



LOCAL GIRL HONORED FOR HOSPITAL BRAVERY

Health, B8

LOOK INSIDE TODAY'S NEWSPAPER FOR MONEY-SAVING COUPONS

Township drug fund getting audit

By Matt Jachman
 Staff Writer

The \$1 million-plus drug forfeiture fund in Plymouth Township is being audited by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Police Chief Tom Tiderington said last week that auditors from the justice department's Office of the Inspector General were at the police department and were expected to be finished there by Friday.

In the township's compre-

hensive annual financial report for the 2012 fiscal year, the Plymouth Township Police Department's drug forfeiture revenue was listed at more than \$1.6 million.

The department receives drug forfeiture revenue through participation in a statewide Drug Enforcement Administration task force that has led to the seizure of millions of dollars of assets, including cash, from suspected drug dealers in recent years.

"The more forfeiture funds a department has, the closer they'll get scrutinized."

TOM TIDERINGTON
 Plymouth Township police chief

The DEA is an agency of the justice department.

Tiderington said his department loaned an officer to the DEA task force beginning in 2010 and that the dramatic growth of the fund after that brought with it the increased

federal oversight.

The task force has been involved in several major cases since then, the chief said, including a Detroit case in which a jury found three men guilty of multiple charges in May.

Greater scrutiny

"The more forfeiture funds a department has, the closer they'll get scrutinized," he said.

John Lavinsky, a spokesman in the justice department's inspector general's office, confirmed an audit of the police department's equitable sharing program activities. Drug forfeiture proceeds are distributed through the federal

See **AUDIT**, Page A2

MUSIC ON ICE



Deb Madonna gets drenched while taking the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge at Wednesday's Music in the Park finale. Wednesday's concert marked the end of the series' 30th year and Madonna and a few friends marked it by taking the ALS challenge. For more, see page A6. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Miracle League field hit by vandalism

By Matt Jachman
 Staff Writer

Police and the Miracle League of Plymouth have a simple message: Bilkie Family Field is a special place and if you're not visiting for a game, stay out.

The \$500,000 baseball park on Theodore, behind Central Middle School, is a smaller-scale field designed to make it easier for young people with physical difficulties to play baseball and spend quality time with family members, teammates and "buddies" who assist them with their play.

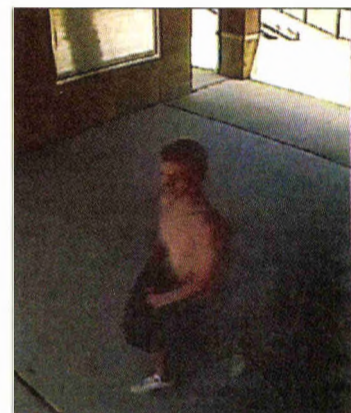
"It is all about making these kids smile and giving us as parents the chance for once to actually watch on the sidelines," Miracle League parents Dave and Kelly Hermann wrote in an email. Their daughter Maggie has been playing at the field since it opened in 2011 and their son Michael helps players as a buddy.

"The MLP is like no other place that we have been to for our daughter," they wrote.

But the field has been hit this spring and summer by vandalism and trespassing. Police are still trying to identify a young man responsible for one incident of vandalism, while those responsible in three other incidents have been identified and two of them face charges.

'Seems simple'

"We have a lot of trespassing on there. It's not appropriate," said Deb Madonna, president of the Miracle League of Plymouth and one of the major forces behind the community-wide effort that built the field in 2011. "If it's locked, you're not sup-



The suspect in vandalism at the Bilkie Family Field in Plymouth, shown May 26 in a still photo taken from a security camera at the field. Police are trying to identify him.

posed to be on there. It seems pretty simple."

Several times in the last few months, "No Trespassing" signs have been ignored and people have hopped the fence to goof around, cause mischief and, in at least one case involving a group of adults, use it as their own ballfield.

Madonna said it costs the league time and money to repair damage to the facility.

"We're all volunteers," she said. "We have to put in a lot of time to rectify these things."

Four incidents of vandalism have taken place since late May and security cameras at the field have helped police and the Miracle League identify the people responsible in three of those incidents. Fencing structures have been broken, signs have been stolen, the grate on a door damaged and twirling metal dog silhouettes, meant to keep geese away, taken down, with some pieces miss-

See **FIELD**, Page A2

New mobile app for Observer available Tuesday

Dear readers:

On Tuesday, the Plymouth Observer will launch a faster, sleeker, content-rich hometownlife.com available on desktop, mobile and tablets.

Download our new free apps for your iPad and iPhone or Android device. Get breaking news alerts, in-depth stories and more.

The newspaper is where we started and it is still a very important element in our plan. Our revamped desktop site, along with our new apps for mobile and tablet, however, offer all the latest local news where and when you want it. It's part of our commitment to



serve our growing, changing and well-connected audience. The improvements include enhanced displays for all platforms so, no matter how you

access our news, it will be optimized for your device.

We think you are going to like our new look. Pages open faster. The design is clean. Simple navigation makes it easier to read and find articles.

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We now offer many information channels to local residents, but we are also a powerful marketing company reaching local customers in more places and more ways with search engine marketing, an enhanced social media pres-

See **APP**, Page A2



An air-conditioning unit at the Bilkie Family Field had letters scratched into it May 26. Police are trying to identify the young man whose image was captured that day by security cameras.



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Johnson Controls joins concert sponsor list

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Downtown Development Authority's Music in the Air Concert series has another sponsor.

Johnson Controls has signed on to be the series' sound sponsor - creating the "Johnson Controls Premium Sound Experience" - for the rest of this concert series. The automotive supplier has also signed on for the 2015 concert season.

"We are pleased Johnson Controls has decided to support the Music in the Air Friday night concert series," said Tony Bruscato, director

of the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority. "JCI is an icon in the Plymouth community and we appreciate their support."

Johnson Controls becomes the third major sponsor for the Friday night concerts, joining presenting sponsor Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and stage sponsor Hines Park Lincoln.

"It's companies like Johnson Controls, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Hines Park Lincoln and all of our weekly sponsors, many of which are downtown businesses, who get the credit for the Friday night concert series," Bruscato said. "Without



Plymouth-based Johnson Controls (banner at right) has become a sponsor of the DDA's Friday night Music in the Air concert series.

them, there wouldn't be free concerts, which many families have come to enjoy each weekend throughout the summer."

The Music in the Air concert series has be-

come one of downtown Plymouth's most popular events. The Friday night concerts, which start at 7 p.m., draw thousands of people to the city.

The 2014 concert series closes Friday, Aug.

29, with a performance from Steve King and the Dittilies, sponsored by UBS and Atsalis Dental Excellence.

Jeff Williams, group vice president and general manager, Johnson

Controls' Global Complete Seat and Supply Chain, called JCI an "avid supporter" of the arts and said company officials "are pleased" to help bring the concerts to families in the Plymouth area.

"Johnson Controls is proud to sponsor the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority's Summer Concert Series," Williams said. "This event is a perfect fit given the location of our automotive headquarters in Plymouth and our employees' long history of supporting this community."

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APP

Continued from Page A1

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Sue Rosiek,
publisher
srosiek@hometownlife.com

AUDIT

Continued from Page A1

government's equitable sharing program.

Lavinsky said he could not comment on the reasons for the audit nor offer a timetable of when it would be completed, but did say the results will be available through the Department of Justice website.

Township Supervisor Richard Reaume said getting large amounts of

drug forfeiture proceeds is new territory for the township and that the township's "single audit" of the fund for 2012 turned up reporting problems.

That, plus a need for further guidance on how drug forfeiture money can and cannot be used, prompted the township to contact the justice department, he said.

"We sort of self-reported ourselves," Reaume said. "We called the Department of Justice."

Tiderington said involvement in the DEA task force has "been a great thing for us," providing revenue that has paid for training, vehicles and equipment, including weapons, computers and a new emergency dispatch system.

"It's really been a benefit to us and it's been a benefit to the community," he said.

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OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS

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FIELD

Continued from Page A1

ing.

Charges OK'd

Plymouth Police Department Lt. Jamie Grabowski said male suspects in two separate incidents have been identified and a warrant issued for each. One faces charges of unlawful entry and malicious destruction of property, the

other charges of larceny and malicious destruction of property.

In a third incident in late July, Grabowski said, three underage males were identified and came forward after security video showing them was posted on the Miracle League's Facebook page.

The boys agreed to make restitution of more than \$200 to the Miracle League, he said, and will be issued formal trespassing warnings, mean-

ing they could face citations or arrest if caught on the field again.

Police continue to investigate a fourth incident, which occurred Memorial Day, May 26. Security video shows a young man doing something to a wall-mounted air conditioning unit at the clubhouse; the equipment was discovered with several letters scratched onto it. Anyone who can identify the man is asked to call police.

Grabowski said police

are watching the field and that the Miracle League has given the department the go-ahead to issue tickets on the spot to people seen trespassing there - or even to arrest them.

"It's fenced up for a reason. It's a special field," he said.

"Our goal is to just get people to stop," Madonna said.

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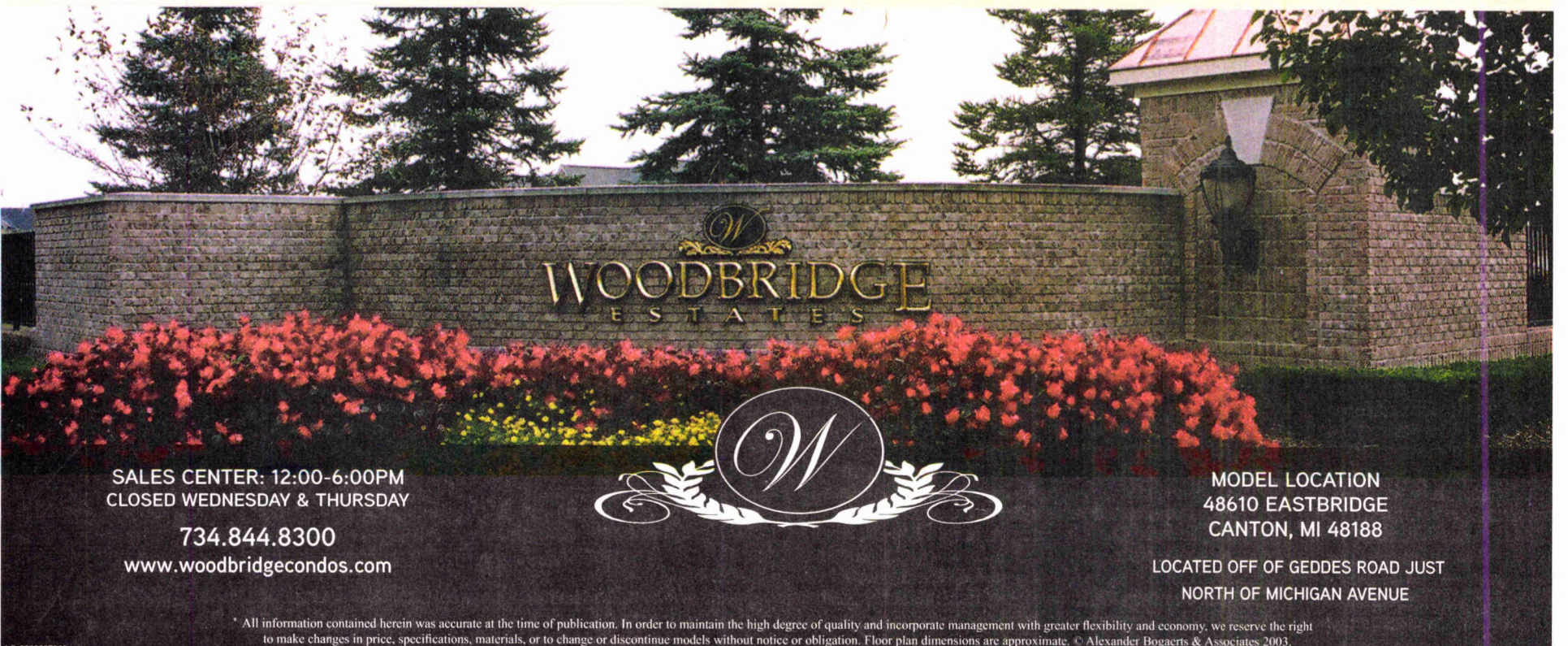
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Slavens rankles critics with emails to teachers

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Canton Democrat Dian Slavens didn't violate campaign regulations with emails she sent to teachers in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, but the three messages have done their part to rankle her critics.

Slavens, the term-limited state representative now seeking the state Senate 7th District seat held by incumbent Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, twice during her 2012 campaign sent an email blast that reportedly went to every teacher in the district.

The 7th District serves Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Canton, Northville, Wayne

and Livonia.

A third email, this one containing a letter from former Board of Education President Steven Sneedman, a Democrat now sitting on the Canton Township Board of Trustees, was sent earlier this year as Slavens embarked on her campaign against Colbeck.

Slavens said the emails were sent from a campaign account and the email addresses were supposed to have been removed from the system after district officials asked her to refrain from sending them.

"I had a finance per-



Slavens

son who got hold of the email addresses," Slavens said in explaining the incidents. "I apologized ... it was supposed to be taken care of and it wasn't. It has been now."

Republicans are now accusing Slavens of violating election law, but a spokesperson from the Michigan State Department communications office said Thursday no violation occurred.

"If someone sends an email to a government (email) address, they aren't making a violation," the spokesperson said.

Still, Slavens' critics are upset about the use of the email addresses. Plymouth-Canton Board of Education Trustee Mike Maloney said this

week – and actually has been saying for months – the use of teachers' emails violates the district's policy against politicizing the workplace.

Maloney said he wasn't sure it was a legal issue, but did say it's "more of an ethics" issue.

"Soliciting employees at work, on the district's dime, when we're paying them to educate our kids, is wrong," Maloney said. "It's a distraction from teaching and learning."

Sneedman's email drew extra criticism because it directly criticized Colbeck and Sneedman used his board title.

But Sneedman pointed out the email was sent from a private ac-

count, telling *The Perspective*, the high school newspaper serving the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, in its April edition, "The writing and distribution of this communication did not use public time, money or resources. While I do serve as a public official, this message was composed and sent during my own personal time and expresses my own personal views as is my right to do."

Colbeck said what Slavens did was wrong.

"We're not supposed to be using public resources for campaign purposes," Colbeck said. "I would love to have access to that system. This is the third time and each time (Slavens) has apologized, but it's a

pattern."

Slavens apologized for the incidents, but said they were simple mistakes.

"I know I get campaign email for candidates in my House account all the time," she said. "It's a mistake, but it happens. That's why you have a delete button."

Maloney, though, said the fact it's happened three times makes it seem more than an innocent mistake.

"I can understand someone making an honest mistake," Maloney said. "This is the third time ... either the message isn't getting through or they're ignoring it."

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Summit on the Park set for maintenance shutdown

Canton's Summit on the Park community recreation center will be shut down for annual upkeep and improvements starting noon Monday, Sept. 1, until 6 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 6.

Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway, will undergo comprehensive cleaning, refurbishing and minor repairs during the five-day period. Summit Coordinator Jason Lombardo said that while Summit on the Park will not be experiencing any drastic changes, the annual week-long shutdown is necessary to keep the facility in top condition throughout the rest of the year.

"It's an opportunity for us to do detailed cleaning and maintenance — things to en-

sure we will be able to provide the best in community recreation all year round," Lombardo said.

The projects to be completed during the shutdown include:

- » Cleaning of all windows, carpets and fitness equipment throughout fitness and banquet centers
- » Scrubbing and acid cleaning of Aquatic Center and repairs of missing tiles
- » Cleaning and disinfecting of all locker rooms and restrooms
- » Resurfacing of wood floors and detailing in gym, dance studios and event rooms
- » Repainting in dance studios, event rooms and lobby
- » Replacing of Aquatic Center office cabinets

» Servicing, inspecting and certifying of boilers

» Miscellaneous maintenance as needed

The Summit is open year-round and offers daily, monthly and annual passes. Membership fees are prorated to account for the shutdown week, so Summit on the Park members will not be charged while the facility is closed.

The Summit on the Park will be open from 7 a.m. to noon Monday, Sept. 1 (Labor Day). Normal hours will resume Saturday, Sept. 6.

To learn more about Summit on the Park's annual shutdown or available memberships, visit www.summitonthe-park.org or call 734-394-5460.

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Meadowbrook Country Club
40941 W. 8 Mile Rd., Northville

Nov. 20: Pelvic Prolapse
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ON CAMPUS

Mercy College

Three Canton students were awarded honors for the summer semester at Mercy College of Ohio.

To be named on the honors list, a student must achieve a grade-point average of 3.3 or higher and be enrolled for six to 11 credit hours.

The three Canton residents making the honors list include:

» **Valentina Ivezaj**, sophomore, BS Nursing Pre-Licensure

» **Tetyana Landon**, sophomore, AS Nursing Day

» **Michelle Turner**, junior, AS Nursing Day

Olivet Nazarene

Canton and Plymouth students were among those named to the dean's list for the spring 2014 semester at Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, Ill.

Canton resident **Karalyn Hewett** was named to the list, as were **Bethany Pilat** and **Kaitlyn Robertson** of Plymouth.

To qualify for inclusion on the dean's list, a student must have been enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student and must have attained a semester grade-point average of 3.50 or higher on a 4.00 grading scale.

Winners earn CCF scholarships

The Observer inadvertently published last year's list of winners when we printed the 2014-15 Canton Community Foundation scholarship winners in the Aug. 21 editions. There were also three photos of winners published without their names. We've re-published those, as well. Below follows the list of winners for the 2014-15 Canton Community Foundation scholarships:

» **Matthew Bamback**, CCF Scholarship

» **Lori Cairo**, CCF/EMU Scholarship

» **Samantha Holik**, CCF/Schoolcraft College Scholarship

» **Nathan Lijewski**, CCF/Schoolcraft College Scholarship

» **Allison Raylean**, CCF/EMU Scholarship

» **Meredith Rinke**, CCF/Penelope Hope Klei Scholarship

» **Makenzie Brown**, CCF Scholarship

» **Bryn Birchler**, Dr Syed Taj Family Scholarship

» **Alexandra Hanton**, Dr Syed Taj Family Scholarship

» **Britley Ranstadler**, Dr Syed Taj Family Scholarship

» **Brett Bird**, Jerry & Gayle Grady/EMU Accounting Scholarship

» **Lauren Gaines**, Elizabeth Durack Memorial Scholarship

» **Parris Hunter**, Patricia Whalen Memorial Scholarship

» **Nadia Karizat**, Marv Schulz Memorial Scholarship



The Canton Community Foundation handed out 28 scholarships in its 2014 program, totaling some \$19,150. The scholarships are for the 2014-15 school year.

» **Alexis Kurzyniec**, Heather Nicole Hill Memorial Scholarship

» **Anastasia Lengel**, Denski Family Scholarship

» **Alyson Mann**, Fred Thomann Memorial Scholarship

» **Noelle Matusiewicz**, Elizabeth Durack Memorial Scholarship

» **Scott Obrec**, Dustin Piepsney Memorial Scholarship

» **Christina Sesi**, Linda Hutchinson Memorial Scholarship

» **Shawn Sinawe**, Jerry & Gayle Grady/EMU Accounting Scholarship



Bamback



Holik



Karizat

Schools set open house dates

With the start of school approaching Sept. 2 for students in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, open houses have been set at all of the district's elementary and middle schools.

District officials called open houses "a great way to meet your child's teacher and for children to meet their classmates and get familiarized with the school, if it is a new school for them."

Attending an open house also allows parents to see the upgrades and improvements made at each school over the summer months.

Here are the P-CCS schools and their open house dates:

» **Wednesday, Aug. 27** – Allen, 5:30-7 p.m.; Bentley, 6-7:30 p.m.; Bird, 5:30-7 p.m.; Dodson, 5:30-7 p.m.; Hulsing, 5:30-7 p.m.; Isbister, 6-7:30 p.m.; Tonda, 5:30-7 p.m.; and Workman, 5:30-7 p.m.

» **Thursday, Aug. 28** – Erikson, Field and Hoben, 5:30-7 p.m.

» **Tuesday, Sept. 2** – Tanger Center, 4-5:30 p.m.; Farrand, Gallimore and Smith, 5:30-7 p.m.

» **Wednesday, Sept. 3** – Miller, 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

» **Thursday, Sept. 4** – Plymouth-Canton Educational Park (Plymouth, Canton and Salem high schools) 6-8:30 p.m.

» **Wednesday, Sept. 10** – Central, Discovery and East middle schools, 6:30-8 p.m.; Pioneer Middle School, 6-7:30 p.m.; and West Middle School, 6-7:35 p.m.

The open house for Starkweather has not yet been scheduled.

Parents with questions should contact their child's school directly starting Monday, Aug. 25.

South Canton charter gets new principal

Sabrina Terenzi will serve as principal of South Canton Scholars Charter Academy for the 2014-15 school year.

Terenzi brings 14 years of educational experience to the role.



Terenzi

She previously served on the leadership team at Achieve Charter Academy, a National Heritage Academies sister school and as a teacher at Canton Charter Academy.

"I have had a great time connecting with the staff at South Canton over the summer," Terenzi said. "We are focused on making this another outstanding school year for students and can't wait for them to return in a few weeks."

Terenzi, who began her new role at the school in June, earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from

the University of Michigan and a master's degree in reading from Wayne State University.

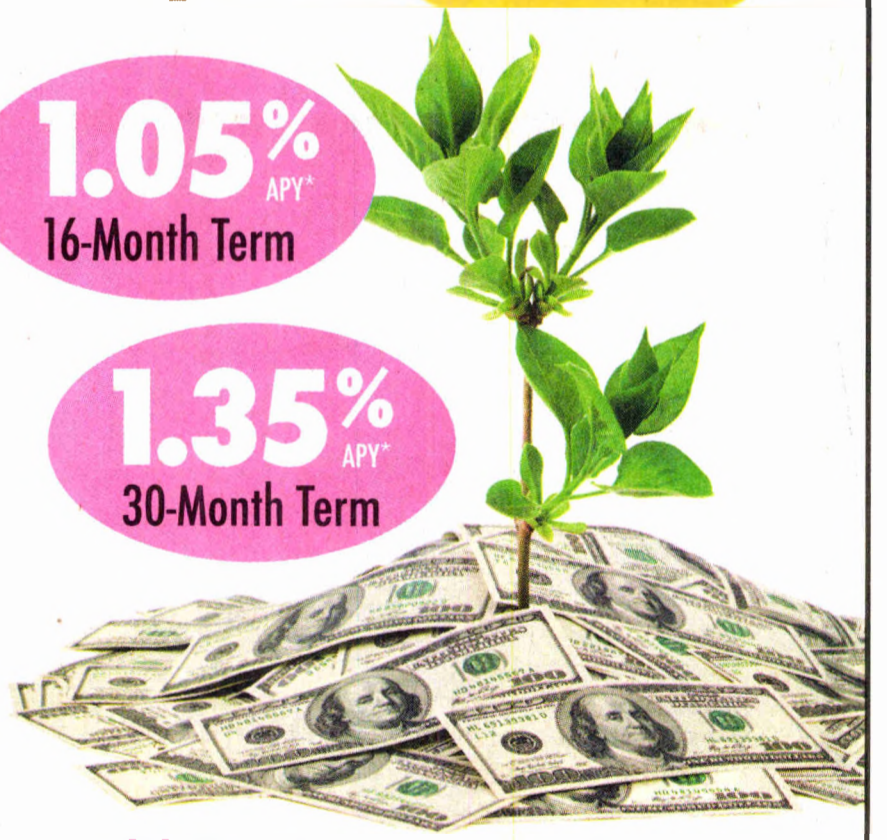
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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

PETE THE CAT PARTY

Dates/Times: Friday, Aug. 29, 7 p.m.; Saturday, Aug. 30, 11 a.m.
Location: Barnes and Noble, 17111 Haggerty (at Six Mile), Northville
Details: A special event for kids who love a popular story character "Pete the Cat." There will be a costumed Pete there to take photos with the kids. The Friday night event is a pajama party, so kids are encouraged to wear their pajamas. There will be games and activities, along with a photo op with Pete.
Contact: Call 248-348-0696 for more information.

TASTE FEST

Date/Time: Friday, Sept. 5, 6-8 p.m.
Location: Station 885, 885 Starkweather, 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, LaBistecca 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: 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



Getting ready

Plymouth High School quarterback Deji Adebisi (in the red jersey) runs a play during practice this week. The Wildcats open their 2014 season Thursday against Salem. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Senior Fitness
Date/Time: Wednesday, Sept. 3, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Location: Friendship Station Senior Center, 42375 Schoolcraft, Plymouth Township
Details: The Plymouth YMCA offers an open house and demonstrations of fitness classes offered by the center. The Silver Sneakers yoga classes feature a modified version of yoga designed for adults 65 and older. Zumba Gold is a specialty dance-inspired fitness class that takes the Zumba flavor and modifies the moves and pace to suit the needs of active older adults, baby boomers and the beginning fitness person. Six-week sessions start Sept. 9. Classes are free with participating Health Plans or \$39 annual YMCA fee or \$25 per session.
Contact: Registration will be available at the open house. For more information, contact the Plymouth YMCA at 734-453-2904.

BLOOD DRIVES

Dates/Times/Locations:
 » Monday, Aug. 25, 1-6:45 p.m., Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main
 » Monday, Aug. 25, 1:30-7:15 p.m., VFW Post 6695, 1426 S. Mill
 » Thursday, Aug. 28, 2-7:45 p.m., Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Drive
 » Thursday, Aug. 28, 11 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., Plymouth City Hall, 201 S. Main
 » Friday, Aug. 29, 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., Canton Library, 1200 Canton Center
 » Friday, Aug. 29, noon to 6 p.m., Compuware Arena, 14900 Beck
 » Wednesday, Sept. 3, 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., Biggby Coffee, 44601 Five Mile, Plymouth
Details: The American Red Cross sponsors a series of blood drives in the Plymouth-Canton area. Appointments can be made and walk-ins are welcome.
Contact: Call Diane Risko to set up an appointment at 313-549-7052.

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 Shermetaro on keyboards, Ray Tini on bass and

Jim Ryan on drums.
Contact: For more information, call 734-453-1780 or visit www.plymouthannarbor.org/elks325.com.

MEDICARE/MEDICAID COUNSELING

Date/Time: Wednesday, Sept. 17, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Location: United Home Health Services, 2200 N. Canton Center Road, Ste 250, Canton

Details: United Home Health Services offers free individual counseling with a certified MMAP (Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program) counselor who will help you understand: Medicare/Medicaid eligibility, transitioning from employer coverage to Medicare, plan options, assistance programs, drug insurance, and Medicare/Medicaid fraud and abuse identification and reporting. Medicare plan enrollment and subsidy application assistance also provided.
Contact: Heather Pinage, 734-727-2063. Please specify you are requesting an appointment for the United Home Health location. For MMAP information visit www.mmappinc.org/pages/about.html

PERENNIAL EXCHANGE

Date/Time: Saturday, Sept. 6, 9-11 a.m.
Location: Plymouth Fall Festival, east end of Kellogg Park, downtown Plymouth
Details: The Trailwood Garden Club sponsors a Perennial Exchange at the Plymouth Fall Festival. This is open to the community without charge; bring something (healthy plants only), take something or just

stop by and see what is available. Members will be available to answer questions. Trailwood Garden Club is a member of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association.
Contact: For further information, call 734-459-7146.

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 or call 734-453-0326. Open to all, Alpha is free to anyone living in the OLG Parish boundaries and not registered at another parish.

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.

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 debccortellini@comcast.net or 734-451-1525.



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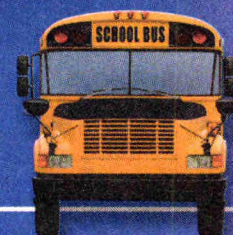


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ALS challenge crowns last summer concert

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

The last show of this year's Music in the Park series hit Deb Madonna like a shower of ice-cold water.

Madonna, president of the Plymouth Community Arts Council, which produces the family oriented noon-time summer concerts at Kellogg Park, used Wednesday's performance by Guy Louis to take the Ice Bucket Challenge, a fundraising effort for the ALS Society.

"It was a nice end-of-summer thing to do," Madonna said later. "It's always nice to do things for a good cause."

Madonna withstood the challenge, along with three others she had drafted, at the close of Wednesday's concert, with Louis stirring up the crowd's anticipation.

"All the little kids were right in front, waiting and getting excited," she said.

The Ice Bucket Challenge has spread rapidly via social media this summer through videos of people - from entertainers, sports figures and other celebrities to ordinary folks - having buckets of ice water dumped on themselves.

The idea is that the person getting soaked nominates others for the same treatment and that those challenged must follow through within 24 hours or make a donation to the ALS Society, a nonprofit that funds research into ALS, also called Lou Gehrig's Disease, and provides support to patients. ALS, or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, is a disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord and



Youngsters dance to the music of the Michigan Philharmonic Brass Quintet at Wednesday's Music in the Park finale in Kellogg Park.



Guy Louis is a perennial kid favorite at the Plymouth concerts.

can leave people paralyzed in its later stages.

Group challenge

Madonna invited three people to take the challenge with her: Abigail Stonerook, who works for the American Cancer Society; Eric Bacynski, who is involved with the St. Baldrick's Foundation, which raises money for research into childhood cancers; and Rob Parent of the sporting goods store Sun & Snow, which sponsors community projects, such as this weekend's Kick Butt, a volunteer cleanup effort

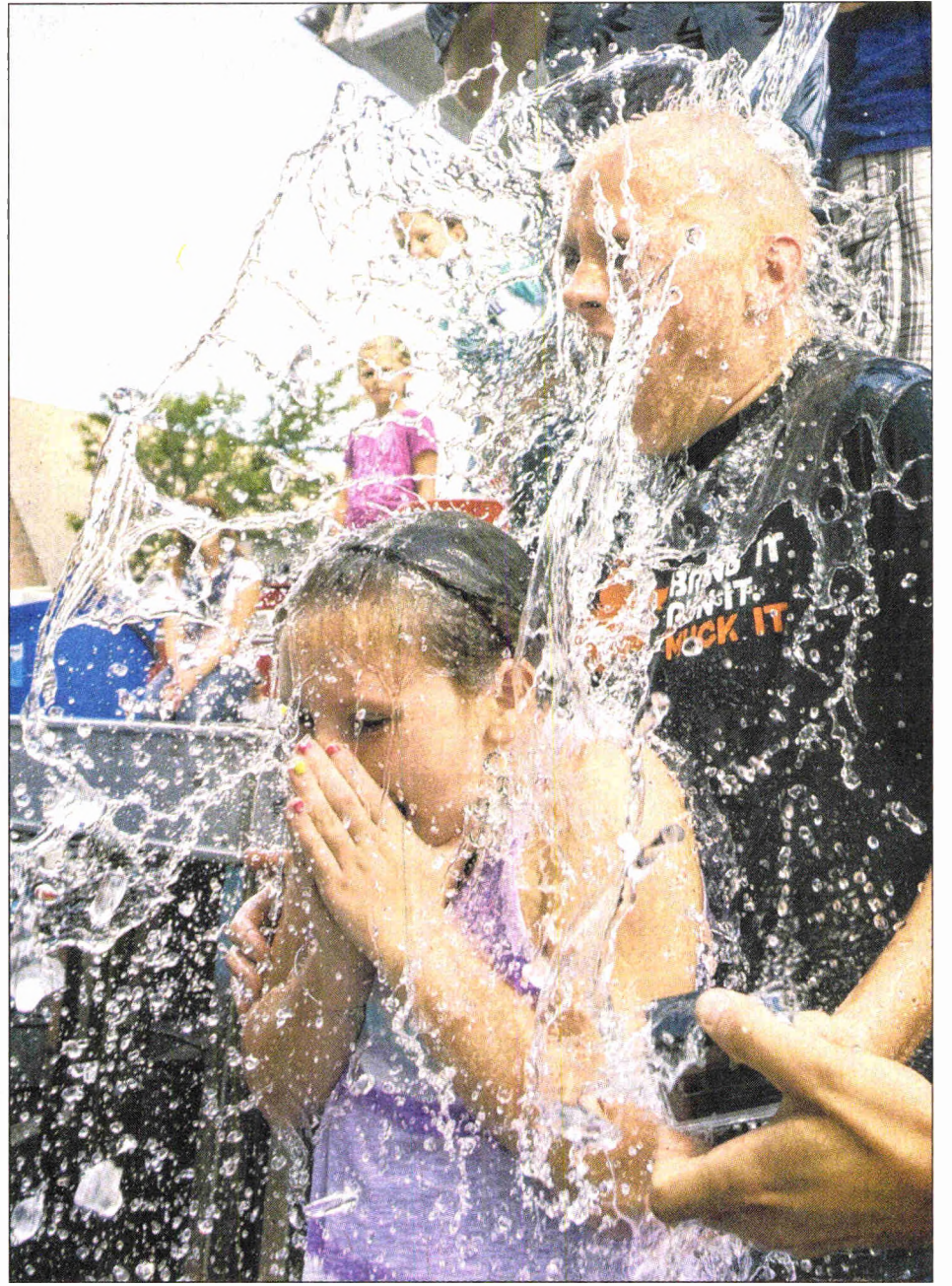
in Plymouth.

Madonna said the three were a good fit for the challenge because of their community activism.

"Having Eric and Abby and Rob there made it more special," she said. (Madonna said she also plans a donation to the ALS Society.)

Stonerook said she was glad to take part and that the event was in keeping with what she called Madonna's spirit of community.

"I've watched the videos of people who actually ... (have) ALS," including one of a wom-



Brooke and Eric Bacynski take the challenge. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

an who thanks Ice Bucket Challenge participants, Stonerook said. "I'm very inspired by the people who are fighting."

Stonerook said some people who witnessed the challenge later gave her cash for the ALS Society, which she sent in a donation separate from her own.

Wednesday's Music in the Park concert, with opened with music from the Michigan Philharmonic, also marked the final show of the series' 30th anniversary season. It's also the 20th anniversary of Madonna's involvement in it.

Madonna said she appreciated sponsors

and the city for support of a series that's enjoyed by people of all ages.

"We're very lucky to be able to do this and working with the city is a breeze. They make it very easy," she said.

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Insurance may be good idea for that 'trip of a lifetime'

Q: Dear Rick: I restructured my life insurance and took your advice and bought term. I now have over three times the insurance that I had before and I'm paying a fraction of the cost. My wife and I are going on a trip of a lifetime - a three-week cruise to the South Pacific. Should we buy trip insurance?

A: Just to clarify, I believe insurance plays an important role in someone's personal financial affairs. My problem is that too much in-



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

surance, particularly life insurance, is oversold and, in many situations, is too gimmicky.

I believe insurance is need-based. With life insurance, the issue is not if you're going to pass away, but rather, when you do, does anyone lose out financially. Life insur-

ance cannot replace love and companionship, only financial losses.

As to trip insurance, the first issue is if you had to cancel your trip, what is the financial loss? If there is a loss, then look at insurance as a way of covering it. If the loss was minor, then insurance is probably not the way to go. On the other hand, if the loss was substantial, then trip insurance may be a viable alternative.

Not all trip insurance is the same. Before pur-

chasing a policy, it is important to review the terms and conditions. In some policies, the insurance is only valid if you or someone in your immediate family suffers a health emergency. In other policies, the coverage is broader and will include things such as work-related issues and also health issues for immediate and extended family.

Most people who buy trip insurance will buy it through the company they are purchasing their

trip from. This is the easiest way, but not necessarily the best. Not only do you want a policy that covers the contingencies that you're concerned with, but you also want a company that honors its claims. This requires more research; however, it is worth it.

I have purchased trip insurance and unfortunately had to use it. My experience was very favorable in that I was able to collect on the policy with minimal hassle.

Do I recommend trip insurance for everyone for every trip? No. However, for trips of a lifetime where you're dealing with substantial amounts of money, insurance is a way to be covered, just in case.

Good luck.

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

Henry Ford and Thomas Edison to star at Nankin Mills benefit

Two "famous" individuals will be stopping by Sept. 5 at Nankin Mills.

Henry Ford and Thomas Edison, played by Rob Chrenko and Russell Doré, will discuss what it was like to visit Nankin Mills in 1925 and help raise money to support the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center.

The two men camped together and vacationed together. They were BFFs before the term was even invented (and they did a lot of inventing). They will be at Nankin Mills 6-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5, and people are invited to get to know them better.

"Last year we had Mr. Ford stop by and we were able to help him

celebrate his 150th birthday. He apparently enjoyed himself so much he is bringing Mr. Edison with him this time."

Friends of Nankin Mills President Denise Braun-Johnson said. "We're not surprised, since both men have a connection with our mill."

Cost of the event is \$35 per person and \$60 per couple and includes hors d'oeuvres, finger foods, refreshments and desserts served near the mill porch. The event is a fundraiser for the Friends of Nankin Mills, a volunteer support group that works with Wayne County Parks to sponsor activities, help fund exhibits and programming, host the annu-

al mill lighting ceremony and sing-a-long, assist with events and serve as docents and much more.

Ford purchased the former grist mill in 1918 as the first of his many Village Industries, which were small manufacturing plants stationed up and down the Rouge River. Ford, who was a big proponent of water power, contracted with Edison to install a direct current hydroelectric generator to help power the machinery.

The generator produced so much power that electric lines were strung to houses in the nearby village of Pikes Peak to provide free lighting, making Nankin Mills one of the first

utility companies in the country and perhaps the last to offer free power.

The Edison generator is still in the mill and plans call for it to be repainted and chromed so it looks much as it did

when the mill was operational, according to Braun-Johnson.

"Unfortunately, it's impractical to ever get it operational, but we do want to provide more information on Ford's

interest in clean energy," Braun-Johnson said.

Tickets are available at Nankin Mills. For more information, call 734-261-1850 or visit the Friends of Nankin Mills Facebook page.

Henry Ford (Rob Chrenko) and Thomas Edison (Russell Doré) will be the guest of honor at a Sept. 5 fundraiser for the Friends of Nankin Mills.



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THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 4TH - DPS Police Department Vehicles

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Seniors show their stuff at county games

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Emily Shannon couldn't quite understand what the fuss was all about as she posed for pictures Thursday at the Westland Friendship Center.

But at 101, Shannon had the honor of being the oldest competitor in her class at the 10th annual Western Wayne County Senior Olympics.

Hosted by Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano, the annual competition attracts seniors, age 50 and older from 16 communities, who competed for gold, silver and bronze medals in everything from football throwing, basketball shooting and bocce ball to creative writing and baking.

Shannon was at the center to try her hand at the bean bag toss. This was her first year competing in the Senior Olympics. Shannon scored three points with her three tosses, only two off the highest score.

The Senior Olympics kicked off last Monday with the lighting of the Olympic torch during opening ceremonies at Nankin Mills in Hines Park. Bicycle races, softball throw, football throw and soccer kick competition were held at the park before the events moved to participating communities.

Westland's Friendship Center hosted the trivia, Wii bowling, bean bag toss, marksmanship, bridge and pinocle events. On Thursday, in addition to the bean bag toss, athletes were going for gold shooting at targets under the watchful eyes of Mel Tockstein, Al Vaughan and Tommy Vaughan, owner of the Firing Line in Westland.

Medal count

Janet Brady has been competing in Senior Olympics since 2008, when she turned 50. She was told by an 86-year-old athlete that she should get involved in the Senior Olympics and she did.

As a competitor, she has won 82 medals and has even gone to the national competition, where she won a bronze medal.

"I think horseshoes are my



Emily Shannon, a spry 101 years of age, scored three points in the bean bag toss, held Thursday at the Friendship Center. She was sure to medal in the competition, since she was the only one in her age group. PHOTOS BY SUE MASON

favorite. There's just something about getting close to the target and not having to hit it," she said.

Brady got 10 practice shots before she took aim in the competition. All of her shots were in the target area, including two that hit the bull's-eye.

"Awesome, you did a great job," Tommy Vaughan said.

He's been helping with the marksmanship event for at least five years. A retired Westland police officer, he points to his mother and father who "roped me in to doing it."

Veteran performers

Jane Zywote of Westland was waiting to watch her

daughter and son-in-law, Pat Zywote-Hilliard and Jim Hilliard, take their shots. This is the third year the Westland couple has competed in the 50-59 age group and the second year competing in marksmanship.

"We've actually won gold in the 50-59 age group; there's only a few of us," Zywote-Hilliard said. "We're the new retirees, the young retirees."

"We didn't hit the wall, we didn't hit anybody and we hit the target," her husband said. "We've done all the big events - Wii bowling, football throw, softball, soccer kick, Frisbee throw. I think I got a gold in softball and silver in football. It's softball that I wanted to win."



Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, and Francine Harper of Westland tally the scores in the marksmanship competition.



Al Vaughan, (from left) of the Firing Line, watches as Janet Brady of Canton takes her 10 shots. Also watching is Mel Tockstein of Westland.

The medals were awarded at a banquet Friday and Zywote-Hilliard was thinking she had nabbed gold in Wii bowling and silver in softball.

"Those are unofficial results," she said.

While eligible to compete, Zywote chose to be the couple's cheering section.

"They're doing great," she said. "I'm brand new at this, I'm only in my 90s. I think I'll come out next year."

Senior Resource Director Barbara Marcum, Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, and

Francine Harper of Westland had the job of tallying the scores.

They shunned using calculators as they checked the targets for holes and determined the value of each.

"I'm just volunteering today," LeBlanc said.

"This is a good program and when Barb asked if I'd do this, I said yes. We have a lot of skilled seniors in our community."

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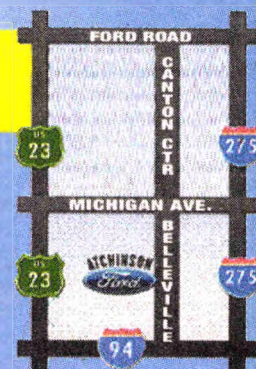
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State reports show student achievement improving in W-W

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools district is continuing to show academic achievement among its more than 12,000 students.

According to the state's 2013-14 Top-to-Bottom List, the district saw the number of focus schools drop to three and priority schools to one in comparison to the 2012-13 report.

"We're continuing to demonstrate success in reading and writing overall as a district and we're continuing to work on social studies, science and math," Superintendent Michele Harmala said. "The proficiency looks different in every school, but it's trending upward."

The Top-to-Bottom List is part of Michigan's school accountability system, which ranks schools on their student performance in mathematics, reading, writing, science and social studies and graduation rate data (for high schools).

School performance components include student achievement, improvement and achievement gaps between the highest and lowest scoring 30 percent of students in each school.

Student achievement

Hicks Elementary in Inkster continues to be a priority school in the district. According to the report, it scored below average in all subject areas. The focus schools were Elliott and P.D. Graham elementary and Stevenson Middle School. Achievement at Stevenson was below

average in all subject areas; however the school demonstrated larger than average growth in reading and mathematics. Elliott's achievement was below average in all but one area, writing, and it demonstrated improvement in science and reduced the gap between top and bottom performers in writing. P.D. Graham overall was above average with an excellence in writing and above average in math, but was below average in science and social studies.

Scorecard results

On the Accountability Scorecard, the district barely missed receiving the color yellow "due to a very small number of students" who didn't take the state assessment test. All but two schools received the color yellow. Hicks was scored red and Elliott orange.

Scorecards colors are based on meeting targets in its different components. Missing targets in some components will automatically lower the overall scorecard color even if the school or district is meeting all other targets.

According to Harmala, the ranking wasn't directly related to achievement. It was tied to "how many took a test as opposed to how well they did."

"I hope to see a change next year," she said. "We have a lot in place to help students achieve. We have a lot going on here. The kids will achieve, are achieving and out teachers are doing the best job with the best practices that are in place."

Madonna dean who once failed college pens memoir on not giving up

For students who dread going back to school this fall, for fear of failing, there's a new book that offers hope and motivation. It was written by once-college-flunk-out Dr. Cleamon Moorer, the new dean of the School of Business at Madonna University in Livonia.

From Failure to Promise: 360 Degrees provides a candid reflection on the trials and detours of Moorer's nearly 20-year journey from an adolescent in the Detroit Public Schools to engineer, university professor and college dean.

Through anecdotes, sprinkled with quotes from Bible scripture and helpful tactics for overcoming obstacles to any goal, Moorer shares his personal walk with God, and encourages the reader to work hard, persevere and remain open to God's plan.

Helping in his father's Detroit collision shop, Moorer not only developed an understanding of the demands of running a business, but also identified a deep-seeded desire to become an engineer. As the book's title suggests, Moorer has come full-circle on many levels, including returning to Kettering University - the very college from which he initially failed - where, as a professor, he taught future engineers.

Targeted to young adults, the memoir is for anyone who has considered giving up on a dream, when faced with failure. Moorer offers encouragement and inspiration to help readers achieve their potential. A full 100-percent of book royalties are used to fund scholarships for students and grants for K-12 educators, through the Dr. C. Moorer & Associates, Inc. Foundation established in 2012.

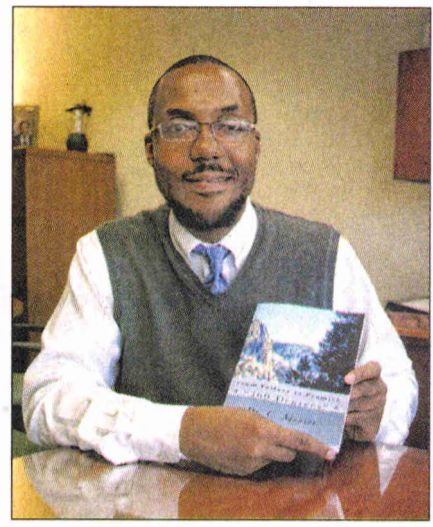
The Scholarship Essay contest involves answering questions about the lessons in Moorer's book. This year the foundation will award one \$10,000 scholarship and three \$500 scholarships. Some 10-12 educators will be awarded \$500 grants, based on their creative integration of "From Failure to Promise" into their curriculum.

To learn more, visit www.fromfailuretopromise.com.

Moorer has scheduled two book signings for Saturday, Aug. 30:

» 10 a.m. to noon at Baker's Bible & Bookstore, 10200 Grand River Ave., Detroit.

» 2-4 p.m. at Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 17111 Haggerty Road, Northville.



Dr. Cleamon Moorer, the new dean of the School of Business at Madonna University in Livonia, with his memoir, "From Failure to Promise: 360 Degrees." One hundred percent of book royalties are used to fund scholarships for students and grants for K-12 educators.

Prior to becoming dean at Madonna, Moorer taught at his alma mater Kettering, served as associate professor at Dominican University, and assistant professor at Saint Xavier University.

He holds a Doctorate of Business Administration from Argosy University in Schaumburg, Ill. Moorer lives in Rochester with his wife Nicole and their four sons.

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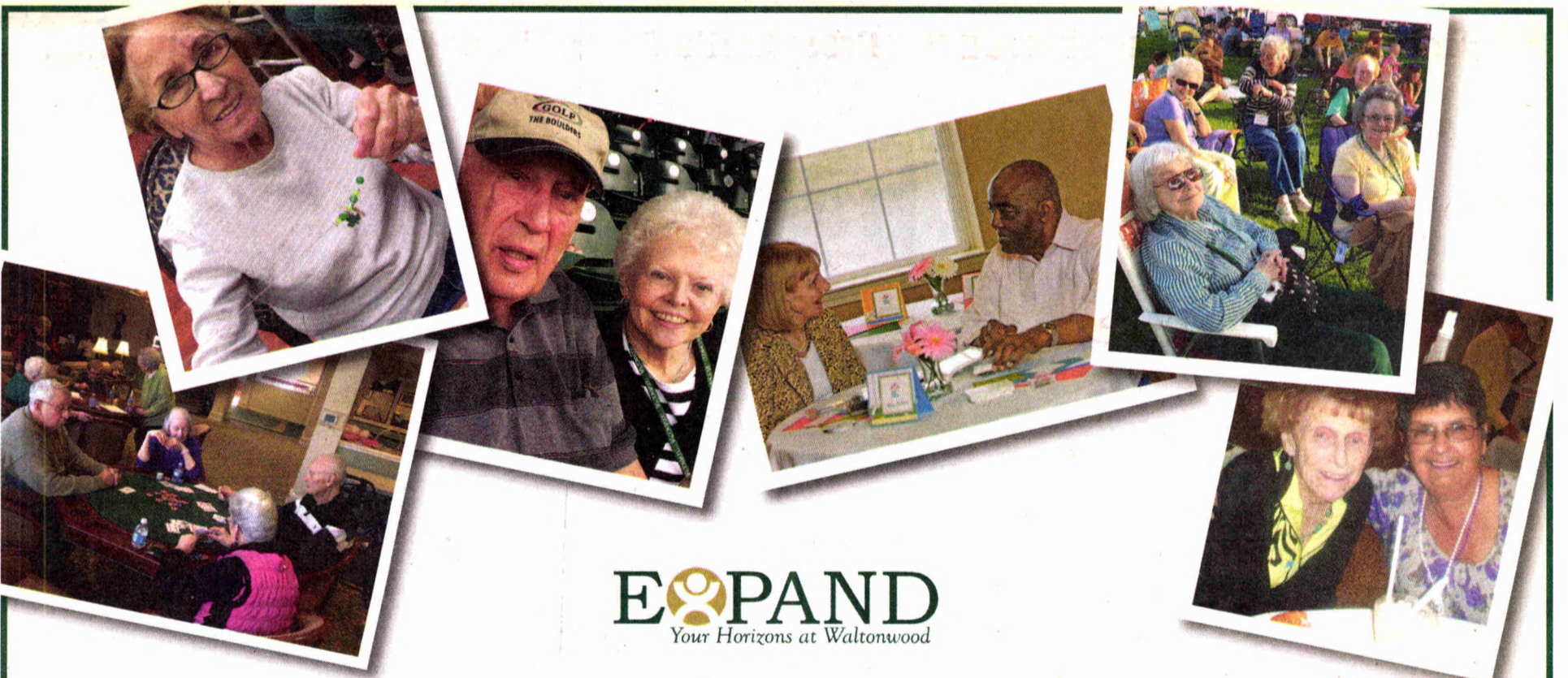
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Farmington Hills author provides inside look into Ford Motor Co.

By **Joanne Maliszewski**
Staff Writer

If you want a peek into the workings of the Ford Motor Co., just ask O.J. Nori of Farmington Hills, who published his first book on the automotive giant in 2007 and has a second book in the works.

"What we have in this book is a true and factual portrayal on personal memory, spanning a period of greater than five decades," the 90-year-old wrote in the preface of the first book, *FORD — An Era Remembered*.

The retired Ford employee takes the reader from his Detroit experiences during the Great Depression through the Lee Iacocca days and the start of mechanized processing. The first chapter, "Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?" documents the desire and demand in Detroit for jobs with the automaker, as well as how Detroiters lived during an economic depression that left families unemployed, without housing and hungry.

"There were a lot of long lines of people looking for employment," Nori said.

Throughout the Great Depression, Nori's dad did odd jobs when he could find them. His grandfather, with whom Nori spent a lot of his time, was an out-of-work carpenter.

He recalls riding a streetcar — a 6-cent fare — with his grandfather, looking for work. But they had plenty of fun, too. "We would go to the moving pictures downtown," Nori said, adding they each had a homemade sandwich wrapped in newspaper for their daily journeys.

When Nori's grandfather stopped at businesses looking for work or especially when they stopped by Ford, the young boy was told to stand a bit away from the lines. Sometimes there were arguments and fists. Mostly, there was hunger and desperation.

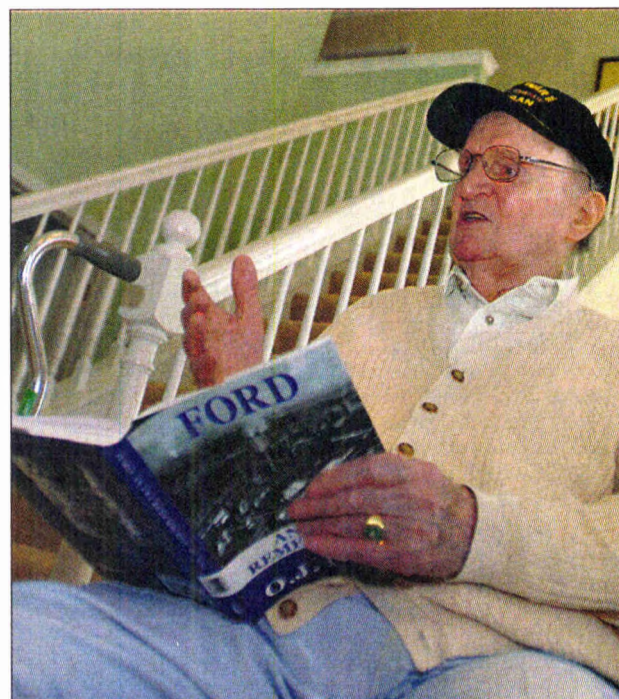
"I remember men asking if they could have a nickel or an apple," Nori said.

Finally, Nori's family moved from Detroit to Dearborn. Bank rules in those days allowed an increase in the family's payments for the house. But as a resident of Dearborn, Nori's dad had a greater chance of being recalled to his Ford job.

Second book

While still promoting the first book, Nori is compiling his second that does not yet have a title. The efforts are family affairs. His daughter Terri types and edits, while his wife Marge helped get the first one published. That first effort left the family with a \$5,000 loss and no book when the publishing company surprisingly closed its doors. "We kept calling them. Nobody would answer," Marge Nori said.

When Nori finally went to the publishing



O.J. Nori of Farmington Hills offers readers an insight to the early workings of the Ford Motor Co. JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

company, he was shocked by the empty offices. "All of my papers were scattered all over," he said.

The book was finally published, but the new company didn't work in distribution. The family had 200 copies made, which they give away instead of selling.

The first book and the second one in the works is a labor of love for the company that became a significant part of Nori's life. To this day, the Nori immediate and extended family are asked to drive Ford autos. "We can't drive anything else," said his daughter Terri Bresso, also of Farmington Hills.

In the first few chapters of the first book, Nori sets the stage for his eventual employment at Ford, which was a little iffy at first because he didn't have a birth certificate with an embossed seal of the state of Pennsylvania, where he was born. He traveled back to his birth state, got what he needed and began working for Ford in the employment office, a position that eventually led to labor relations as his career grew.

Nori knew he would enter the armed services and wanted a good job to which he could return. He had taken commercial courses and worked for Detroit Edison. Interestingly, however, Ford was the only company that would hire a 17-year-old. He started his initial career working in employee insurance.

He then joined the U.S. Army for three years, serving at the 5th Service Command Headquarters in Birmingham, Ala. While there, he worked in processing and, by 1946, typed his own discharge papers. His days back at Ford included hiring "hundreds or thousands" for the Rouge and Willow Run plants.

Inner workings

The book literally throws the reader into the inner workings of Ford. But it also turns a spotlight on conversations and experiences with a host of well-known Ford Motor executives,

including Henry Ford himself. Nori giggles a bit remembering that lots of folks thought he looked a bit like Ford.

Eventually, Nori was reassigned from his work in getting foreigners registered to work to the Ford parts division, where he was called on to interpret and work with labor contracts. "A lot of different things were happening," he said. "I lived through it all."

Nori also takes the time to include some fun moments, including with Jesse Owens, the four-time Olympic field and track gold medal winner. While working out at Ford's aircraft plant, Nori and Owens charged employees \$3 to run against the star athlete. Owens got \$2 and Nori \$1. "They (employees) were so proud that they raced with Jesse Owens," Nori said.

He also met football star Jim Thorpe, professional baseball player and manager Mickey Cochrane and even Elvis Presley. "I didn't know Elvis Presley from a load of hay," Nori said.

But while Nori was in Memphis, he saw a man walk into the Ford lobby. No one was waiting on him, so Nori asked him how he could help. "He wanted to buy two white Lincolns," Nori said. No one could, however, miss watching all the young women come out of offices when they heard Elvis was in the building. "He was very nice. He was a gentleman."

Nori also recalls for readers what happened inside Ford Motor when Henry Ford died, as well as the story of Harry Bennett, an ex-boxer who became an executive during the 1930s and '40s and best known as the head of Ford's Service Department or internal security. Bennett was also known for his union busting activities, including The Battle of the Overpass.

"There was a lot of concern over who would take over when Ford died. His wife insisted it would be young Henry," Nori said.

jmaliszews@hometownlife.com
248-396-6620

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

A regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Thursday, September 4, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the following:

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 1. Z 14-09 | 255 Adams
Non-Use Variance Requested
Side Yd Setback
Zoned: R-1, Single-Family Residential
Applicant: Gary Schmitt |
| 2. Z 14-10 | 208 Ann
Non-Use Variance Requested
Rear Yard Setback & Lot Coverage
Zoned: R-1, Single-Family Residential
Applicant: Joseph Zrull |

All interested persons are invited to attend.

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

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

Livonia Civic Chorus: A goldmine of fun music for 50 great years

By Gene Scott
Guest Columnist

Back in 1845, prospectors found gold in Michigan's Upper Peninsula - then they all went to California.

There's been plenty of gold, of other kinds, for the finding throughout our state. In western Wayne County, for example, there's the Livonia Civic Chorus, this year observing its golden anniversary of 50 years. It was first discovered in January 1965 on the stage of Franklin High School at its first concert and has been glowing golden ever since.

The chorus was formed by members of Livonia's St. Maurice Catholic Church Choir, which was forced to disband in 1964. Coincidentally, Catholic church choirs around the country were faced with abrupt changes at about this time when, after centuries, they had to switch from Latin to English in their Mass services. St. Maurice has since combined with St. Genevieve Church.

Also about this same time, the city's Parks and Recreation Department advertised in the *Observer* its call for sponsoring a community chorus. Choir member Joyce Winter saw the ad, her group immediately responded and soon, as a secular choir, they were providing artistic gold for Livonia and surrounding suburbs.

Ever since that first year, the Livonia Civic Chorus has been a hands-free show chorus, its members memorizing every song in the repertoire while dancing their way across the stage for two main shows - around Christmas and early spring.

Members come from all over

Chorus membership has been as high as 65 and currently is at 56. They come mostly from Livonia, but also Ann Arbor, Canton, Farmington Hills, Northville, Novi, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Plymouth, Redford, Westland and Wixom. with smiles on their faces and songs (memorized) in their hearts.

Soprano Linda Gibson comes from farthest away - Bois Blanc Island in Canada.

The chorus' performances usually include a variety of songs from popular musicals and movies. Occasionally, they have written and scored their own Broadway-style show. Its first show, at Franklin High in 1965, was "Around the World with Livonia Civic Chorus," with 39 members on stage.

Most often performed, especially at the spring concerts, are shows that convey a central theme, such as "How The West Was Sung," "Island Magic," "Bond and Beyond" and more recently "A Tribute to Motown" with songs like *Ain't No Mountain High Enough* and *What a Wonderful World* and *Thoroughly Modern Broadway*, including numbers from *Mama Mia* and *Les Miserables*.

Last spring's show, "Touch the Sky," included 20 songs about the sun, moon and stars and the weather, from *Blue Moon to Singin' In the Rain*.

Seldom is the chorus seen in typical tuxedos and formal gowns like other choral groups with music in their hands.

"The idea is to get the audience to laugh, look and listen ... and it works," chorus director Donna Gleason said.

Choir historian Hank Kanar seconds the notion, saying: "After our shows, people come up and say, 'You folks really look like you're enjoying yourselves.'"

Gleason, a music school graduate of the University of Maryland, has been director since 2003. She is accompanist at Walled Lake Western High School and vocal director for its musicals. She directed the Redford Baptist Church Choir for 22 years.

Accompanist since 2004 is Rimma Stolbov, a piano teacher for 25 years and a native of Latvia and graduate of its musical college. Rimma also is an accompanist at Walled Lake Western and a member of Farmington Musicales.

Livonia Chorus' past directors, starting with its first, are Bob Slusarski (choral director at St. Maurice), Ed Mead, Don Large (director of the University of Detroit Chorus for more than 25 years), Gordon Limbaugh, Kris Korjath, Karen McDaniel, Jim Whitten and Carol Spinacchio.

Multi-generational

Current and past chorus members have spanned four generations in age, from teenagers to great-grandpas and great-grandmas, and many walks of life including doctors and dentists, nurses, engineers, clergymen, housewives and even an undertaker (a bass, of course).

Two chorus members have been with the group for 50 years - Henry (Hank) Kanar, baritone, and tenor Dominic Lucca (most years).

Kanar vividly recalled one of the funniest things that occurred during a show. It happened that first year at Franklin High. It was hot and humid and the school had no air conditioning, so the doors were kept open. A strong wind blew the accompanist's music away and the show was delayed while the audience gasped.

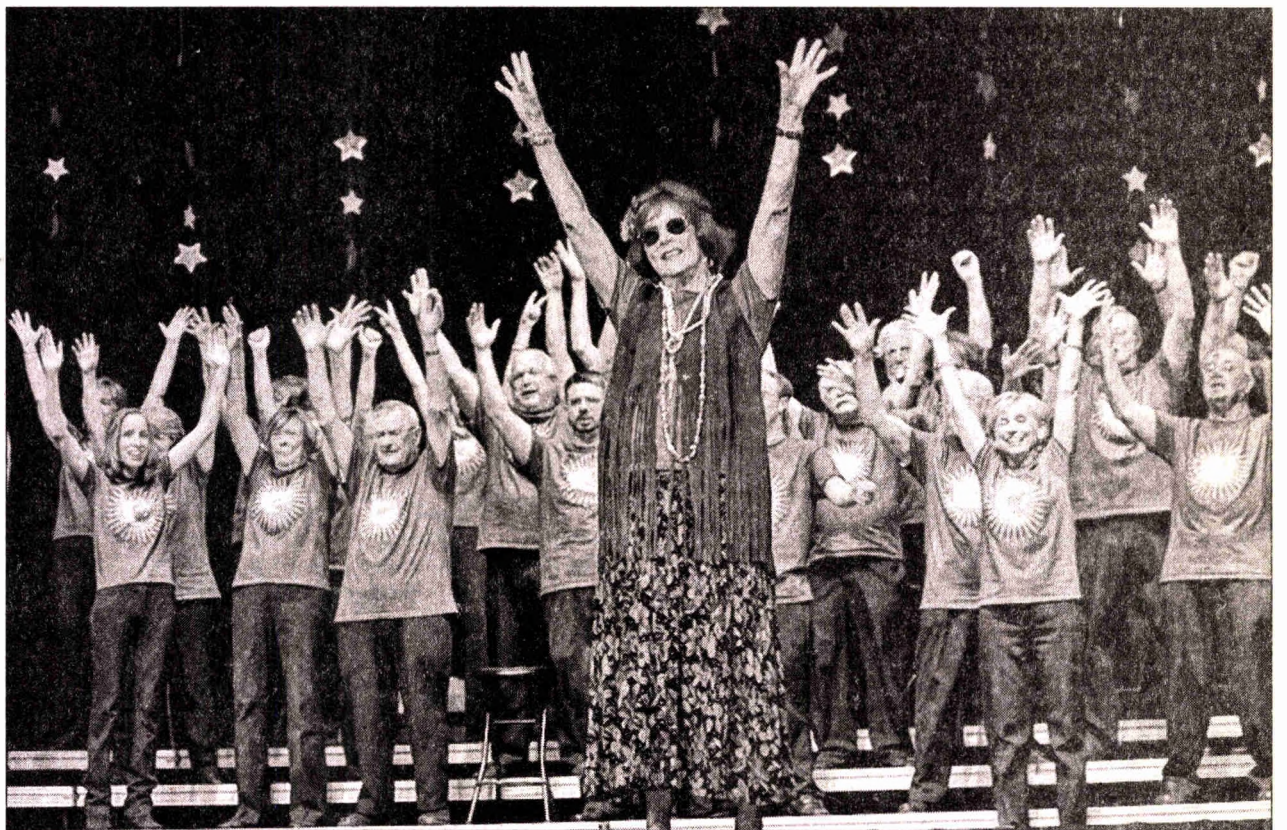
At a later show, an artificial fog machine went crazy and covered the performance on a horrifying hold until the clouds of fog were cleared.

Chorus members for 25 years or more are altos Kim Alderman, Geri Leiter and Melinda Thornton and sopranos Pat Dierks and Eleanor Smith. Ten-year members are Sue Cassidy, Robin Diedrich, Linda Gibson, Jim Komiensky, vice president and show choreographer Jennifer Perry, Diane Schlauffer, Carol Verkennis and Janet Watson.

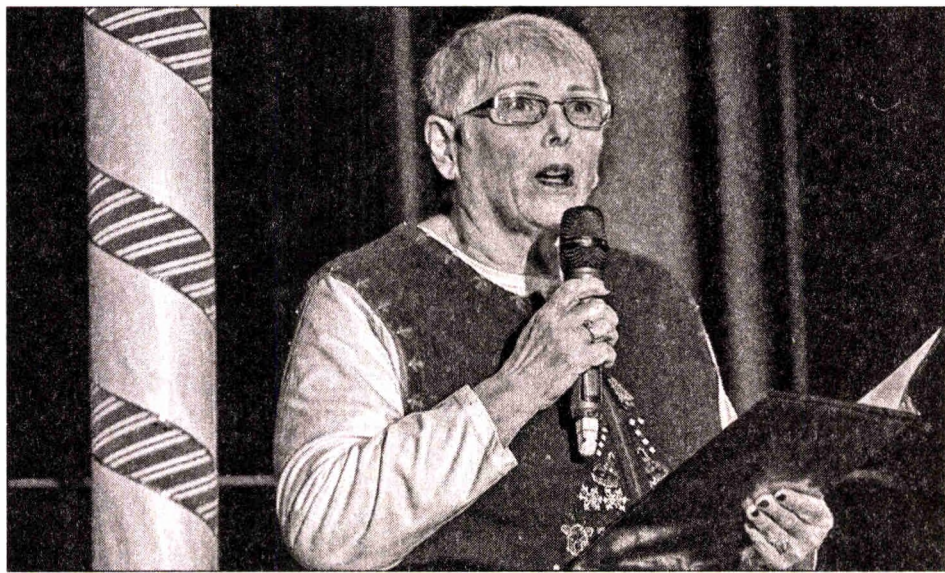
This season, Kim Alderman will have had three generations of her family in the chorus when niece Nicole and nephew Zachary join them for the 50th season. Kim's father, Phil Meyer, was a member in the 1970s.

Perhaps best known of its guest performers is "Fat Bob" Taylor, who sang with the chorus in the late 1970s. He was promoted as the "Singing Plumber" when he did several local radio shows, including many with WJR-AM personality J.P. McCarthy. Closest to that today is singer-musician Jim Hovey, who entertains at local watering holes and restaurants with his Delivery Boys Acoustic String Band.

An unsung hero from the chorus' past is tenor Bill Hill. During World War II, Hill was wounded several times, once while



Alto Janet Watson performs with the chorus in a rousing opener for the May 2014 show with "Let the Sun Shine In" from the musical "Hair." PHOTOS BY MARK WINDECKER



Chorus president Peggy Gaskill emcees a recent Christmas show.



The chorus performs one of 19 numbers in its "Sparkle, Jolly, Twinkle" Christmas show last December.



Cowboy Hank Kanar croons a western, "Ghost Riders in the Sky."

rescuing a fellow soldier from the battlefield. He was awarded many medals for his feats of bravery and valor.

Clarenceville High is concert home

After the nation's bicentennial in 1976, the chorus found a permanent venue for its Christmas and spring shows at Clarenceville High School, Livonia's first high school and auditorium with 900 seats. Built in 1940, Clarenceville High will be observing its 75th anniversary this year.

In addition to its main shows at Clarenceville, the chorus has had many other venues - at Livonia City Hall for the city's annual tree lighting and Greenmead Historical Village's annual Christmas walks for more than 20 years and Christmas caroling at Greenfield Village for the past 12 years. It has also sung at GM's Industry Sings, Plymouth's Fall Festival, Selfridge Air Force Base, Gaylord and the University of Michigan.

More recently, it has sung with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra and often has had the "Classical Bells" ringers, children's choirs and dance groups as part of its Christmas or spring

shows. Also recently, the chorus has hit the road to entertain at local senior citizen residences and nursing homes, bringing heartfelt hope and joy to home-bound folks who can't get around much anymore. Last year, members sang at eight of these places in Livonia and nearby and have been asked back for encore visits.

For many years, the chorus has had a special mission of helping Livonia high school vocal music students continue with their training through its scholarships program.

Currently, students are selected for scholarships to Madonna University and Blue Lake Music Camp near Muskegon. Several past winners have gone on to successful musical careers. This past year's winners were Anna Dresinski, Jasmine Fernandez, Stephanie Powell and Jack Welcher. Coordinator for this program is soprano Sharon Kroll.

Busy behind the scenes to keep it all together is chorus president Peggy Gaskill, a seven-year alto member who is a consultant in educational reform for middle schools and program development man-

ager at Michigan Virtual University. Before that, she was associate dean at Walden University and a teacher education professor at Central Michigan University.

The chorus kicks off its 50th season with three events: Livonia's observance of our National Anthem Bicentennial presented by the Livonia Historical Society at Greenmead at 2 p.m. Sept. 14; a chorus reception Sept. 18 at Greenmead; and the chorus' induction into the 1835 Livonia Hall of Fame at Madonna University, Oct. 2. (1835 is the year Livonia actually started, as a township.)

Coming up for its next Christmas show at Clarenceville High at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, is an "Extraordinary Merry Christmas" with lots of old favorites and Handel's *Hallelujah*. The spring show at Clarenceville at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 17, will be "50 Fabulous Years" with the best from Broadway and big-hit songs like *There is Nothing Like a Dame* and *Shenandoah*.

Chorus president Gaskill has sent out invitations to 84 former chorus members to come back for the fun, but anyone who likes to sing can join. Auditions are for voice placement only. Rehearsals are held at 7:30 p.m. each Tuesday, starting Sept. 9, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile, west of Farmington Road. The fee is \$50 each for the chorus' winter and spring sessions. This helps pay for the cost of the music, costumes, stage sets and props, printing, practice and video recordings, etc. Livonia Parks and Recreation pays for the director and accompanist.

Help with other expenses comes from the chorus' three additional sponsors: AlphaUSA, an engineering and production development firm; Melissa Piltner-Raymond James, financial consultants; and St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

To join the chorus or get tickets or other info, visit www.livoniachorus.org, write to 37637 Five Mile, Ste. 156, Livonia MI 48154 or call 734-542-9071.

A final note: Maybe those gold prospectors in the U.P. should never have left Michigan. Just beyond where they were looking were iron and copper mines that since have yielded many times more than all the gold ever found out west.

Down here in western Michigan though, we have a music gold mine in Livonia Civic Chorus. Break a (musical) leg, LCC ... and happy 50th.

Gene Scott has been a Livonia Historical Society member for about 12 years. He is a retired editor and teacher who has published four books on the histories of Michigan towns. The most recent is "Michigan Shadow Towns." He and wife Barb have lived in Livonia for 23 years.

The Plymouth District Library Board meeting, originally set for August 19, 2014, was cancelled due to lack of quorum. The meeting has been rescheduled for Tuesday, September 2, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at the Friends Room on the main level of the Library at 223 S Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170

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State trooper says human trafficking is Michigan problem

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

Slavery didn't end after the Civil War in the United States. It continues today.

That's what Michigan State Trooper Walter Crider, a Community Service trooper based in Oak Park, told the members of the Garden City Rotary and Garden City Kiwanis clubs Thursday.

"Human trafficking is nothing short of slavery," Crider said. "It is a modern form of slavery. It is sexual exploitation. It is servitude. We have more people enslaved now as it relates to human trafficking than ever before."

This sexual abuse involves someone being held against their will

and often involves minors, those under age 18. They are forced to commit criminal acts like prostitution, stripping, exotic dancing and pornography.

Crider's job involves sharing crime prevention information on this subject and others.

"There is no such thing as a 17-year-old prostitute," he said. "That's a minor who is a victim."

Human trafficking involves someone who recruits people and then holds them as a prisoner. They are forced or coerced to commit to it because of some drug habit.

"According to U.S. statistics, some 600,000-800,000 people are trafficked across international boundaries every year," Crider said. "In Michigan, we are number five on the list in the nation for human trafficking. This is a southeastern Michigan problem. It is not a Detroit problem."

Why is that?

Crider said that Michigan is both a border and a blue collar state. Transient workers contribute to labor trafficking.

The majority of labor trafficking, which is enslaved labor, is Latino. It involves working "ungodly hours," he said.

Large public events tend to attract human traffickers. He told the story of a 15-year-old girl held as a slave who was trafficked by high school boys in a Detroit suburb. The boys continued to abuse her for two years.

The Internet also is a tool to recruit sex slaves. "The average age for a victim of human traf-



Garden City Rotarian Pat Story (left) and Kiwanis members Mike Jones (at right), Norah Fix and Peg Burklow listen to Michigan State Trooper Walt Crider talk about human trafficking. Members of the Garden City Rotary and Kiwanis clubs held a joint meeting to hear the presentation, arranged by Rotarian Wilma Healy. SUE MASON

ficking is 14," Crider said. "The number of girls enslaved across the globe is some 27 million. It is a \$13 billion industry. Internationally, girls could be as young as 5."

Crider said that last year, he attended the Michigan State Police Youth Leadership Academy, which hosted inner-city Detroit girls. Thirteen of the 17 girls attending reported abuse. They were 14-16 years old.

Red flags

There are some red flags to help identify sex trafficking: young people with a bunch of IDs, large sums of money, young people who disappear in the middle of the night, tattooing, lack of knowledge of their area and no cellphone.

"If you see a young person without a cellphone, something is going on," Crider said. Sex recruiters sur-

round bus stations looking for young people and runaways. "If you can't recruit, you don't have a stock," Crider said.

He added that there have been stories of girls in school who recruit other girls. Crider predicts that it will take a lifetime to abolish human trafficking in the world.

Legislators have introduced a variety of bills to try to curb human trafficking and initiate human public nuisance laws.

"This legislation would recognize them for what they are - victims," he said. "They relate to the victim as no longer being a criminal, but see them for what they are, victims. Our greatest weapon in order to be able to combat this thing is to take care of our children."

sbuck@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @SueSBuck

Novi McDonald's goes 'green'

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Officials from McDonald's are excited about the revamping of their Novi location.

"It's been a long process, but the end result will be pleasing for everyone," said Tonya Houston, operations manager of the restaurant at 21050 Haggerty Road.

Houston said this restaurant represents the modern McDonald's restaurant.

"We are thrilled to showcase several 'green' initiatives that will allow us to be the first Michigan restaurant to seek LEED certification (by the U.S. Green Building Council)," Houston said.

LEED, or Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design, is a green building certification program that recognizes best-in-class building strategies and practices.

The Novi McDonald's seeks to be the fifth McDonald's LEED Volume project in the country, and the first in Michigan, as a LEED-certified McDonald's.

Some of the green highlights at this restaurant include: construction waste diverted from landfills and recycled or reused; building materials made of recycled content; recycling of post-consumer and restaurant waste; water-efficient restroom fixtures; high-efficiency landscape irrigation system; and 100-percent LED lighting fixtures.

Houston said the

drive-through has been reconstructed to allow side-by-side ordering. The 24-hour restaurant will now offer the McDonald's After Midnight Menu between midnight and 4 a.m. every night.

The menu features breakfast, lunch and dinner selections and allows guests to mix and match their orders from a choice of breakfast, lunch and dinner favorites, including Egg McMuffins, Fruit and Maple Oatmeal, hash browns, Big Macs, Chicken McNuggets, french fries and more.

A grand re-opening celebration was held Aug. 15.

An invitation-only event with a ribbon-cutting ceremony took place Aug. 13. Invitees included Novi Mayor Bob Gatt, Novi City Council members, Novi Chamber of Commerce members and other special guests. In celebration of the grand re-opening, a donation will be made to the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit.

During the grand re-opening weekend, customers had the opportunity to sample different products and enjoy several special promotions.

"I would like to invite the local community to come in and enjoy a delicious meal while helping us celebrate the grand re-opening of our new, beautiful restaurant," Houston said.

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12:00, 2:30, 7:30
FRI/SAT LS 12:05

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5:00, 9:50

THE GIVER (PG-13)
11:50, 2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9:00

THE EXPENDABLES 3 (PG-13)
12:30, 3:30, 6:35, 9:20
FRI/SAT LS 11:30

LET'S BE COPS (R)
11:25, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40
FRI/SAT LS 12:00

TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES (PG-13)
11:40, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:30
FRI/SAT LS 11:50

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY (PG-13)
11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45
FRI/SAT LS 11:10

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BOYS TENNIS PREVIEW

Wildcats look strong again

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Last year was a very good one for the Plymouth's varsity boys tennis team.

And the Wildcats once again look poised for continued success in 2014, at least as far as early showings are concerned.

The defending KLAA Central Division champions competed in Thursday's Northville Quad meet and had a very respectable showing.

Plymouth edged Clarkston and competed closely with KLAA powerhouses Grand Blanc and Northville, Wildcats head coach Tom Kimball noted.

"We have an excellent team again this year," Kimball said. "There is a comfortable balance of veteran leadership, skilled underclassmen and depth in both our singles and doubles lineup."

"We improve every day and we approach each match knowing we can contend for any title and can compete with the top teams in Michigan."

The singles lineup shapes up to feature junior Jordan Lu at No. 1, followed by sophomore Matt Decker (No. 2), senior Charlie Hou (No. 3) and sophomore Deven Patel (No. 4).

In doubles play, the top tandem likely will include sophomore Yogesh Mohanraj and junior Kevin Hou.

At No. 2 doubles will be sophomores Ramana Ramanaathan and Justin Kapeke, with seniors Alex Tsakoff and Matt McDonald set for No. 3.

Rounding out the doubles

See TENNIS, Page B3

PREP FOOTBALL PREVIEW - PART 1

BANDING TOGETHER



Plymouth's new quarterback is Deji Adebiyi, shown here taking the snap during practice last week. Adebiyi played wide receiver and defensive back in 2013. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Wildcats eye bounce-back season with focus on team unity

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Wildcats can't wait to forget about the 2013 varsity football season, a year in which the team went 5-4 and failed to make the state playoffs.

That's because there is plenty of hope for the 2014 squad, which opens at 7 p.m. Thursday against Salem at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

According to veteran head coach Mike Sawchuk, entering his eighth season at the helm, all signs point to a new beginning and attitude adjustment. It helps that there are plenty of key players back who want to prove what happened last season was a one-year anomaly.

"In the off-season, we spent a lot of time talking about how to build team unity back because last year's team kind of got complacent from all the success we had (in previous seasons)," Sawchuk said during a practice break last week. "They never really came together as a team. So we spent a lot of time talking about that and talking about how to be selfless and not selfish."

"Doing what we're supposed to do, being leaders, doing the right thing. So far, so good. But we really haven't had any adversity yet, so we'll see what happens when we do."

New spot

This year's offense will have a different look, with senior Deji Adebiyi taking over at quarterback. He played wide receiver and defensive back last year, but has QB experience in the program, dating back to ninth and 10th grade.

"I think Deji's truly grown up a ton since last year and he's done everything that coach (Brian) Rochon has asked him to do," Sawchuk said.

Rochon, the team's offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach, has gone down that road before — helping a skilled athlete switch positions.

See WILDCATS, Page B3

MORE PREVIEWS THURSDAY

Check out Thursday's *Observer* for the Canton and Salem football previews, as well as continuing previews of other fall sports teams.

VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW - PART 1

Confident Rocks aim to crush rivals

Salem coach optimistic about prospects for 2014 season

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

There's growing enthusiasm and confidence as far as the Salem varsity volleyball team is concerned.

And that's music to the ears of head coach Amanda Nies, whose 2013 team went 6-11 in the KLAA last season (3-7 in the KLAA Central Division).

"The energy in the gym has been great and the girls are excited about the season," Nies said. "We are working hard and it's really already starting to jell in just a few days of practice."

The Rocks were scheduled to open the 2014 season with Friday night's match-up against cross-campus rival Plymouth.

One key reason for Nies' optimism is the talent at setter. Juniors Sara Soltis and Lauren Wylie will be "running the show" on offense.

"This year, we feel very confident in this position," Nies said. "And the girls will con-

tinue to grow each day as they learn the pace of the game and get used to all the different sets."

On the attack

They have several returning players who they can set up for offense.

Senior outside hitters Michelle Dierker and Hannah Moote, junior outside hitter Tess Ganich, sophomore outside hitter Kendall Gillen and senior middle hitters Audrey Boike and Madison Fairchild all will be ready at the business end of their set attempts.

Dierker "has a very powerful arm swing and attack when she connects with the ball and gets the timing down."

Moote demonstrates talent and versatility.

"She puts up a great block and plays defense well in the front row as well as having great hands to set," Nies said. "She has a great float serve with a lot of power."

Also displaying versatility is

Boike, who the coach said "has improved a lot in her game. She is attacking off of all different sets."

Although Gillen is only a sophomore, she gained valuable experience as a ninth-grader.

"Kendall this year as a sophomore has already shown a different presence on the floor than last year," Nies said. "She is confident and has improved in her back row play as well since last season."

Leading the way

Ganich and Fairchild are co-captains, along with senior libero Kelly Lidzbarski.


"Tess will be a leader on our floor," Nies said. "She is now older and has more experience to help her feel more confident. She has smart off-speed shots and has a strong attack at any position front or back row."

As for Fairchild, the coach expects a defensive force at the

See CRUSH, Page B2




Salem's Hannah Moote, shown from 2013 action, will be a key player for the Rocks. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO



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CRUSH

Continued from Page B1

net along with leadership. "Madison's biggest strength is her blocking skills," Nies said. "She reads the defense well and covers a lot of the net. She will be looked to lead when in that front row." Lidzbarski is a defender who started to come into her own last season. "She can read well, communicate well, with players on the floor," Nies said. "I instantly knew libero would be a great fit for her. She will be the leader on defense for us. "This season, she is already taking control of that position and looks

like she has been playing there forever." Newcomers showing plenty already include junior outside hitters Kassydy Hewett, Madison Saal and Emma Merlington. "All are great all-around players that have the potential to do great things at any position," Nies said. "They are all strong defensively and have aggressive serves." Helping Lidzbarski in the task of shutting down opponents will be junior defensive specialist Drew Smiley. "Drew is going to be back there with Kelly leading our defense," Nies said. "She has great consistency and plays the left back position well."

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BOYS SOCCER PREVIEW - PART 2

ROCKS READY TO ROLL

Salem kickers feature plenty of experience, talent

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer
The 2013 Salem varsity boys soccer team was a juggernaut for opponents, capturing division and conference titles. And the Rocks could be just as good if not better this time around, which spells trouble for Kensington Lakes Activities Association rivals. "I am really excited about this group," head coach Scott Duhl said. "We are very young, but do have senior leadership that will play an integral part of our team. "In my 11 years coaching at Salem, I've only seen one other class that is as talented as our junior class. We will rely heavily on that group to create opportunities and score goals."

Nine returnees from the 2013 team that went 12-2-5 overall (7-1-2 in the KLAAs Central Division) will be called upon to set the tone. "We will lean heavily on the nine returning players this fall," Duhl said. "Back are senior captains Ryan Morley and Doug Haslitt. Along with them are Jacob Kunnath, Chad Wind and Daniel Branch.

"We will need all five seniors to have important roles in the midfield and back line to keep things organized and well-sorted."

Wind and junior Karson Gregory are in a very competitive race to land the starting goal-keeping spot. Duhl said both "excel in different areas, but both do a nice job."

Other key components are junior captains Max



One of the key returnees for Salem is Jay Lee, shown from a 2013 game. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Kummer and Hunter Gibbons.

"Hunter has improved drastically from a season ago," the coach said. "He will now look to lead the back line with his determination and athleticism."

"Max Kummer looks to spearhead the attack, with help from returning players Jay Lee and Nick Massey. All three players are dynamic and have a knack for the goal."

He also will call on Luke Nolte for all-around contributions. "Luke is a fantastic wing player that will be asked to do a lot in terms of attacking and defending," he said.

Other players that could make an impact are juniors Robert Calender, Jeremy Coleman, Austin Siterlet, Jay Singh and Adam Hall and sophomore Mikey Schwartz.

"A few other players fighting for playing time are Ani and Sid Varanasi, as well as Jacob DeMoss and Ryan Ross," Duhl said.

After the Rocks take part in this weekend's annual Gary Balconi Invitational, the team will open conference play Tuesday, Sept. 2, at South Lyon East.

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VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW - PART 1

Senior 'Cats survive Salem scare in opener

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

When Plymouth needed clutch plays in Friday night's season opening varsity volleyball match against Salem, typically senior leaders such as Olivia Beyer came through.

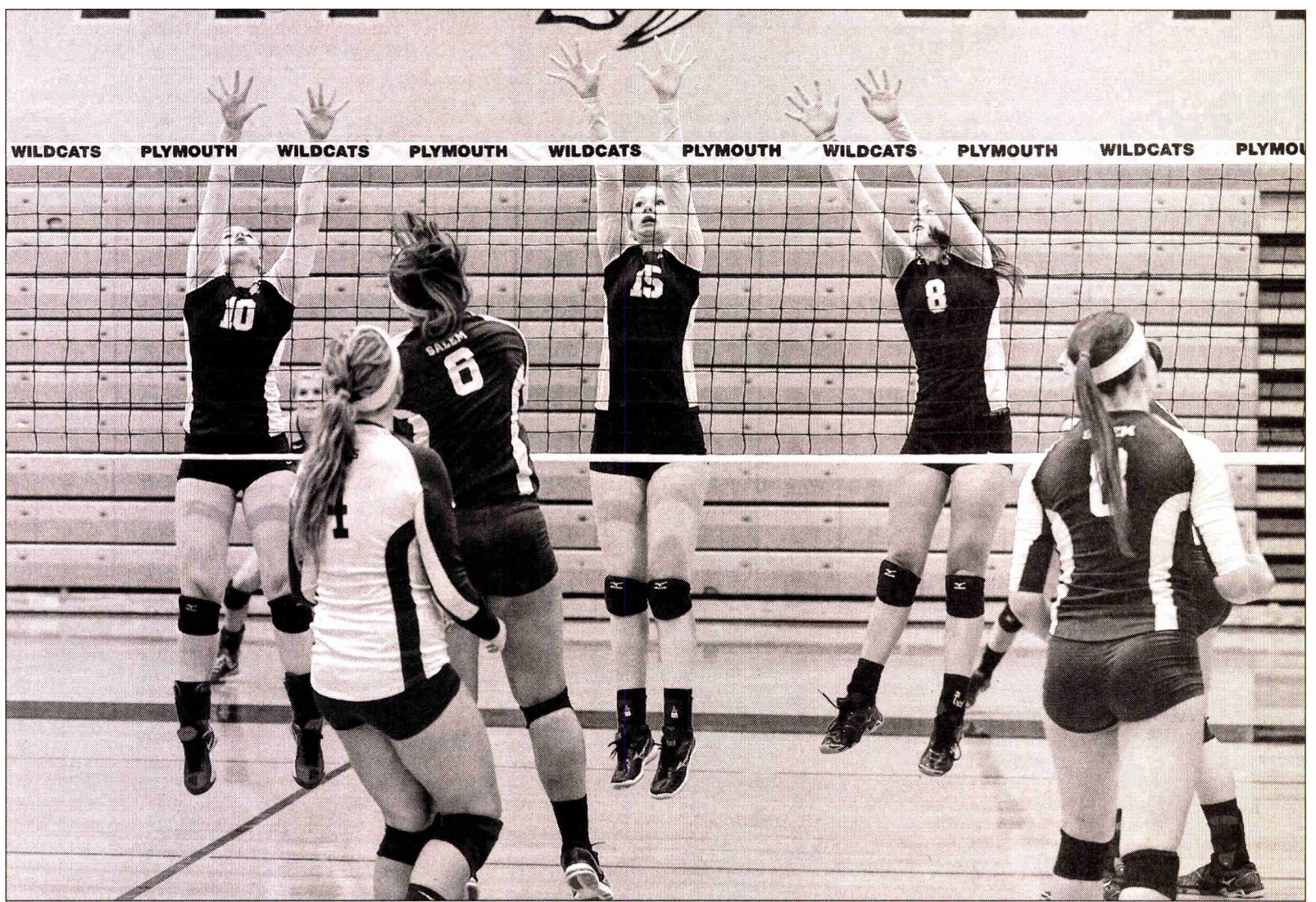
Beyer was a force all night, with 27 kills and 14 digs, as the host Wildcats hung on for a see-saw five-game win over the up-and-coming Rocks. The teams traded victories all night, with Plymouth rallying in Game 5 to win 15-13.

For the winning point, senior right-side hitter Lauren Conley found an opening with a well-placed tip.

"Our seniors proved tonight that they are ready to step up and they are ready to make an impact," Plymouth head coach Sarah Marody said. "When they were in the game, their leadership came out and they definitely were the difference tonight."

"We had Payton Petruski as setter, Jenny Gunther and Lauren Conley on the right side, Lauren Clemons on the outside, Katie Stevens and Aleah Rogalski had some huge digs for us in the back, especially this last game. And when we had a full lineup of seniors out there, it made the difference."

With a large, enthusiastic crowd on hand, newcomers such as sophomore middle hitter Lydia Bell, sophomore right-side hitter Jordan Kuchka and junior libero Charley Irvin (29 digs)



Plymouth's front row of (from left) Lauren Conley (No. 10), Lydia Bell (No. 15) and Jordan Schamp (No. 8) stops Salem on this play. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

showed they are ready for the varsity limelight.

"Charley looked very confident in her first varsity match with this nice, big crowd we had today," Marody said. "She could have come out nervous and I didn't see any signs of that from her."

"We're young, we have a lot of potential to grow

and develop. ... Olivia is going to lead our offense and we're definitely going to be defensive-minded. We have some good, young defensive players that we picked up this year."

Other solid showings by Plymouth players included Clemons (12 digs, seven kills), Petruski (25 assists, 12 digs) and

Stevens (11 digs). Junior setter Alex Barry chipped in with 18 assists and four aces.

Rounding out the roster are juniors Brianna Risi, MacKenzie Cashero, Taylor Smith and sophomore Jordan Schamp.

Plymouth (21-7-1 last season) won the opening game 25-20 before Salem bounced back with a

25-16 win in the second game. In Game 3, the Wildcats rolled to a 25-11 triumph, the only lopsided game in the match. Salem won the fourth game, 25-22, to force a deciding fifth game.

"I'm really, really impressed with what I saw," Salem coach Amanda Nies said. "For the first match of the season,

I thought they played outstanding."

Junior outside hitter Tess Ganich (15 kills), senior libero Kelly Lidzbarski (20 digs) and junior setters Sara Soltis (15 assists) and Lauren Wylie (12 assists) had strong outings for the Rocks.

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SHOCKING NEWS FROM LOCAL HERO

Ex-Clarenceville gridiron standout Tim Shaw reveals ALS diagnosis

By Jim Wyatt
Gannett News Service

Former Livonia Clarenceville football standout Tim Shaw announced Tuesday he has been diagnosed with ALS.

Shaw, 30, excelled as a linebacker at Penn State before being drafted in the fifth round of the 2007 NFL Draft by the Carolina Panthers, for whom he played one season.

Shaw played for the Jacksonville Jaguars in 2008 before joining the Chicago Bears for the 2009 and 2010 seasons. He finished his NFL career with the Tennessee Titans, for whom he played from 2010 until his retirement in 2012.

In a video posted Tuesday on the Titans' website, Shaw challenged the Titans and Penn State, his alma mater, to take the Ice Bucket Challenge. It shows him wearing a Penn State T-shirt and dumping a cooler of ice water on his head.

"I'm Tim Shaw. A year ago I was playing NFL football. I have recently been diagnosed with ALS," Shaw said in the video. "I am here today to stand up and fight with all of you against this disease."

"I want to challenge the Tennessee Titans organization, coach



Ex-Clarenceville star Tim Shaw (left) speaks with Livonia Observer Sports Editor Ed Wright at Shaw's football camp.

James Franklin and the Penn State football team and my Clarenceville community. Let's do this."

Shaw appeared fit and in good spirits during the annual youth football camp he hosted in June at Clarenceville, according to *Observer* sports editor Ed Wright.

Shaw quickly became a special teams ace in the NFL and was the Titans' special teams captain in 2011 and 2012.

Often referred to as Lou Gehrig's Disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord.

According to the ALS Association, the progressive degeneration of the motor neurons in ALS eventually leads to death.

When the motor neurons die, the ability of the brain to initiate and control muscle movement is lost. With voluntary muscle action progressively affected, patients in the later stages of the disease may become totally paralyzed.

The Ice Bucket Challenge is helping to raise both money and awareness for the disease. The ALS Association said it received \$15.6 million in donations between July 29 and Aug. 18 from people who took videos of themselves getting doused with a bucket of cold water.

Earlier this month, Shaw posted a message on Twitter: "What you SAY matters! What you DO matters! Stop floating around this life like it doesn't. #live on #purpose"

Clarenceville supports Shaw, ALS research

An Ice Bucket Challenge for ALS is planned for 6:30 p.m. Sunday at Clarenceville Middle School in Livonia.

The event is a show of support for former Clarenceville High School football great and NFL player Tim Shaw, who announced this week he has ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease.

In a Youtube video, Shaw is shown taking the Ice Bucket Challenge himself, pouring a cooler filled with ice water over

his head.

He challenged the Tennessee Titans, the last of three NFL teams for which he played, his college team, Penn State, and the Clarenceville community to take the challenge, too.

Proceeds of the event will be used to raise awareness of the disease and to support research to find a cure.

Clarenceville Middle School is located at 20210 Middlebelt Rd. The school is just south of

Eight Mile Road on the east side of Middlebelt.

The 30-year-old Shaw retired from the NFL in 2012. He also played for the Jacksonville Jaguars and Chicago Bears as a linebacker and special-teams player.

Shaw was a record-setting running back at Clarenceville, leading the Trojans to a runner-up finish in the Division 5 state playoffs as a senior in 2001.

WILDCATS

Continued from Page B1

"Jamarl Eiland (now with the University of Buffalo) did the exact same thing as Deji's doing," Sawchuk said.

Ready and capable to fill in at quarterback when needed is junior Matt Barno.

"Matt's the type of kid that's going to do whatever you ask him to do," Sawchuk said. "He's very coachable."

Eiland (and Barno, when he plays) will have a small army of targets to throw to, whether receivers, tight ends or running backs such as junior Cameron Stella coming out of the backfield to reel in passes.

In the wide outs will be senior Kalen Dunham, junior Victor Abraham, junior Christian Walls and senior Connor Theodorakakos. Also on hand is senior Xavier Gardner, who "can go up and get it."

"We're blessed with a little bit of height, finally," Sawchuk said. "We have a couple personnel groupings that are 6-1 or better across the board, all four sides. But we also have our speed group."

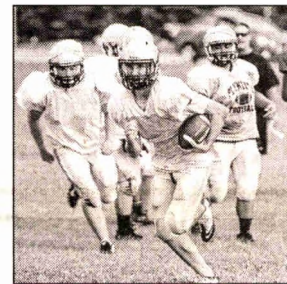
Power game

The Wildcats will give defenses more to think about because of short-yardage options such as senior tight ends Kevin Justice, Hussein Youssef and Jake Noll.

"All three can run, block and catch," Sawchuk said.

A catalyst promises to be Stella, whether catching the ball or churning out yards on the ground. He was a big contributor as a sophomore.

"Stella's going to be the main guy," Sawchuk said. "He split time with our little mighty mite



Plymouth junior running back Cameron Stella shows his speed during a recent practice. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

(D.J. Rossell) last year and did a great job. He's a heck of an athlete, he's smooth, he's a glider. He can do it all."

Plymouth's power back will be senior Anthony Kenney.

Adebiyi's chances to consistently guide the team into the end zone also are spearheaded by an imposing group of offensive linemen. At the top of that list is 5-11, 215-pound senior center Shane Raymond and 6-6, 285-pound junior tackle Michael Jordan.

Jordan, who over the summer was offered scholarships by the University of Michigan and Ohio State University, is a different player than he was in 2013, Sawchuk said.

"Michael Jordan is looking awesome," Sawchuk said. "There's a big-time difference. He's more mature, he knows what's going on. He's not a deer in the headlights any more."

Others who will help push defenses back include senior guard Austin Fisher (6-0, 230), senior tackle Logan Luttrell (6-2, 215), junior guard Elie Atallah and sophomore center Joe Supernois.

Augmenting the offense will be sophomore placekicker Van Nguyen, who continues the Plymouth tradition of soccer players serving double duty as kickers on the

football team.

"It's nice to have (Plymouth soccer coach) Jeff Neschich as a friend," Sawchuk said, smiling.

Handling punting duties will be Noll.

Defensive clout

Plymouth also plans to bring an outstanding defense, fueled by the return of 10 starters.

On the defensive line, several of the offensive linemen will double up. Those players include Jordan, Fisher, Luttrell and Kenney.

An X-factor could be 6-2, 325-pound senior tackle Maurice Weston. "He's huge. We'll see what he does."

The Wildcats' linebackers feature Justice, Youssef and Raymond.

"They're returnees for me, so they better have a good year, right?" Sawchuk said. "We're excited about them. They all come downhill on you and they all can run."

In the defensive backfield, several playmakers will wreak havoc on opposing quarterbacks.

"Our best DB as far as coverage is going to be Kalen Dunham," Sawchuk said. "Just technique, speed, confidence, he's got it all."

At strong safety will be senior Carlton Rose, who Sawchuk said is "probably our hardest hitter, he's not afraid to come up and lay one on you."

Others who will be in the mix include free safeties Stella and Abraham, cornerbacks Walls and junior Darwin Filey.

Intangibles also could benefit the Wildcats, who chose "Brotherhood" as the season motto.

"They went through kind of a rough year last year," Sawchuk said. "Hopefully they learned a lot from it."

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TENNIS

Continued from Page B1

pairings will be freshman Nathan Tseng and junior Evan Kopp at No. 4 and seniors Ani Hadigali and Adam Sochacki at No. 5.

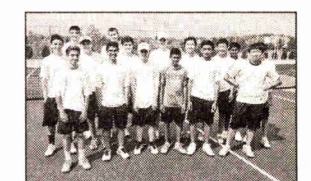
On Thursday, Ply-

mouth also played a No. 6 doubles duo of freshman Sam Brusca and sophomore David Grant.

Plymouth was slated to take part in Saturday's Monroe Invitational.

The first dual match is Sept. 2 at Dexter.

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The Plymouth varsity boys tennis team opened the season with a strong showing at the Northville Quad.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

New coach, new approach for Lady Ocelots

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Schoolcraft College's women's volleyball team has a new coach and perhaps a new resolve to succeed this season.

That's what Lady Ocelots head coach Shannon Pummill and assistant coach Megan Gohl have in mind as the 2014 schedule opens this



Shannon Pummill

weekend with a tri-match at Lorain Community College. "I am looking to have a whole different program," said Pummill (formerly Petruszka), a high school volleyball standout at Garden City who just finished her Concordia University career. "I just want to have a disciplined team that communicates well and does much better in the league this year."

"I really want to build a program. Last year, it seemed there wasn't a lot of team chemistry and that's our goal this year."

The Lady Ocelots went 16-19 and finished in the middle of the pack in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association in 2013.

With the opening matches on tap, Pummill and Gohl (a Belleville alum) watched with great interest Wednesday evening as Schoolcraft scrimmaged against Lawrence Technological University. "I have so many girls



Morgan Copperstone (from left), Julene Pummill and Paige Chalmers are area players who are being counted on to lead Schoolcraft. TIM SMITH

that can go in different positions, it's awesome for us to play people all over," Pummill said. "We don't really know our starting lineup right now."

"We're just trying things out and it's really important to get out there and to compare ourselves to four-year schools and schools in our conference."

Three players with ties to Observerland schools are being counted on as key players and team leaders — sophomore outside hitter Morgan Copperstone (Livonia Stevenson), sophomore setter Julene Pummill (Garden City) and freshman outside hitter Paige Chalmers (Wayne Memorial).

"Morgan brings power to our team, she is our power hitter," Shannon Pummill said. "She goes up and every time you can see it on her face, she goes up for the kill and that's why we

love Morgan. She thumps the ball."

The coach said another sophomore "thumper" will be Romulus alum Ajsha Davie, while Monroe Jefferson alum Sydney Miller can hammer it home.

Setting up the front row will be either Julene Pummill or sophomore Lindsey Umin (New Boston Huron).

"They are fighting and they are very even right now," the coach said. "These scrimmages are really important for us. We try to throw them in there and see how they do."

"They are complete opposites and they are both neck-and-neck right now. They are very different. Lindsey is more laid back and Julene is a little more go-go-go, get every ball."

Chalmers is battling to earn a spot in the lineup at outside hitter, although she is versatile enough to contribute



Megan Gohl (left) and Garden City alum Shannon (Petruszka) Pummill are starting their first season coaching the Lady Ocelots.

anywhere on the floor. "She is going to bring us a lot of help," Pummill said about Chalmers. "Paige can play anywhere I put her and that's super important to have as a player."

In the mix
Vying for the libero spot are freshmen Emily Thompson (Allen Park Cabrini) and Victoria Vellucci (Fraser), although both figure to be regular contributors on defense.

"Those two are doing awesome in the back

row for us," Pummill said.

They perhaps are unexpectedly in the spotlight, following 2013 libero Karlee Harding's recent decision to leave the squad.

Taking care of duties at middle hitter will be sophomores Kathleen Summers (Cabrini), Caroline Scott (Pinckney) and Bailey Potter (Ida), who also can play on the right side.

Summers is another heavy hitter; she was one of five Schoolcraft players (along with Copperstone, Davis, Miller and Harding) named in a preseason ranking as the top players in the NJCAA Region 12 East.

"I was surprised to have that many and I was excited to see that," Pummill said. "One of my players in the rankings quit last week, Karlee Harding. She just decided to give up on the game."

Rounding out the roster is freshman middle hitter Nicole Sprinkles (Carleton Airport).

The Lady Ocelots so far are bringing enthusiasm to practice sessions and appear to be following the blueprint the new coaches want them to.

"We wanted a team that loved to play the game, because last year they didn't," Pummill said. "That was the biggest thing, we really wanted these girls to want to be out there and to want to play for us. It's coming along just as we had hoped."

Concurring were Copperstone, Julene Pummill and Chalmers.

"I think we're going to do really well this year," Copperstone said. "We just have to work on communication together and I think we'll play well as a team."

The younger Pummill said the team is jelling already.

"I think a lot of us are starting to get together well, especially with the scrimmages showing us the pace of the game," Julene Pummill said. "We're adjusting very well to the pace of the game, as a unit, instead of individually."

"We do have a lot of returners, but we do have a lot of incoming freshmen that are needing to step up to the (defensive specialist) and libero position. They're making very good adjustments."

Chalmers said the adjustment from KLA to Schoolcraft is going smoothly.

"It's definitely a challenge to be able to come in and become a starter as a freshman," Chalmers said. "The team welcomes you with open arms, they're very helpful and give you advice when you need it. I'm looking forward to a great year."

"And I think we've been doing pretty good during scrimmages. There's some things we obviously need to work on, but we're growing, we're a new team and we're going to get up there."

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ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Columbus draft pick Milano joins Whalers

Plymouth Whalers general manager Mark Craig Thursday announced the commitment of 18-year-old center Sonny Milano, who was taken by the Whalers in the fourth round (81st overall) of the 2012 Ontario Hockey League Priority Selection.

Milano was selected in the first round (16th overall) by the Columbus Blue Jackets in the 2014 National Hockey League Draft.

"We are very pleased to have a player of this caliber joining our organization," Craig said. "My understanding is he lives for hockey and will bring a work ethic to our team that will force our players to a new level."

First-year Whalers head coach Don Eland chimed in about Milano.

"He has the potential and ability to become a great player for us," he said. "Sonny's an exciting talent that will make our program stronger."

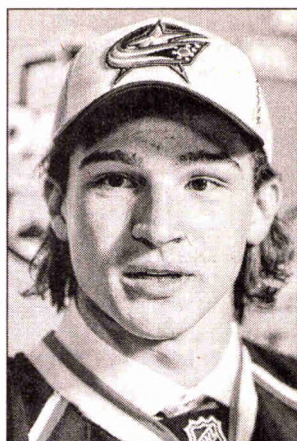
Milano spent the past two seasons with the National Team Developmental Program in Ann Arbor.

A skilled center who patterns his game after Chicago Blackhawks star Patrick Kane, Milano scored 20 goals with 27 assists for 47 points in 56 games for the U.S. National U-17 team in 2012-13.

Last season, Milano scored 29 goals with 57 assists for 86 points in 58 games for the U.S. National U-18 team.

Earlier this year, Milano helped the United States win a gold medal in the World U-18 Championships, scoring three goals with seven assists for 10 points. Plymouth goaltender Alex Nedeljkovic played on the same team.

Milano will play for Columbus in the NHL Prospects tournament, which runs Sept. 12-16 in Traverse City. He also rates an excellent chance to play for the United



Milano

States in the 2015 World Junior Championships, being held in Montreal and Toronto in late December and early January.

Milano joins current Whalers Josh Wesley and Connor Chatham as players who skated for the National Team Developmental Program before coming to Plymouth.

Other Plymouth alums who skated for the NTDP before playing for the Whalers include Conner Carrick, Robbie Czarnik, Ryan Hartman, Ryan Hayes, Phil McRae, J.T. Miller, Beau Schmitz, Kris Vernarsky and John Vigilante.

Meanwhile, the Whalers also acquired veteran center Mathew Campagna from Sudbury.

In addition, two players the Whalers took in the 2014 OHL Priority Selection — first-rounder Will Bitten and second-rounder Nicholas Caamano — have committed to Plymouth for the upcoming season.

TRAINING CAMP: The Whalers report to Compuware Arena for the start of training camp with physical testing on Tuesday. Scrimmages are planned for Wednesday and Thursday (9-11 a.m. and 3-5 p.m.) and are open to the public. Rosters will be provided the day of the scrimmages.

Plymouth opens the preseason at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 30, at Compuware Arena against the Windsor Spitfires.

All proceeds of the game will be donated to the John Bieniewicz Foundation and Michigan Concerns of Police Survivors.

Tickets are available by calling the Compuware Arena box office at 734-453-8400 or by going online to www.plymouthwhalers.com.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

Madonna University spikers ready to reload

Transfer Gates bolsters Crusaders' hitting attack

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Jerry Abraham says defense and passing always comes first when it comes to the success of the Madonna University volleyball program.

And that mantra will once again be the focal point for Abraham, who owns an NAIA-best 1,046-265 career record as he enters his 28th season as MU's head coach.

The 2014 team made its debut Aug. 15 with a 25-20, 25-21, 22-25, 27-25 win against a spirited effort from a group of MU alumni players. MU opened its season this weekn at the University of Michigan-Dearborn Early Bird Tournament.

"I love the way we play defense," said Abraham, whose team is coming off a 41-2 season while reaching the quarterfinals of the NAIA National Tournament. "We dug the ball incredibly. I thought Amanda Obrycki was on top of her game tonight. She kind of ran the court defensively. We all played good defense. We passed the ball well on serve-receive real well. And we have enough good hitters. If we pass the ball well, we can get a terminating kind of attack."

Obrycki, a 5-foot-4 senior libero from Allen Park Cabrini, posted a team-best 538 digs last year and will spearhead the defense.

Other senior returnees include 5-10 outside hitter Samantha Geile (Fruitport), who had 282 total kills and 236 digs; 5-11 middle hitter Kayla Vogel (Hastings), 282 kills; 5-6 senior defensive specialist

Roxy Duzey (Sterling Heights), 159 digs; and 5-5 defensive specialist Cassie Castro (Saline).

Yet another senior, newcomer Casey Gates, is an explosive 5-8 outside hitter from Jackson Center, Ohio. She could be the trump card as the defending Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference champions bid for their 14th NAIA National Tournament appearance under Abraham.

Gates, a transfer from WHAC foe University of Northwestern Ohio, sat out last season after leading the Racers to a 32-6 record in 2012. The third team NAIA All-American had 492 kills in her only season at UNO while garnering WHAC Newcomer of the Year honors.

Gates spent her first two seasons at Wheeling Jesuit (W.Va.) University, where she helped her team to elite eight in the 2011 NCAA Division II Tournament while earning all-tournament and all-region honors.

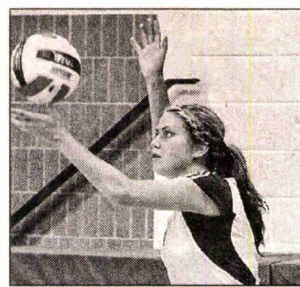
But Gates is best remembered for recording 22 kills and six blocks in a four-set WHAC victory over Madonna in 2012.

A coaching change at Northwestern Ohio led to Gates transferring schools for a second time in her career.

"We played against Madonna during our season at UNO and they were a really good team," Gates said. "When our coach (Kevin Kitchen) left UNO, I decided it was a better look for me to come up here and take my talents here."

Gates, a business major, continued to take classes at UNO last year while doing CrossFit training to stay in shape. And although she might still have some rust from taking a year off, Gates showed off some of her immense skills in the match against MU's alumni.

"I used UNO's new athletic facility that they have for the longest time, just cardio, running," Gates said of her one-year hiatus. "It's hard to say you're ready to go



Junior college transfer Spencer Stokes (Oakland CC) will fill the void at setter for the Madonna women's volleyball team. MADONNA UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

because of all the jumping with the wear and tear on your knees. My body wasn't used to that, but the physical work ... I was ready. I actually lifted and I think I'm stronger than before."

The transfer is confident she'll be able to fit into MU's scheme quickly, even if it means making adjustments on the fly.

"I've never played middle back before," Gates said. "I always played left back. It's new. We're transitioning a lot with it, but the same role really. I'm coming in as a senior, but it's kind of, 'Don't step on anybody's toes, it's their turf.' But as games get going, I think I have the same role."

The Crusaders lost arguably their top three players to graduation, including middle blocker Emilie Freeman (551 kills, 166 blocks), the WHAC Player of the Year; Evia Prieditis, the WHAC Setter of the Year (1,629 assists); and Stacey Catalano (449 kills, 469 digs).

All three earned All-America recognition in 2013.

Two junior college transfers, 5-8 Spencer Stokes (Oakland CC), a setter from Clio, and Emily Johnson (Grand Rapids CC), a 5-11 middle hitter from Grandville, hope to fill the void.

"Emily Johnson is a good player and a versatile kind of a player who is just going to get better and better on a day-by-day basis," Abraham said. "It's hard to replace Emilie (Freeman) and we had the best setter in the

country with Evia (Prieditis) and, of course, Stacey (Catalano) was an all-around great player, but I think we brought in the players that can play very similar to what we played last year, same style. And I think we're very fast, too."

And that's where Gates comes in, where she'll most likely to fill the position previously held by Catalano.

"I really like it," Gates said. "I believe that all these girls have the same mentality clearly as I do. They want to win and their program is very successful. They're a great academic team as well. They've got it all together. It just works."

"I have a little injury right now, a pulled abdominal muscle, so my hits aren't as strong. However, I'm pleased with what I could do with it. I'm not satisfied. I want to be better, but I think taking a year off wasn't too bad. But I definitely look to see better play in the future."

Other returnees include 5-10 sophomore outside hitter Payton Maxheimer (Fenton), 293 digs; 5-9 junior outside hitter Breanna Geile (Fruitport), 182 digs; 6-2 outside hitter Katie Breault (Amherstburg, Ontario), 212 kills; and 6-1 sophomore middle hitter Hannah Poole (Kitchener, Ontario).

Also in the mix and expected to contribute for Abraham will be two freshmen — 6-0 outside hitter Amanda Hawkins (Livonia Stevenson) and 6-0 middle and outside hitter Casey Looper (Battle Creek Lakeview). Both sat out Friday's exhibition match with minor injuries.

So what is the key to getting a 15th WHAC championship? For Abraham, it's simple and direct.

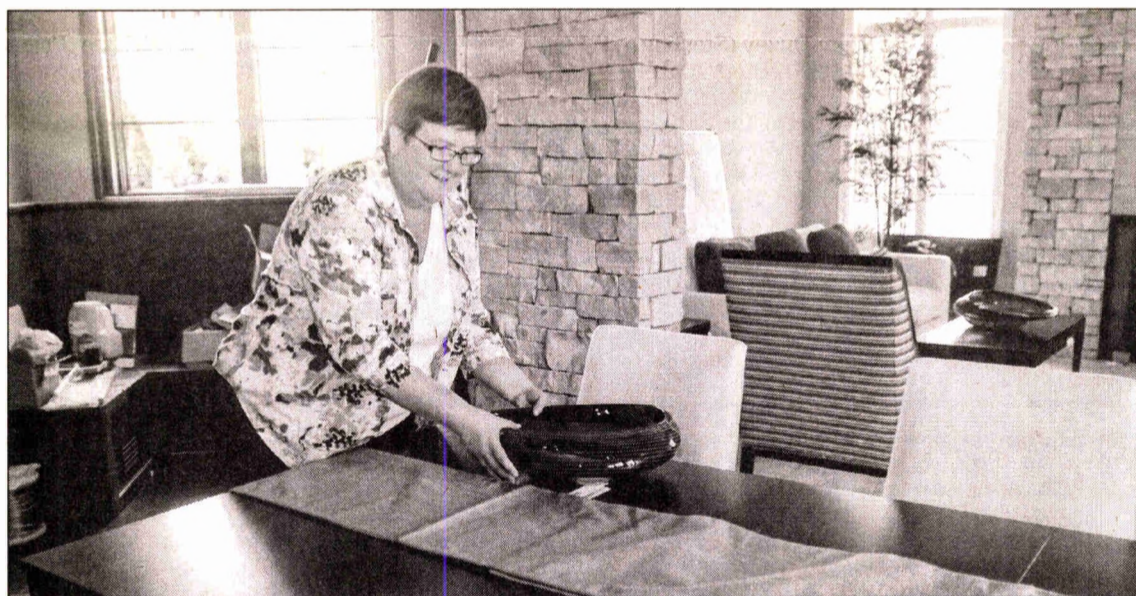
"Always keep playing defense and passing serve," he said, "and just getting to know each other better, and continue to play fast."

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Local designers hope home tour will inspire you to new visions



Fern Badu of Westland is among the local designers working on Homearama. She is shown in the Gorman's furniture store in Southfield. SUBMITTED PHOTO



Interior designer Sue Drake of Livonia helps furnish one of the Moceris houses at Homearama. JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

As a home interior designer, Fern Badu loves to help clients beautify their surroundings.

"Typically if I have a client I am shooting to do one room," said Badu, a Westland resident and designer for Gorman's furniture in Novi. "I feel my job is to help them with their dream."

As a designer for The Pinecrest, a luxury showplace house at this year's Homearama, she hopes to inspire everyone who walks through it.

"Doing this is different in that you're not fulfilling one person's dream, you are inspiring a whole lot of people. With this, we were doing every room all at once. When we went into the house they were just starting to build it. We had a floor plan. There were no walls, no floors. The first time we saw the house was when we went in for the install (of furniture and accessories). We're working as a team. It all works together. It's fun."

Badu was among the designers from local Gorman's stores who designed interiors and installed furnishings in the three Moceris-built homes at the Homearama site.

Homearama consists of six custom-built homes, each valued more than \$2 million, in Pinnacle, a luxury home development in Oakland Township. In addition to Moceris, builders include Arteva Homes, Cranbrook Homes, and MJC Companies.

The furnished homes will be open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and noon to 9 p.m. Sunday, from Aug. 29 through Sept. 14. Pinnacle is located on Silverbell, east of Adams in Oakland Township. No parking is available at the site, but visitors can park for free at Oakland Church, 5100 N. Adams, Rochester, and board a free shuttle.

Tickets are \$12 or \$32 per family. Visit homeramahba.com.

Although Badu worked only on the Pinecrest model, Sue Drake of Livonia had a hand in all three of the Moceris houses. She also is an interior designer, but works as the merchandising manager, overseeing purchasing, floor samples and displays. She works at Gorman's in Farmington Hills.

"The team got together and started the planning in November 2013. We were on site at the end of July," Drake said. "When it first started it was one house and the team was excited. Then we were asked to do three houses. It was fun, but a lot of work."

"I worked with the team. We helped pick fabrics and accessories. I made sure paperwork and deliveries went smoothly."

The three Moceris houses, designed by Dominick Tringali Architects that the team furnished are:

» The Pinecrest, a "transitional" house with 6,689 square feet of space is a single-story home with four bedrooms, an "interactive hub" that includes a family room, kitchen and dining room, a recreation room, bar/kitchen, private exercise room and covered terrace.

» The Villa Cortile, a "new traditional" house has 8,817 square feet of space and is reminiscent of an Italian villa. Its features include French balconies overlooking a pool, a cozy library and wine room, and a private studio apartment for guests or staff members.

» Greystone Manor, an 8,810-square-foot house, features a grand circular foyer and fire-side lounge, complete with a wine cellar. A formal gallery spans the length of the first floor. The mansion also includes a professional-grade gourmet kitchen with a wine room and butler's pantry, and a luxurious second level, accessible by elevator.

"When you come into the home, you'll find that it is very liveable," said Drake, describing The Pinecrest as a "transitional" home with affordable furnishings. "We didn't go over the top. We wanted to make it look like your home or my home."

Badu said The Pinecrest team used neutral and taupe colors, adding apple green for a "pop of color."

"I think my favorite room is the master bedroom. The wall colors are nice and the bed is gorgeous. It's an elegant space, but something my husband could live in, too," she said.

Her team gave another bedroom a space-age feel, with a lava lamp, egg-shaped chair, solar system mural and bedding. They designed the recreation room with a Las Vegas theme, installing a neon sign, bar and game table.

Badu worked on site one nine-hour day to place furnishings and accessories in the home. She said the installation "went by fast" and was as exciting as if "you were moving into your new home."

She and Drake hope their work will show off design trends and ideas that Homearama visitors can try at their own homes.

"We'll have designers on site so consumers can ask questions," Drake said. "I think they will come in and get great ideas and say the trip was worth it."

Good manners reap big rewards

Canton couple teaches children, teens that etiquette can be 'cool' both at school, with family, friends

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Kelvin and Vanisa Byrd say good manners, civility and respect can work wonders in a family, giving children the social skills they need to navigate through life with dignity.

"We have six kids. And you can't survive in a home of eight without manners," said Kelvin, who is a professional strength and conditioning coach. "Proper etiquette and respect have always been in our home. It has created miracles."

The Canton couple wants to share their experience and insight with other families through a program of etiquette and manners workshops they developed called Miracle Manners. The four-hour workshops are aimed at children and teens, but the Byrds send monthly, follow-up newsletters to parents to help them reinforce and practice new habits at home.

"We have always had good manners around us. We grew up in the South where you were expected to have that. It's al-

ways been a part of my life," said Vanisa, a Zumba instructor and former debutante.

"We've seen such a lack of it in society, especially among our youth."

"Disrespect has become popular. Swagger and trends have replaced manners and respect," Kelvin added. "We want to reverse that, saying that having respect and etiquette is cool."

Upcoming workshops include:

» Manners of the Heart, for ages 8-12, will use games and fun activities to teach proper introductions, telephone etiquette, writing thank you notes, proper use of eating implements, and more, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 30, at The Village Market, 50419 Independence, Canton. Cost is \$290 and includes lunch.

» In Manners of the Mind, in which teens learn about brain chemistry and how media, peers and positive education affect them. Internet etiquette is a major topic in the class, which runs 4:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27. The class



The Byrd family of Canton is Nathanael (left, seated), Kelvin — holding Pharaoh — Vanisa, Egypt, Kenya (left, standing), Alexandria and Zaire.

costs \$310 and includes dinner. It will be held at The Village Market, 50419 Independence, Canton.

Teens also create character and fitness plans and will learn about the importance of service to others. Kelvin, who trained regularly with U.S. Navy Seals while he was in military service during the 1990s, says exercise and body building can become a fun and productive alternative to uncontrolled and over-used Internet surfing.

Internet manners

"With cyber civility, the biggest thing we want them to understand is the importance of people," said Vanisa, referring to Internet etiquette instruction. "We want to talk

with them about the importance of being present ... the importance of relationships and to have skillful conversations with people. We were at the library and a young man went to the information desk to ask for a book. He sent a text to the librarian. Not being able to hold a conversation with the person in front of you is not good.

"Once you put something out there in cyber space it's there for all the world to see. We help them to see the responsibility that comes with having access."

Kelvin and Vanisa met in 1992 at Tennessee State University. She pursued a psychology degree, he studied health and physical education, and both were involved with a theater

troupe on campus. They married and lived in Hawaii for seven years while Kelvin was in the U.S. Navy, later moving to Canton where Kelvin worked with Lifetime Fitness. Four years ago, he struck out on his own, facilitating workshops and training individuals in their homes. Vanisa has taught Zumba classes for three years at Curves in Canton.

"These workshops will be fun," Kelvin said. "I tell Vanisa all the time, I think parents are looking for solutions. They can tell with a teen if something is going on. If little Johnny can't respect his mom or dad, not much is going to get accomplished."

To register for workshops, visit www.miraclemanners.com

REUNIONS

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

DEARBORN ESEL FORD

CLASS OF 1964

50-year reunion is planned 5-11 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, at Andiamo, 21400 Michigan Ave., Dearborn. Ticket purchase deadline is Aug. 25. Email Judy (Berry) Buck at jarcbuck@sbcglobal.net for more details.

DEARBORN FORDSON HIGH SCHOOL

CLASSES OF 1952

62nd reunion set for both January and June classes, Saturday, Sept. 13, at Park Place in Dearborn. Contact Al Orloff at orloffal@aol.com or 734-432-9308; or Marvin Smyth at mmsmyth@juno.com or 313-562-4378 for more information.

CLASSES OF 1965

50th reunion is set for Aug. 7, 2015, at the Italian American Banquet Center, 39200 Five Mile, east of Haggerty, Livonia. Tickets are \$60 each. Deadline is April 11, 2015. Contact Virginia (Mariani) Koch at 734-981-4763, ginny6491@att.net;

Rochell May-Bridge at 734-675-2680, wildchild48138@aol.com.

DEARBORN HEIGHTS HASTON

CLASSES OF 1963-64

Reunion organizers seek alumni, teachers and staff from 1963-64 and also friends from Brainard Elementary and Haston Jr. High who may have left school before the classes graduated at Haston. The main event is a dinner party Saturday, Sept. 20, at Andiamo Restaurant, Bloomfield Hills. Advance tickets are required. Email Diane Jones at dianejones816@gmail.com or by phone at 610-436-4915.

DETROIT CODY HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1964

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

DETROIT MACKENZIE HIGH SCHOOL

CLASSES OF 1950S, '60S

Fourth annual picnic set for noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 31, at Nankin Mills Pavilion in Hines Park, corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive, Westland. Bring your own picnic or buy Michigan-made hot dogs, chips, pop, water and ice cream on site. Seating available under the shelter, or bring your own chairs and pop-ups. Questions? Call Janet Cable at 734-377-4009 or email mackenzie50s-60s@hotmail.com. Or check out www.classcreator.com/Detroit-MI-Mackenzie-1960

DETROIT REDFORD HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1974

40-year reunion is set for 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 27, at St. Aidan's Activity Center, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Ticket purchase deadline is Sept. 1. Contact Tom Shaw at tomshaw7@aol.com, or call 734-524-0698.

FARMINGTON HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1974

40th reunion planned for Friday-Saturday, Aug. 29-30, with a Friday night social and tour of the high school, wine/beer tasting and dinner and dancing on Saturday. For more information, email David Hayes at davidhayz@yahoo.com.

GARDEN CITY EAST

CLASS OF 1964

50th reunion is planned for Sept. 13 at the Hellenic Cultural Center in Westland. Contact Carol Hill at cph064@aol.com, Karen Berry at karber@comcast.net or Judy "O" at judeeeo@aol.com.

LAKELAND HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1984

30-year reunion, 7 p.m. Sept. 27, White Lake Inn, 3955 Ormond Road, White Lake. No need to RSVP for this casual night of conversation and catching up. For information, email heyboxman@wideopenwest.com.

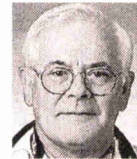
Recent flood can cause appliance problems

One of our area's worst rainfalls in history recently wreaked havoc at so many homes and caused the loss of so much for homeowners and families. It was such a pity to watch the news and see the hurt in all those eyes.

It reminds me of years ago when the mayor and fire chief of Westland walked into my appliance store and asked for my help. There had been a recent flood and backup of sewage into several hundred homes and homeowners were blaming the city. The mayor wanted me to address the service issues that could happen with appliances that were submerged in water and was more than pleased to educate a few hundred homeowners in Westland.

I began by asking how many of these people had a clothes dryer where the water reached above the level of the gas valve and many did. Let me explain what I informed them about and let it apply to all of those folks who went through the recent floods.

Those products that use gas, such as a hot water heater, furnace and clothes dryer, have a gas valve that controls the flame. This gas valve has an orifice which allows just a certain amount of gas to ignite and fire up the product. When water reaches the orifice, the gas valve is contaminated with mois-



Joe Gagnon
APPLIANCE DOCTOR

ture and will cause deterioration of the rubber diaphragms inside the valve. This may not be a problem immediately but let me assure you that it will in the future.

Dangerous appliances

After the Westland debacle, I received calls for service for the next few years and most of these calls were very serious in nature. My dryer shuts off but the gas continues to burn at the gas valve or my dryer caught fire when it was shut off. I fixed many of these problems by taking the valves apart and rebuilding them completely. I doubt that anyone does that today but I'm sure they can get you a new gas valve should you decide to keep the old product. A good scrubbing with a mixture of bleach and hot water may be all that is necessary to save your dryer. If you have any doubts scrap the product and purchase a new one.

As for your furnace, I wouldn't turn it on until you have a qualified technician check it out. A gas valve on a furnace works much the same way as on a clothes dryer and should you have a problem the end result

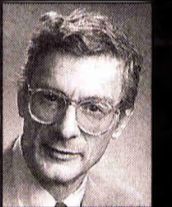
can be much more serious. Better to play it safe than to be sorry later. For those of you who cannot afford a new product and you shop for rebuilt appliances, you must use care in what you purchase. A lot of these ruined products will be on the curbs and are hauled away by the roving scrap trucks. These folks sell some of these appliances to stores that rebuild them and have some pretty good deals for consumers. In the months ahead if you purchase a dryer from one of these establishments, have them write on your invoice that the dryer was not in a flood.

If you happen to have a refrigerator or dehumidifier that was in the recent flood I would suggest that it probably was affected as well. Once the water hit the wiring leading to the compressor, it destroyed it. Compressor replacement costs today are more than \$600 and should be done only by a qualified technician. Oh, one more piece of advice — never walk into a flooded basement because that water may very well be loaded with electricity and it could kill you rather quickly. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m. Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can email your problems and questions on appliances to applr@twmi.rr.com.

Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D.
RHEUMATOLOGY
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: (248) 478-7860



WHY MORE GOUT?

The Center for Disease Control reports that over 7 1/2 million Americans suffer from gout. That number includes people, who despite being under gout therapy, continue to experience flares of their condition. Why is medicine so often ineffective?

The usual answer is that the patient has erred in his or her diet. The popular idea is that eating too much protein, that is in beef or shrimp or drinking wine, even a single glass, set off an attack of gout. It is true that alcohol, particularly whiskey and beer, can precipitate gout but it takes far more than one shot glass or a single beer to do so. As for food, even a strict vegetarian diet would lower the serum uric acid level only a milligram, not enough to prevent an attack.

For persons already on treatment for gout who experience an attack, the most likely cause is that they are on an insufficient dose of medication, usually Allopurinol. At this time, the standard for being considered adequately treated for gout, is to have a serum uric acid below 6 mgm. However, the experience of many physicians is that a person needs to be below 5 mgm to be in a range where gout attacks will not occur despite wine at dinner and an 8 oz steak for a main course.

But reaching a uric acid level of 5 mgm takes time, up to 6 months of slowly raising Allopurinol doses. Patients become tired of repeated visits and blood draws, and doctors may become impatient with so many appointments for the same condition; the patient never reaches the optimum dose.

Over time, more doctors and patients will become convinced the effort is worth the goal; we will eventually control gout.

LO-000207851

Soup kitchen benefit



Enjoying the Capuchin Souper Summer Celebration 33 are Carol Wacht (left), Beth Kish of Livonia and Kathy Hardy of Rochester Hills. The event, held last month at Comerica Park, included music, a jewelry raffle and other activities, all to benefit the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. JULIE YOLLES, SOCIAL SCENE COLUMNIST

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Victoria from Australia, 17 yrs. Enjoys spending time with her family and younger siblings. Victoria plays volleyball and is excited to learn new sports while in America.

Giorgio from Italy, 16 yrs. Loves to play baseball and spend time with his dogs. Giorgio also plays the guitar, and his dream is to join a drama club at his American high school.

Call Teresa at 616-560-1893 or Amy at 1-800-677-2773
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RELIGION CALENDAR

AUGUST

MOVIE ON THE LAWN

Time/Date: 8:30 p.m. Aug. 30
Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merri-man, Livonia

Details: Bring a lawn chair or blanket to watch *God's Not Dead*. Movie starts at sunset. Admission, popcorn and icies 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

SEPTEMBER FITNESS CLASSES

Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. Monday, beginning Sept. 15

Location: St. John Neumann Parish, 44800 Warren Road,

Canton

Details: Joe Mason, certified personal fitness trainer, instructs a 10-week series of classes that include aerobic movements, strength training with light hand weights and yoga stretching, followed by abdominal and back exercises. Cost is \$70 with a portion of proceeds going to the parish.

Contact: 734-455-5910

GRIEF WORKSHOP

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, beginning Sept. 10

Location: St. Priscilla's Church, 19120 Purlingbrook, Livonia
Details: "Grieving with Great Hope" is a five-week series for anyone who is mourning the loss of a loved one. The workshop is conducted by Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization co-founded by John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy. For more information and registration details, visit the Good Mourning Ministry website at www.goodmourningministry.net or contact Kay at kay@priscilla.org

Contact: 248-476-4700, kay@priscilla.org

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

Time/Date: Sept. 7, Oct. 12 and 26 and Nov. 9

Location: National Council of Jewish Women Greater Detroit Section, 26400 Lahser, Southfield

Details: The council seeks volunteers to help with activities and field trips for clients of Kadima, a mental health facility in Southfield. Trips include a Detroit Tiger game on Sept. 7; Succot celebration at Kadima on Oct. 12; Franklin Cider Mill and Johnson Nature Center on Oct. 26; and the Royal Oak Flea Market, Nov. 9

Contact: 248-355-3300, Ext. 0

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6

Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: Musical tribute to Bette Midler and Wayne Newton. Cost is \$29. Reserve by Aug. 26

Contact: Tom at 734-927-0610

OCTOBER

CRAFTERS WANTED

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11

Location: St. Theodore Parish Social Halls, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: St. Theodore Confraternity of Christian Women is looking for crafters for its Fall

Craft Show. There are 70 tables available. Each costs \$25.

Contact: Mary at 734-425-4421 (voice mail #10)

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 Shulenberg 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.livonia.stmichael.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

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@dw.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

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 translation as well as the original Hebrew.

Contact: 248-737-1931 or email 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

Connection Church
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday

Location: 3855 Sheldon, Canton

Details: Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery for all hurts, habits and hang-ups. Child care is available for free

Contact: Jonathan@Connectionchurch.info or 248-787-5009

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; 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; or email to 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 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 and 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

TOUR

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. to noon first Sunday of the month

Location: The Solanus Casey Center, a Capuchin ministry, at 1780 Mount Elliott, Detroit

Details: Led by Capuchin friar Larry Webber, the director of the Solanus Casey Center, the tour focuses on the spirituality and holiness of Father Solanus, a humble Capuchin friar credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. He provided soup for the hungry, kind words for the troubled and a healing touch for the ill. No reservations are needed, although the center requests an advance phone call for groups of five or more. No cost for the tour, although donations are accepted.

Contact: 313-579-2100, Ext. 149; www.solanuscenter.org

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

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 10 a.m. Sunday service

Location: 35300 W. Eight Mile, Farmington Hills

Contact: pastor Terry Miller at tsheilton@mi.rr.com; 248-478-6520

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services; 9:45 a.m. Sunday school and youth and adult Bible classes

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, just north of I-96, Livonia

Contact: 734-522-6830

Congregation Bet Chaverim
Time/Date: Services are held 7 p.m. the third Friday of the month

Location: At the shared facilities of Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 321 S. Ridge, Canton

Details: Reformed Jewish Congregation with Rabbi Peter Gluck and Cantorial soloist Robin Liberatore

Contact: www.facebook.com/betchaverim or email to betchaverim@yahoo.com

Due Season Christian Church
Time/Date: 10 a.m. Sunday, with 7:15 p.m. Tuesday Bible study

Location: Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, in Livonia

Details: Nondenominational, multicultural, full gospel church services.

Contact: 248-960-8063 or visit www.DueSeason.org

Faith Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 10 a.m. Sunday; learning hour is at 9 a.m. for all ages

Location: 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia

Contact: Visit www.livon-faith.org

Faith Community Wesleyan Church
Time/Date: Prayer service, 9 a.m.; worship service, 11 a.m.; Sunday school, 12:30 p.m.; contemporary service, 1:30 p.m.; Bible study, 6 p.m.; Sundays

Location: 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Contact: pastor Roger Wright at 313-682-7491

Garden City Presbyterian Church
Time/Date: Adult Bible study at 8:15 a.m.; worship service at 10 a.m. Youth Sunday school with child care. Refreshments in the church fellowship hall immediately after service. Elevator and handicap parking

Location: Middlebelt, one block south of Ford Road

Contact: 734-421-7620

Good Hope Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school followed by 10:30 a.m. worship service with communion each Sunday; Bible study 10 a.m. Wednesday

Girl honored for bravely undergoing 14 surgeries

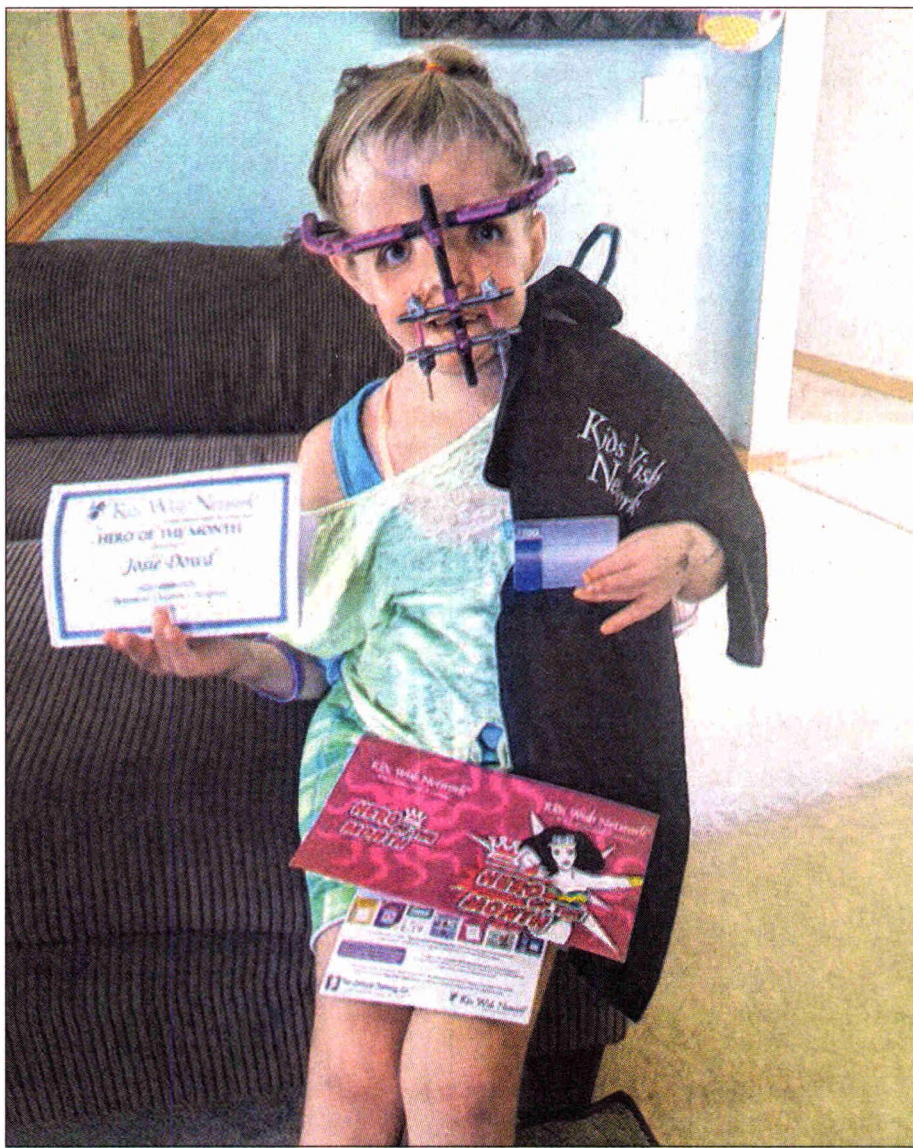
The Florida-based children's charity, Kids Wish Network, along with Beaumont Children's Hospital, recently recognized Josie Dowd, 8, of Livonia as a Hero of the Month. Josie was nominated for the award by Michelle Meschini, Beaumont child life specialist, for her bravery and determination.

"Josie is funny, silly and loving," Meschini said. "She had undergone several major craniofacial surgeries and her resilience and braveness though all of them is remarkable. She is one determined little girl, and that determination will take her far in life."

Josie was born with Apert syndrome, a congenital disorder characterized by malformations of the skull, face, hands and feet. The craniofacial disorder caused the bones in her head to become fused; her fingers and toes were also fused together and she suffered from hip dysplasia.

She has endured more than 14 surgeries, including two cranial vault remodeling surgeries, one for her cleft palate, seven hand surgeries to redefine her fingers, three for her hips, and most recently, a mid-face distraction surgery. For most of her procedures, Josie usually spends about four days in the hospital. The most recent stay was for more than two weeks.

Kids Wish Network's Hero of the Month pro-



Josie Dowd of Livonia shows some of the items, including a certificate and a shirt, that she received from Kids Wish Network.

gram recognizes children between the ages of 3 and 18 who have faced and overcome difficult circumstances, often enduring a great deal of pain and suffering. They may not suffer from a life-threatening illness, but have dealt with life-

altering situations, demonstrating bravery and courage.

Beaumont Children's Hospital is one of hundreds of facilities across the United States that works with Kids Wish Network to honor brave kids. Each facility may nominate up to five

Heroes per month, and each Hero is recognized with a Kids Wish Network certificate, T-shirt, and gift card. Kids Wish Network honored more than 700 Heroes nationwide from 2012-13.

Visit the Kids Wish Network website at kidswishnetwork.org.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Upcoming

American Red Cross

Upcoming blood drives:

Canton — 2-7:45 p.m. Aug. 28, Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Drive; 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Aug. 29, Canton Public Library, 1200 Canton Center Road

Livonia — noon to 5:45 p.m. Aug. 24, Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road

Plymouth — 7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Aug. 24, St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 Haggerty; 1-6:45 p.m. Aug. 25, Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main St.; 1:30-7:15 p.m. Aug. 25, VFW Post 6695 Plymouth, 1426 S. Mill; 11 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Aug. 28, Plymouth City Hall, 201 S. Main St.; noon to 5:45 p.m. Aug. 29, Compuware Sports Arena, 14900 Beck Road

Redford — 8:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. Aug. 31, Our Lady of Loretto Catholic Church, 17116 Olympia St.

Call 800-RED CROSS to make an appointment.

Back pain

A panel of Oakwood Hospital orthopedic spine specialists will present a free class on back pain, its causes, and treatments 6-8 p.m. Sept. 2 at Oakwood Hospital - Southshore, 5450 Fort St. in Trenton. Register at Oakwood.org or call 800-543-9355.

Diabetes

St. Mary Mercy Hospital will offer a free six-week workshop for adults with diabetes, 2-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, beginning Sept. 2. Diabetes PATH (Personal Approach Toward Health) will teach participants to handle with the challenges of diabetes, manage symptoms and communicate more effectively with physicians and family members. Register by calling 734-655-8950 or at stmarymercy.org.

Grilling

Botsford Hospital dietitian Denise Cykiert will give tips on how to keep grilled recipes healthy and nutritious. 6-7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 10, at Busch's Market, 33300 W. 14 Mile, West Bloomfield. Busch's chef Rebecca Wauldron will demonstrate grilled dishes. Cost

is \$15 and includes a \$5-off-of-\$50 coupon, recipes, samples and more. Register by calling the store or visiting the Guest Service Counter. 248-539-4581.

Hearing support

Hearing Loss Association of America will hold an "open mic" for sharing and learning 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10, at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. Contact Tony at 734-664-3297, afack@comcast.net

NAMI Walks

The 11th annual Walk of the Minds starts with registration at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 27 at Heritage Park, 46202 Heritage Park Road, Canton. The 5K walk will start at noon. NAMI Walks is a nationwide fundraising and mental health awareness program that is being held in nearly 100 communities around the country. For more information, call Shelene Hahn, Walk manager, at 800-331-4264; shahn@namimi.org.

Women's health

Paul Makela, M.D., medical director of gynecological robotic surgery at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Livonia, will present information about bladder dysfunction and overactive bladder 6-7 p.m. Sept. 24 at Meadowbrook Country Club, 40941 W. Eight Mile, Northville. Register by Sept. 19 at 734-655-1980.

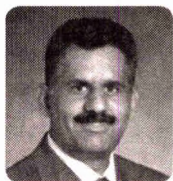
Ongoing

Anorexics and Bulimics Anonymous

Twelve-step program and weekly group to help those suffering with eating disorders such as anorexia, bulimia, bingeing and purging, and exercise compulsion is held 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, at the Friendship Circle, 6892 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. The program helps those with eating and exercise disorders find recovery. An AB-ANON meeting group is available for families and loved ones, 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, also at the Friendship Circle. For more information, contact Mindy at 248-672-9776.

It's Never Too Late To Quit ... Until It Is.

From A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Jahania
Cardiovascular/
Thoracic Surgery

Here's something every smoker or former smoker knows - QUITTING ISN'T EASY! Yet, it's one of the very best things you can do to improve your health. On average, most smokers will try to quit 6 to 9 times in their lives, with the eventual outcome varying greatly. As a Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgeon, GCH Health Expert Dr. M. Salik Jahania sees all too often the horribly destructive, and in many cases, deadly effects of cigarette smoking.

"There are hundreds of ingredients added to every cigarette that are not tobacco, many of which are added to either enhance addiction or mask the negative effects of smoking," says Dr. Jahania.

For example: Ammonia is added because it opens blood vessels and creates a bigger nicotine kick for the smoker. Menthol is a mild anesthetic, that when added, eases irritation. It is thought to play a favorable role in introducing young people to cigarettes.

Dr. Jahania explains, "The combination of the various ingredients used to manufacture cigarettes can create up to 7,000 known chemicals when smoked, 250 of which are poisonous and 70 carcinogenic. These chemicals are inhaled into the lungs and travel throughout the body, causing damage in numerous ways."

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death in the world today, responsible for 5 million deaths a year. In the United States, cigarette smoking accounts for approximately 440,000 deaths a year, more than HIV, car accidents, murder, suicide, alcohol and drug use combined. COPD-related deaths are also primarily caused by smoking, with 90% of these deaths traced back to cigarettes.

Smoking can cause cancer almost anywhere in the body including the mouth, nose, throat, voicebox (larynx), esophagus, bladder, kidney, pancreas, cervix, stomach, blood and bone marrow. Lung cancer is also largely a smoker's disease, with 90% of men and 80% of women who succumb to lung cancer having smoked. "In fact, longtime smokers who have smoked at least a pack a day for thirty years (30 pack-year history) are in the 'HIGH RISK' category for lung cancer," says Dr. Jahania. Even those who've quit smoking within the last 20 years or others who've been exposed to lengthy periods of second hand smoke are at risk.

"I encourage all my patients who smoke to quit immediately, and those at HIGH RISK to get a low dose computed tomography (CT) chest screening for lung cancer," details Dr. Jahania. A lung cancer screening will detect most abnormalities and reduces the chance of dying from lung cancer by 20 percent for those who are high risk.

Dr. Jahania emphasizes, "Quitting smoking at any age can lower your risk of lung cancer and improve your overall health."

Tobacco is a multi-billion dollar industry that won't give you up without a fight, but Garden City Hospital is in your corner. If you've been a smoker in the last 20 years and need help kicking the habit, would like more information on lung cancer screening, or would like to find and schedule an appointment with a Garden City Hospital physician, call us at 877.717.WELL.

Garden City Hospital is a member of the Prime Healthcare Services network of hospitals, a nationally ranked top 15 Health System.

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Competitor Magazine named Detroit's "underwater mile" one of the 26 most memorable marathon miles in 2010.

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A GANNETT COMPANY

By Robert Half

You took several years off from work to be CEO of your household, taking care of a new baby and developing your interpersonal skills of persuasion and patience. Or maybe you off-ramped to travel, care for an elderly family member or focus on volunteer pursuits. Now you're ready to go back to work, but where do you start? Here are six steps to ease your transition back into the working world.

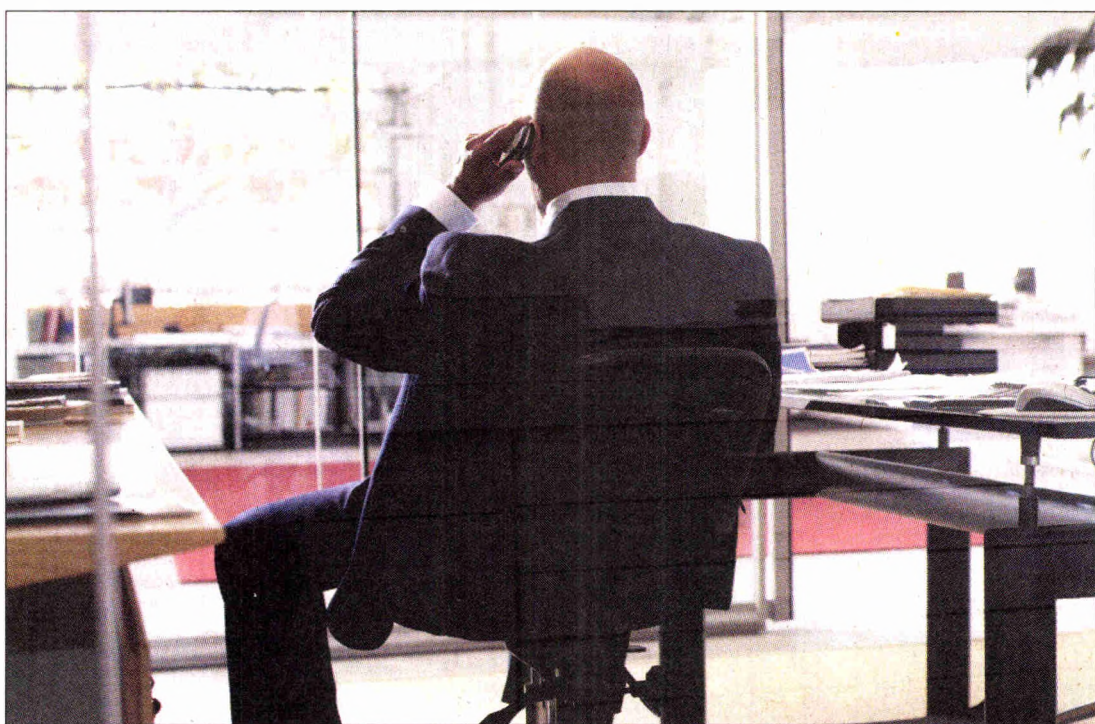
1. Notify your network

It's the best first step in any job search: Tell your family, friends, acquaintances and former colleagues that you're completing your stint as stay-at-home parent or full-time caretaker and you're planning to go back to work. Before you reach out to your network, make sure your résumé is ready; if one of your contacts knows about a good opportunity, you'll want to be able to send out an application package immediately.

2. Prepare your pitch

When you start your job search, you need to be able to talk to anyone you meet or reacquaint with about why you're going back to work and what you hope to find in a job. Practice your 30-second elevator pitch so that it comes naturally. Don't hide the fact that you've been on hiatus, and do project a positive attitude about your situation. You might say, "I'm an accountant with eight years of experience. I took the last several years off to be with my kids (or travel or take care of a sick parent), and now I'm looking forward to rejoining the workforce." Then briefly list your previous jobs and describe what kind of position you're looking for now.

Going back to work after a long leave of absence?



3. Build up your résumé by volunteering

If you're able to fit it into your schedule, volunteering can be a great way to boost your résumé and keep your skills current. For example, you could help a local nonprofit or charitable organization or tutor students. Giving of your time like this is a great way to slowly re-enter the working world, dust off your skills and network with people who might be able to help you in your job search.

4. Take classes

Whether you've been out for two years or 10 years, it never hurts to brush up on your hard skills. Technology is always changing, and it's essential for job seekers to keep up-to-date on the latest industry best practices. Check out the class schedule at a nearby community college, or try to find online courses that will meet your needs. Don't forget about MOOCs (massive open online courses), the vast majority of which are free. Search for courses at MOOC-list.com.

5. Consider temporary or part-time work

If you're at all nervous about going back to work, try easing into it with temporary assignments or a part-time position. This can be an especially smart method if you've taken time off to be a stay-at-home parent, as transitioning directly from full-time parenting to a 9-to-5 job can be jarring for both you and your family. Accepting temporary positions also gives you the opportunity to sample several types of employers and job roles and

assess which ones are good fits and which are not.

6. Focus on the skills you've gained

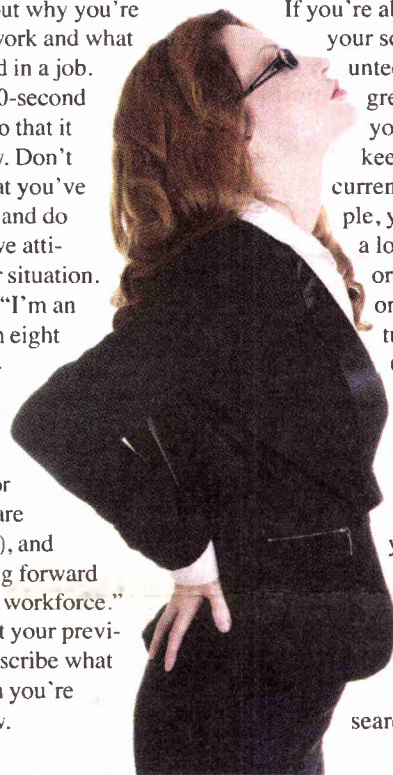
What skills have you developed during your break from office life? Although your time off might not have given you much time to work on your technical talents, you've had many opportunities for personal growth. Employers are increasingly seeking workers who have strong interpersonal skills such as communication, collaboration and adaptability. Mention those assets in your social media profiles, cover letters and job interviews.

Job searching is rarely easy, and it's even more of a challenge for professionals who've been out of the field for a while.

It can take time to find a good position when you're going back to work after an extended break.

If you get discouraged, remember all your positives: education, experience, soft skills and determination. With time, patience and perseverance, the right job will come your way.

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Help Wanted - General

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Experience Req'd. Competitive Wage. PC/Windows/MS Word req'd. Email resume to admin@jerrybakker.com

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Canton at: pcmontessori@sbcglobal.net or 734-459-1550

CITY OF LIVONIA

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RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Help Wanted - General

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Contact Carol at (734) 454-5656
Resume to: dental_arts@yahoo.com

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Detroit Diesel Corp. is seeking qualified applicants for a CFD Development Engineer position at our facility in Detroit, MI. w/responsibility for developing computational fluid dynamics (CFD) models & conducting steady-state & transient CFD simulations for heavy-duty diesel engine components.
Bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering plus 2 years of related experience required. Qualified applicants should apply online w/resume & cover letter at: <http://dtna.jobs/>.
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Proof of authorization to work in U.S. required if hired. The company is an Equal Opportunity Employer & fully supports affirmative action practices.

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Livonia-based industrial electronic repair company with 25+ year track record has several immediate openings for experienced component-level repair technicians. Current experience in one of the following areas is required: Servo Drives and Motion Control Systems, Siemens and Fanuc CNC Systems, Display, HMI, Operator Interface Devices, and PLC Systems. Company offers very competitive pay with full benefit packages. These are key positions for well qualified individuals.
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Help Wanted - General

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN IV
Full Time
Canton Township is now accepting applications for Maintenance Technician IV. Application Deadline: Tuesday, September 2, 2014
Job description with complete qualifications and hiring process is available on the Canton Township website: <http://canton.applicantpro.com/jobs> (EOE)

PAINTER Exp. necessary. Must have transportation. Mostly exterior work. Call Evenings 248-446-0026

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Valid Driver's License & clean driving record. Email resume to: brenda.bachman@thayerauto.com

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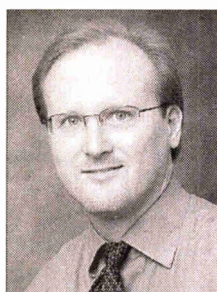
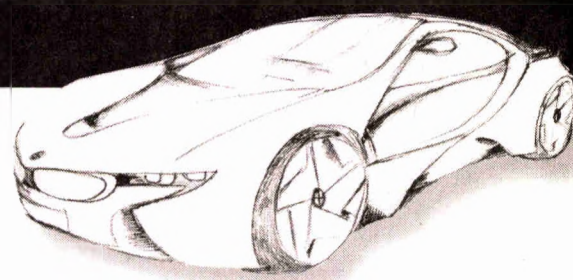
THE CITY OF WAYNE
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST
The City of Wayne is currently taking applications for Personnel Director/Economic Development Specialist. Salary Range \$50,000 to \$60,000 based on qualifications. Responsibilities include the administration and coordination of personnel and labor relations programs. Must have knowledge of the principles and practices of personnel administration as applied in the recruitment, evaluation and training of staff, collective bargaining and labor contract administration. Additional responsibilities include assessing business community needs, develop and implement customized marketing and promotional strategies and act as a business consultant. Minimum qualifications include a Bachelor Degree in Human Resources and/or Labor Relations with a minimum of five years prior Human Resource related experience. In addition, prefer a minimum of five years relevant experience working to attract, retain or the placement of businesses in the community or a combination of related educational and prior experience. Applicants must have a valid State of Michigan driver's license and an excellent driving record with no more than three (3) points on current driving record.
Applications are available in the Personnel Department: 3355 S. Wayne Road, Wayne, MI 48184 or at our web site: <http://www.cityofwayne.com>
Completed applications must be received in the Personnel Department by 4:00 p.m. on September 8, 2014. Resumes without completed applications will not be accepted. No faxed or emailed applications will be accepted.
The City of Wayne is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

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The Daily Press & Argus is continually seeking aggressive, organized and personally motivated self-starters to join our sales team. The person we hire will be responsible for helping an established territory of customers with their multi-media marketing needs through our print and online products. The position is based in our Howell office.
This position requires a track record of sales success, excellent customer service skills and computer savvy. Digital sales experience a plus. Must have dependable vehicle and impeccable work ethic.
We offer a base salary plus commission. We also offer a complete benefits package and mileage reimbursement. If you're interested and qualified, please email resume to lvernont@livingston-daily.com
PRESS ARGUS
A GANNETT COMPANY

Car Report

New Escape Gives Ford Appeal with Millennial Consumers – and Lots More



By Dale Buss

And Ford executives are excited about the evident appeal of this reasonably priced SUV with the 80-million-strong Generation Y whose members now are forming families in record numbers. "Millennials are growing up, getting married and starting families," Lisa Schoder, Ford's global small-car marketing manager, told me. "They're more stable in their careers after maybe being bumpy after college. And they still have active lifestyles in terms of carrying things around, like bicycles -- and now also baby strollers and gear for their kids. We're hitting this target well with our vehicles."

Yet there's a lot for just about anyone to like

in the 2014 Ford Escape. Although the company has endured too many quality and safety recalls for such an important new model since launching the new version in 2012, Escape boasts a package that hits the sweet spot of the U.S. auto market these days.

Indeed, sales of Escape in July were the best ever for that month, with 26,558 vehicles sold nationwide -- a 19-percent gain. And despite the fact that Escape's segment is heavily populated with competitors, sales of the model for the year to date were slightly ahead of last year.

A major part of the appeal of Escape is its car-like handling. It's based on the same mechanical platform as the Ford Focus sedan, so that quality is understandable. Its ride is nicely controlled and it performs with agility around turns. Plus, Escape looks good doing so, with sleek styling that underscores

its "crossover" bona fides.

Plus the SE version that I drove turns in highway fuel economy of 32 mpg, and 23 mpg in the city. That's fuel-economy performance most SUV buyers won't anticipate, constituting a major advantage for Escape. Ford's 1.6-liter EcoBoost engine powered the version I drove. Two other four-cylinder engine are available as well.

Thanks in large part to the appeal of Escape, Millennial consumers are flocking to it, as indicated in new data that show the Ford brand has risen to the top in purchase consideration by Generation Y.

And as more in that generation become young parents, Ford executives also are convinced that their overall lineup -- from fuel-efficient small cars to popular small utility vehicles -- positions the company for disproportionate gains in sales among Millennials in the years ahead.

Specifically, Ford said that it ranked fourth with Millennials in 2008 in terms of brand consideration, according to a new-vehicle customer study conducted by Maritz Research of St. Louis. By last year, it had jumped to first place and also showed the biggest jump in "first consideration" ranking of any brand.

Also, Ford's recent investments in upgrading its SUV marques -- with the new Explorer in 2011 and new Escape in 2012 -- came



Ford built early Millennial interest in the new Escape with the TV show "Escape Routes."

in the two segments that have been showing the largest jumps in consideration by Millennials. Compact SUVs such as Escape jumped 1.1 percentage points last year, Maritz said, while full-size SUVs such as Explorer showed a 1.7-percent-age-point gain.

So while Ford made much of its initial gain with Generation Y by making its small cars appealing, it's counting on the draw of its utility vehicles to bulk up sales to Millennials in the future.

and unemployment, and lots more than ever having to live with their parents -- only exacerbate their unreliability as a purchasing segment.

Despite the long roots of such trends going back to before the Great Recession, Ford set about several years ago determined to buck its implications. Targeting Millennials was the clear primary goal of social-media innovations such as the Fiesta Movement marketing campaign, which lent the new Fiesta subcompact to hundreds of bloggers; Focus Doug, an on-line-only video campaign featuring a sock puppet and the new compact sedan; and Escape Routes, a Saturday-night TV show on NBC a couple of years ago which featured a bunch of attractive Millennials -- and the new Ford Escape -- in a reality-show format.

So Ford has been leading Generation Y to Escape for a while now. And the effort is paying off.



The 2014 Ford Escape features an optional, foot-activated power liftgate.

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Garage/Moving Sales

Livonia: GARAGE SALE:
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Livonia: Remember our May art-in-the-park overstock sale?
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Livonia Sale-36510 Bennett,
Btwn 6-7 Mi. W of Levan. Sept 3-6th. 10-4pm. Ladies wear 1-3x & 18-20. Mens wear 3x shirts & 48-52 pants/jeans. Some designer wear. table saw, roll away bed frame, books, coats, cookware, jewelry, dried flowers, holiday! more

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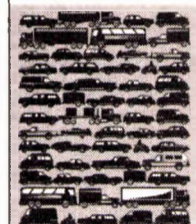
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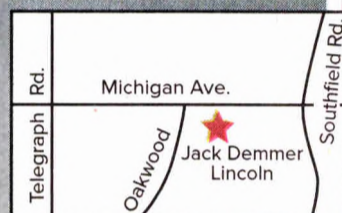
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*All payments and prices are for qualifying AZ planners. For qualifying non (not new) AZ planners an additional \$800 to \$1500 down would be required to keep the payments or price the same. 10,500 miles per year. To buy for price add tax, title, doc and destination fee. All Factory rebates assigned to the dealer including previous lease and may require Ford Credit financing. Not all buyers will qualify for lowest payments. Pictures may not represent actual vehicles. Subject to availability. Payments and prices per program in effect at publication and are subject to change. All offers expire 8/31/14. Early Bird Program is effective July 8, 2014 through September 30, 2014. Eligible customers with scheduled termination date from October 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. Waives up to three (3) payments with a maximum of \$1,800 on Ford Focus, Ford Fusion, Ford Edge, or Ford Escape. Customers must take delivery from dealer stock by September 30, 2014. -Must lease or purchase with Ford Credit and new contracts must be funded by October 15, 2014.