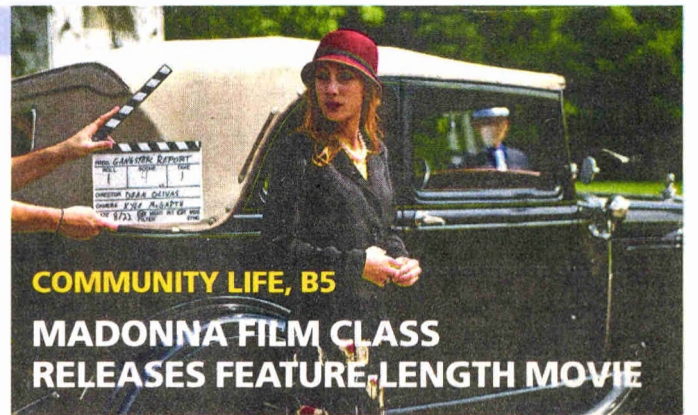


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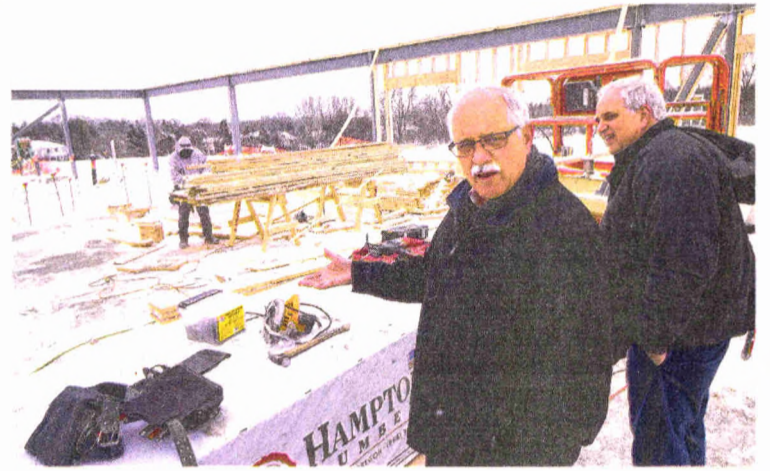
Bridges in, pavilion going up at Township Park

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

The foundation is in, framing is going up, roof trusses are at the site and the all-weather pavilion at Plymouth Township Park will be ready for this year's baseball and softball seasons, officials say. The pavilion of about 3,800 square feet, under construction near the park's ballfields and sledding hill, is designed for ballplayers, sledders, picnickers and other park visitors. It includes about 1,600 of indoor space, in which people can warm up on chilly days, plus a small kitchenette and a sheltered picnic space. Still planned: snow-making

machinery, at a cost of about \$25,000, to coat the sledding hill during winters when there is little precipitation. With an estimated price tag of \$675,000, the pavilion is part of a package of planned improvements to the park, some of which have been controversial. Plans for a \$350,000 amphitheater for small concerts and live shows were put on hold after opposition to them grew last summer. "We're moving ahead. We're getting the place fixed up," said Treasurer Ron Edwards, who has been overseeing the pavilion work. The money is coming from a capital improvements budget of \$2.55 million that the Board

of Trustees approved in 2013, a budget that included the proceeds from a \$1.9 million bond sale just over a year ago, plus grant money and donations. Edwards said grants and gifts will pay close to half the cost of the pavilion. "I don't think we're going to spend more than \$350,000 of the taxpayers' money on this project," he said. "The pavilion is a great addition to the community." The general contractor is Acme Enterprises, which has a contract of just under \$500,000 for the work. The township spent another \$100,000 for water and sewer installation,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Supervisor Richard Reaume (left) and Treasurer Ron Edwards are upbeat about the progress on the pavilion under construction at Plymouth Township Park.

See PARK, Page A2



Whalers owner Peter Karmanos Jr. talks about the sale of the team. Behind him is Mike Vellucci.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NATIONAL PLAN

Arena buyer moving development program to Plymouth

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

The governing organization for amateur hockey in the United States is ready to pick up where Compuware Arena and the Plymouth Whalers leave off. USA Hockey, based in Colorado, is planning to buy the 3,600-seat arena on Beck Road from current owner Pete Karmanos Jr. and move its elite youth development program there from its current home in Ann Arbor. "We think it could be a really, really good part of the community," Scott Monaghan, senior director of operations for USA Hockey's National Team Development Program, told the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees on Tuesday.

"We think it'll be a great step forward for our program." Monaghan said USA Hockey would expand and update the arena, host college and international hockey games there as well as its own games and continue many of Compuware's current programs, such as community involvement, drive-in movies in warm weather and hosting figure skating groups and high school hockey games. **35-game schedule** USA Hockey would take possession of the arena in the spring if the purchase is successful and would move the NTDP staff there in August, he said. A schedule of about 35 games at the arena per season can be expected, he said.

Monaghan's presentation at Tuesday's board meeting came the evening before Wednesday's announcement by Karmanos that he and Rolf Nilsen have reached an agreement for Nilsen to buy the Plymouth Whalers of the Ontario Hockey League, Compuware's home team. Nilsen, an industrialist who is originally from the Norway, said he plans to move the team to Flint, where he has just purchased Perani Arena. He would not disclose the offered price; the deal must be approved by the OHL's Board of Governors. "I think Flint is a great place," Nilsen said during a Wednesday press conference at Compuware, with Karmanos at

See ARENA, Page A2

High-tech business corridor taking shape

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Plans are taking shape for a new advanced-technology business corridor along Five Mile in Plymouth and Northville townships. Officials in the two communities, working with state and Wayne County elected and economic development officials, have formed the Michigan International Technology Center to market some 800 acres on either side of Five Mile between Beck and Napier, property they say is ideal for firms in the high-tech, life sciences and automotive fields that are looking for Detroit-area locations. "It's an exciting first step," Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume said, one that took about 14 months of discussion to reach. Parcels could be available later this year, Reaume said, though major construction isn't likely until next year. Several firms, which he declined to name, have already shown an interest, Reaume said. In a joint announcement, Reaume and Northville Township Supervisor Robert Nix said the acreage could support up to 5 million square feet of facilities, \$620 million in investment and more than 9,000 jobs. The MITC, Reaume said, will be asking the Michigan Department of Transportation and Wayne County for upgrades to Five Mile in that area.

Former prisons The 800 acres on 15 parcels, about 500 acres of which are buildable, are mostly government-owned, either by the state or by the townships themselves. Much of the site is made up of former prison property, such as the Detroit House of Corrections and the Robert Scott Correctional facility. One site, of about 100 acres, is privately owned by Johnson Controls, which has facilities nearby. That site is currently for sale. Reaume said the MITC idea is a natural expansion of the

See HIGH-TECH, Page A2



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The Lindlbauer family at the 2012 race.

SJSK COMMITTEE

Honor Society seeks SJ5K nominations

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park National Honor Society host its fifth annual Super Jess 5K Sunday, May 3, on the high school campus.

The event was created in 2011 in honor of P-CEP student Jesse Lindlbauer, when a sinus infection turned into an abscess which ruptured, causing a traumatic brain injury. The SJ5K run was created in order to bring community support to the family and raise money to help defray medical expenses.

After the success of the SJ5K the first year, National Honor Society decided to make the SJ5K an annual event. Over the last four years, it has continued to provide support for local families.

The NHS is now looking for nominations for beneficiaries of the

2015 SJ5K. The group's goal is to select a local family or individual (defined as living within the boundaries of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district) who, as a result of unforeseen life-altering circumstances, finds themselves with a specific need (outside of normal living expenses) which could not be attained without the proceeds of the SJ5K.

Nominations will be considered by the SJ5K Committee. The nomination form and other information regarding the race can be found at www.SJ5K.org.

The nomination forms must be returned by Feb. 20 either to beth.savalox@pccsk12.com or mailed to SJ5K Review Committee, c/o Beth Savalox, Plymouth High School, 8400 Beck Rd., Canton, MI 48187.

ARENA

Continued from Page A1

his side. "We can grow hockey in Flint, bring it back to what it used to be." He plans to have the team, which will be re-named, in Flint for the 2015-16 season.

'Bittersweet' sale

Karmanos, describing the pending sale as a "bittersweet moment," said he would help USA Hockey with the transition to its new home. He had feared, he said, that USA Hockey's development program would leave the state.

"They're keeping it here, which is really great," Karmanos said. USA Hockey's team development program currently rents space at the Ice Cube in Ann Arbor.

Township Supervisor Richard Reaume said the Whalers will be missed, but that he's glad USA Hockey plans to keep Compuware's community involvements, such as hosting an annual hazardous waste dropoff day in the parking lot and letting township firefighters use the lot to practice



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Peter Karmanos Jr. answers questions from the media.

driving firefighting equipment, a regular requirement.

"This is an excellent replacement" for the Whalers, Reaume said. "It was purpose-built to be a hockey arena. It will remain that way."

Monaghan said the development program has two teams, an under-17 team and an under-18 team. It plays in the United States Hockey League, a 17-team amateur league with teams in nine states in the upper Midwest.

The NTDP attracts players from around the country, he said, and Michigan is an especially good source of hockey

talent.

"We believe the roots of the program are in Michigan," Monaghan said.

"Plymouth Township will now become the epicenter for amateur hockey in the United States," Reaume said.

Tourney draw

The arena, through USA Hockey, could also attract major college hockey teams and international tournaments, Monaghan said.

As a nonprofit, USA Hockey needed township officials to sign off on its financing of the arena purchase. The board voted 7-0 to OK the deal,

PARK

Continued from Page A1

Edwards said.

Paths, bridges, more

Also paid through grant money - specifically federal Community Development Block Grant money - is most of the cost of two new bridges that cross the creek that runs through the park. The aluminum bridges, roughly 25 feet each, make for easier access to the park's fishing dock.

Edwards credited Trustee Kay Arnold for pushing for the bridges. Arnold said she raised the issue three or four years ago.

"It's a long time coming and I'm very grateful," Arnold said. "I hope the seniors and their grandkids can get out there a lot easier now."

Arnold said she came up with the idea when she went there to fish with her own grandson, who was 7, and had a long walk to get to the dock. "When we had money that came available, I suggested it," she said.

Edwards said the cost of the bridges and nearby path improvements totals \$155,000. The path, said Supervisor Richard Reaume, connects to the rest of the park's walking path, making it nine-tenths of a mile long.

Also on the boards are plans to: 1) expand and



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Two new bridges mean visitors can easily walk all the way around the fishing pond.

repave the 158-space parking lot near the ballfields; 2) replace the roof on the older main pavilion; 3) resurface the walking path; and 4) resurface the pad of the sprayscape, a popular

summertime feature. "We've got a bunch of things going on that are positive," Edwards said.

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CORRECTION

A story in the Jan. 15 *Observer* should have said new Plymouth-Canton Board of Education members Kate Borninski and Michael Siegrist were each elected to a six-year term in the November election.

HIGH-TECH

Continued from Page A1

nearby Metro West industrial parks in the township, which host a number of foreign firms.

"We're just looking to expand this world-class and class-A technology park to the west and to the north," he said.

Wes Graff, president of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, said the location is well-placed to attract a work force with the skills high-tech companies need, noting the proximity of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

"The MITC represents our future in the global marketplace," Graff wrote in an email. "It continues our strength of attracting high-tech and international companies to our community and this region."

Reaume and Nix said the discussions leading up to forming the MITC



A map shows parcels in the Michigan International Technology Center, a proposed high-tech business corridor in Plymouth and Northville townships. The corridor follows Five Mile between Beck, on the right, and Napier, on the left. The areas colored light blue represent non-buildable floodplain acreage.

included state and county officials, utility companies, the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce and private-sector development experts.

'Everyone's at the table'

Reaume said the talks set the stage for a fast-track approval process for companies that plan

to locate at MITC.

"Everyone's at the table," he said. "Once we have a known client, we're already working together as a team to assist them."

Reaume said that the two communities have so far shared the MITC's minimal expenses and that a website for the project is under construction. The county, he said, is considering paying

engineering costs related to improving Five Mile and having that engineering work done could help win grant money for the improvements.

One parcel in the proposed MITC, 190 acres west of Ridge and south of Five Mile, is the subject of a legal dispute in Wayne County Circuit Court between Plymouth Township, the county and the city of Detroit, which ran DeHoCo.

The acreage is part of a 323-acre parcel the township purchased out of tax foreclosure in 2011 for just over \$600,000; city officials say the 190 acres should've been split from the rest of the parcel with an earlier sale to a development company and that the foreclosure was improper.

Reaume said he is confident the township will prevail in the dispute. The matter is before Judge Robert Colombo.

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Beloved Community sponsors King essay contest

In partnership with the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion, the Beloved Community sponsors its first Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Essay Contest.

The contest is open to all sixth-through 12th-grade students in Plymouth and Canton, including those children who attend either traditional public, charter, private or are home-schooled. The essay contest is designed to foster a deeper understanding of the importance of diversity and inclusion.

The Beloved Community exists to

facilitate opportunities for education, deep reflection and reconciliation on topics critical to racial justice in the Plymouth-Canton community.

The essay question is "What Dr. Martin Luther King's goal of 'Beloved Community' means to me and how can we work to make it a reality in the Canton and Plymouth communities?"

Students are encouraged to think about diversity. This scholarship contest is a tool to grow ideas. First-, second- and third-place winners will be awarded a financial scholarship to spend at their leisure.

Middle school students will receive a plaque and \$200 for first place, \$75 for second and \$50 for third. High school students will receive a plaque and \$500 for first place, \$175 for second place and \$100 for third.

The informational packet can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/bcscholars>. Applicants are required to submit all application materials in a single email to TheBelovedCommunityCanton@gmail.com.

Winners will be notified by email no later than May 1. Contest winners will be honored during a special ceremony

in May.

The committee will judge all entries with an emphasis placed on the clear expression of creative ideas. Additionally, the committee will weigh clarity, creativity and originality. Correct usage of basic grammar and writing skills will also be considered.

Inquiries about the application process for The Beloved Community Dr. Martin Luther King Essay Contest may be directed to Sharika Robinson at sharika_robinson@ca6.uscourts.gov or Sommer Foster sommer.foster@gmail.com.



State Rep. Kurt Heise (right), R-Plymouth Township, is sworn in by Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, while daughter Claire looks on.

Heise back as criminal justice chair

State Rep. Kurt Heise today was appointed by House Speaker Kevin Cotter to serve as chair of the Criminal Justice Committee for the 98th Legislature.

Heise, a Republican from Plymouth Township entering his third and final term, serves Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Northville and a small piece of Canton.

"House Republicans have shown we are serious about fighting crime and promoting public safety," Heise said. "I was excited to be named the chairman of the Criminal Justice Committee last session and I am honored that Speaker Cotter reappointed me to chairman for the 98th Legislature. I look forward to continued work with Gov. Snyder on crime prevention and corrections reform."

Heise also was named as a member of the Local Government, Judiciary and Elections committees.

Canton resident elected W-W secretary

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

The Wayne-Westland school board did some housekeeping at its meeting last week, electing a new slate of officers and selecting representatives for county and state school board associations.

The board unanimously approved the election of Thomas Buckalew as president, Frederick Weaver as vice president, Carol Middel as secretary and Shawna Walker as treasurer.

Buckalew had served as vice president for two years before becoming president.

"I want to thank the board for the faith it has in me," Buckalew said. "I will see that I give the best service that is expected of me."

He also praised Middel, who had served as president for almost three years, and Walker, the outgoing board president, who "have provided an excellent view of leadership."

Walker was also honored for her year of service as president, receiving a plaque from district Superintendent Michele Harmala.

"I've enjoyed sitting on the board with all that's been going on," Walker said. "I've enjoyed every bit of it and my fellow board members made it easy."

Trustee Charles "Trav" Griffin thanked Walker for her leadership through difficult times.

"She helped in the selection of a new superintendent and put in a lot of hours," he said. "She did great work and selected a great superintendent."

The board also selected Middel to serve as its representative for the Wayne County Association of School Boards and Melandie Hines as repre-



Carol Middel of Canton takes the oath of office administered by her daughter Molly and husband Bill.

sentative for the Michigan Association of School Boards.

Trustee Sally Madison expressed disappointment that her fellow board members didn't agree with her proposal that would have provided board members the opportunity to serve in each board officer position during their six-year term in office.

"I would like to change the process of how I vote for fellow board trustees for annual school board positions," she said. "This decision is to encourage growth, support and unity within our complete board, meaning every board trustee. We are only as strong as our weakest link and it would be refreshing to implement forward thinking."

"My thought is to move forward with fellow board trustees mentoring, supporting and sharing duties/positions to encourage mutual respect, equality," she added.

Madison pointed out that it had

been recommended that she campaign for a board position, but questioned the necessity based on the overwhelming support of the community she received when she was elected and the two years she has already served as a trustee.

In December, when members were polled about board elections, Madison had indicated she was interested in serving in any of the four positions.

In her letter, Madison also expressed confidence that "we all would find it beneficial in many aspects for trustees to rotate in each board position in some facet rather than controlling a board seat."

"If I am not provided the opportunity to serve in a board position ... I will not have to opportunity to serve in each position during my term," she wrote.

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Park students win poster awards

By Brad Kadrich
 Staff Writer

Two Plymouth-Canton Community Schools students were among award-winners in the North American International Auto Show 2015 High School Poster Contest.

Sophomore Colin Burke won the \$1,000 State Farm Insurance Award, while freshman Kara Hug, competing in the 10th-grade category, won \$250 for her second-place finish.

The Plymouth-Canton students were among 16 winners chosen from some 781 entries from 58 Michigan schools. Burke and Hug created their posters, which will be on display at the NAIAS through Jan. 25, as part of a graphic arts class.

"This is a project I do with my students every year and it gives them a chance to get involved in something outside the classroom, but still be part of the classroom," teacher Tony Vasallo said. "The thing about I loved about (Hug and Burke) is ... design is never two plus two equals four. They were constantly revising the project, taking constructive criticism. I think that shows real maturity."



Plymouth High students Kara Hug and Colin Burke were among winners in the North American International Auto Show poster contest.

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education on Tuesday honored Burke and Hug with their STARS (Students with Tenacity Achieving and Reaching Success) Award.

Board Treasurer Sheila Paton presented the awards, pointing out "only a couple of schools" had multiple winners.

"The posters were judged by a General Motors automotive designer and a College for Creative Studies instructor," Paton said. "I think it's a great achievement."

This was the 27th annual poster contest. The contest is

open to all Michigan high school students. The posters were judged by panelists from the local art community and will be posted on the NAIAS website at naias.com. The winning posters will also be displayed at the 2015 NAIAS through Jan. 25 at Cobo Center in Detroit.

The contest is open to all Michigan high school students, not just those enrolled in art classes. The grand prize, the Chairmen's Award of \$1,000, went to Daniel Fullan, a student at the Utica Center for Science and Industry.

Boundary members get VIP treatment

By Brad Kadrich
 Staff Writer

Members of the Plymouth-Canton boundary steering committee spent hundreds of hours in dozens of meetings spread over months plotting the future boundaries for the district's elementary and middle schools in the face of a down-sizing district.

On Tuesday, two members of that committee represented the whole committee in accepting Volunteers in Public Service awards from the district's Board of Education.

David Gabrielse and Terrence Quinn were chosen by fellow committee members as deserving of accepting the honors.

"We wanted to recognize them for their work," said Kurt Tyszkiewicz, who chaired the committee.

"They rearranged their work schedules and gave up time with their families to work on this committee. We're very appreciative of their work."

The committee met over months of work as the Board of Education continually considered a variety of plans. Board members frequently asked for additional information and, even when the committee had come up with recommendations, sent members back to the drawing board to tweak the plan.

In the end, the committee fixed boundaries for 13 remaining elementary schools (Gallimore is being re-purposed, Allen is scheduled to be closed) and five middle schools, including the new one being built on Cherry Hill near Canton Center.

Board Treasurer Sheila Paton recognized all that effort when she handed out the awards.

"We have a sense of how much time they spent, but I don't think we really know," Paton said. "(Board members) attended a lot of meetings and I'd bet for every meeting we attended, you had five meetings."

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ON CAMPUS

Michigan Tech

Three students from Plymouth and two more from Canton were among those who made the dean's list for the 2014 fall semester.

Salem High School grads **Kevin Bennett** and **Alyssa Myers**, both studying civil engineering, and Plymouth High School grad **Connor Prezbyla**, studying computer engineering, all made the list. They're all from Plymouth.

Canton residents **Jamie Aneshansel**, a Salem grad studying theater and entertainment technology, and **Julian Gabriel**, a Plymouth High School grad studying mechanical engineering, also made

the list.

To be included, students must achieve grade-point averages of 3.5 or higher.

Michigan Technological University is a leading public research university in Houghton, with a mission of preparing students to create the future.

University of Dayton

Three students from Plymouth were among students who made the dean's list for the fall 2014 semester at the University of Dayton.

Local students honored include **Shannon Hogan**, **Mark Kremer** and **Spencer Malm**.

The University of Dayton is

a top-tier, national, Catholic, research institution. Founded in 1850 by the Society of Mary (the Marianists), it focuses on educating the whole person, connecting learning with leadership and service.

Wilmington College

Wilmington College freshman **Megan A. Weiloch** of Canton was named to the dean's list for the 2014 fall semester.

Weiloch, a graduate of Plymouth High School, is majoring in athletic training.

To be eligible for the Dean's List honor, a student must be enrolled full time and maintain at least a 3.5 grade-point average on a 4.0 scale.

Baylor University

Molly Hudgins of Canton, studying in the school of education, was among more than 3, 200 Baylor University students named to the dean's academic honor roll for the 2014 fall semester.

To be named to the dean's list, a student must be an undergraduate with a minimum grade-point average of 3.7, while enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester hours.

A private Christian university and a nationally ranked liberal arts institution, Baylor is classified as a research university with "high research activity" by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advance-

ment of Teaching.

UW-Madison

The University of Wisconsin-Madison has recognized students named to the dean's list for the fall semester of the 2014-15 academic year.

Jane McCurry of Canton, a student in the school's College of Letters and Science, was among the dean's list honorees.

To be eligible for the dean's list, students must complete a minimum of 12 graded degree credits in that semester. Each university school or college sets its own GPA requirements for students to be eligible to receive the distinction.

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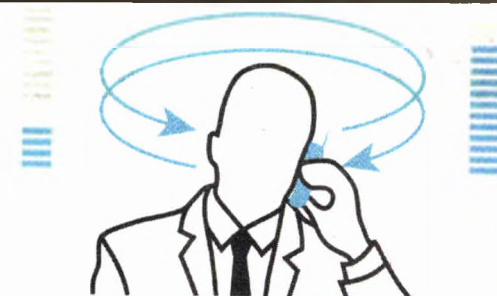
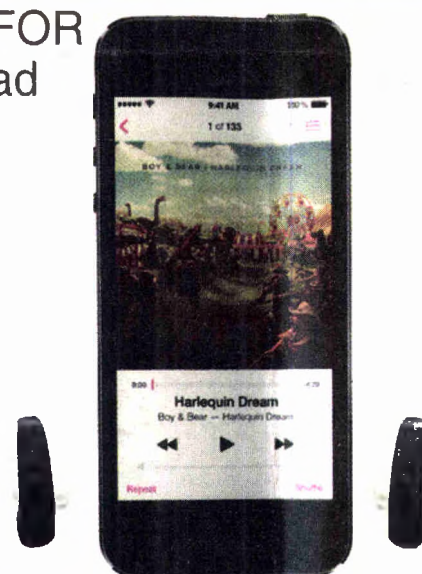
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W-W board approves new director of student, legal affairs

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools didn't have to go far to find a new executive director of student and legal affairs. Stanley Szcotka, director of student services with the Garden City Public Schools, will assume the position Tuesday, Jan. 20.

The Wayne-Westland school board unanimously approved district Superintendent Michele Harmala's appointment at its meeting last week. Szcotka replaces John Albrecht, who was named assistant superintendent for educational

services last summer. "Thank you for the confidence and trust Dr. Harmala and the board have in me in filling this position," Szcotka said.

A Canton resident, Szcotka has a bachelor of arts degree in psychology from Michigan State University, a master of arts degree in clinical psychology from the University of Detroit and a doctoral degree in counseling from Oakland University.

He worked in private practice as a counselor and psychologist before becoming an adjunct

professor at Eastern Michigan University, Madonna University, Oakland University and the Michigan School of Professional Psychology.

He also was staff psychologist with the Henry Ford Health System and a behavior specialist with the Rainbow Rehab Center before joining the Garden City Public Schools in 2009.

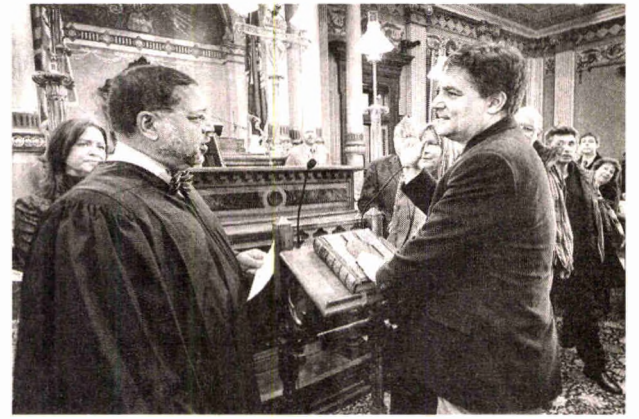
Szcotka left after the vote, going to the Garden City school board meeting to thank the board for the opportunity of working in the district.

Garden City Superintendent Michelle Cline thanked Szcotka for his more than five years of service.

"You will really be hard to replace," Cline said, noting that "people leave here because we are fortunate enough to hire teachers, administration and support staff who are excellent in what they do. Dr. Szcotka was sought out — he did not apply for this position — due to his amazing leadership skills."

— By Sue Mason

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Second term

Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, was sworn in as senator for the 7th District during a ceremony Wednesday at the state Capitol. Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert P. Young Jr. administered the oath of office. Colbeck was joined on the Senate floor by his wife Angie, his father Bill and dozens of supporters from the 7th District and across the state.

COACHES NEEDED

Date/Time: Saturdays in spring and fall

Location: Bilkie Family Field, downtown Plymouth

Details: The Miracle League of Plymouth, the league providing opportunities for special-needs players to enjoy the game of baseball, needs volunteer coaches for its spring and fall seasons.

Contact: Anyone interested in donating their time or who has questions can contact Shari Bilkie via email at shari@miracleleagueplymouth.org

OLGC GALA

Date/Time: Saturday, Feb. 7, 6:30 p.m.

Location: Italian-American Club of Livonia, 39200 Five Mile

Details: Our Lady of Good Counsel hosts "Women of Our Lady," the church's inaugural dinner-dance gala. Couples, families and singles are welcome to the family-style dinner, which features oven-roasted chicken and potatoes, vegetables and dip, green beans Almondine and beverages. Dress code is after-5 attire; doors open at 6:30 p.m., dinner is at 7 p.m.

Contact: To register or for more information, email Marcella Corona at march1317@aol.com or call 248-305-7155.

CLOTHING BANK

Date/Time: Every fourth Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Canton Christian Fellowship clothing bank, 8775 Ronda Drive, Canton

Details: Canton Christian Fellowship sponsors a clothing bank every fourth Saturday. No documentation is needed. Drop-off is available 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. each Wednesday. Canton Christian Fellowship is located on at Joy Road, west of Haggerty.

Contact: For more information, email info@cantoncf.org

BLOOD DRIVES

Dates/Times/Locations:

» Tuesday, Jan. 20, West Middle School, 44401 W. Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth, 3-8:45 p.m.

» Wednesday, Jan. 21, Plymouth City Hall, 201 S. Main, 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

» Thursday, Jan. 22, Gardner White, 39453 Ford Road in Canton, 11 a.m. to 7:45 p.m.

» Friday, Jan. 23, Central Middle School, 650 Church in Plymouth, 1-6:45 p.m.

» Monday, Jan. 26, Trinity Presbyterian Church, 10101 W. Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth, 1:30-7:15 p.m.

» Tuesday, Jan. 27, St Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 N. Sheldon, 1:30-7:15 p.m.

» Thursday, Jan. 29, Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Drive, Canton, 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

» Friday, Jan. 30, Canton Municipal Complex, 1150 S. Canton Center, 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Details: January is Red Cross donor month, and the American Red Cross is sponsoring a variety of blood drives. Appointments can be made, and walk-ins are welcome.

Contact: Donors can call 313-549-7052 or email Diane.Risko@redcross.org to set up an appointment.

STONEFLIES SEARCH

Date/Time: Feb. 14, 9 a.m.

Location: U-M Dearborn

Details: Friends of the Rouge is looking for volunteers Saturday, Feb. 14, who want to help look for stoneflies in the Rouge River. Valentine's Day was chosen this year as it falls during the time organizers say stoneflies hatch from the river and go looking for love. Searchers meet at 9 a.m. at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. No searching is done in Dearborn; volunteers carpool out in 10-12 teams to Rouge streams located around metropolitan Detroit.

Contact: Volunteers must pre-register by Jan. 30 on the FOTR website www.therouge.org or by calling 313-792-9621.

ST. MICHAEL OPEN HOUSE

Date/Time: Monday, Jan. 26, 6-8 p.m.

Location: St. Michael Lutheran School, 3003 Hannan Road, Wayne

Details: St. Michael Lutheran School (preschool through eighth grade) is hosting an open house to current and prospective students. Visitors can take a guided tour of the school, meet with teachers and learn more about a Christian education. St. Michael is a fully accredited parochial school offering challenging academics and a wide variety of extra curricula activities.

Contact: For more information, call 734-728-3315 or go to www.stmichaellutheran.org.

FOLK NIGHT

Date/Time: Saturday, Jan. 17, 7 p.m.

Location: J.W. Hulce Center for the Performing Arts, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: The January meeting of the BaseLine Folk Society will be an "all open mic" night, with 14 open mic spots. The host for January will be Doug McClenen, a BaseLine regular for years. Admission is \$5 (including performers); individual and family memberships are available.

Contact: Email questions to BFSpresident@aol.com

PFLAG MEETING

Date/Time: First Sunday of each month, 3-5 p.m.

Location: St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: Plymouth-Canton PFLAG meets for discussion, education and sharing. Founded in 1972 with the simple act of a mother publicly supporting her gay son, PFLAG is the nation's largest family and ally organization. Made up of families, friends and straight allies united with people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender, PFLAG is committed to advancing equality and societal acceptance of LGBT people through its threefold mission of support, education and advocacy.

Contact: Email Laurie.mayers@gmail.com

THEATER CLASSES

Date: Starting Saturday, Jan. 17

Location: Forever After Productions studio, 50429 Independence, Canton

Details: Forever After Productions announces the beginning of winter session of theater classes. Classes are open to students ages 4-14.

Contact: For more information, go to www.heartforeverafternow.com or call 734-547-5156.

Wayne-Westland board rejects offer to buy vacant Inkster school for \$1

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

A bid to buy a former Inkster middle school has been turned down by the Wayne-Westland school board.

The board agreed with the recommendation of Deputy Superintendent Jim Larson-Shidler to reject an offer by the Covenant-Second Baptist Church of Inkster and the T.C. Spann Bible Institute of Wayne to purchase the closed Blanchette Middle School building for the sum of \$1.

The offer was submitted to the school district Dec. 31 by T. Cortez Spann Jr. of Wayne. It came more than a month after the school board approved demolition of the building.

Wayne-Westland acquired the building following the dissolution of

the Inkster School District in July 2013. The district was divided among four school districts. Wayne-Westland was given the portion of the former district that was west of Middlebelt and north of Michigan Avenue and included the former school located on Henry Ruff, north of Palmer.

In bringing the bid package for demolition to the board in November, Larson-Shidler had estimated that to occupy the school would cost "at least one year of sinking fund budget to bring it up to acceptable standards." However, current enrollment doesn't support re-opening the school.

The Blanchette demolition will cost an estimated \$515,000, with a bulk of the money — \$372,000 — being used for asbestos removal. The

demolition will be done at no cost to the school district. The money will come from \$5 million that the state has provided to cover operational costs related to the dissolution of the Inkster schools.

School officials toured the building with Spann, who submitted the bid, in September and October and advised him at the time the district was pursuing the demolition of the building.

"This would not serve the taxpayers of Inkster or the state," Larson-Shidler said. "If we sell the property, the money goes to pay down the Inkster school district's debt."

According to Larson-Shidler, the district currently is paying \$80,000 to \$100,000 for utilities at the school, which has broken pipes and an

asbestos issue. A large portion of the demolition cost is asbestos removal. Larson-Shidler is concerned that if the district delays the demolition, the state money won't be available in the future.

"The cost is high, but the demolition is nil," he said. "We will still have to mow the grass, maintain the parking lot and clear sidewalks."

School board President Thomas Buckalew agreed with Larson-Shidler's assessment.

"I believe the residents of Inkster will be better served by rejecting this; I will vote yes," he said.

"I agree," board Secretary Carol Middel added. "We need to do the best we can for the residents of Inkster."

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W-W looks at balanced budget for 2014-15

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

The good news is in the numbers for Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

After years of deficit spending, it now looks like the district will finish the 2014-15 fiscal year with a balanced budget. A \$244,610 decline in revenue was offset by an almost \$800,000 drop in expenditures, leaving the district with a projected \$61,447 general fund balance.

"We will maintain the fund balance at \$3.7 million," Deputy Superintendent Jim Larson-Shidler said in presenting a budget amendment to the board Monday. "We're close to fixing the structural deficit. We're at the break-even point."

The budget was approved last June before

the education budget had been completed. According to Larson-Shidler, the district had used the governor's proposed \$112 per pupil increase and budgeted for a loss of 50 students. Instead, the district received \$175 per student and dropped 315 students for a loss \$1.8 million.

"We took a conservative approach in developing the budget and now we have the actual numbers," Larson-Shidler said. "We based it on the governor's budget proposal."

Revenue changes

It also lost more than \$200,000 tuition for vocational education related to students from the former Inkster district who are now part of Wayne-Westland, and \$385,907 in special education money from the

state. However, it gained an additional \$496,798 in local tax revenue — including \$300,000 in delinquent property taxes — \$1.1 million from the state to offset increases in the state retirement program and \$523,652 from Wayne County RESA Act 18 money for special education.

On the expenditure side, the district saved \$263,288 in salary adjustments, but spent an additional \$296,176 in retirement salary changes. Its biggest savings, \$438,777, came in purchased services.

Larson-Shidler expects the district to finish the fiscal year with a fund equity just under \$3.8 million. That amount represents 3.6 percent of current expenditures and is below the 5-10 percent the board has set as parameters for fund equity and represents two weeks of operations or one payroll. It's also below the amount targeted for districts the size of

Wayne-Westland. Larson-Shidler told the school board that the staff was challenged to build a budget from zero.

"It took time and meant going through the 4,500 lines in the general fund budget," Larson-Shidler said. "We found some things that had been built into the budget historically; it wasn't big money."

Trustee Charles "Trav" Griffin praised the administration and the finance department on their budgeting.

"If you look around, you see school districts around us in deep financial trouble because they didn't make the cuts they needed to make," he said. "We can't control the revenue and who knows what will happen in May, but we have to remain diligent. I agree with a zero-based budget."

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734-674-2332
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JOINT INJECTIONS IN RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

When a joint flare occurs in a patient with rheumatoid arthritis, the physician may not turn to increasing the dose of methotrexate or adding a new drug such as Enbrel or Humira. Instead, the doctor may recommend a joint injection of cortisone.

What the physician expects to accomplish is to give the body an assist so that the medication already on board with the added help of a single injection can overcome the sudden surge in inflammation.

In rheumatoid arthritis, a steroid injection acts as a barricade against increased arthritis activity much like stopping a forest fire by halting its advance rather than pouring water over the acres already burned. Nature can take care of the area already stricken.

Steroid injection is most effective when the patient experiences a flare in a single joint such as a wrist, shoulder or knee. The physician often prefers not to increase a medicine such as methotrexate that brings possible side effects like hepatitis or anemia or add a therapy that can increase the risk of serious infection. The alternative is to inject the painful joint and give the procedure up to a week to resolve the pain and impairment.

If injecting the joint fails to provide relief, then patient and physician have good reason to take on the hazards of a more aggressive medical regimen.

A single injection into an inflamed joint can be repeated. There is no rule regarding how often to repeat and which joints are appropriate for a second injection. That decision comes out of a discussion between physician and patient and is a reason why an ongoing relationship between them is as essential as any medication.

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PATTERNS OF EVIDENCE: THE EXODUS
MON. 1/19 7:00 PM

AMERICAN SNIPER (R)
12:15, 3:25, 6:30, 9:20
FRI/SAT LS 11:20

PADDINGTON (PG)
11:30, 2:10, 4:35, 6:50, 9:05

BLACKHAT (R)
12:35, 3:45, 6:40, 9:30
FRI/SAT LS 11:15

THE WEDDING RINGER (R)
12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:20, 9:45
FRI/SAT LS 12:00

TAKEN 3 (PG-13)
11:15, 1:50, 4:20, 7:05, 9:35
FRI/SAT LS 12:00

UNBROKEN (PG-13)
FRI/SUN/TUE 11:45, 3:10, 6:20, 9:15
SAT 6:20, 9:15
MON/WED 11:45, 3:10

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: SECRET OF THE TOMB (PG)
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Culinary event will benefit home for disabled

The Italian American Club of Livonia will hold its 20th Anniversary Culinary Extravaganza, supporting the St. Louis Center in Chelsea, on Sunday, Jan. 25.

Dinner service begins at 1 p.m., following Mass at noon. There will also be a silent auction, gift raffle, lottery board and live entertainment by the Optomystics, a '50s-era "doo-wop" vocal group.

"We expect another great event this year, with plenty of food from the generous restaurants and bakeries in our community," Committee Chair Mary Galasso said.

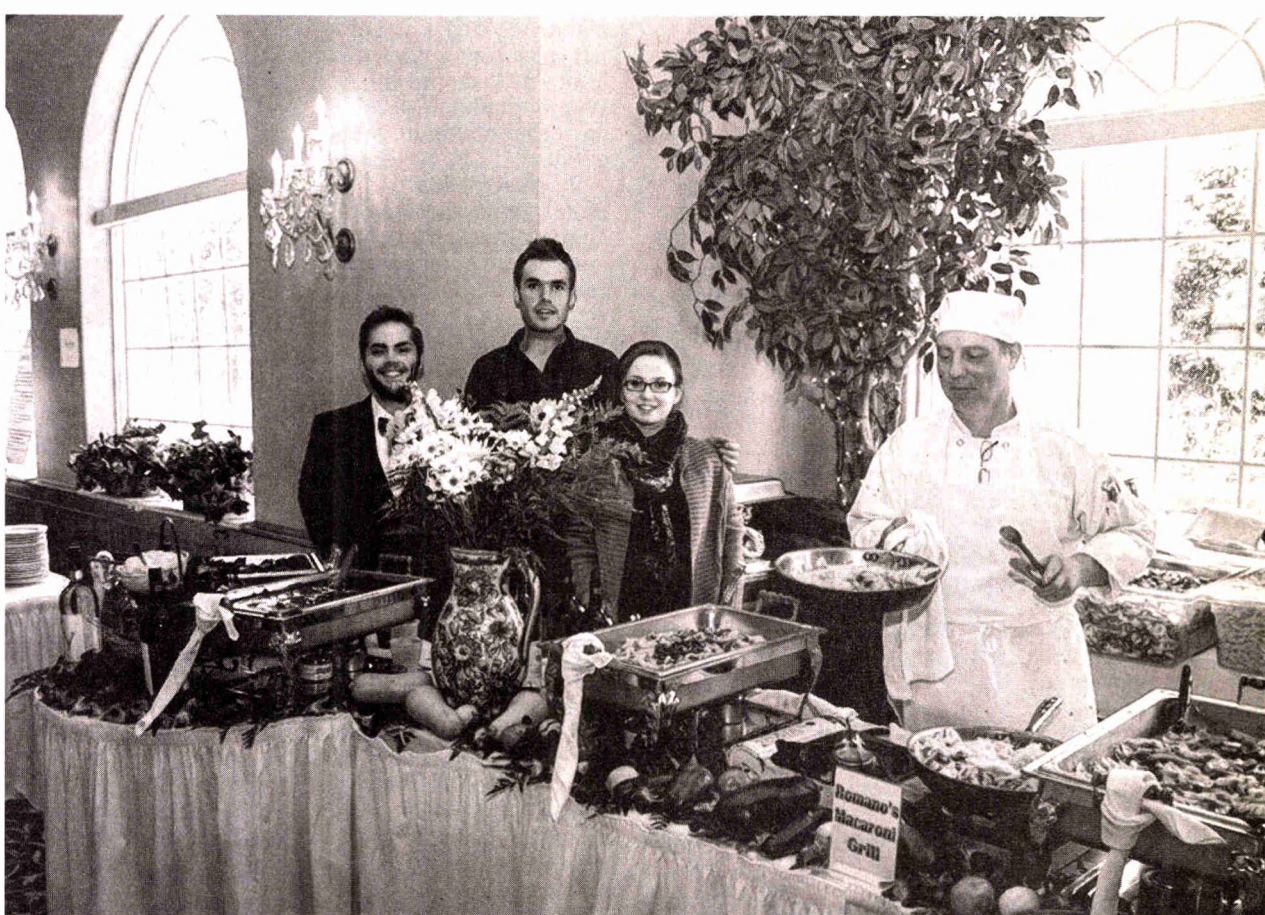
Participating restaurants include: Aubree's Pizza, Northville; Bahama Breeze, Livonia; Claddagh Irish Pub, Livonia; Comparis on the Park/Fiamma Grille, Plymouth; Food on Wood Mediterranean, Northville; Italian American Banquet Center, Livonia; Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches, Livonia; La Bistecca, Plymouth; Little Bangkok Cuisine, Plymouth; Mexican Fiesta, Canton; Senate Restaurant, Northville; Station 885, Plymouth; and Volare Ristorante, Novi.

Representing bakeries, cafes, fruit and candies include: Dunia Sweets, Livonia; Heritage Bakery, Livonia; Joe's Produce, Livonia; Kilwins Chocolates, Plymouth; Mary Dennings Cake Shop, Westland; and Tuscan Café, Northville.

Wine tasting will be provided by Andy Abro of Super Fine Wines in Canton

To purchase tickets, contact Bea King at 734-420-4481 in Livonia, or Joe Yekulis at 734-475-8430 in Chelsea. Tickets are \$60 each, and tables of 10 are available for \$600.

The St. Louis Center provides residential care for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



Staffers look on as a chef from Romano's Macaroni Grill prepares his pasta dishes for a previous Culinary Extravaganza.

Peters: 'We can compete with anyone'

By Jay Grossman
Staff Writer

U.S. Sen. Gary Peters, D-Michigan, gave a major shout-out to the state's labor force Monday as he toured the floor of the North American International Auto Show.

"When I go to the West Coast, I've had the privilege of traveling through Silicon Valley and seeing high-tech and touring some of the businesses there," Peters said. "And when I go there, the thing that strikes me is everything I see there we have here in Michigan."

"So we can compete with anyone in this country. We can certainly compete with anyone in the world – and most folks don't realize the

talent we have here in southeast Michigan."

Peters happened to be touring the Chrysler display when he talked about President Obama's decision to go forward in 2009 with the bailout of Chrysler and General Motors.

Peters himself played a key role in making sure Chrysler was a part of the bailout. He was serving in Congress and the Chrysler headquarters in Auburn Hills was in his district. Peters said the popular sentiment at the time was to bail out General Motors, but not Chrysler.

"I fought that very aggressively and thankfully the president also agreed that Chrysler

should also receive the loans that were necessary to keep it alive," Peters said Monday.

"And now, when you look at the display here and automobiles that are being made in Michigan and across the United States and all the folks who are employed – not just Chrysler jobs, but all the auto suppliers who supply the parts and pieces that go into an automobile – it was the right thing to do and it was an incredible success."

Peters joined Obama on Air Force One last week as they flew to Michigan to tour the Ford Motor Co. assembly plant in Wayne.

"I was very pleased to fly in with him on my

first full day as a senator to talk with him about the auto industry," Peters said. "He's a big believer in the domestic auto industry and will continue to be very supportive. ... We talked quite a bit about Michigan and some of the things that are happening here and he was very curious as to how the state's economy is going."

Peters also talked about changes within the industry, how it's moving from a factory floor to a computer screen.

"Now you're seeing where the industry going and it's very exciting," he said. "It's not just about the mechanical

part of the car – the engine, the horsepower, the fuel economy – we're now seeing how computers and apps are coming into these vehicles. They're totally integrated vehicles using very high-tech applications to give drivers incredible experiences and information at their fingertips while they're driving. It's probably the next frontier for automobiles and U.S. automakers are really leading that charge."

On that note, Peters said the auto show is the perfect showcase to display that talent.

"We're blessed here in southeast Michigan to have more engineers per

capita than any other region in the country," he said. "Most people around the country don't realize the incredible talent pool we have in this area. And because we have that incredible resource, it will bring even more business into our area."

"If you have engineers that understand how to bring in those kinds of apps into automobiles, you don't have to stop with automobiles. You can also jump-start a lot of other industries and other types of high-tech applications."

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Peters

Livonia company shows off aerodynamic simulations at show

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

When it comes to building aerodynamic vehicles, most car companies have needed to build several models to test in wind tunnels and other conditions. But using technology from one company located in Livonia may make those test models less needed.

Exa, a company headquartered in Burlington, Mass., and which has an office in Livonia, demonstrated its cloud-based technology this week at the North American International Auto Show at Cobo Center in Detroit.

The vehicle simulation the company ran at its booth during the auto show press previews was a 2015 Jaguar XE. Complete with three-dimensional glasses, viewers can see the aerodynamics in action on a simulated vehicle on a screen in the basement of Cobo Center.

"They designed the entire aerodynamics digitally, and they didn't build a single (model) that they put in a wind tunnel to track the aerodynamics," said Ales Alajbegovic, vice president of ground transportation applications and an Ann Arbor resident. "When they built the first model, they tested it because they wanted to see how it works, and it worked as designed."

Dwight Pugsley, director of North American auto sales, said most car companies are using their technology, with the exception of Mercedes and Volvo.

Using the technology



Ales Alajbegovic is vice president for ground transportation applications for Exa Corp. Nearly all of the world's auto manufacturers use Exa's airflow simulations.

allows companies to maintain speed and accuracy when designing vehicles, said Pugsley, who lives in Brighton.

"We supply this technology to all the OEMs worldwide," he said. "They utilize this for aerodynamics, aeroacoustics and thermal. "Every car you see, sleek and streamlined, is a result of using our digital technology."

The program also allows for several team members to view and utilize the equipment through a Web-based infrastructure, allowing those working on a simulation to be in several locations at a time.

The company, which also has offices in France and Japan, moved their Michigan office from Ann Arbor to Livonia several years ago to be closer to the

automakers in the Metro Detroit area. They moved to Novi first before heading near Laurel Park Place. They then expanded further, moving across I-275 to an office near Six Mile and Haggerty three years ago.

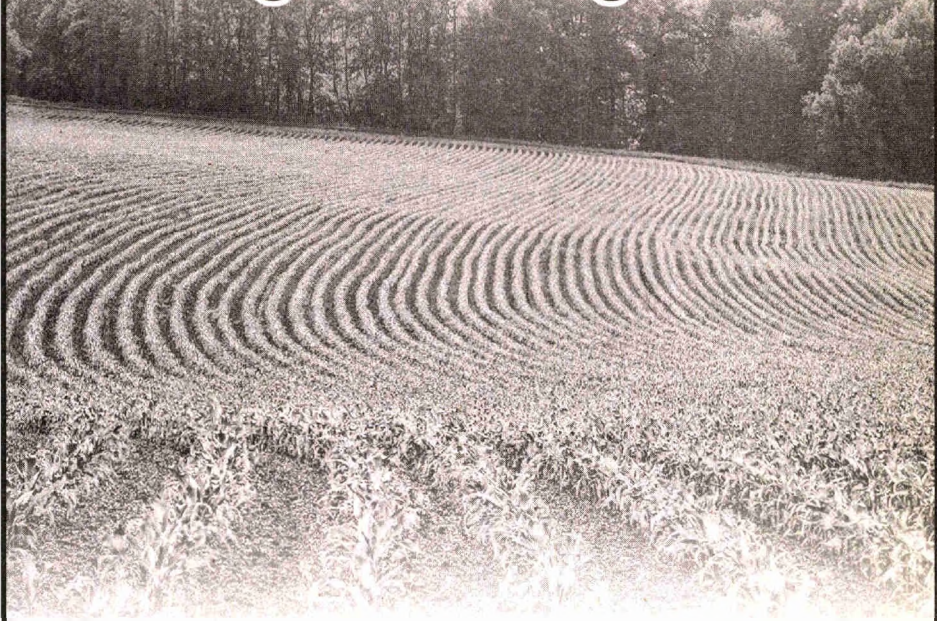
"It was ideal in having the highway corridor, with easy access," Pugsley said. "I moved it because it was closer to the OEMs."

In addition to changing locations, the company has increased its Michigan employee base as well, going from a few employees to several dozen.

"When I took over the office, there was two of us," Pugsley said. "Now, there are 25."

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The seller is a local Birmingham resident, looking to raise equity for additional business development of the expansion of his seed and beef companies.

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Area auto dealerships look forward to 2015

By David Veselenak, Nathan Mueller and Jay Grossman
Staff Writers

When it comes to cars expected to roll off the sales lot at Bill Brown Ford in Livonia this year, one vehicle comes to marketing director Andrea Calvanese's mind: the 2015 Ford F-150.

With all the attention focused on the new truck, one of the leaders in sales, it's no surprise it's the new truck that's drawing a lot of attention to the dealership at 32222 Plymouth in Livonia.

"We're pretty fortunate to be in the heart of Ford country," she said. "We've already had quite a bit of eagerness surrounding that kind of vehicle."

Bill Brown Ford is just one area dealership prepping for a big 2015 as the beginning of the North American International Auto Show begins at Cobo Center in downtown Detroit.

The truck, being built in Dearborn, sports a new, lighter aluminum body, one of the big reasons the F-150 is turning heads in Livonia, Calva-

neso said. "I think the aluminum body is a big one," she said. "I just think there's so much more excitement around this vehicle, because it offers so much more than the previous models."

The dealership was a stop on the Ford F-150 Drive Tour back in December, which gave the dealership's customers a first look at the new truck.

After that stop, Calvanese said anytime a truck is on the lot, it is purchased quickly.

"Whenever we get one, they're usually gone pretty quickly," she said. "We're continuing to get more units on our lot all the time."

Lou LaRiche Chevrolet

Being a part of the Plymouth community is one of the keys to success for Lou LaRiche Chevrolet.

The dealership has been in business since 1970 and is heavily involved in the Plymouth community, including a donation for Plymouth's Miracle League field that was built in 2011 for spe-

cial needs kids. Lou LaRiche also contributes to Make-A-Wish, the annual Plymouth Fall Festival and other community events.

Located at 40875 Plymouth Road, the dealership itself recently underwent an extensive remodeling and expansion.

"Walk into the showroom and you'll see everything is bright and lit up," sales manager Debbie Dowling said Wednesday. "Right now, we have two Corvettes, a Camaro, a Cruze, an Equinox, Traverse, Impala, Malibu and the all-new Chevrolet Trax on the floor today."

Scott LaRiche is serving as the chair of the 2015 North American International Auto Show, an honor his dad, Lou LaRiche, held exactly 20 years ago in 1995. Dowling said the auto show is the perfect place to go for anyone interested in a new vehicle.

"It gives the public an opportunity to see everything in one place," she said. "Once they find the Chevy they're interested in, they can come to Lou LaRiche to purchase or lease it."



Bill Brown Ford in Livonia was a stop on the Ford F-150 Drive Tour back in December, which gave the dealership's customers a first look at the new truck.

What are some of the anticipated hot sellers for 2015? Dowling said the new Silverado is especially popular, but she expects all the Chevy products to do well.

Looking back on 2014, Dowling said the Lou LaRiche dealership and entire auto industry enjoyed a very successful year.

"I think it was a very good year — we were up over 2013, so that's always positive," she said. "Right now, we're just looking forward to 2015 with the products we have and increasing our

sales once again."

Atchinson Ford

Community involvement has been the calling card of Atchinson Ford since it opened more than 50 years ago in Belleville.

The family-owned dealership, located at 9800 Belleville Road, has been active on community boards and volunteer committees, supported charities and given back to various groups and schools.

Selling vehicles is what they do, but community-focused is who they are.

"It's a big thing for us," said Mike Sturtz, general sales manager. "Our owner is on the DDA, big with the Boys and Girls Club and chamber, you name it. If there is a group in town, he tries to get in the middle of it."

The success in the community also has translated to success in business.

Sturtz said while Ford Motor Co. had a pretty "level" year in terms of sales, their dealership was up 7 percent.

Atchinson also recently opened a new quick-lane store, giving them more capacity to do maintenance work and work on off-brands.

"Overall it was a record year for the overall health of the store," he said.

Sturtz said he is working on his projections for 2015 next week, but thinks they will come in "pushing 10 percent."

"I believe we can do it because we are in a growing community and have worked very hard to cater to the growing Canton community that doesn't have a Ford dealership in its city limits," he said.

Livonia artist brings the light to Detroit auto show



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gabriel Hall (left) and Daniel Land of New D Media stand by the smart city exhibit they built for DENSO Automotive.

By Jay Grossman
Staff Writer

Gabriel Hall is creating masterpieces out of light.

The 33-year-old artist from Livonia is the founder of New D Media, a pioneering company that specializes in projection mapping, in which high-powered projectors are used to create digital scenes on the sides of buildings and other canvases.

Scored with music, the images dart about as they tell a story and stir

emotions. "Projection mapping is a non-invasive way to add digital branding to architecture and the environment around you, using high-powered projectors to light up animation," Hall said. "The animation is especially fit so it uses the architecture like a movie screen for the story. It's a little bit of magic, a combination of science and technology, the 'wow' factor and a huge canvas."

The public can see the company's work at the 2015 North American International Auto Show. Hall and his team helped create a miniature "smart city" for DENSO automotive suppliers that illustrates how vehicles, homes and the surrounding infrastructure might connect to become more energy-efficient.

"V2V (vehicle to vehicle) is the major technology they're showcasing," Hall said. "Through this technology, cars 'talk' to each other in a way so that safe distances are always maintained and intersections are woven in a way that cars can cross through without stoplights."

New D Media first started working with DENSO at the 2015 Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. For the past month or so, Hall has been bouncing back and forth between Las Vegas and Detroit creating content, setting up the projects making sure the display plays back perfectly.

The company itself has been on a roll: Hard Rock Cafe hired it to create a massive digital clock on the side of the

Compuware building for a rocking New Year's bash. Another of its displays made it into the top 20 at ArtPrize 2014. And in 2012, Chevrolet hired New D Media to help with an ad for the World Series.

The company's work was displayed at the Detroit Institute of Arts and also the Detroit Public Library, where in 2012 it was hired to turn the front facade of the library into a building from ancient Rome.

"We've had a good run over the past few years," Hall said.

Hometown roots

Hall grew up in Livonia, graduating from Stevenson High School in 1999. His parents still live in Livonia, while he and his wife Joanie are raising a family in Farmington.

He studied film directing and special effects at the Center for Creative Studies in Detroit and then spent seven years working at a pair of ad agencies in Southfield and Birmingham.

At the same time, he was honing his skills in projection mapping as a video jockey at music festivals around the country.

"Because I was doing these stage designs and being the VJ, I noticed there were not a lot of companies that did the type of projection work that I specialized in," he said. "So I saw an opportunity to take this art form to different heights and commercialize it in ways to form a profitable company that uses the art form I want ... it hasn't been easy, but at

the same time it was pretty awesome work."

He formed New D Media in 2010 and was quickly joined by Daniel Land, a fellow CCS student who lives in Detroit. Sean Hodgson is an animator for the company, while John Hudson is the projector tech. Two other employees help build the sets.

There's a lot of detail work and expenses involved in each project. To light up buildings, for example, the company uses projectors that weigh over 100 pounds and cost up to \$4,000 a day to rent.

Next up

On Aug. 24, New D Media will be creating a digital piece for St. Mary's in Livonia to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide. For several reasons, it's a project that Hall is particularly proud of.

"Essentially, we'll be projecting 1.5 million particles onto St. Mary's bell tower from the bottom of the tower to the top over a four-hour period in memory of the 1.5 million souls lost in the genocide," he said.

Hall has received national recognition for his work, but he still sees himself as the hometown artist — holding a projector rather than an art brush.

"I'm thrilled to be representing Livonia with this art form," he said. "I've lived in this area my whole life and I'm just happy I can shine a good light on it."

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ZF Group poised for 'historic' year

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

ZF Group CEO Stefan Sommer said his company recognized that it has to "speed up in the area of driver assistance and in the area of autonomous driving" if it is going to be a major player as a systems provider.

So in an effort to accomplish that goal, the German company with its North American headquarters in Northville Township is in the process of acquiring TRW Automotive. The acquisition is expected to be completed by the first half of this year.

TRW Automotive, based in Livonia, is a global leader in automotive safety as it pertains

to driver assist systems and vehicle safety systems. Sommer acknowledged there was a need to have access to them.

"It is a great opportunity," Sommer said Tuesday morning from the floor of the North American International Auto Show. "We have complementary operations, so we will not replace anything, we will not close and we will not merge anything."

"We will add all the contents together."

Sommer said even in the early stages of the acquisition, TRW employees have begun to embrace the change and are "looking forward to starting all the activities of common technology and collaboration with all the

ZF people."

"We will learn from each other and it will be great job opportunity for everyone contributing to this story on a global basis," Sommer said.

And while ZF Group – which develops and produces transmissions, steering systems, axles and chassis components, as well as complete systems for passenger cars, commercial vehicles and off-road machinery – has an obvious focus on the global market, its success in North America is key.

In 2014, ZF Group's sales in North America rose to an estimated \$4.9 billion, about a one-fifth increase compared to the previous year. Sommer expects 2015 to also show "strong growth."

"This is really the center of our activities and we expect this will continue throughout the next two years," he said.

The company unveiled its second-generation eight-speed automatic transmission last August and plans on launching its plug-in hybrid version of the eight-speed automatic transmission this year.

There were 2.6 million eight-speed automatic transmission units produced in 2014, a number Sommer called "amazing." The new generation has further developments that help achieve an additional 3-percent fuel savings.

Major U.S. manufacturers such as Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge are already using the eight-



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ZF Group senior production engineer Jeff Yates (right) talks with former ZF employee Mike Jones at the auto show.

speed transmission in their vehicles.

Bryan Johnson, a Canton resident and manager of marketing and communications for the ZF Group, said 2015 will be a historic year for ZF Group, which also is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

It's an accomplishment, but also a motivational tool for Sommers. "It's a great (foundation) for us as we develop and design the next 100 years of a successful future for this company," he said.

Camera Club Council will exhibit 'Best of Best' 2014 photos

The Greater Detroit Camera Club Council will display its "Best of The Best" print photography exhibit during the month of February in the art gallery on the second floor of the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile.

More than 90 winning 16- by 20-inch color and monochrome images, all matted, will be on display.

An artists' open house and reception with light refreshments will be held 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4. The images are not for sale, but the names and titles of each image are displayed along with the image.

The GDCCC is a group of 10 area camera clubs from metro Detroit, as well as Toledo and Windsor.

Meetings and competitions are held at the local clubs on a regular basis and the best images are selected and sent to the GDCCC for further competition. At the end of the year, the best images that were submitted to the GDCCC for competition during the year are selected as the best of the year. A banquet is held yearly to honor the best photographs of the year – both digital and prints.

The library art gallery is open during library hours: from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday.

For more information, call Jerry Jordan at 734-464-4202 or Bill Buchanan at 586-566-8823.

Wayne-Westland district receives tips from OK2SAY

A comprehensive school safety initiative is proving to be successful in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

Launched last September by state Attorney General Bill Schuette, OK2SAY has already provided Wayne-Westland Schools with confidential information that has helped the district respond to critical student needs, according to John Albrecht assistant superintendent for instruction.

"Providing students and families with the resources to report potentially harmful behaviors or situations to

school officials across Michigan was much needed," Albrecht said. "By including Wayne-Westland Community Schools in the OK2SAY network, we hope to continue to better serve our students, their families and our communities."

It's a sentiment shared by Schuette and Michigan State Police Director Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue, who recently announced a significant first semester success for OK2SAY which generated 410 tips, including 163 tips on bullying and cyberbullying, 54 threats of suicide and 13 tips on

child abuse.

"OK2SAY is working to keep our kids safer in Michigan communities and schools," Schuette said.

"OK2SAY has been successful in giving students the opportunity to break the code of silence by submitting tips by telephone, text, web, email and multimedia technologies," Etue said.

In Wayne-Westland, school officials received information through OK2SAY after two John Glenn High School students were hospitalized after using the synthetic drug Cloud 9.

OK2SAY operates as

an early warning system in schools to thwart tragedies before they occur. Created as a result of the Student Safety Act of 2013, OK2SAY's focus is on early intervention and prevention.

OK2SAY was modeled after Safe2Tell, a Colorado program started after the 1999 Columbine tragedy. It enables students to confidentially report potential harm or criminal activities aimed at students, teachers, staff or other school employees. It became operational in Michigan schools Sept. 2 and by Dec. 19, 410 verified tips had been received by MSP operators

through phone calls, text messages, web and mobile app submissions.

The key features of OK2SAY include confidential reporting and 24/7 operations. Students, teachers, parents, school workers, friends and neighbors can all submit tips, if they are aware of a threat in school by calling 8-555-OK2SAY, 855-565-2729, texting 652729 (OK2SAY), emailing ok2say@mi.gov or online at www.mi.gov/ok2say.

An OK2SAY mobile app also is available for download in app stores for iPhone and Android.

– By Sue Mason

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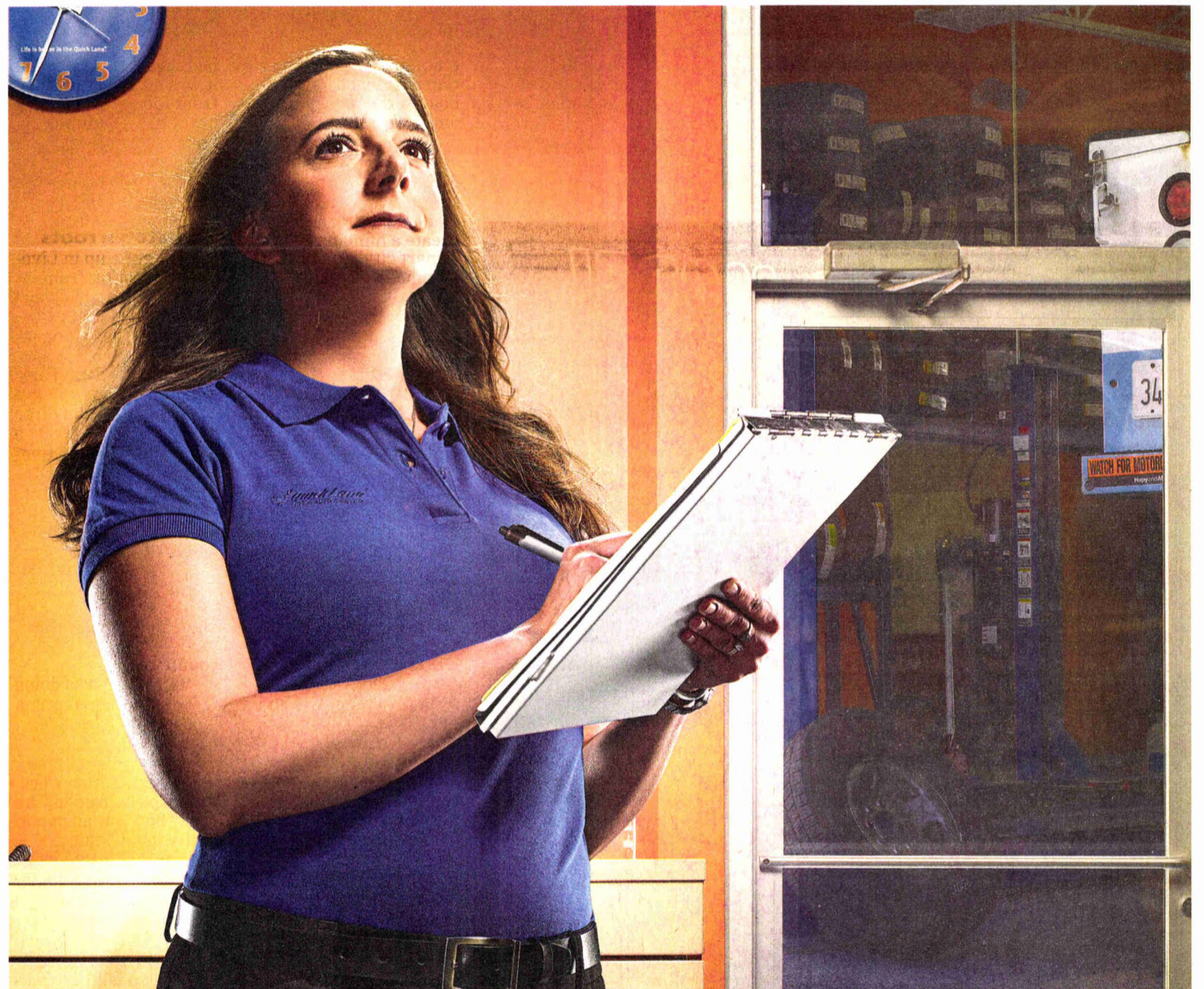
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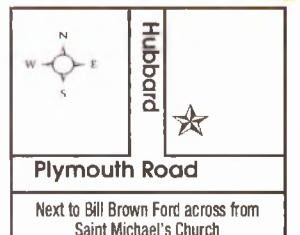


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Mother of disabled son launches fundraiser

By Beth Jachman
Staff Writer

A Redford mom has launched a fund drive to help her transport her disabled son and to raise awareness of a dangerous virus.

Seven-year-old Dameon Demarest contracted cytomegalovirus, or CMV, while in the womb, leaving him disabled, blind and hearing impaired, according to his mom Stacey Conley.

Now she's started a fundraiser on youcaring.com in the hopes of getting a wheelchair accessible van to make it easier for her to transport Dameon.

"My goal is to get the van and also to get the word out about CMV. CMV is terrible for pregnant people," Conley said. "I still blame myself."

Born Sept. 13, 2007, at 5 pounds, Dameon failed his newborn hearing test and underwent further blood testing. It was then that doctors gave Conley the news - her first

child had CMV. "We'd never heard of it. No one around us had heard of it," she said. "I basically had to do my own research."

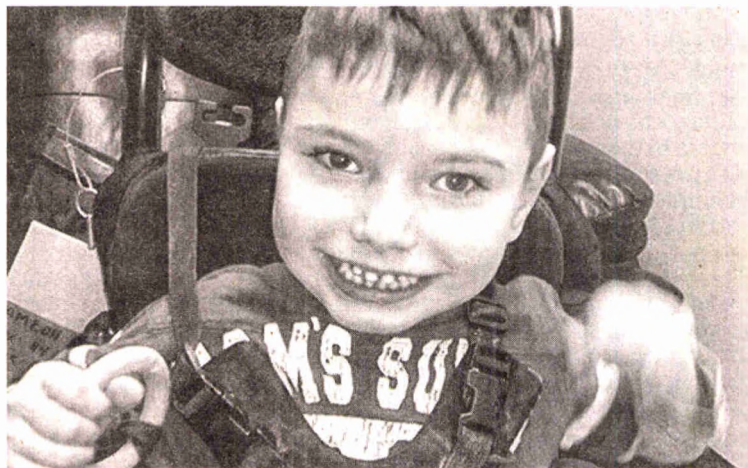
"They can't tell me when I contracted it," she added. "I definitely contracted it within my first six months of being pregnant."

A virus

"It's a virus," she said. "I don't touch doorknobs anywhere I go anymore."

Cytomegalovirus is related to the viruses that cause chickenpox, herpes simplex and mononucleosis. CMV is a widespread and common virus that can infect almost anyone. But healthy children and adults who contract the infection usually have few if any symptoms, so CMV often goes undiagnosed, according to mayo-clinic.com.

After Dameon was born, doctors warned Conley of the complications he would face. He was 10 months old before he could roll over and even



Dameon is confined to a wheelchair.

now doesn't crawl and can't sit up without assistance.

Now that he is getting older, he is too big for car seats, but he can't just be strapped in a seat belt, Conley said.

"Getting him in a car seat is unsafe. The weight for those car seats doesn't go any higher," she said. "You have to strap him in. He can't just sit

on the seat." Conley and her boyfriend only have a truck, which he needs for work, but which also doesn't have room for a wheelchair.

She managed to get a wheelchair ramp installed at her home last spring to help her get Dameon out to the school bus, which he rides to Cooke

School in Northville.

Younger kids

She also has two younger children, Jaydon and Justice, who were born without CMV. "I questioned it when I got pregnant with the second kid," she said. "I was very scared."

Jaydon has trouble relating to Dameon, but Justice plays with him all the time, Conley said. But having a disabled son does cause limitations for family outings.

"I restrict the other two a lot because of Dameon," she said. She is trying to raise \$5,000 for the van, but has only raised \$125 so far, she said.

"At least I tried. My goal is to do for him anything I can," she said.

She has been a member of a CMV moms advocate group for seven years, she said.

To donate, go to youcaring.com/other/please-help-dameon-get-a-wheelchair-accessible-van-227912#.VKyt-3eH3A-mailto.

Cat rescued after being found frozen to Redford porch

By Beth Jachman
Staff Writer

A young male cat is on the mend after being found Wednesday frozen to a front porch in Redford.

His two front paws were frozen to the porch and bleeding, Redford Animal Control Officer Dan Brown said.

A homeowner, who is not the owner of the cat, tried to pick him up off his front porch near Curtis and Five Points to help him and found that he was frozen to it. He then called animal control, Brown said.

Brown arrived to help him. "I went to the neighbor's house and asked for some room temperature water (to free his paws)," Brown said. "Hot water would have only made it worse."

Although the front paws of the young cat were frozen, his back paws weren't - but that's

only because he urinated and that unfroze them, Brown said.

"There was a lot of blood on the porch. He had been out there long enough for blood to coagulate," Brown said.

A neighbor heard meowing the night before, so he was probably out there all night, Brown said.

Brown contacted Tail Waggers which is now caring for the cat.

"Tail Waggers is housing the cat until his wounds heal up," Brown said.

The cat should recover. His paw pads had come off, but it didn't look like he had frostbite, Brown said.

For being so young, Flick - as rescue workers are calling him after the character in *A Christmas Story* who got his tongue stuck to a freezing pole - is very sweet and approachable, said Laura Zain, founder of Tail Waggers's.

Purring the whole time

"He never stopped purring the whole time he was here," she said. "Usually they are terrified."

An animal technician has taken him home to offer round-the-clock care such as applying ointment to his paws to help the healing process, Zain said.

The all-black non-neutered cat is estimated to be under one year old and appears owned because he has a collar, flea collar and his front paws are declawed, she said.

When he arrived, besides his injured paws, he had a collar so tight around his neck it left an indentation, Zain said.

"It was probably put on when the cat was much smaller," she said. So he has probably just been left to fend for himself, she said.



A young cat is being cared for by Tail Waggers after being found frozen to a Redford front porch.

He was also starving, she said.

Even with all that, he started purring, she said.

"It makes everything that we do worthwhile when that little guy started purring," she said. "This is why we do what we do."

Can't be charged

If the owner is found, he or she won't face charges be-

cause there is no ordinance against leaving a cat out.

"It's not illegal for a cat to be outside. It's frowned upon," Brown said.

Brown said he has seen a lot of cats outside during the recent frigid temperatures this winter, but is not sure if they are feral.

He has had a couple of incidents of people leaving their dogs out without a doghouse, he said. In one case there is pending prosecution for leaving a dog out, he said.

He also had a reminder for pet owners: "Today (Wednesday) was a tough day. As I've said in the past, please bring your animals inside during harsh weather conditions."

If anyone knows the owner, contact Redford Animal Control at 313-387-2565. The owner will have to go through animal control to get the cat back, Brown said.

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PLYMOUTH WHALERS GOING TO FLINT

'BITTERSWEET'



Speaking during Wednesday's press conference at Compuware Arena are (from left) Mike Vellucci, Peter Karmanos Jr., Rolf Nilsen and Costa Papista. It was announced that Karmanos is selling the Plymouth Whalers to Nilsen's Flint-based IMS Hockey Corp., pending league approval.



Plymouth Whalers banners hang in the rafters of Compuware Arena. But Peter Karmanos Jr. lamented not being able to raise a banner as Memorial Cup champion.

Karmanos sorry to see Whalers go following 18 seasons in Plymouth, but time right for sale

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Peter Karmanos Jr. did his best to smile during Wednesday's press conference at Compuware Arena.

But the 71-year-old Karmanos could not mask sadness about announcing his Plymouth Whalers are being sold to a group that will move the Ontario Hockey League major junior hockey franchise to Flint after the 2014-15 season.

"It's a bittersweet moment," Karmanos said, flanked by Whalers OHL governor Mike Vellucci and members of the IMS Hockey Corp. ownership group. "The best thing about this is that the OHL franchise remains in the states.

"Flint is an ideal location for an Ontario Hockey League team. They have a natural rival in the Saginaw team, as well as Sarnia sit-

ting just across the river. I've enjoyed owning the OHL team probably as much if not more than an NHL team."

The sale is pending approval of the OHL Board of Governors, of which former Whalers GM-coach Vellucci is a member. Details of the sale were not disclosed.

When the team begins play at 4,000-seat Perani Arena in 2015-16, it will not be known as the Flint Whalers, however.

IMS president Costa Papista said a community contest to come up with a new team name would begin as soon as the OHL approves the sale.

Moving on

Vellucci, who last spring was hired as assistant general manager of hockey operations for the Karmanos-owned Carolina Hurricanes

See WHALERS, Page B3

BOYS BASKETBALL

Chiefs get early jump on 'Cats

Canton's Williams sparks 59-43 victory over KLAAs South rival

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The last time Canton played against a Park rival, the Chiefs came out sluggish and wound up losing to Salem.

That didn't set too well with Chiefs senior captain Greg Williams, who along with his teammates came out strong Friday night against Plymouth. Williams and Logan Ryan combined to score 25 points in the first half as Canton built a 32-21 halftime lead.

And despite a surge by the hard-charging Wildcats that cut the gap to 34-28 midway through the third quarter, Canton had enough gas in the tank to earn a 59-43 KLAAs South Division victory.

"We just played with a lot of enthusiasm," said Williams, who led all scorers with 21 points.

"Our last Park game against Salem, we came out flat and they came out to play.

"So we didn't want that same thing to happen. ... Plymouth is one of our biggest rivals. They don't like us, we don't like them. We came ready to play."

Conversely, the Wildcats had trouble out of the gate, falling behind 19-8 after the first and 30-13 with under three minutes to go in the second quarter, before getting closer at the break thanks to a 8-2 run.

"You can't dig yourself that big of a hole against really good teams," Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup said. "They came out and hit shots early against us. We did some uncharacteristically bad things, turning the ball over in key situations, not getting shots, getting poor shots."

Josh Reynolds led Plymouth with 13 points, while Randall Aikins tallied eight. Other Wildcats chipping in on offense were Brent Davis (seven points) and Deji Adebisi (six points).

In addition to Williams, the Chiefs were led by Logan Ryan's 10 points — all in the first quarter, when he couldn't be stopped.

Ryan got into early foul trouble, however, missing much of the final quarter after being whistled for his fourth foul of the night.

Adding eight points each for

See CHIEFS, Page B2

PREP BOYS HOCKEY

Max-ed out: Harper's hat trick dooms Salem to defeat

Rocks fall 5-4 to No. 2-ranked Rochester United

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

For two periods Wednesday night, the Salem Rocks gave No. 2-ranked Rochester United all it could handle in a non-conference varsity boys hockey matchup.

Salem senior goalkeeper Dillon Phillips stood on his helmeted head over the first 34 minutes of play as the Rocks finished the middle stanza deadlocked 2-2.

But the Rocks, and fans at

the Plymouth Cultural Center, got a glimpse at what elite forwards Max Harper and Marshall Bowery can do during the third period when Rochester United opened up a 5-2 lead — with Harper scoring two of the goals to give him a hat trick.

That gave the visitors enough of a cushion to withstand a rally by the Rocks, who scored twice in the final minute to bring the final to a respectable 5-4 count.

"I told them I'm not happy


with the result, but I'm proud of the way we battled back," Salem head coach Ryan Ossenschlager said. "A game like this, it's a matter of a couple plays here and there. We missed a breakaway, we missed a backdoor tap-in. We had our opportunities.

"If we capitalize on a couple of those, you never know what happens. But they're a good team, there's a reason they're undefeated."

See SALEM, Page B3




Salem junior forward Evan Newel, shown from a game earlier this season, tallied a goal and an assist Wednesday against Rochester United.



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CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

Canton (8-1, 3-0) were Obi Okoli and Hamoudy Turfe.

Team effort

Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy said it helps to have players like Williams go to battle against rival teams: "He's the ultimate competitor, he's the best player on the floor every night."

But Reddy added that Friday's win was due to a "huge team effort, our competitiveness with our group this year has been outstanding."

After Plymouth scrapped back to cut the lead to 36-28, the Chiefs showed some of that will to win by strongly closing out the third and going up 44-30 after three.

Freshman Noah Brown canned a jumper from the left corner and Jalen Cochran scored on a layup.

The Wildcats continued to misfire around the Canton basket and an offensive rebound and put-back by Okoli made it 42-29.

For good measure, Okoli sliced through the lane for a nifty layup at the horn.

Plymouth then gave up a trey to Turfe in the opening minute of the fourth, falling behind 47-30.

From there, the Chiefs maintained a double-digit lead.

"We missed a lot of layups; we had a lot of self-inflicted wounds," Soukup said. "Canton was very good, but a lot of stuff was self-inflicted."

The game was the second half of a twinbill on "Military Appreciation Night," with all funds generated in the Canton-Plymouth doubleheader (the girls played the opener) going to the nonprofit organization Guardian Angels



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Plymouth's Randall Aikins (middle) pulls up to take a jumper over the outstretched arms of Canton's Jack Zemanski (left) during Friday's game.

Medical Dogs.

It is hoped that enough money was raised to provide service dogs for three U.S. military veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

SALEM 68, STEVENSON 52:

Salem came away victorious Friday against KLAA Central Division rival Livonia Stevenson, sparked by Allante Wheeler's 20 points and five rebounds.

Other key contributors for the Rocks (7-2 overall, 3-0 in the division) were Kenny Topolovec (12 points, 12 rebounds) and Jakob Lenders (12 points, 11 boards).

"We led pretty much from wire to wire," Sa-

lem head coach Bob Brodie said. "It was a closer game than the score indicated. We were tied at half. It was a battle, both teams played well."

Brodie added that strong rebounding and defensive pressure were keys to the victory.

"It was an overall good game for us," he said. "It's nice to go into the next week undefeated in the division. But we know we have tough opponents coming up."

Salem will visit Novi at 7 p.m. Tuesday and follow up Friday, Jan. 23, with a home game against South Lyon.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

COMEBACK 'CATS

Game of runs ends with Plymouth outscoring Canton 14-2 in fourth for win

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Plymouth looked out of sync in the third quarter of Friday's KLAA South Division varsity girls basketball match-up against Canton.

The Chiefs went on a 12-2 run in the third to turn a 21-17 halftime deficit into a 29-23 edge after three quarters, with all the momentum going Canton's way.

And midway through the fourth quarter, Canton junior guard Natalie Winters went in for a layup — with the Chiefs up 31-25 — only to have Plymouth senior wing Kendall Rose rise up for a crucial block.

That triggered a complete turnaround as the Wildcats went on a 12-0 run to end the game and post a 37-31 victory.

"I thought the block by Kendall Rose was vital in terms of giving us a little momentum," Plymouth head coach Nick Brandon said. "The biggest thing was when we put Cassidy Lewis back into the game (in the fourth)."

"She really did some things offensively. We were pretty stale there for a couple minutes. She had a couple nice takes and it just seemed to get us going."

On the flip side, the Chiefs (4-5 overall, 2-1 in the KLAA South) suddenly could not get quality offensive chances against the pesky Plymouth defense.

"The third quarter, we came out and played our style defensively. We held them to two points," Canton head coach Kevin Palmer said. "But we played very timid and kind of hesitant in the fourth quarter and that's when, as a team, you got to be able to put teams down."

"You need to play strong, aggressive and confident and it looked like our girls lost their confidence when Plymouth looked to make a run."

Determined group

Plymouth (7-2, 3-0) rallied despite losing starting senior post Leah Kliczinski to an apparent knee injury during the first half. She scored four points before leaving the contest and was using crutches to come out for the second half.

"This was not about X's and O's or any chess match between coaches," Brandon said. "This was about players on the floor that want it. And our players just wanted this game so badly."

"And to do that without Leah Kliczinski — they had my respect, but they sure increased it tonight."

Brandon said it was the first Plymouth victory over Canton "in



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Looking to shoot for Plymouth Friday night is Patti Begoske (No. 10), while Canton's Alanna Brown (No. 15) defends.



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Canton's Natalie Winters (No. 3) tries to dribble past Plymouth's Kendall Rose (No. 11) during Friday's game.

years and they (Wildcats) just wanted it more."

Rose led the Wildcats with nine points, while senior point guard Paige Slominski and senior post Patti Begoske each tallied seven. Chipping in with six points and seven rebounds was senior point guard Courtney LaVallee.

For Canton, sophomore guard Erin Hult scored nine points, but only three after a sizzling start of the game when she sank three straight jumpers in the first 4:30 of play.

Senior forward Alanna Brown (six points) played a strong defensive game. Adding five points each were Winters and sophomore Brianna Finn.

Plymouth's first big run of the game came in the second quarter. A 10-1 surge erased a Canton lead and put the Wildcats up 21-17 at halftime.

Book-ending that run were treys by Slominski and Rose.

Canton rallies

But then the Chiefs got going. A 3-pointer by Finn cut Plymouth's edge to 21-20 with 5:45 left in the third.

Following a bucket by

LaVallee, the Chiefs scored the final nine points of the quarter.

Junior Madison Archibald drained a trey from well beyond the top of the arc and Winters followed with a triple from the left corner, putting Canton up 26-23 with 2:15 remaining.

A layup by Hult (on a nifty bounce pass from Archibald) made it 28-23.

The Chiefs looked ready to close out the Wildcats, but then Rose swatted away the layup bid by Winters and Finn hit a running banker, slicing the deficit to 31-27.

Plymouth swiped the ball on the ensuing inbounds pass and Rose scored, then the Wildcats tied it up following another takeaway and basket by Rose with 2:50 left.

A steal by Rose led to Slominski's layup, putting Plymouth ahead to stay.

SALEM 40, STEVENSON 27: In a KLAA Central Division match-up Friday night, visiting Salem defeated Livonia Stevenson to improve to 5-4 overall and 3-0 in the division. The Rocks coasted after building a 22-6 halftime lead.

Lasha Petree led the Rocks with 12 points, including 4-for-4 from behind the 3-point arc. Shara Long contributed nine points and nine rebounds.

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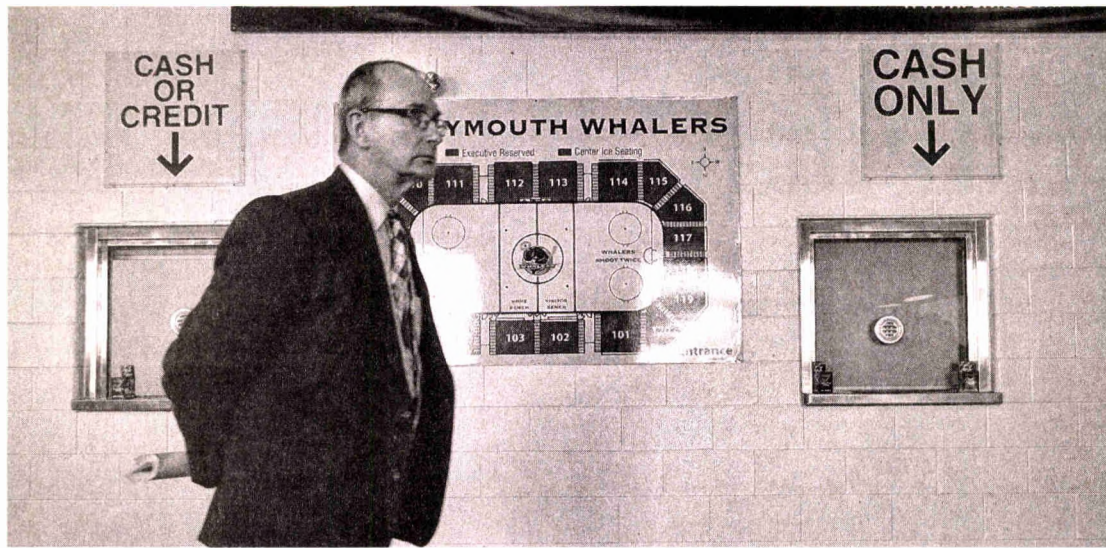
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Longtime Plymouth Whalers spokesperson Pete Krupsky walks past the box office just before the press conference begins. The future following the 2014-15 season for longtime employees such as Krupsky remains in doubt, following the team's announced sale to a Flint group.

WHALERS

Continued from Page B1

of the National Hockey League, dismissed the notion that the sale stemmed from trouble cracking the Detroit Red Wings-dominated market for media coverage and fans.

"He's owned it for 30 years. Rolf (Nilsen, IMS owner) bought the team and he wants to move it to Flint," Vellucci said during an interview following the announcement. "USA Hockey's coming in here. It has nothing to do with (that) it won't work in this market. It's worked in this market. But it's time to move on."

Karmanos himself admitted frustration with low attendance at Compuware (about 2,300 per game, in a facility that seats about 3,500) during a May 2014 press conference.

Meanwhile, USA Hockey and Karmanos recently announced that a sale of Compuware Arena was in the due diligence stage. Once that is approved, within the next couple of months, USA Hockey will bring the prestigious U.S. National Team Development Program over from the Ann Arbor Ice Cube.

Wednesday, however, Karmanos downplayed the role of attendance in the decision to sell the OHL franchise after 25 years, including 18 seasons at Compuware.

"No, not at all," Karmanos said. "With USA Hockey coming in and running the arena, it's sort of a conflict, having an Ontario Hockey League team here at the same time."

"So we're going to concentrate more on making sure the team ends up in a place that is accessible to the fans that would come to these games. Flint's not that far away."

Status quo

According to Karmanos, plans are ongoing with USA Hockey that would enable the very successful Compuware Youth Hockey Program (which he founded) to remain in the Beck Road building.

"USA Hockey wants us to continue that program," Karmanos said. "We will continue that program, but we're going to put a few things in there that we've learned over the last 30 years to make it the best one in the country."

Karmanos bought the Windsor Spitfires in the mid-1980s, becoming the first American to own an OHL team.

He later was granted an OHL expansion team that first played in Detroit in 1989-90. The franchise eventually moved to Compuware Arena and became the Plymouth Whalers in 1997-98.

"So we convinced them (OHL owners) to sell the team to us," Karmanos said. "And then we were able to convince them to allow us to have a franchise in the United States."

"All those steps were a lot of fun. It's been nothing but a



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township soon will no longer host the OHL's Plymouth Whalers. Despite a winning tradition, the Whalers have struggled to fill the seats in recent years.

great experience."

Karmanos said the decision to sell the Whalers was tougher than retiring as CEO of Compuware Corp. in 2013, following a 40-year career.

"I'm 71 going on 72 and I have four young kids at home," Karmanos said. "And I'm trying to do a nice succession plan."

"I don't want to kick off and have my wife try to figure out what to do with a major junior hockey team - not that I plan to."

Winning legacy

Vellucci, a Farmington Hills native and former pro player who reached the NHL, spoke at the press conference about the winning legacy established during the Whalers' long run in Plymouth.

"There have been several great players that have come through this building over the last 18 years," Vellucci said. "The Whalers have had (Tyler) Seguin, (James) Neal, (Justin) Williams, (David) Legwand, (Canton's James) Wisniewski."

Vellucci also thanked fans, corporate sponsors and billet families, among others, for unwavering support over the years.

Plymouth is attempting to reach the OHL playoffs for a league-record 24th consecutive year, much of that under Vellucci's watch.

The Whalers played in five OHL finals and won the league championship in 2006-07.

One of Karmanos' regrets was that Plymouth did not win the Canadian Hockey League's coveted Memorial Cup.

"It's bittersweet; we never did win the Memorial Cup, which I think is one of the hardest trophies to win in all of hockey," Karmanos said. "Harder than the Stanley Cup

in the sense that every four years, you start new with new players."

Final fling

On hand for the press conference were Mark Craig and Don Elland, who last year were hired to succeed Vellucci as the team's general manager and head coach, respectively.

Both said they will continue to work to bring Whalers fans one last playoff experience. As of Wednesday, the team was last in the OHL Western Conference - partly because of a rash of injuries.

"I'm worried about this year," Elland said. "We got to make the playoffs. ... I'd like to get (the team) into the playoffs. I think we owe it to the fans. That'd be a great way to send us off, so that's my focus."

Whether they (or any current team personnel, such as broadcaster and director of communications Pete Krupsky) also move with the team to Perani for 2015-16 remains to be seen.

"That will be up to the new ownership to decide at the end of the year," Vellucci said. "But they're all here for right now. ... I hope they all go either to USA Hockey or to Flint. But I don't have those answers."

Craig, who first worked with Karmanos in Windsor during the 1980s, said he and Elland "certainly had a feeling that this (sale of the team) could happen when Don and I came in."

"But for me," Craig added, "though it's bittersweet, it's kind of cool because I was here when we bought the first franchise in Windsor. ... It's full circle."

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FILE PHOTO

Plymouth goalie Jared Maddock (No. 20), shown from last season, blanked Canton Wednesday night to help the Wildcats win the game and the Lash Cup.

PREP BOYS HOCKEY

Wildcats blank Chiefs, claim Lash Cup

Plymouth's hockey team secured the Lash Cup with a 5-0 victory Wednesday over Canton at Arctic Edge Arena.

The Lash Cup is an annual trophy awarded to the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park hockey team with the best record against the other Park teams.

"It was a great team win," said team captain Josh Smith, a senior forward who garnered an assist in the game. "We turned it up in the second and third period. It's great seeing hard work pay off, but this is just a stepping stone for our team's future."

The Wildcats and Chiefs played a scoreless first period and each fired nine shots on goal, but Plymouth increased its offensive zone pressure in the second period.

Senior forward Simon Nesich found the net twice, once by poking in a loose puck near the crease at 2:12. Then he deflected in a shot from senior defenseman Jake Zaborowski for a power-play tally at 5:23. Nesich has five goals this season.

Twenty-eight seconds later, junior forward Max Chumley collected his first high school goal, set up with hard work by

linemates James Baldwin and Parker Lazorka.

In the third period, Plymouth padded their lead with a pair of power-play goals. Senior forward Drew Brace fired in his second goal of the season at 6:34, and junior forward Alex Bump chipped in his seventh goal of the year at 9:43.

The Wildcats outshot the Chiefs 24-9 in the final two periods, and converted on three of five chances with the extra man.

"Canton was the more assertive team in the first period and they had us on our heels," said Plymouth head coach Gerry Vento. "We started moving our feet in the second and third. It was nice to see balanced scoring for a big team win."

Senior goalie Jared Maddock made 18 saves to earn his sixth win of the year. It was the team's third shutout of the season. Canton goalie Nick Borg stopped 28 of 33 shots.

Baldwin and junior forward Zack Wiener each collected two assists for the Wildcats (9-3 overall, 8-1 in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association). Plymouth travels to Sault Ste. Marie this weekend for games against Soo High and Hancock.

SALEM

Continued from Page B1

Turning point

Scoring two goals for Salem (7-4-2) was senior forward Noah Willer, with other markers tallied by junior forwards Zach Goleniak and Evan Newel.

Phillips stopped 43 of 48 shots - many of the spectacular variety as he demonstrated lightning-fast reflexes with his legs and hands.

Counterpart Jared Myers made 23 stops to help Rochester United improve to 12-0-1.

The game might have turned on a play early in the third, with the game 2-all. Salem senior defenseman and captain Noah Saad slammed senior forward Torre Rocco into the boards, apparently knocking him unconscious.

Medical personnel attended to Rocco (who assisted on his team's first two goals) for about 10 minutes as the player remained on the ice in Salem's zone.

Although Rocco was taken off the ice on a stretcher and sent to an area hospital for observation, he was seen talking and moving to demonstrate the injury wasn't as serious as it first seemed.

Salem already was killing off a penalty when the Saad-Rocco play occurred; officials assessed Saad with a five-minute major penalty (boarding) with 15:34 to go.

"It's unfortunate that the player was hurt," Ossenmacher said. "I hope he's OK, I don't know the extent of it. But the reality is I don't think it was a dirty hit."

"... There was no initial call on the play. The call was the result of the injury. That's the rules now, we have to live with them."

Quick to strike

It took Rochester United only 16 seconds to cash in, with Harper scoring on a wrap-around at the left post.

"They ran a nice play behind the net and we didn't react to it well enough and they scored," Ossenmacher said. "At that point I thought we had a few things going right for us. That kind of took a little bit of wind out of our sails."

Harper (three goals, one assist) then scored with 4:52 remaining to open up a 4-2 edge. He took a pass from Bowery (one goal, three assists), rushed down the left wing, cut in on Phillips and found the mark.

Rochester United went up 5-2 with 2:30 left when senior forward Jimmy Pittel scored.

"From what I understand, there's been a couple NHL scouts that have watched him (Harper) throughout the last few months," Ossenmacher said. "Marshall Bowery played for me last year on Team Michigan. They're both very good hockey players. Their strength is the fact that they can skate."

"We tried to match some speed with them and we did a decent job for two periods, I think for the most part we were able to keep with them and contain them."

The Rocks made it a 5-3 game with 41 seconds to play when Newel rifled a shot home from between the circles. Setting up the power-play goal were sophomore forward Matt Schaumburger and senior forward Liam Walker.

In a case of too-little, too-late, Salem came right back down the ice and Willer scored his second goal of the game with 19 seconds left. Assisting were Schaumburger and Saad.

Trading goals

Rochester United's first goal of the night was registered by Harper at the six-minute mark of the opening stanza, but the Rocks answered.

Goleniak collected the puck at the side of the Rochester United goal and banked it in off of Myers, who was late returning to the right post. Setting up the tally were Newel and sophomore forward Shawn Weldon.

In the second, Bowery scored on a rebound with 6:21 remaining to put Rochester United up 2-1.

It only took Salem 33 seconds to get it back when Willer beat Myers from the slot. Walker and junior defenseman Bailey Thompson earned the helpers on the goal.

Next for Salem is Saturday's game (5:30 p.m.) against campus rival Canton at Arctic Edge Arena.

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Whalers stung early against Sarnia

The Plymouth Whalers Friday night fell behind 2-0 to host Sarnia before the Ontario Hockey League game was nine minutes old and the Sting went on to post a 5-2 victory.

It was Plymouth's first game since it was announced Wednesday by team owner Peter Karmanos Jr. that he was selling the team to a Flint group.

After Sarnia went up by

two goals, the Whalers sliced the deficit to 2-1 when Connor Chatham scored at 9:07 of the first period, just 40 seconds after Jordan Kyrou scored for the Sting (22-15-3-2).

But Anthony Salinitri got it back before the end of the period to make it 3-1 and it was 5-1 before the Whalers could strike again, on a tally by Connor Sills at 19:23 of the second. Assisting on Sills' goal were Francesco Vilardi

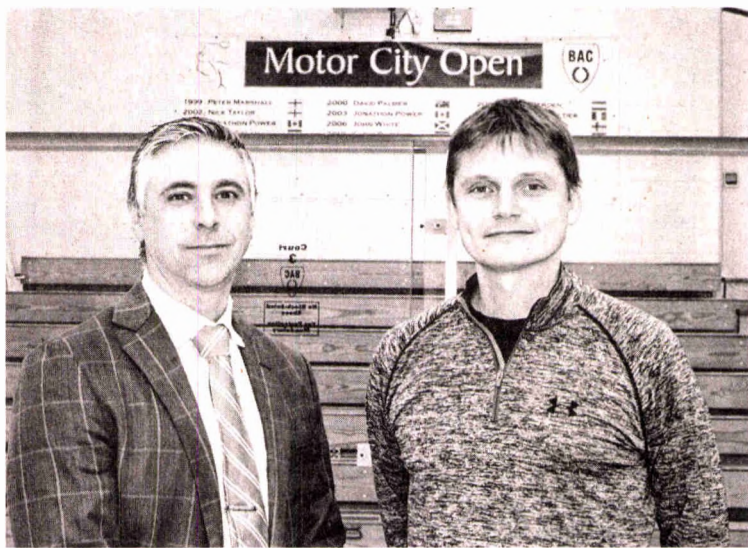
and Sonny Milano. There was no scoring in the third period, although Sarnia outshot Plymouth 13-11.

Plymouth (13-24-2-1) was slated to host Sudbury on Saturday night. At 2 p.m. Monday, the Whalers will welcome Saginaw for a Martin Luther King Jr. Day matinee.

There will be kids skate with the Whalers immediately following the contest.

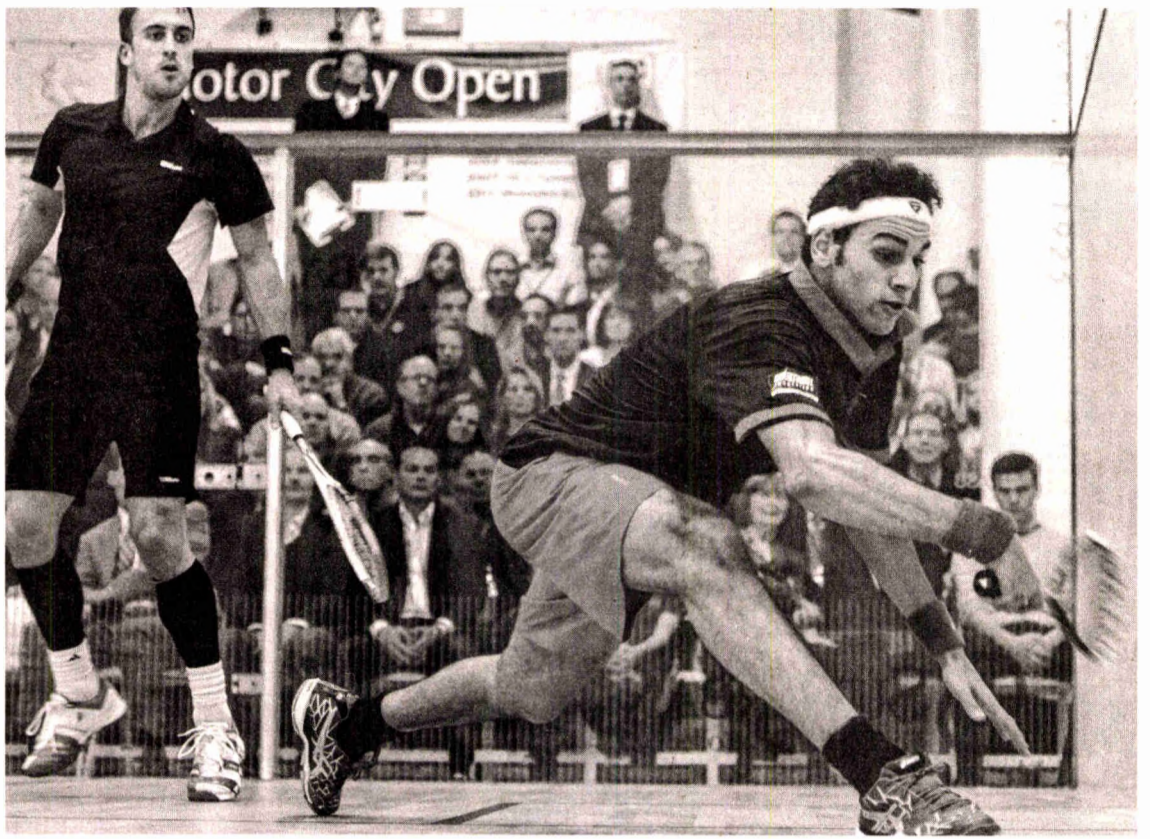
MOTOR CITY OPEN SQUASH TOURNAMENT

TOTAL IMMERSION



MARTY BUDNER

Motor City Open co-chairman Derrick Glencer (left) and tournament director Julian Wellings said squash fans will see the deepest field of professional players to ever hit the courts when action begins Thursday at the Birmingham Athletic Club. Glencer is a Salem alum.



Mohamen El Shorbagy (right) reaches for a shot in last year's MCO championship match against Peter Barker. Longtime MCO observers believe the classic five-set final was the most exciting in the tournament's 15-year history.

Salem grad Glencer eats up squash — the fast-action sport, that is

By Marty Budner
Staff Writer

Headliners abound

Derrick Glencer knew very little about squash three years ago. Now, you can't keep him away from the sport.

Glencer, a co-chair of the Motor City Open which begins this week at the Birmingham Athletic Club, loves playing and watching the fast-paced niche sport. The 1989 Plymouth Salem graduate is eagerly looking forward to this year's bash which has attracted the strongest field of squash pros ever to compete at the BAC.

"I'm a newbie to this sport and I've immersed myself because of the passion I've gotten from the likes of (BAC squash pro) Julian (Wellings) and everybody at this club," said Glencer, who is co-chair with Mike Beauregard. "It's a wonderful sport. Next week I'm going to be in heaven."

"From our perspective, if you're a squash fan, watching the pros play here is like watching Roger Federer in tennis," he said. "The squash equivalent (of Federer) will be here playing this week. To have those kind of players is amazing."

The Motor City Open, presented by longtime title sponsor The Suburban Collection, this year will include five of the world's top-10 ranked players for the first time in its 16-year history.

It will be headlined by the current No. 1 player and defending champion Mohamed Elshorbagy of Egypt. Shorbagy defeated England's Peter Barker in a classic five-game match last year played in front of more than 120 fans who awed and gasped at every hotly-contested point and witnessed perhaps the most exciting championship match ever.

In addition, the six-day tournament features two of the world's top three ranked players, and the main draw of 16 will include all top-25 ranked players. The final also will include five returning MCO champions — Shorbagy (2011, 2014), Amr Shabana (2013), Ong Been Hee (2012), Borja Golan (2009) and Olli Tuominen (2007).

The Pros will compete for a \$70,000 total purse, with the winner also receiving the coveted Rolex watch donated by Greenstone's Fine Jewelry.

It is the second-longest running pro squash event in North America only behind the traditional J.P. Morgan Tournament of Champions held annually inside New York's Grand Central Station. The MCO is an International 70 tournament — one of the highest levels designated by the Professional Squash Association (PSA).

"The top 12 in our main draw have all played here before, so we are really stacked," said Wellings, the MCO Tournament Director. "This is without a doubt the deepest field we've ever had. It is the first time we've ever had the world's current number one player."

MCO SQUASH SEEDS

The Motor City Open squash tournament begins this week at the Birmingham Athletic Club. Following are the MCO's top 12 seeds in the main draw:

MCO seeding	Country	World rank
1. Mohamed El Shorbagy	Egypt	1
2. Amr Shabana	Egypt	3
3. Peter Barker	England	6
4. Borja Golan	Spain	7
5. Omar Mosaad	Egypt	9
6. Miguel Angel Rodriguez	Colombia	12
7. Marwan El Shorbagy	Egypt	14
8. Mathieu Castagnet	France	15
9. Max Lee	Hong Kong	16
10. Nicolas Mueller	Switzerland	17
11. Cameron Pilley	Australia	18
12. Stephen Coppinger	South Africa	21

"Normally a field like that would put off some players, but they've all stayed in it and that's good news for us," he said. "I think we're benefiting from a lot of hard work and there's a lot of history here that we look after the players very well and they like to come back."

Strong reputation

The Motor City Open has developed an outstanding reputation among the world-wide touring squash pros.

Players are drawn to the Birmingham Athletic Club not only because of its plentiful purse and attractive Rolex bonus, but also because of the general welcoming feeling supplied by the BAC membership.

The pros are treated well by host families and enjoy playing at the well-kept BAC courts. They also take a keen interest in helping the junior players by participating in the various instructional clinics held in conjunction with the tournament. The MCO has the enthusiastic support of the BAC board and its membership.

The MCO traditionally raises funds for its two desig-

nated charities — The Barbara Ann Karmonos Cancer Center and RacquetUp Detroit — mainly through a silent auction. The BAC has donated more than \$150,000 to its charities over the years.

"We're a club, but it's more like a family atmosphere here. We love squash here," said Glencer. "The pros are very approachable and they like it here because we treat them like rock stars."

"We're really one of the top tournaments in North America and our field speaks to that," said Glencer. "That has to do with all of the sponsors and their efforts that they put in, and all the hard work that Julian puts in and his connections with the players."

The MCO begins with a 16-player qualifying round which will be held Thursday and Friday. The top four qualifiers advance to the main draw of 16 which begins play on Saturday.

Quarterfinals starts Sunday, with semifinals on Monday, Jan. 26 and the finals set for 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 27.

"This tournament has gotten better every year," said Wellings. "The matches from day one will be fantastic matchups. It's as good as it gets. We've set the bar high the last few years and the last thing we want to do is go below there."

PREP GYMNASTICS

Canton gymnasts defeat Salem

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Canton's varsity girls gymnastics team is shorthanded lately, due to injuries. But that isn't stopping the defending state champions from continuing on the winning track.

The Chiefs Tuesday defeated Salem 141.55-to-116.125 at the Autism Awareness Meet. All funds generated at the event will be donated to an autism fund.

Canton took all events other than balance beam.

"Canton has not competed with a full squad yet, so our future is still positive," noted Chiefs' head coach John Cunningham.

Salem, meanwhile, was without captain Lindsay Remski for the meet.

Scoring firsts for Canton were Stephanie Cos on vault (8.95), Jana Hilditch on uneven parallel bars (9.2) and Hailey Hodgson prevailed on floor exercise (9.35) and all-around (35.75).

"Stephanie had an excellent meet," said Cunningham, adding that Cox tallied a 9.2 on beam and a 9.1 on floor.

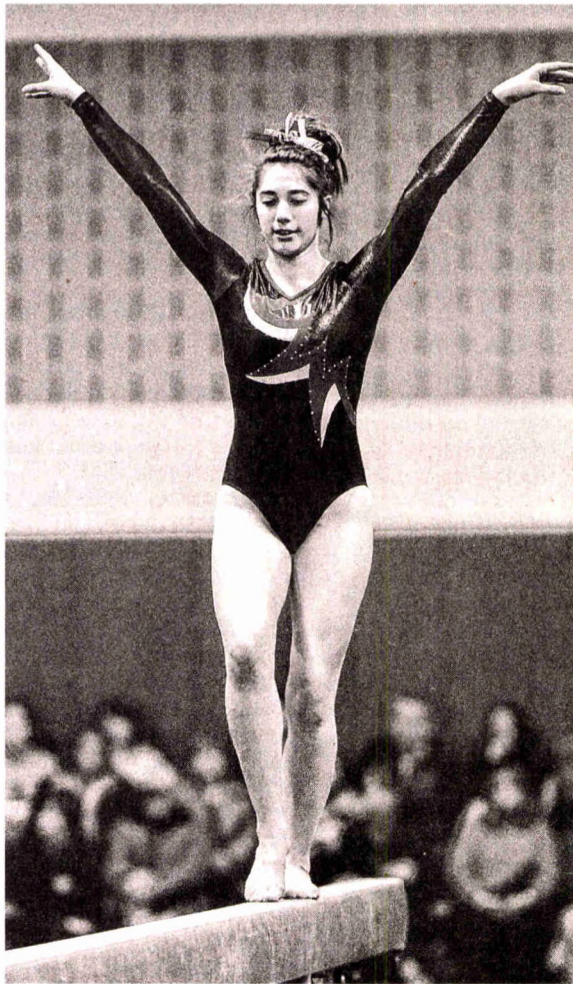
"Hailey (9.35 beam) and Katie Dickson (9.2 floor and 8.9 beam) helped keep the team score above 140."

Wildcats split

On Thursday, Plymouth tallied a 140.85 — good enough to edge Brighton (140.475) but just behind Howell's 143.15 tally.

Wildcats junior Haley Metz was one of several standouts, setting two new team records with a 9.2 on uneven parallel bars and a 36.425 all-around.

Plymouth head coach Pam Yockey said Rebeca Simu



FILE PHOTO
Canton's Hailey Hodgson continues to excel for the Chiefs.

"nailed" her beam with a 9.2, to finish first in that event for her team.

Also, Natalie Janke and Rachel Auer had "stellar floors to come in at 8.85 and 8.9."

Yockey added that freshman Tori Sylvester, Isis Madyun and Lindsay Badger contributed excellent vaults while Molly McSween "nailed her double

back" to finish bars with a 8.75.

"Great first-of-the-year opening meet and the season's first 140," said Yockey, noting that with senior Kayla Janevski out to illness the team continues to compete without a full complement of athletes.

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JUNIOR COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Ocelots get past OCC

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Wednesday brought a significant test for Schoolcraft's men's basketball team.

As far as head coach Abe Mashhour could tell, the Ocelots earned passing marks and then some in an 80-75 victory over visiting Oakland Community College.

"It was a tough, competitive conference game against a very good team who we will meet again maybe more than once," Mashhour said. "We have a lot of respect for coach (Antoine) Joubert and his team and know that they will be one of the teams to beat if we plan on winning a conference championship."

With the victory, Schoolcraft (ranked No. 11 in the NJCAA) improved to 14-3 overall.

Moreover, the Ocelots remain near the top of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association Eastern Conference with a 3-1 mark, a half-game back of Macomb.

OCC fell to 8-5 overall and 2-1 in the conference.

Schoolcraft trailed 34-31 at halftime but heated up after intermission, hitting nearly 50 percent of shots from the floor.

"We didn't play well but played hard and were able to gut it out," Mashhour continued. "(Ja'Christian) Biles gave us an early boost off the bench. (Lito) Booth came up big in the middle part of the first half."

"(Anthony) Wartley-Fritz was great to start the second half, and Javon Thomas was solid throughout the game with many key offensive rebounds and excellent defense on one of their best players (Trevon Bentley)."

Biles and Booth led Schoolcraft with 17 points, while Thomas chipped in with 14.

Wartley-Fritz tallied 13 points and seven rebounds while Canton alum Davon Taylor helped the cause with six points and six boards off the bench.

Bentley managed just 14 points for the Raiders, who were led by Richard Roberts (20 points) and William Abbott (16 points).

OCC (WOMEN) 74, SCHOOLCRAFT 66: Also on Wednesday, Schoolcraft's women's basketball team dropped a close conference matchup against Oakland Community College.

Schoolcraft dropped to 12-5 overall and 3-1 in the conference, still good for first in the conference.

Birmingham Seaholm alum Elise Tolbert led the Lady Ocelots with 16 points and 10 rebounds. Breiana Allen scored 14 points.

Adding 10 points each for Schoolcraft were Jessica Parry and T'era Nesbitt.

OCC upped its record to 7-8, 2-1.

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FULL-LENGTH MOVIE

Madonna U.-produced film turns David,
Goliath story into '30s gangster taleBy Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Gangster Report, a full-length movie created from story pitch to post production in less than a year, is headed for film festivals and release on DVD.

Eight advanced film students who were enrolled in the Capstone film class at Madonna last year, wrote, directed, produced and edited the 82-minute film about a 1930s-era reporter and a Detroit mobster.

It's the first full-length feature to come out of the Capstone class, which has produced music videos, commercials and short films in the past.

"Everyone told us it was impossible," said Suzanne Boyd, who co-teaches the class with Chris Nickin. "The whole thing was done in a year. It's utterly amazing. We only had eight kids in the class but they had help from other kids coming up through the program.

"The community just came together and rallied around the kids. We had all these actors come from the community and staff and students who had the (acting) bug, too. Greenmead opened their doors and we got to shoot in historical buildings. We filmed in the Detroit Historical Museum and the Redford Theatre."

Boyd said the movie will be entered into film festivals this year and will be available on DVD within about a month. Cast, crew, donors, parents and their friends saw the movie last month. A public viewing was held Friday, Jan. 16.

"I have one faculty member who said, I knew it was good, but I didn't know it was this good," Boyd said. "I hope (viewers) see that these kids all came together and not only made a film, but also grew as people, and learned what it was like to be a team."



Anna Dreslinski plays Jessica Mandragoro and Kai Connor Keliikuli is David Johnson in "Gangster Report."

PHOTOS BY NANCY BOYD

The process

Students in the 2014 session each pitched story proposals to Boyd and Nickin in January last year. The two teachers whittled the list to three ideas and the class chose *Gangster Report*, by Darryn Montgomery. The script tells the biblical David and Goliath story with gangsters.

"Even though it sounds violent, its PG," Boyd said. "Goliath is a gangster from Detroit who is upset by a reporter from the Slingshot Press, David." The reporter plans to "take down" Goliath with his words. Boyd suggested setting the piece in the 1930s.

"Our kids not only made a movie, but a period piece. We're pretty darn proud of that."

Dean Olivas, Jr., who directed the film, said the year-long Capstone class serves as a senior thesis for students in the Broadcast and Cinema Arts program. Capstone students took "a very serious approach to the film in order to get the real experience."

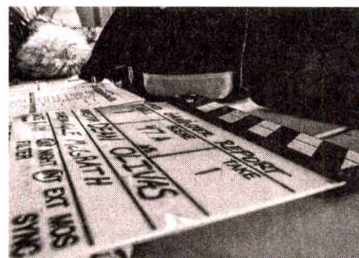
They held an open casting call and he and Montgomery cast all of the roles, giving some parts to Madonna students and some to area actors.

Teamwork

"I think as a team our main challenge was working together," Olivas said. "It's a different experience when you've never done this job at the highest level before and you have to rely on those around you. Eventually we evolved and molded into a great team, but like anything, it took time to learn. For me personally, my biggest challenge was learning how to get my ideas and thoughts out to people in my crew, so we could work to create the beautiful image you'll see on the screen."



Anthony Ballios (left) plays Toothpick Paulie and David Kilgore is Lorenzo "Goliath" Mandragoro in "Gangster Report," a Capstone film class production.



The Capstone film class at Madonna University created its first feature-length film, "Gangster Report."

er," Olivas said. "It's a different experience when you've never done this job at the highest level before and you have to rely on those around you. Eventually we evolved and molded into a great team, but like anything, it took time to learn. For me personally, my biggest challenge was learning how to get my ideas and thoughts out to people in my crew, so we could work to create the beautiful image you'll see on the screen."

"I think the biggest thing I learned is that no one knows everything, but everybody knows something that you don't know. Be kind, be humble and soak that knowledge up. And that goes for all facets of life, not just filmmaking."

Olivas hopes the audience will watch the movie and realize that anything is possible with effort.

"I'm physically disabled and I never let that get in the way of my life and doing what I want to do. I'm a filmmaker. I love doing this. And I've now directed a feature-length film. Not many can say that. Ironically, I think the story sends that message, too. It's all about the little guy in life proving his worth, courage and ability."

For more about Capstone and the Broadcast and Cinema Arts program at Madonna, visit madonna.edu.

Canton-Plymouth students assist with production of Mettetal Airport film

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

The producers of a short film about Mettetal Airport in Canton hope it will encourage students to consider aviation as a career.

High school students who screen the 10-minute film, *Mettetal Airport: The Jewel of Canton and Plymouth*, at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22, at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main St. in downtown Plymouth, can sign up for a free flight.

"Plymouth-Canton is the local school district and we're trying to further the goals of general aviation," said Bill Downs, a Northville resident and a partner in Wonderland Entertainment International, an independent film company created last year. "This is a project for Mettetal, for youth and general aviation."

The film includes airport history, historical re-enactment, shots of special events, such as the annual Father's Day Pancake Breakfast Fly-In, and public service announcements that aired locally. It consists of video and photographs.

"Back in the day, to get air time, kids would hang out at the airport and wash planes, and run errands. No one does that any more," said Raymond Rolak, another Wonderland partner. "They are not getting introduced to the wonders of aviation. A couple of like minds got together and said, let's do something."

Rolak plans to offer the film, along with an aviation curriculum, to teachers who are interested in using it as a teaching aid.

Student production

The film provided at least a few teachable moments for students involved in advanced

video production technology classes at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, (P-CEP). Janet Sutherland, P-CEP film and television teacher, said Rolak needed editing help on the film when he approached her in November last year. She narrated the film, a handful of students were involved in the re-enactment and one student edited the piece.

"They learn about working with a client and not just their teacher," Sutherland said. "I always like to give them that opportunity." Her students have created marketing videos for United Way and videos for local charities. They regularly produce segments for the *Park Pulse* show at P-CEP.

Ryan Apley, a Canton High School junior, edited the Mettetal film.

"Working for a client is different in that you feel you have to be on your game because you're making professional work for another person and you can't slack on anything," said Apley, who plans to study cinematography after graduating from high school.

"The challenge for me was using live action video and photos in a way so the documentary would not get dry or boring. I did many drafts. I'd edit it and then take it to Ray (Rolak) and he would tell me something to add or to change. We went through that process. If you're making a video for a grade, you usually have some leeway, but when you're doing something in the professional world, you have pressure on you."

Apley said he has made on "tons" of short films over the years. He submitted his most recent project, a fictional short film, to the Ann Arbor Film Festival. He'll find out if it's a finalist for the March event next month.

FB 'I grew up ...' pages help folks connect, share their stories

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Plymouth's been around awhile. Facebook is considerably newer, but it's still not surprising the "I grew up in Plymouth, Michigan" FB page has 3,537 members.

It says, "Our mission on this page is to provide a congenial place for our members to share their memories of living in Plymouth, Michigan. Our goal is to create a living and ongoing archive full of history and memories. We encourage everyone to participate and to uphold the friendly collaborative spirit we seek to promote."

Rules are basic: Respect all members; no calling members names; no controversies. Recent posts have ranged from the Jan. 9-11 33rd annual Plymouth Ice Festival to requests for help contacting former classmates. Prayer requests and well wishes are posted for the ailing.

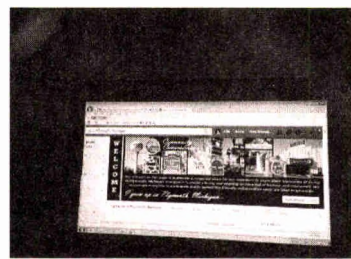
Similar groups are popping up such as "People who grew up in Northville, MI, and moved away," with its 771 members.

"I grew up in Garden City," also a public FB group, boasts an impressive 3,014 members. It says, "Come on in but be prepared to stay awhile. Talking about Garden City here and sharing memories. Reconnecting friends young and old, far away and near and dear. All posts and comments are welcome here, just have fun!"

Along with the lighthearted fun on the Garden City page recently was an archived *Free Press* story on PBB contamination and its links to illnesses. Frequent poster Ken Garner put up a photo of the original Kmart on Ford Road in Garden City.

Sharing memories

Linda Juenemann grew up in Plymouth and graduated



The Facebook page "I grew up in Plymouth, Michigan," is among local ones on which people share memories and updates.

from Plymouth Salem High School in 1976. Her grandparents came from Canada and set up a catering business on Plymouth Road.

"I've enjoyed this site," said homemaker Juenemann, who now lives in Northville Township. "It's been so much fun. People bring up random memories. It's been real fun to connect with people, too."

She likes the talk of former teachers, the Penn Theatre, local ice cream shops, and Plymouth Historical Museum photos. "I shared my first memory of a movie at the Penn Theatre," Juenemann said. "I loved that it was all different generations. It really did show the cross-generations of memberships of our group."

She began visiting the Plymouth FB page about a year ago. "I just thought it was such a special site," Juenemann said. "It's a great forum. They're reconnecting old classmates."

John Stewart of Plymouth Township, who grew up in Wyandotte, said, "It's a nice page. We read some of the things. We like the historical part of it."

Stewart added, "It's a pleasant trip back in time."

"I did use Brylcreem back in the '60s," Stewart said in response to another person's post. "It's a pleasant trip back in time."

Garden City family

Mary Denning of Howell, who for years owned and ran Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe in Westland, is a regular visitor to the "I grew up in Garden City" page. She grew up in Westland but husband Charlie grew up in Garden City from kindergarten on.

"Showing the old nostalgic places," Charlie Denning said of what he likes, ranging from Cloverdale's to the old Garden City Hospital building. Mary added, "I like all the old stuff that comes up."

Some are headlined "Do you remember?" Charlie went to Henry Ruff School as did their two children. The Denning family moved to Garden City in 1970 upon their marriage, with the kids coming in 1971 and 1972. A daughter, 43, still calls Garden City home.

"And now her kids are going to Garden City schools," Mary Denning said. Her husband began in Garden City at the old No. 1 School by the former library site.

"They have all kinds of cool things on it," Mary Denning said of the site she's visited for at least a year. "I like the old pictures. I think it's interesting. Back in the day."

The couple's Garden City daughter has used the page for finding classmates and class reunions. "It's nice," mom Mary said. "A lot of the old Garden City people stayed in Garden City." Charlie and their son both played hockey locally, and can track fellow athletes for that. "It's a pretty family-oriented community," she said.

ENGAGEMENT

BOHN-EYSTER

Jilian Bohn and Thomas Eyster, Ph.D., both of Livonia, announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Michael and Patricia Bohn of Livonia, is a graduate of Stevenson High School, Livonia. She attended Université Stendahl-Grenable 3, France, and the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. She holds a bachelor of arts degree in political science and works as an intellectual property clerk at a metro Detroit law firm.

Her fiancé, son of William and Annette Eyster of Angola, Ind., is a graduate of Angola High School, Angola, Ind. He holds a bachelor of science degree from the University of Notre Dame, a master of science in engineering degree from Princeton University, and a doctorate in chem-



Jilian Bohn and Thomas Eyster

ical engineering from the University of Michigan. He is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry.

A wedding is planned for October 2015 at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Ann Arbor, with a reception to follow at The Inn at St. John's, Plymouth Township.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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Holiday deadlines are subject to change.



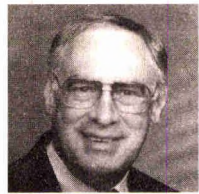
DONALDSON, MYRTLE RAWLINGS

Of Plymouth, Michigan passed away on January 8, 2015 at the age of 89. She was a former resident of Nankin Twp., Warner Robins, GA and Perry, GA. Myrtle was preceded in death by her beloved husbands, Merlin M. Kilgore and Robert R. Donaldson. She was the devoted mother of Larry (Jerry) Kilgore and Gary (Karen) Kilgore. The loving stepmother of Robb Donaldson and Dean R. (Kathy) Donaldson. Myrtle was the proud Grandmother of six grandchildren - Noel Lancaster, Amber Kilgore, Tammy (Tony) Harvey, Dorion Kilgore, Jeffrey (Megan) Kilgore and Nathan Donaldson and five great-grandchildren - Emily, Jacob, Jeremy, Ashley and Christina. She was the dearest sister of Nina Reeves and the late Mary Helen Price, Mildred Bezak, Inez Fitch and Charlene Jennings. Friends may visit Monday, February 2, 2015, 9am until the time of the 11am Memorial Service at Schradler-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI.



HART, WILLIAM LEE

Age 73, of Oakland Township, passed away peacefully on January 14, 2015. Loving husband of Lidia Alicia. Dear father of Pablo (Tracy) Fraccarolli, Vito Fraccarolli, Steven (Margaret) Hart, Michael Hart, Anthony (Debra) Fraccarolli, and David (Judy) Hart. Proud grandfather of Autumn, Amber, Carli, Sofia, Thomas, Colin, Ella, and Brennan. Brother of Bob Hart. He is also survived by his nephews, and many loving family members and friends. Bill toured with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra for six months and then returned to Michigan State University obtaining his Master's Degree in mathematics. He taught math at Macomb Community College for 46 years and was named Michigan's "Professor of the Year" in 1989. He played trumpet in the Rhythm Society Orchestra. Funeral Mass Saturday, January 17, 2015, 10 a.m. at St. Irenaeus Catholic Church, 771 Old Perch, Rochester Hills. The family will receive friends Friday 3-8 p.m. at the Potere-Modetz Funeral Home, 339 Walnut Blvd., Rochester. Burial Saturday, January 24, 2015 at Van Hoosen Jones Cemetery. Suggested memorials to the American Cancer Society, Boston, MA, Astra-Zeneca Hope Lodge, Boston, MA, or Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Melanoma Clinic, Boston, MA. Online guestbook www.modetzfuneralhomes.com.



DOWNEY, THOMAS J.

Age 77, of Northville, passed away January 14, 2015. Thomas was born on June 18, 1937 in Lima, Ohio; son of Thomas A. and Amy (nee Mauer) Downey. He is survived by his loving children, Tom (Lisa) Downey of Northville, Stephen (Lisa) Downey of Northbrook, Illinois, Anne Marie (Patrick) Feerick of Glenview, IL, and Meghan Downey of Bloomfield Twp., his siblings, Julie Joseph, Sheila (Sam) Sarkisian, and Michael Downey; and 10 grandchildren. Visitation Sunday, January 18 from 2-8 p.m., with a Rosary at 7 p.m. at Casterline Funeral Home, 122 West Dunlap, Northville. Funeral Mass Monday, January 19 at 1 p.m., in state at 12:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Victory, 133 Orchard Dr., Northville. Memorial contributions appreciated to Manresa Jesuit Retreat, Adopt-a-Retreatant, 1390 Quarton Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304. Share online condolences at casterlinefuneralhome.com



KIRK, GLEN RANDOLPH

Of Plymouth Township, January 4, 2015, age 45. Beloved son of Craig and the late Randa Kirk. Dear brother of Darren. Loving companion of Heather Tank. Proud father of five. Memorial Service to be held January 31 at 1 p.m. at Warren Road Light and Life Church, 33445 Warren Road, (734) 458-7301.



McBEE, SUSAN ELIZABETH (NEE DISKIN)

Age 67, passed away on January 9, 2015, surrounded by loved ones. Susan was born on December 29, 1947, in Highland Park, Michigan, to Joseph Martin Diskin and Dorothy Ruth (Daniels) Diskin. Susan met Bruce on the best blind date ever in 1969; they married in 1970. Susan was preceded in death by her parents Joseph and Dorothy Diskin, and her siblings Diana and Joel Diskin. Susan is survived by her loving husband Bruce McBee, daughters Samantha (David) Perrin, Rebecca McBee, and Melissa (Patrick) Allred, and her grandchildren, Connor McBee, Ian and Nathan Perrin, and Patricia "Dot" Allred. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date. Please share a memory at www.rggharris.com



FREEMAN, VIRGINIA

Age 92 of Westland Beloved wife of the late Thomas Dearest mother of John "Tommy" (Doris) and the late Jimmy Loving grandmother of Cameron (Tracy), Scott (Elizabeth) and Travis Dear great-grandmother of Joshua and Jason Funeral services, Saturday 5 pm at the Uht Funeral Home 35400 Glenwood Rd. Visitation, Saturday 10:00 a.m. until time of service Family suggests donations to the Alzheimer's Foundation. Please view memorial and send tribute at www.uhtfh.com

SCHEIFELE, MARILYN

January 9, 2015. Beloved wife of Hudson for 66 years. Dear mother of Lyneeta Kahan (Norman), Lisabeth Layne (Steven), and the late Larry. Cherished grandmother of Shane Colwell (Shannon), Katelyn Hunsberger (Shawn), and Jesslyn Soucie (Brandon). Great-grandmother of Morgan, Andrew, Conner, Jack, and Baby Soucie on the way. Sister of Marleeta Walton. A celebration of life service will be held in the spring. Memorial tributes to First Presbyterian Church, 1669 W. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. A.J. Desmond & Sons, (248) 549-0500. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com.



STANWOOD, ALBERT HIMES JR.

Age 95, a former longtime Plymouth resident, passed away on January 12, 2015. He was born on April 2, 1919, in Providence, Rhode Island, son of Albert Himes and Marion Louise (nee Bell) Stanwood. Al graduated Bryant College in Providence in 1939 and joined the Army Air Corps. He was in the first unit to see action in the Southwest Pacific Area and flew 93 missions from 1942-1944 as part of the 19th Squadron of the 22nd Bomb Group. His citations included the Distinguished Flying Cross with cluster, the Air Medal with clusters, two presidential unit citations, and a Southwest Pacific ribbon with six battle stars. After the war, Al moved to Detroit as a pilot for General Motors, where he worked for thirty-one years. In Detroit, Al met and married his wife, Jean (nee Currey) and started his family. They moved to Plymouth in 1961. Al was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He loved to meet and talk with people and was an active member of many community groups including the First Presbyterian Church, VFW Post #6695, the Plymouth Rotary, and the Elks Club. In retirement, Al enjoyed spending time with family, volunteering, or poolside, officiating or cheering on his daughters and their teammates. Al is survived by his children Albert (Carol) Stanwood, Marion (Ron) Dickel, Susan (John) Whelan, Sarah (Rusty) Eubanks; and grandchildren Brendan (Maegan) Whelan, Kevan Whelan, Daniel Whelan, Tracie Whelan, Stephen Stanwood, Matthew Dickel, Andrew Eubanks, Alden Eubanks, Alison Eubanks, and Kaylee Bradley. He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister, Marion Louise Armington, and his beloved wife of 46 years, Jean. A celebration of his life was held on Saturday, January 17 at the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth. Contributions in his honor can be made to the Albert Himes and Jean Currey Stanwood Memorial Scholarship Fund, Four County Community Foundation, 231 E. St. Clair, P.O. Box 539, Almont, MI, 48003.



ZIPAY, AMELIA V. "AMY"

January 15, 2015. Beloved wife of the late Stephen. Loving mother of Geri Day (the late Michael) and Cynthia Olsen. Cherished grandmother of Kim, Kris, Kevin, Heather, Steve, Angie, John and great-grandmother of 12. Sister of the late Louis Zoladz. Services have been held. Memorial tributes to charity of donor's choice. A.J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500.



Take advice, but also trust your instincts as a parent

I never knew how much strength I had until I became a mother. When I was pregnant, I felt stronger than ever before. And then labor and delivery made me even stronger. But now that I have a little daughter to take care of, I feel like there is nothing I cannot do, no obstacle I cannot conquer.

One of the most challenging things I have noticed, in the last two and a half months since my daughter was born, is that sometimes you have to put your foot down and trust your instincts. It is not an easy thing to do, to trust yourself and your gut, but you've got no other choice once you become a parent. There is no guidebook that has all the answers, and not every parent will raise their children the same way. So, once you have your own kids, you just need to buckle down and accept that not everyone will agree with the choices you make.

What I have noticed, in my short time as a mother is that no matter what decisions you make about your children, there certainly will be someone who disagrees. And more often than not, those who disagree with your choices will be very vocal about it. I have learned, however, that those disappointed people won't break me. I have thoughts and feelings about how I will raise my daughter, and I wholeheartedly will follow my instincts even if there are people insulting my choices. It isn't about pleasing other people, it is about keeping my daughter safe and healthy.



Sarah Davies
THEN THERE WERE TWO

I remember a time, not that long ago, when I had wanted to watch my niece and was given the opportunity only when accompanied by my other sister as well. At the time, I was a little heartbroken. I couldn't understand why my sister, my niece's mother, didn't feel comfortable with me staying alone with her daughter. But oh my, how the tables have turned now. I don't feel comfortable with MANY people watching my daughter right now. And I think back to that time, when I felt saddened by my sister's choice, and now I completely understand her decision. I think some things you just can't really understand until you are a parent, and now that I am one, all those things I questioned before make total sense.

My choices

It doesn't matter to me now what people think when I make a decision pertaining to my daughter. I may ask for advice from other parents, and I will happily listen and take their thoughts into consideration when I make my decision, but I feel very confident that the choices I am making are the right ones, even if they are opposite of the opinions I gather. I am not worried about pleasing everyone else in the world, and only am focused on my daughter and her well-being.

I am blown away by how many things have

changed in the time since my daughter was born. My attitude towards everything is different now. My daughter is the first thought in my mind in every situation, and there is no doubt that any choice I make is reflected solely upon her. Everything from what are we doing this weekend to what time are we going to bed, is dependent on her. Whether or not I attend certain events is based on whether or not they are kid-friendly. I won't go out without her unless one of my very select few caregivers are available to watch her. I spent New Year's Eve inside, with her, and we were asleep by 9 p.m. And honestly, it was the best NYE celebration I have ever had. When we woke up for a feeding at 2 a.m., she was my New Year's kiss and I never felt so fulfilled as I did that morning.

My daughter is everything in the world to me, and I would do anything to make sure she is safe, happy and healthy. The strength I have gained over the last few months is unmeasurable. Becoming a mother is the very best thing that has ever happened to me, and a year ago it wasn't even a thought in my mind. My daughter, my friend, my favorite person in the world, has given me more strength than I ever imagined I could have. And for that, I couldn't be more grateful.

Sarah Davies of Livonia writes about the ups and downs of single motherhood. Contact her at sarahmari Davies@gmail.com.

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Learn which plants attract butterflies at the Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association meeting in Westland.

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

Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association

Local gardener John Blair will explain how to create a garden that also attracts butterflies and hummingbirds, 7 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 21, at Nankin Mills Nature Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. He'll cover site preparations, plants and plant sources. \$3 for nonmembers. Parking is available on Hines Drive or Ann Arbor Trail; 734-223-5510 or sembabutterfly.org

Holiday Nature Preserve

Take a "Wonders of Winter" Walk, noon Saturday, Jan. 24, at the Cowan entrance of the preserve, Central City Parkway, west of Wayne Road, north of Warren Road in Westland. Walks last 60-90 minutes; hnppa.org.

Master Gardeners

Master Gardeners of Western Wayne County will sponsor a four-week series of Tuesday night classes, beginning Feb. 3. Classes meet 7-8 p.m. at the Wayne County Extension Office, 5454 Venoy, Wayne, and cost \$10 each or \$30 for four if registered in advance.

» Feb. 3: Lisa Eldred Steinkopf, annuals and house plant manager at

Steinkopf Nursery, Farmington Hills, will talk about the best plants for cleaning the air, seven elements needed to grow great plants, and how to identify pests and diseases.

» Feb. 10: Gary Eichen, plant health care/bio-turf lawn manager for Mike's Tree Surgeons in Troy, will identify which trees are best to plant in metro Detroit. He'll talk about soil biology and why soil is important in choosing the right tree.

» Feb. 17: Joe Barson, owner of Barson's Greenhouse in Garden City, will talk about the basics of water gardens, different kinds of waterfalls and water garden construction.

» Feb. 24: Kevin Collins, garden center manager at Ray Hunter Flower & Garden Center in Southgate, will talk about hydrangeas.

To register, email mgw2wcorg@gmail.com

Matthaei Botanical Gardens

Gardener Jacques Thompson talks about witches' brooms, mutations on tree branches that show dwarfed growth and form one of the foundations of the dwarf conifer industry, 1:30-3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24, 1800 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor; 734-647-7600. Free.

Friends of the Rouge

Volunteers are needed to search for stoneflies in the Rouge River on Sat-

urday, Feb. 14. Searchers will meet at 9 a.m. at the University of Michigan-Dearborn and then will carpool in teams to Rouge streams in metro Detroit. Only trained team leaders go into the water; volunteers search through samples on the bank. Children, 5 and older, may attend if accompanied by a participating adult. Register by Jan. 30 at therouge.org or by calling 313-792-9621.

English Gardens

» Learn about tropical plants at "An Intro to Unusual Houseplants," a free presentation, 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24.

» Learn what's involved in creating a fairy garden, 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31. Free.

» Make your own fairy garden to take home, 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31. Cost is \$19.99. Sign up at englishgardens.com.

» Learn about attracting bees and birds to the garden in a free presentation, 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7.

» Kids can make heart-shaped bird treats to take home, at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7. Cost is \$5. Register at englishgardens.com

Classes are held at all stores. Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, 734-332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, 313-278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, 248-280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, 248-851-7506.



May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



Study results could spare kids with bone disease from IV

After reviewing the histories of more than 2,000 American children who were treated with antibiotics for bone infections, a national team of pediatric researchers made a finding that could change the way kids receive the drugs in the future.

The study found that children who were discharged home with oral antibiotics did just as well in overcoming their bone infections as those who were sent home on intravenous antibiotics.

"This very large clinical trial shows that oral antibiotics also cause significantly fewer complications and that there is

no advantage of the more invasive prolonged intravenous therapy," said Banu Kumar, M.D., who led the Children's Hospital of Michigan group participating in the study. Kumar is chief of pediatric hospital medicine at Children's Hospital and an assistant professor of pediatrics for Wayne State University School of Medicine. "Based on these very hopeful findings, clinicians who treat pediatric bone infections may want to reconsider prescribing



Kumar

intravenous delivery of antibiotics for patients who are being sent home for extended drug therapy."

Published last month in the *Journal of the American Medical Association Pediatrics*, the study results seem likely to challenge the long-held belief that intravenous-delivered antibiotics are more effective than pills in combating bone infections in children.

The analysis of medication records among 2,060 children at 36 U.S. hospitals also found that 15 percent of the children who received antibiotics intravenously through a peripherally inserted central catheter

developed complications that later sent them back to the hospital.

The study noted that the "gravity" of the complications that can result from IV antibiotics delivery — including bloodstream infection, thromboembolism and line breakage — warrants another look at the notion that intravenous antibiotics are just as safe as the oral version.

Kumar said the results might eventually help to spare children with bone infections the discomfort and health risks that sometimes accompany intravenous delivery of antibiotics.

"The typical course of treatment for these children is anywhere from six to 12 weeks," Kumar said. "Given the obvious discomfort, anxiety and risk of infection that can be part of the intravenous procedures, the possibility that we could get the same effectiveness from an orally delivered antibiotic is quite promising. Based on these very hopeful findings, clinicians who treat pediatric bone infections may want to reconsider prescribing intravenous delivery of antibiotics for patients who are being sent home for extended drug therapy."

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Aging parents

A panel discussion on caring for aging parents is set for 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, in Classroom One at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, located at Five Mile and Levan in Livonia. Speakers will include Joanne Darga, community liaison, Comfort Keepers; Erin Mortenson, attorney, Law Offices of Erin Mortenson, PLLC; Paula Swain, CFP, financial consultant, Swain Financial, LLC; Jessica Weathers, L.M.S.W., Senior Wellness Center, St. Mary Mercy Livonia; and Bruce Webb, senior real estate specialist, Coldwell Banker Preferred Realtors. Register by Monday, Jan. 19, at 734-738-6300.

Blood drive

Gardner-White stores will hold an American Red Cross blood drive, 11 a.m. to 7:45 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22, at most store locations, including 39453 Ford Road, Canton. The drive will run 1:30-7:15 p.m. at the Novi store, 43525 West Oaks Drive. Every donor will receive a \$50 Gardner-White gift certificate and will be entered for a chance to win one of eight 51-inch Samsung televisions which will be given away at each blood drive location. Appointments are encouraged but not necessary. To make an appointment, visit redcrossblood.org or call 800-Red-Cross.

Diabetes management

Free seminar, 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, at Oakwood Physical Therapy and Wellness Center, 17101 Rounda Drive, Dearborn. Topics will include meal planning, blood sugar control and treatments and tests. To register, visit Oakwood.org or call 800-543-9355.

Hearing loss

Eleanor Chan, M.D., will talk about dizziness, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 11, at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. For more information, call Tony at 734-664-3297 or email aferack@comcast.net.

Oakwood program boosts health of kids, teens

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Kids today have to deal with a lot, ranging from bullying to drug use. Health care pros from Oakwood Healthcare are there to help them navigate those waters.

"It's a great program, great centers," said Jeff Cook, director of child and adolescent health for Oakwood Healthcare, speaking at a Westland Rotary luncheon on Jan. 15.

He told Westland Rotarians and guests about the Oakwood-Adams Child & Adolescent Healthcare Center, housed since 2010 in Adams Upper Elementary School on Palmer in the Wayne-Westland district. That followed a couple other clinics in Wayne-Westland that closed when their host schools did.

The Oakwood Taylor Teen Health Center, on Eureka in Taylor, has been open since 1988 and offers family planning, which is banned by state law in school-based facilities.

Cook also pointed with pride to the Oakwood Westwood Teen Health Center on Annapolis in Inkster, as well as the center at Taylor Truman High School staffed by two registered nurses and a social worker. Most program funding comes through the Michigan Department of Community Health supplemented by the Oakwood Foundation.

"Most of our kids have no insurance or have Medicaid," Cook said. The health care pros aim to match kids up with a primary care physician, as their services aren't available on weekends.

A Romulus High School facility had been defunded, but is slated to reopen. At all facilities, physicals and immunizations are done, along with one-on-one counseling with a dietitian and, for mental

LEARN MORE

Oakwood through the Health Insurance Marketplace and Healthy Michigan will offer a "Health Care Enrollment & Education" program Saturday, Jan. 24, at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, 6123 Central City Parkway. The information session is 11 a.m. to noon, enrollment assistance noon to 4 p.m. Enrollment assistance will also be offered 4-8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27, at the library. You should bring Social Security numbers, or document numbers for legal immigrants; employer and income information for every household member who needs coverage (for example, pay stubs or W-2 forms); and policy numbers for any current health insurance plans covering your household members.

health, a counselor/social worker.

"We talk about abstinence, we talk about being safe," Cook said of sex education, with counseling allowed in schools. HIV testing and counseling on sexually transmitted diseases are both offered. No abortion discussion or referral is done.

"Most of our families are struggling," he said, noting free immunizations available through the county and other fees on a sliding scale with low or no co-pays. "We spend time with the students and we talk about prevention."

A yearly risk assessment ranges from questions about being bullied to use of bicycle helmets. "Our overall goal is to keep that kid in the classroom," said Cook, a Royal Oak resident and recreational therapist by trade. "We know there's issues in the home."

Parental consent is



Julie Brown
Jeff Cook, director of child and adolescent health for Oakwood Healthcare, discusses services offered by his employer. At right is Westland Rotarian Margaret Harlow.

required for most services, and runs around 80 percent. Cook noted one in five students is obese and almost 65 percent are overweight. He and colleagues look

to enhance dietitian services, as well as mental health services.

"Mental health is finally becoming a priority in terms of prevention," he said.

More than 500 kids were served last year in about 1,400 visits.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com



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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF THE CLOSE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE FEBRUARY 24, 2015 SPECIAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given to Plymouth Township residents that JANUARY 26, 2015 is the last day to register to vote in order to be eligible to vote in the February 24, 2015 Special Election. The Special Election is being held for the purpose of voting on two Charter Township of Plymouth proposals as follows:

PROPOSAL 1

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

PROPOSITION FOR RENEWAL OF POLICE AND FIRE PUBLIC SAFETY MILLAGE

This is a renewal of police and fire millage being levied presently. Shall the previously voted 0.5631 mill increase in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution on general ad valorem taxes within the Charter Township of Plymouth be renewed at 0.5631 mills (\$0.5631 per \$1,000 of taxable value) for the period of 2016 through 2035, inclusive and the funds thereby derived to be used for police and fire services for the Charter Township of Plymouth, thereby raising in the first year \$955,934.

PROPOSAL 2

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

PROPOSITION FOR RENEWAL OF POLICE AND FIRE PUBLIC SAFETY MILLAGE

This is a renewal of police and fire millage being levied presently. Shall the previously voted 2.00 mill increase in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution on general ad valorem taxes within the Charter Township of Plymouth which has been reduced by the required Headlee Amendment rollback to 1.6348 mills (\$1.6348 per \$1,000 of taxable value) be renewed for the period of 2016 through 2035, inclusive and the funds thereby derived to be used for police and fire services for the Charter Township of Plymouth, thereby raising in the first year \$2,775,281.

Residents of Plymouth Township who are not already registered to vote in Plymouth Township may register at a Secretary of State Branch Office or State Designated Agency, or by visiting the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI, 48170, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Mail-in registrations postmarked by January 26, 2015 will also be accepted.

Nancy Conzelman
Plymouth Township Clerk

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The new office etiquette: Rules for today's workplace

By Shannon Lee,
OnlineDegrees.com

Gone are the days when office etiquette was clearly defined. In today's relaxed professional environment, conduct is more casual, which means it's often difficult to know what is OK and what isn't. Fortunately, some rules of workplace etiquette are universal.

These 12 tips can help you adjust to a new office or clean up your behavior in a place you've worked for years.

1. Avoid social media.

Unless your job requires you to peruse social networking sites all day, avoid them while you're on the clock. Though surfing Facebook or Twitter might be tempting, it can be detrimental to your work performance and productivity, not to mention the way your boss perceives your enthusiasm -- or lack thereof -- for your job.

2. Take that phone call elsewhere.

Everyone has a cellphone these days, so getting personal calls at work is pretty much unavoidable. But don't assume that just because your phone rings, it's OK to take it right there at your desk. If you get a personal call, excuse yourself and answer it in private. The last thing you want to do is air your personal business.



3. Gossip.

The big no-no. Who hasn't been tempted to speculate on the lives of their co-workers? It's especially tempting when everyone else in the office is doing it. But remember that gossip says more about you than it does about the person you're discussing. Don't talk about others, and keep your personal life private to discourage water-cooler talk about you.

4. Keep emails formal.

Email seems pretty casual, doesn't it? It isn't like correspondence on letterhead that requires careful composition and proofreading, right? Contrary to popular belief, work emails should be held to the same formal standards that you would hold any other office correspondence. So toss the slang, get the punctuation right and proofread before you hit send.

5. Watch your language.

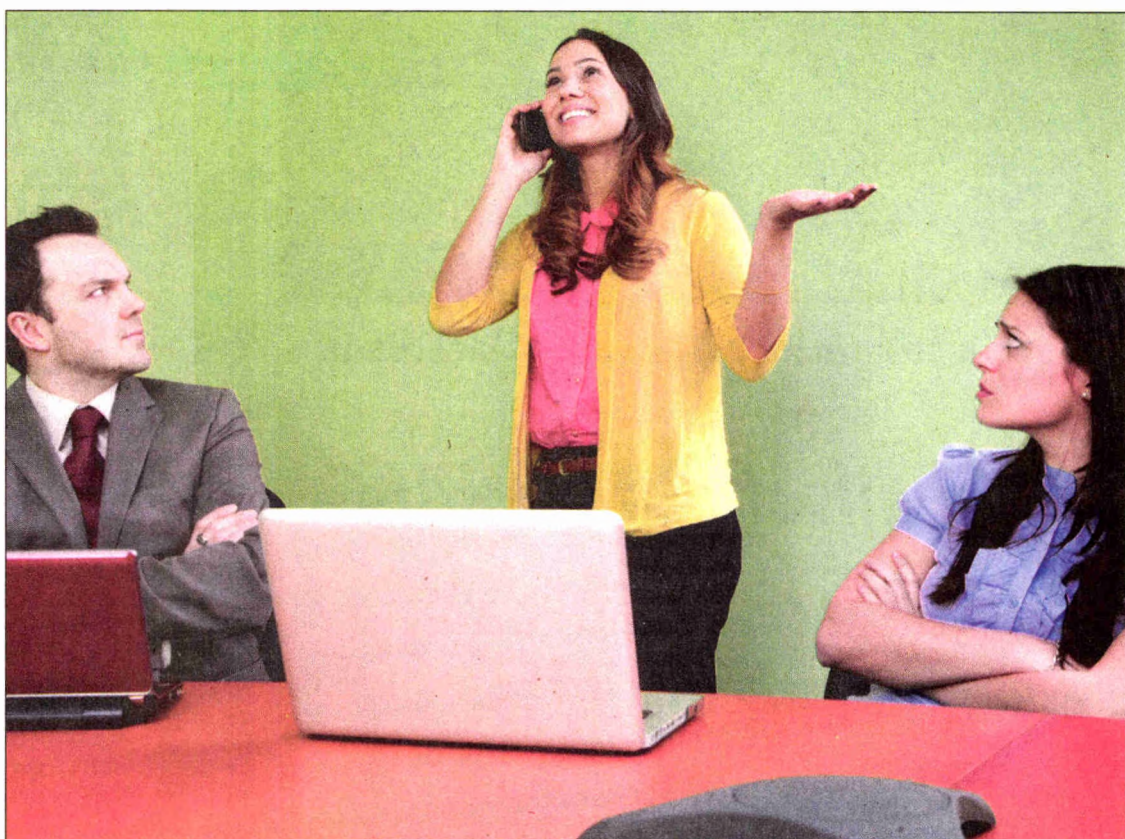
No matter how comfortable you are with your co-workers, or how casual your office may seem, blurting out a curse word can get you noticed for all the wrong reasons. You don't want that accidental f-bomb to overshadow your work, so keep the language clean.

6. Stay tuned in to the world around you.

Want to plug in your headphones and jam while you finish that report? Go ahead (if your office allows it), but don't make them a constant fixture on your head. In the workplace, having headphones on all day can come off as antisocial. Need to focus on a project? Sneak away to a conference room for a while.

7. Knock before entering.

Sometimes an informal office atmosphere can go too far. That's especially true when people start drifting from one cubicle or office



to the next, without bothering to knock or otherwise announce their presence. Treat others as though they are in the midst of serious business, even if they aren't and knock before you enter their personal space.

8. Stay home if you're sick.

It seems like an obvious rule, but when you're stuck in the rat race, dropping out for a few days of the flu can seem detrimental to your career. However, going to work sick does more harm than good. Not only does it make you feel worse and potentially spread your germs to others, when you're under the weather your productivity most likely suffers. Make life easier on everyone and use those sick days.

9. Remember that scents travel.

Do you have an allergy to perfume or cologne? Do you

get a headache when you smell spicy food? Some of your colleagues might. Keep those potent lunches away from your desk, and don't overdo it on the fragrances. Those around you will be grateful.

10. Dress like the rest.

There are many places where expressing your unique style is a fantastic thing to do. The office is not one of them. To make sure you're dressing the part, use your boss's attire as an example. If you want to appeal to management, dress just a notch above the office norm.

11. Save the job search for home.

Looking for a new job? Don't do it on company time. Not only might someone get wind of your search (and feed that information into the gossip mill), but taking time away from your current

employer to look for a new one is just plain rude.

12. Remember that everyone has a life.

Show respect for everyone's down-time by avoiding late-night emails, phone calls or anything else that might require someone from the office to respond after hours. Save those for the next business day. Leaving the office behind when you walk out the door is important for everyone -- so honor business hours, but make sure you honor your time off, too.

Whether you're in a high-stress office or a relaxed small business, etiquette matters. Brush up on it now to continue making a great impression on your boss, co-workers and clients.

Shannon Lee writes for OnlineDegrees.com. This article was originally published on OnlineDegrees.com.

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The City of Wayne

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APPLICANTS MUST (at the time of submitting application)

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Applicants must maintain M.C.O.L.E.S. certification for the duration of the hiring process. Must possess good moral character as determined by a favorable background investigation covering school, employment records, home environment, and personal traits and integrity. Applications must be picked up in the City of Wayne City Hall, 3355 S. Wayne Rd., Wayne, MI 48184. An application form is also available on our website: www.ci.wayne.mi.us/personnel.html. Applications must be completed in its entirety and on file in the Personnel Department by 4:00 p.m. on January 26, 2015. No faxed or e-mailed applications will be accepted. No resumes will be accepted without written application form.

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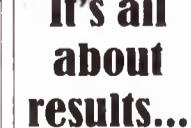
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Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	3.875	0	3.25	0
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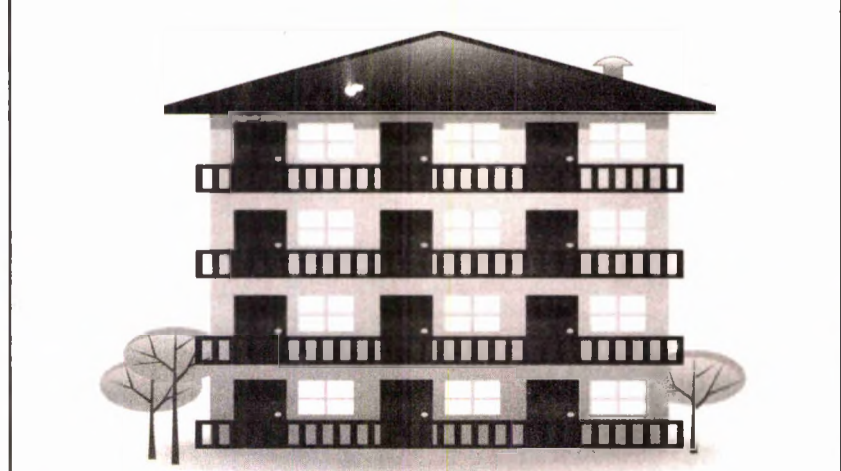
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Challenging fun for ALL ages

Sunday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- Civil War prez
- Canal device
- O.K. Corral name
- Grand Coulee
- Ersatz butter
- Figure-skating jump
- Prepared to deal
- amandine
- Bluesman — Redding
- Mombasa's land
- Slip by
- -de-sac
- Back muscles, for short
- Spreads rumors
- Life story
- Yacht mooring
- Make tracks
- Gunsmith
- Falana or Montez
- None

DOWN

- Website offerings
- Derisive snort
- Grounded bird
- Storage places
- Dragon puppet
- So-so grades
- Down for the count
- Flip-chart stands
- Nerve cell part
- Bank on
- Cop a —
- Vain dudes
- Hindu — range
- Isle off Sicily
- Hollow tree, perhaps
- Fermi split it
- Portable bed sound
- Menacing
- Hotcakes acronym
- Pier foundation
- Char a steak
- Paul McCartney, for example
- Sushi morsel
- Dramatist Eugene —
- Laird's daughter
- Narrow streets
- Not on all fours
- Harsh criticism
- Type of wolf
- Great Lakes port
- Swing music
- One more than a birdie
- Watch chain
- Moon or sun
- Steal from

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

Level: Intermediate

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

NEW YEAR WORD SEARCH

WORDS

ADVANCEMENT	FAMILY
ANNIVERSARY	FISCAL
ANNUAL	FRIENDS
BALLOONS	HOLIDAY
BIRTHDAY	JANUARY
CALENDAR	KISS
CELEBRATION	LATEST
CHAMPAGNE	NEW
CHEERS	PARTIES
CONFETTI	PHYSICAL
CONTEMPORARY	PREMIER
COUNTDOWN	RESOLUTION
CROWD	REVELRY
CURRENT	SINGING
DATE	TAXES
DECEMBER	VACATION
DECORATIONS	YEAR

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

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Sudoku

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

Word Search

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

Wounded Warriors Mustang becomes 'focal point' of Bill Brown Ford

By Greg Mullin
Staff Writer

Adorned with hundreds of signatures of support for military members and their families, a 2014 Shelby Mustang GT 500 has been the center of attention lately in the showroom of Bill Brown Ford in Livonia.

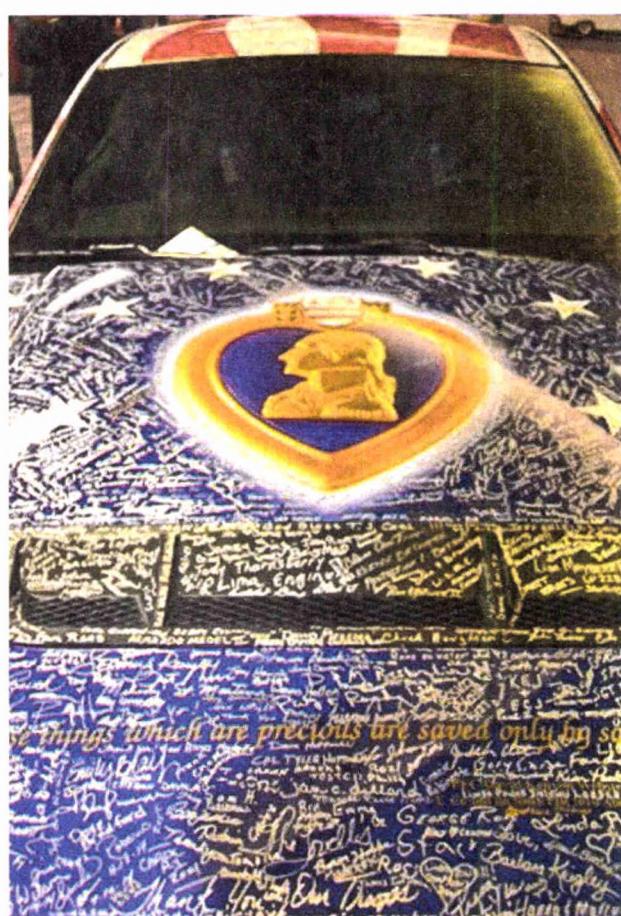
The 662-horsepower, 6.2-liter V8 powerhouse recently completed the 2014 High Five Tour, a 48-state road trip that covered 60 cities and 27,000 miles in an effort to show appreciation for military members and raise funds to build "smart homes" that service wounded warriors and their family members.

Since Jan. 7 the Mustang nicknamed "Ruby" has been parked inside Bill Brown Ford, 32222 Plymouth Road; the pit stop came about after a Bill Brown Ford employee viewed the vehicle at Ford Motor Company headquarters in Dearborn.

"He inquired about it, and after finding out that even though the 2014 High Five Tour had ended, the Wounded Warriors Family Support organization was gracious enough to allow us to display the vehicle at Bill Brown Ford until "Ruby" has to go home to Nebraska at the end of the month," Bill Brown Ford Marketing Director Andrea Calvaneso said.

Staff members from all over the dealership soon came into the new vehicle showroom to see the patriotic display.

"It generated quite a few questions, which is really the goal of the vehicle's presence; a conversation starter — explaining the signatures



COURTESY OF BILL BROWN FORD

Visitors added hundreds of autographs to the Mustang during its 48-state tour.



COURTESY OF BILL BROWN FORD

Donald Folsom of Livonia, a Marine who served in the Pacific from 1943-1946, stands with his salesman, Gilbert Harrison, at Bill Brown Ford in Livonia on Friday.

and the focus of the organization," Calvaneso said. "'Ruby' has been the focal point of our showroom since she arrived. The vehicle is like a piece of art.

"Bill Brown Ford is proud and honored to host the Wounded Warrior Mustang in our showroom."

Customers have been impressed with the car and eager to donate to the cause, Calvaneso said.

"We have a designated silver pen for customers to use in order to sign the vehicle, which is a huge attraction," Calvaneso said. "By signing the

vehicle, it's as if they are leaving a stamp of support to our veterans. It's pretty cool.

"We want customers to feel comfortable coming into the dealership to look or even sign the vehicle. No one is required to donate, but we do hope that when customers and visitors come to see "Ruby," it elicits a donation, big or small."

Coincidentally, just a few minutes after the vehicle was driven into the showroom, a Marine veteran stopped by with a certificate of appreciation thanking the dealership for its generous donation of time and

talent at November's Downriver Detachment birthday celebration, which commemorated 239 years of Marine Corps history and tradition.

"The timing could not have been more perfect," Calvaneso said. "It was an extraordinary moment for the Marine vet and Bill Brown Ford."

The Mustang's departure date has not been decided, "but we hope to have her through the

remainder of January," Calvaneso said.

This year, the High Five Tour is again scheduled to make stops across the nation, including Ford dealerships, community events, veterans' organizations, military bases, and race tracks, according to the Tour's website, www.highfivetour.com.

For more information about Wounded Warriors Family Support organization, visit

www.woundedwarriorsfamilysupport.org.

Bill Brown Ford is open for new and pre-owned sales from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday and Thursday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Pre-owned sales are also available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

For more information, call Bill Brown Ford at 734-421-7000 or visit www.BillBrownFord.com

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<THE SWITCH>



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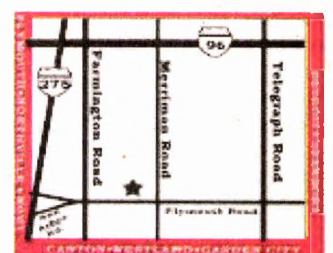
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* Early Bird Program is effective January 6, 2015 through March 31, 2015. For current Ford Credit RCL/RCO customers. Up to three (3) waived payments with a maximum of \$1,800 with a scheduled lease termination date from April 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015 on Edge, Escape, Explorer, Fiesta, Flex, Focus, Fusion and Taurus. Must lease or purchase with Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the Early Bird Program. Past due payments, payment extensions and deferred payments beyond the original agreement are not eligible. Excess wear/mileage are customer's responsibility. Customers must take new retail delivery from dealer stock by March 31, 2015.

** Competitive Lease Conquest is effective January 6, 2015 through March 31, 2015. Offer available to current lessees of competitive (non-Ford/Lincoln/Mercury Motor Company Car, SUV, or Light Duty Truck) vehicles with valid proof of ownership. Trade-in not required. Residency restrictions apply. Customers must take new retail delivery from dealer stock by March 31, 2015.

*** All payments and prices are for qualifying A|Z Planners. For qualifying non (not new) A|Z 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 dealer including previous lease and may require Ford Credit financing. Not all buyers will qualify for lowest payments. Pictures may not represent actual vehicle. Subject to availability. Payments and prices per program in effect at publication and are subject to change. ALL OFFERS EXPIRE 03/31/15.

2015 Lincoln MKZ is 'attracting next generation of luxury car buyers'

By Greg Mullin
Staff Writer

The 2015 Lincoln MKZ continues to represent the road ahead for the Lincoln Motor Co., said Steve Hunsinger, sales manager at Jack Demmer Lincoln in Dearborn.

"With its design, performance and technology, the MKZ is attracting the next generation of luxury car buyers," he said.

Those customers enjoy a wide range of standard features, plus three power train options:

The standard 2.0L EcoBoost I-4.

The available 3.7L Ti-VCT V6 engine.

The Lincoln MKZ Hybrid, which offers the third-generation 2.0L Atkinson-cycle I-4 gas engine.

The 2015 Lincoln MKZ competes head-to-head in the luxury mid-size sedan market with brands like the Acura TL, Cadillac CTS, Infiniti Q50 and Lexus ES 350, while the Lincoln MKZ Hybrid contends with vehicles like the Infiniti Q50 Hybrid and Lexus ES 300h.

"There are many standard features on the MKZ that aren't offered on many of the competitive models," Hunsinger said.

"One of the most intriguing features of the MKZ is the push-button transmission, which is on the dashboard, alleviating the center console shift and offering a more open feel to the cabin of the vehicle," Hunsinger said.

The 2015 MKZ incorporates the new Lincoln design language of "elegant simplicity."

Exterior design features include:

Adaptive LED auto headlamps.

Auto high beams.

Body-color exterior door handles with chrome insert.

Configurable daytime running lamps (available with select and reserve equipment groups).

LED tail lamps and light-pipe driving lamps.

Split-wing grille with chrome surround.

Pedestal-mounted heated side-view mirrors with integrated turn signals, blind spot mirrors and security approach lamps.

Power up/down deck lid (available).

Rectangular dual exhaust with bright tips.

Retractable panoramic roof.

Interior design features include:

10.1-inch LCD instrument cluster.

Ambient lighting — customers can choose from seven different colors (select equipment group).

Flow-through front console with storage bin, trinket tray and two cup holders.

Genuine wood appliques.

Illuminated scuff plates.

Premium leather seating surfaces (select and reserve equipment groups).

"The luxury and elegant attributes of the MKZ have not gone unnoticed by today's luxury car buyers," Hunsinger said. "The MKZ has done very well with current Lincoln owners, but Lincoln is looking at the big picture of attracting the competitive buyers and converting them to Lincoln owners."



FORD MOTOR CO.

In fact, Lincoln predicts that 45 percent of sales will be to past or current Lincoln owners, while 55 percent of sales will come from "conquest" customers, Hunsinger said.

Jack Demmer Lincoln is ready to serve all customers.

"With the integrity and knowledge of our professional sales staff, today has never been a better time to buy from Jack Demmer Lincoln," Hunsinger said. "From the moment a client enters Jack Demmer Lincoln, it becomes very clear what sets Jack Demmer Lincoln apart from the competition."

"Come in and discover the Jack Demmer difference today."



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Owner Loyalty Incentive Included



Vin #5LFUJ28623

2015 LINCOLN MKC

\$269

24mo/21,000 mile lease = \$269 + tax
Per Month, \$1953 Due at Delivery, Plus Tax,
Title, Plates, No Sec Dep.

All Payments Based on A/Z Plan, Owner Loyalty Incentive Included



Vin #1LEG609912

2014 LINCOLN MKS

\$299

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Per Month, \$2430 Due at Delivery, Plus Tax,
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All Payments Based on A/Z Plan,
Owner Loyalty Incentive Included



Vin #2LFBL20793

2015 LINCOLN MKX

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Title, Plates, No Sec Dep.

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Owner Loyalty Incentive Included



Vin #2LEBL58483

2014 LINCOLN MKT

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Owner Loyalty Incentive Included



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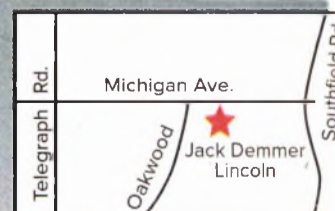
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