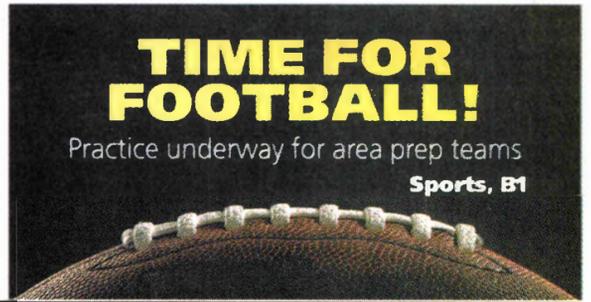


# PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2014 • hometownlife.com



## District nears sale of Starkweather

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

Two years after moving the district's alternative high school into the closed Fiegel Elementary School, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials are close to a deal that would sell the former Starkweather Academy property for more than \$1.15 million.

The nearly six-acre property, on Holbrook in the city of Plymouth, will be sold to Livonia-based Curtis Building Co., a third-generation firm that's had experiencing a variety of projects, including homes in the

city of Plymouth and in Canton Township's Cherry Hill Village community.

Curtis will build up to 26 single-family homes on the site. "It's the city of Plymouth," Curtis Building's Mark Menuck said of why the Starkweather site is so favorable. "My father and my grandfather both built here. Plymouth is one of our favorite communities in metro Detroit."

The Starkweather property became available following the 2011-12 school year, when the district closed Fiegel Elementary School. The following fall, Starkweather moved over to

Fiegel, located on Joy Road in Plymouth Township.

The district has been looking to sell the property since then, making its sale a priority this year as it battled a budget deficit.

"(Starkweather) has been declared 'surplus' (property) and is no longer necessary for our educational needs," district Superintendent Dr. Michael Meissen said Tuesday.

The purchase had been contingent on Menuck being able to secure an easement agreement with an adjoining proper-



Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials are nearing a deal to sell the former Starkweather property on Holbrook for \$1.15 million.

See SALE, Page A2



Kean Hui, 6, works in painting camp. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## YOUTHFUL ARTISTRY

Kids get creative at PCAC art camps

By Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

A shape-shifting pig. A day at the office. A kid with mind-reading powers, in school with his classmates.

Those were among the stories – from the bizarre to the everyday to the fantastical – told in comic-strip form last week during a day camp for young cartoonists at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

The week-long camp for 7- to 13-year-olds, led by second-year instructor Kirbi Fagan, was designed to teach techniques for animation, cartooning and drawing comics.

On Thursday, each camper got to pick, at random, one of several written scenarios and then was charged with applying imagination and drawing a comic to tell that story.

See CAMPS, Page A2

## Plea deal reached in teen runaway case

By Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

A Salem Township man faces 20 or more years in prison over his relationship with an underage Plymouth Township girl who ran away with him for two days last October.

Robert L. Messer, 38, pleaded guilty Friday in Wayne County Circuit Court to one count of first-degree criminal sexual conduct, one count of third-degree criminal sexual conduct and one count of accosting a child for immoral purposes. Four charges were dismissed: three charges of third-degree criminal sexual conduct and one of first-degree criminal sexual conduct involving a person under age 13.

The plea agreement also calls for a prison sentence of 20-40 years, said Maria Miller, spokeswoman for Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy.

"We are satisfied that justice has been done in this case," Miller said. Messer will be required to register as a sex offender upon his release, will have lifetime electronic monitoring after prison and is barred from having contact with the victim and her family, Miller said.

Defense attorney Jonathan Jones said all sides had agreed to the deal. Messer's plea came nearly four months after a trial on six charges ended with a hung jury and a mistrial. A retrial had been scheduled to start Monday.

"The Wayne County prosecutor's office, particularly (assistant prosecutor) Aimee Fowler, handled this justly and professionally," Jones said Tuesday. "We're very grateful to the people involved and I think everybody is grateful this has come to closure."

Messer, who remains in the Wayne County Jail, is scheduled to be sentenced Friday, Aug. 22, by Judge Qiana D. Lillard.

See PLEA, Page A2

## Plymouths escape bulk of storm damage

By Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

Plymouth and Plymouth Township apparently escaped the worst of the damage seen throughout the Detroit area Monday due to torrential rains.

Parts of several roads in the area were flooded by the rainfall as storm sewers were overwhelmed by rushing water or became clogged by leaves, branches and other debris. Tonquish Creek, a Rouge River tributary, was running at capacity and crews from Plymouth's Department of Muni-

cipal Services were working late Monday to keep the grate on the culvert that moves the creek through downtown Plymouth free of debris, City Manager Paul Sincok said.

Sheldon Road, at the railroad underpass just south of M-14, had water collected in it, though it was not closed, and several streets in the city were flooded, officials said.

"If there was a low-lying area, it filled up pretty quickly," Sincok said.

A city police car ended up

See STORM, Page A2

## Back on the field



Canton junior Josh Dunn takes a drink of water during a break in practice. The Chiefs, along with both Plymouth and Salem high schools, joined Michigan's high schools in the beginning of football practice this week. More on the story in Sports, page B1. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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# Christmas comes in July for contest winners

There's nothing better than receiving Christmas gifts in July, something *O&E Media* readers were eager to take part in last month.

More than 320 entered our Christmas in July contest, which asked readers to search the special section included in the July 24 edition for the hidden holiday icons scattered throughout the pages. Those with the correct number — and there were 87 who nailed it — were entered into a drawing for special prizes.

The top prize winners were Bernice Del of Livonia, who won a pair of tickets to the Tony Bennett concert scheduled for Aug. 15 at Freedom Hill amphitheater in Sterling Heights; David Maaske of Livonia, who won a Cutco Paring & Trimmer Knife Set from Cutco Kitchen in Novi; and Linda Ross of South Lyon, who won a \$50 Meijer gift card.

A little bit about the contest:  
» Of the 321 entries, 239 were mailed in, 75 came in via Facebook and seven were emailed.

» There were 14 icons hidden in the special section, starting with the cover and including the following pages: 4 (with two icons), 7, 8, 12, 14, 17, 18, 22, 26, 28, 34 and 37.  
» Besides the 87 who correctly found all 14 hidden icons, seven entries had more than the winning number!

» The hardest icons to find? The cover, as well as pages 4 (in the entry form), 12 and 28.

There were other winners of fabulous prizes.

Those winning a \$25 Schokolad@ Chocolate



Factory gift card were Cynthia Gregoski of Westland; Vivian Sokloski of Northville; Yvonne Laz of Plymouth; Katheryn Maguire of

Novi; Lori Schneider of Farmington Hills; and Nancy Rhatigan of Livonia.

Those winning a MassageLuXe of Novi Spa Certificate Package for a one-hour massage or LuXe Facial plus 15-minute HydroLuXe were Louise Dodt of Milford; Kathy Baumgarten of Northville; and Catherine McQuade of Canton.

Those winning an Imagine Theatre movie pass and a Buddy's Pizza coupon were Pamela Sheffer of Farmington Hills; Maggie Ray of Garden City; Sarah

Hirsch of West Bloomfield; Lynn White Bricker of Canton; Roberta Blackmer of Redford; Lori Wackerman of Highland; Mark Tominac of Westland; Carol Crozier of South Lyon; Diane Rodemeyer of Livonia; and Catherine Basel of Westland.

Congratulations to all the prize winners and a special thanks to all who took the time to enter our contest.

We hope you enjoyed a bit of Christmas in July ... and don't worry, the real thing will be here soon enough.

## CAMPS

Continued from Page A1

### 'Fearless' creativity

"Cartoons are something all kids can pretty much relate to," said Fagan, a professional illustrator. When children get to draw their own cartoons, "it opens up a whole new world," she added.

"I hope that side, that fearless, creative side, comes out in their cartooning," she said.

Fagan and three assistants put the group through several exercises during the week to build campers' skills. Campers animated pillows, giving motion to them on paper; built clay figurines and then sketched them; and learned how to draw character turnarounds or views of the same character from different angles.

Several campers said working with clay was their favorite so far.

"We got to make our own character," said first-time camper Alyssa Macek, who made a rabbit figure. "That was really fun." Alyssa's comic strip Thursday was about a pig who turned itself into a girl in order to escape the farm.

"They let kids experiment with all this new kind of stuff," said Henry Merkel, whose strip "Psychic Schoolkid!" was about the mind-reading student.

Henry said he was in



Morgan Sokolowski, 5, and Julia Dajos, 6, work on monochromatic painting during a pop-art project in painting camp. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



A cat with an elephant trunk is the star character in Makenzie Cude's cartoon.

activity rather than feel bound by rules about what is correct in drawing.

"It's not always about being able to draw a perfect lion for the cover of your lion report," Howard said.

### Pop art

Next door to cartooning camp, Christina Evans was leading a painting camp for 6- to 12-year-olds. The project was Andy Warhol-style pop art: Using stencils of their own making, campers drew the same subject four times, one on each quarter of a large sheet of paper, then used different painting techniques to color them in (think Warhol's Marilyn Monroe silkscreen).

"It's fun. We do a lot of different kinds of painting," said camper Donovan Murphy, whose pop-art project depicted a baseball. In the first panel, campers were to use a monochromatic scheme. Donovan chose

a pinkish color for the ball's leather cover, used a bright red for the stitching and mixed red with black for a dark red background.

Campers had already explored Impressionism earlier Thursday by painting "Monet bridges," letting form follow color. The camp, Evans said, had also included working with acrylics and washes and making color wheels out of coffee filters.

Evans, a third-year instructor, spoke of her wishes for the camp.

### Arts appreciation

"I hope they go home and say, 'I learned this' and apply it later on," she said. Evans has also taught experimental art and digital photography camps this summer.

"Art is such an important part of development," she said. The campers teach her as well, to have fun, enjoy creativity and not worry about small details, Evans said.

Donovan has attended other PCAC camps, like cartooning and pottery. His mother, Mary Beth Coltery, said it's a way for him to continue during the summer months the art instruction that he enjoys in school.

Young PCAC artists will have their work on display during the annual summer camp art show and reception, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 29, at the PCAC, 774 N. Sheldon (at Junction), in Plymouth. The event is free and open to the public.

## STORM

Continued from Page A1

stuck on Adams Street, Sincoc said, and the city got reports of other flooded-out vehicles and flooded basements. Flooded vehicles had been removed from the streets by Tuesday morning, Sincoc said.

### Road closed

In Plymouth Township, Ann Arbor Road was temporarily closed Monday in both directions at the CSX Railroad tracks east of Lilley. Township Supervisor Richard Reaume said the stretch reopened Tuesday morning.

In the city, the backyard of former city commission member Gerald

Sabatini flooded for the fourth time in seven years, leaving several inches of water in the lower level of the house. Sabatini lives on Coolidge and has a low-lying back yard, plus Tonquish Creek is nearby.

The floodwater reached a depth over three feet in one area of the yard, Sabatini said. The doorwall in the house's lower level kept out most of the water, he said, though the depth measured over two feet against the doorwall.

"The situation is getting ridiculous. The frequency of flooding has become an emotional and financial nightmare," Sabatini wrote in an email.

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## PLEA

Continued from Page A1

Messer had been a friend of the victim's family and had attended the same church. It was reportedly not unusual for Messer and the girl to go on outings together.

The victim was 15 when she and Messer ran off together last Oct. 27;

they left notes declaring their love for each other, authorities say. They were found two days later in Washtenaw County after a witness recognized Messer's truck from media reports and called police.

The victim has since given birth to a boy fathered by Messer.

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## SALE

Continued from Page A1

ty owner that would allow Curtis Building to deal with utilities on the property.

Menuck told the board Tuesday he had secured the easement and would be signing that agreement in short order with the adjoining property owner.

"We're excited to be moving forward with this project," Menuck told Board of Education members at Tuesday's board meeting.

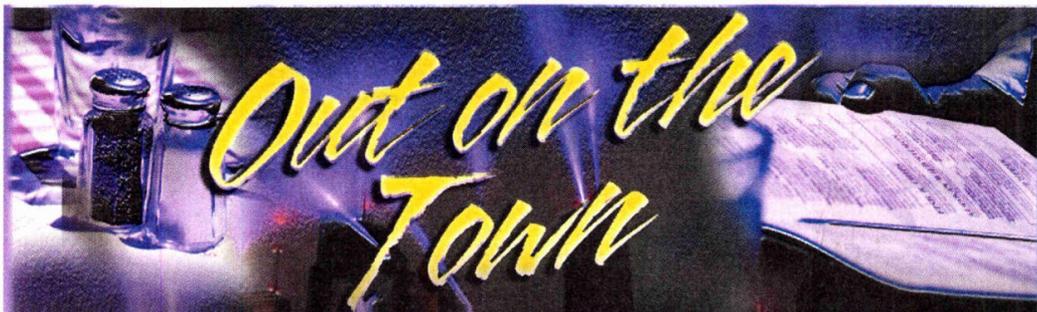
Menuck said the homes will be upscale, likely selling in the

\$400,000 range. The homes will likely range between 2,000 and 2,500 square feet and should be comparable to homes found in Cherry Hill Village, but with a Plymouth ambiance.

"These will be quintessential Plymouth homes," said Mark Walski, who will market the homes for Curtis. "We're going to take all the good stuff you like about Plymouth and incorporate it."

The Board of Education got the first reading Tuesday of the purchase agreement. Trustees are expected to OK the deal at their Aug. 26 meeting.

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# UNDER THE BIG TOP

Circus atmosphere thrills crowd

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

Amy Eschtruth of Livonia had a couple of nieces visiting from out of town and was looking for something family friendly to do with them.

When she told them the Kelly Miller Circus was in Plymouth, that was good enough for them.

Eschtruth, her daughter, nieces and several friends were among the hundreds who saw the two circus performances Tuesday at Central Middle School. For most of the kids, it was their first time seeing a circus.

"They were really excited," Eschtruth said of her nieces. "All the different tricks (circus performers) can do with all the animals ... they get everybody involved."

The Plymouth Lions Club brings Kelly Miller, the one-ring circus that has been entertaining audiences for nearly eight decades, back to Plymouth every couple of years. The show features acrobats and elephants, tigers and flame-eaters and the high-flying trapeze artists.

Plymouth Lion Fred Field, who co-chaired the event this year, said while the circus makes the Lions "a little bit" of money as a fundraiser, the reason they bring the circus back is more community minded.

"It's more a public service than a fundraiser for us," Field said. "It's giving the Plymouth community a chance to go to a circus. How many kids get to go to the circus right in their own hometown?"

Six-year-old Camryn Vlcko knew exactly who she wanted to see under the big top.

"The trapeze," said Camryn, there with her mom Pam. "They do really cool flips."

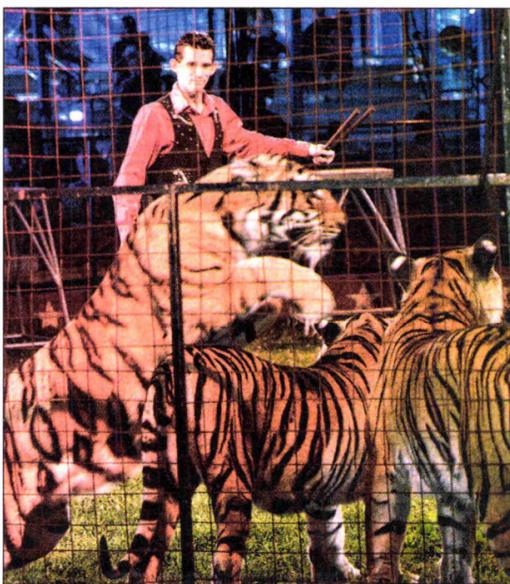
Pam Vlcko, a Salem Township resident, said she wanted Camryn to experience what she loved as a child herself.

"It's (Camryn's) first experience with a circus," Pam Vlcko said. "I grew up going to the circus. I love it."

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Eliana Munoz, 7, Zackary Jost, 4, and Bonnie Jost, 7, go for a ride on a camel. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Ryan Holder and a cage full of tigers perform for the crowd.



Tom Williams and granddaughters Natalie Johns, 3, and Kendall Johns, 18 months, wait for the show to begin.



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## Goci sentenced for making false statements

A former Wayne-Westland school board trustee has been sentenced to one year of probation and fined \$1,000 as part of a plea agreement with the U.S. Attorney filed in U.S. District Court in April.

John Goci, who received his sentence Thursday, had agreed to plead guilty to making false statements to federal agents about a \$30,000 loan obtained from Tomo Duhanaj, the owner of Bray's Hamburgers in Westland, who is reportedly an undocumented alien from Kosovo.

Goci also was assessed a

special fine of \$100 related to the charge.

The Westland resident was arrested in August 2012 following a federal investigation into a loan sharking operation allegedly run by Duhanaj. The federal government maintained that Duhanaj loaned thousands of dollars to residents in the Albanian community between January 2007 and August 2012. The loans reportedly had exorbi-



Goci

tant annual interest rates "usually exceeding 46 percent and sometimes exceeding 100 percent."

Duhanaj pleaded guilty to charges of making extortionate extensions of credit and money laundering in December 2013.

He is currently serving 41 months in prison. He will be deported to Kosovo at the end of his sentence.

Goci's arrest came on the eve of the primary election, in which he was a candidate for the Democratic nomination in the U.S. House 13th District.

His arrest stemmed from his telling federal agents that the interest rate on his loan was 15 percent.

However, an FBI forensic accountant analyzed paperwork found in Duhanaj's car when he was arrested and found that Goci's payments reflected interest at more than 45 percent.

A 2012 indictment also included details of conversations between Goci and Duhanaj, who was the subject of FBI wiretapping. According to the indictment, Duhanaj told Goci to stick with the 15-percent

interest rate story.

Goci resigned from the Wayne-Westland school board May 9, saying that the decision was for his health and his family. He had been elected to the board in May 2009 to fill a board vacancy and was elected to his first four-year term in 2010.

Former school board member Cindy Schofield was appointed to fill the vacancy until the November school election when a new trustee will be elected.

- By Sue Mason

### CANTON CRIME WATCH

#### Drunken intruder

A 31-year-old man was arrested by Canton police amid accusations he was drunk and entered an apartment that wasn't his on Michigan Avenue near Morton Taylor, a police report said.

The apartment tenant notified police about 11 p.m. Monday, saying a stranger knocked on his door and entered without permission when he answered. The resident told police he had to forcibly push the intruder outside and secure the door.

The tenant said he had never before seen the man. The intruder, described as a shoeless, white male riding a bicycle, denied entering the apartment, but was issued a

citation for unlawful entry and being disorderly, the police report said.

#### Attempted break-in

A 51-year-old woman notified police to report that an intruder may have tried to break into her house on Gainsborough, near Warren and Canton Center.

The woman called police about 9:30 p.m. Sunday. She said she was taking out the garbage and heard a large banging noise elsewhere in her house, a police report said. She said she went to the main floor of her house and saw a screen that appeared to be damaged on a bedroom window. She said the window was slightly ajar.

The woman told police it

didn't appear anyone had made entry into the house.

#### Odd visitor

A 54-year-old woman called police to report that a female intruder had entered her home, claiming her wallet was there before leaving and walking through the neighborhood, a police report said.

The caller lives on Buckingham, near Cherry Hill and Lotz. She said the intruder walked inside her house, then left and started walking along Buckingham and Cherry Hill. Police spotted the woman, who was reportedly drunk. She was turned over to a friend who lives nearby.

- By Darrell Clem

## Redford man receives prison sentence in I-96 death

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

The man who pleaded guilty to hitting two men on I-96 last fall will spend the next several years in prison.

James Johnson, 24, of Redford was sentenced to serve at least five years in prison Tuesday by Wayne County Circuit Judge Timothy Kenny. Johnson pleaded guilty last month to driving while license suspended causing death and driving while license suspended causing injury. The sentence, which is attached to the charge of driving with a suspended license causing death, carries a

15-year maximum prison term.

Kenny sentenced Johnson to two to five years in prison under the charge of causing serious injury. Those sentences are scheduled to run concurrently, according to online court records.

Johnson was charged earlier this year after prosecutors opted to file charges related to the incident, which took place in the early morning hours of Nov. 18 along eastbound I-96 near Middlebelt in Livonia.

Daniel Davis, a 22-year-old Wayne resident, was declared dead shortly after the incident. Another man, a 22-year-old Westland resident, was injured.

### PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

#### Wine theft

A 22-year-old man was arrested Sunday after being accused of shoplifting three bottles of wine, valued at \$40.47, from the Kroger supermarket at Ann Arbor Road and Sheldon.

The incident occurred shortly before 8 p.m., according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report.

A witness from Kroger told

police the man put the bottles in the pockets of his shorts and walked out without paying for them; police were dispatched on a report of a suspicious man, the police report said.

A Plymouth city officer stopped the suspect as he walked on Sheldon south of the supermarket, the report said, and township officers arrived. The man had three bottles of wine with him, police said.

The man was arrested and

issued a ticket for third-degree retail fraud.

#### Theft admission

A 29-year-old woman emptied her purse of stolen merchandise Friday evening after being confronted about it by employees of the CVS drug store at Ann Arbor Road and Sheldon.

Recovered were cosmetics, over-the-counter medication, a USB charger and computer

cords, among other things, a police report said. The items were priced at a total of \$126.17.

The incident occurred around 9 p.m., police said. The woman was with a man and two children, heading west on Ann Arbor Road, when they were stopped by police after the shoplifting was reported, police said.

The woman admitted to taking the items, then emptying her purse of them when con-

fronted outside the store and walking away, police said. She told police she had behaved foolishly and offered to pay for the items, police said.

The store manager and an employee corroborated the woman's story about the theft, police said. The woman was arrested and released with a citation for third-degree retail fraud.

- By Matt Jachman

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**OLGC ALPHA SERIES**

**Date/Time:** Courses begin week of Sept. 9 and end week of Nov. 18. Times vary.  
**Location:** Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 47650 N. Territorial, Plymouth  
**Details:** Registration is now open for the parish's Alpha Course. The 11-week program involves interactive sessions exploring the basics of the Christian faith. Each session includes a meal, short talk and informal group discussion. Our Lady of Good Counsel launched Alpha September 2013. By the end of the winter session in 2014, a total of 1,500 people completed the course.  
**Contact:** To register or for more information go to: [www.olgcparrish.net/events/alpha](http://www.olgcparrish.net/events/alpha) or call 734-453-0326. Open to all, Alpha is free to anyone living in the OLGC Parish boundaries and not registered at another parish.

**TASTE FEST**

**Date/Time:** Friday, Sept. 5, 6-8 p.m.  
**Location:** Station 885, 885 Starkweather in Plymouth's Old Village  
**Details:** The Plymouth-Canton Civitan Club and Station 885 are sponsoring the Taste Fest, which will offer great food and wine tasting. Participants include Bahama Breeze, Claddagh Pub, Cupcake Station, Elite Catering, Grand Traverse Pie Co., Happy's Pizza & Ribs, LaBisteca Italian Grille, Max & Erma's Plymouth, Mitchell's Fish Market, Noodles & Company, Plymouth Roc, Rocky's of Northville, Rusty Bucket, Station 885, Vintner's Canton Winery and Zoup Soup, Salad & Sandwiches. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 10. There's a live band, cash bar and more food and tables. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, Station 885 and at U.P. Pasties on Main Street.  
**Contact:** Call 734-459-1896 for more information.

**ACT PREP CLASS**

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, Aug. 19 and Aug. 26, 3-4 p.m.  
**Location:** Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth  
**Details:** High school students are invited to a free ACT Strategies & Tips seminar. Conducted by College Tutors of Ann Arbor, sessions will prepare students for the different sections of the ACT exam, to be taken nationally Sept. 13.  
**Contact:** Reserve a spot by calling 734-453-0750, ext. 4.

**FALL FEST CRAFTERS**

**Date/Time:** Craft show is during Plymouth Fall Festival, Sept. 5-7  
**Location:** Downtown Plymouth  
**Details:** It's not too late to send in an application for a booth in the Plymouth Fall Festival Craft Show. Applications are available on the Craft Show page at [www.plymouthfallfestival.com](http://www.plymouthfallfestival.com).  
**Contact:** For more information, contact Colleen Brown at [crafftshow@plymouthfallfestival.com](mailto:crafftshow@plymouthfallfestival.com).

**HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION**

**Date/Time:** Saturday, Aug. 16, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
**Location:** Westland Shopping Center, Warren and Nankin Blvd., Westland  
**Details:** Wayne County will be conducting a Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off event. Collections are designed to accept unwanted household chemicals for proper disposal. Items that will be accepted include household paints, stains, floor-care items, furniture polish, bathroom cleaners, lawn and garden chemicals, antifreeze, fluorescent and compact fluorescent light bulbs and electronic waste (computers, monitors, printers, scanners, cell phones, fax machines, televisions, etc.), pharmaceutical waste (non-controlled



**Cheer the fight**

Walkers will once again be coming through downtown Plymouth as part of the Susan G. Komen Michigan 3-Day walk for breast cancer research. Kellogg Park is an official cheering station. Walkers are expected to move through the park starting around 9:30 a.m. Saturday.

substances only) and medical sharps in puncture proof containers will also be accepted. This event is open to all Wayne County Residents.  
**Contact:** For questions, contact Wayne County at 734-326-3936.

**VETERANS BENEFIT**

**Date/Time:** 5-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15  
**Location:** Harris-Kehrer VFW Post 3323, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland  
**Details:** The Southeastern Michigan Veterans and Stand Down Inc. are holding a steak dinner fundraiser to give a "hand up, not a hand out" to homeless and needy veterans. Tickets are \$10 and include a cook-to-order steak, salad, baked potato, corn on the cob and dessert. Beverages will be available and there also will be 50/50 drawings.  
**Contact:** For tickets, call John Ries at 734-334-8428 or Dave Spiteri at 734-812-1518. For more information, go to [www.4vets.org](http://www.4vets.org).

**HEAD START ENROLLMENT**

**Date:** Starts Sept. 8  
**Location:** Plymouth-Canton Head Start, 5880 Canton Center, Suite 450, Canton  
**Details:** Registration is now open for Plymouth-Canton's Head Start program. The program is open to children ages 2 1/2 to 4 years old (must be 3 years old by Oct. 1). Head Start is a free preschool for low-income families and accepts children with disabilities/special needs.  
**Contact:** For more information and to enroll, call 734-354-5196.

**BAREFOOT AUDITIONS**

**Date/Time:** Aug. 18-19, 7-9 p.m.  
**Location:** Barefoot Productions Theatre, 240 N. Main, Plymouth  
**Details:** Barefoot Productions announced auditions for the official opening production to its 2014-15 season. Artistic Director/Founder Craig A. Hane will be directing *The Lights Are Warm and Coloured* by William Norfolk, a Victorian thriller based on the Lizzie Borden lore. There are roles for five women (ages 22-45) and two men (ages 27-55). Bring a resume and head shot, if available. Prepare a dramatic monologue (two minutes maximum), plus there will be cold readings from the script.  
**Contact:** For more information, call Hane at 734-276-9075 or visit Barefoot Productions at [www.justgobarefoot.com](http://www.justgobarefoot.com)

**BLUES FESTIVAL**

**Date/Time:** Sunday, Aug. 17, 12:30-8 p.m.

**Location:** Plymouth-Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth  
**Details:** The Elks Blues Summer Festival features Carl Henry, The BOA Constrictors, Greg Nagy Band, RJ's Kansas City Six, Thornetta Davis and an all-star jam. Food and beverages will be available. Entry fee is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.  
**Contact:** For more information, call 734-453-1780 or visit [www.plymouthannarborelks325.com](http://www.plymouthannarborelks325.com).

**JAZZ @ THE ELKS**

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, Aug. 26, 7 p.m.  
**Location:** Plymouth-Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth  
**Details:** Jazz @ The Elks is \$10 donation at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres. Featured will be the Tommy Good Quartet with Tommy Good on vocals, Chuck Shermetero on keyboards, Ray Tini on bass and Jim Ryan on drums.  
**Contact:** For more information, call 734-453-1780 or visit [www.plymouthannarborelks325.com](http://www.plymouthannarborelks325.com).

**LUNCH AND LEARN**

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, Sept. 23, 10 a.m. to noon  
**Location:** Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 Haggerty, Plymouth  
**Details:** Dr. James Gregg, president and founder of Gregg Chiropractic Life Centers and Michigan Disc & Spine, a noted and national speaker on health and wellness issues, will present his timely and relevant senior based seminar "No Need To Live With Pain." He will follow up with a Q&A session. His team will provide individual, painless and non-invasive computerized health screenings that will immediately detail any current health issues. Lunch will be provided courtesy of Gregg Chiropractic Life Centers.  
**Contact:** RSVP is required by calling 734-453-1234, ext. 236.

**CRAFT BAZAAR**

**Date:** Saturday, Dec. 6  
**Location:** Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main, Plymouth  
**Details:** The Plymouth Historical Museum is accepting applications for its annual Juried Craft Bazaar. Applicants are required to submit three or four photos of craft items for judges to select participants as there is a limit of crafters to five per category. Table rentals are \$30 each and most are 8 feet wide, although there are some space variations available. The museum is offering free admission that day for both museum patrons and Craft Bazaar shoppers. Crafters are requested to donate an item for the museum's raffle. The application is

available at [http://www.plymouthhistory.org/cm/dpl/downloads/events/117/craft\\_show.pdf](http://www.plymouthhistory.org/cm/dpl/downloads/events/117/craft_show.pdf).  
**Contact:** Call the museum, 734-455-8940.

**CRAFTERS NEEDED**

**Date/Time:** Oct. 18  
**Location:** West Middle School, 44401 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth  
**Details:** The Delta Kappa Gamma Education Society hosts its annual Juried Craft Show. Proceeds from the show provide scholarships for young people who are pursuing a career in education and mini-grants for educators in the district.  
**Contact:** For more information, contact Debbie Cortellini at [debortellini@comcast.net](mailto:debortellini@comcast.net) or 734-451-1525.

**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](http://www.NorthvilleBNI.com).

Western Wayne region focus of business conference

A unique gathering of chief-elected officials and business leaders from across 18 Western Wayne County communities will gather again this fall for an evening of networking and insights into the region.  
 The second annual Western Wayne Business Leadership Banquet — presented by Bank of America and the law firm of Fausone Bohn — will be held Thursday, Sept. 25, at the Ford Motor Company Conference and Event Center in Dearborn. The inaugural event last year drew 350 people.

lisher of *Crain's Detroit Business*, and the keynote speaker will be renowned local economist David Sowerby, portfolio manager for Loomis, Sayles and Company in Bloomfield Hills. Sowerby will speak about economic and business trends for Western Wayne County and metro Detroit.  
 "It is an example for regionalizing and showcasing our attributes, talents and efforts for the good of the state, Western Wayne County, and of course the local communities we each serve," Kobylarz added.

"This event not only provides valuable information, it is also serves as a catalyst for relationship building between business and political leaders," said Tracey Schultz-Kobylarz, Redford Township's supervisor and chair for the Conference of Western Wayne Board. "As a result of events like this, we are able to work together, blend geographical lines and put our best collective proposals forward for the betterment of the region."

The program is scheduled to feature the appearance of chief-elected officials from the following municipalities: Cities of Belleville, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster, Livonia, Northville, Plymouth, Romulus, Wayne and Westland; Townships of Canton, Huron, Northville, Plymouth, Redford, Sumpster, and Van Buren.

The Conference of Western Wayne, an advocacy organization serving the elected leaders of the region's 18 cities and townships, is partnering with several local chambers of commerce to coordinate this program designed to build stronger municipal-business relationships in a region that represents 700,000 residents and more than 54 percent of Wayne County's tax base.

"The business community enjoyed the opportunity to meet so many leaders and learn more about the region during our event last year," said Dan West, president of Livonia Chamber of Commerce and a lead banquet planner. "This event had a successful first year thanks to the cooperation from our elected leaders, CWW staff, many generous companies, and fellow chamber professionals."

The emcee will be Mary Kramer, pub-

To reserve a seat, contact the Livonia, Westland, Plymouth or Dearborn chamber of commerce, or the Conference of Western Wayne office at 734-953-8834.



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\*while supplies last

**Upcoming Special Events:**  
 Aug. 28 - Back to School Kids Day  
 Music, puppet show at 4:30, story time, crafts & giveaways!  
 Sept. 18 - Pet Palooza  
 Oct. 2 - Autumnfest  
 Oct. 23 - Halloween Fun

Westland Farmers & Artisans Market is brought to you by Westland Downtown Development Authority and managed by Westland Chamber of Commerce.

[www.westlandfarmersmarket.com](http://www.westlandfarmersmarket.com)

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**REGISTER NOW!**

The presentations are free, but registration is required. Please call 734-655-1980.

**Registration Deadlines:**

August 27 - register by August 22

September 24 - register by September 19

October 22 - register by October 17

November 20 - register by November 14

Light refreshments will be served.

*Featured Speaker:*

**Paul R. Makela, MD**  
 Medical Director, Gynecological Robotic Surgery, St. Mary Mercy Hospital

**Upcoming Topics in 2014:**

**Aug. 27: Bladder Dysfunction and Overactive Bladder**  
 Cantoro Italian Market II  
 15550 Haggerty Rd. Plymouth

**Sept. 24: Bladder Dysfunction and Overactive Bladder**  
 Meadowbrook Country Club  
 40941 W. 8 Mile Rd., Northville

**Oct. 22: Pelvic Prolapse**  
 Cantoro Italian Market II

**Nov. 20: Pelvic Prolapse**  
 Meadowbrook Country Club

5:45 p.m. - Check-in  
 6 p.m. - Presentation

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Miles of concrete are laid by machines like this. Mixed concrete is dumped in the path of the machine, which spreads and finishes the mix. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# MDOT: I-96 freeway still on track to open no later than mid-October

Massive construction project progressing without delays as crews work to rebuild road, bridges

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

The homestretch of the I-96 reconstruction project is near. More than four months into the seven-mile closure through Redford and Livonia, crews continue to work on schedule and still expect to have the freeway open no later than mid-October.

Jeff Horne, an engineer with the Michigan Department of Transportation, said the project continues to move along smoothly, with more than 44 miles of lanes complete out of approximately 58 lane miles between Telegraph and Newburgh. He said the project is about 66 percent complete.

He said there was no official date to when MDOT would be able to announce the freeway opening day, but would do so sometime in the fall.

"We are still on schedule," he said. "We're looking at mid-October."

The city of Livonia posted on its Facebook page the freeway is scheduled to reopen sometime between Oct. 10 and 15. Horne said the freeway could reopen during that time, but no official dates have been determined.

"We're not giving out specific dates," he said.

The project, which has a budget of \$148 million and has left I-96 shut down since early April, has most of the bridge-work complete, with 22 of the 37 bridges having seen "substantial" repairs made, he said. Three major bridges still looking at future repairs: the two U-turn bridges for Farmington and Berwick, which will be full closures.

Most bridgework is expected to complete in late August or early September, Horne said.

Most of the project's ramps

have also been completed: Horne said 24 of 28 ramps have been worked on so far. He said construction has gone from outside lanes to inside lanes for other workers, such as landscapers, to work along the side of the freeway.

"Typically, when we built this project, we built from the outside, now we're building from the inside," he said. "You can see a lot of dirt in the center, because the two outside lanes are complete."

With the outside lanes being completed sooner, crews responsible for aesthetics along the freeway will be able to begin placing landscaping along the freeway. Horne said the plan is to complete the landscaping work before mid-October so that lane closures can be minimal afterward.

"Crews can go on the outside and do all the landscaping work," he said. "The landscaping will be done most likely before the freeway opens."

### Reopening celebration?

Horne said MDOT officials are looking at holding some sort of grand reopening event for the freeway when construction wraps up. It could include allowing pedestrians or bicyclists the opportunity to ride on the freeway before it opens to motorized vehicle traffic.

He stressed those discussions are still in the early stages, and more information would come at a later date.

"We're talking internally on it. We're thinking we're going to have a community event. We anticipate having a celebration of some sort," he said. "We don't have specifics, but we do have something in the works."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com  
734-678-6728  
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak



Some hand-finishing is required before the concrete sets.



The road surface and side walls of the Beech Daly bridge are demolished, then rebuilt.



A constant stream of trucks dumps concrete that will become finished road surface, in a matter of minutes.

# YMCA seeks camp donations

By Linda Rose  
Correspondent

Fun, food, silliness – and even learning a few new skills.

That's what kids ages 3-12 are experiencing at the Plymouth YMCA Summer Camps, held at the First United Methodist Church in Plymouth Township and at Achieve Charter Academy in Canton.

The organization works hard throughout the year to plan an entertaining, safe and educational environment for all who attend. It also works hard promoting the annual campaign to make sure that financial assistance is available for any child whose family cannot afford the program, but is in need of this vital service.

"We raise money for scholarships every year so that families who are working hard, but are still unable to afford the full rate of day camp, can afford to send their kids," Plymouth YMCA Director Sage Hegdal said. "Currently, we still have children who are waiting to be awarded scholarships for the last few weeks of camp, but there are no scholarship dollars available right now, as the need this year was the greatest we've seen. We hope that those who have the means to help us will reach out with donations."

YMCA Summer Day Camp is a much-needed program which allows parents with young children to continue working and support their families while they know their kids are in good hands.

"Because a great portion of our Plymouth community is so economically sound, it is sometimes perceived that there really isn't this kind of financial



YMCA Camp counselor Montgomery Jones, a resident of Canton and a student at Wayne State University, is surrounded by campers during a fun outing to attend a Detroit Tigers game. YMCA campers had the opportunity for an on-field experience before the game.

need here," Hegdal said. "Even within our own community, there are families who are struggling to make ends meet and we have parents who are employed, but the extra expense of summer camp is more than they can handle."

To receive assistance from the YMCA for summer camp, parents must fill out an application that describes their family income and financial need. This year, the YMCA received more scholarship requests than ever and had already awarded all of the scholarship money raised thus far.

It is hoping for donations to help get through these last weeks of the program.

"This summer is passing so quickly and our YMCA Summer Day Camp has been in full swing," Hegdal said. "Our campers are busy playing outside, making new friends, participating in their summer camp book clubs and are taking full advantage of this great opportunity.

In these last few weeks of camp, we will be focusing on science, water play and healthy living. Our goal is to offer this to any family who reaches out to us and is in need of financial help to make this happen."

To finish out the summer, here is what a donation can support:

» An \$85 donation sponsors one child for one week of camp.

» A \$255 donation sponsors one child for the rest of the summer.

» A \$1,275 donation sponsors five children for the rest of the summer.

» A \$2,550 donation sponsors 10 children for the rest of the summer.

YMCA summer camp counselors are dedicated to making sure camp is an amazing experience for every camper in the program. Each "Professional Role Model," as they are called, has the knowledge and training to make each child's experience fun and enriching. The staff believes in developing youth through nurturing

the potential of every camper.

"We are so appreciative to members of our local community who have been supporters of the Y in the past," Hegdal said. "We wouldn't be able to do this without people here who are so passionate about making sure our children are in a safe, nurturing, fun environment during the summer months. Even as we are asking people to step up again, we want to say thank you for the support."

The YMCA strengthens the foundations of community through a focus on youth development, healthy lifestyles and social responsibility. The summer camp program is a vital part of the Y's promise to deliver positive, meaningful change in the community and the camp scholarships are an important part of making that happen.

To make a donation, contact Hegdal at the Plymouth Family YMCA at 734-453-2904.

# Barefoot to stage 'Southern Hospitality'

Barefoot Productions is cooking up a mess of "Southern-fried laughs" as it prepares for *Southern Hospitality*, a play officials are calling a "zany comedy" written by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten.

This trio wrote last summer's sold out hit *The Hallelujah Girls*. *Southern Hospitality* will again be directed by Mike Cuba.

*Southern Hospitality* is a comedy about the small Texas town of Fayro, a town on its last legs. The two major businesses have closed and folks are leaving while the leaving is good. The four Futrelle sisters are not going to give up without a fight, though, and hatch a scheme to entice a salsa factory to relocate in Fayro.

To do this, they invent "Fayro Days," complete with a petting zoo, a beauty contest and a huge Civil War reenactment. Complicating matters is the plight of the young interim pastor

who is likely to lose his home, car and pulpit unless there is a miracle. A reluctant groom a midlife crisis and a rich, devious old aunt add to the confusion.

The cast includes Christine Steves (Woodhaven), Barbara Bloom (Novi), Amanda Pothenhauer (Ann Arbor), Marion Busa (Canton), Lanna Collins (Garden City), Griffin Burke (Belleville), Gary Turnquist (Canton), Joe Arcel (Northville), Tom His-song (Canton), Beth Duey (Northville), Terry Viviani (Westland), Betty Berryman (Canton), Julie Evans Herbert (Garden City) and Steve Cook (Canton).

The show runs two weeks, at 8 p.m. Aug. 15-16 and 22-23 and at 2 p.m. Aug. 17 and 24. Barefoot Productions Theatre is located at 240 N. Main in Plymouth. Seats are \$15 and can be reserved by calling the box office at 734-560-1493 or online at [www.justgobarefoot.com](http://www.justgobarefoot.com).

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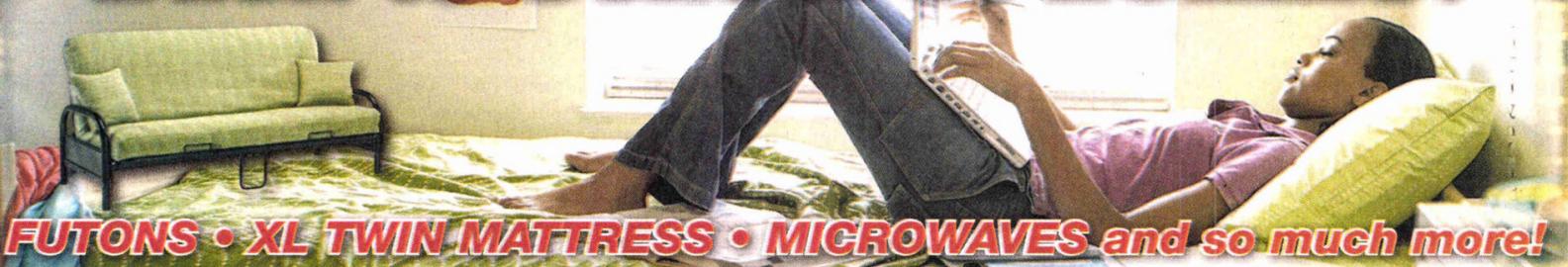
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## Arts & Crafts Show

**October 25, 2014**  
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## Steinway Under the Stars to celebrate the Great American Songbook

Unique live performances at state fair Aug. 30



Cliff Monear is just one of the featured performers at the new Steinway Under the Stars event at the Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair this year. DAN SIEBOLD

The Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair will present Steinway Under the Stars, a celebration of the Great American Songbook, on Saturday, Aug. 30, at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue in Novi.

The Great American Songbook spans many decades and includes some of the nation's most beloved songs and arrangements. This special Steinway Under the Stars features accomplished local musicians and vocalists, including:

**Cliff Monear:** A product of the Berklee College of Music, Cliff's jazz group, The Cliff Monear Trio, is one of the busiest performing rhythm sections in the Midwest. In addition to a very full private and public performance schedule as well as teaching commitments at Wayne State University, Monear is the exclusive Steinway & Sons representative for the Michigan jazz community.

**Mark Randisi:** When Andrea Bocelli first heard Mark Randisi sing, he believed he was listening to a Frank Sinatra recording. That's a common response, but Mark is modest: "I'm flattered

when people say I sound like Sinatra. I developed a love for the music and I respect those who created it. However, I am being myself." Raised in an Italian family in Detroit, Randisi was surrounded by a passion for music. His father was a trumpet player and his grandfather an opera singer. After working in a family-owned painting business, Randisi (as Casey Kasem would say) "put down his paint brush and picked up a microphone."

**Nicole New:** The 28-year-old Detroit is a passionate and provocative singer, alluring crowds with her sensitivity and soulfulness as one of Detroit's premier bandleaders. Her eclectic style of singing, drawing from her early influences of performing jazz, pop, opera and musical theatre has transformed into a sound all her own. The Nicole New Group is

making a lasting impression at performance venues all over Michigan and beyond. Wowing fans with her rich tone and rhythmic phrasing, venues such as The Jazz Cafe at Music Hall, Cliff Bell's, London Chop House and Steinway Jazz Cafe have become a regular stop for this energetic performer.

The signature Michigan State Fair Choir will open the show, with an energetic tribute to the grand state of Michigan and a lively introduction to Steinway Under the Stars at 8 p.m. Aug. 30.

Tickets, which include fair admission, are \$15; tables of eight may be purchased for \$100. Tickets are available online at [www.MichiganStateFairLLC.com](http://www.MichiganStateFairLLC.com) or at the Steinway Piano Gallery, 2700 E Maple Road, in Commerce (<http://www.steinwaydetroit.com>).

### OFFICE OF THE WAYNE COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS

Notice Is Hereby Given that on **August 25, 2014**, the Wayne County Drain Commissioner will hold a Day of Review of Apportionments from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the Wayne County Department of Public Services Roads Division, Central Maintenance Yard, located at **29900 Goddard Road, Romulus, Michigan**, for the benefits of land within the Drainage Districts for the following Drains:

A.A. Hale Drain Drainage District	Clee Drain Drainage District	King Tile Drain Drainage District	Richman Branch of Morrison Drain Drainage District
Anglum Drain Drainage District	Crane Drain Drainage District	LeClair Storm Drain Drainage District	Sanders Drain Drainage District
Big Swan Creek Consolidated Drain Drainage District	Denton & Branch Drain Drainage District	Lee Drain Drainage District	Sherben Drain Drainage District
Blakely Drain Drainage District	Ellward Drain Drainage District	Lindsay Drain Drainage District	Sherman Drain Drainage District
Brahmer Drain Drainage District	English Drain Drainage District	Lindsay West Drain Drainage District	Shetrum Drain Drainage District
Breitmeyer Drain Drainage District	Evans Drain Drainage District	Mc Kinstry Drain Drainage District	Silver Creek Drain Drainage District
Brown Drain Drainage District	Flowers Drain Drainage District	Mc Kinstry South Branch Drain Drainage District	Smith Creek Drain Drainage District
Brownstown Creek Drain Drainage District	Goetske Drain Drainage District	Monroe Drain Drainage District	Stear Drain Drainage District
Bull Drain Drainage District	Gregory Drain Drainage District	Morrison Drain Drainage District	Strong Drain Drainage District
Burns Drain Drainage District	Groh Drain Drainage District	Morrison Branch Drain Drainage District	Texas Marsh and Branch Drain Drainage District
Carr Drain Drainage District	Gudith Drain Drainage District	Nowland Drain Drainage District	Trosin Drain Drainage District
Carsontown Drain Drainage District	Hale Drain Drainage District	Number One & Three Drain Drainage District	Truax Drain Drainage District
Carter Drain Drainage District (BROWNSTOWN)	Hale Creek Drain Drainage District	Olds Drain Drainage District	Uht Drain Drainage District
Carter Drain Drainage District (ROMULUS)	Hand Drain Drainage District (HURON)	Olmstead Drain Drainage District	Van Cleef Drain Drainage District
Cass Tract Drain Drainage District	Head & Branches Drain Drainage District	Peters Drain Drainage District	Vandicar Drain Drainage District
Chase Drain Drainage District	Holbert Drain Drainage District	Quirk West Drain Drainage District	Vreeland Drain Drainage District
Cicotte Drain Drainage District	Hosmer Drain Drainage District	Ray Drain Drainage District	Wallace Drain Drainage District
Clark No. 1 Drain Drainage District	Jewett Drain Drainage District	Reh Drain Drainage District	Warner Drain Drainage District
Clark No. 2 Drain Drainage District	Jones Drain Drainage District	Reiser Drain Drainage District	Waterman Drain Drainage District
Clark No. 3 Drain Drainage District	Kauffman Drain Drainage District	Richardson Drain Drainage District	Zink Drain Drainage District

Any property owner within the listed Drainage Districts, Road Commission representative, representative from the Michigan Department of Transportation, Township, City, Village or County wishing to be heard or wishing to inspect the computation of costs with respect to the special assessments may appear during the day and time specified.

The computation of costs for each of the Drains will also be available for review. The Drain Commissioner will have available to review the tentative apportionments against parcels and municipalities within each of the Drainage Districts. Drain assessments against land will be collected in the same manner as property taxes. If the collection period is greater than one year, the land owner may pay the assessments in full with any interest to date at any time and thereby avoid further interest charges.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Wayne County Drain Commissioner's Office at the number noted below (voice) or through the Michigan Relay Center at 1-800-649-3777 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

**You Are Further Notified** that persons aggrieved by the decisions of the Drain Commissioner as to the apportionment of benefits for a Drain may appeal to the Wayne County Probate Court within ten (10) days of the decisions.

Kenneth M. Kucel, P.E.  
Wayne County Drain Commissioner  
Telephone (313) 224-3620

# Woman 'lives and breathes Susan G. Komen,' will participate in 13th event this weekend

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

Livonia resident Pala Liske had known of the Susan G. Komen 3-Day walk for several years. Being a breast cancer survivor herself, it was an event she had thought about doing, but never got far enough to sign up and begin fundraising.

Then, a mass of pink-clad strangers came walking in front of her home on Six Mile in Livonia.

"It was one of those things where you think, 'I wonder if I could do that.' I never acted on it," she said. "Then in 2007, the event walked right in front of our house."

"It was amazing watching these people file past the house and I didn't know what to do, so I stood out there and clapped and applauded and cheered."

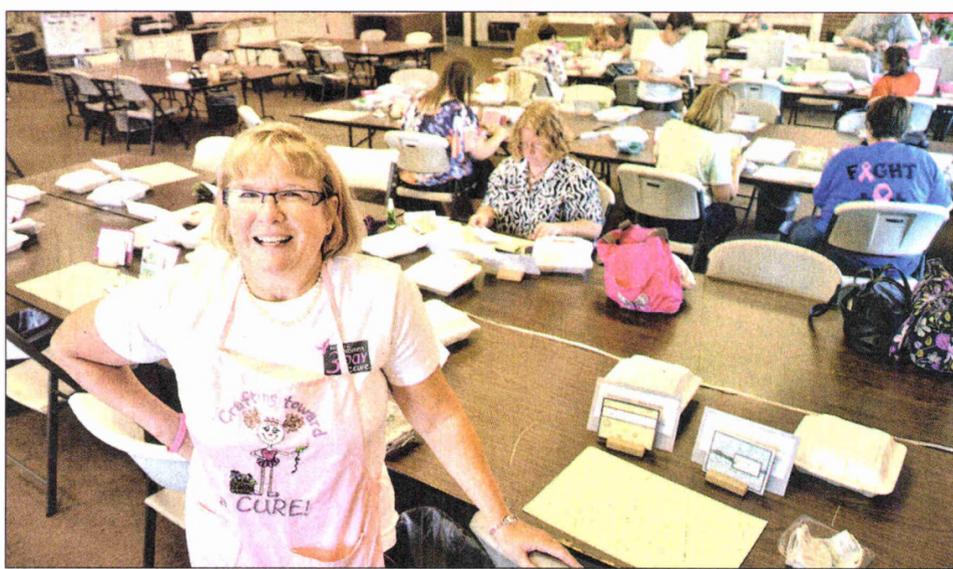
Liske, who was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2004, signed up a few years later in 2009 to walk the 3-Day, a 60-mile walk that brings awareness and raises money for cancer research. Now she's prepped to walk in her 13th three-day event this upcoming weekend.

This year's event begins at 7 a.m. Friday at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River, in Novi. From there, walkers will spend the weekend walking through communities such as Farmington Hills, Northville and Plymouth before ending Sunday at the Ford World Headquarters in Dearborn.

Liske's diagnosis came just months after she went to her doctor for a screening. She discovered the cancer on her own one day after her tests came back negative.

"I found a lump myself, three months after I had a clean mammogram," she said. "It was quite a surprise, because I found the lump, looked in the mirror and I just knew right away."

She went in for a mastectomy several months later and has been cancer-free since.



Pala Liske at a fundraiser attended by her supporters at Scrappy Chic. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"Next year, I'll be walking even prouder, because I'll be wearing the 10-year button," she said.

Livonia resident Sandy Falk-Michaels met Liske when she was hired by her at a local business. The next day, Liske left that business and the two drifted apart, but they've recently rekindled a friendship.

Falk-Michaels said it's clear how much the walk means to Liske.

"She's an amazing person. She lives and breathes Susan G. Komen," Falk-Michaels said. "For the longest time, I thought all her clothes in her closet were pink, because she didn't wear anything else."

Liske has been training since the spring, spending many days out walking around Livonia, Farmington Hills and Westland, among other cities.

A popular route of hers takes her north of Eight Mile to Farmington. That way, she can get some hill walking in for practice.

#### Fundraising efforts

She works on several fundraisers throughout the year

to raise money for the walk, which requires each walker to raise at least \$2,300. She's held card-making events at Livonia's Scrappy Chic, as well as a garage sale at her home each spring.

The garage sale, which has five canopies and the garage, is an intense couple of days, said Tom Liske, Pala's husband.

"It's a circus, holy mackerel," he said. "But it works."

She said she spends between nine and 10 months of the year fundraising. Since signing up for her initial event, she's raised more than \$35,000.

"You should really do the fundraising, because it's a part of the journey," she said. "You learn a lot about yourself."

Falk-Michaels participates in several fundraisers with Liske a year and always makes it a point to keep items for her garage sale.

It's a remarkable event, she said, as Liske attracts some of the same people every year to her home for the large sale of goods.

"If she loves to do it, I love to support her in anyway I

can," Falk-Michaels said. "It's just exciting and it's fun. I don't know any other garage sale who has regulars like that."

Tom Liske, who does what he can to support his wife, said he goes to watch the events.

"It's amazing the amount of people that do the walk and that have absolutely zero connection to breast cancer," he said.

And if doing the Detroit event won't be enough, Pala Liske has signed up to do the 3-day walk in Minnesota next weekend.

She's done walks in several other cities, including Atlanta, Philadelphia, Cleveland and Tampa.

Her lasting advice to those women and men who may not be checking for breast cancer is to start.

"I preach and advocate to do your monthly self-exams," she said. "You're worth five minutes a month."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com  
734-678-6728

Twitter: @DavidVeselenak



Aimee Hoth of Allen Park works on a greeting card at the fundraiser. She has walked in five of the events and will volunteer to crew this year's.

#### CHEERING STATIONS FOR SUSAN G. KOMEN 3-DAY WALK

**FRIDAY, AUG. 15**  
7-7:30 a.m. Opening Ceremony  
Suburban Collection Showplace  
46100 Grand River Avenue  
Novi  
Mile Marker 5.75 (Exact time TBD)  
CVS Pharmacy  
39350 W. 9 Mile Road  
Farmington Hills  
Mile Marker 12.6 (Exact time TBD)  
Gill Elementary School  
21195 Gill Road  
Farmington Hills

**SATURDAY, AUG. 16**  
8:15-9:45 a.m., Mile Marker 4.9  
Downtown Northville  
Center Street  
9:15 a.m. to 1 p.m., Mile Marker 9.8  
Kellogg Park - Downtown Plymouth  
Ann Arbor Trail and Main Street

**SUNDAY, AUG. 17**  
8:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., Mile Marker 9.13  
Warrendale Park Hines Drive  
(Between E. Telegraph Road and Outer Drive)  
Dearborn Heights  
4:30-5 p.m. Closing Ceremony  
Ford World Headquarters  
One American Road  
Dearborn

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# You're this close.

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# Whalers game to benefit foundation named for slain referee

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

Last year's Plymouth Whalers event in Livonia was so successful, team officials began looking for another cause to donate game proceeds to.

Working with Livonia Police Chief Curtis Caid, the team saw the tragic death of Westland resident John Bieniewicz earlier this summer as a noble cause to bring the community together for a preseason hockey game.

The Whalers' preseason game against the Windsor Spitfires, set for 2 p.m. Aug. 30 at Compuware Arena in Plymouth, will see all proceeds go to the John Bieniewicz Foundation and Michigan Concerns for Police Survivors, a nonprofit that supports surviving law enforcement families and co-workers after an officer is killed.

"Our experience with chief Caid and the entire city of Livonia was a very, very good relationship," said Denise Ronayne, director of sales and marketing for the minor league hockey team. "Quite frankly, this situation would have never happened without the chief and without his knowledge of us."

The team worked closely with Caid last year to play a preseason game at Eddie Edgar Arena to benefit the Fallen Heroes Memorial at



The Whalers' preseason game against the Windsor Spitfires, set for 2 p.m. Aug. 30 at Compuware Arena in Plymouth, will see all its proceeds go to the John Bieniewicz Foundation and Michigan Concerns for Police Survivors, a nonprofit that supports surviving law enforcement families and co-workers after an officer is killed.

Larry Nehasil Park. That event raised more than \$35,000 for the park at Five Mile and Farmington.

Caid reached out to the Whalers with the idea for this year's event, Ronayne said, and was something the team embraced.

"When people are hurting and when they want to do

something, it's great to give them a chance to express themselves," she said. "They all can get involved with this in a small way that together can make (an impact)."

### 'A great opportunity'

Bieniewicz was officiating an adult league soccer match June 29 in Livonia when he

was reportedly struck by a player. The strike knocked him out and he was declared dead a few days later.

Since then, other fundraising efforts have raised tens of thousands of dollars for his family, which includes his two children.

Caid said the game is a great way for the community

to enjoy an afternoon at the ice rink while supporting two great causes.

"It's a great opportunity at a very reasonable cost to come out and enjoy some good hockey," he said. "The family's excited about the opportunity."

The Whalers have played several charity preseason contests in recent years.

Last year's was the first to benefit an organization that was not a youth hockey league; previously, the designated game benefits local hockey associations in places such as Farmington Hills and Wyandotte.

The doors at Compuware Arena, 14900 Beck in Plymouth, will open at 1 p.m. Aug. 30 for festivities before the game, which will include a silent auction. The puck drops between the Whalers and Spitfires at 2 p.m.

A meet-and-greet and autograph session with players will take place after the game that afternoon.

Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at the arena's box office, online at plymouth-whalers.com and at the Livonia Police Department, 15050 Farmington Road.

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## Parents: Time to talk money with your college student

It's mid-August and college students will soon return to campus. But before they leave, parents need to have an important conversation about personal finance.

Whether your child is a freshman or a senior, personal finance is an important topic.

The number of college students who graduate with significant debt is startling. I'm not talking just about tuition, fees and books.



Rick Bloom  
MONEY MATTERS

I'm referring to all the other stuff that college students have a tendency to put on their charge cards — clothes and entertainment expenses, to name a few.

College kids need clothes and they also deserve to kick back and let loose every so often.

However, they have to be aware of the problems overspending can cause. They also need to know how debt could impact their ability to find a job.

Employers are increasingly looking at a job candidate's financial picture in deciding whether to hire. I'm not sure if someone will make a better employee if they are good at handling their money. However, I do know that many employers consid-

er fiscal responsibility a key factor in the hiring process.

Whether or not you are assisting your child with college expenses, it is important that your college student understands the importance of living within a budget.

College students should know what expenses they are responsible for and what money they have to work with. They need to live within their means.

I recognize that some kids will go to college and their parents will give them an unlimited budget. That sounds generous on behalf of the parents, however, I'm not sure that is appropriate.

After all, if you can't learn to live within your means when you're young, you'll never be able to do it.

Credit cards are another part of the conversation. College students are inundated with charge card applications, which include all sorts of free giveaways. Teach your student that not all charge cards are the same and to be smart about using them. We are all familiar with credit scores; nothing will ruin your credit scores more than being late on charge card payments.

It is also important to explain to your college student how interest works on a charge card. Remind them there is no grace period when carrying a balance. In other words, you start paying interest from the date of purchase.

Tell them how expensive interest is. Charge cards that are marketed to college students have interest rates of 20 percent-plus.

When I went to college, it was relatively inexpensive and there weren't a lot of things to spend money on. Fast forward to 2014 and things are totally different. Not only are there a lot more things college kids can spend money on, but the consequences of making a mistake are much more severe than they've ever been.

Before your child goes to college, you're likely to have several conversations — one of them should be about money management. Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like him to respond to your questions, please email [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).



A volunteer gets ready to glow in the dark during last year's event.

## Charity 5K run/walk offers a glowing good time

By Laura Colvin  
Staff Writer

hope someday it will be national."

Want to have a glowing good time while raising money for a good cause?

NR Road Racing will hold a Glow in the Night 5K Run/Walk at Kensington Metropark at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 22, to help support Five Points of Hope Cancer Care Fund, a Milford-based nonprofit organization that provides monetary grants to individuals who are diagnosed with cancer and experiencing financial difficulties.

Erin Welsh, a Milford resident, started Five Points of Hope in 2008 after her father died from non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and a best friend was diagnosed with advanced breast cancer.

"It was a way to give back in their honor," Welsh said, noting her friend is a survivor, but continues to undergo treatment. Several other members of her family, as well as close friends, are also survivors or have lost the battle with cancer.

Five Points of Hope sponsors or co-sponsors several events each year and bestows funds — about 45 grants thus far — via licensed oncology social workers who can request funds on behalf of a patient who is facing financial difficulty. The organization works with a number of local hospitals, including the DMC group, Botsford, St. Joe's and others. Qualified patients are eligible to receive as much as \$500 annually.

"Right now it's just for Michigan residents," Welsh said. "We

### The event

The Aug. 22 event at Kensington marks the second consecutive year Five Points of Hope has been a beneficiary of the 5K Fun Glow Run/Walk.

"Last year's event was a great success, and we're thrilled to do it all over again," Welsh said, noting the Glow Run is much like a color run, only it takes place at night under black lights, which makes the colors glow in the dark. "Everybody really gets a kick out of the black lights."

Participants, who should come dressed in a white shirt, will get completely covered in "glow-rific color dust" with friends, family and strangers as volunteers toss more color every 10 minutes. The different colors, organizers said, are 100-percent natural and safe.

At the end of the 3-mile course, racers are invited to participate to an after-party featuring music and more color.

Race registration is \$45 for individuals and \$35 per person for teams of four or more, with a \$50 walk-up registration fee. All ages and skill levels are welcome; anyone age 12 and older must be registered.

"It's very casual and fun," Welsh said.

Visit [nrroadracing.com](http://nrroadracing.com) to register. For more information about the Five Points of Hope, visit [fivepointsofhope.com](http://fivepointsofhope.com)

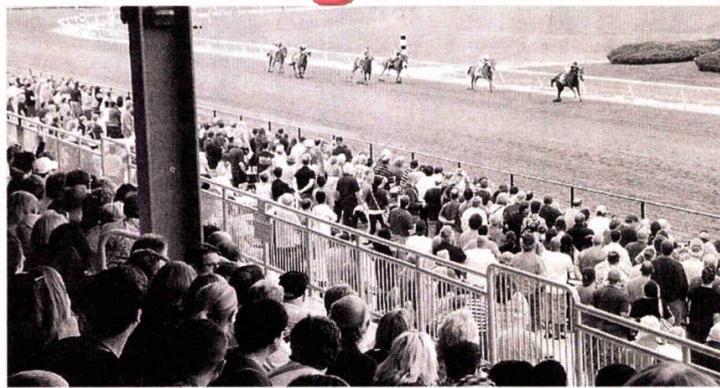
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## Low-tech approach works for portraitist

By Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

In an era of instant gratification and digital everything, Joan Meyers' photography sets her apart.

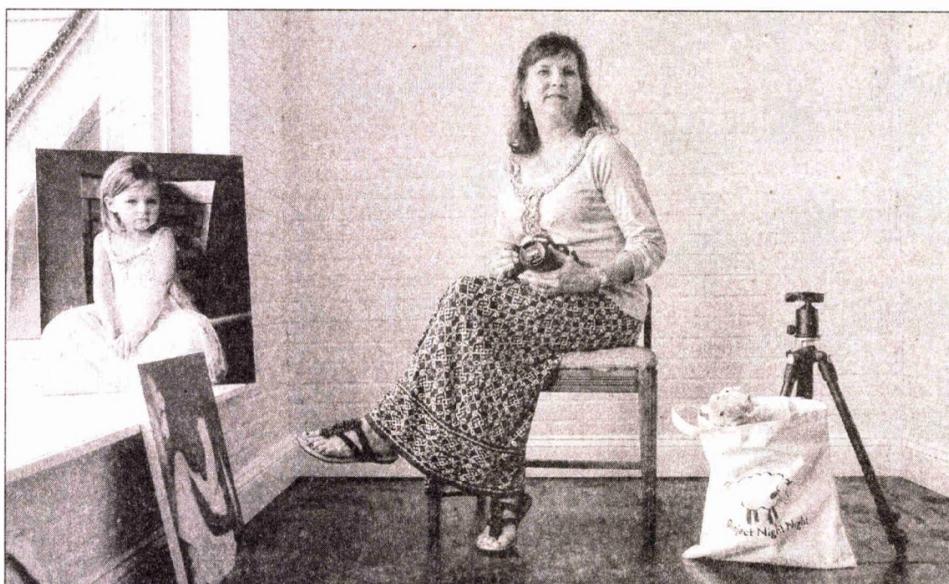
Meyers, a portrait photographer who last month opened a studio in downtown Plymouth, favors black and white rather than color and, perhaps more unusual, works with film rather than in a newer digital format.

"It's the perfect medium for me. It matches my personality," Meyers, of Plymouth Township, said Monday in her second-floor studio on Forest, upstairs from the boutique Birchwood.

Black and white, she said, gives photographs a contemplative, timeless quality better suited to capturing emotion and personality, while film offers more variation in tones and a grainy look that appeals to her more than the just-too-perfect digital.

"Not everybody likes this type of photography," said Meyers, who joked that she was born in the wrong decade. "Some people pick up on it right away."

Meyers started out in photography as a hobbyist using film, then made the switch to digital, along with most other



Joan Meyers opened her photography portrait studio about a month ago. She is a practitioner of analog, film-based photography, a rarity in today's digital world. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

photographers, when that format became dominant. But she was drawn back to film and to shooting portraits in black and white. She'll also shoot in color, she said, to give clients a choice, but it's in black and white that she's making her mark.

Working professionally for seven years, Meyers special-

izes in family portraits: mother and child, siblings, whole families. She also offers hand-coloring of black and white photos; the finely detailed portraits of classic houses (including one of a large brick house in Plymouth) that adorn her studio have an old-fashioned colorized look from the days before color prints be-

came commonplace.

Meyers can develop her own film and make prints at home, but usually sends out portraiture work to a lab in California. Final prints are made on archival-quality fiber paper; printed photographs, she mused, are a medium that's likely to outlast the computer discs and flash drives on

which people now store their family photos.

Most of her portraits are done in subjects' homes - it's there that clients are most likely to be themselves, she said - but photo shoots can also be done in her studio, which has white walls, a dark wood floor and lots of natural light.

Meyers said film sometimes piques the curiosity of young people who grew up with digital photos and that there seems to be a resurgent interest in film. There are even Photoshop options, she said, designed to give digital photos a film-like look.

"It'll never be what it was before," Meyers said of film, "and that's OK."

Meyers' husband Bob works for Chevron Oil, while son Nate, 20, is a college student and daughter Erin, 18, is college-bound. Their youngest, Peter, is 11.

Joan M. Photography can be reached at 734-386-0505; the website is joanmphotography.com. Meyers is currently collecting new blankets (store-bought or hand-made) for Project Night Night, which distributes blankets and stuffed animal toys to children who have to leave their homes suddenly because of emergencies or dangerous conditions. See her website for details.

### IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

## Canton agency customizes insurance

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

Nationwide: The Heidi Kussurelis Agency has been providing auto, home, life and business insurance since 1996. We have enjoyed being a part of the Canton business community since opening our Canton office in 2009. We also have offices in Ann Arbor and Brighton and we are licensed in Michigan, Illinois and Ohio. We strive to go above and



Kussurelis

beyond in our commitment to our clients. Not only do we deliver insurance customized to fit individual

needs, but we do so while providing outstanding customer service. At the Heidi Kussurelis Agency, our mission is to ensure our clients feel valued, well-informed and connected to the agency.

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

Nationwide: When I saw the success of those in sales at the commercial underwriting agency I previously worked for, I thought, "I can do that and I can do it better." I decided the best way for me to go into sales was by opening the agency and eventually I did.

**Observer: Why did you choose Canton?**

Nationwide: I opened my Ann Arbor location in 1996. When I decided to open a second location, I chose Canton because I saw a growing and developing community and I wanted to be a part of that growth. I really like Canton as a city. It is extremely active and well-governed, which appeals to me.

**Observer: What makes your business unique?**

Nationwide: My staff is exceptionally well-trained. They know the products inside and out, which allows them to educate our clients, who can in turn make their own informed decisions.

**Observer: How has it changed since you opened?**

Nationwide: We started out doing mostly personal lines and have grown substantially into our commercial clientele and financial services.

**Observer: Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a**

### DETAILS

**Name:** Nationwide Insurance, Heidi Kussurelis Agency  
**Address:** 5918 N Lilley Rd Ste 1, Canton

**Title:** Heidi Kussurelis, agency owner

**Hometown:** Ann Arbor; however, I grew up in Chicago

**Opened:** We opened our Canton office in 2009

**Employees:** 3

**Hours:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, Saturday by appointment; closed Sunday

**Specialty:** Auto, home, business and life insurance

**Contact:** 734-927-3730; www.nationwide.com/heidi-kussurelis

### small business owner?

Nationwide: Insurance protects our most valuable assets, our homes and cars, which are two of the largest assets we will own. Taking care of your insurance online may be convenient short term, but if you don't understand the policies well, you could end up having huge gaps in your coverage that could cost you a lot of money, hurting you in the long run. I would encourage readers to take time every year to make an appointment with their insurance agents to review their policies in detail. The industry is ever changing and new coverages and

endorsements come out that readers may benefit from.

**Observer: Any advice for other business owners?**

Nationwide: I have two pieces of advice for business owners. The first is to never take all of the profit out of their business. Move some into an emergency savings account in order to keep balance in the business in the event of a down time or to take advantage of an opportunity that may require capital. My second piece of advice is to have a good accountant. We insure many businesses and those with good accountants tend to be more successful.

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

Nationwide: Nationwide recently partnered with Hagerty Classic Car Insurance to offer co-branded insurance for classic cars. You may have seen us this summer at local classic car events working to get the word out about this partnership and the new opportunities it provides our clients. In addition, we plan to continue expanding our financial services and commercial business and let people know about our new location in Brighton office which opened a year ago.

### PLYMOUTH-CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Business mixer

Ribar Floral of Plymouth sponsors the monthly Business 2 Business Mixer 5:30-7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 20, at Super Bowl, 45100 Ford Road in Canton.

There are no fees and no groups to join. Participants are urged to bring business cards for exchanging with fellow business owners in the Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Livonia and surrounding areas.

For more information, call 734-455-8722.

#### Color for College

Children ages 13 and younger in Canton have the opportunity to receive college scholarships by simply doing one of their favorite activities: coloring.

The Cellular Connection announced its "Color for College" program will donate \$1,500 college scholarships to students nationwide at nearly 300 of its stores.

Through Aug. 31, participating TCC stores are inviting local families to bring their children to the store to color a pre-printed page from TCC and complete the entry information on the back.

One \$1,500 scholarship will be given to the winning submission at each participating store in the form of a 529 college savings plan



Cartwright



Rautiola



Lake



Craig

that cannot be redeemed until the student attends college. No purchase necessary. Winners will be selected in a random drawing on Sept. 5. Parents and guardians of the winners will be contacted by Sept. 30 with details of how to redeem the scholarships.

The participating store in Canton is located at 46540 Michigan Ave.

#### Ashtin news

The JB Ashtin Group, Inc., announced Elizabeth Cartwright has joined its Scientific Services department as a senior scientific writer. Cartwright brings more than 17 years' experience as a biomedical research scientist and medical writer to our writing team.

Prior to joining JB Ashtin, she was a manager/editor with Tier1 Group and a medical writer with Bioexpertise, Inc.

Mary Lake comes with 14 years' experience in marketing, sales, promotions, and business operations. Previously, she was a territory manager for

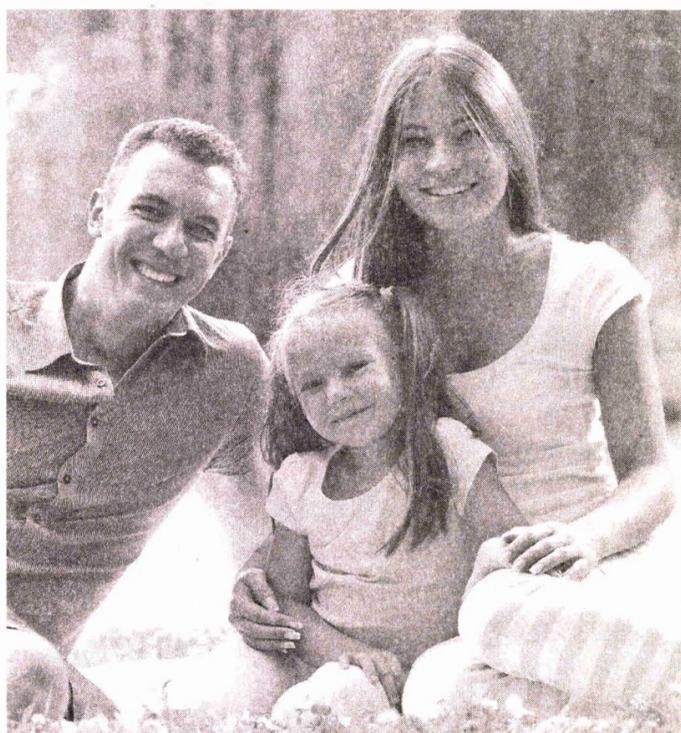
Salix Pharmaceuticals Inc, and a pharmaceutical sales representative for Merck & Co.

At JB Ashtin, Lake helps develop marketing strategies. Specifically, she is responsible for researching, prospecting, and networking to identify and secure new business opportunities.

Tanika Craig is director, Client Services. Craig has occupied such positions as account director for GA Communications Group in Chicago, and account supervisor at Siren Interactive in Oak Park, Ill.

Craig leads the effort to help define clients' project objectives, develop timelines, manage resources, and oversee the project's overall budget, all while engaging in quality control throughout a project's lifecycle.

Lauren Rautiola is the newest publications coordinator and brings to JB Ashtin extensive experience in project management and client service. Prior to joining Ashtin, Rautiola was a project manager at Aastrom Biosciences in Ann Arbor.



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## OUR VIEW

# Get more feedback from citizens

## Canton could benefit from another public hearing on safety millage hike

It would be easy to agree with Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy's assertion that the township needs the expected 1.5-mill public safety millage increase the Board of Trustees is expected to approve soon and that board members have been good stewards of taxpayer dollars.

We do agree, on both counts, but that doesn't mean there aren't troubling aspects to this move.

Facing massive legacy costs tied to health care and pensions for current employees and retirees, not to mention a projected \$15.8 million deficit in the police and fire departments, township officials are close to enacting the public safety millage hike, a move they say will generate some \$5 million a year.

They say it will cost the owner of a \$200,000 house an additional \$190 a year or \$15.83 a month. Finance Direc-

tor Wendy Trumbull said the hike should keep Canton financially secure for the next four years, leaving the police fund with a projected \$1.3 million surplus in 2018 and the fire fund with \$1.5 million.

The move comes after Canton lost more than \$20 million during the last five years amid plunging property tax revenues and declining statutory state-shared revenue. To help stave off a tax hike, township officials have negotiated concessions with the unions - including things like furlough days - cut positions (through attrition) and made other cuts.

It hasn't been enough, with LaJoy pointing out they've been using "Band-aids, Scotch tape and glue."

Still, Canton residents can't be blamed if they think they've heard this song before, because they have. This latest public safety tax increase

comes just four years after Canton officials imposed a similar 1.75-mill tax increase, secured employee concessions and implemented broad budget-cutting measures to avert what LaJoy called "a catastrophe."

We hope officials aren't banking on residents' natural instinct to support public safety requests. This shouldn't become an every-four-years kind of move.

Residents also can't be blamed if they think they didn't hear this one soon enough. Township officials scheduled the July 21 public hearing just a couple of days ahead of time and only a handful of residents was on hand (along with a few politicians and a handful of township officials).

The few who attended were generally positive about the plan, but township officials shouldn't be satisfied with that. They should schedule at

least one more well-publicized public hearing before enacting the tax hike in an effort to gauge residents' feelings about it but, more importantly, to let a representative number of residents express themselves.

We've received very little feedback from residents in terms of letters to the editor, lending credence to the idea residents are generally OK with the township's plan.

We believe LaJoy and the board have taken good care of the taxpayers' money and we take them at their word this is the best way to solve their financial problems. The board is scheduled to have a public hearing on setting its millage rates Aug. 26. We think they'd benefit from at least one more public hearing in addition to that, so residents get a good chance to say whether they agree with us - and with the board.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Fact from fiction

A front-page story in the *Detroit Free Press* (Aug. 8) shows exactly why newspapers are just as relevant today as they have ever been. Diligent reporters digging and separating fact from BS.

This particular story concerned a decision handed down by the Michigan Supreme Court in July. The decision favored a tax appeal by an out-of-state corporation and according to the Treasury Department could cost us another \$1.1 billion.

It seems in their haste to please their backers by doing away with the Michigan Business Tax, the Republican lawmakers screwed up so badly the court suggested they shot themselves in the foot.

It doesn't take a genius to figure out why Lansing kept this under wraps since they were so busy hyping another corporate giveaway with Proposal 1, the Personal Property Tax, in the August primary. They sold the snake oil and the public bought it.

I hope you read the gover-

nor's comments two days after the election. In an interview with the *Free Press*, Snyder said that now two dumb taxes (MBT and PPT) are dead. The death of the PPT "should" result in more jobs.

Didn't all those glossy mailers and paid commercials say it will create up to 15,000 new jobs? Now it's down to "should?"

If you would like to know where that \$1.1 billion plus the cost of doing away with the PPT come from, wait until the lame-duck session after the November election and you'll unfortunately find out.

James Huddleston  
Canton

### Memory loss?

I am not surprised that the property tax increase proposal on the Tuesday, Aug. 5, ballot was defeated. Proposed by the Wayne County Regional Educational Services Agency, it was supported by many local school districts who would have benefited from a substantial increase in revenues.

A small number of suburban school districts opposed the proposal because they

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

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would have realized a net loss of revenues. That and the fear of any property tax increase in an uncertain economy would have been enough for the proposal's defeat.

The opponents of the tax plan didn't want their property tax revenues transferred to other districts in a broad example of "sharing the wealth" or "narrowing the financial inequality" of K-12 districts.

I'm curious about the opponents' arguments. The RESA proposal is based on the state policy of providing property

tax revenues throughout the county on a per pupil basis. That has been state policy for 20 years following the passage of Proposal A, a state constitutional amendment designed to reduce excessive school property tax rates (the primary goal) and to equalize the per pupil expenditures throughout the state (the secondary goal).

Before Proposal A was adopted, the state's policy was a hybrid approach based on the relative property tax base behind each student in a district. Districts with a high per pupil property tax base would get less or nothing. The problem at the time was that districts with a broad commercial and industrial tax base would benefit from that economic policy. Some districts had up to \$10,000 per pupil to increase teachers' salaries and fringe benefits, buy computers, replace textbooks more frequently, as well as reduce the pupil-teacher ration in classrooms.

Neighboring districts, with little or no industrial or commercial tax base, would have about half of the revenues, some as low as \$3,500 per pupil.

While that was the policy for nearly 30 years, many state policy makers felt that was unfair. After several years of debate, the legislature agreed to change the system, resulting in Proposal A reaching the ballot and being approved.

But what really happened, is that all of the state's property tax revenues were collected locally, shipped to Lansing and then redistributed on (mostly) a per pupil basis so everyone would be treated equally. Federal prosecutors and regulators would call this money laundering. What the voters didn't anticipate was the governor and legislature in recent years cutting the per pupil allotment and then more recently restoring part of it.

What happened on election day last week was that the high-property tax districts didn't want to go along anymore with the share the wealth policy.

Maybe there needs to be another look at the 20-year-old money laundering scheme to see if there is a better way to finance public schools.

Leonard Poger  
Westland

## GUEST COLUMN

# Values-focused curriculum can help shape Honduras' future

Fifty years ago, I first visited the Republic of Honduras in Central America as a 17-year-old on a month-long mission trip sponsored by the First Baptist Church of Wayne. I was one of a group of about 18 teenagers from a large youth group who applied to go to one of three places: Honduras, British Honduras (now Belize) or Mexico. I chose Honduras.

We were juniors or seniors in high school and most of us had never been out of Michigan. However, we had been carefully screened and thoroughly familiarized with the rigors of international travel and were ready - or so we thought. Unfortunately, during that trip I succumbed to the "cultural shock" of different food, unfamiliar language and the strange sights, sounds and smells of a third world country - the details of which are another story.

In the intervening years, I've learned a lot about accepting and learning from other cultures and have been fortunate to travel to several other developing nations, including Egypt, China, Zambia and Haiti. I experienced vastly

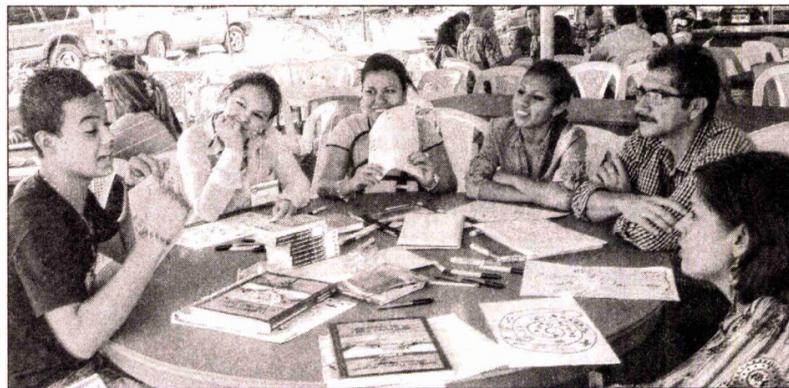


different lifestyles during those trips, thankfully without the mishap of culture shock. My recent return to Honduras was no exception.

Honduras has changed much over the past 50 years. When I first visited, I remember it being home to spectacular Mayan archeological sites and beautiful Spanish-inspired towns and villages. For years it served as a colonial outpost of United Foods, known for exporting Chiquita brand bananas to the U.S.

Over the last half-century, the country progressed and developed, but suffered a major setback in 1998 as a result of Hurricane Mitch, which caused such massive and widespread destruction that former Honduran President Carlos Roberto Flores claimed that 50 years of progress in the country had been wiped out.

Recently, Honduras has been in the news because of political and social unrest that led to a coup d'etat in 2009. Ac-



Members of Jay Young's small group receive instruction about making and demonstrating their life map.

ording to the United Nations, the country currently has the highest homicide rate in the world, which has led to large numbers of Hondurans illegally crossing our southern borders to seek refuge in the United States.

It was into this milieu that I recently returned as part of a contingent of 50 volunteers from the U.S. and Canada to hold a convocation for educators in Siquatepeque, a city of about 75,000 in the highlands of the country.

Located halfway between Honduras' two largest cities of San Pedro Sula and the capital Tegucigalpa, it is a major stopping point for Honduran and international traffic.

Our conference was held at a large hotel/banquet center/truck stop along the busy Pan American highway. Because of the current state of unrest, we were instructed not to leave the property, which was patrolled 24/7 by armed guards.

Sponsored by the International School Project, this four-day conference offered nearly 300 national teachers materials and training in a curriculum which presented the historical and philosophical foundation of Christian morals and ethics.

The convocation began each morning with a plenary session attended by the entire assembly of teachers and interpreters. Lectures dealt with such topics as a comparison of secular and religious world views, the "Heart of Teaching," "Teaching Character in Education," "Leadership Skills in Education" and "Effective Communication."

After a lunch break, afternoon sessions were divided into small group workshops geared towards elementary, secondary or administrative levels. I led a small group of eight administrators representing large and small schools from throughout the area.

My responsibility was

to present the educational information, various teaching techniques and curriculum lessons. I also shared personal information about myself via an exercise called a "life map," whereby the major decisions or circumstances in one's life are diagrammed.

The life map is a technique that can be used by administrators and teachers to build a sense of belonging or teamwork in their schools. It also offered an opportunity for the small group facilitators to demonstrate a servant style of leadership. It helped me to become much better acquainted with the members of my group, many of whom I learned had suffered tragic losses of friends or relatives.

Each small group facilitator was assigned an interpreter for the week, mostly students recruited from local bi-lingual schools. My interpreter was a 16-year-old named Gerson Martinez. A typical teen-

ager, he occasionally had to be reminded to translate my words into Spanish and sometimes flirted with other female interpreters.

Nevertheless he was a great kid, whose knowledge of English was exceptional for his age. Gerson was conscientious, always arriving on time, even though he had to rely on public transportation, and once rode his bike six kilometers from his home to the conference site.

The teachers and administrators we interacted with throughout the week were very receptive to our program. They clearly appreciated the opportunity to attend this conference and demonstrated great warmth and hospitality towards us.

In the 50 years since I first visited Honduras, much has changed, some for the worse. However, the moral and ethical values imparted by the ISP curriculum we shared can, if applied in many classrooms, have a positive impact on the country's next generation of leaders.

I believe the ISP program is key to improving the nation's long-range prospects for a better and brighter future. The people of Honduras deserve no less.

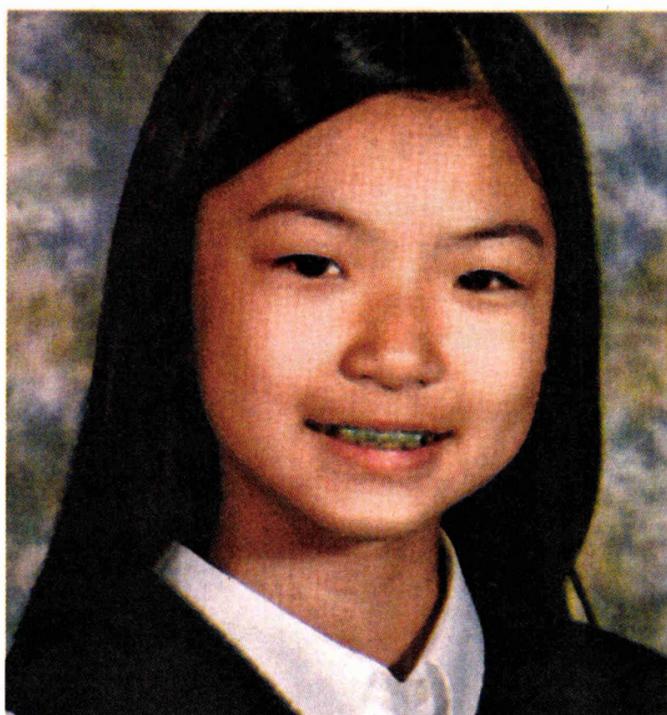
Jay Young is a long-time Canton resident, former public relations supervisor for Livonia Public Schools and a current member of the LPS Foundation. He and his wife Linnea enjoy spending their retirement traveling to other parts of the world and sharing their experiences with others.

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## FPS gridders overcome first-day rains

By Dan O'Meara  
Staff Writer

It was a wet and soggy first day of football practice Monday for the three Farmington schools, although the heavy rains didn't affect their plans too much.

The greatest impact was felt at Farmington High. During two-a-day sessions, the Falcons have their first practice in mid-afternoon and a

second in the evening, which is when a major downpour hit the metro area.

"It cut our first practice in half and probably our second practice, too," coach John Bechtel said. "We certainly didn't get done everything we wanted."

"We made the best of it. We spent time in the classroom and did some work in the gym. If it wasn't lightning and pouring rain, we were out there

trying to get better.

"We were able to get done some offensive technique, and we worked on the running game a bit. It started to rain when we wanted to throw. We were certainly cut short."

Harrison and North Farmington practiced in the morning and afternoon and managed to avoid the heaviest rains.

"We just went through the rain," Harrison coach John

Herrington said. "We used rubber footballs and did what we normally would. It was fine. It didn't really bother us."

"It was raining all day but didn't start to pour until 4:30 or 5 o'clock when we were just about done. If it rains again tomorrow, it might bother us."

There are new rules this year governing the amount of full-speed contact and length of practice time, as set for by the Michigan High School

Athletic Association.

Teams are not allowed to have full contact drills until the fifth day. Players were limited to helmets Monday and Tuesday; shoulder pads were Wednesday and full pads Friday.

During two-a-day practices, only one session can involve full contact, and teams can practice a total of five hours

See GRIDDERS, Page B4

### OPENING WEEK OF PREP FOOTBALL PRACTICE



Canton senior quarterback Greg Williams (No. 7) looks down field for an open receiver during Tuesday morning's practice.

## TEAMS GREET GRID GUIDELINES

Coaches, players gear up for new MHSAA practice playbook

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

For high school football players such as Canton's Robert Guajardo, there's nothing more fun than the physical contact of the sport.

But the Chiefs senior wide receiver will have fewer opportunities to go all-out in the hitting department during 2014 football practices due to

new Michigan High School Athletic Association guidelines designed primarily to stem the tide of concussions.

"Yeah, that's the fun," said Guajardo, wearing a helmet, practice jersey and shorts during Tuesday morning's workout on the varsity turf field at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. "But when we get the pads on though it will take care of itself."

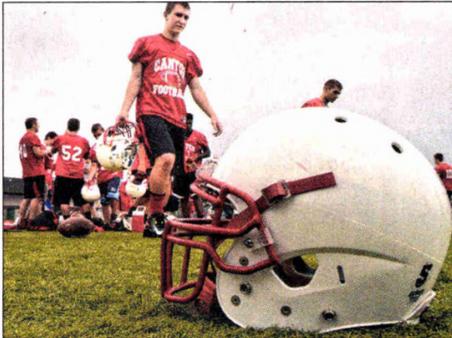
"Everybody's going through the same thing, we'll be all right."

According to new MHSAA guidelines, which took effect with this week's opening of fall football practice sessions across the state, teams must wait until Friday to begin full-pad workouts (one day later than previously).

See FOOTBALL, Page B4

The Canton Chiefs and all other high school teams in the state are facing new state practice guidelines to help ward off concussions.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



## Teams off to wet start

Weather alters first-day slates of RU, Wayne Memorial

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

The football term "flooding the zone" took on a double meaning Monday during the opening day of high school gridiron practices throughout Observerland.

First-day practice agendas — meticulously planned during the weeks leading up to Monday — were shuffled like a deck of cards when early morning showers morphed into torrential mid-afternoon downpours.

The "Noah"-like weather proved to be somewhat dis-

heartening for all the area's coaches, particularly veteran mentors Miles Tomasaitis (Redford Union) and Tim Finnerty (Wayne Memorial), first-year leaders of their respective programs who are installing new schemes.

"It was kind of a tough first day because we were forced to practice in the gym due to the weather, so we were limited in what we could do," Finnerty said.

"But we got a lot done. We were able to walk through assignments with the defense and we worked on kickoff coverage."

A football coach for over three decades, Finnerty has overseen some dynamic offenses, including units engineered at Brighton High School by his late son, Cullen, and Drew Henson.

"I know it's still early, but from what I've seen I can say that this is one of the best groups of receivers I've ever coached," he said.

Finnerty has also been impressed by 6-foot-5 junior quarterback Joe Bob Walker, a transfer from California.

See PRACTICE, Page B2



Garden City quarterback Kyle Hubbs fakes a hand-off to running back Cody Johnson during Tuesday's afternoon practice session.

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## PRACTICE

Continued from Page B1

### Miles is back

Tomasaitis, who returns to coach the Panthers for the first time since 2009, said Monday's opening day was far from a total washout in spite of the less-than-ideal conditions.

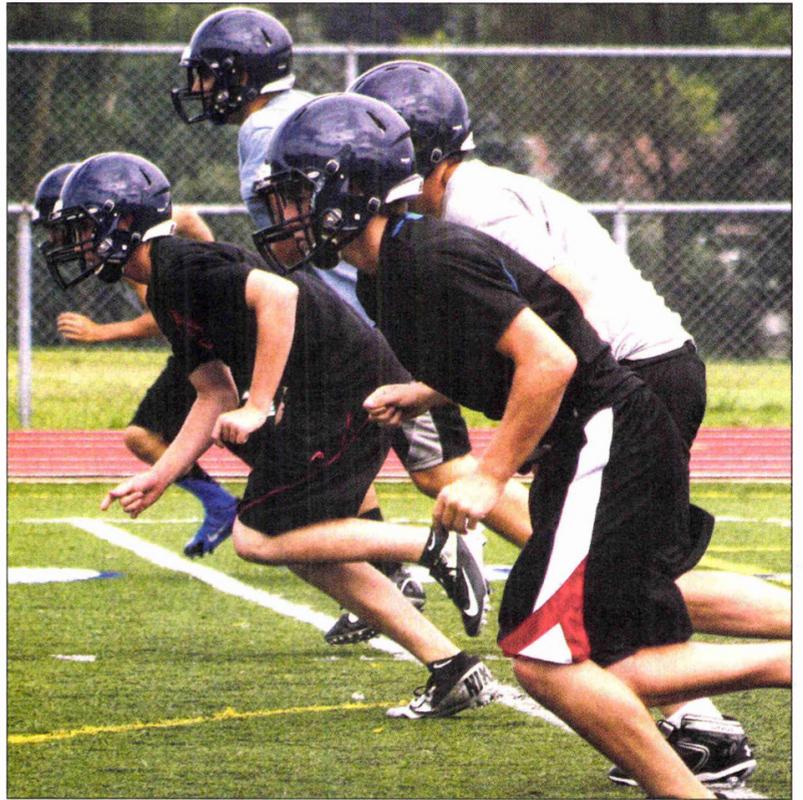
"We did more class room work with X's and O's than we planned on, and we were able to do some limited teaching — mostly with stances and starts — in the gym," he said.

Tomasaitis had to step away from the head-coaching position at RU following the 2009 season due to work commitments, but he's excited to be back on the sidelines, calling the shots.

"I think I'm where I belong," he said. "We have some work to do to reinstall the pride and discipline we've lost. The work we're putting in now may not equate to a better won-lost record right away, but we'll be more fundamentally sound."

### Feedback on rules

Monday's practices were the first held under new guidelines implemented by the Michigan High School Athletic Association that delay the first full-contact practice until Friday — one day later than usual — due to concerns about



Members of the Livonia Stevenson freshmen football team run sprints during Tuesday's practice. ED WRIGHT

heat stroke and concussions.

Teams were allowed to practice in helmets through Wednesday before adding shoulder pads on Thursday.

Once the season starts, teams will be limited to two days of fully-padded practices.

"Right now, I'm now sure how I like (the new rules); we'll have to see

how it goes," Livonia Franklin head coach Chris Kelbert said.

"We've cut down on the amount of hitting we do in practice once the season starts anyway, so I don't see a big change. As far as delaying full-contact to Friday this week, we have our intrasquad scrimmage Saturday, so that makes it tough. But it is what it is."

Livonia Churchill head coach Bill DeFillippo said the rule changes won't alter the way he conducts practices.

"For us, it's really not a big deal," he said. "We want to keep the kids safe and injury free, so very rarely did we hit more than two days a week last year."

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## Ocelots hit ground running at Falcon 5K

Schoolcraft College's men's cross country team got an early jump on the 2014 season with Saturday's Falcon 5K race at Dearborn Divine Child.

A sunny 75-degree day greeted the runners, getting into the swing after one week of official practice, and sever-

al returnees equaled or surpassed their showings at the 2013 race.

Last year's top runner, Ethan Levack, finished the race in 18 minutes, 43 seconds, one second faster than the previous year. Meanwhile, 2013 teammate Caton Hacker finished in 19:19 — improving

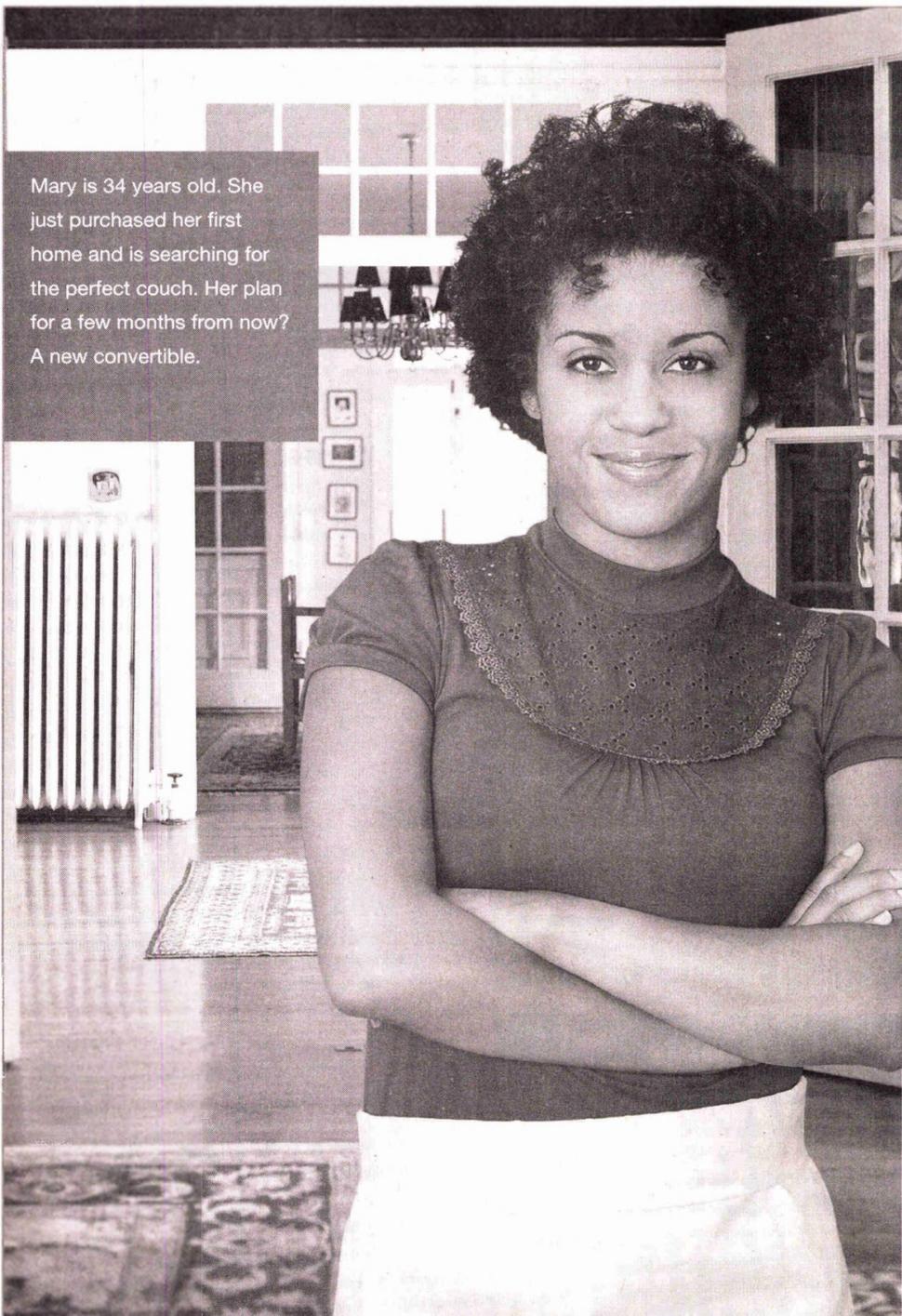
upon his 19:53 time from 2013.

Freshman Liam Cardenas rounded out the team finishing in in 20:37. Levack, Hacker and Cardenas were Falcon 5K award winners.

Also running in the preseason race was Scott Howse. This will be his seventh season

with the team though he is no longer eligible to compete officially as a team member.

In 2010, Howse was the first-ever special needs community college student to become an Academic All-American. His time in this race was 19:26.



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# Marlins get early start in swim pool

By Dan O'Meara  
Staff Writer

Defending state champion Mercy High School got an early jump on the competition and the 2014 girls swim season Wednesday morning.

When the clock struck midnight, the Marlins hit the water at the earliest possible moment on the first official day of practice.

The event was meant to build team unity and an esprit de corps among the 60 athletes — more than a third of whom are freshmen.

"They're young and impressionable and you want their first impression of an organization to be a lasting one,"

coach Shannon Dunworth said. "We didn't invent this idea. College basketball teams have been doing it forever. It's a way to jump-start the season. We'll have some fun with that."

The event began in the late evening Tuesday with captains Maddy Loniewski, Roxanne Griffiore, Jensen Pecora and Kathleen McGee reviewing team rules, etiquette and cheers. Afterward, the girls watched a movie.

Around 11:30 p.m. team members entered a highly decorated natatorium and were introduced individually with the lights off and a spotlight on each girl.

Parents and others are not allowed to attend practices

normally, but Dunworth made an exception for this special occasion.

It was the only time Mercy will have its entire team in the five-lane pool at the same time. Otherwise, the team and practice time are divided into thirds.

"Tonight is more about us and the start of the season," Dunworth said. "As the season goes on, we'll divide into training groups."

"I don't like to cut anybody; I don't want to cut seniors. It's a long day, but we want to make sure (each athlete has an equal opportunity). It's a nice facility to train in. You don't get lost in there."

The midnight practice last-

ed about an hour. Dunworth said the serious training would start later Wednesday.

"If there's one disadvantage (private schools have) it's the freshmen come in and are strangers to each other in many instances," he said.

"For the most part, they're kinda on their own; they're a little apprehensive, a little bit shy about things."

"The first task is to break the ice with the kids, let them all know we're pulling in the same direction and start to build that team unity."

"We'll have 10 or 11 kids per lane. There won't be a great deal of Mercy training. That will start tomorrow."

The Marlins went home

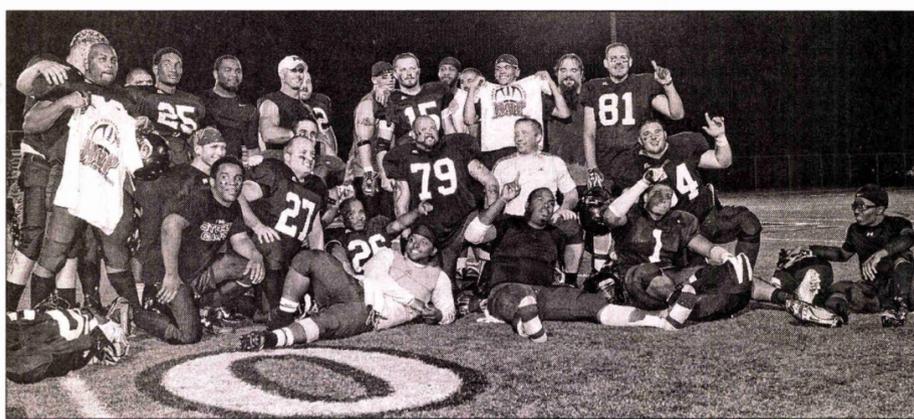
after the midnight opener and returned Wednesday morning for a three-day trip to the Spire Institute, a training facility in Geneva, Ohio.

Mercy, which won the Division 1 championship and its eighth state title last year, has some quality swimmers in its freshman class and has high hopes for the 2014 season.

"We always lose great kids, and we always have kids with a great deal of ability and desire come in," Dunworth said.

"The freshmen have big shoes to fill. We've just dealt the cards, so we have a long way to go. It's going to be a while yet."

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Members of the Thurston reunion football team pose for a post-game photo after upending Harper Woods 21-0 Saturday night. PHOTOS BY ED WRIGHT

## ONCE MORE, WITH FEELING

Soreness aside, Thurston alumni football players have a ball in reunion game

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

On several occasions since he last stepped off the Redford Thurston High School football field in the fall of 1993, Glen Lockhart allowed himself to imagine what it would be like to take a trip on a time machine and pad up one more time, for one more high school game.

On Saturday night, Lockhart joined 24 other former Eagles for the ride of a lifetime — a full-contact, memory-making showdown against a team of ex-gridders from Harper Woods High School.

The game was spearheaded by 1995 Thurston graduate Jerry Karpiuk, who joined forces with Alumni Football USA to orchestrate the contest, which was played using high school rules and Michigan High School Athletic Association officials.

Playing before an enthusiastic crowd that filled at least half of the home bleachers, the Eagles prevailed, 21-0, which made Lockhart's return to the glory days even more amazing.

"It was kind of magical being out there tonight," the 39-year-old Lockhart said, moments after posing for a triumphant team photo. "I've always had that feeling of, 'I'd love to get out there one more time,' but, honestly, I never thought it would happen."

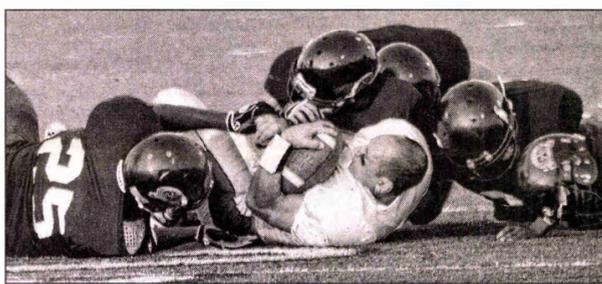
"When I first heard they were putting this together, I thought it was a joke — I really did. I thought we'd come out here and get humiliated. But once we started practicing, we started coming together and making plays, and everybody gave 110 percent tonight."

"I'm sore, I'm bleeding all over and I know I'll wake up tomorrow and fall out of bed, but I wouldn't trade this for anything."

It didn't take long for players from both teams to chisel off the rust that had built up after years of not playing a fully-padded game.

Although some of the participants' waistlines had expanded (slightly) and their hairlines had receded (gradually) since they last pulled the pads off, it was apparent once the opening kickoff sailed through the muggy August air that their zest for the sport hadn't waned an inch.

"Once we pulled the pads



A trio of Eagles, including Clint Boyd Jr., delivered a helmet-separating tackle on a Harper Woods running back during Saturday's game.

on and started hitting, it was like we were out here yesterday (playing high school football)," Karpiuk said. "A lot of us had waited a long time for this, so you better believe we weren't just going to go through the motions."

Camari James, a 2012 grad who was one of the youngest Thurston players on the field, delivered a crunching, Louis Delmas-like tackle on the Pioneer ball-carrier midway through the fourth quarter. James played most of the game at wide receiver and hauled in a 50-yard touchdown pass from Travis Farkas to open the night's scoring.

"That felt great," said James, who tallied just three plays on defense. "I wanted to play corner tonight, so when I saw an opportunity to jump in there on defense, I did. You have to make the most of your opportunities."

If a "Rudy" award had been presented in the game's wake, the recipient would have no doubt been 1999 grad Eugene Antonelli, who picked off a Harper Woods pass while playing a limited time at free safety during the fourth quarter.

Antonelli nearly missed Saturday's game after cracking three ribs during a team practice three weeks earlier.

"I wasn't even sure if I was going to be able to play tonight, so getting that interception felt absolutely fantastic," Antonelli said, smiling, as his young daughter smiled broadly at his side. "I've put on about 60 pounds since the last time I played here, so I had to do some conditioning the past couple months to get in shape."

"The interception was my only play at free safety. When it was coming toward me, I just thought, 'You have to catch it, you have to catch it ...' That should get me on the highlight tape they

make." Class of '09 standout De'Andre Alexander was Thurston's running-game workhorse as he ripped off a couple of big-yardage gains.

"The game was everything I expected it to be," said Alexander, unleashing a huge grin. "Once we got those first-quarter jitters out of the way, it was like, 'Here we go!'"

The size of the crowd impressed all of the Thurston alumni players, particularly Lockhart.

"I was dumbfounded by how many people showed up," he said. "At first there were only about 60 people up there, but everybody started getting on their cell phones. Before you knew it, the stands were almost filled. We had a great support system."

Among the captivated fans was Rachel Karpiuk, the wife of Jerry.

What did she think when she first heard about her husband's plan to revive his football career?

"When he first told me, I thought, boys will be boys," she said, laughing. "He still plays hockey and softball, so I really wasn't worried about him getting hurt. Plus, if he's going to do something, he's going to do it."

The game served as a fundraiser for the Thurston Athletic Department. Roughly \$1,300 was raised through ticket sales while the concession stand profits exceeded \$600.

"Overall, it went really well," Karpiuk said. "We all want to do it next year, too."

"Next year?" Alexander interjected. "Let's play again next week."

And the Eagles all laughed before heading to the locker room for some post-game conversation and a couple of Advil.

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## Whalers' 'friendly' game to benefit Bieniewicz fund

In soccer, the term "friendly" refers to a game between two teams that is an exhibition game. A "friendly" is a match that generally has no impact in the standings.

"Friendly" is not usually used in the same sentence with the Plymouth Whalers and Windsor Spitfires.

The two bitter Ontario Hockey League rivals have battled through 206 regular-season games since 1990 and several memorable playoff series.

Need proof? Check the video the last time Plymouth and Windsor met on March 15, 2014, at Compuware Arena.

That's going to change on Saturday, Aug. 30, at Compuware Arena. The Whalers and Spitfires hook up in a 2 p.m. "friendly" in a benefit for John Bieniewicz, the Livonia soccer referee who passed away while working a game.

Called "Play it Forward for Bieniewicz," 100 percent of the proceeds in the game benefit the John Bieniewicz Foundation and C.O.P.S. MI (Michigan Concerns of Police Survivors) Chapter.

Tickets are \$10 in advance (general admission) and \$12 at the door and can be purchased at [www.plymouthwhalers.com](http://www.plymouthwhalers.com). Tickets are also available at the Livonia Police Department (734-466-2470).

Admission to the game includes a meet-and-greet session with the Whalers after the game.

The game provides the backdrop for the hockey and soccer community to rally around a good cause.

Bieniewicz died after reportedly being assaulted while working a soccer game June 29 at Mies Park in Livonia. Bassel Saad is charged with second-degree murder in his death. The trial is ongoing.

The local community has taken a proactive approach toward the John Bieniewicz Foundation, with various fundraisers held over the summer and more events on the way, including the Whalers-Spitfires game Aug. 30.

"The support from everyone is amazing," said Kristen Bieniewicz, John's wife. "When I saw that the Whalers were looking to do a game, I wondered, 'How would hockey even get involved?' But then I found out it was through the Livonia Police Department, and they had been involved a game before (in 2013)."

There is a hockey connection with the Bieniewicz family. Son Josh, 9, plays for the 2005 Farmington Fire.

"With everything that has been going on, it's proven to me that there's still more good out



Plymouth's Matt Mistele drives against Windsor in a game last season. RENA LAVERTY

there than bad," Bieniewicz said.

"It's impossible for me to thank everyone for everything that they are doing. I can't express my gratitude enough."

Livonia Chief of Police Curtis Caid deals with his share of serious, real-world issues every day. He's happy to lend support to the game and the cause of helping people.

"This game is a great opportunity for the City of Livonia, our citizens and everyone else to get involved with a worthwhile cause," Caid said. "It gives the community an opportunity to see great hockey while helping a local family overcome a tragedy."

"There are some parallels in hockey, soccer and police work. All three will work together for one day to assist the Bieniewicz family."

Fans on both sides of the border can lend their support by attending the game.

On Aug. 31, 2013, Plymouth and Windsor opened the pre-season at Eddie Edgar Arena in Livonia, playing to a 5-5 draw before a sellout crowd of 1,000 fans.

One hundred percent of the proceeds of that game (estimated at more than \$35,000) went to the Livonia Fallen Heroes Memorial at the Larry Nehasil Park in Livonia.

**ALUMNI GAME SATURDAY:** The Whalers plan to make their 25th season in the Ontario Hockey League a year worth remembering.

The Whalers start the new season with an event that will prompt more smiles than goals by hosting its fourth Alumni Game at 4 p.m. Saturday at Compuware Arena.

Billed "Whalers Alumni Give a Miracle on Ice," proceeds of the game (in the form of a \$10 donation) will go to the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at Beaumont Children's Hospital.

Tickets for the game can be purchased at [www.plymouthwhalers.com](http://www.plymouthwhalers.com) or at the Compuware Arena box office. Call the box office at 734-453-8400.

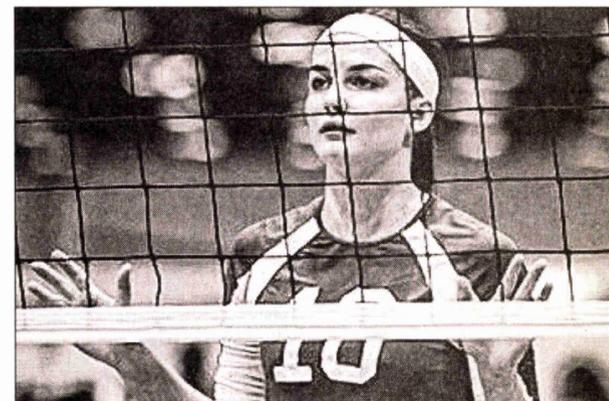
Adding to the event is radio station WDDV-FM (96.3) and morning host Blaine Fowler, who are long-time supporters of the Plymouth Whalers and events at Compuware Arena.

Community Choice Credit Union is also lending support to the event.

Players from all eras of the Whalers' 25-year history are expected to play, including former Detroit Red Wings player David Legwand, Alex Aleardi, Robbie Czarnik, Jamie Devane, John Vigilante, Damian Surma, Chris Terry, Mitchell Heard and Matt Hackett, among many others.

For the \$10 donation, Whalers alumni will participate in meet-and-greet autograph session with fans from 2-3:30 p.m. before the puck drops. Fans can have two items signed.

## Academic All-American



Canton resident Lauren Wylie, a junior-to-be at Salem High School, was recently named to the 2014 AAU Volleyball Academic All-American Team. The team was selected based on the players' sustained excellence both in the classroom and on the volleyball court. Wylie, who is the daughter of Bradford and Pamela Wylie of Canton, plays for the 16U National Hurricanes volleyball team.

# MHSAA numbers reflect drop in enrollments

Participation in high school sports in which postseason tournaments are sponsored by the Michigan High School Athletic Association decreased slightly for the third straight school year in 2013-14, following a continuing trend of declining member school enrollments.

However, nine MHSAA sports saw increases in participation from 2012-13, and four sports set records for the second straight school year.

A total of 288,230 participants took part in the 28 tournament sports offered by the MHSAA during the past year — a 1.9-percent decrease from the 2012-13 figure of 293,810.

Enrollments at member schools also decreased 0.7 percent from 2012-13 and have fallen 10 percent since the 2006-07 school year.

But MHSAA participation has fallen only 7.9 percent during that time. This year's dip was slightly larger than the

1.2-percent decrease from 2011-12 to 2012-13.

Boys participation fell 1.7 percent from 2012-13 to 2013-14, and girls participation fell 2.2 percent. The overall MHSAA totals count students once for each sport in which they participate, meaning students who are multiple-sport athletes are counted more than once.

For the second straight year, boys and girls lacrosse (5,089 and 2,540, respectively) and boys and girls cross country (8,882 and 8,703) set participation records.

Both lacrosse totals have increased annually during their 10 years as MHSAA tournament sports. The girls saw an increase of 1.6 percent from 2012-13.

Participation in boys and girls cross country increased for the fifth straight seasons — the girls by 3.9 percent.

Three girls sports rebounded from recent declines. Girls

swimming and diving (6,604) broke a two-year downturn with its highest total since 2010-11.

Girls golf (3,427) increased by 2.8 percent and girls soccer (13,619) increased one percent after also falling from 2011-12 to 2012-13.

Girls track and field (17,259) posted its second straight increase and highest participation total since 2009-10.

However, troubling trends continued in two of the most popular girls sports. Girls basketball participation fell for the eighth straight season to 16,329 participants, the sport's fewest since records first were kept in 1991-92.

The girls basketball total has decreased 14.7 percent since a U.S. District Court decision led to the switching of girls basketball season from fall to winter beginning in 2007-08.

Comparatively, girls enrollment at MHSAA schools during

that time has fallen 10.4 percent.

The sport that swapped seasons with girls basketball and moved to fall, volleyball, saw a 6.5-percent drop in participation to 18,607 athletes, its fewest since 1993-94 and a decrease of 13.6 percent since its final season as a winter sport.

Also of note in this year's survey:

» Total, nine sports saw increases in participation in 2013-14 (three boys, six girls), while 19 had decreases (11 boys, eight girls).

» Football participation, 11 and 8-player teams combined, dropped for the sixth straight season, but this time by only two percent to 40,673 athletes. The drop from 2011-12 to 2012-13 was 3.7.

» Wrestling saw a decrease for the fifth straight year, but also by a smaller percentage than the year before — 2.2 percent versus a 4.8-percent drop

from 2011-12 to 2012-13.

» Baseball participation increased for the second straight year, up 0.7 percent to 18,227 participants. But softball saw the third-largest dip in 2013-14, 7.2 percent to 13,443 participants.

» Gymnastics (600) saw a decrease for the second straight year, this time by 11 percent — the largest percentage decrease of any sport. Boys skiing (745) saw the second-largest drop, 9.7 percent.

The participation figures are gathered annually from MHSAA member schools to submit to the National Federation of State High School Associations for compiling of its national participation survey.

Results of Michigan surveys from the 2000-01 school year to present may be viewed on the MHSAA website (mhsaa.com) by clicking on Schools, Administrators, Sports Participation Listing.

## FOOTBALL

Continued from Page B1

The later start date for contact drills was unveiled to help eliminate heat stroke and possible death during the potentially broiling August heat, noted MHSAA executive director Jack Roberts.

Then, beginning Friday up to the Aug. 28 season openers (Canton will visit West Holland; Salem hosts Plymouth), teams are permitted only one "collision" practice in a day instead of two.

That pertains to "scrimmages, drills and simulations where action is live, game-speed, player-vs.-player" according to the guidelines.

After the season begins, squads must limit full-contact sessions to two per week (Monday through Sunday) and make sure total practice time does not exceed three hours for a single practice or five hours for days with double sessions.

### Changing landscape

Both Canton head coach Tim Baechler and Plymouth counterpart Mike Sawchuk on Tuesday said they understand what triggered the changes and prepared all summer so that their teams would not miss a beat.

"I think it's good what they're trying to do with the concussion buzz going around," Baechler said. "It is going to limit the amount of contact you have. Basically instead of being able to hit twice in your two-a-days you'll only be hitting one of those. It's less hitting, which is the idea of the rule."

"But we just make do and make sure we take good advantage of that one hitting practice."

Baechler noted that once hitting is allowed, coaches must monitor how long and how hard players crack their shoulder pads.

"We're still on the field for five hours, but it's just the amount of hitting," he continued. "The blocking and tackling has to be walked-through speed and it's got to be more mental about how to get there, where to go, things like that, instead of full live."

"It's a small thing, I really don't think it's going to hurt anybody in their preparation if they do it right."

The Chiefs were going through morning drills on the P-CEP turf field Tuesday because Monday's heavy down-pour turned the team's usual practice gridiron into mud and standing water.

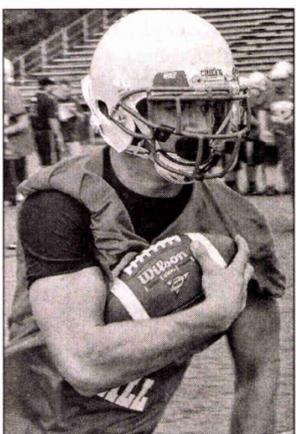
Senior quarterback Greg Williams took snaps and threw the pigskin to receivers such as Guajardo and Chuck Turfe, who ran unimpeded routes against defenders who largely just held padded shields for any incidental contact.

### Safety first

Plymouth's Sawchuk admitted that he isn't a "fan" of the stipulations and stressed he and his coaching staff have always put a premium on the safety of players.

"You got to abide whatever rule they give you and you got to adjust your schedule and be creative, and make sure you don't break the rules," Sawchuk said. "I'm not a fan of it. I'm all about being safe, and about all the consequences, I get it. But I think it punishes coaches who do the right thing at practice and don't line their kids up 15 yards away and run them at each other."

"And it punishes us who



Running the football during Tuesday morning "helmets only" practice is Canton senior tailback Chuck Turfe (No. 28). BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

actually go through and teach the heads-up tackling. But that's kind of the way society is going now. I think you can find some positives in it."

Sawchuk added that one concern all coaches will have is whether the MHSAA stipulations will result in tentative blocking and tackling — which in turn could lead to injuries.

"The thing that scares me is are you going to lose aggressiveness when you're preparing for your game because you haven't gone full speed as many times as you need to," he said.

Baechler said good coaching and top-notch helmets can help minimize head injuries, to a degree.

"But it's not a perfect science," Baechler stressed. "A kid moves late (by) one second you're trying to tackle him and boom, your head gets involved in a tackle. You're going to block somebody and they move at the last second."

"Your head was perfect and then it's not perfect because of the movement. It's just not a perfect science, there'll never be a cure for it."

### Give it time

The Wildcats' athletic trainer, Joe Durocher, said the reasons for the changes are commendable. He just doesn't know how quickly teams will adjust or how the rules will be enforced.

"Decreased hitting in practice, I like the idea," Durocher said. "Is it optimal for performance aspects of football? Maybe, maybe not, we'll see. It hasn't been tried. So we don't know how it's going to work."

"I don't think any of the rules are really over the top, they're all really good ideas. The non-targeting rule, staying away from the head, they're even mandating that you properly teach tackling even better than before. It will be in the application (of the rules) where we will really see."

Durocher noted that coaches are "trying to figure out how do we do that (enforcement), how do we get the kids to not look like they're targeting. When is a player in the wrong position and not paying attention and runs a defenseless player."

He added it might take a full season for coaches, players and trainers to get a grip on how effective the changes were in reducing concussions.

"Next year will be a good time to evaluate how it's all gone with full year of information," Durocher said, "let alone trial and error for practices."

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Twitter: @TimSmith\_Sports

### Border Classic game

The second annual 2015 Border Classic All-Star Football Game will be played June 13, 2015, at Wayne State University's Tom Adams Field.

The inaugural game, matching 40 of the top graduating high school seniors from Michigan and Ohio, was played last June at the University of Findlay in Ohio. Michigan won the game, 27-14.

The game is a cooperative event between the football coaches associations in each state. A time has not been set for the 2015 kickoff.

Team Michigan coaches will be named later this summer and the Michigan roster will be announced after the NCAA signing date in February.

For more information, visit [www.mhsfca.com](http://www.mhsfca.com).

### Baseball showcase

Henry Ford Community College will be hosting a showcase for high school and junior-college baseball players on Saturday, Aug. 23, at Papp Park, which is located at 9350 Westlake Road in Taylor.

Registration and stretching will run from 8:15-8:45 a.m.

The showcase will provide local players with exposure to the Henry Ford coaching staff

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

and professional scouts.

The registration fee is \$100. To register online, visit [www.henryfordcamps.com](http://www.henryfordcamps.com).

For more information, contact coach Brown at 313-657-3200 or [sjbrown@hfcc.edu](mailto:sjbrown@hfcc.edu).

### GC tennis tryouts

Tryouts for the 2014 Garden City High School boys tennis team will take place from 9-11 a.m. Monday through Wednesday (rain or shine) at the school's tennis courts. For more information, contact head coach Ron Pummill at 734-765-5479.

### Field hockey sign-up

Registration for the Farmington United high school field hockey team is underway through the Costick Center (activity 110541) in Farmington Hills.

No field hockey experience is necessary. The practice time will be 4:30-6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Farmington United is a combined team of eighth-through 12th-grade players in Farmington Public Schools.

The team competes at the varsity level in Division 2 of the Michigan High School Field Hockey Association.

For more information, contact [farmingtonunitedfield](mailto:farmingtonunitedfield)

[hockey@gmail.com](mailto:hockey@gmail.com).

### Softball players needed

The 18-and-over Michigan Diamonds women's fast-pitch softball team needs two players — a pitcher and a utility player.

The team is composed of college players and will compete in four tournaments during the 2015 summer season.

For more information, contact Jeff Combs at [jtcombs@netscape.com](mailto:jtcombs@netscape.com) or 810-417-1192.

### 'Meet the Team' night

Livonia Churchill High School's annual "Meet the Team" night will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20, in the James P. Carli Auditorium.

All athletes who plan on participating in at least one sport and at least one of their parents are asked to attend.

For more information, contact the athletic office at 734-744-2650, ext. 46117.

### YMCA offerings

The Plymouth Family YMCA is offering a variety of youth instructional programs and leagues this fall. The focus will be on fun, exercise and social interaction. For more information, contact the YMCA at 734-386-0700.

## GRIDDERS

Continued from Page B1

per day. When school starts, practices are limited to 2 ½ hours.

Bechtel thinks the rules are fine and don't present a problem for the Falcons.

"It's not that you can't have contact; you can't have full-go contact," Bechtel said. "It doesn't mean you can't do your drill work."

"It doesn't really affect us yet, because we're just in helmets and not having full contact anyway."

"We just modified our play in two-a-days. We do most of our technique work in the first practice and team work in the second."

"It used to be (one session each for) offense and defense. We'll be more full-go in the second practice when we get going."

### N. FARMINGTON RAIDERS

Unlike past years, teams didn't have to worry Monday about the August heat with temps in the 70s. Instead, the issue was the rain.

"The nice thing was it wasn't too hot," coach Todd Schultz said. "Everyone got wet. It didn't become a distraction. We just concentrated on what we needed to work on."

"We were fortunate; we were dry all morning. We left the field when it started pouring. The heavy stuff came later."

The Raiders practiced in a steady rain in the afternoon, but they got done what they wanted to do.

"Today was offense day, so we did a mix of run and pass," Schultz said. "With the weather and condition of the football, we worked a little more on run than we did pass."

The new contact rules are intended to reduce the risk of concussion, and the four days without pads is meant to give players more time to get acclimated to hot weather.

"Of course, this week that's not something we have to worry too much about," Schultz said. "Heat is not an issue now, but we always preach hydration. (Players) could just look up to the sky for a constant water break today."

He added the five-hour rule includes time spent stretching and doing warmups, which cuts into time for other things.

The Raiders used to do contact drills in groups when working with the offensive line, for example. Now that work is done during team time, according to Schultz.

"It's good that we're working with kids and not exposing them to unnecessary contact," he said. "Conversely, we need to teach these guys how to block and tackle properly while playing full speed."

"You can't replicate that while going against a dummy or half speed. It's good we're limiting contact, but we also want to practice game situations that we'll be faced with."

Schultz added he was happy with the first day. Thirty-nine players turned out for the var-

sity team.

"The kids were upbeat; they're excited," he said. "You've done a summer of conditioning and weight lifting. Everyone is happy to see we're actually running plays and getting back to the game."

### HARRISON HAWKS

Herrington begins his 45th season as the only head coach the Hawks have ever had. He has won 13 state titles.

With the retirement of former Brother Rice coach Al Fracassa, he is the dean of prep football coaches in Michigan.

"I don't really think about that," Herrington, who has coached for 53 years, said. "I'm just fortunate I have the help, the good staff, that I can continue coaching and doing what I enjoy."

He doesn't think the new contact rules will affect his team too much, adding players only have to wait one more day before donning shoulder pads.

"We can get just as much done," he said.

"Most coaches don't hit live all the time like they did in the old days."

"With shoulder pads and helmets on, you can pretty much teach tackling without having to take people to the ground."

"I am a little concerned about the green-and-gold game (Saturday). It will only be one day in pads and then we have a scrimmage, but it will be all right."

When school starts, teams can only have two days of contact per week. That will be Tuesday and Wednesday at Harrison, but the Hawks are in the routine of limiting contact to those days.

Herrington said the extra day of acclimation is not needed since players report for the start of practice in good shape nowadays.

He added there is sometimes an overreaction to the fear of concussions, too.

"It all started with the NFL and suits, and what starts there filters down to us," he said.

### FARMINGTON RAIDERS

Bechtel echoed Herrington's comments about not doing live, full-go contact every day once the season starts.

"You just can't because kids get hurt," he said. "You won't have anybody left. I don't think the new rule will have much effect on what we do."

"Not everything is the same in every program. Maybe (other teams) really bang each other. We just don't and we don't think it's prudent."

Bechtel likes his team, which he said has a lot of starters back and good speed. The Falcons had 46 varsity players Monday.

"We're just excited to get going," he said. "We're happy to get away from 7-on-7 and pre-tend football."

"Now we're going to start playing, and we'll see Friday what kind of team we're going to be."



Schultz



Herrington



Bechtel



This American craftsman house is an appealing design. The National Association of Realtors is putting an emphasis on ownership through a new advertising and public relations effort. GETTY IMAGES | ISTOCKPHOTO

## Advertising/PR campaign puts focus on value of Realtors for home buyers

As a new generation of home buyers enters into recovering real estate markets across the country, the National Association of Realtors announced July 14 the launch of a major national advertising campaign in conjunction with realtor.com, as well as a comprehensive public relations effort, "Real Insight," which together will showcase the value of the local knowledge and accurate data available to consumers through Realtors and realtor.com.

NAR's latest campaign, "Real People," is part of a \$35 million annual advertising effort that targets home buyers and sellers, ages 25-54; the ads are currently broadcasting across TV, digital, radio and mobile channels. Realtor.com is concurrently running a multimillion dollar advertising campaign, "Accuracy Matters," emphasizing that realtor.com provides accurate, up-to-date and comprehensive real estate listings and content available online.

"Together Realtors and realtor.com deliver the real insights and know-how to make home happen for home buyers and sellers all across the country," said Steve Brown, NAR

president and co-owner of Irongate, Inc., Realtors in Dayton, Ohio. "This effort is critically important for our industry as we unite under a common goal of providing the most accurate market data available online along with the deep local knowledge and Realtor expertise that buyers and sellers need to make their real estate dreams a reality."

"Accuracy is critically important for serious buyers and sellers, but the Accuracy Matters awareness campaign is about more than just listings data - it's about sound professional advice as well, from Realtors with unparalleled local insights," said Steve Berkowitz, chief executive officer for Move, Inc., the operator of realtor.com. "This commitment leverages both campaigns to help consumers understand the combined advantage of using realtor.com while working with a Realtor."

In addition to the national advertising campaign, NAR will be hosting a series of live and online "Conversations with Real Insight" in coming months that provide attendees - from consumers and busi-

nesses to real estate service providers and industry leaders - with up-to-the-minute understanding of today's real estate market trends.

"Some have suggested that new technologies should make buying a home more like buying an airline ticket or a stock certificate, but they're missing the point. You don't live your life in a stock share, raise your kids in seat 7B, or build your future online," said Brown. "Real estate transactions are the most significant personal and financial engagement most Americans ever make. In today's competitive and complex environment, Realtors combine technology with the real-life insight and market knowledge that buyers and sellers need to succeed."

To learn more about the campaign, visit [realtor.org/consumer-advertising-campaign](http://realtor.org/consumer-advertising-campaign).

The National Association of Realtors, "The Voice for Real Estate," is America's largest trade association, representing one million members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.

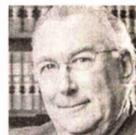
## Independent legal counsel vital to condo operations

**Q: I am on the board of a condo and have found out that our management company has used the same attorney in every one of its projects that it recommended to us. When I asked the management company why that was the case, the management company said it was just coincidental and that they do "good work." Is that a problem for our association?**

**A: Congratulations.** You have stumbled across a frequent phenomenon in Michigan condominium governance where the management company is figuratively in bed with the law firm that they continuously recommend because, among other things, that law firm will agree not to pursue the management company for any malfeasance and/or has otherwise represented the management company or done "favors for it." This unholy alliance is something that should be avoided and any management company that continues to send the business of the association to one law firm is waiting, literally, for the cookie to crumble when that affiliation is exposed and any impropriety is established. You are best off retaining a new management company and a new law firm.

**Q: I am buying a new condominium from a national developer, and received a Disclosure Statement that said there were no lawsuits pending against the Developer of this project. The name of the project is different from the name of the national developer. Should I be looking for more?**

**A: You certainly should.** The Condominium Act only requires the Developer of that particular project to disclose any litigation with that particular project. You should inquire as to whether the parent of your Developer, i.e., the national company, if that be the case, has been sued at any other condominium projects locally and, perhaps, nationally if the same style unit is being sold elsewhere. Many times we find that Developers are sued and, as part of a settlement, demand confidentiality clauses so no one knows what the terms of the settlement are except the parties, and no prospective purchaser will really find out the details. I have seen many situations where Developers have covered up their defects which they knew about in other projects from ones they are currently developing and/or selling at the time. Get a good condominium lawyer who knows the history of Developers in this area.



Robert Meisner

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

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of March 31 to April 4, 2014, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

<b>BEVERLY HILLS</b>					
18051 Dunblaine Ave	\$265,000	7336 Saint Auburn Dr	\$311,000	3886 W Commerce Rd	\$238,000
32255 Eastlady Dr	\$550,000	<b>COMMERCE TOWNSHIP</b>		<b>NORTHVILLE</b>	
17869 Kinross Ave	\$255,000	8784 Alsup Ave	\$335,000	21520 Chubb Rd	\$219,000
<b>BIRMINGHAM</b>		5641 Antlers Ct	\$75,000	974 Coldspring Dr	\$651,000
1275 Davis Ave	\$370,000	753 Bingham Ct	\$310,000	22248 Innsbrook Dr	\$310,000
1725 E 14 Mile Rd Unit D	\$70,000	2276 Calibouge	\$75,000	<b>NOVI</b>	
1650 E Melton Rd	\$173,000	5139 Carinas Way Ct	\$351,000	22694 Bertram Dr	\$355,000
1141 Golf View Blvd	\$381,000	3259 Mandrake St	\$180,000	25033 Buckminster Dr	\$288,000
2011 Hazel St	\$565,000	2437 Solace Dr	\$65,000	45866 Cider Mill Rd	\$283,000
963 Puritan Ave	\$775,000	1887 Sparling	\$237,000	25501 Hillsdale Dr	\$645,000
1252 Smith Ave	\$550,000	<b>FARMINGTON</b>		44879 Lindbergh	\$365,000
327 Southfield Rd Unit 14	\$134,000	31616 Folkstone Dr	\$121,000	51182 Mayfair Ter	\$312,000
600 W Frank St	\$1,287,000	22886 Frederick Ave	\$128,000	41703 Mitchell Rd	\$180,000
1912 Washington Blvd	\$230,000	33791 Hamlin Ct	\$200,000	24524 Olde Orchard St	\$110,000
<b>BLOOMFIELD HILLS</b>		22779 Lilac St	\$135,000	22814 Talford St	\$78,000
434 Fox Hills Dr N # A-3	\$279,000	34155 Schulte Dr	\$218,000	22909 Woolsey	\$73,000
2441 Hickory Glen Dr	\$420,000	33346 Shiawassee Rd	\$267,000	<b>SOUTH LYON</b>	
40760 Woodward Ave Unit 45	\$167,000	<b>FARMINGTON HILLS</b>		518 N Reese St	\$148,000
<b>BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP</b>		23875 Glencreek Dr	\$115,000	17708 Addison St	\$74,000
2037 Bootmaker Ln	\$285,000	30768 Huntsman Dr E	\$223,000	<b>SOUTHFIELD</b>	
1939 Cedar Hill Dr	\$425,000	28811 Kendallwood Dr	\$234,000	17270 Alta Vista Dr	\$161,000
4304 Covered Bridge Rd	\$285,000	29439 Laurel Dr	\$119,000	29330 Bermuda Ln	\$148,000
5210 Echo Rd	\$410,000	25585 Lyncastle St	\$205,000	19870 Butternut Ln	\$162,000
560 Fox Pointe Ct	\$572,000	23106 Montclair St	\$80,000	29466 Candlewood Ln	\$96,000
1686 Hoyt Tower Dr	\$345,000	29496 Moran St	\$206,000	15872 Harden Cir	\$87,000
2830 Lamplighter Ln	\$418,000	21940 River Pines Dr	\$197,000	15801 Providence Dr # 01e	\$93,000
2170 Lancaster Rd	\$235,000	28416 Shiloh Ct	\$245,000	29656 Rock Creek Dr	\$85,000
1420 Manderford Rd	\$330,000	29433 Sylvan Ln	\$165,000	21700 Virginia St	\$168,000
6780 Oakhills Dr	\$375,000	31935 W 14 Mile Rd # 227	\$133,000	29161 Wellington Rd E # 42	\$72,000
4364 Pine Tree Trl	\$395,000	29232 Wellington St	\$190,000	<b>WHITE LAKE</b>	
		<b>FRANKLIN</b>		8085 Bennington Blvd	\$300,000
		26570 Drummond Ct	\$210,000	742 E Oxhill Dr	\$160,000
		26285 W 14 Mile Rd	\$265,000	863 Golden Dr	\$233,000
		<b>LATHRUP VILLAGE</b>		10953 Hillway St	\$125,000
		27230 Bloomfield Dr	\$165,000	8200 Nathan Oscar Dr	\$169,000
		<b>MILFORD</b>		10300 Northridge Ct	\$245,000
		3265 Granda Vista Dr	\$258,000	469 Rosario Dr	\$258,000
		1750 S Hickory Ridge Trl	\$272,000	1233 Round Lake Rd	\$115,000

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of April 21-25, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

<b>CANTON</b>		<b>GARDEN CITY</b>		16865 Horseshoe Dr	\$550,000
2467 Amber Dr	\$195,000	596 Brandt St	\$65,000	15938 Morningside	\$158,000
43555 Fleetwood Ct	\$167,000	33701 Kathryn St	\$84,000	<b>PLYMOUTH</b>	
41484 Glade Rd	\$175,000	31568 Marquette St	\$130,000	44436 Charnwood Dr	\$360,000
46703 Inverness Rd	\$385,000	29483 Meadow Ln	\$82,000	11696 Morgan Ave	\$160,000
6544 Kings Mill Dr	\$352,000	918 Middlebelt Rd	\$28,000	<b>REDFORD</b>	
42471 Lilley Pointe Dr	\$79,000	<b>LIVONIA</b>		24255 Puritan	\$34,000
42306 Oakland Dr	\$250,000	14404 Fairway St	\$155,000	<b>WAYNE</b>	
42246 Saratoga Cir	\$162,000	9870 Harrison St	\$130,000	3048 Rivers Edge Dr	\$95,000
44180 Sheridan St	\$236,000	32836 Hees St	\$105,000	3630 Swanson St	\$25,000
		29408 Lori St	\$85,000	32572 Woodbrook Dr	\$130,000
		17113 Louise St	\$211,000	<b>WESTLAND</b>	
		37772 Mallory Dr	\$284,000	32651 Birchhurst St	\$70,000
		11260 Oxbow St	\$135,000	36620 Deerhurst S	\$115,000
		18579 Sunset St	\$90,000	36815 Dover Dr	\$150,000
		27901 Whitcomb St	\$229,000	7645 Louise Ct	\$80,000
		<b>NORTHVILLE</b>		171 S Carlson St	\$115,000
		601 Ashley Ct	\$457,000		

### REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

#### Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures.

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

Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email [june.quantum@gmail.com](mailto:june.quantum@gmail.com) for your reservation or additional information.

#### Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 6-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. The Red Lobster is next to 7-11, near Trenton Road.

Any questions or concerns, call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-9091 or Wayne Koehler at 313-819-0919.

#### Seminar each Tuesday, Thursday

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

RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

#### Free foreclosure tours

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

Email [Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com](mailto:Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com) or visit [FreeForeclosureTour.com](http://FreeForeclosureTour.com).

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Medical Assistant  
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Office in Farmington Hills  
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Front Desk experience.  
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dthomas@suburbansnowplace.com

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(Residential)

JOB FAIR  
Monday, August 18, 2014  
9am-1pm  
14525 Farmington Road  
Livonia, MI 48154

Full Time Positions  
Comprehensive benefit  
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Part-Time with good customer  
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Experience required.  
Livonia.  
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Email resume:  
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Medical Biller  
Full-time Position  
Excellent Salary &  
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Email to:  
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red. Call 313-884-8900

RN, LPN or MA  
with DERMATOLOGY  
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for a growing dermatology  
practice in Ann Arbor/  
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Card of Thanks

PRAYER: Pray 9 Hail Marys for  
3 days. On the 9th day make 3  
wishes & publish this prayer.  
Your wishes will be granted. -M

Absolutely Free

Big Man Recliner - Tuape,  
very comfy, Good Condition  
248-437-5335

FREE LOVE SEAT. GOLD  
UPHOL. FLORAL DESIGN. 34 IN  
X 5 FT. 734-462-5996

FREE WOODEN TABLE.  
31 IN W. 53 IN L. 30 INCH H.  
734-462-5996

Estates Sales

PLYMOUTH: 10405 Robert  
Lane, Fri - Sun 9-5pm. (W. of  
Sheldon Rd., N. of Ann Arbor  
Rd.) Collectibles, Furniture,  
& More! pics @ actonestate.com  
586-228-9090

SOUTH LYON ESTATE SALE  
Tools, furniture, household &  
antiques. Fri-Sat, Aug 15-16,  
8:30-5. 11455 Hammerstone  
Dr., btwn Dixboro & Rushton.

Garage/Moving Sales

Canton: LARGE GARAGE  
SALE! Clothing, household  
goods, toys and games, furni-  
ture, etc. - Honda Shadow VTX  
best serious offer. Needs  
some work. Prices firm on  
other items. 326 Country Club  
Lane 8/15 9-4 8/16 9-1pm

Clawson GARAGE/ YARD  
SALE Power and Hand Tools  
FRI & SAT, 9:00 - 6:00  
117 Hendrickson  
Bet. 14 & 15, E. of Main

Farmington Hills: Estate  
Garage Sale. HUNDREDS of  
Antique and Vintage Items \$1  
to \$7 Very Wide Variety  
Fri-Sat 8/15 & 8/16, 9-4  
32270 Red Clover Road  
near 12 Mile & Orchard Lake.

Farmington: Huge Moving  
Sale. Aug. 14, 15, 16 from  
9am to 4 pm. 33632 State St.  
Farmington. Furniture, tools,  
gift equip & MORE!

GARDEN CITY: Multi-Family  
32484 Manor Park, Aug. 14-  
16, 9-6. Landscaping blocks,  
electric range, air conditioner,  
kid's clothing & coats, many  
more new & gently used items.

HIGHLAND 4 family sale.  
Thur 10-5pm & Fri. 9-5pm  
household items, toys,  
clothes, 50% OFF new  
Purses/jewelry, Prestwick  
Village Golf Community,  
400 Inverness, off M-59 1  
Mile W of Milford Rd.,

Livonia: Huge 3 family sale.  
35062 Munger, Sun Aug  
17, 10a-3p, Mon-Wed Aug 18-  
20, 9a-5p. Tons of elementary  
age boy toys, sports equipment  
& books. Household & beauty  
items. All gently used or new!  
No tools

Livonia: Moving sale at  
30026 Bentley St. Livonia MI  
48154 Saturday-Sunday 9am  
to 5pm. (734)536-8324

LIVONIA - Multi-Family Sale!  
Aug 14-16, 9am-5pm. 31709  
Perth W. of Merriman & N. of  
Jefferies. Household, sports,  
CDs, books.

New Hudson: Multi-Family  
Gar/Moving - 59101 Preston  
Ct. (Martindale/Grand River)  
Sat. Aug. 16, 9-6pm. &  
Sun. Aug. 17, 10-5pm  
Tools; lawn & garden; furn.  
toys; women's & kids clothing;  
house/ kitchenware; sporting,  
exercise; pet. business & office  
furniture, supplies/equipment.

Cash in with Classifieds  
800-579-SELL

Garage/Moving Sales

Northville: 4 Family Garage  
Sale, Thu & Fri 8/14&15  
9am to 6pm Furniture,  
Antiques, Tools, Books,  
Collectibles, Bikes, Toys,  
clothes, household items,  
Games & Sports Equipment,  
N of 7 Mile between Sheldon  
& Beck Rds. 744 Grandview

NORTHVILLE  
Meadowbrook Hills Sub Sale  
Aug. 15-17, 9-4  
Separate sale in Rhonswood  
Park, Aug. 16, 9-4  
(8 Mile/Connaught or 8 Mile/  
Lujon or Halsted/Rhonswood)

Northville Rippling Lane  
Sub-Avg 14/15, 9-5pm. Aug.  
16, 9-3p. S of 8 Mile, E of Novi.  
Household, furn, sports, bikes,  
books, children, LPs, misc.

NOVI - MOVING SALE! 39458  
Country Ln. Aug 14-16, 10a-  
5p. Artsy pics, misc hslid, furn,  
ski, golf, clothes, Christmas &  
office. kjack1029@yahoo.com

Plymouth: 5 FAMILY SALE  
AUG 14 15 16 8-6 pm  
Vintage toys, furniture, yard  
equipment, tools, electric baby  
grand piano. 664 Herald

REDFORD - Moving Sale!  
EVERYTHING GOES! Aug.  
15th-17th Fri-Sun 9a-5pm  
18485 Sumner.

WAYNE - Madison St. Combo  
book/moving sale. S of Mich.  
W. of Merriman, follow signs.  
Aug 15-17, 9-5pm. new home  
daily. Pottery/household

WESTLAND GARAGE SALE:  
Thurs-Sat, 9am-5pm.  
33201 Lynx St. A lot of  
clothing, games, household  
items, years worth of stuff.

Wixom Estate Sale. 2000  
sq. ft. warehouse. Furniture,  
home goods, pots/pans, chi-  
na, sm. appliances, exercise  
equip, yard tools, construction  
tools, patio furn, elec-  
tronics. 29240 Lyon Oaks Dr  
Fri - Sun 9-5 (248)345-3763

Beautiful large Natuzzi sofa  
Like-brand new! Medium tan  
color. Original price \$2,500  
Asking \$850. Leather Lane Re-  
cliner, like-new, \$650.  
Mohogany executive desk,  
leather top, \$600.  
248.738.4445

Dining Set- Antique 1920's  
Chippendale style. Berkeley &  
Gay. Hand carved burl wal-  
nut. includes table for 6, 6  
chairs, yard tools, construc-  
tion tools, patio furn, elec-  
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WOOD SWING AND  
PICNIC TABLE:  
\$150 for both, good cond.  
Call: 734-422-2149

Bicycles

Boy's Schwinn - Sting-ray  
Orange Crew Cab  
Girl's Schwinn - Fair Lady  
\$200. Call 248.960.463905

Lawn Garden  
& Snow Equip

Commercial Lawn  
Tractor - Simplicity: 10HP.  
5 speed, dual rear bags, good  
cond. \$1400. 734-942-9330

Misc. For Sale

DURALAST Car Battery 3  
month \$50. Kenmore porta-  
ble dishwasher \$50. RCA  
small 18" TV with remote.  
\$25. Flush mount Hampton



**Honda**  
**PILOT EX 2003**  
 1 Owner, Highway Miles  
 Call Now! \$5,995  
**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**BUICK, GMC**  
 734-453-2500

**Jeep**  
**GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED 2000**  
 4x4, Leather Interior  
 Moon Roof, \$5,995  
**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**BUICK, GMC**  
 734-453-2500

**Lincoln**  
**LINCOLN MKX 2010**  
 Silver, FWD, Leather interior,  
 Fully Loaded, \$19,788  
**NORTH BROS.**  
 855-667-9860

**Mercury**  
**GRAND MARQUIS LS 2000**  
 Only 74,000 Miles, Leather  
 Interior, Moon Roof, \$5995  
**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**BUICK, GMC**  
 734-453-2500

**Pontiac**  
**FIERO 1986 SE**  
 Red, 55k mi, not running but in  
 great condition, original owner  
 \$9,000 313-928-4602

**Pontiac**  
**PONTIAC G6 GT 2007**  
 Only 57,000 Miles, Silver,  
 Leather, Power Options!  
 \$13,995  
**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**BUICK, GMC**  
 734-453-2500

**Pontiac**  
**PONTIAC G8 GT 2009**  
 White, Low Miles, 1 Owner,  
 Moon Roof, New Arrival  
 \$21,995  
**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**BUICK, GMC**  
 734-453-2500

**Saturn**  
**AURA XE 2008**  
 1 Owner, Automatic, Great  
 On Gas! Save Thousands!  
 \$9,995  
**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**BUICK, GMC**  
 734-453-2500

**Saturn**  
**SATURN VUE REDLINE 2008**  
 Deep Blue, Black Interior,  
 1 Owner! Only \$12,995.  
**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**BUICK, GMC**  
 734-453-2500

**Toyota**  
**COROLLA 2004**  
 Great Condition, Automatic,  
 Great MPG! \$5,995  
**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
**BUICK, GMC**  
 734-453-2500

**Toyota**  
**PRIUS 2005**  
 Great on Gas, Save Thousands!  
 \$11,988  
**NORTH BROS.**  
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We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper & only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order.

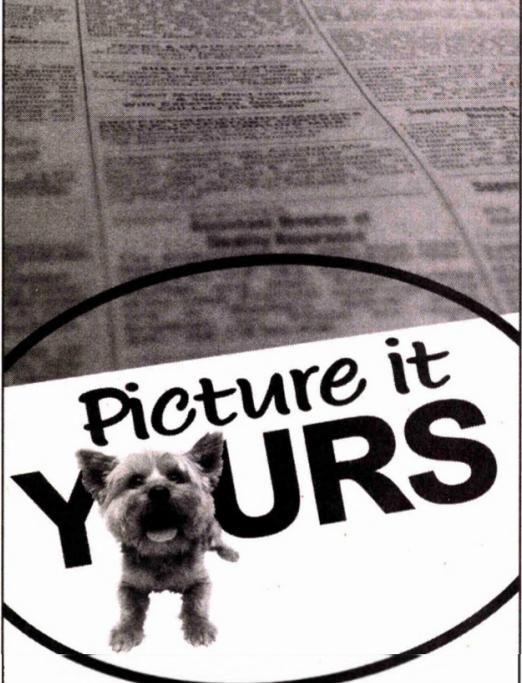
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When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, only the first insertion will be credited.

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**Equal Housing Opportunity Statement:** We are pledged to the letter & spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage & support an affirmative advertising & marketing program in which there are no barriers.

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 800-579-7355

**It's Garage Sale Season!**

Place YOUR garage sale ad with Observer & Eccentric Media!  
 Call NOW... **1.800.579.7355**

**OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA**  
 hometownlife.com A GANNETT COMPANY

**Our Digital GARAGE SALE KIT includes:**

- Printable Signs
- Printable Price Stickers
- Two pages of ideas and advice for having a great garage sale
- One pass for two to any Imagine Theatres
- Coupon for a FREE 4-square Buddy's Pizza
- Buddy's Pizza food discount card
- Interactive "Map It" feature online at hometownlife.com with a print and online ad purchase.

**\$3.00 OFF**  
 ANY 8 SQUARE PIZZA  
 Not valid with any other coupon or discount. One coupon per person, per pizza, per table. No cash value. Offer Expires: 12-31-14

**BONUS OFFER!**

**\$2.00 OFF**  
 the purchase of any **LARGE COMBO** at our concession stand  
 One coupon per purchase. Not valid with other coupons. No cash value. Offer Expires 11-01-14

**Restaurant/Bar/Carryout**  
 Detroit - 313.892.9001  
 Warren - 586.574.9200  
 Farmington Hills - 248.855.4600  
 Livonia - 734.261.3550  
 Dearborn - 313.562.5900  
 Auburn Hills - 248.276.9040  
 Shelby Twp. - 568.566.1233

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 Pointe Plaza - 313.884.7400

**Carryout ONLY**  
 Royal Oak - 248.549.8000  
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**EMAGINE CANTON**  
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 44425 W. 12 Mile Rd. - Novi

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 21720 Allen Road - Woodhaven

**EMAGINE ROCHESTER HILLS**  
 200 Barclay Circle - (N. of M-59) Rochester Hills

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**Thursday PUZZLE CORNER**

**CROSSWORD PUZZLER**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Wallet filler
  - 5 Back muscles
  - 9 Showtime rival
  - 12 Thin Man's terrier
  - 13 Above
  - 14 Feeling lousy
  - 15 Major nuisance
  - 16 Earl — Biggers
  - 17 Ally opposite
  - 21 Grandson, maybe
  - 22 Hydrocarbon suffix
  - 23 Clairvoyant
  - 26 — roll (lucky)
  - 28 Squalls
  - 32 Sand mandala builder
  - 34 Mdse.
  - 36 "Instead of" word
  - 37 Eurasian mountains
  - 39 Pre-grown lawn
- DOWN**
- 41 Grandee's title
  - 42 Belly dance instrument
  - 44 Smoker or diner
  - 46 Powerful lobbyists (2 wds.)
  - 51 Olive in the comics
  - 52 — noire
  - 53 Zen riddle
  - 55 Hwy.
  - 56 Iowa, to Jacques As a result
  - 57 T.— ("Jurassic Park") beast
  - 59 Hunky—
  - 60 Fiscal period

**Answer to Previous Puzzle**

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

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**Want more puzzles?**  
 Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at [QuillDriverBooks.com](http://QuillDriverBooks.com)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
18				19				20		
21				22				23		
24				25				26		
27				28				29		
30				31				32		
33				34				35		
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42				43				44		
45				46				47		
48				49				50		
51				52				53		
54				55				56		
57				58				59		
60				61				62		

**SUDOKU**

**Fun By The Numbers**

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

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

Level: Intermediate

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

**BIG TOP WORD SEARCH**

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

**Word Search**

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

# Westland parish, priest celebrate 25 years together

Ss. Simon and Jude parish-ioners in Westland recently recognized the Rev. Gerry Bechard for his 25 years of service as pastor of their church.

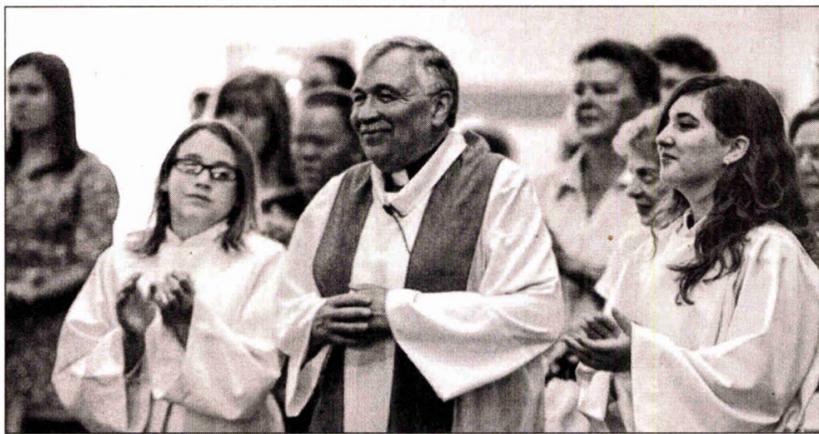
More than 250 individuals attended a Mass and party. Special guests included Bechard's family, local ministers and state Sen. Glenn Anderson, who presented resolutions from both the state of Michigan and Wayne County commending the pastor's work in the community. The Ss. Simon and Jude church family reaches out to the surrounding community with its Red Wagon literacy program, Christmas

gifts and food, by helping with the Norwayne Community Garden and by providing year-round assistance through the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

The celebration included food, memory-sharing and a photo display.

"It is very evident how much the parishioners love, admire and respect Fr. Gerry (their hero)," Kathy Hansen, director of publicity for the church, wrote in an email to the *Observer*, "and how much he loves his church family and the work they do together."

Visit Ss. Simon and Jude's website at [www.stssimonand-jude.com](http://www.stssimonand-jude.com).



Parishioners applaud the Rev. Gerry Bechard.

## RELIGION CALENDAR

### AUGUST

#### BACKPACK GIVEAWAY

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Aug. 16

**Location:** Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

**Details:** Backpacks with basic school supplies will be given to anyone in need.

**Contact:** 734-522-6830; [christoursavior.org](mailto:christoursavior.org)

#### CONCERT

**Time/Date:** 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16

**Location:** Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Annual outdoor Christian rock concert, "Christ is Our Rock," will take place on the lawn and will include the Dennis Coffey Band and Mike Scruggs. Food will be available for purchase. This is a free concert for the entire family that will benefit Family of God, an inner city mission.

**Contact:** 248-553-3380

#### MOVIE ON THE LAWN

**Time/Date:** 8:30 p.m. Aug. 30

**Location:** Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia

**Details:** Bring a lawn chair or blanket to watch *God's Not Dead*. Movie starts at sunset. Admission, popcorn and ices are free. Movie will be shown indoors in inclement weather.

**Contact:** Steve Morgan at

313-377-0832

#### OUTDOOR WORSHIP

**Time/Date:** 11 a.m. Sunday, through Aug. 24

**Location:** Cherry Hill Village Schoolhouse, corner of Ridge and Cherry Hill Roads, Canton

**Details:** Bring your own lawn chair for this service with members of St. Michael Lutheran Church. In case of inclement weather, service will be held at the church, 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

**Contact:** 734-459-3333

#### SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 19

**Location:** St. Paul's, 20805 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Daycare, preschool, Young Fives programs, and grades K-8

**Contact:** 248-767-4806

#### ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

##### Men's Bible study

**Time/Date:** Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.

**Location:** Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township

**Contact:** John Shulenberger at 734-464-9491

##### Our Lady of Loretto

**Time/Date:** 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

**Location:** Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township

**Details:** Scripture study

**Contact:** 313-534-9000

#### St. Michael the Archangel

**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday.

**Location:** School library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

**Details:** Catholic author Gary Michuta leads a study of Acts of the Apostles.

**Contact:** 734-261-1455, Ext. 200, or [www.livoniastmichael.org](http://www.livoniastmichael.org)

#### Ward Presbyterian

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Mondays

**Location:** Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville Township

**Details:** Learner's Bible study is held

**Contact:** 248-374-5920

#### FAMILY MEAL

**Time/Date:** 5-6 p.m. every Thursday

**Location:** Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Free meal

**Contact:** 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

#### MOMS

##### Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May

**Location:** 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

**Details:** Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners

**Contact:** Ethanie Defoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at 734-658-2463

##### Dunning Park Bible Chapel

**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays

**Location:** 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

**Details:** MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.

**Contact:** Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767

#### PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. Sunday

**Location:** Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

**Details:** All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.

**Contact:** 313-563-0162

#### PRAYER

##### Nardin Park United Methodist Church

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesday

**Location:** 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests.

**Contact:** 248-476-8860

#### St. Edith Church

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday

**Location:** 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through back.

**Details:** Music, singing, prayer

**Contact:** Grace at 734-464-1896, Shirley at 734-464-3656 or Geri at 734-464-8906

#### St. Michael Lutheran Church

**Time/Date:** 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday

**Location:** 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

**Details:** Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.

**Contact:** 734-459-3333 for additional information

#### SINGLES

##### Detroit World Outreach

**Time/Date:** 4-6 p.m. Sunday

**Location:** 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, Room 304

**Details:** Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated.

**Contact:** The facilitator at 313-283-8200; [lef@dwo.org](mailto:lef@dwo.org)

##### First Presbyterian Church

**Time/Date:** 7-7:15 p.m., social time; 7:30 p.m., announcements; 7:30-8:30 p.m., program; 8:30-9 p.m. ice cream social, Thursdays.

**Location:** 200 E. Main St., Northville

**Details:** Single Place Ministry; cost is \$5

**Contact:** 248-349-0911 or visit [www.singleplace.org](http://www.singleplace.org)

##### Steve's Family Restaurant

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday

**Location:** 15800 Middlebelt, 1/4 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia

**Details:** Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others.

**Contact:** 313-534-0399

##### Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

**Time/Date:** 11 a.m. Sunday

**Location:** 40000 Six Mile, Northville Township

**Details:** Single Point Ministries, for 30 and up, offers fellowship, coffee, doughnuts, conversation.

**Contact:** 248-374-5920

#### SONG CIRCLE

##### Congregation Beth Ahm

**Time/Date:** Noon to 12:30 p.m. every Shabbat

**Location:** 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

**Details:** Sing zemirot (Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in transliteration as well as the original

Hebrew.

**Contact:** 248-737-1931 or email [nancyellen879@att.net](mailto:nancyellen879@att.net).

#### SUPPORT

##### Apostolic Christian Church

**Time/Date:** 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily

**Location:** 29667 Wentworth, Livonia

**Details:** Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act.

**Contact:** 734-261-9000; [www.woodhaven-retirement.com](http://www.woodhaven-retirement.com)

##### Detroit World Outreach

**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday

**Location:** 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; Room 202

**Details:** Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems, drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling.

**Contact:** 313-255-2222, Ext. 244

##### Farmington Hills Baptist Church

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August

**Location:** 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Farmington Hills

**Details:** Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group

**Contact:** 248-433-1011

##### Merriman Road Baptist Church

**Time/Date:** 1-3 p.m. second and fourth Thursday

**Location:** 2055 Merriman, Garden City

**Details:** Metro Fibromyalgia support group meets; donations

**Contact:** [www.metrofibrogroup.com](http://www.metrofibrogroup.com); or call Ruthann with questions at 734-981-2519

##### Fireside Church of God

**Time/Date:** 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

**Location:** 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

**Details:** Fireside Adult Day Ministry offers an activity-based program for dependent adults, specializing in dementia care. Not a drop-in center

**Contact:** 734-855-4056 or 734-464-0990; [www.firesidechog.org](http://www.firesidechog.org); or email to [adm@firesidechog.org](mailto:adm@firesidechog.org)

##### St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to noon Saturday

**Location:** 16360 Hubbard, Livonia

**Details:** A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available

**Contact:** 734-421-8451

##### St. John Neumann

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesdays

**Location:** 44800 Warren Road, Canton

**Details:** Overeaters Anonymous meets

**Contact:** Mary at 734-634-7154 or Jennifer at 734-812-6077 for additional information

##### St. Thomas a' Becket Church

**Time/Date:** Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m.; support group meeting starts at 7 p.m. Thursday

**Location:** 555 S. Lilley, Canton

**Details:** Take Off Pounds Sensibly encourages members of the organization to lose weight and keep it off for good.

**Contact:** Margaret at 734-838-0322 for additional information

##### Unity of Livonia

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday

**Location:** 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia

**Details:** Overeaters Anonymous

**Contact:** 248-559-7722; [www.oa.org](http://www.oa.org) for additional information

##### Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. dinner (optional); 7 p.m. worship; 8 p.m. small group discussion; 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee/desserts)

**Location:** 40000 Six Mile, Northville Township

**Details:** Celebrate Recovery helps men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hangups (addictive and compulsive behaviors); child care is free.

**Contact:** Child care, 248-374-7400; [www.celebraterecovery.com](http://www.celebraterecovery.com) and [www.wardchurch.org](http://www.wardchurch.org) celebrate

#### THRIFT STORE

##### St. James Presbyterian

**Location:** 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford

**Contact:** 313-534-7730 for additional information

##### Way of Life Christian Church

**Time/Date:** 2-3:30 p.m. third Saturday from October through May

**Location:** 9401 General Drive, Lilley Executive Plaza, Suite 100, Plymouth

**Details:** Women's fellowship is designed for women with a question to know God more in their lives.

**Contact:** 734-637-7618

#### WORSHIP

##### Adat Shalom Synagogue

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday; 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Sunday; and 6 p.m. weekdays

**Location:** 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

**Contact:** 248-851-5100

**Passages** View Online [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)  
Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

How to reach us:  
1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • [www.mideathnotices.com](http://www.mideathnotices.com)

**Deadlines:** Friday, 4:00 p.m. for Sunday papers  
Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. for Thursday papers  
Holiday deadlines are subject to change.



**BLEYLE, CINDY**  
Born April 19, 1965 has left this earth July 28, 2014. Preceded in death by her parents: Sheldon W. Bleyle and Lily M. (Weeks) Bleyle. Survived by all she touched with her "UNCONDITIONAL LOVE & SPIRIT". Graveside Service will be August 16, 2014 1p.m. at the New Bay Port Cemetery M-147 (Pigeon Rd) and M-25 (N Unionville Rd). in Huron County, MI. All welcome to attend.

**May you find comfort in family & friends**

# Your Invitation to Worship

**CATHOLIC**

**ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Tridentine Latin Mass  
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8  
38100 Five Mile Road  
Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200  
Mass Schedule:  
First Friday Mass 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday Mass 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.  
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass  
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions  
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. AT 15084

**PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)**

**Rosedale Gardens**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)  
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)  
(734) 422-0494  
Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am  
Traditional Service 10:30 am  
Visit [www.rosedalegardens.org](http://www.rosedalegardens.org)  
For information about our many programs

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**

*A Church for Seasoned Saints*  
**OPEN ARMS CHURCH**  
Worship:  
Sunday 10:30 am  
Wednesday 7 pm  
Pastor Grady Jensen & Music Minister Abe Pazzini  
33015 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia 48152  
Between Farmington & Merriman  
Across from Joe's Produce  
248.471.5282  
Church As You Remember it!

**LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD**

**ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1390  
WORSHIP SERVICES  
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.  
THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.  
website: [www.stpaulsilivonia.org](http://www.stpaulsilivonia.org)

**EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN**

**WARD CHURCH** 40000 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48168 248.374.7400  
Sunday Worship Services 8 a.m. | 9:30 a.m. | 11 a.m.  
A different music styles from classic to modern  
[www.wardchurch.org](http://www.wardchurch.org)

# New comedy pokes fun at Hollywood, its clichés

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

A local sports medicine doctor and a dating coach have joined forces to bring a comedy about the ups and downs of Tinseltown to a Detroit-area improv stage.

What would such unlikely collaborators know about the struggles an actor faces trying to make it big in Hollywood?

Plenty. When he's not tending to patients at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, Plymouth resident Steve Karageanes, D.O., is likely to be found on a movie set, directing and producing his latest film. And although she loves her day job as a dating coach, Alara Ceri, a former Farmington Hills resident, is a working actress and a budding writer, with movie roles and a YouTube series to her name. Together, they'll present *Hollywood Positive*, with Ceri in the lead role and Karageanes directing, at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, Aug. 14-16, and Thursday and Friday, Aug. 21-22, at Go! Comedy Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale. Tickets are \$15 and available at [gocomedy.net](http://gocomedy.net). Other cast members are Julia Schroeder, Maggie O'Reilly, Charlie Newhart, Genevieve Jona, Vince Sabatini, Brian Papandrea and Dan Brittain.

Karageanes met Ceri, a North Farmington High School graduate who has a degree in theater from Michigan State University, while casting one of his films. She didn't get the part, but a few months later, he recruited her for a role in *Needlestick*, a full-length feature now in post-production.

Ceri subsequently shared a story idea that became the foundation for Karageanes' screenplay *Make It Big*, winner of the Action on Film 2012 writer award. He received \$100,000 to help produce the film, which will go into production — with Ceri in one of its roles — later this year.

He offered to give her play *Hollywood Positive* a sketch comedy spin and stage it in the

Detroit area, after he saw it performed in North Hollywood last summer. Ceri, who moved to Hollywood a few months after graduating from MSU in 2009, said the play "is pretty much my first two years out there."

## Dining room digs

"I found a place (to live) on Craigslist, this lady's dining room. She was subletting it. I was living in someone's dining room for a year and a half," she said. "I did the whole server-waiter thing. I had three waiting jobs. I'd go on horrible auditions and meet wannabe agents."

She quickly learned to separate the frauds from the professionals and allowed failure to motivate rather than stop her.

"I think the first big thing that actually made me think, 'I can do this,' is I had a small part in a (rapper) 50 Cent movie," she said, adding that there's nothing else she'd rather do than act.

"I love being a dating coach, I love kids and other stuff, but it's not what inspires me from day to day," she said.

## Writing about Hollywood

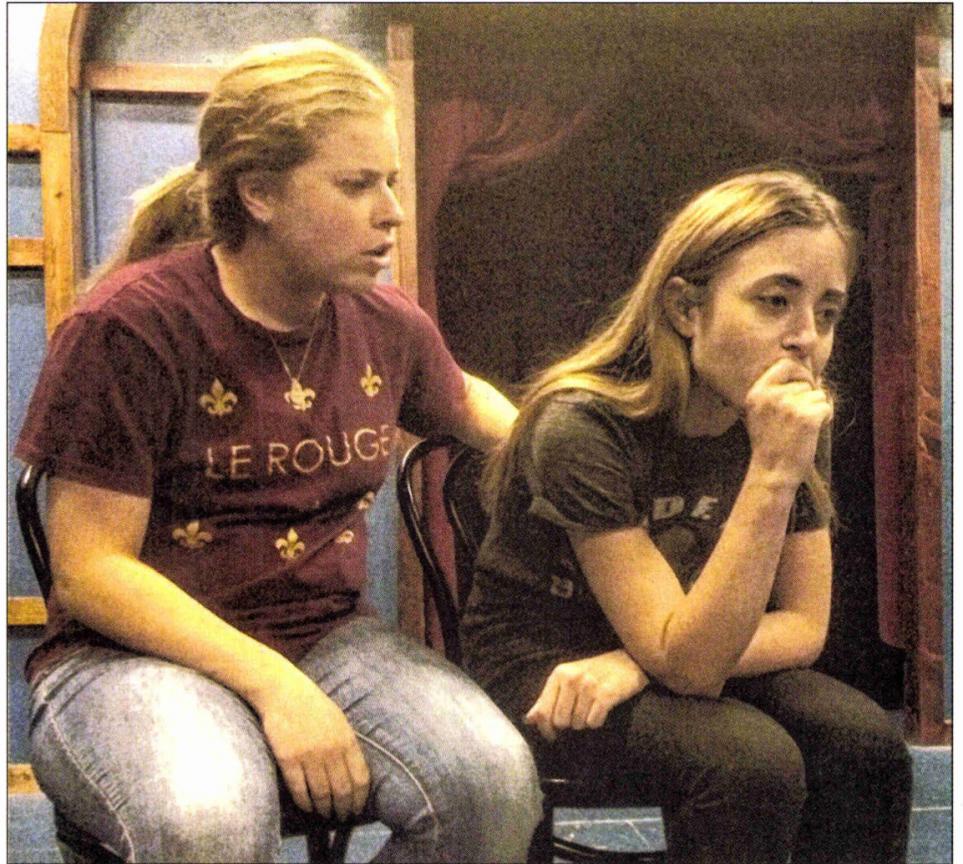
Ceri came up with the idea for *Hollywood Positive* three years before she wrote the stage script in April 2013.

"I wrote the first 10 pages for three years," she said. "I wrote different pages. I had complete writer's block."

A spiritual retreat in Bali inspired her to follow through. She came home from the trip ready to "conquer the world" and penned an outline consisting of every Hollywood cliché that she had experienced during five years on the West Coast. She staged the play at a local theater three months after writing it. It ran for a month.

Karageanes re-wrote portions of the script and allowed the cast to improvise during rehearsals for the show in Ferndale.

"It's bare bones in a way. There are not a lot of costume



Julia Schroeder (left) and Alara Ceri rehearse a scene from the comedy "Hollywood Positive," based on Ceri's experiences as an actress in Hollywood.

changes. There's not a lot of set dressing. I thought it was a great place to get down to character, relationships and the humor of it," said Karageanes, who studied improvisation from 2004-07 at Second City's training center in Novi.

Ceri hopes to take the play to New York and said that "workshopping" it helps to improve the work.

In the meantime, she hopes the *Hollywood Positive* audience will get "a little dose of what Hollywood really is like."

"For artists, I want them to know they are not alone," she said. "If they ever feel defeated and that the world is on their shoulders, to know they aren't the only ones."



Alara Ceri (left) uses "object work" to simulate an item in her hand. The sketch-style version of her play "Hollywood Positive" uses few costumes and props, allowing characters and their relationships to shine. Other actors are Brian Papandrea, Genevieve Jona and Maggie O'Reilly.

## GET OUT! CALENDAR

### ANIMALS DETROIT ZOO

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

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

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

**Wild Summer Nights:** Concerts run 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, through Aug. 27, in the Main Picnic Grove and are free with zoo admission, which is reduced to \$6 after 6 p.m. on concert nights. Performers are Candy Band, which plays rock music for children, Aug. 20; and Joe Reilly and the Community Gardeners, also with music for children, Aug. 27

**Contact:** 248-541-5717

### ARTS AND CRAFTS CITY GALLERY

**Time/Date:** 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday, and 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Aug. 25-Oct. 10

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

**Details:** "Artpack Services Employee Exhibit"

**Contact:** 248-473-1859

### JANICE CHARACH GALLERY

**Time/Date:** Noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. through Sept. 11

**Location:** Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

**Details:** "Daily Gratitude: Art, Sport and Cupcakes," features the work of Jessica Kovan. Also on exhibit are works by glass artists and Teresa Petersen, who creates art from thrift store and hardware shop finds

**Contact:** 248-432-5448

### NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

**Time/Date:** 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Aug. 23

**Location:** 215 W. Cady, Northville

**Details:** "Dong Feng" solo show by WanChuan Kesler

**Contact:** 248-344-0497



The Boa Constrictors will perform Aug. 17 at the Elks Blues Summer Festival in Plymouth.

### AUDITIONS

#### BAREFOOT PRODUCTIONS

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. Aug. 18-19

**Location:** 240 N. Main, Plymouth

**Details:** There are roles for five women and two men in the Victorian thriller, *The Lights Are Warm and Coloured*. Prepare a dramatic monologue no longer than two minutes and be prepared to read from the script. Craig Hane will direct the show, which will run Oct. 17-26

**Contact:** 734-276-9075

#### MOTOR CITY YOUTH THEATRE

**Time/Date:** By appointment, 7-9 p.m. Aug. 28

**Location:** 27555 Grantland, Livonia

**Details:** Placement auditions for the theater's "Acting for the Serious Student" course, which will run Friday evenings Sept. 5-Oct. 17. The class is for ages 8-18 and costs \$100 for non-members and \$80 for members. Audition consists of a 30-second monologue or two 15-second monologues that will demonstrate skills in memorization, text interpretation, character and stage presence.

**Contact:** Nancy Florkowski, 586-894-8628; [nancy@mcyt.org](mailto:nancy@mcyt.org)

### COMEDY

#### JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14, and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 15-16

**Location:** 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

**Details:** Mike Stanley; tickets are \$12 show only, \$22 with dinner on Thursday; \$16 show only, \$29 with dinner,

Friday

**Contact:** [joeyscomedyclub.net](http://joeyscomedyclub.net); 734-261-0555

#### MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

**Time/Date:** 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 15-16

**Location:** Fourth and Troy Streets in downtown Royal Oak

**Details:** Lance Weiss and Brendan Fitzgibbons perform; tickets \$15

**Coming up:** Steve Hofstetter hosts a live taping of 16 comedians for Fox's *Laughs*, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17. Tickets are \$10. Michigan native J. Chris Newberg performs

**Contact:** 248-542-9900; [info@ComedyCastle.com](mailto:info@ComedyCastle.com)

### DANCE

#### MOTOR CITY TAP FEST

**Time/Date:** Through Aug. 16

**Location:** Old Main Building on the Wayne State University campus in Detroit

**Details:** Four days of tap classes and tap jam sessions. Teachers include Cloe Arnold, of *So You Think You Can Dance*, and Michigan native, Eric Gutman, who performed on Broadway. The Motor City Soles show caps the festival, 7:30 p.m. Aug. 16, at Orchestra Hall in Detroit. It will include performances by faculty and leading tap dancers

**Contact:** 917-687-4811 for the festival and 313-576-5111 for Motor City Soles

### FILM

#### PENN THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. and 9:25 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 15-16; and 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17

**Location:** 760 Penniman, Plymouth

**Details:** *The Fault In Our Stars*, admission \$3

**Summer Cinema Series:** All shows at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Thursday; seats \$3. *The Nutty Professor*, Aug. 14; *Abbott & Costello in Buck Privates*, Aug. 21; *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, Aug. 28

**Contact:** 734-453-0870; [www.penn-theatre.com](http://www.penn-theatre.com)

#### REDFORD THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Aug. 22 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Aug. 23

**Location:** 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit

**Details:** *Dirty Dancing*, \$5

**Contact:** 313-898-1481

#### FUNDRAISER FASH BASH 2014

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14

**Location:** Detroit Institute of Art (DIA), 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit

**Details:** Includes an outdoor cocktail party, the Neiman Marcus "Art of Fashion" runway show in the DIA's Great Hall, followed by the Audi After Party. Tickets are \$500 for front row seating at the fashion show and a \$100 gift card with purchase of two tickets; \$250 includes priority reserved seating in the second row of the fashion show; \$175 per ticket includes priority reserved seating in the third row of the fashion show; and \$85 provides access to the Audi After Party on the steps of the DIA. Proceeds benefit the museum's operating endowment

**Contact:** 313-833-5646

### HISTORY

#### KELSEY MUSEUM

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through Sept. 7

**Location:** 434 State St., Ann Arbor

**Details:** The exhibit, "Ancient/Modern: The Design of Everyday Things," examines how inhabitants of the ancient Mediterranean and Near East both resembled and differed from contemporary Americans

**Contact:** 734-764-9304

#### PLYMOUTH MUSEUM

**Time/Date:** 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday

**Location:** 155 S. Main, Plymouth

**Details:** *Wheels of Summer*, an exhibit of toys with wheels, runs through Nov. 2. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for ages 6-17

**Contact:** 734-455-8940

### MUSIC

#### ELKS BLUES SUMMER FESTIVAL

**Time/Date:** 12:30-8 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 17

**Location:** Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

**Details:** Carl Henry, The BOA Constrictors, Greg Nagy Band, RJ's Kansas City Six, Thornetta Davis, and an All Star Jam perform. Bring a lawn chair. No outside food or drink allowed. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12

**Contact:** 734-453-1780

#### JAZZ@THE ELKS

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

**Location:** Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

**Details:** Tommy Good Quartet performs Aug. 26. \$10 donation at the door includes hors d'oeuvres

**Contact:** 38840 W. Six Mile, Plymouththeelks1780@yahoo.com

#### TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

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

**Location:** 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

**Details:** Open House, Aug. 19. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks accepted.

**Contact:** 734-464-6302



## ROASTED BROCCOLI & TOMATOES

Servings: 4

1 tablespoon olive oil  
1 teaspoon garlic powder  
¼ teaspoon coarse ground black pepper  
12 ounces broccoli florets  
1 cup cherry or grape tomatoes  
1 tablespoon white wine vinegar  
2 teaspoons honey  
½ teaspoon basil leaves  
¼ teaspoon oregano leaves

Preheat oven to 425°F. Mix oil, garlic powder and pepper in large bowl. Add broccoli and tomatoes; toss to coat well. Spread in single layer on foil-lined 15-by-10-by-1-inch baking pan. Roast in oven 13-15 minutes or until broccoli is lightly browned. Meanwhile, mix vinegar, honey, basil and oregano in small bowl. Drizzle over roasted vegetables after removing from oven; toss to coat well. Serve immediately.

# SPICES, HERBS BRING OUT THE BEST OF SUMMMER VEGGIES

**W**e all want to eat more vegetables and in the summer. When farmers markets and grocery stores are filled with fresh, colorful produce, it's easier than ever. From juicy red tomatoes and yellow sweet corn to vibrant green broccoli, seasonal produce can be even more enjoyable with the addition of spices and herbs.

"I'm always thinking about ways to make vegetables taste great and be more healthful and exciting — other than just adding butter and salt," registered dietitian Wendy Bazilian said. "Adding spices and herbs is easy to do and they only cost pennies per serving. Plus, they're already in your kitchen."

To add flavor to everyday vegetable favorites like zucchini and carrots, Bazilian recommends an easy rule of thumb: start with ¼ teaspoon of spices and herbs, such as basil and oregano, per cup of veggies, along with a splash of citrus juice or olive oil.

"You can also dial up the flavor, depending on the cooking method," she said. "Roasting vegetables like broccoli and tomatoes creates a caramelized flavor that pairs deliciously with garlic, basil, oregano, honey and white vinegar. Grilling vegetables gives a smoky, charred flavor. Or let the natural flavor of green beans shine by steaming them with rosemary and thyme."

Try these simple flavor tips to season your favorite vegetables and visit [www.McCormick.com](http://www.McCormick.com) for more ideas you can use all year long.

— Courtesy of Family Features



## MIXED VEGETABLE GRILL

Servings: 6

1 tablespoon light brown sugar  
1½ teaspoons basil leaves  
½ teaspoon salt  
½ teaspoon garlic powder  
½ teaspoon ground black pepper  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
6 cups assorted cut-up vegetables, such as asparagus, bell peppers, zucchini, yellow squash, red onion and small sweet potato

Mix brown sugar, basil, salt, garlic powder, and pepper in small bowl. In large bowl, drizzle oil over vegetables; toss to coat well. Add seasoning mixture; toss to coat well. Place vegetables in grill basket or rack, or thread onto skewers. Grill over medium heat 10-12 minutes or until vegetables are tender, turning occasionally. Kitchen tip: If using sweet potatoes, pierce them with fork and microwave two to three minutes on high or until tender.



## HERBED GREEN BEANS

Servings: 4

1 pound trimmed green beans  
1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar  
2 teaspoons olive oil  
½ teaspoon finely crushed rosemary leaves  
½ teaspoon thyme leaves  
¼ teaspoon sea salt  
¼ teaspoon ground black pepper

Place beans in medium saucepan. Add enough water to cover beans. Bring to boil. Reduce heat to low; simmer four to six minutes or until tender-crisp. Drain. Return beans to saucepan. Toss with vinegar, oil, rosemary, thyme, sea salt and pepper. Cook and stir over medium heat one to two minutes or until heated through.

# Take a bite out of shark pie

Some foods pair perfectly with wine and others with Discovery Channel "Shark Week" programming. Check out Mitchell's Fish Market's dessert menu for the perfect treat — Shark Fin Pie — to cap off dinner before settling down to a shark documentary. Or make your own Shark Fin Pie at home without missing a minute of *Zombie Sharks* or *Sharkocalypse*. Mitchell's with locations in Livonia and Birmingham, offers a recipe for Shark Fin Pie.

## SHARK FIN PIE

Yield: 8 servings  
Shelf life: 7 days, frozen

1½ cups Oreo crumbs, ground fine in a food processor  
¼ cup butter, melted  
1½ gallon vanilla fudge ice cream, divided in half  
½ cup peanut butter  
½ cup chocolate fudge sauce of choice  
2 cups honey roasted peanuts, ground

Combine cookie crumbs and butter in a bowl. Evenly press into 10-inch pie tin. Bake for 6-8 minutes in a preheated 300°F oven. Remove from oven and cool pie shell at room temperature. Once cooled, freeze shell for 30 minutes. Allow ice cream to sit out for 10-15 minutes to soften. Fill shell with ½ of the ice cream. Spread the ice cream evenly in pie crust all the way to the rim. Place pie into the freezer. Remove pie from the freezer. Using a spatula, spread peanut butter over the top of the ice cream mound. Next, spread fudge sauce over peanut butter. Evenly sprinkle the fudge with ½ cup of peanuts. Place pie back into the freezer to set. Soften the remainder of the ice cream and place top and mound the ice cream into a dome shape. Top the ice cream with the remaining 1½ cups of honey roasted peanuts. Refreeze for at least 30 minutes. Cut pie into eight equal pieces and enjoy!



## CITY BITES

### Restaurant crawl

**Plymouth** — The 15th annual Old Village Restaurant Crawl, presented by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, will feature five eateries, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 18. Hermann's Olde Towne Grille, Liberty Street Brewing Co., Plymouth Fish & Seafood, Station 885 and AQUA will participate. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Buy them at the Chamber of Commerce office, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail, in downtown Plymouth or call 734-453-1540.

### Crayfish party

**Canton** — Ikea will offer a Crayfish Party with seating 4-6 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15. The Swedish tradition dates back to the 1800s, when the lakes in Sweden were full of crayfish and fishing season was limited to August and September. Swedish crayfish parties are traditionally held in August, with friends and families congregating in paper hats and colorful crayfish-themed bibs. Tickets for the feast at Ikea, located on Ford Road at Haggerty, are \$12.99 for adults and \$4.99 for children, 12 and under. Buy tickets at the store. For group purchases, email [IKEA2.IF026@IKEA.com](mailto:IKEA2.IF026@IKEA.com).