 5 seats are open to students entering grade 5 5 seats are open to students entering grade 6

Application dates: April 28, 2014, 8 a.m. to May 27, 2014, 4 p.m.

FAXED AND EMAILED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED Applications and information available at www.livoniapublicschools.org/Choice Return completed forms to: Livonia Public Schools Personnel Office, 15125 Farmington Rd., Livonia, MI 48154

A random draw selection will take place May 29, 2014 if the number of applicants exceed seats available.



PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN CITY HALL, 201 S. MAIN WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2014 7:00 PM (734) 453-1234

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ZONING ORDINANCE REVISION OF: 1. Accessory Buildings and Uses, Section 78-260 2. Notes to Schedule, Section 78-191

3. Definitions, Section 78-21

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In accordance with the Americans with disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/ hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator

201 S. Main Street Plymouth, Michigan 48170 (734) 453-1234, Ext 206

shed: Sunday, April 20, 2014

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS **MEETING NOTICE** CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN (734) 453-1234

A regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Thursday, May 1, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall. 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the following:

151 Adams Non-Use Variance Requested

2nd Story Addition onto a non conforming footprint. Front Yard and Rear Yard Setbacks & Lot Coverage Zoned: R-1, Single Family Residential Applicant: David & Andrea Hughes

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

> Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator 201 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170, (734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

Publish: Sunday, April, 2014

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Tinkham's Empty Bowls effort helps local families

By Sue Mason Staff Writer

It was one of those moments for Bill Johnson, who went to Tinkham Alternative High School to pick up his grandson and met social studies teacher Diane Fournier.

The two met again Tuesday, when Johnson, UAW chairman at the Michigan Assembly Plant in Wayne, and UAW Representative Dwayne Walker presented Fournier a check for \$1,000 from UAW members who work the line for an Empty Bowls benefit she coordinated at Tinkham Alternative High School.

"I ran into her in the hallway and she said, 'I know you do a lot for the community, how about this?" Johnson said. "Now, I think we've been drawn in and will buy them a kiln. Sometime this summer, we'll pick out the piece so they have it ready for school in September.

Fournier worked with art teacher Ann Chambers in setting up the project and with Omankane the Collective, a 21st century after-school program, to make the pottery bowls that guests received at the event, which raised money for the Wayne-Westland Family Resource Center.

An overflow crowd filled the commons at William D. Ford Career Technical Center, where culinary instructor Chef Tony Paquette, his staff and students prepared four different soups, sandwiches and desserts for the fundraiser.

Change of pace

The benefit was a change of pace for Amanda Faughnan, resource center director, who wasn't involved in organizing the event. Unlike the holiday buffet, where Faughnan works with Paquette to raise money to buy holiday meals for families, she only had to make a short speech to guests.

"This was an all-Tink-ham event; it was totally student-driven, an allstudent involvement," Faughnan said. "This will go for students and fam-

HELPING OUT

The Wayne-Westland **Family Resource Center's** mission is to "partner with families, the community and school district staff in order to positively impact the success of every Wayne-Westland student."

Through a collaborative effort, it links families with agencies, organizations, volunteer groups and schools to meet their social, emotional, physical and academic needs.

It accepts donations of toiletries, school supplies and new socks and underwear, as well as monetary donations. Items can be dropped off at the center, which is housed inside Adams **Upper Elementary** School at 33475 Palmer, west of Venoy, in Westland.

For more information. call 734-419-2709.

ilies in need. I've seen demand for our services go up. There are more families coming in for basic needs and help in finding places to go for assistance. Many are the working poor and many come in looking for job assistance.'

In acknowledging those in attendance, Fournier took a moment "to celebrate one of our greatest community treasures ... our young people and the work they

"As educators, we have some pretty lofty goals for our students, Fournier said. "We want them to be readers and writers. We want them to develop critical thinking skills. We want them to become problem solvers and create beautiful things. We want them to connect the work they do in school to life outside school. We want them to recognize the positive impact they can have on their neighborhood and the world

"We are thrilled to take part in a project like this because it brings students so much closer to those goals," she add-

Tinkham senior Court-



Susie Miller of Garden City places raffle tickets in the can. She came to the event because she has a grandson who attended Tinkham. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ney Hill made about five bowls and designed and painted 10 bowls for the event.

"It was great and fun to do at the same time,' she said. "It was messy."

Glad to help

This was the first time Patricia Steel - better known as Miss Pat, a facilitator with Omankane the Collective - and director Margaret James had been at the Career Technical Center. Like other attendees, they found the food "was excellent" and were glad their students helped with the benefit.

"Miss Fournier contacted us about getting involved. We did about 30 bowls," Steele said. "Some of the students were excited, some were, 'Oh no, not bowls,' but after a while they got

into it. We have about 20 students in the program. We couldn't get all of them involved.'

Shirleen Curtis of Westland and her daughter Tonia Szabo were among people who attended. The two women are active in the First United Methodist Church in Wayne. Curtis had seen a posting about the benefit on Facebook and thought it would be neat since her daughter does

"The First United does a lot of work with the Family Resource Center," she said. "This is a way to pay it forward. They help us and we can help them.'

Faughnan hopes the Empty Bowls benefit will become an annual event.

"I loved going over there and watching them make the bowls. They



Mary Vellardita tries the chicken tortilla soup at the Empty Bowls benefit for the Wayne-Westland Family Resource

BUDGET HEARING Canton Preparatory High School

A public budget hearing will be held for Canton Preparatory High School at Plymouth Scholars Charter Academy, 48484 North Territorial Road, Plymouth, MI. on May 7, 2014 at 6:00 pm. Copies of the budget will be available at the Plymouth

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were very proud about making the bowls and talking about what they were doing," Faughnan said. ""I would love if

Published: April 20, 2014

Scholars Charter Academy school office.

they did it again in the future."

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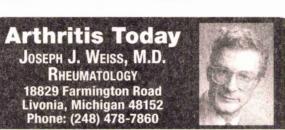
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OVERLAPPING DIAGNOSES

A problem that confronts a doctor who is caring for a patient with both Fibromyalgia and Systemic Lupus (Lupus) is making appropriate decisions. The doctor's difemma arises because both conditions cause similar joint pains and both conditions exert an effect throughout

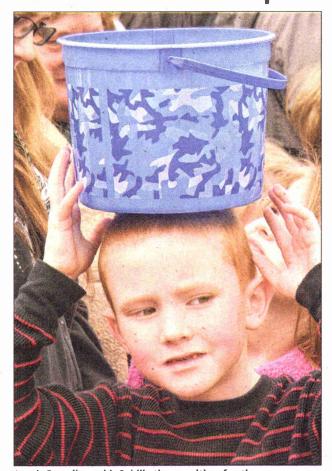
For example: both Lupus and Fibrornyalgia cause headache: if a patient experiences a headache every day and little else, then most likely the headache comes from tension and is part of the individual's Fibromyalgia. But often the headache isn't clearly related to stress or comes intermittently or is associated at times with a fever. The physician needs to pause before concluding the cause and going

The reason the doctor must take care in making a correct diagnosis between a flare of Fibromyalgia or of Lupus is because the resulting treatment is far different. If the problem is Fibromyalgia, more medicine is not likely to help, but urging the patient to increase activity and exercise is the best therapy. If the physician feel that the headache is a forewarning of a Lupus flare, then an increasing dose of prednisone is the logical next move.

At times, the physician's ability to distinguish between Lupus and Fibromyalgia as the major diagnosis presents such a problem, the doctor feels forced to undertake a "diagnostic trial." What that means is that the patient receives an increased dose of prednisone and the doctor observes the effect. If the patient improves then the diagnosis is Lupus, if the patient does not, then the doctor stops the prednisone because the correct cause is Fibromyalgia

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Youngsters chase after marshmallows at annual drop



Jacob Strzalkowski, 6, kills time waiting for the marshmallow drop

It may have looked gloomy with a chance of rain, but that didn't put a damper on the enthusiasm of children who waited for the chance to chase after marshmallows that fell from the

sky Friday morning. They looked like jumbo snowflakes, but actually 20,000 marshmallows dumped from a helicopter circling over the Nankin Mills area of Hines Park as part of Wayne County Parks' annual Marshmallow

The falling marshmallows were a delight to see for hundreds of children, who waited to collect the goodies. The children were divided

into groups based on age, to make sure each and everyone had a chance to participate.

The goal was to retrieve a marshmallow and turn it in for a prize and youngsters were scooping them up, hoping to find one very special colored one. There was one colored marshmallow to be found for each of the age groups. The lucky child who found it received an extra special prize, commemorating the 30th anniversary of Marshmallow Drop.

Wayne County Parks holds two Marshmallow Drops each year - one at Nankin Mills in Westland and one at Elizabeth Park in Trenton.



The helicopter spreads marshmallows across the field in Hines Park, PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



The race for the marshmallows begins.



You've Got the (Christmas) Look We Want!

Here is your chance to be on the cover of O&E Media's "Christmas in July" special section. Adults, children and families are welcome to participate.

GRAND PRIZE:

- · Cover of "Christmas in July"
- \$100 Gift Card to Major Retailer

HOW TO ENTER:

In person at the Spring Expo Tuesday, April 29 at Schoolcraft College. Come dressed in your best or goofiest Christmas attire. Photos will be taken between 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

JUDGING:

The winner will be selected using a combination of readers' voting on facebook.com/OEHometown beginning May 2 and staff picks.



Life in

Tuesday April 29, 2014 2 p.m. – 7 p.m.

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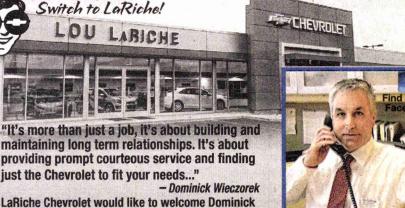
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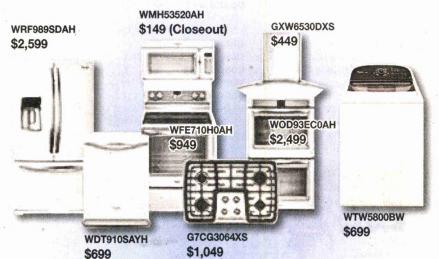
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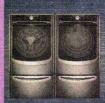
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SECTION B (CP)

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2014
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SPORTS

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BOLGER-MANGAN CITY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Rocks win bragging rights

By Tim Smith Staff Writer

They don't put banners on gymnasium walls for winning the annual City Meet.

But they do hand out trophies and give girls patches to place onto their varsity letter jackets for capturing the prestigious Park show-

This time around, Salem won those patches after taking Thursday's meet with 85 points ahead of defending champion Plymouth 68's

Taking the third spot with 22 points was Canton.

"This team knew that it was going to have to step up and compete hard if it was going to bring the city trophy back to

Salem and it did just that," Rocks varsity girls track and field coch Dave Gerlach said. "We relied on our horses today to compete against a very good and complete team in Plymouth.

"I was very proud to see our girls compete that hard and want the pride of P-CEP back with this program."

It was the first time the Bolger-Mangan Canton City Championships took place since 2012; last year's was wiped out by weather.

"It is one of the big meets we have, for sure," noted Plymouth head coach Ricky Styes. "If you look at the arc of our season, our lowest goal is to have a winning record. "Then, we want to win

See GIRLS, Page B2



Salem's Madison Fairchild gets the jump on Plymouth's Hailey Foster during the City Meet. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS



Pushing each other to the limit during the annual City Meet at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park are (from left) Canton's Jemal Vaunado, Salem's Miles Mason, Canton's Bryan Eastman and Salem's Dhruv Patel. PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI J EXPRESS PHOTO

FOOTLOOSE

Salem boys get leg up on Park rivals at City Meet

By Tim Smith Staff Writer

Track and field teams from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park waited two years to reconvene the prestigious Bolger-Mangan City Championships and the Salem Rocks made up for lost time

Salem's boys squad tallied 71.5 points to outpace Plymouth and defending City Meet champion Canton, who registered 52.5 and 51 points, respectively.

Last year's meet was cancelled due to bad weather, but the three Park teams got after it from the get-go.

According to Rocks head coach Steve Aspinall, the way his team performed could be "a springboard for the rest of the season. All of a sudden (in May) we will have the Observerland Relays, conference championships and regional championships in a two-week span."

Aspinall added that win-



Salem's Michael Hoover moves into high gear Thursday.

See CITY MEET, Page B2

PREP GIRLS TENNIS

Canton netters come up clutch

Chiefs win deciding doubles flight to nip Wildcats

By Tim Smith Staff Writer

Whenever Plymouth and Canton get together on the tennis courts, it's a pretty big deal.

And Canton seniors Angie Distelrath and Nikki Cotham found that out first-hand on Wednesday when they teamed up to win their No. 2 doubles matchup against Plymouth seniors Nisha Patel and Katie Weyers for what turned out to be the deciding match.

The Chiefs came away with a 5-4 victory on a cool, breezy afternoon thanks to the 3-6, 7-6(4), 6-4 win turned in by Distelrath-Cotham.

After Cotham's clinching shot went unreturned. the duo was mobbed by the rest of their teammates.

"I couldn't believe it," said

Distelrath, about the big reaction following their win. "All I was thinking about was giving Nikki that hug after that shot. When I saw it fall in the corner and her struggling with it to get it, that was like the best feeling.

"We didn't even know it was the deciding game to beat Plymouth. The fact that we came off and the whole crowd came, it was an amazing experience. Not just because it was Plymouth, but because we could work together to get there."

Concurring was Cotham, all smiles about how she and her doubles teammate came through in the clutch.

"I'm just so surprised, because I had no idea it was the last match for the win," Cotham said. "Angie and I have been playing together for two years, (so) to have a game like this is great after all the hard work we put into it for two

Then with a somewhat embarrassed laugh, Cotham said "It's just great, I can't believe it."

Team effort

Canton head coach Barb Lehmann never had any doubts about what Distelrath-Cotham (No. 5 doubles in 2013) and the entire squad accomplished.

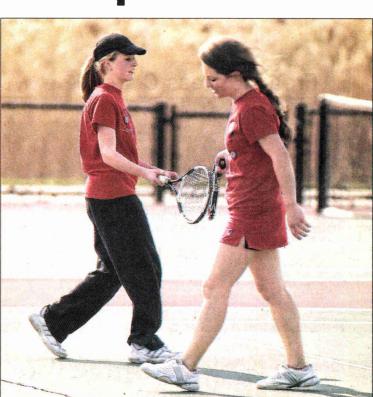
"I'm happy with the team as a whole," Lehmann said.
"We've had a lot of really close matches with Plymouth. This is the third time we played against them in some capacity. And overall, more than anything else, I think the girls dug deep for this one.
"They lost that first set and

"They lost that first set and it didn't rattle them enough that they stayed right in that match, and kept playing."

According to Plymouth head coach Rob McLaren, "the last match was an incredibly well-played match on both sides of the net. It was only fitting that a match this big came down to a close three-setter. They were evenly matched, and this time, Canton came out on top."

In the singles matchups, each team earned two wins. At

See CANTON, Page B4



Slapping rackets after a shot are Canton's Nikki Cotham (left) and Angie Distelrath. They won at No. 2 doubles in the match-clinching flight. JOHN KEMSKI J EXPRESS PHOTO



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PREP BASEBALL

Chiefs take pair from Wildcats

By Tim Smith Staff Writer

Canton jumped out early and rode the momentum all the way to sweep Plymouth in Thursday's KLAA varsity baseball doubleheader.

The games were pushed back a day from Wednesday due to weather and field conditions and were played at Plymouth instead of host Canton due to continuing construction at the Chiefs' field.

In the opener, the Chiefs won 9-0 with a seven-run first doing most of the damage.

Keying that surge was senior Nick Hazergian, who doubled in two runs, knocking in Weston Price and Robert Guajardo.

From there, Canton starting pitcher Brent Mattson did the rest, taking a no-hitter into the sixth inning. Finally, with two outs in the sixth, Plymouth's Nick Foster doubled to left-

center.
"The Canton pitcher was outstanding," Wildcats head coach Jason Crain said. "Keeping our hitters off balance and he had great control. You have to tip your hat to



The throw to Canton first baseman Chris Ferrill (No. 26) is in time to retire Plymouth baserunner Matt Busch. PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI L EXPRESS PHOTO

him. Easily the best pitcher we've seen so

Crain added that the Chiefs benefited from some sloppy play by the Wildcats. "They are a disciplined team who pounced when they saw an opening.'

Contributing two dou-

bles for Canton was Nick Schnur, with James Hall also registering a pair of hits. Going 3-for-4 with an RBI was Grant Slomkowski.

In game two, the Chiefs prevailed 4-2. overcoming an early 2-0 deficit.

Plymouth scored

twice in the second, on run-scoring hits by AJ Convertino and Cameron Jones and that lead held up until the fifth.

Canton (6-2 overall, 5-1 in the KLAA South Division) rallied in the bottom of the fifth. Jake Boucher led off with a single and then stole



Plymouth pitcher Josh Sulak delivers a pitch during Thursday's baseball nightcap against Canton.

second base, ultimately coming around to score on a single by Slomkow-

Chris Ferrill singled and Price walked to load the bases. With two out and Guajardo batting, a wild pitch brought home the tying run.

Guajardo subsequently looped a single over the drawn-in infield to score the tie-breaking

The Wildcats batted in the top of the sixth, following which the game was halted due to impending darkness. Collecting two hits for

Plymouth (7-3, 4-2) was Patrick Downing. "Josh Sulak pitched a

great game (for Plymouth)," Crain said. "We were leading 2-0 into the fifth and again Canton took advantage of the openings we left.

"They are a good team. We will continue to work on the details and emerge an improved team from this experience.'

tsmith@hometownlife.com

CITY MEET

Continued from Page B1

ning the meet meant a lot to his seniors. Last year's seniors didn't get that same chance due to the cancellation of the event.

"This meet is always a tough battle because Canton and Plymouth are both great programs with great coaching and the kids are so familiar with each that they always have a fun time competing," Aspinall continued. "I am happy for the seniors who were able to go out with a City Meet victory in their final opportunity.

"We have an extremely hard-working group of kids that are getting better every day because of the work from our great coaching staff and the time and effort they are putting in as well."

Plymouth head coach Jon Mikosz praised his



Battling it out during the 110-meter hurdles race are Canton's Julian Thornton and Plymouth's Aaron Bergmans. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

distance crew, who scored 36 of the Wildcats points.

"Our distance guys had a great meet," Mikosz said. "... Unfortunately, we didn't get much help (from) the hurdles or sprints or we might have been able to make it a closer meet." Jonny Dalton was on

Plymouth's victorious

3,200 and 1,600-meter relay teams and won the mile with a time of two-miler, Zane Berlanga and Matt Pahl finished 1-2 with times of 10:27.69

Field day

4:46.15. Meanwhile, in the

Salem had a strong showing in the field events with sophomore Jannik Schmitt, seniors Michael Hoover and Elijah Albert going 1-2-3 in the shot put, each with personal bests. Schmitt and Hoover threw 46feet, 3-inches and 46-2, respectively.

Registering a 129-foot toss in the discus was Plymouth's Daniel Goertz, good for a personal best. He edged Canton runner-up Colin Caflish (119-3) and Salem's Schmitt (117-10).

The Rocks enjoyed a clean sweep (top-4) in the long jump, led by senior Brenden Sherrod's 18-5.5. He was trailed by teammates Miles Mason (18-0.5), Harsha Sajja (17-11.5) and Jacob Miller

Other Salem standouts during field events included junior Allante Wheeler (third in the high jump, 5-8) and junior Hunter Burin, who tied for fourth in the pole vault with Plymouth's Derick Crawford at 10feet even.

Finishing in a firstplace tie in the pole vault were Canton teammates Kyle Zander and Grant Mast (12-feet even), followed by Canton's Ted Lang (11-0). A big highlight for

Plymouth came in the high jump. Nathan Harris won the event and set a new school record with his jump of 5-10, outdistancing Canton's Brett Lee, Salem's Allante Wheeler, Plymouth's John Kody and Abdallah Abusalah (all 5-8).

Salem sparkled on the track, too, with senior Colin McCormack winning the 400 dash with a time of 51.03 (ahead of Plymouth's Blerim Mema and Salem's Dominic Hodge, 51.34 and 54.83, respectively).

The Rocks sprinted their way to victories in four other events.

Sophomores Freddie McGee, Jacob Miller, seniors Sherrod and

Steven Homrich combined to win the 400 relay (44.92). In the 800 relay, the combo of junior Ty Traylor, Sherrod, Homrich and Hoover took the top spot in 1:32.56.

Homrich-Miller-Hoover went 1-2-3 in the 100 dash and Homrich (23.39) captured the 200, finishing ahead of Canton's Jacob Mallad (23.62).

Salem also featured a second-place finish in the mile relay (McCormack, Hodge, Traylor, junior Patrick Casey) with other notable performances including juniors Miles Mason and Dhruv Patel (2-4 in the 110 hurdles), and Traylor second in the 300 hurdles followed by Sajja (third).

"We also had a number of personal bests in the distance races, led by junior Jason Rogers' fourth-place finish in the 1600," Aspinall added.

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GIRLS

Continued from Page B1

the City Meet. Then win the division, then the conference and the region. This is one we look forward to. When we win we put a patch on the girl's jacket.'

According to Gerlach and Styes, the meet also sets the tone for the upcoming conference and regional meets.
"This is a true team

accomplishment and the girls worked together for the victory," Gerlach continued. "It was a fun

and exciting competition and look forward our future competitions in conference and regionals."

One of those "horses" referred to by Gerlach was senior standout Kayla Kavulich, who was victorious in three open events (400 run, 58.98 seconds; 800, 2:32.19; 1-mile, 5:14.14). Kavulich barely edged teammate Isabel Rodriguez' 59.23

time in the 400 Other Salem firsts were recorded by Rachel Falzon (300-meter hurdles, 49.90), Anya Cho (2-mile run, 12:27.88) and two relays (4-by-800;

4-by-100).

The Wildcats also won two relays (4-by-200; 4-by-400) and featured strong individual performances across the board.

Taking two open events was Ryan Dreper, who Styes said "is proving to be every ounce of the track athlete that we thought that she was going to be. She won the open 100-meter dash, she won the 200 dash. She was part of our 4-by-2 that won. So, Ryen did a fantastic job."

In the 100 dash, Dreper edged out Salem's Shekinah Johnson, 13.21

Holly Stark's time of 16.82 earned her top spot in the 100-meter hurdles (with Plymouth teammate Kirsty McInnes second, 17.66).

Another strong runner for Plymouth was senior Jada Woody, whose times of 2:34.29 in the 800 and 5:33.17 in the 1-mile were good for second behind Kavulich.

Sharing the glory

All three high schools boasted wins in the field Salem's Erin McCann

edged teammates Areon

Kirk and Kelly Whalen in the long jump, with her mark of 15-1.50 inches. Kirk and Whalen trailed with marks of 14-11.5 and 14-8.5, respectively.

Plymouth's Katherine Harris (high jump, 5-feet, 0-inches), Tionne Johnson (discus, 118-9) and Kayla Janevski (10-9) took firsts in those events

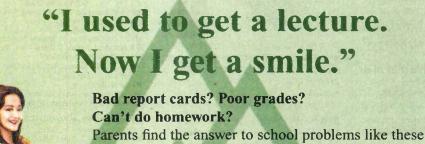
"Kayla Janevski, our

pole vaulter, is gratefully filling the shoes of the three girls we lost last year," Styes said. "She jumped a PR of 10-feet, 9-inches, which was nine inches better than she did five days ago. She is just jumping leaps and bounds right now, no pun intended.

"We did some good things. Tionne Johnson won the discus with a throw that was a foot shy of our school record. And I believe it was a personal record for her.'

The Chiefs also enjoyed the taste of victory thanks to Emily Meier, who won the shot put with a throw of 38-4, four inches farther than Plymouth's Johnson.

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Getting after it during this City Meet relay are (from left) Canton's Olivia McIntee, Salem's

Kayla Hughes and Plymouth's Bailey Brown. JOHN KEMSKI EXPRESS PHOTO

All-area swim team features elite talent



Matt LaPorte Stevenson

Nick Arakelian



Stevenson



Jackson O'Dowd Stevenson



Ethan Burke Jake Wasko North Farm. Churchill



Nick Leshok North Farm.



Keith Erichsen North Farm.



Belmore Stevenson

McNamara Stevenson



Charles Liu Salem





Goeddeke Stevenson



Justin Baker Churchill



Danny McNeece North Farm.



Matt Pairitz Salem



Phillip Collingwood Salem



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FIRST TEAM

Matt LaPorte, 200 free, Stevenson: The junior excelled in a number of events, taking KLAA Kensington Conference runner-up honors in the 200 freestyle (1:46.99) and finishing 12th in the Division 1 state finals in the 500 freestyle (4:41.75).

LaPorte was also conference champ in the 500 freestyle (4:44.6).

"Matt had a breakthrough season this year by scoring at the Division 1 state meet," coach Jeff Shoemaker said. "Throughout the season, he was our main distance swimmer and could be counted on winning these events consistently. His times kept on dropping and dropping as he trained harder and harder. Outside of the pool he will be one of the first ones to make you laugh, but while training, he is all business. Next year he is one of our captains and is expected to do great things for the

team." Nick Arakelian, 200 IM, Stevenson: The senior, headed to Queens (N.C.) University, will go down as the most accomplished male swimmer in school history after setting an all-class record in the 200 individual medley (1:47.47) and breaking his own Division 1 state record in the 500 freestyle (4:24.84). Arakelian was also a member of the state runner-up 200 medley and 400 freestyle relay teams. He was also conference champion in the 200 IM (meet record 1:49.3) and 100 freestyle (46.48), along with helping the Spartans to first places in the 200 medley and 200

freestyle relays. "He is the fastest high school swimmer to have ever swum this event in the history of Michigan swimming," Shoemaker said. "This, along with all his other accolades, gave him the title of Michigan Swimmer of the Year. Behind all his awards and notoriety is a young man with a genuine personality and someone who consistently put the team first. He truly thrived on having his teammates have success rather than himself. His swimming ability will obviously be missed, but his constant drive to push the team to succeed will

be missed the most." Jackson O'Dowd, 50 free, Stevenson: The sophomore placed fourth in Division 1 in the 50 freestyle (21.21), setting a school record, and added a

sixth in the 100 freestyle (46.74) The two-time all-stater was also Kensington champ in the 200 freestyle (1:44.96) and added a third in the 100

"Last year, Jackson came in as a freshman and had an immediate impact on the success of our program," Shoemaker said. "This year, he broadened his role and started to swim alternate events. His ability to swim anything makes him very valuable to a team. At the end of this year, he proved he was a true sprinter. With his high school career only half over, he has accomplished what very few can achieve during their whole swimming career."

Ethan Burke, diving, Churchill: The sophomore scored three team points at the Division 1 finals, finishing 14th overall with a total of 338.90 points.

Burke, undefeated for the second straight year in dual meets, was also Kensington Conference runner-up (381.50) and set a KLAA South Division meet record (400.60).

"Ethan continues to impress with his talent and affinity for the sport," coach Aaron Rieder said. "He works hard all year long to hone his skills and it is certainly paying off. In addition to all of these accomplishments on the board, Ethan is an amazing student as well. We are happy to say that he was one of the many recipients of our scholar-athlete award, which is earned only by the best and brightest of our athletes. He had an amazing season."

Jake Wasko, 100 fly, N. Farmington: Wasko capped a solid, four-year prep career by finishing sixth in the Division 2 state meet with a personal- and areabest time of 51.38 in the final, moving up two places from the prelim.

In the OAA Red Division, he was third in the fly and sixth in the 50 freestyle. In the Oakland County meet, Wasko placed ninth in the fly and 15th in the

"Jake's butterfly swim at the state meet was pretty impressive," coach Mike Harfoot said, adding Wasko was upset after he placed 17th in the 50 free prelim and just missed qualifying for the final, "To be able to pick himself up and swim so well in the fly and become all-state in that event, I was real proud of him to be able to do that. Jake is a good competitor. We can use him wherever we need him. If there's a good racer next to him, you're going to get a good race from him."

Nick Leshok, 100 free, N. Farmington: Leshok had an outstanding fouryear career, culminating in the Division 2 state championship in the 100 free-

He swam a personal best of 45.91 in the prelim and won the state title with a 46.03. Leshok also was the state runnerup in the 50 free. He had his best time

as a prep swimmer in the prelim, when he went 20.89.

In the OAA Red Division, Leshok finished second in the 200 free and butterfly. He was the Oakland County runnerup in the 50 and 100 free.

Leshok, who was an all-state swimmer three years in a row, will continue his career with a scholarship to Michigan

State. "I can't say enough about Nick," Harfoot said. "I was real happy for him, to be able to finish his career with a state championship. They're very elusive When you're chasing them and you get so close, it seems it's not going to happen. He had to earn it, too. He was up against real good competition. He's going to blossom at Michigan State. He's going to get bigger and stronger and it's going to be fun to watch him in the Big Ten. He has a great work ethic,

which he's going to take with him." Keith Erichsen, 500 free, N. Farmington: Erichsen had a personal best swim (4:45.23) in the Division 2 prelim, taking six seconds off his previous best. He finished sixth in the state final with a

time of 4:46.61. He also scored at state in the 200 IM, placing 13th with another personal best of 2:01.48. Erichsen was second in the OAA Red in the 500 and seventh in the 200 free. He also was 15th in the 500 at

the Oakland County meet. "Keith is a workhorse," Harfoot said. "He trains like no other. He's always asking for more to do. He's a real smart swimmer, too. We talked about what he wanted to do for the 500 and how he was going to do it. When it came time, he executed his game plan flawlessly. It's fun as a coach when it comes together in the water. That's the meet you want to do it at and he did a real nice job. He did a nice job all season of keeping that sharpness while refining everything and getting ready for that

big meet. Parker Belmore, 100 back, Stevenson: The senior placed sixth in the Division 1 100 backstroke (52.61) and just missed placing in the 100 butterfly (53.39) at the state finals.

At the Kensington Conference meet, Belmore took second (53.39) in the backstroke and added a third in the butterfly (54.18).

"Parker proved himself as a solid replacement for last year's loss of senior John Ferrara," Shoemaker said. "He stepped in and led our medley and 400 freestyle relays to All-American status along with new varsity records. His consistency during practice proved to be invaluable to the younger athletes. Parker has the ability to swim multiple events and, when asked to do so, he came through time after time. He was one of the four captains this year and his leadership and swimming ability will surely be missed."

Grant McNamara, 100 breast, Stevenson: The senior earned first team all-area honors for the second straight year with sixth in the 100 breaststroke (58.32) at the Division 1 finals.

McNamara was also conference champ in the breaststroke and runner-up to teammate Matt LaPorte in the 500

freestyle (4:54.11). "His relentless pursuit of success in the breaststroke paid off at the end of the year resulting in all-state honors,"
Shoemaker said. "During the conference championship as well as during the state meet, our team relied on our breaststrokers to come through. Without a doubt, Grant stepped up and answered the call. He is a remarkable trainer and all his hard work paid off. As a captain and leader, this team will

certainly miss Grant." FIRST RELAYS

200 mediey, Stevenson: The allsenior quartet of Belmore, Arakelian, Bradley Bielicki and Goeddeke earned Division 1 state runner-up honors with a school-record and all-America time of 1:34.54. They finished second to Birmingham Brother Rice (1:32.77).

The same foursome also won the Kensington Conference title in a meet record 1:36.2. Bielicki, meanwhile, was a state qualifier in both the 100 butterfly (24th, 54.3) and 200 IM (25th, 2:01.78).

"This relay had unbelievable success this year," Shoemaker said. "We had multiple combinations we could use throughout the season. Since relays are a combination of our top performers and we're limited to the number of entries our athletes can compete in at a big meet, we needed to choose carefully who we swim and where. This combination proved to be exceptional for us. It is also ranked as the sixth fastest relay ever to swim in Michigan. This relay will be very hard to replace in the upcoming

200 freestyle, N. Farmington: Matt Morgott, Wasko, Rob Chapekis and Leshok posted the area's best time of 1:25.38 when they finished second in the Division 2 state final. Seaholm was

0.7 of a second faster. It was the highest finish in a state meet by a North boys relay and the time will most likely garner all-America recognition for the Raiders.

"We went into the season with a very lofty goal to finish in the top three in the state," Harfoot said, adding the Raiders are blessed with a lot of good sprint freestylers. "Seaholm was so dominant all season. They blew our doors off in the county and league meets. Our goal was to see how close we could get and to give Seaholm a scare. We were a little more than half a second behind in the final."

400 freestyle, Stevenson: The foursome of Arakelian, Belmore, Goeddeke and O'Dowd took Division 1 runner-up honors in 3:06.92 second only to Brother Rice's all-class record of 3:02.06.

The foursome also set a Kensington

Conference meet record in 3:08.94. "These four boys were able to swim this relay faster than any group of four in Stevenson's history," Shoemaker said. "Theirs was an all-American automatic qualification time and they are currently ranked 19th fastest in the country. We had a number of talented young men that could have swum this relay, but this combination has the fastest four on our team. Unfortunately, only one of these boys is returning and replacing the other three is going to be a task. They truly all came together and had a remarkable swim and season.

SECOND TEAM

Charles Liu, 200 free, Salem: The sophomore showed he can be as close to perfection in the pool as he is in the classroom, where he has fashioned a 4.0 grade-point average.

Liu qualified for the D-1 meet in the 200 medley relay, 200 free relay, 400 free relay and 200 freestyle --- helping the 200 free and 400 free relay teams each place 15th.

Other accolades including being Salem's most improved sophomore and Kensington Lakes all-conference selection in the 500 free and 400 free relay.

"Charles was 'Mister-Any-Event-You-Need," coach Chuck Olson said. "He was a quality swimmer and helped Salem's swim team be successful. He was the most talented Salem swimmer/

student." Personal bests included 1:47.45 in the 200 free, 4:58.59 in the 500 free and 1:04.45 in the 100 breaststroke.

Luke Crompton, 200 IM, Thurston: The senior is one of the school's all-time greatest swimmers after earning Divi sion 3 all-state accolades in both the 200 IM and the 100 breaststroke. All told, Crompton eclipsed the statequalifying times in nine events in addition to breaking a pair of Thurston records (200 IM and 100 breaststroke). An honor-roll student as well, Crompton would like to follow his older brother Dylan into collegiate swim-

"All of Luke's many accomplishments are the results of hard work," Thurston coach Tom Giummo said. "He's the first one at practice and the last to leave. He is really dedicated to getting the best times he can and it shows by the effort he puts into it. Luke is an outstanding

role model for his younger teammates." Jake Goeddeke, 50 free, Stevenson: The senior earned all-state honors by placing seventh the 50 freestyle (21.68) and 100 backstroke (53.02) at the Division 1 finals. Goeddeke was also conference champion in the 50 freestyle (21.61) and added a third in the backstroke (53.72).

"Jake was able to consistently win the 50 freestyle whenever it was needed," Shoemaker said. "His win in our conference meet could be marked as the turning point to our narrow victory over the well-coached Northville squad Jake graduates from Stevenson holding two varsity records, countless all-state honors honors and a four-time all-American winner, His leadership and personality will be truly missed by this program. Jake, along with the other seniors, will almost certainly be impos-

sible to replace." Justin Baker, diving, Churchill: In his first season on the diving board, the senior was the KLAA South Division

runner-up (313.90). Baker is an accomplished gymnast who made the Ohio State University cheer

"Justin is a talented young man and a phenomenal athlete," Rieder said. "Within three months, he put together a highly competitive list of dives. This is only one of many sports that he competes and is competitive in. In addition, Justin's extracurricular involvement at Churchill is extensive. There are few functions within our school that Justin is not personally involved in. He works hard as an individual and as the member of our community. He is a dedicated leader and model of what it means to

Danny McNeece, 100 fly, N. Farmington: McNeece is another senior who was a key contributor for four years. He finished 12th in the butterfly at the Division 2 state meet.

be a member of a team.

He swam a personal best of 52.23 in the state prelim and is second only to teammates Wasko and Leshok on the list of area best times. McNeece, who went 52.57 in the state final, also was

11th in the fly at the county meet. "Danny did a real nice job this year and worked hard toward the state meet,

Harfoot said. "He's another kid who had the state meet as a goal the entire season. It's tough to keep your focus on the end result, but he had his best swim of the season at the state meet. It was a good finish to his career. I've been coaching McNeeces for a long time and it's sad to think he's the last of the McNeece brothers. He finished up with a good senior year."

Matt Pairitz, 100 free, Salem: The senior captain capped off another outstanding season, winning the team's Most Valuable Award and Mike Kilgore Outstanding Athletic and Academic Award. Pairitz carries a 3.80 grade-point

He was a Division 1 qualifier in the 200 medley relay, 200 free relay, 400 free relay and 50 and 100 freestyle events. At the state meet, he placed 15th in the 200 and 400 free relays along with Charles Liu and Phillip Collingwood. In addition, Pairitz came in 16th in the 50 free and 17th in the 100 free.

Pairitz enjoyed his personal best of 48.41 in the 100 free and also was among area leaders in earned top-10 honors in the 50 free.

His efforts also earned him selection to the all-conference team in the 50 free, 100 free and 400 relay. "Matt has exemplified, as a four-year

swimmer, what can be accomplished athletically and academically," Olson said. "He is also an outstanding human being and an Eagle Scout.' Phillip Collingwood, 500 free, Sa-

lem: Only a freshman, Collingwood made his presence known as a talented swimmer, hard worker and standout student (3.83 grade-point average). His personal best time of 4:57.29 in the 500 freestyle was among the best in the

Collingwood qualified for the state meet in the 200 free relay and 400 free relay, coming in 15th in each event. "Phillip has been a great addition to the Salem boys swim team with his competitiveness in practice and at the

state level," Olson said, adding that the

youngster still has incredible potential

with three more varsity seasons to come. Brendan Wellman, 100 back, Salem: After making a big splash as a junior, Wellman will look to take over the team leadership reins from Pairitz in 2014-15, when he will be captain

Named the team's most improved junior, he was a D-1 state qualifier in the 200 medley relay and 100 backstroke. At the state meet, he finished 23rd in the former and 25th in the latter. Wellman was named to the all-conference team in the 200 medley relay and

100 backstroke. His personal best for the season in the

100 back was 55.76. "Brendan had an outstanding junior year athletically and academically and has earned the respect of his team-

mates and coaching staff," Olson said. Tom O'Donohue, 100 breast, Stevenson: The senior took all-state honors with an eighth in the breaststroke (58.58) at the Division 1 finals and was runner-up in the same event at the Kensington Conference finals (1:00.72). O'Donohue also took seventh in the 200 IM (2:04.76) at the conference

meet. "Tom could be earmarked as one of the hardest trainers on our squad," Shoemaker said. "His quiet leadership was an example to all that had the privilege to swim with him. Similar to Grant (McNamara), he was asked multiple times to step up in the later races to pull out a victory for us. What seemed to be impossible odds Tom always had the answer. This year, Tom accomplished his overall goal of all-state honors. His effort and success in our last two meets directly attributed to the success this program had. He will certainly be missed."

SECOND RELAYS

200 medley, N. Farmington: The all-senior team of Brody Clarke, Nick Leshok, Danny McNeece and Jake Wasko swam the area's second-best time of 1:40.29, which is one of the all-time best at North Farmington.

"That was a real consistent relay all season," Harfoot said. "I knew we were going to be in that low 1:40 range. We had a couple interchangeable parts to it. Whoever we put in there. it was always a good relay team for us."

200 freestyle, Stevenson: The foursome of Arakelian, Michael Chen, Alex Lee and O'Dowd qualified for the Division 1 state meet with a time of 1:27.28 after capturing the Kensington Conference title.

Lee, a junior, was an individual state qualifier in both the 100 freestyle (27th. 49.6) and 200 freestyle (31st. 1:49.13). He was also fifth in the Kensington Conference 200 freestyle. Chen, meanwhile, is a senior who placed sixth in the conference in the 50 freestyle (22.62).

"This team has members on it that can sprint, but we were not always able to

place everyone on it at one time," Shoemaker said. "When we were finally able to place all four of these boys on this relay, it proved to be fast enough to win conference. With the graduation of Nick and Michael, we will have a hard time replacing them in hopes of having the same success."

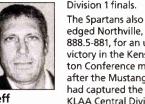
400 freestyle, N. Farmington: Chapekis, Wasko, Erichsen and Leshok were fifth in the Division 2 state meet with the area's second-best time of 3:10.89 After the team went 3:12.42 in the prelim, Brody Clarke volunteered to give up his place on the relay in favor of Erichsen when he took ill.

"That was another strong relay for us," Harfoot said, adding the Raiders broke the school record by two seconds. "It was a great swim by all four of them. They had their personal best swims at the state meet. Brody had been on the relay all season. I felt bad for Brody and happy for Keith, so that relay is five members strong even though there are only four spots."

COACH OF THE YEAR

Jeff Shoemaker, Stevenson: The 13th-year coach guided the Spartans to their best finish in school history with a

runner-up finish in the Division 1 finals. The Spartans also



Jeff Shoemaker Coach of Year

third in 2013.

888.5-881, for an upset victory in the Kensington Conference meet after the Mustangs had captured the **KLAA Central Division** meet. At the state finals,

Shoemaker's squad posted 11 different all-state performances (top eight) and six new school records after finishing

"I could not have been prouder or happier with the conclusion of this season," Shoemaker said, "The time commitment and training attitude of each kid was justified by our success. We had our ups and downs but, in the end, the boys overcame each obstacle and earned all the accolades they

The 44-year-old Shoemaker, who has taught math the past 18 years at Stevenson, was a former all-state swimme at Grandville H.S., a 15-time Mid-American Conference champion (1988-92) and All-America in the 100 breaststroke at Eastern Michigan University. He was also an U.S. Olympic Trials qualifier his

senior year at EMU. Shoemaker served three years as an boys assistant coach at Stevenson under Doug Buckler (now his assistant) and eight seasons as a girls assistant coach

for the Spartans under Greg Phill. "Through hard work and dedication our program consistently produces young men that have a sense of loyalty and determination," Shoemaker said. "Thank you goes out to the Stevenson staff and the Livonia community for giving me the honor to work with such a great bunch of kids. These boys and the boys in the past have given me some of the best memories a coach and

educator could ask for. "Also, a special thanks goes out to Joe Bublitz for keeping many of the boys in shape during the off-season. Another thank you goes out to Rich Bennnets and his well-coached Northville crew for consistently pushing our team."

2014 ALL-OBSERVER **BOYS SWIM TEAM**

200-yard freestyle: 1. Matt LaPorte, jr., Livonia Stevenson; 2. Charles Liu, soph., Salem.
200 individual medley: 1. Nick Arakelian, sr., Stevenson; 2. Luke Crompton, sr., Redford Thurston.
50 freestyle: 1. Jackson O'Dowd, soph., Stevenson; 2. Jake Goeddeke, sr., Stevenson.
Divine: 1. Faban Burke soph. Livonia Churchill: 2. Jus-Diving: 1. Ethan Burke, soph., Livonia Churchill; 2. Justin Baker, sr., Churchill,

100 butterfly: 1. Jake Wasko, sr., North Farmington; 2. Danny McNeece, sr., North Farmington. 100 freestyle: 1. Nick Leshok, sr., North Farmington; 2. Matt Pairitz, sr., Salem.

500 freestyle: 1. Keith Erichsen, jr., North Farmington;

Phillip Collingwood, fr., Salem 100 backstroke: 1. Parker Belmore, sr., Stevenson; 2. Brendan Wellman, jr., Salem. 100 breaststroke: 1. Grant McNamara, sr., Stevenson; Tom O'Donohue, sr., Stevenso

RELAY TEAMS 200-yard medley: 1. Stevenson (sr. Parker Belmore, sr. Nick Arakelian, sr. Brad Bielicki, sr. Jake Goeddeke), 2. North Farmington (sr. Brody Clarke, sr. Nick Leshok, sr. Danny McNeece, sr. Jake Wasko). 200 freestyle: 1. North Farmington (jr. Matt Morgott, sr. Jake Wasko, sr. Rob Chapekis, sr. Nick Leshok), 2. Ste-

venson (sr. Nick Arakelian, sr. Michael Chen, jr. Alex Lee, soph. Jackson O'Dowd).

400 freestyle: 1. Stevenson (sr. Nick Arakelian, sr. Park er Belmore, sr. Jake Goeddeke, soph. Jackson O'Dowd),

 North Farmington (sr. Rob Chapekis, sr. Jake Wasko, jr. Keith Erichsen, sr. Nick Leshok).
 COACH OF THE YEAR Jeff Shoemaker, Livonia Stevenson

STATE QUALIFIERS

Stevenson: Nick Arakelian, Parker Belmore, Brad Bie-liecki, Michael Chen; Jake Goeddeke, Matt LaPorte, Alex Lee, Grant McNamara, Tom O'Donohue, Jackson O'Dowd, Churchill: Ethan Burke; North Farmington: Rob Chapekis, Brody Clarke, Keith Erichsen, Nick Lesh ok, Danny McNeece, Matt Morgott, Jake Wasko; Salem: Matt Pairitz, Patrick Casey, Jason Basanese, Brendan Wellman, Charles Liu, Phillip Collingwood; Plymouth: Ben Yang, Garrett Beauprez, Ryan Heinze, Michael Wischer; Thurston: Nick Dowden, Luke Crompton, Tajhmahal Robinson, Tyler Bellis.

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Plymouth's Nisha Patel (left) returns a low shot at No. 2 doubles. At right is her teammate, Katie Weyers. JOHN KEMSKI I **EXPRESS PHOTO**



Vying for the ball against a South Lyon United player are Salem's Megan Finkbeiner (left), Lauren Britton and Jenna Carter (No. 11). JEFF CARTER

Rocks strike early, crush South Lyon

By Tim Smith Staff Writer

For the first time all season, Salem's varsity girls lacrosse team led from wire to wire Wednesday and notched a 14-8 victory over South Lyon Unit-

Leading the way with seven goals was Rose Krasofsky, who scored four times in the first half as the Rocks built a 9-5 halftime lead.

Chipping in with three goals was Jenna Carter. Joslyn Longe and Bridget Kerwin each tallied two markers.

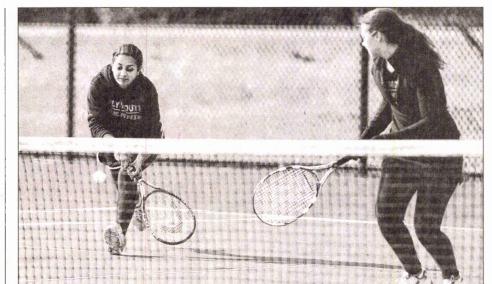
Salem improved to 9-1 overall and 6-1 in the KLAA Kensington Conference, still trailing Canton (5-1, 5-0) who defeated Novi 14-11 on Wednesday.

"We had an outstanding job from our midfield and attack players controlling the ball and tempo of the game," Salem head coach Dave Medley said. "South Lyon, on a few occasions, showed how quick they can score as early in the second half they made it a three-goal

"Overall, everyone did what they had to do to get this vic-

Medley said the Rocks now have three big conference games in the next couple weeks, against Canton (April 30), Novi (May 5) and South Lyon (May 7).

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CANTON

LOCAL SPORTS

Continued from Page B1

No. 1 singles, Plymouth junior Sarah Gamble earned a 6-3, 6-4 win over Canton senior Maddison Johnson and the Wildcats also took No. 4 singles (sophomore Amber Tseng over senior Abby Wampler, 6-0, 6-2).

The Chiefs seized the middle singles matchups with No. 2 singles going to junior Maranda McMaster (over Plymouth sophomore Swetha Duraiswamy, 6-4, 6-1) and 3 singles grabbed by junior Jasmine Najm-Henry over senior Miranda Cerny, 6-3, 6-1.

But the Chiefs' depth in their doubles lineup hurt the Wildcats.

McLaren said the Wildcats'

top three doubles tandems "have a lot of experience and they all played really well against Canton. However, Canton's 4D and 5D played very well on Wednesday and our inexperience in those flights really showed.

'I hope that we can get our girls up to speed by the conference tournament (the next time the Park rivals meet).'

Doubling up

Plymouth did nab wins at No. 1 and No. 3 doubles.

At 1 doubles, juniors Emma Mullenax and Teahn Horton prevailed 6-2, 6-4 over Canton junior Alexis Madau and senior Julia Stevenson.

The Wildcats' No. 3 doubles team of sophomore Alvssa Lopez and junior Lauren Conley defeated Canton sophomore Kaylee Rivera and

freshman Lily Pita, 6-2, 6-3. The Chiefs, in addition to the Distelrath-Cotham win, were successful at No. 4 and

No. 5 doubles. At No. 4 doubles, Canton senior Olivia Turbaro and junior Amy Dalton came away with a 6-4, 6-0 win over Plymouth freshman Ria Mahesh and senior Amanah Fatima.

Also victorious for the Chiefs was the No. 5 doubles pairing of senior Melissa Karbon and sophomore Sarah Kalasky (6-1, 6-1 over Plymouth sophomores Justine Ko and Sindhu Borra).

Lehmann added that it was nice to see her team come back to defeat the Wildcats just four days after losing by one point to Plymouth at a Park quad meet.

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BOYS BEST SWIM TIMES

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY North Farmington 1:40 79 Salem 1:41.20 Plymouth 1:42.46 Redford Thurston 1:46.90 200 FREESTYLE Nick Arakelian (Stevenson) 1:41.15

Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 1:43.77 Jackson O'Dowd (Stevenson) 1:44.96 Matt LaPorte (Stevenson) 1:46.99 Charles Liu (Salem) 1:47.45 Alex Lee (Stevenson) 1:48.58 Keith Erichsen (N. Farmington) 1:49.00 Luke Crompton (Thurston) 1:50.23 Jake Goeddeke (Stevenson) 1:50.42

Gerard Niermann (Canton) 1:51.08
200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY Nick Arakelian (Stevenson) 1:47.47 Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 1:55.48 Luke Crompton (Thurston) 1:59.42 Jackson O'Dowd (Stevenson) 2:00.76 Brad Bielicki (Stevenson) 2:00.79 Keith Erichsen (N. Farmington) 2:01.48

Tom O'Donohue (Stevenson) 2:04.70 Grant McNamara (Stevenson) 2:04.82 Parker Belmore (Stevenson) 2:05.29 Gerard Nierman (Canton) 2:05.66 50 FREESTYLE

Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 20.89 Jackson O'Dowd (Stevenson) 21.17 Jake Goeddeke (Stevenson) 21.45 Matt Pairitz (Salem) 21.96 Matt Morgott (N. Farmington) 21.97 Jake Wasko (N. Farmington) 22.15 Jason Basanese (Salem) 22.68 Michael Chen (Stevenson) 22.71 Cody Hodges (John Glenn) 22.74 Luke Crompton (Thurston) 23.09 ONE-METER DIVING

Ethan Burke (Churchill) 400.60 Justin Baker (Churchill) 313.90 David Cunningham (John Glenn) 306.60 Brian Atiyeh (Stevenson) 304.10 Chas Eisenhardt (Stevenson) 271.05 Tom Mittelbrun (N. Farmington) 235.95 Eli Weil (N. Farmington) 235.45 Nate Louissa (N. Farmington) 230.75

Justin Wozniak (John Glenn) 227.60 Michael Falzon (Salem) 221.00 100 BUTTERFLY

Jake Wasko (N. Farmington) 51.38 Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 52.05 Danny McNeece (N. Farmington) 52.23 Parker Belmore (Stevenson) 53.39 Nick Arakelian (Stevenson) 53.82 Brad Bielicki (Stevenson) 54.30 Luke Crompton (Thurston) 54.56 Jake Goeddeke (Stevenson) 55.12 Jackson O'Dowd (Stevenson) 56.10 Gerard Niermann (Canton) 56.80 100 FREESTYLE

Nick Arakelian (Stevenson) 45.63 Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 45.91 Jackson O'Dowd (Stevenson) 46.43 Matt Pairitz (Salem) 48.41 Rob Chapekis (N. Farmington) 48.53 Alex Lee (Stevenson) 49.10 Parker Belmore (Stevenson) 49.11 Jake Waske (N. Farmington) 49.17

Brody Clarke (N. Farmington) 49.91

500 FREESTYLE Nick Arakelian (Stevenson) 4:24.84 Matt LaPorte (Stevenson) 4:41.75 Keith Erlchsen (N. Farmington) 4:45.23 Grant McNamara (Stevenson) 4:54.11 Phillip Collingwood (Salem) 4:57.29 Jackson O'Dowd (Stevenson) 4:58.27 Charles Liu (Salem) 4:58.59 Luke Crompton (Thurston) 5:00.96

Eric Ferrara (Stevenson) 5:05.70 Garrett Beauprez (Plymouth) 5:06.10 200 FREESTYLE RELAY North Farmington 1:25.38 Livonia Stevenson 1:27.28 Salem 1:29.32 Plymouth 1:32.88

Wayne Memorial 1:33.81 100 BACKSTROKE Parker Belmore (Stevenson) 52.61 Jake Goeddeke (Stevenson) 53.02 Nick Arakelian (Stevenson) 53.33 Brendan Wellman (Salem) 55.76 Patrick Casey (Salem) 56.00

Luke Crompton (Thurston) 56.69 Ben Yang (Plymouth) 57.37 Jackson O'Dowd (Stevenson) 57.82 Matt Della Mora (Stevenson) 58.74
Danny McNeece (N. Farmington) 58.9
100 BREASTSTROKE

Grant McNamara (Stevenson) 58.13 Tom O'Donohue (Stevenson) 58.58 Nick Arakelian (Stevenson) 58.88 Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 59.40 Luke Crompton (Thurston) 1:01.20 Tim O'Donohue (Stevenson) 1:03.48 Charles Liu (Salem) 1:04.45 Alex Bourdreau (Canton) 1:04.90 Rob Chapekis (N. Farmington) 1:06.17 Bronson Knowles (Plymouth) 1:06.56 **400 FREESTYLE RELAY**

Livonia Stevenson 3:06.76 North Farmington 3:10.89 Salem 3:17.23 Plymouth 3:26.06 Wayne Memorial 3:30.48

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Modeling at its facility in Detroit, Michigan.

Perform structural and Perform structural and thermal stress and fatigue fi-nite element analysis of AAM drivetrain system/ com-ponents, and use the analy-sis results to provide guidance to improve structura design validation for curren

programs and future prod-Perform beaming axle prackets laser welding struc lural stress analysis and fati gue life prediction, use the inalytical model to provide rackets design guidelines. Perform driveline system thermal sensitivity rough driveline system dy namics and bearing dynamics to improve the NVH ro-bustness of AAM drivetrain products such as PTU and

Perform sealing perform-ance analysis of AAM drivetrain products with vari-ous gasket designs and sea

strategies.

5. Perform structural topology optimization of axle housing designs to improve the stiffness and NVH targets while reducing the total mass, improving the overal uel economy of AAM prod-

ucts.
6. Communicate simulation esults with product engineers and present analysis conclusion to AAM custom

 Assist Application Engineers and Testing Engineers to diagnose testing failure modes and identify root ses of structural durabili

Masters degree in Mechani-cal Engineering or foreign uivalent education and ex rience in the following

Finite element analysis

 Nonlinear stress and fati-gue analysis of drivetrair components using Hyper-works, SimLab and Abaqus etc. Software; Welding stress and fatigue analysis using Fe-Safe/verity software; 4. Gaskets and sealing per-formance analysis of powertrain system under

mal conditions; Topology optimization onents using Abaqus and OSCA software: TOSCA software; 6. Bore distortion analysis of powertrain system; 7. Frequency and mode anal-ysis of drivetrain system us-ing Nastran.

complex loading and ther

Applicants should send Re umes to American Axle & Manufacturing One Dauch Drive. Detroit, MI 48211, ATTN: Ann Dunlop.

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requirements.

Send or email resume to: Callie A. Demski Morelio Law Group, P.C. 41000 W. Seven Mile Rd. #200, Northville MI 48167 callie.demski@

morellolawgroup.com LEGAL SECRETARY

Northville. Permanent, Part-Time Some secretarial/clerical & omputer experience required Legal experience not needed. 20-25 hrs/wk. \$10/start. Email resume:

shawn@stempien.com Office Manager/

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Milford United Methodist Church 1200 Atlantic St. Milford, MI 48381 rchoffice@milfordumc.ne

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Dream Dental Group

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OBSERVER & ECCENTRE MEDIA

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ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWN

500 MILES, 40 DAYS

Farmington Hills senior plans to follow apostle's route through Spain

By Sharon Dargay Staff Writer

Sidney Bonvallet will scratch off a major event from her "bucket list" next month.

To achieve her goal, the 73-year-old Farmington Hills woman will hike 500 miles, walking 15 miles daily for nearly 40 days, on terrain that includes the rugged French and Spanish Pyrenees mountain ranges, forest paths and paved city streets in northern Spain. The route, called El Camino de Santiago, follows the way St. James the apostle took on his journey through Spain to convert its populace to Christianity. Bonvallet and her trip companion, Izabela Jaworska, 49, of Ypsilanti, will start their pilgrimage May 14 with a flight to Paris, France, continuing on by train to St. Jean Pied-de-Port where they'll obtain "passports" for the trail. Along their westward walk they'll stay in hostels overnight and get trail passports stamped. The trip ends in Santiago de Compostela, where they'll receive certificates acknowledging their achievement.

"They ask your reason for doing it. I know right now why I'm doing it, but I think things emerge along the way. There's probably a deeper thing going on with all of us. Everyone, whether they know it or not, has a deep reason for walking El Camino. My reason is to surrender to God's will totally without shrinking back," Bonvallet said, adding that her pilgrimage also honors her charity work in Africa. "It dedicates myself to it."

Charity work

Bonvallet, her husband, Wayne, and daughter C.J.

See APOSTLE, Page B6



Wayne Bonvallet will be with his wife, Sidney, in spirit when she re-traces the route of St. James the apostle in Spain. They hope her pilgrimage will raise money for their charity work in Africa. The photo on their living room wall shows children they've met overseas

WALK A MILE IN HER SHOES

» Sidney Bonvallet's backpack will include a quartz rock that she'll leave at a shrine along the way; a headlamp in case the pair are on the trail at dusk, and a journal with pens, one which is wrapped in duct tape for emergencies.

» Bonvallet read several books about El Camino in preparation for the trip and discovered that hikers' main complaints were the snoring heard in hostels and blisters.

» The pair will walk approximately 34 days, traveling the other six days to and from the trail. They'll hike 15 miles daily. "My brother calculated it out and at my stride I'll take 1,665,000 steps," she said.

» Stray dogs are the most "dangerous" animals Bonvallet is likely to encounter on the trip. "You don't hear much about pilgrims being molested by people," she said.

» Considering your own journey? Bonvallet encourages you to take it. "A lot of people think their purpose is supposed to be hard. It's what you're good at. Follow your star. We need to die to certain fears, die to certain behaviors that obstruct our lives, die to self-destructive things and we need to come alive to hope, passion and the star that is going to guide us from this place to the next.



Sidney Bonvallet, (left) and Izabela Jaworska pack their gear for a 500-mile walk across Spain. They plan to keep the weight of their packs to 10 percent of their body weight.

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Considering talk therapy? Here's how it helps

think everyone has been distressed about something and thought, "If only I could talk to someone." In this scenario, you happen across a friend who perceives your distress and says, "Is something troubling you?" Just by being asked, you feel a bit of relief. Then you talk. Maybe, you, "Spill your guts." The friend mostly listens, but occasionally might say, "Tell me some more." You accept the invitation and talk on. You feel even better. But, much more has occurred.

How does talking help? I think it helps, in part, through the following process: Person A is distressed. He/she shares it with Person B who listens, tolerates, and invites you to say more. Temporarily, Person A is borrowing from Person B's ability to



Len McCulloch

listen and not be overwhelmed by what he/she hears. Person A leaves Person B and takes this "borrowed capacity" within themselves and feels

I met a psychotherapist

and author who worked with Mother Teresa and wrote a book with Elizabeth Kubler-Ross, two individuals who are considered experts in listening. In their book, On Grief and Grieving, they described how talking helps: "There is something about taking the inner thoughts of your mind and speaking them out loud to another person that helps put things in order, and gives

structure to shapeless, unspoken thoughts. Telling your story can help and build structure. Telling your story may also offer the opportunity for important feedback from the listener."

Talk therapy

Sigmund Freud coined the term "talk therapy." In the field of mental health today, there are many varieties of "talk therapy." This can be confusing.

However, these various forms of "treatment" have some things in common. They use talking and listening in order to help a person in distress. They utilize a person-person relationship. They share the belief that "Two heads are better than one" when it comes to solving problems. What they may not share is the emphasis placed on the use of the

unconscious mind in determining how one experiences themselves and their world.

I think that a helpful description of "psycho-therapy" can aid people who are considering "talk therapy." From my experience, I think that psychotherapy is a professional, working relationship between two people. One is distressed and the other has insight through training, education, personal therapy, as well as experi-ence to know more about how the mind works. 'The patient' is motivated to seek out the psychotherapist because of emotional distress. The goal of the talking and listening together is to help the distressed person learn about themselves, including the underlying and unconscious conflicts. It will eventually become the

task of the patient, or learner, to utilize what is gained in psychotherapy outside of the therapeutic room and without the psychotherapeutic relationship. Hopefully, increased knowledge and understanding about how one's mind works leads to lessening of distress and growth toward psychological independence. This is not an easy task and requires hard work.

Therapy varieties

In seeking mental health psychotherapy it can be helpful to be more informed about the varieties of therapies that are available. If you are considering getting help, you may want to ask if the therapy will resemble the description above, i.e. increasing self-knowledge, utilizing this to solve one's problems, and how

to recognize the beginning and termination phases of the work. The answers one gets can be helpful in deciding what type of therapy to entrust one's mental health to. Similarly, one might want to ask a prospective therapist "How does talking

Google "psychotherapy resources" to find assistance in your community or contact the Michigan Psychological Association.

Len J. McCulloch is a Diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association. He is credentialed in traumatic stress, social work, addictions, and traumatic brain injury. He created this column, "Our Mental Health," and has 200

archived publications at

248-474-2763, Ext. 22.

www.farmlib.org. He can be

reached for consultation at

Salute your dad in O&E Media

Attention, all local sons and daughters. Father's Day is Sunday,

June 15. Celebrate your dad and show him how much you appreciate him by entering the first Observer & Eccentric Media

"Dear Dad" Contest. Bring your dad to the Spring Expo on Tuesday, April 29, in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia, and enter to win.

You must enter the contest in person at the 2014 Spring Expo at which time you and your dad will have an impromptu photo shot (which will also serve as the photo for the winning contestants). On the entry form you must answer the question, "Why is your dad worthy of a



Celebrate your dad and show him how much you appreciate him by entering the first ever Observer & Eccentric Media "Dear Dad" Contest. GETTY IMAGES/MONKEY

tribute?" The photos and responses will be uploaded on FB.com/OEHomtown and voted on by the public. The winners will have their photo tribute featured in a local print edition. Up to 13 winners are possible.

Selected winners will: 1) Be featured in a quarter page color promotional ad in an edition of the Observer or Eccen-

2) Receive movie

passes that admit two to

any Emagine Theatre 3) Receive Buddy's pizza coupon for dads and kids

4) Receive a \$20 gift card.

5) Receive the featured quarter page promotional ad on a coffee

mug.
Dads, daughters and sons are eligible to participate from the following communities: Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, Franklin, Bingham Farms, Southfield, Royal Oak, Berkley, Lathrup Village, Livonia, Redford Township, Plymouth,, Canton, Westland, Garden City, Farmington, Northville, Novi, South Lyon, Milford, Highland, Salem Township and New Hudson.

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR



Spring beauties and yellow trout lilies carpet the base of a beech tree last year in Miller Woods in Plymouth Township. The Friends of Miller Woods will lead guided walks through the nature preserve Sunday, April 27 and May 4. MARCIA FOWLER

person.

Send material for the Garden & Nature Calendar to Sharon Dargay. Observer & Eccentric, sdargay@hometownlife.com.

Friends of Miller Woods

The Friends will offer spring wildflower tours through Miller Woods, 2-4 p.m. Sunday, pril 27 and May 4 Tours are free and typically last about 60 minutes. They leave every 30 minutes from the entrance on Powell Road, just east of Ridge Road, between Ann Arbor Road and North Territorial, Plymouth Township. Dogs are not permitted and strollers are not recommended because of the terrain. Website for updates is millerwoods.com.

Heritage Park

» A naturalist will lead an exploration of the wetlands in the park 7-8:30 p.m. Friday, April 25. Participants, ages 6 and up, will learn to listen to and identify native frogs and toads. Youngsters will complete data sheets and will take part in seasonal Heritage Park Frog and Toad Surveys. Cost

» Full Moon Friday Night Hikes run 9-10 p.m. May 16 and 9:30-10:30 p.m. June 13. Hikes are for ages 5 and up. Cost is \$3 per

Register for the programs at recreg.fhgov.com. Heritage Park is located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile in Farmington Hills. Call 248-477-1135 or email

asmith@fhgov.com for

more information. **Plant sharing**

Bring a plant to share and choose a plant to take home, at the Livonia Garden Club's annual plant sharing, 9-11 a.m. May 10, at Greenmead Historical Park, 20501 Newburgh, Livonia. Event is free and runs rain or shine. Questions? Call Liz at 734-425-6880.

Livonia Garden Club

Mary Pulick, a former member, will talk about the history of the Livonia Garden Club and will demonstrate designs and show horticulture from its early exhibits and flower shows, 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 6, at the Civic Park Senior Citizen Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. Pulick is a member of the Saline Stone and Thistle Garden Club and a leader of the Landscape Design School. For more information call Ruth Moline at 734-525-3167 or view livonia.gardenclub.org.

Junior League parties its way through spring

By Julie Yolles Social Scene Columnist

t has been a busy few weeks for the Junior League of Birmingnam. First, was Bites, Bubbles & Books on March 27 at the Townsend Hotel. Guests enjoyed delicacies fea-



Julie **Yolles**

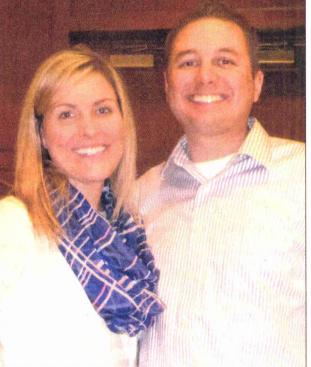
tured in the Junior League's cookbook, Seasons in Thyme, (\$10 at www.jlbham.org/

estore) and prepared by Townsend executive chef Drew Sayes.

Next was JLB's Anchors Aweigh Spring Sophisticate Patron Party at Saks Fifth Avenue on April 17. The League's spring activities culminate with its largest fundraiser, Spring Sophisticate — A Coastal Affair. The black-tie/nautical-inspired gala will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 26, at Oakland Hills Coun try Club in Bloomfield Hills. Tickets are \$125. To order tickets, go to www.jlbham.org.



Junior League of Birmingham (JLB) membership development chair Joey Molnar of Farmington Hills (left) and Bites, Bubbles & Books co-chair and JLB Fund **Development Council director Nikki Braddock of** Birmingham PHOTO BY JULIE YOLLES, SOCIAL SCENE COLUMNIST



JLB new member Jen Pardonnet and her husband, lan, of Farmington mingle and nosh at Bites, Bubbles & Books.

APOSTLE

Continued from Page B5

Christopher have visited tribal villages in South Africa annually since creating her nonprofit charity, Helping Hands Touching Hearts in 2009. Their mission is to "empower impoverished villagers through sustainability with education, health and hope.' Their organization has distributed hundreds of mosquito nets, clothed and provided shoes for 1,400 villagers, supplied chickens and chicken coop materials, as well as seeds, garden tools, school supplies, books and more. The couple spends winters in South Carolina, where Bonvallet spends her time sew-

ing outfits and school bags for villagers. Last year, she made 350 outfits, 60 tablecloths and 60 pairs of pillow cases and with the help of a friend, sewed 350 tote bags.

Bonvallet hopes her pilgrimage through Spain will spark donations to Helping Hands Touching Hearts. She stressed that all donations collected through the organization's website are used for charity work, not for trip expenses, which she and Jaworska are paying.

Although the trip has beenn on her bucket list for more than 20 years, Bonvallet initially planned to make the trip with her daughter, after they both watched The Way, a 2011 film with Martin Sheen about a grieving father who makes the pilgrimage.

Her daughter was unable to make the trip and her husband's doctor discouraged him from going. She met Jaworska, a professional dancer, through a client of her life coaching business.

Led by God

"Some things that are on our bucket list are, maybe a picture of a place you've seen and you want to go and see it. But there are other things on bucket lists that pull at our soul and this is one of those," she

Both Bonvallet and her husband are former General Motors executives who subsequently earned master's degrees in clinical behavior/psychology, as well as business management. They have presented seminars together and Bonvallet counsels individuals and couples. Their charity's board of directors includes the Rev. Todd Lackie, pastor of Kenwood Church of Christ, the church they attend.

"Some people ask, why don't you do charity work in the U.S., and we do some," said Wayne Bonvallet, adding that the couple participate in charity work at Kenwood. "But even those in poverty here don't know poverty like they (Africans) do."

"I also tell people I didn't make the choice," Bonvallet said, explaining that God led her to work in Africa. "If I had chosen, I would have chosen closer to home. It would cost less money and wear and tear on us if we did it here. These



Sidney Bonvallet, (right), 73, of Farmington Hills, and Izabela Jaworska, 49, of Ypsilanti, train with their packs and hiking staffs.

people are in a remote area. It's not a place you visit."

For more about Helping Hands Touching Hearts visit clotheavillagenow.com. Read Bonvallet's posts about the hike on their Facebook page, Walk for Hope of Children.

REUNIONS

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

CODY HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1964

50-year reunion runs 6 p.m. to midnight Friday, Sept. 19, at the Sheraton Detroit Novi Hotel, 21111 Haggerty, Novi. For more information. contact Mike and Barb Kerby, 734-525-0546, kerby66bam@msn.com.

FRASER HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1964

50-year reunion from 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Aug. 9, at the Sterling Inn, 34911 Van Dyke, Sterling Heights. Contact Rich Whipple, 734-751-2992, rekjwhipple@yahoo.com for more information.

GARDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1989

A 25th class reunion is planned for May 10 at Joy Manor in Westland. For more information and tickets, contact Kelly at kelicamusic@yahoo.com or call at 734-377-1745.

LIVONIA BENTLEY

CLASS OF 1974

40th class reunion set for 6 p.m. Saturday, June 28, at One Under Bar and Grill in Livonia. \$40 per person. Visit www.bentley74.com for more details and to buy tickets.

ROSARY HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1974

A meet & greet is planned for 7 p.m. May 9 at Doc's in Livonia. Other arrangements are pending for the reunion on May 10. Contact Beth Macdonald at 248-766-9531 or email beth.macdonald.sinacola@gmail.com.

WAYNE MEMORIAL HIGH

CLASS OF 1964

50-year class reunion with All Class Reunion Banquet, 5 p.m. Friday, May 16, at Wayne Tree Manor, 35100 Van Born, just east of Wayne Road, in Wayne. Cost is \$30 per person by May 1 and \$35 after. Download RSVP form at waynehighalumni-.com. Class of 1964 will celebrate at 5 p.m. Saturday, May 17, at Avenue American Bistro, 3632 Elizabeth, Wayne. Cost is \$15 per person and includes hot & cold appetizers and a cash bar. Email an RSVP to kchorbagian@hughes.net. Reunion organizers also will accept short bios from alumni for the reunion booklet, whether or not they plan to attend the festivities.

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN

CLASS OF 1979

35th reunion starts with an informal get together, 7:30 p.m. to midnight Friday, Oct. 24, at Docs Sports Retreat, 19265 Victor Parkway, Livonia. The reunion runs 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Oct. 25, at Joy Manor, 28999 Joy Road, Westland. Cost of \$65 per person includes dinner, open bar, dancing and DJ. Make checks payable to JGHS Class of '79 and send to JGHS Class of 79, 887 Eton Ct., South Lyon, MI 48178.

CONTEST CALLS FOR ART ABOUT HEROES

JARC, an organization serving men, women and children with disabilities. is sponsoring its second annual art contest for students grades pre-kindergarten through eighth grade in honor of its upcoming SpringElation

fundraising event. The art contest, which is open to the public, will be judged in four age categories. Participants submit an 8 1/2- by 11-inch piece of paper displaying their artistic interpretation of the theme "Who's Your Super Hero?" Artwork can be created with any colorful medium including markers, crayons, watercolors, pencils and/ or paper collage, excluding glitter and confetti.

All entries must be received at JARC by 5 p.m. Friday, May 16. They can be mailed directly to JARC or dropped off 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday at JARC's offices

at 30301 Northwestern Highway, No. 100, Farmington Hills, MI 48334. Winners will be an-

nounced at JARC's SpringElation event, Wednesday, May 28, at the Detroit Zoo. The grand prize winner will receive a \$100 gift card and one honorable mention winner from each age category will receive a \$25 gift card.

For more information, complete details on the art contest or to secure a

SpringElation 2013 Art Contest Entry form, visit www.jarc.org/jarc-events or call 248-488-7524.

JARC's 16th annual SpringElation fundraising event will feature a private evening at the zoo. Cost is \$25 per guest; children under 2 are free. This family community event benefits hundreds of children with disabilities - including autism, developmental delays and physical and emotional

disabilities - and their families. JARC's services for children with disabilities include in-home respite by trained caregivers, social opportunities for teens, and advocacy with schools and agencies on behalf of families.

For more information, to buy tickets, or learn more about sponsorship opportunities, visit www.jarc.org/jarc-events or call 248-538-6611.

RELIGION CALENDAR

APRIL

EASTER WORSHIP

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., Easter Sunday, April 20 Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: A free Easter

breakfast will be served from 8-9:15 a.m.

Contact: 734-968-3523 or 313-532-8655 **EASTER WORSHIP**

Time/Date: 6 a.m., 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Sunday, April 20 Location: Our Lady of

Good Counsel Roman Catholic Church, 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth

Contact: 734-453-0326; www.olgcparish.net EASTER WORSHIP

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. Sunday, April 20

Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City

Details: Easter events include a pancake breakfast at 9 a.m. and egg hunt at 9:30 a.m. Contact: 734-427-3660 **EASTER WORSHIP**

Time/Date: Masses at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., noon, Sunday, April 20

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia Contact: 734-261-1455,

Ext. 200

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



BISH, SHARON C. (LOCKER)

62 formerly of Canton, MI died April 4, 2014, after a hard fought battle with cancer. She was born July 6, 1951 in Detroit, MI to Alfred and Shirley Locker. She graduated from Allen Park High School in 1969. Sharon was a beloved daughter, mother, grandmother, sister and friend. She is survived by her parents, Alfred and Shirley Locker, of Allen Park, MI; two children, Christina Hayward (Dru) of Allentown, PA and Thomas Bish (Elizabeth) of Union, KY. She is also survived by her siblings Richard Locker (Janice) and Carol Metcalf (Jim) and six grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, gifts may be sent in Sharon's memory to Lehigh Valley Hospice: Development Department Lehigh Valley Health Network, Mack Blvd 6th Floor, Allentown, PA 18105. Funeral services will be held at St. Francis Cabrini Catholic Church in Allen Park, MI, Saturday June 28th, at 10 a.m. (gather at 9:30), burial fol-lowing at Our Lady of Hope Cemetery, Taylor, MI



CULOTTA, CAROLYN 'LYNN" RUNDELL

Age 80 died at her home on Sunday, April 6th, 2014. Her devoted husband, John Culotta, and son, Kent Culotta, were at her side. Mrs. Culotta was born in Detroit, MI on January 1, 1934, and was the daughter of the late Harwood Faville Rundell and Margaret Stahl Rundell. She grew up and attended school in Jackson, Michigan. She went on to further her education, earning a bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Michigan, and later earning an MBA from the University of Michigan, Dearborn. Mrs. Culotta lived in Plymouth, Michigan for the last 48 years, and was an active member of the Plymouth-Canton branch of the American Association of University Women, including two years as President from 1974 to 1976. She worked for many years for the Plymouth-Canton Community School District as a Financial Administrator. Lynn loved to read and to bridge with her many friends. She was a fan of classical music, attending live concerts regularly. She loved to travel, visiting her children and grandchildren often. Lynn and her husband John also travelled the world extensively after she retired, going on many trips and cruises. Lynn is survived by her devoted husband, John Culotta and was the beloved mother of Kent Culotta of Glendale, CA and the late Mark Culotta of West Townsend, MA. She leaves three granddaughters, Cailley, Emma, and Isabelle Culotta, her daughter-in-law, Carrin Culotta and son-in-law, Patrick Hediger. She was also close to her sisterin-law Jennie Jacobsen of Taylor, MI, and was the beloved sis-



ter of Philip Rundell of Walled

Lake, MI. An announcement for the memorial service will be

forthcoming.

EHLERT, **MARY JOYCE**

Passed away on April 16, 2014 at the age of 84. Born in St. Paul, Minnesota, she received a Master of Arts from University of Minnesota and taught art in Minnesota and Michigan for over 30 years. Former member of the Visual Arts Association of Livonia, Palette and Brush Club and Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association. A talented artist with water colors she was also a member of the Michigan Water Color Society. In 1968 she married the love of her life, Ted and together had their cherished son, Andrew. She was a dear sister to Janet DiMarco and Barbara Carpenter. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. memorial service will be held at later date. In lieu of flowers donations are appreciated to Marywood, 36975 Five Mile Rd., Livonia, MI 48154. Arrangements entrusted to Harry J. Will Funeral Home of Livonia



HARRIS GERALDINE A.

Age 79. April 12, 2014, of Livo-Beloved wife of the late Richard. Loving mother of Richard. Dear sister of Victor Soltis and the late Soltis. Private family George services will be held. Arrangements by the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, Garden City. Please sign the on-line guest book at: www.rggrharris.com



KAISER, JOHN

86; of Woodhaven; April Beloved husband of Lorraine for 66 years; loving father of Chervl Kaiser, James and Douglas (Aida) Kaiser Kaiser; proud grandpa of John Jill (Shawn), Kristine (Jason), Jennifer (Ryan) and Lori (Jon); devoted great-grandpa of Alexis, Ava, Emma, C.J., Emma, C.J.,
James, Connor, Jalynn, Jack, Aubrey and Maria. Preceded in death by parents, Karl and Anna Kaiser; and siblings, Mike, Joe, Charles, Anna and Bill. Visitation Monday 3 to 9 p.m. at The Trenton Chapel-Martenson Family of Funeral Homes, 3200 West Rd. Funeral Service Tuesday 10 a.m. at the funeral home. Visit: www.martenson.com

SAVAGE,

CARL ROLAND Age 88, of Livonia, died April 17, 2014. Beloved husband of 67 years to Margaret. Devoted faof Cheryl (Thaddeus) Szynal, Randall Savage, and Lance (Norio Teramato) Savage. Loving grandfather of Heather Kronemeyer, Jared (Amy) Hopkins, Megan Savage, Erinn (Alex) Kereluik, and Lynn (Ja-Erinn son) Newberry; great-grand-father of eight. Fond brother of Donald Savage and Carolyn (Larry) Morris: brother-in-law of Gwendolyn Boyce; and uncle to numerous nieces and nephews. Sadly, Carl was preceded in death by brothers, Robert and Melvin Savage Funeral Service Wednesday, April 23, 1 p.m., at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., (between 9-10 Mile Rds., just N of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Visitation Tuesday, April 22, 2-8 p.m. Memorial tributes suggest-ed to Gleaners Food Bank,

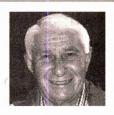
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SIMON, GARY R.

April 16, 2014 of Garden City Beloved father of Kirk Simon, David Simon and Kristen Gephart (Don). Dear brother of Lynne Breen (Earl). Beloved Papa of Amanda, Gavin and Ian. Loved son of the late William Simon and Virginia Christensen. Gary was a Sr. Draftsman-Detailer with GM and Cadillac for nearly 40 years. 1960 graduate of Garden City High School, longtime member and past president of the Garden City Kiwanis, member of SPEBSQSA Wayne Michigan Chapter. Founder of Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County. Visitation was Friday April 18 at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Wayne. Funeral Services were Saturday at the Merriman Road Baptist Church in Garden City. Memorial gifts to Garden City Kiwanis or Fish Dial-A-Ride appreciated. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



PEACOCK, WILLIAM T., JR.

Passed away at age 83, of Oro

Valley, Arizona, died April 4,

2014. Cause of death was a brain tumor. A funeral service was held April 12 at St. Mark Catholic Church in Oro Valley and the burial at Holy Hope Cemetery in Tucson. He is survived by his wife, Ann Marie Peacock; son, William (Susan) T. Peacock III; and grandson, Thomas T. Peacock of Tucson, AZ. And his black poodle. Mr. Peacock was born June 26, 1930 in Charlotte, North Carolina. When his father was assigned to cover the White House and Congress for the Associated Press, the family moved to Arlington, Virginia in 1936 where Mr. Peacock was raised. He graduated from Washington & Lee High School in Arlington. and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (1952, BA Journalism). At UNC, Mr. Peacock was sports editor of The Daily Tar Heel and a member of Chi Phi fraternity. He served in the Navy during 1952 – 1954 as a lieutenant JG on the USS McCord in Korea. In 1955, he married Ann Marie Peacock (nee McGowan), his wife for almost 60 years. Following service in the Navy, he was hired by Ford Motor Company. He was Director of Public Affairs of North America in Dearborn, Michigan when he retired after 35 years with Ford. He was a resident of Bloomfield Township, MI for over 20 years. He served on the board of the Birmingham Athletic Club and won several tennis and squash championships. 1990, he moved to Chapel Hill, NC and would spend summers at Bald Head Island, NC. In 2005, he moved to Oro Valley, AZ and would spend summers in Show Low, AZ. Arrangements by Vis-toso Funeral Home (520) 544-2285





STRONG, DR. TRUMAN A. LOVING HUSBAND, FATHER, GRANDFATHER, UNCLE, NEIGHBOR, AND FRIEND

Truman Strong was dedicated to his family, friends, and community. Surrounded by his family, Truman died peacefully at his home on April 16, 2014

Truman was born in Detroit on April 8, 1927. A proud Detroiter, he was raised on the city's west side along with his two sisters, Barbara (O'Brien) and Dorothy (Timmis). He was attending St. Mary's High School when his country called him into service in 1945. Until Truman began his service in the Navy, he had never traveled beyond the borders of his beloved hometown. While Truman's military service occurred after the war had ended, he was nonetheless involved in per-ilous missions in the South Pacific. Truman was assigned to a patrol boat with the task of extracting and disarming deadly mines planted by the Germans and Japanese. The mission was interrupted when the boat was stuck in a treacherous Typhoon that washed several of Truman's fellow sailors overboard

Truman returned home and enrolled at the University of Detroit, where he studied account-While he excelled with numbers, Truman decided that his skills were best applied as a dentist. He enrolled at the University of Detroit School of Dentistry, and graduated in 1953. Truman remained involved with the school's affairs for the rest of his life, eventually becoming President of its Alumni Association in 1967. Truman also met many close friends and colleagues during dental school. Most importantly, Truman's sister Dorothy introduced him to his future wife, Elizabeth "Betsy" Peters. The couple married at St. Mary of Redford on July 11, 1953 with a grand reception held at Western Golf & Country Club.

Truman's wedding reception would not be his first visit to Western. He and Betsy built a in the surrounding neighborhood, and raised six children. Along with many of their close friends and neighbors, the Strong's became loyal parishioners at St. Valentine Church. Truman sent all six of his children through Catholic grade school and high school. Truman eventually joined Western, and recently became a Life Member. He could often be spotted walking to the golf course on his days off to play a round of golf with fellow members.



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in this time of sorrow.

urbs of Inkster and Livonia. At its peak. Truman oversaw one of the most thriving dental practices in the State of Michigan. Despite having many patients of his own, Truman never hesitated to offer free dental care to those less fortunate. He could also be found working at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and delivering food in conjunction with Meals on Wheels. Truman's charitable spirit was felt and appreciated by many. Most notably, Truman began providing dental care for a disabled Vietnam War Veteran. When the Veteran passed away, it was readily apparent that his untimely death was caused by his disabling injuries suffered during the war. Truman aggressively lobbied his leaders in Washington to place the Veteran's name on the newly constructed Vietnam War Memorial. After carving through the red tape, Truman succeeded in his request, and the veteran's name now rests on the wall.

Truman established his dental

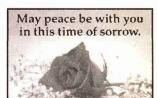
practice in the neighboring sub-

As his children grew up, Truman began taking his family on vaca-tion to northern Michigan. The Strong family eventually landed on the shores of beautiful Glen Lake, located on the pristine Leelanau Peninsula. Truman could often be spotted casting a fishing line off the side of his boat during the summer, donning hunting gear in the fall, or hitting the slopes during the winter. The Strong's were eventually joined at the lake by their cousins, and also became remarkably close friends with other families vacationing in the same spot. Truman and his wife Betsy hosted a family reunion every Fourth of July. a tradition that lasts today.

In 1983, while on vacation in Puerto Vallarta with a group of friends, Truman was returning to the hotel after a round of golf when he stumbled upon a new condo development on a dirt road several miles north of town. Unbeknownst to his loving wife, Truman decided to purchase a unit with two of his friends. The decision came as a bit of a surprise, but it started an unforgettable chapter in Truman's life. As he began winding down his dental practice. Truman was able to take extended trips to Puerto Vallarta, and was almost always accompanied by family and friends. So many friends often joined Truman in Mexico that he purchased an eleven passenger Ram cargo van to accommodate his good company. As his friends and family piled in the van, Tru-man would take the helm and navigate the pothole-ridden streets of Mexico in search of new and adventurous dining experiences.

Although he was very humble, Truman was a true competitor Whether it was a round of golf or a friendly card game, Truman always enjoyed a challenge. Even in his later years, his courage and tenacity remained inspirational. He will be truly missed.

Beloved husband of 60 years to Elizabeth. Devoted father of Linda (Dan) Silvasi, Mary Beth (John) Balardo, Dorothy Sagante, Millie (John) Dahmer, John Strong, and Susan (Kent) Lassen. Cherished grandfather of 15. Loving brother of Barbara O'Brien and the late Dorothy Timmis. A Funeral Mass will be held Monday 10:30 a.m. (in state 10:00 a.m.) at St. Valentine Catholic Church, 14841 Beech Daly Rd (south of Five Mile). In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to Capuchin Soup Kitchen or St. Vincent DePaul. To sign the guest book and share memories, please visit: www.TurowskiLifeStory.com.



HEALTH

SHARON DARGAY, EDITOR SDARGAY@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 313-222-8833

FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Fundraiser aids breast cancer patients with financial needs

By Sharon Dargay Staff Writer

Jackie Rothfuss wouldn't dream of missing the eighth annual Shades of Pink Foundation's fundraising walk at the Detroit Zoo, even if it means spending more time sitting than strolling with her team.

"I'll be there. I'm still struggling because of my legs. Chemo did something to my legs, but I'm trying my hardest to get them back," said Rothfuss, of Livonia. "Last year, one of my team members sat with me at a picnic table. I'll try (walking) this year."

Registration for the walk starts at 7 a.m., the Big Top Tent with face painting, breakfast snacks, shopping and raffles, opens at 7:30 a.m., opening ceremony is at 8:30 a.m. and the walk starts at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 26, at the zoo, located at Woodward Avenue and the I-696 service drive, in Royal Oak.

Cost for registration is \$45 for adults and \$35 for children 6-17. Advance packet pickup and registration will be available from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Thursday, April 24, at Art Van Furniture, 32301 Woodward Ave. in Royal Oak. Register online through 7 p.m. on April 24. Or register the morning of the walk at the zoo. New this



Joan Redebaugh, (left) Shades of Pink Foundation secretary, Jackie Rothfuss and Karen Bourlier, Foundation president, enjoy last year's

year, is the addition of a "Sleep Walkers" fundraising category online, for individuals who want to donate \$25 in lieu of walking.

Financial help

Shades of Pink Foundation uses the funds raised to help women who are in financial distress while being treated for breast cancer. The nonprofit has paid patients' mortgage payments, grocery bills, transportation costs, and more.

Rothfuss calls the organization "angels" for paying two months of her mortgage bills and utility costs at Christmas in 2012, seven months after being diagnosed with earlystage cancer in one of her breasts. She had surgery for a lumpectomy, and underwent chemotherapy and radiation therapy.

"Without their help I don't know what I would have done," said Rothfuss, 60, who worked as a bartender at the Elks Lodge in Livonia in April 2012, when she was diagnosed. Rothfuss had been employed as a bakery/deli manager at Farmer Jack's for 25 years, before the supermarket chain closed. She also worked as a subcontractor for General Motors



Jackie Rothfuss and her team, including a four-legged member, celebrate after last year's Shades of Pink Foundation walk at the Detroit Zoo. Her neighbors decorated their garage with the "We Love Jackie" sign.

before landing the job at the Elks.

"I worked all the way through chemo and then lost my job. I had to have eight weeks of radiation after chemo," Rothfuss recalled, adding that Medicaid picked up treatment costs.

"I had been in this house in Livonia for 20 years. I had never asked for help. I didn't know what to do."

Guest of honor

After calling several nonprofit agencies, she was referred to Shades of Pink Foundation.

She participated in the walk for the first time last year, cutting the pink ribbon at its start and giving a brief speech as guest of honor. Her team, Jackie's Hope, walked in her honor and will return to the event this month.

Rothfuss also arranged for Shades of Pink Foundation to receive donations from "casual day" events in Livonia and Canton.

"Cancer affects us all. I never thought I'd have it and I went for mammograms every year," she said. "That is why the Shades of Pink walk is so important. If it doesn't affect you, you know someone it has affected."

For more about Shakes of Pink Foundation, visit shade-sofpinkfoundation.org.

You should learn the warning signs of stroke, aim to reduce your risk

Mark your calendar for May 1, the start of American Stroke Month, the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's campaign to increase awareness of strokes.

Stroke is the No. 1 preventable cause of disability and the fourth leading cause of death in the United States. Someone in the United States has a stroke every 40 seconds, yet 80 percent of strokes are preventable.

"Knowing if you are at risk for stroke is highly important, because many risk factors can be modified and controlled," said Kristian Hurley, regional director of Health Equity for the Southeast Michigan American Heart Association. "The No. 1 stroke risk factor is high blood pressure. Nearly 78 million Americans have high blood pressure and many more aren't even aware that they have it. It's important to check your blood pressure regularly and talk to your doctor about healthy levels for you."

Through the American Stroke Association's Together To End Stroke initiative, the association provides information and tools to help prevent, treat and beat stroke. A free stroke risk assessment, available at StrokeAssociation.org/strokemonth, helps individuals to evaluate their personal stroke risk and to work with their doctor to begin a prevention plan.

Together To End Stroke teaches the acronym F.A.S.T. to help people to recognize a stroke and what to do if one occurs:

» F—Face Drooping: Does one side of the face droop or is it numb? Ask the person to » A — Arm Weakness: Is one arm weak or numb? Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

» S — Speech Difficulty: Is speech slurred, are they unable to speak, or are they hard to understand? Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence like, "The sky is blue." Is the sentence repeated correctly?

» T — Time to call 9-1-1: If the person shows any of these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 9-1-1 and get them to the hospital immediately.

Additional stroke signs

include sudden severe headache with no known cause; sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; or sudden confusion or trouble understanding.

For more information about stroke or American Stroke Month activities, visit StrokeAssociation.org/strokemonth or contact Kristian Hurley at 248-936-5826 or email Kristian.hurley@heart.org.

The Hands of Time... Move Differently for Everyone

Ask A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Scott Family Practice

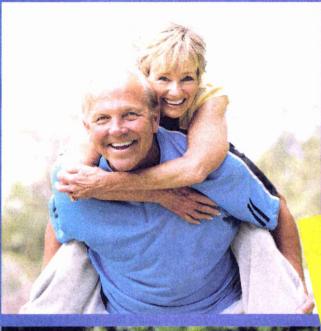
Aging, no matter how hard we fight it or try to slow it down, occurs everyday. "Growing old" is a personal situation approached differently by everyone. Some embrace the comfort of maturity, while others prefer to maintain their youth at any cost. Primary Care Physician, Dr. Thomas Scott of Garden City Hospital's Center for Family Medicine, provides a few key tips for improving vitality and increasing longevity.

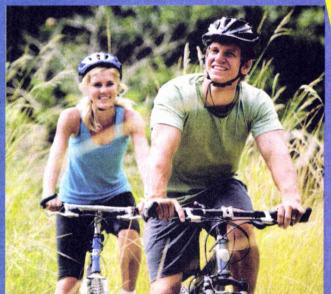
- Q: As I get older, do I have to look old?
- A: Well, that depends. Much of appearance aging depends on genetics and how you have cared for your body, especially your skin, during your lifetime. Aging is complicated and all the products, which claim to be "anti-aging", don't always help.
- Q: Can exercise slow the aging process?
- A: Exercise is a great way to keep your body feeling energized and younger. "Feeling old" after all, has to do with the energy we have. Not only that, but studies show that frequent exercise can actually make your cells younger.
- Q: What exactly is preventative care?
- A: Preventive care is just a fancy term for making sure you are doing everything you can to protect your health. If communication between you and your doctor is good, you are likely already involved in some degree of preventive care. However, be sure you are getting all you need and talk to your doctor about the following screening exams:
 - For men over 50: colorectal cancer; prostate cancer; skin and other types of cancer; diabetes; high blood pressure; high cholesterol; vision and hearing; and tuberculosis.
 - For women over 50: cancer screenings for breast, colon, ovarian, cervical, and skin cancer; diabetes; high blood pressure; high cholesterol; osteoporosis; vision and hearing; and tuberculosis.
- Q: Are vitamin supplements really necessary?
- A: As we age, our nutritional needs change. Many of us don't eat as well as we should and certain nutrients are more easily depleted from our bodies. But, any multivitamin offering the minimum daily requirements will do the trick. There is also no need to overdo supplements. In fact, large doses of some supplements can be harmful.

Remember, if you want to look and feel younger stick to the basics – try to reduce your daily stress, stay physically active, eat a well balanced diet, get plenty of sleep and drink lots of water. People who exercise regularly, eat right and stay well hydrated, will look and feel better naturally. If you're struggling with any aspect of aging it's a good idea to speak to your physician. They may be able to point you in the right direction or recommend a specialist who can.

Join Garden City Hospital on Saturday, May 3 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. for "Healthy Aging, Healthy You," a FREE community event featuring board certified physicians discussing what's normal, and what's not as you age. Guests will enjoy a physician led Q&A discussion, lunch and raffle prizes. Space is limited. Reserve your spot now by calling 734.458.4259.







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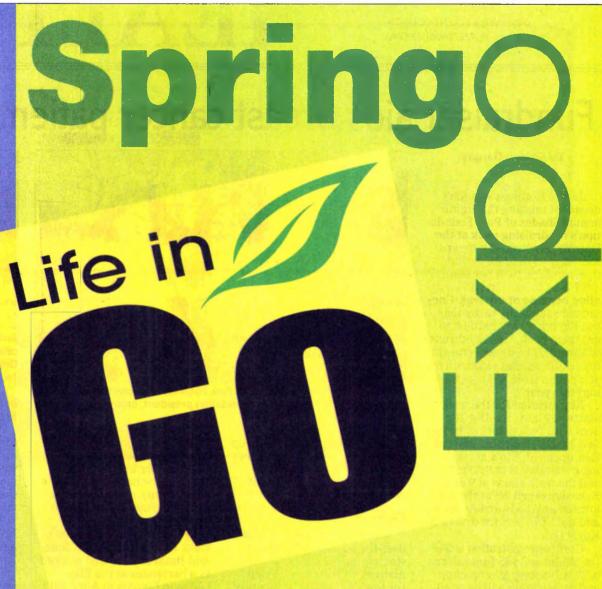
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JOBS I

By Debra Auerbach CareerBuilder writer

Job seekers often start their search by identifying the type of job they want before looking for companies that offer relevant positions. But what if you have your eye on a specific company you want to work for, and you're willing to do whatever it takes to become a part of that organization?

Perhaps you've always considered the company to be interesting and innovative and you admire the company's culture. Or maybe the company tops a best places to work list, making it a desirable place to start or grow a career. Sometimes it might be driven by knowing people who work at the company and wanting to work alongside familiar faces.

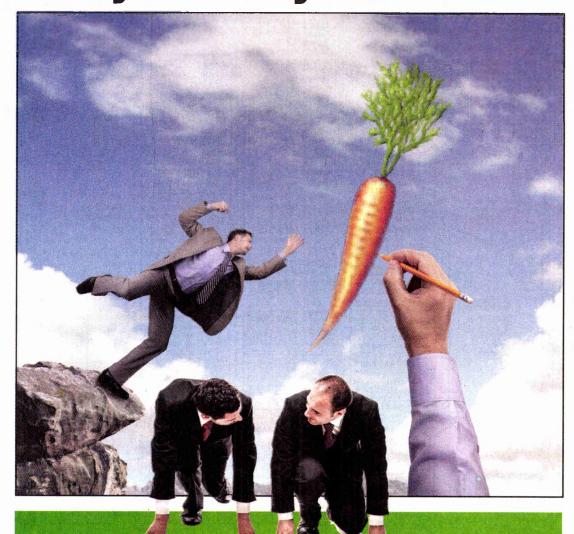
Whatever the reason, pursuing a particular company versus a specific job comes with its challenges. But if you're committed to working somewhere, there are ways to up your chances of getting hired there.

"If you're dead-set on working at a specific company, then 95 percent of your job-search time and effort should be dedicated to wooing that company and demonstrating to them that you're not only the best candidate for the job, but that you're destined to work there and nowhere else," says Joseph Terach, CEO of Resume Deli.

Here's how:

Make sure you know why you want to work there

You may have convinced yourself that you're destined to work at a specific company, but make sure you can back up your reasoning. "What may seem like a great company isn't always what it appears," says David R. Sanford, executive vice president, client relations at recruitment firm WinterWyman. "You need to do your due diligence to make sure you are pursuing the best environment. Talk to people Get a job at the company you really want...



that you know to see if they have any connections inside. Reach out to those connections and talk to a few people about the culture, work environment, work-life balance, etc."

Sanford also suggests using online resources such as Facebook or GlassDoor, which can tell you a lot about the company and its culture. "All of this will help you decide if this is a company that is worth your time pursuing," he says.

Do your homework

If you know without a doubt

this is the company for you, fill your brain with as much knowledge about the company as possible. "Read as much news as you can about your target company," Terach says. "Figure out their business strategy, who their partners are, who's in their supply chain and so on. These are the people and things you should get to know. Why? For one, being able to speak intelligently about the company's operations is impressive at an interview or job fair; for another, you might learn something about the company that will help you

better understand what they truly need in a new hire."

Tap your network of contacts

One of the best ways to get your foot in the door at a company you admire is to seek out people in your professional network with a connection to the organization. "Find people you know well who might either already work there or who [know someone who works there] to have an informational meeting about what you want to do," says Jayne Mattson, senior vice president of client services at

outplacement and career coaching company Keystone Associates. "If you are referred by someone who knows you extremely well, your chances increase to have a faceto-face meeting where you will be able to leave a better impression than email or phone."

Build a relationship with HR

While the human resources department is sometimes hard to reach, do what you can to connect with someone on the team directly. If you've already communicated with someone in your network who has an "in" at the company, use that person to introduce you to the right HR contact. "It does not hurt to show interest in working for the company with HR," Mattson says. "And if you can develop a relationship with them, ask them if you can buy them a cup of coffee because you would love to work for their company."

Mattson suggests explaining to the HR person that before you apply for specific jobs, you want to make sure you understand where you would be the best fit. She will appreciate that you're being proactive and not wasting the company's time by applying to jobs that don't suit you.

Make your interest known before a job opens up

Part of the reason why it's good to establish a relationship with HR and other influencers within the company is to let them know of your interest before a position becomes available. "You will increase your chances of being hired by your targeted company by meeting the right people before any positions are advertised," Mattson says. "Ideally you want visibility within the company ahead of jobs being advertised to eliminate your competition and for someone to think of you before they become published."

Debra Auerbach is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com and its job blog, The Work Buzz. She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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16

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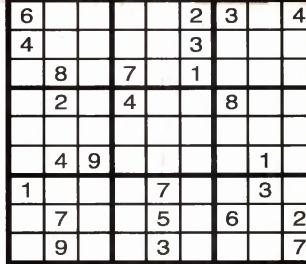
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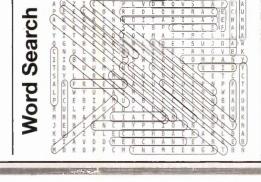
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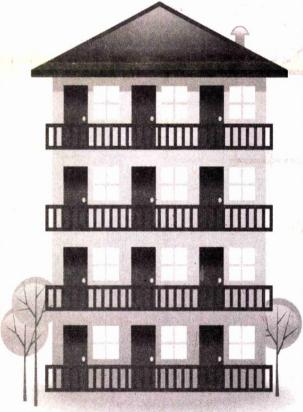
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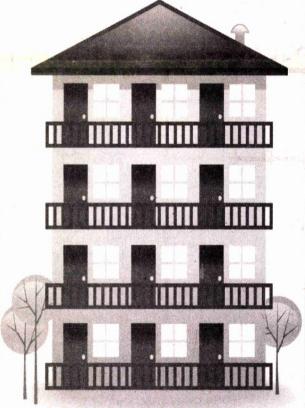
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Car Report

Spring Comes In Flood of New Models **Revealed at NY Show**



By Dale Buss

After a rough winter in Detroit, the entire auto industry is bursting with significant news as carmaker executives trumpet new wares at the New York International Auto Show press preview this week.

Here's a brand-by-brand look at much of what's happening automotive-wise in Gotham this week: Acura: The Honda-owned luxury brand unveiled the all-new 2015 TLX performance-luxury sedan,

designed to deliver a unique and compelling blend of sports-sedan athleticism and premium luxury refinement, the way the brand put it. The company said its performance-tuned sports sedan represents "the start of a new era for Acura.

Audi: The new A3 sedan, which just went on sale in the US, was named World Car of the Year by a

group of international auto journalists, the Detroit News said. Audi is touting its "uncompromised" chops as a luxury car despite the model's starting \$29,900 price point. "This really represents what Audi does extremely well," Audi of America CEO Scott Keogh told reporters in New York. Sales of A3 sedan, he said, are "off to a great start" in the United States.

BMW: Audi's German rival managed to cop honors for its electric i3 as World Green Car of the Year from the same group of journalists and the World Car of the Year Design award over the Mazda3 and Mercedes-Benz C-Class. BMW will be selling the i3 in the US in coming weeks.

The company's Mini brand, meanwhile, unveiled a new Mini Cooper model that flashed fan-suggested design features and incorporated a test-driving

competition to promote the new hardtop. More than 800 Mini owners out of 200,000 registered owners submitted ideas in the brand's nod to crowdsourcing.

Ford: The company unveiled a limited-edition of its new 50thanniversary Mustang. The Mustang 50 Year Limited Edition is modelled on the GT fastback and will be limited to just 1,964 units – in honor of the year the car was introduced - and will come with nearly every available option. "We wanted to provide our most dedicated fans with the emotion of the original Mustang in a 21stcentury car," said Ford executive chairman Bill Ford Jr. in a statement ahead of the reveal in New York.

Hyundai: The Korean brand made a big statement in 2010 when it launched the new Hyundai Sonata, whose dramatic styling, moderate price and medium size caught the attention of Americans and made competitors sit up and take notice for the first time. Now in New York, Hyundai is introducing a redesigned 2015 version of its Sonata that is full of new safety features and other refinements. And it's coming just in time, as Hyundai's US sales have stumbled lately.

Jeep: The new compact SUV Renegade, built on a Fiat-designed platform, made its debut and is expected to go on sale in Europe later this year and in the US early next



Jeep is fielding a new Renegade compact SUV based on a Fiat design.

year. The new vehicle is supposed to be just fine off road while coming in a smaller and more fuel-efficient package than previous Jeeps.

Toyota: The leading Japanese auto company attempted to step past its own recent bad news about recalls in New York by touting a new, 2015 version of the Toyota Camry that will be "the best Camry we've ever built," Toyota Division General Manager Bill Fay said at the unveiling of the car, according to Automotive News.

To extend the car's 12-year reign as America's best-selling car, Toyota realizes it must do a better job of delivering on such superlatives than it did with the last big redesign, in 2011. So the new Camry is nearly two inches longer and a half-inch wider, with returned power steering, better body rigidity and a fresh new design.

"This is a mega change to Camry,

and the most extensive mid-cycle change in our company's history, in only its third year," Bob Carter, Toyota's US senior vice president of automotive operations, told a gathering of securities analysts in New York.

The company also is attempting to recreate an entire brand: Scion, its "youth" marque that has fallen on declining sales and brand irrelevance the last several years. At New York, Automotive News said, executives piedged to replace three of Scion's five US nameplates over a two-year period starting in 2015.

"Some events of the last decade forced Toyota to make tradeoffs. and Scion's [product-introduction] cadence was affected by that," Doug Murtha, Scion vice president, told the publication. The first of the tree models will be unveiled in November, he said.



Ford will only make "1,964" units of the 50 Year Limited Edition of the new Mustang.

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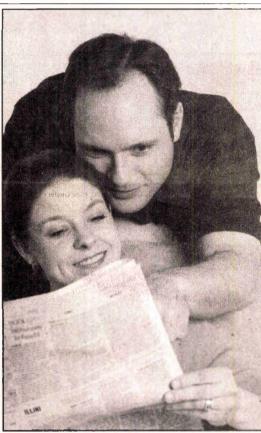
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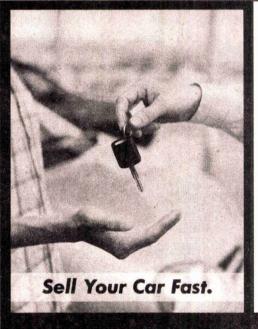
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