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Township firm gears up for defense work

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

A defense contract worth up to \$161 million is a "game-changer" for a Plymouth Township company that makes parts for heavy vehicles and equipment.

Loc Performance Products Inc. is ramping up operations – including adding nearly 100 jobs and about \$6 million in equipment – to retrofit up to 1,080 U.S. Army Bradley Fighting Vehicles with systems designed to increase the safety of occupants by raising ground clearance and improving mo-

bility.

The Bradley is an armored personnel carrier introduced in the 1980s and used extensively in the Iraq War.

Jason Atkinson, Loc's chief operating officer, said the contract is a "massive win."

"It's a huge win for our company," he said.

Loc won the contract last year, beating out larger manufacturers. Its first delivery, of the systems for retrofitting 30 Bradleys, is due at Fort Hood, Texas, in late May, with installations to begin there in June.

Loc is partnering with the

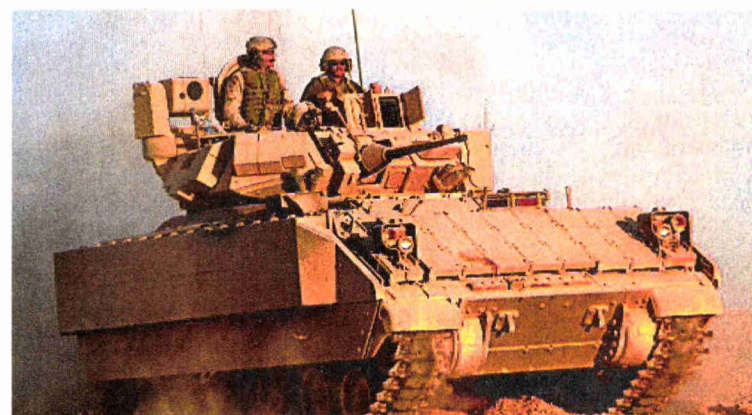
Louis Berger Group, a professional services company, for the installations and will be training Army mechanics on the equipment, Atkinson said.

Such retrofitting contracts, Atkinson said, are typically offered only to original manufacturers. "This is a game-changer for our organization," he said, and will prompt Loc to seek more such work.

'Best value'

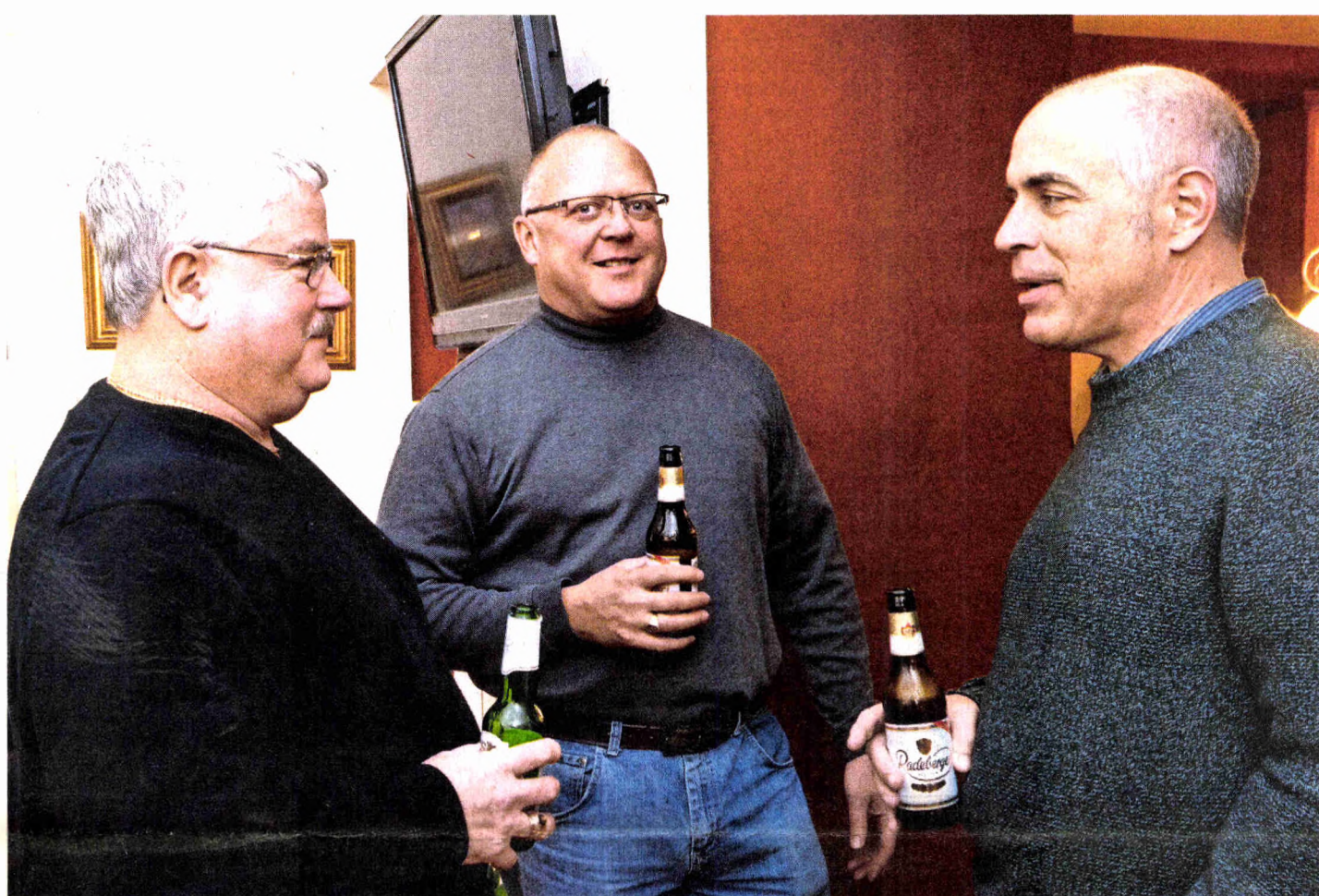
"We offered the best value to the Army for this vehicle. We've been manufacturing

See DEFENSE, Page A2



U.S. ARMY

Loc Performance Products of Plymouth Township has a contract to retrofit up to 1,080 Bradley Fighting Vehicles with new suspension systems.



Terry Jobbitt, Paul Modson and Tom Cassidy share a beer and conversation during a Boys and Brews gathering.

BOYS AND BREWS HAS THIRST FOR CHARITY

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

All appears quiet in Charing Cross, a well-kept Canton neighborhood covered by a fresh blanket of snow on a wintry Wednesday night.

Step inside Jim Malinowski's home on Haverford Drive, however, and the place is abuzz with conversation as 25 men, splintered into smaller groups, sip beer and share stories about deer hunting, bike tours, golf outings and vacation spots.

Meet Boys and Brews, a social network of friends who take turns hosting monthly gatherings and pay \$20 each as an entry fee, part of which goes to charity. They're mostly from Canton and Plymouth.

"We just show up, share a beer, have some food, socialize and raise money for charity," said Malinowski, an attorney.

Wednesday night, Boys and Brews made its first donation of \$1,000 to Make-a-Wish Michigan, which makes dreams come true for children ages 2½-18 who have life-threatening medical conditions.

Laura Town, the organization's di-



Laura Town of Make-a-Wish Michigan receives the donation from Boys and Brews.

rector of development, stopped by Malinowski's home to collect the donation, saying it's "very cool" Boys and Brews made its first donation to help ailing children.

Make-a-Wish Michigan, which

turned 30 last year, has granted wishes to 8,000 children, including 366 just last year, allowing youngsters to go to places such as Disney World and the

See BREWS, Page A2

Hearings for stabbing suspects scheduled

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

The defendants in an October attack on a Plymouth Township family are due Thursday, Feb. 5, in 35th District Court for two separate hearings.

Roksana Sikorski, 15, and Michael Rivera, 23, face multiple felonies in what police and prosecutors say was their plot to kill Roksana's brother, sister and parents. They were arrested hours after Roksana, who is being charged as an adult, stabbed her younger brother in his bedroom early Oct. 17 and fled with Rivera, who is accused of texting instructions to her from outside the Sikorski house.

The boy is expected to make a full recovery.

Roksana and Rivera have undergone psychiatric examinations to determine their ability to stand trial and a competency hearing is scheduled

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Colbeck urges Senate to shun 'politics as usual'

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck has implored his legislative colleagues to ponder why they sought election, move beyond political posturing and work to restore public faith in elected leaders.

"We need to move beyond politics as usual and foster a political environment that restores the public's trust in our system of government," Colbeck, R-Canton, said Thursday, delivering a speech on the



Colbeck

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Auto Home Life Retirement

SUSPECTS

Continued from Page A1

for 8:30 a.m. Feb. 5 in district court before Judge Mike Gerou. A preliminary examination for both is scheduled for after that.

Roksana is charged with one count of assault with intent to murder, four counts of conspiracy to commit murder, one count of felonious assault and one count of using a computer to commit a crime.

Rivera, of Detroit, is charged with four counts of conspiracy to murder, one count of assault with intent to murder and one count of felonious assault.

They face sentences of up to life in prison if convicted, and remain in custody.

Roksana's parents, Jeffrey and Laurene Sikorski, have said they support their daughter



Rivera

Roksana Sikorski

and are concerned for her well-being. Roksana and her brother and sister were adopted from Poland about 10 years ago and defense attorney Leslie Posner says Roksana suffered a traumatic early childhood and was under Rivera's sway.

Roksana had been disciplined over her relationship with Rivera, whom she was forbidden to see, the Sikorskis say, and criminal sexual conduct charges against Rivera, dropped in November, could be reinstated.

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DEFENSE

Continued from Page A1

similar products," Atkinson said.

It's not Loc's first defense contract, though — the company already makes parts for the M1 Abrams tank and the M88 armored recovery vehicle. Loc also makes parts for heavy equipment manufacturer Caterpillar and the diesel engine and power-generation equipment maker Cummins, among other

companies.

For the Bradleys, Loc will be putting together suspension systems that include road arms, track assemblies and shock absorbers. Some of the components for those systems will be purchased from other manufacturers, some made in-house, Atkinson said.

New positions will include jobs for machinists, engineers, quality-control specialists and purchasers, Atkinson said. Loc has hired just over 20 people so far for the project, but still

needs more than 70 others.

"We have tons of job openings right now," Atkinson said. The company has also installed seven new machining centers and has plans for more equipment, he said.

In addition, the Michigan Economic Development Corp. has awarded Loc a \$400,000 grant to be used to train employees for the Bradley project.

Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume said the retrofitting contract is a big

boost for the township's economy.

"It's job creation, it expands the tax base and creates good-paying jobs," he said.

Defense work, he added, tends to last. "These are going to be long-term skilled-trades jobs," Reaume said.

Founded in 1971, Loc has a 265,000-square-foot facility on Haggerty and about 210 current employees.

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BREWS

Continued from Page A1

Super Bowl or meet favorite idols such as Detroit Tigers great Miguel Cabrera.

Boys and Brews chose Make-a-Wish because two of its members, Tom Cassidy and Joe Thomas, have made repeated bike tours during the organization's three-day, 300-mile trip from Traverse City to the Michigan

International Speedway in Brooklyn. Thomas has a friend whose daughter survived cancer at age 6; she's now in her 20s.

Going forward, Malinowski said Boys and Brews will donate the bulk of its money to charities in Canton and Plymouth.

Malinowski, Cassidy and golfing buddies Rob Bovitz and Mark Hoover were among those who started Boys and Brews last April. Though mostly from Canton and Ply-

mouth, the group has drawn friends from as far away as Mt. Clemens, Taylor and Brighton. Its members represent a broad spectrum of professions with common interests.

"I meet friends of friends and I like the camaraderie," said Hoover, a Canton resident and contractor for Ford Motor Co. "We all have common interests. One is being involved in charity."

Randal Cizek, a Ply-

mouth resident and architect, said it's important, despite a busy schedule, to take time to catch up with friends for conversation over a beer.

"I get to make new friends," he said. "We're just here to have fun and relax and raise money for charity."

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COLBECK

Continued from Page A1

Senate floor. "Too often in Lansing, we find ourselves caught up in a cesspool of playground politics filled with false narratives, whisper campaigns and attempts to elevate oneself by demeaning another."

"We are better than this," he added.

His remarks followed another development as Colbeck was passed over for chairing any Senate committees, despite his ranking as a second-term senator. He downplayed the significance and said he can still accomplish goals.

Colbeck, who has drawn his own share of criticism from his political opponents, released a copy of a speech he gave

as he starts his new four-year term representing the 7th District, which includes Canton, Livonia, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Northville, Northville Township and Wayne.

Colbeck, calling the start of the new legislative term "a good time for some introspection," asked senators whether they sought election for "power and prestige" or to serve the public's interest.

Moreover, Colbeck reminded legislators they took the oath of office to serve their constituents and not their own personal interests or those of lobbyists.

Colbeck has been on the receiving end of political accusations, too. Most recently during the last Plymouth-Canton school board race, Canton resident Charles

Portelli, a former school district employee affiliated with the Michigan Education Association, criticized Colbeck for issuing endorsements on Facebook.

Colbeck endorsed candidates Estelle Olanisky, Don Turner and Tom Kelly, none of whom won election. Portelli questioned Colbeck's involvement, noting he was treasurer of the Canton Charter Academy before launching his first Senate campaign.

Portelli accused Colbeck of endorsing based "solely on somebody's political beliefs," but Colbeck said his position as senator didn't trump his right to express his opinion. Rather, he said, his endorsement was part of his efforts to convince the school board to stop finger-pointing on budget is-

sues.

Colbeck, meanwhile, has received no committee chair positions from Arlan Meekhof, the Senate majority leader. Rather, Colbeck will serve on the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on State Police and Military Affairs, as vice chair of Local Elections and Government Reform and as a member of the Education Committee, the Judiciary Committee and the Veterans, Military Affairs and Homeland Security Committee.

Colbeck said he still expects to serve effectively without chairing any committees.

"The effectiveness is still there," he said. "I have many ways of getting things done."

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Interns do more than their share at Plymouth DDA

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Interns are true team members at the city of Plymouth Downtown Development Authority.

"Without interns, we probably would not get a lot of the work we accomplish done," said Tony Bruscato, Plymouth DDA director. "We watch over the projects. We need people who can take ownership of those projects," working as a team to complete them.

Interns have come from Eastern Michigan University, the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Grand Valley State University and others. The unpaid interns have done parking studies, prepared marketing materials and more.

A few years ago, an intern wanted to do a ribbon-cutting associated with downtown Plymouth's streetscape. "She put it together and



JULIE BROWN

Emelia Stark, 25, is the current intern at the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority. She's a Canton resident and Oakland University graduate.

developed and handed out awards," said Bruscato, a Canton resident. "She wanted to have a celebration and we said go for it. It worked out really well."

The current DDA intern, who started in early January, is Emelia Stark, 25, of Canton. "I love it," said Stark, who graduated in 2011 with a bachelor's degree in

cinema studies in the English Department at Oakland University. "It's exciting and fun. I love how everyone is working together so well. I love helping with the local community."

DDA interns also work on the Concours d'Elegance auto show, arranging the shuttle buses to get attendees to Old Village and down-

town Plymouth and then back to The Inn at St. John's, where the show is held. "As you can see, those aren't small projects," Bruscato said. "We have some really great interns who take ownership and have done a great job."

Usually interns stay for a school semester, while some stay past graduation to give their resumes a boost. "A lot of them get (college) credit," Bruscato said. Prospective interns are welcome to go to www.downtownplymouth.org for information on applying.

"I wanted to see what was going on in the city of Plymouth in terms of running the community events and see if I might be able to take part," Stark said. She's married to Keith Stark, who grew up in the Plymouth-Canton community.

On a recent Friday, Emelia Stark was working on both the DDA's printed monthly calendar and website. "There's numerous projects that take priority at different points," she said. "We are starting to look ahead for the concerts on Fridays."

She recently worked on the *Batman v. Superman* filmmaking done locally. Stark has worked in film production, on set and in accounting for films. A former film studio in Livonia where she worked had her training in production management.

She likes the DDA work as "a little more invested" and it lined up well with her last film job. Stark is learning how governments run. In Grand Blanc in high school, she'd done school district strategic planning and had been a resident adviser in the dorms

at Kalamazoo College, where she began college studies.

"I started to miss that in film, where I didn't have any association with local community development at all," said Stark, who plans to network as she stays at the DDA through the spring. "But we'll see what happens."

She noted the DDA's Sam Plymale is good with social media and outreach, including to young adults. Keith Stark recalls the time when teens were less than welcome in downtown Plymouth.

"Now there's more of a movement of it being a family atmosphere," Emelia Stark said, adding she appreciates the opportunity to bring up her own ideas and to further Plymouth outreach efforts.

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Plymouth United Way holds hygiene, food drives

Plymouth Community United Way is asking agencies, businesses, groups and residents of the Plymouth-Canton community to donate new travel-size toiletry items including toothbrushes/paste, shampoo/conditioner, soap/body wash, deodorant, hand sanitizer, tissues, shaving cream, feminine products, razors, combs and hair brushes.

Donations will be used to create hygiene kits for individuals and families in crisis.

Collections will be accepted through Friday, Feb. 28. All donations can be dropped off at Plymouth Community

United Way, 960 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 2, in Plymouth.

In other efforts, the United Way:

» Is partnering with Chuck E. Cheese for a month-long food drive at the restaurant, 42001 Ford Road, in Canton. The event runs Feb. 1-28.

Customers will receive 20 tickets for each non-perishable food item that is brought into Chuck E. Cheese. Tickets can be used toward the purchase of prizes. All non-perishable food items will go to local pantries serving Plymouth, Canton and western Wayne County communities.

» Is working with Plymouth varsity hockey in holding a food drive during its Saturday, Jan. 31, rivalry game against Salem.

The game will be at 5:30 p.m. at Arctic Edge Arena, 46615 Michigan Ave., in Canton.

Fans who bring non-perishable food items for donation receive \$1 off admission to the game. All donations go to food banks serving Plymouth-Canton residents.

For more information on these and other United Way programs, email randi.williams@pcuw.org or call 734-453-6879, ext. 7.



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Canton foundation continues scholarship tradition

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

When Canton Community Foundation officials hand out the group's 2015 scholarships later this year, they'll be continuing a tradition a quarter-century in the making.

The foundation will hand out nearly two dozen scholarships this year, winners who will join hundreds of Plymouth and Canton students who've gotten a hand with furthering their education.

In the last 24 years, the foundation has handed out 450 scholarships worth more than \$500,000 that have helped students who might not otherwise have been able to go to college.

"Having access to education is really important," said Joan Noricks, who for more than a dozen years was executive director of the foundation until she retired two years ago. "There was a piece that recognized excellence, so it was merit-based. (But) trying to give sup-



The Canton Community Foundation handed out 28 scholarships in its 2014 program, totaling \$21,000.

port to kids who didn't have the means to pay for their education was a huge part of it."

Early years

The program has changed over the years. At first, it was mostly just foundation money going into the scholarships, partnered with colleges like Eastern Michigan University and Grand Valley State University.

Over the years, though, sponsors have

begun to join the fun, endowing scholarships with their own criteria and looking for their own kinds of recipients.

Now the scholarships are founded and funded by people who come to the foundation to set up scholarship funds for a variety of reasons, according to Beth Meade, the foundation's marketing/events manager.

"Many are in memory of a loved one or by alumni supporting students at their college or

academic support for athletes in sports ranging from wrestling to cheerleading or simply because they believe in helping the students in our community," Meade said.

Small start

The program started small - eight scholarships worth \$4,000 were handed out in 1990. Noricks, who came to the CCF that year as a volunteer, said the foundation chose scholarships because it was a fundraising effort that made sense to people.

"In the beginning, we took a percentage of available spending and applied it to scholarships," Noricks said. "Initially, everyone understood scholarships. Not everyone can understand fundraising for other causes."

Sponsors like Jack Demmer Ford, the Deniski family and Canton resident Dr. Syed Taj have their own scholarships.

Families have endowed scholarships in memory of lost loved

ones. The Dustin Piepsney scholarship is in memory of a former Plymouth-Canton Educational Park wrestler. Other memorial scholarships include the Meredith Whalen, open to all female Plymouth-Canton graduating seniors majoring in business, and the Elizabeth Durack scholarship, which goes to non-traditional students (generally someone starting college later in life or returning to college after a lengthy absence).

Lots of help

Grade-point requirements were only 2.5, Noricks said, to give students "who weren't necessarily 4.0 students" a shot at some of the money. The only other real requirement was students needed to live in Plymouth or Canton, although it didn't matter what school they attended.

The best year was 2002, when the foundation handed out \$40,600 in scholarships. Last year saw 28 scholarships handed out, worth more

THE PROCESS BEGINS

The Canton Community Foundation is beginning the application process for its 2015 scholarship program.

Graduating seniors, as well as current college students, can visit the CCF website (www.cantonfoundation.org) for more information on applying for the scholarships.

For more information, contact Beth Meade at 734-495-1200.

than \$21,000.

That's a lot of students being helped by what started out as a small program.

"It really is a 'feel-good' thing," Noricks said. "You really feel like you're making a difference."

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ON CAMPUS

Austin Peay

Austin Peay State University recognized students who have shown a commitment to academic excellence, earning a fall 2014 semester GPA of 3.5 or greater, with placement on the dean's list.

Michael Hoover of Canton was one of those recognized.

Davenport University

Davenport University has announced that several local students have been named to the president's list for the fall 2014 semester.

The list included six Canton students: **Tara Boliard, Anna Bossidis, Chelsea Cavicchio, Lauren Hayes, Oluwabusayo Jimoh and Tiffany Sadler.**

The president's list recognizes top students who excel with outstanding academic performance. To achieve recognition, a student must maintain a minimum 3.8 grade-point average while enrolled in at least nine credits of regular coursework.

Other local students made the dean's list, recognized for maintaining a 3.5 grade-point average while carrying nine credit hours.

Canton students to make the dean's list include **Danielle Jarvis, Marianne Penn and Rita Sanders.**

Andrew Robinson of Plymouth was among the students to make the list.

Lawrence Tech

Nine Canton students and five from Plymouth have been named to the dean's honor roll for the fall 2014 term at Lawrence Technological University.

To be named to the honor roll, a student must maintain at least a 3.5 grade-point average

for the term.

Canton students included **Channelle Holly, Claire Huddas, Katie Shelton, Alexandra Bryden, Daniel O'Keefe, Daniel DeWATER, James Pattison, Janie Roberts and Katelyn Watson.**

Plymouth students included **Jacob Croop, Andrew Kiltyka, Steven Timm, Vincent Troher and Nicholas Paul.**

University of Findlay

Two students from Canton were among students at the University of Findlay awarded endowed scholarships for the

2014-15 academic year.

Jacob Boucher received the Ritz Memorial Scholarship. **Latifia Demps** received the Bernice Hellings Scholarship.

University of Minnesota-Duluth

The University of Minnesota-Duluth has announced its dean's list for fall semester 2014.

Nicole Brodzik, a junior in the College of Liberal Arts, was among those on the list.

Students on the dean's list have achieved a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher.

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Students thank school board members for work

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

The Wayne-Westland school board received a very special thank you from its students.

January is School Board Recognition Month and student council members from P.D. Graham Elementary and John Glenn High School were at the Wayne-Westland board meeting this month to thank members for what they do on behalf of students.

"It's my pleasure to start off with something unique for the board," John Glenn Principal David Ingham said, referring to the board recognition portion of its meeting. "The board makes a point of recognizing students and stu-

dents' accomplishments. We're turning the tables on you and having the students recognize you. This represents all the students in Wayne-Westland."

P.D. Graham Principal Jennifer Curry thanked her student council advisers, kindergarten teacher Jennifer Morris and third-grade teacher Aileen Balatico and Glenn Assistant Principal Kim Cieszynski, who worked with the students on the presentation.

"They truly have done tremendous work with student councils and in doing a wonderful presentation for you," Curry said.

The P.D. Graham students presented the board with a *Thanks* poem, holding up each

letter as they recited it:

» Thank you for helping us with our activities;

» Helping us raise money for our school;

» Always helping the school district;

» Never gives up when things are difficult;

» Kids come first in your eyes;

» School board members, we appreciate you a lot.

John Glenn student council members said thank you with a "token of appreciation," a memory book created by both the Glenn and P.D. Graham students.

"I don't think we've ever had students come and say thanks," board President Thomas Buckalew said. "We work



hard for the community and we work hard for the students. I've never seen anything like that. It is most appreciated."

Buckalew also concurred with a suggestion by Trustee Sally Madison that the letters be laminated and displayed in

the board room.

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SUE MASON
Members of the student councils at P.D. Graham Elementary School and John Glenn High School represented the district's more than 12,000 students in saying thanks to the school board for all it does.

Take caution when making financial decisions after death of a spouse

Q: Dear Rick: My husband passed away in 2014. He had an IRA variable annuity with death benefits. He had been withdrawing, so there's only \$20,000 left. I am 58½ and work part time. My house (5.2 percent interest), will be paid off in approximately three years. Also, I have a variable home equity home loan with a balance of \$80,000. I'm not sure what to do next. Should I put the annuity in my name, roll it over and, if so, where? Should I take the dollars and pay off my house? Should I pay down the balance of the variable home equity loan before the repayment period starts in July? Should I put a fixed locked rate on this equity loan with the repayment period or put the \$20,000 in a Roth IRA?

A: I'm very sorry to



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

hear about your husband. My thoughts and my prayers are with you and your family.

In reviewing your situation, it makes sense to lock in the rate of the home equity loan. Sometime in the not-too-distant future we will begin to have higher interest rates and your home equity interest rate will rise.

You may want to consider refinancing your mortgage. The interest rate that you would have on a refinance would be lower than you currently are paying on your primary mortgage. Take into consideration the cost and fees regarding the refinance.

With regard to the IRA, variable annuities

don't belong in IRAs. There are hefty fees associated with variable annuities and you have limited investment options. Many variable annuities also have substantial penalty periods.

As to where the money should be invested, that depends on a variety of factors. If income is currently not a problem, then it may make sense to invest the money for long-term growth. You are only 58½ and you need growth.

However, if income is going to be a problem, I recommend transferring the money into an IRA and then withdrawing that money over time to pay down your mortgage. It is important to remember that when the money comes out of the IRA, it will be taxed to you. Withdraw only enough to keep you in your same tax bracket.

If you do not need the money and you can in-

vest for growth, then consider converting the money into a Roth IRA.

The keys to converting the money into a Roth are:

» You have the money to pay the tax. That \$20,000 would be taxed to you as ordinary income.

» Transferring the money into a Roth IRA will not put you into a higher tax bracket.

» By transferring into a Roth IRA, you can leave the money there for at least five years.

If you meet these three criteria, then a Roth IRA makes sense.

One last note. Don't allow anyone to pressure you into making any decision until you feel comfortable. After losing a loved one, it takes time to regain your bearings. I always encourage people not to rush into making any decisions. Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you

would like him to respond to your questions, email rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

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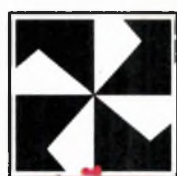
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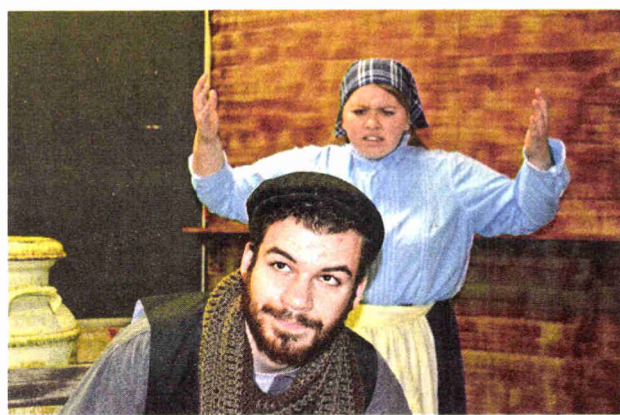
'Fiddler' production features lots of local talent

The Broadway version of *Fiddler on the Roof* is performing at the Village Theater in Canton for two weekends, Jan. 30 and Feb. 1 and Feb. 6-8, and will star all local talent.

Fiddler on the Roof is the story of Tevye, the father of five daughters, and his attempts to maintain his Jewish religious and cultural traditions, as outside influences encroach upon his family's lives. He must cope both with the strong-willed actions of his three older daughters who wish to marry for love and the edict of the Tsar that evicts the Jews from their village.

"This show is timeless and great for the entire family," said director Connor Rhoades, a Plymouth-Canton Educational Park graduate studying theater education at Eastern Michigan University. "I am so excited to bring such a time-honored show to Canton on its 50th anniversary."

With 18 musical numbers and a cast of more than 50 ages 6-22, Rhoades said, the show has "a little something for everyone in the fam-



FOREVER AFTER PRODUCTIONS
Golde talks with Tevye in a scene from "Fiddler on the Roof," at the Village Theater Jan. 30 and Feb. 1 and Feb. 6-8.



FOREVER AFTER PRODUCTIONS
In "Fiddler on the Roof," Tevye, the father of five daughters, tries to maintain his Jewish religious and cultural traditions as outside influences encroach upon his family's lives.

ily."

More than 100 performers came from all over metro Detroit to participate in auditions in November 2014, coming from as far as Ann Arbor, Novi, Madison Heights and Windsor, Ontario. Brandon Waldenmayer of Canton plays the role of Tevye.

"I'm honored to be part of such an extraordinary cast," said Waldenmayer, a junior at Eastern Michigan University double majoring in children's theater and public administration who has performed in

more than 50 shows, including as The Cowardly Lion (*The Wizard of Oz*) and Felix Ungar (*The Odd Couple*).

Rated PG, this family friendly production is a wonderful way to take the family to see a timeless Broadway-style show without spending a fortune. Audiences will be familiar with songs such as *Tradition*, *If I Were a Rich Man* and *Matchmaker, Matchmaker*.

In addition to the public performances, Forever After Productions will present two perfor-

mances for local school children to attend.

"The school shows are an important part of what we do bringing this level of theater performance to young people who may not otherwise have the opportunity to attend a touring production" show producer and choreographer Debby Ash said.

Forever After Produc-

tions is a community theater company based in Plymouth. Since 2009, it has produced more than 25 full-stage musical and dramatic productions throughout metro Detroit, including at the Power Center in Ann Arbor, The Berman Center in West Bloomfield and The Village Theater in Canton. Tickets are \$17 and

are on sale for all eight performances - 7 p.m. Jan. 30, 2 and 7 p.m. Jan. 31, 2 p.m. Feb. 1, 7 p.m. Feb. 6, 2 and 7 p.m. Feb. 7 and 2 p.m. Feb. 8 - and can be purchased at www.iheartforeverafter.com or by calling Forever After Productions at 734-547-5156. The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Read in Canton.

Plymouth resident pleads guilty to tax evasion charges

A Plymouth man pleaded guilty this week to wire fraud and tax evasion in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, according to the Justice Department and the Internal Revenue Service.

According to court documents, Michael Stover, a former Farmington Hills resident, was the president of Omni Facility Services, a janitorial company in Southfield. As part of his responsibilities, Stover approved and paid sub-

contractors. Stover created a fictitious subcontractor called Envirovac Inc., and from 2004 through 2010, he created fictitious invoices from Envirovac that billed Omni for work that was never performed.

Stover then approved

payment of those invoices on Omni's behalf and, over the course of the scheme, Stover embezzled approximately \$2,178,423 from Omni. On his tax return for 2007, Stover evaded taxes by not reporting the income he embezzled

from Omni, according to court documents.

Stover faces a statutory maximum sentence of 20 years in prison on the wire fraud count and five years in prison on the tax evasion count.

He also faces three years of supervised re-

lease and a maximum fine of \$250,000 for each count. U.S. District Judge Stephen J. Murphy was expected to sentence Stover on Friday.

The case was investigated by special agents of IRS-Criminal Investigation. Trial attorneys Yael T. Epstein and Kenneth C. Vert of the Tax Division prosecuted the case.

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- ☉ THE BOY NEXT DOOR (R)
11:55, 2:30, 4:55, 7:30, 9:50
FRI/SAT LS 12:00
- ☉ MORTDECAI (R)
11:00, 1:50, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35
FRI/SAT LS 11:55
- ☉ STRANGE MAGIC (PG)
11:15, 1:40, 4:10, 6:50, 9:10
- ☉ AMERICAN SNIPER (R)
12:15, 3:25, 6:30, 9:20
FRI/SAT LS 11:20
- ☉ PADDINGTON (PG)
11:30, 2:05, 4:25, 6:45, 9:00
- ☉ BLACKHAT (R)
FRI-SUN/TUE/WED 12:35, 3:45,
6:40, 9:30
FRI/SAT LS 11:25
MON 12:35, 9:30
- ☉ THE WEDDING RINGER (R)
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FRI/SAT LS 12:00

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DROP-IN KNITTING

Date/Time: Every third Tuesday of the month, 1-2 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Township Friendship Station, 42375 Schoolcraft, Plymouth
Details: The Plymouth Community Council on Aging offers drop-in knitting and crocheting classes. If you need help finishing a project or starting a new project, then this is the place to come. Beginners are welcome. Each class has a donation of \$2. Instructor is Dori Mefford.
Contact: For more information, call 734-453-1234, ext. 236.

U-M ALUMNI NETWORKING

Date/Time: Wednesday, Feb. 11, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Location: Liberty Street Brewing Co., 149 W. Liberty, Plymouth
Details: The University Of Michigan Alumni Club of Greater Northville hosts a professional networking event for seasoned and new professionals. The featured speaker will be fellow Michigan alumni Sally Schmall, owner of the Coaching Academy. She will share simple strategies to help your message resonate with others, followed by small networking/discussion groups based on career interests. A light dinner and a drink will be provided. Cost is \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members.

LIBRARY GARAGE SALE

Date/Time: Thursday, Jan. 29, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Friday, Jan. 30, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main
Details: In preparation for the upcoming building repair project, the Plymouth District Library is cleaning out the basement and will be having a garage sale. Items for sale include all types of odds and ends, small pieces of furniture and building materials. All items are priced to sell, sold "as is" and on a cash-and-carry basis.
Contact: For more information, call the library at 734-453-0750, ext. 4, or go to plymouthlibrary.org.

JAZZ @ THE ELKS

Date/Time: Tuesday, Jan. 27, 7-10 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Jazz @ The Elks happens the last Tuesday of each month; there is a \$10 donation at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres. Opening the new year will be Nuevo Jazz Detroit with Duncan Jones on keyboard, Don Lewandowski on bass, Patrick Fitzgibbon on vibes, Jerry LeDuff on congas and special guest drummer Dave Marcaccio.
Contact: For more information, call 734-453-1780, go to www.plymouthannarborelks325.com or email jazzattheelks@gmail.com.

CRAFTERS WANTED

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 17
Location: West Middle School, 44401 Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth
Details: Delta Kappa Gamma, an international society of women in education, will host its 31st annual craft show to help provide scholarships for Plymouth-Canton students. There are still openings for crafters who are interested in joining the event. Join DKG along with the AAUW used book sale and reserve a booth.
Contact: For more information, contact Debbie Cortellini at debcortellini@comcast.net or call 734-451-1525.

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 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each Wednesday. Canton Christian Fellowship is located on Joy Road, west of Haggerty.
Contact: For more information, email info@cantoncf.org

BLOOD DRIVES

Dates/Times/Locations:
 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.

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 (LGBT), 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

LIBRARY BAG SALES

Dates: Jan. 23-26; Feb. 20-23; March 27-30
Location: Canton Public Library, 1200 N. Canton Center Road, Canton
Details: The Canton Public Library hosts several Bag Sales to benefit Secondhand Prose, the Friends of the Canton Public Library bookstore. Visitors can shop during the monthly sale and fill a big with books for just \$5.

HOSPICE SUPPORT

Dates/Times: First and third Thursday of each month, 10-11:30 a.m.
Location: Plymouth Coffee Bean, 884 Penniman

Details: Compassionate Coffee Club is an open and ongoing grief support group offering support and socialization for widows and widowers moving beyond the first year of loss. The program is sponsored by Compassionate Care Hospice and is free of charge, although a drink purchase is required for use of the space.
Contact: For more information, contact Ann Christensen, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement coordinator, at 888-983-9050 or email achristsen@cchnet.net.

BRAIN NEUROBICS

Date/Time: Second and third Thursday, January through May 2015, 11 a.m.
Location: Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty
Details: Wayne State University Institute of Gerontology designed the 10 free courses. Keep your brain alert and active with such topics as Memory Tricks, Food for Thought and Magic of Music. Courses taught by Wal-tonwood Cherry Hill.
Contact: To sign up, call the Plymouth Community Council on Aging at 734-453-1234, ext. 236.

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PETER NIELSEN
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Aaron Wallace is the owner of Balance Your Fitness. Our mission at BYF, is to help you live your life in balance. My educational background is a B.S. in Exercise and Health Science from Alma College. Additionally, he is certified as a CHEK Practitioner, Holistic Lifestyle Coach and Golf Biomechanic.

Saturday, January 31 at 2pm
 Bloomfield Hills Better Health Market

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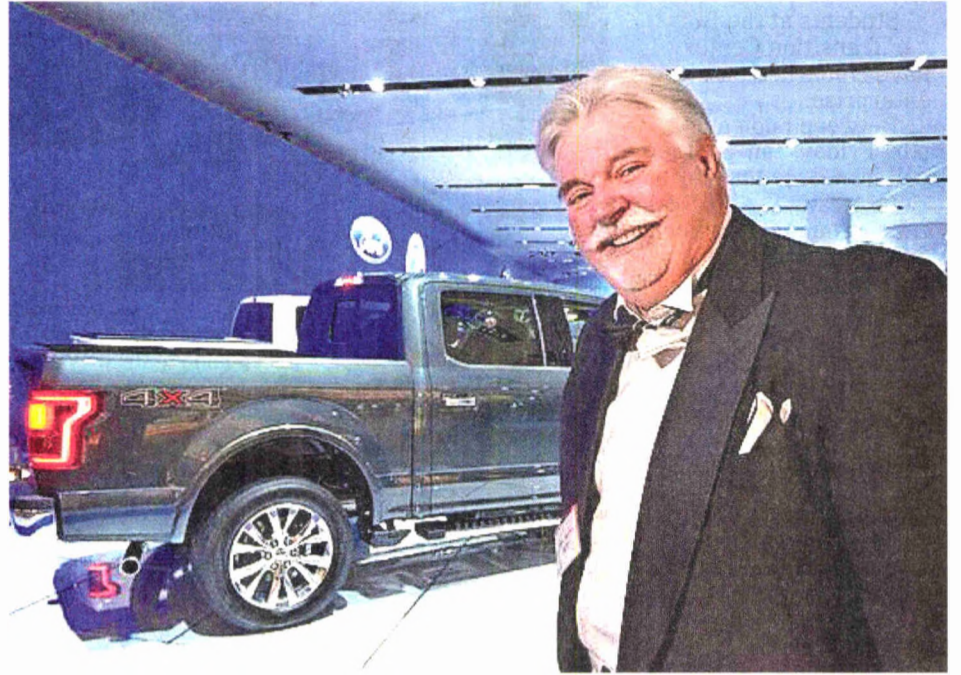
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LOCAL RESIDENTS ENJOY EVENING OF GLAMOUR, FUN AT CHARITY PREVIEW



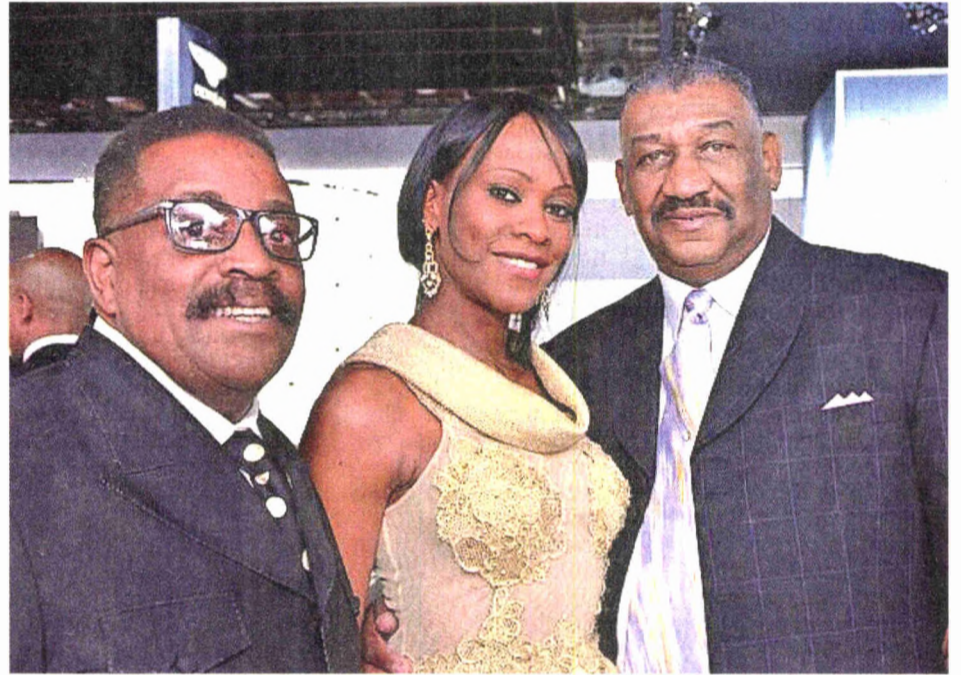
PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Plymouth Township Treasurer Ron Edwards (right) working security at the ribbon cutting opening event, with Leslei and Anthony Markwort of Holt.



Former state Sen. Bruce Patterson of Canton at the Ford truck display.



Roz Lullove Cooperman of Bloomfield Township, Beth Stewart, Michigan Philharmonic director and Plymouth Township resident (center), and Connie Hogan of Bloomfield Hills, wait for the Charity Preview to begin.



Ron Munson of Southfield, Tina Lyle of Farmington Hills, and Hollis Sheffield of Detroit stop for a photo.



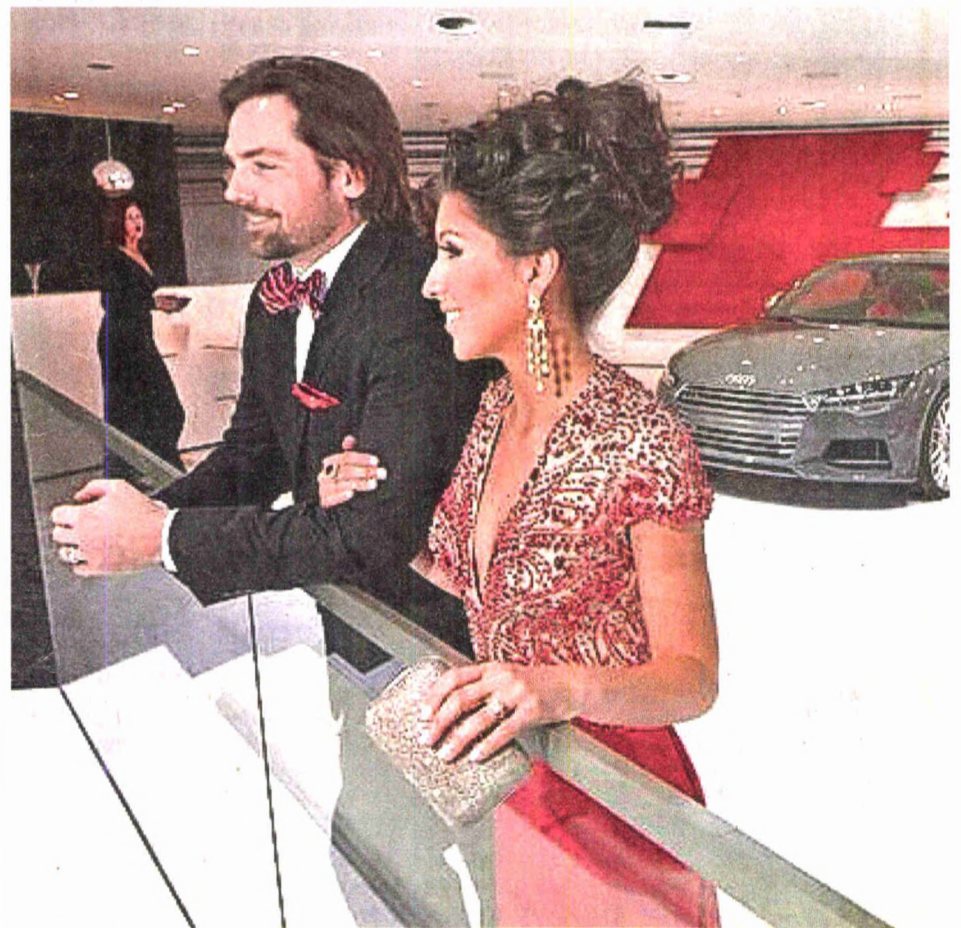
Delta Airlines pilot John Vena of Canton enjoying the party.



Martin and Terry Olejnik of Canton.



Karen and Tim Hanchett of Canton.



Aaron and Jacki Karnws of Livonia stroll through the Audi exhibit.

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

Burger Transition Center introduces new pantry

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

Students at the Burger Transition Center have embarked on a new enterprise.

Between noon and 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30, they will introduce their own clothing and food pantry called Cougar Care Food and Clothing Pantry at the school, which is housed in the Henry Ruff building on Maplewood between Middlebelt and Merriman.

The pantry is expected to continue during the same hours the last Friday of each month through May. If it is an early release day, the hours will be noon to 1 p.m.

The students are hoping that the public will come to check out their pantry.

Burger teacher Michael Brower is heading up the effort.

"My class will be running the clothing and food pantry during school hours," he said.

So that there is no confusion, this pantry is separate from and in addition to the Cougar Care Cafe that is run by Garden City Schools Superintendent Michelle Cline in the same building the third Saturday of each month.

The Burger students aren't involved in Cline's pantry, which involves other student groups as well as service organizations. The Burger students' pantry will not include a cafe.

"The goal is to be open to community members in need on the last Friday of every month in an effort to begin integrating the students with the community," Brower said. "The Food and Clothing Pantry has given our students the opportunity



Gabrielle Kreza and Brett Charley, students at the Burger Transition Center, sort food for the opening of the new Cougar Care Food and Clothing Pantry at the school located in the Henry Ruff Building.



Chaz Jackson, a student at the Burger Transition Center, hangs a clothing item which will be offered at the new Cougar Care Food and Clothing Pantry that opens Friday, Jan. 30.

to develop their vocational, communication and social skills."

The students will assist residents with food and clothing selections.

"This will give them the opportunity to strengthen their social skills, engage in meaningful conversation and provide a service to our community that will benefit them as they complete their public school education."

Autistic students can attend school until the age of 26.

"The students are currently working daily in the Food and Clothing Pantry, receiving dona-

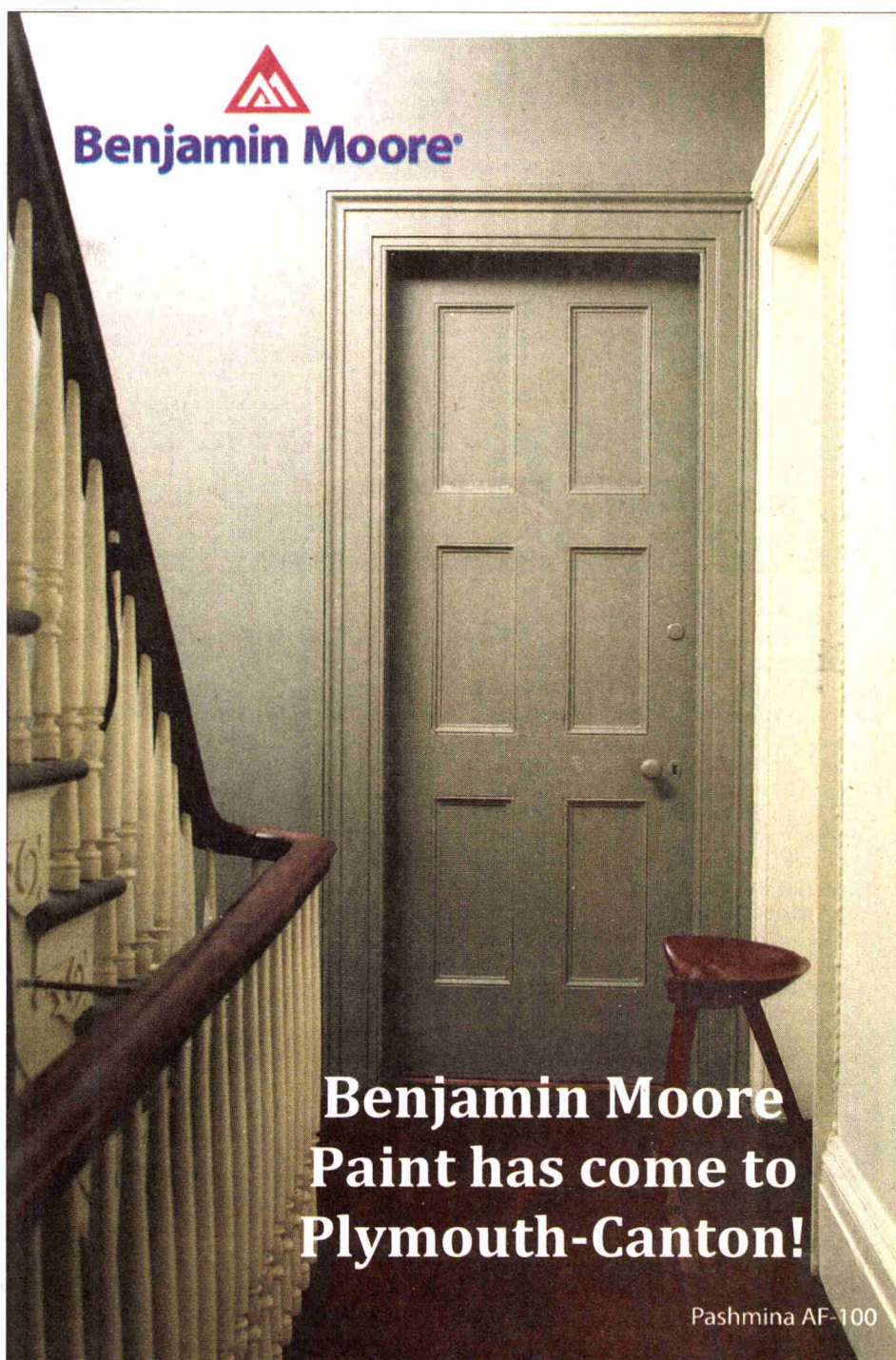
tions from the community," Brower said. "They sort and organize clothing donations and they sort and set up non-perishable food items."

Brower said that they continue to accept donations of non-perishable food items and gently used clothing.

"We are also accepting small- to medium-sized household items for the pantry," he said.

Items may be dropped off during school hours, from 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., at the Burger Transition Center, 30300 Maplewood.

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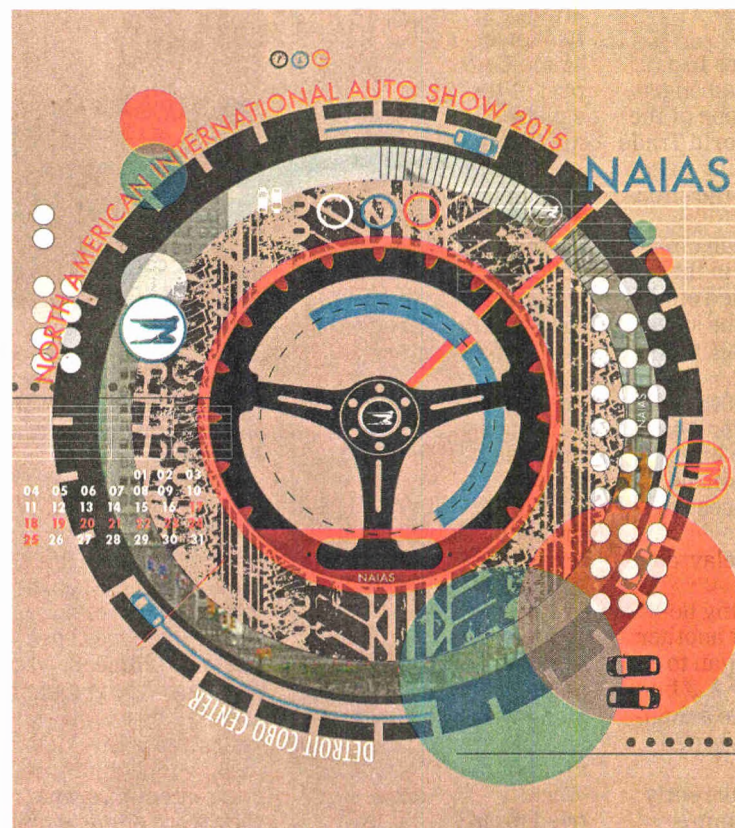


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Four W-W students are NAIAS poster contest winners



WVCSJ
Jada Baskin (from left), Kyle Wilkin, Veronica Peterson and Jasmine Traxler show off their designs that won awards in the 2015 NAIAS Poster Contest



NAIAS
Veronica Peterson of John Glenn High School won Designers Best of Show and \$500 for her poster.

Four students from the graphic design class at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center won awards in the 27th annual North American International Auto Show 2015 High School Poster Contest.

Sixteen awards were given out in this year's competition, which attracted 781 entries from 58 Michigan schools. Veronica Peterson of

John Glenn High School won Designers Best of Show, while Jasmine Traxler and Kyle Wilkin of John Glenn High School and Jada Baskin placed first, second and third, respectively, in the 12th-grade competition.

Peterson and Traxler received \$500 prizes, while Wilkin received \$250 and Baskin \$100. The four are students in Steve Paulsen's graphics

design class at the Career Technical Center.

The posters, judged by panelists from the local art community, are posted on the NAIAS website at naias.com.

The winning posters also have been on display at the 2015 NAIAS at Cobo Center in Detroit and reproduced in the official auto show program.

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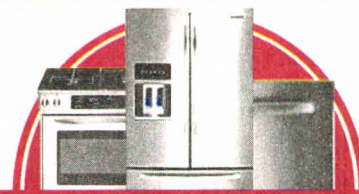
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Former FDNY fire chief shares experiences from 9/11

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Shortly before 10 a.m. Sept. 11, 2001, Dan Nigro began to circle one of the towers of the World Trade Center, attempting to get a better read of the situation.

Then, a civilian employee he knew in the department called out his name while on the streets and wanted to talk to him about his wife, who worked on the 90th floor of the south tower. Nigro went to speak to him. That conversation, he said, is the only reason he's alive today.

"This brief delay, coincidentally, saved my life," he said, explaining he only had to walk another 50 feet. "As I began to approach Tower 2, it began to collapse in a thundering roar that lasted only 11 seconds."

Nigro, who currently serves as the commissioner for the fire department in New York City, was in Livonia on Wednesday morning as a part of the Livonia Town Hall speaker series. Nigro became fire chief of the New York department after the chief before him

died in the 9/11 terrorist attacks that destroyed two towers of the World Trade Center, as well as part of the Pentagon and a plane over Pennsylvania that day.

After the first plane hit that morning, a feeling Nigro said was like an earthquake, he and his colleagues looked out the window and saw one of the Twin Towers on fire.

The firefighters weren't sure how the incident happened and did not originally connect the events to criminal activity.

"Not all of us made the immediate connection to terrorism," he said. "And that sounds strange today in a post-9/11 world."

He and the remaining members of the fire department in New York, along with other agencies and firefighters from around the country at the World Trade Center site, tried to find as many victims as possible, though not all could be found because of the tragedy.

"We worked on the site 24 hours a day, seven days a week, until June 1, 2002," Nigro said. "During that operation, we



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Retired chief of the New York fire department Dan Nigro speaks to the Livonia Town Hall crowd.

recovered as many victims as we could, but hundreds disappeared without a trace."

Livonia Fire Chief Shadd Whitehead, who introduced Nigro, said that day more than 13 years ago is the day in history most likely everyone remembers what they were doing, similar to when Pearl Harbor was bombed or John F. Kennedy was assassinated.

"For me, 9/11, not only because of what I do, but 9/11 certainly is a day that many of you remember the smallest details of that day," he said. "I lost



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A somber Town Hall crowd listens to Dan Nigro's account of the 2001 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center.

three friends in 9/11."

Nigro talked about the so-called World Trade Center Building 7 conspiracy, saying that the multi-story building that collapsed later that day came as a result of structural damage from one of the nearby towers and not at the request of the owner of the complex using

explosives, as many conspiracy theorists surmise.

"They claim, among many outrageous claims, that the building's owner, Larry Silverstein, gave the order for me to pull the building," he said. "Absolute nonsense."

Northville resident Lynn Ader said Nigro's

talk was enlightening, providing more info about a subject that hits home with many Americans.

"There was a lot of details," she said. "Very powerful."

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Madonna University earns national recognition for community service

Once again, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching has selected Madonna University to receive the 2015 Community Engagement Classification. Madonna is among just 240 U.S. colleges and universities to be given the designation and one of 157 schools, only two in Michigan, to be granted renewal of the honor.

"We are honored and proud of this recognition. Engagement through service is central to Madonna's mission and identity," said Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, Madonna University president. "Our timeless Franciscan values – respect for all people, reverence for creation, peace and justice and education for truth and service – animate all that we do to prepare graduates to contribute positively in an increasingly interconnected global society."

In order to be selected, colleges and universities with an institutional focus on community engagement were invited to apply for the classification, first offered in 2006. Participating institutions volun-

tarily submitted materials describing the nature and extent of their engagement with the community, be it local or beyond.

"Receiving this classification for a second time is an important milestone for Madonna University," said Ernest Nolan, provost and vice president for academic administration. "Our deep commitment to community engagement and public service continues despite the devastating effects of economic recession."

Madonna University's selection recognizes the institution's deep commitment to engagement both inside and outside the classroom, demonstrated through numerous programs and projects, including:

» Academic Service-Learning integrates community service with course content and provides opportunities for students to apply their talents, knowledge and skills to address community needs and pressing social issues, in partnership with local and global nonprofit organizations.

» Days of Service provide ways for stu-

dents to engage in community service throughout their education at Madonna University.

» International Service-Learning involves students in applying their academic knowledge and skills to help address global issues in countries such as China, Costa Rica and France.

» 9th Grade Counts! Summer Program is a partnership with The Phoenix Academy and the Springwells Village Local College Access Network to help equip eighth-grade students from southwest Detroit with the skills and resources to succeed in high school. Students participate in academic enrichment activities and benefit from college readiness programs.

» College Positive Volunteerism helps youth and families plan for college and Know-How2Go! CPV students have diverse academic interests, including broadcast and cinema arts, criminal justice, dietetics, education, nursing and social work.

» Ford MU Community Corps is a unique service-leadership experience supported by the Ford Motor Co. Fund.

Small teams of students with similar academic interests work together to address community needs. Teams develop and expand service projects in collaboration with a faculty mentor and nonprofit organization professionals.

» Alternative Spring Break programs expose students to complex social and cultural issues through community visits, experiential learning, direct service, group discussion, readings and reflection.

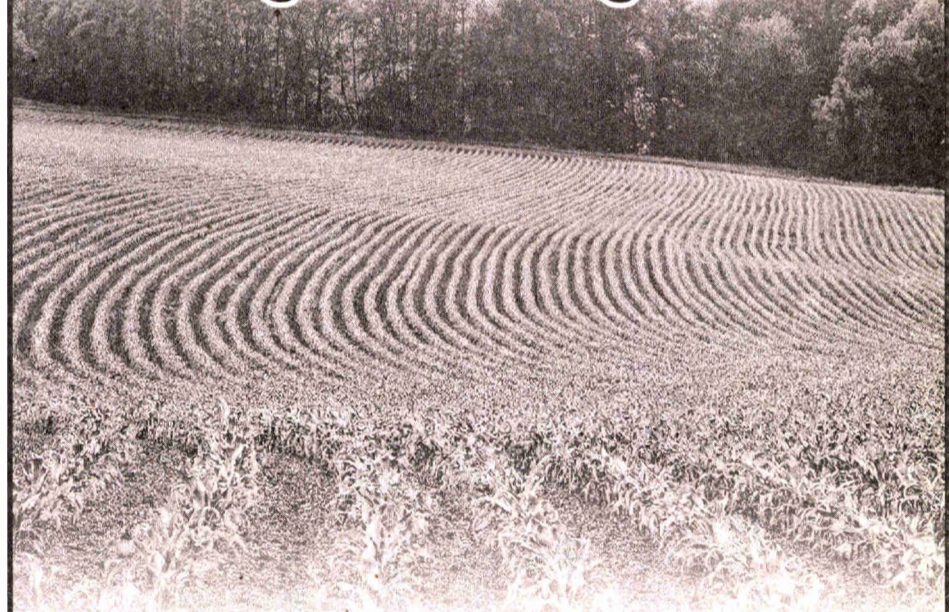
Each year, Madonna students, faculty and

staff volunteer their time and talents to benefit the community. During the 2013-14 academic year, 1,878 students contributed 47,463 hours to the community. These numbers represent a financial contribution value of more than \$1 million per year.

Madonna University also was named to the 2014 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. Administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Edu-

cation and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as the American Council on Education, Campus Compact and the Interfaith Youth Core, the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll recognizes institutions of higher education that support exemplary community service programs and raise the visibility of effective practices in campus community partnerships. Madonna University has received this distinctive recognition since 2006.

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Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Federal Law

It is the policy of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, height, weight, disability, religion or marital status in any of its programs, activities or employment.

Published: January 25, 2015 and February 1, 2015

LO-000022834 3x3

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

A regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Wednesday, February 5, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the following:

1. Z 15-02 860 Penniman
Non-Use Variance Requested
Landscape Buffer
Zoned: B-2, Central Business
Applicant: Westborn Market/Guido Architects

All interested persons are invited to attend.

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

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

Published: Sunday, January 25, 2015

LO-000022864 3x4

LO-000022782

Trial for suspect in referee death expected to go five days

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

The trial for the Dearborn man accused of killing a soccer referee in Livonia last summer could begin a day earlier than scheduled, allowing for a full week trial.

Bassel Saad, 36, went Friday before Circuit Judge Thomas Cameron in Detroit's Frank Murphy Hall of Justice for a pre-trial hearing in his case. Cameron tentatively moved the starting

date of the jury trial to Feb. 23, which could change if Saad's attorney, Cyril Hall, is unable to make it. That allows for a full week of testimony and arguments in the case, limiting it to that week, Cameron said.

"I'd like to have a full week rather than spilling

over to the next week," he said.

Saad is charged with second-degree murder after police say he struck Westland resident John Bieniewicz during a soccer match last June at Livonia's Mies Park. Bieniewicz died from his injuries two days later. Saad turned himself in the day after the incident and had his charges adapted. If convicted, he faces up to life in prison.

The jury in the case will also be subject to an

additional jury questionnaire, given the high publicity to the case that happened as the world's eyes were on the game of soccer and the World Cup in Brazil last summer. Saad's former attorney had originally filed a change-of-venue motion with the court, but no action appears to have been taken on it. The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office has submitted its list of witnesses and Saad's legal team had yet to submit theirs

as of Friday morning.

It was the first court appearance for Saad since last year's motion hearing arguments that took place before Cameron. Those hearings determined a prior assault Saad was involved in 2005 in Canton could not be used during the trial, as well as some autopsy photos would be allowed to be introduced as evidence during the trial.

Another motion requesting Cameron drop the second-degree mur-

der charge to a manslaughter charge was also dismissed during those hearings in November and December.

It's not expected Saad will return to court before next month's trial. He's currently being held in the Wayne County Jail on a \$1 million cash or surety bond awaiting trial.

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Players stage 'Miracle on South Division Street'

A deathbed confession begins to blow the lid off the Nowak family "miracle," unraveling a secret kept for decades. This revelation is at the heart of *Miracle on South Division Street*, a hilarious comedy (with a terrific twist) by Tom Dudzick opening Friday, Feb. 13, and running through Feb. 28 at the Farmington Players Barn in Farmington Hills.

Imagine the guy next door erecting a life-size shrine in his front yard and the rest of the community flocking to it as a symbol of hope and faith. It's easy to envision this occurring in a Buffalo neighborhood in 1942 at a time when Americans needed so desperately to "believe." The family legend began when Grandpa Nowak witnessed a "holy vision" right in his barbershop, which inspired a commemorative shrine on his property that served as a source of family and pride in the Polish neighborhood for years.

Miracle on South Division Street, provides a breezy look at ordinary people with extraordinary dreams — people who consider themselves to be "special" and "chosen."

"It's sort of a Polish version of *Seinfeld*."



The cast includes (from left) Gilkes Bigwood (Farmington Hills), Kristi Schwartz (Canton), Michael Soave (Detroit) and Margaret Gilkes (Farmington Hills).

Moonstruck-My Big Fat Greek Wedding! said director Suzanne Rogers of West Bloomfield

Rogers sees it partly as a play about "faith and family." "What is a miracle?" she asks. "Do they exist? In what or whom do you put your faith? How do you maintain faith in a world of chaos?"

The "Shrine" that makes the Nowaks the talk of the town gives them their identity. But when they gather to discuss daughter Ruth Nowak's plans to write a play about that family "miracle," a deathbed confession shakes their faith to its core.

Margaret Gilkes of Farmington Hills plays the kind-hearted family matriarch Clara who runs a neighborhood soup kitchen and offers "healing soup" prepared on "holy ground." Clara's daughter, Ruth, is the free-spirited budding playwright destined to make her mark on the world. She is played by Margaret's real-life daughter Katie Gilkes-Bigwood of Farmington Hills.

Ruth's sister Beverly (Kristi Schwartz of Canton) is the opposite of her sibling, a skeptical traditionalist who works as a ketchup bottler. Michael Soave of Ferndale plays

the "baby of the family" Jimmy, (a garbage collector) who is thinking about marrying outside the faith. His biggest struggle is keeping the peace among all the women in his life.

Rogers says the comedy is also "about divisions: divisions in families (even loving families), divisions between young and old, Catholics and Jews, conservatives and liberals, tolerant and intolerant," Rogers said.

Such divisions certainly develop in both heartfelt and hilarious ways while the Nowaks reveal layers of secrets and lies while embracing life's delightful surprises. As the family shares stories amidst a shrine, some soup and a series of secrets, this comedy contains just the right mix of ingredients to leave us all laughing about our own families back at home.

Miracle on South Division Street is sponsored by Varsity Automotive Group. Tickets are on sale at the box office 248-553-2955 and also online at farmingtonplayers.org.

The opening night performance of *Miracle on South Division Street* benefits Manna Community Meal, a soup kitchen in Detroit where Rogers

volunteers to help others in need. In a unique twist on the Players' popular 50/50 drawing, money collected during the Barn's 50/50 raffle will be matched by Varsity Automotive Group. The 50/50 winner will receive half the pot, but matching funds will be donated to the soup kitchen.

Additionally, the Barn will provide a post-show dessert bar for the patron afterglow party with treats from On The Rise Bakery, which is sponsored by the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. This venture is run by members of the Reaching Our Potential Everyday program. These are men who have recently been released from prison or have completed a substance abuse treatment program and are trying to change their lives.

Cast members include: Clara (Margaret Gilkes, Farmington Hills); Ruth (Katie Bigwood, Farmington Hills); Beverly (Kristi Schwartz, Canton); Jimmy (Michael Soave, Ferndale). In addition to Rogers, the production team includes assistant director Julia Spina-Kilar of West Bloomfield, producer Phil Hadley of West Bloomfield and stage manager Jill Jones of Southfield.

'Watchers of the Sky' screened for Holocaust Remembrance Day at three different sites

The Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus will present three screenings of Sundance Festival award-winning film *Watchers of the Sky* as part of its annual International Holocaust Remembrance Day commemoration, Tuesday,

Jan. 27.

The screenings will take place from 10 a.m. to noon at the Berman Center for Performing Arts, 6600 Maple, West Bloomfield, as well as 7-9 p.m. at both the Holocaust Memorial Center, 28123 Orchard Lake, in Farmington Hills and the Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Drive, in Ann Arbor. Admission to all screenings is free. Donations will be accepted.

Watchers of the Sky examines the life and legacy of Polish-Jewish lawyer and linguist Raphael Lemkin, who coined the term "genocide." Before Lemkin, the notion of accountability for war crimes was virtually non-existent. After experiencing the barbarity of the Holocaust firsthand, he



Lemkin

devoted his life to convincing the international community that there must be legal retribution for mass atrocities targeted at minorities, asking, "Why is the killing of a million a lesser crime than the killing of an individual?" An impassioned visionary, Lemkin confronted world apathy in a tireless battle for justice, setting the stage for the Nuremberg trials and creation of the International Criminal Court.

"Hosting events in honor of International Holocaust Day of Remembrance, which this year marks the 70th

anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, is especially significant for us," Holocaust Memorial Center Executive Director Stephen M. Goldman said. "By expanding the hours of our usual programming and adding locations, we will have the opportunity to reach more people."

In addition to the screening, the Holocaust Memorial Center will host museum tours beginning at 1 p.m. Jan. 27 and guide attendees through the museum dedicated to the memory of the Holocaust. Participants also will have the opportunity to meet a Holocaust survivor after the tour.

Included among the tour stops is The Henrietta and Alvin Weisberg Gallery, featuring an authentic World War II-era boxcar. Visitors also will visit the popular Time Line, a circular exhibit that tracks the history of the Jewish people against major events in world history

over a period of 4,000 years. Additionally, the tour will feature exhibits focusing on the story of World War II, firsthand accounts from Detroit-area Holocaust survivors and honors devoted to the thousands of non-Jews who saved, or tried to save, at least one Jew, knowing this action could place them in mortal danger.

The events of the day are made possible by the support of the Anti-Defamation League, David-Horodoker Organization, Masco Corp. Foundation, Voice/Vision Holocaust Survivor Oral History Archive, Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies at Wayne State University and Jewish Studies at Eastern Michigan University.

The Holocaust Memorial Center is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday through Thursday (last admission at 3:30 p.m.) and from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday (last admission at 1:30 p.m.). The museum is closed Saturday and public holidays.

Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors and college students and \$5 for children.

Farmington's Red Carpet Event celebrates Oscar nominees

By Aileen Wingblad
Staff Writer

It's a taste of Hollywood in your own backyard.

Back by popular demand, the Red Carpet Event to celebrate the Academy Awards returns Sunday, Feb. 8, to Farmington.

The fun kicks off at 6:15 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres at the Farmington Community Library's downtown branch, then at 7:30 p.m. head over to the Farmington Civic Theater for Oscar Shorts.

Official shorts from films nominated this year for an Academy Award — both animated and live-action — will be shown. Oscar night is Feb. 22.

"It's been a great event. This is our third year doing this and in the second year we sold out," said Maria Showich-Gallup, head of youth services for the library. "There's not that many places in the area that you can see the Oscar shorts, so this is an opportunity to see some really good films — and it's very fun."

In keeping with the theme, a red carpet is rolled out at the Civic Theater to give it that "Hollywood feel," she said.

Showich-Gallup said she's especially grateful for support from the Civic Theater and donations from local businesses which make the event possible. "It really is a great community event," she said.

Tickets are \$15 per person and are on sale through 6 p.m. Jan. 31 at both Farmington Community Library branches or until all 275 are sold. Proceeds will benefit the Farmington Friends of the Library.

"A lot of people like it," said Dottie Phenev, on staff at the Farmington Community Library. "And it's a nice way of supporting the library."

The event will wrap up at 11:15 p.m.

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ARTHRITIS FEARS

Patients may consider it dreadful news when the doctor tells them that they have rheumatoid arthritis. The diagnosis may bring to mind gnarled hands and swollen feet, the profile of someone bent over and shuffling from chair to bathroom and back, and of a life ruined by pain and deformity.

The reality is that rheumatoid arthritis today has nothing to do with such a grim disease.

First, rheumatoid arthritis covers a wide spectrum of change. It is possible, even probable, to experience a mild form of the condition in which the aching and stiffness last under an hour a day, the joint pains while present, are not debilitating, and the hands lose no dexterity.

Second, the medications available today provide excellent relief from inflammation and are able to stop the immune processes that cause and continue the arthritis. With modern treatment it is possible to resolve rheumatoid arthritis.

Third, the body brings to bear its own defenses. At times, even minimal medicine suffices to allow the person, through their own response, to put the arthritis into a state of quiescence or remission.

It is important that persons with joint aching lasting six weeks or longer see their physician. Speedy diagnosis and timely treatment are the keys to successful control of rheumatoid arthritis. Furthermore, the first eighteen months of the condition determine what will be the extent of joint damage. If a person is fearful or unwilling to admit the need for help, the opportunity to save the joints, gain an early recovery or limit impairment, is lost.

What is the best antidote to fear and doubt? Moving forward to define the problem and obtain medical care.

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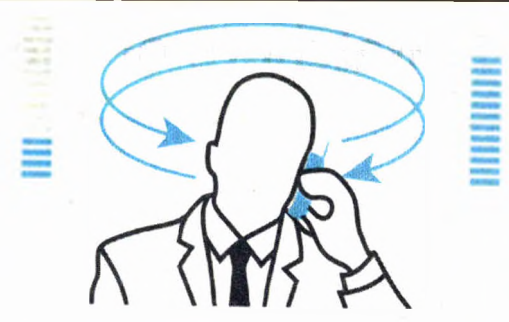
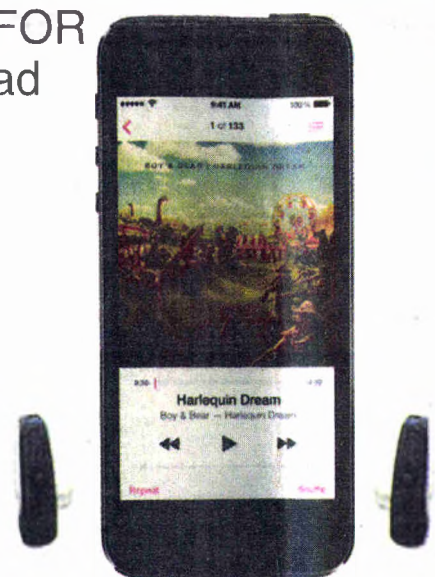
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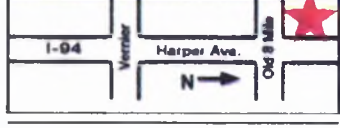
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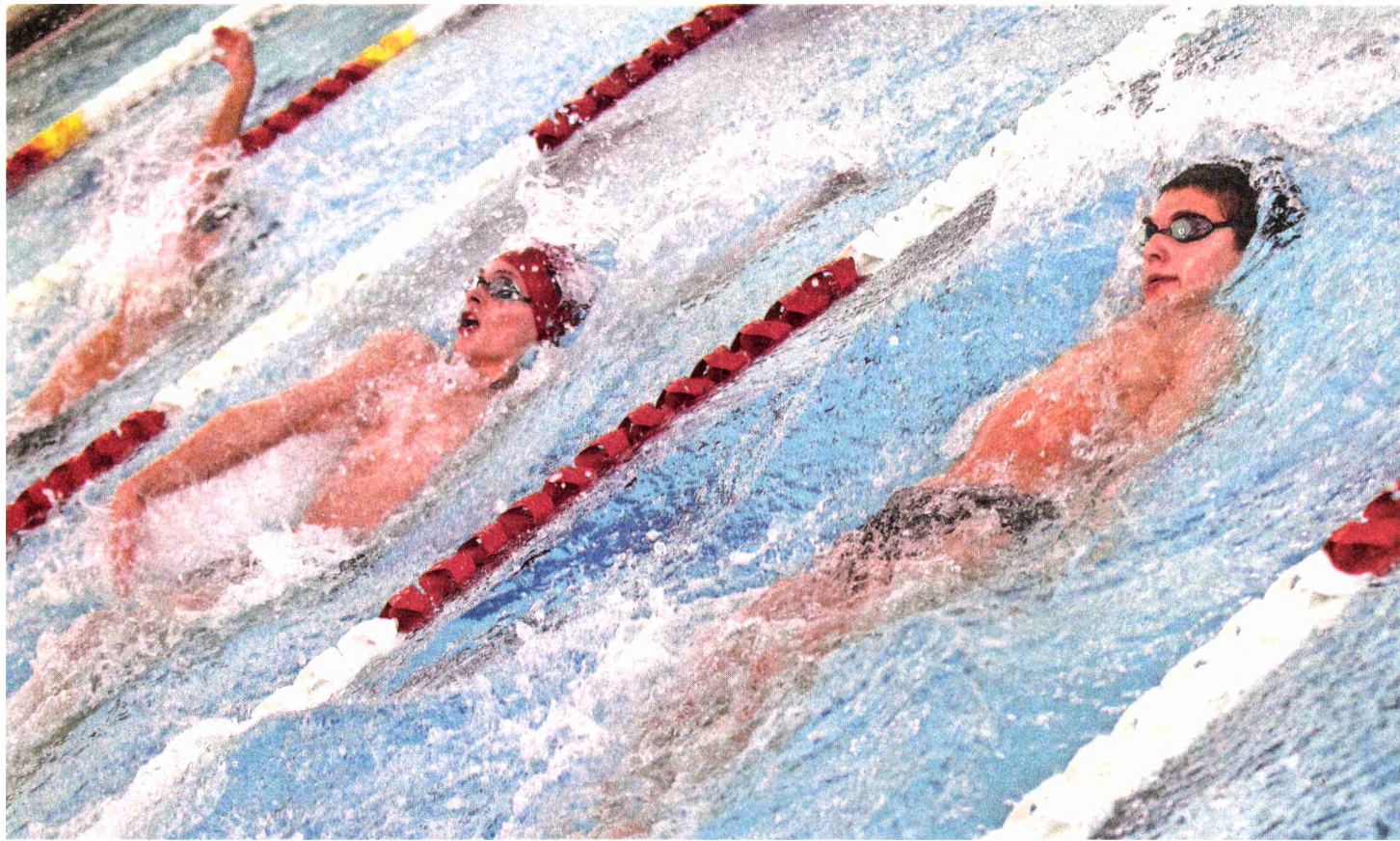
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PARK SWIM RIVALS SQUARE OFF

'CATS SPLASH FEVER



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Battling against each other in the 100-yard backstroke Thursday are Canton's Kyle Amick (left) and Plymouth's Keegan Kendall.

Plymouth's superior depth enough to hold off hard-charging Chiefs

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The final score of Thursday's varsity boys swimming and diving meet between host Canton and Plymouth did not indicate how competitive the matchup was.

Both KLAAs South Division teams got after it, yet Plymouth's strong depth helped the Wildcats prevail 116-67.

"There were a lot of good races, they've got good talent on their team," said Plymouth head coach Kenn Forbes about Canton. "I think we just have a few more guys to kind of spread it out a little bit. But they (Chiefs) swam well."

Canton head coach Dave Le gave kudos to the Wildcats (2-0), but said he was optimistic that the Chiefs (1-3) are on the upswing despite the defeat.

"Plymouth's a very tough team," Le said. "They're the two-time defending division champion, they have a lot of talented swimmers. But we had a very successful meet."

"We had some personal bests for this season, we had



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Working his way to the finish in the 500 freestyle Thursday is Canton's Cole Malhoit.

some lifetime bests today. We're just going to continue working hard and getting prepared for the end of the season, the conference meet."

Whenever Plymouth and Canton square off, there is a jolt of adrenaline as the stu-

dent-athletes try to one-up each other and Thursday night's meeting was no exception.

"I love this meet because the kids know each other," Forbes noted. "They practice at the same facility and it's just a good rivalry."

Bringing it

To that end, even though Plymouth had the dual meet well in hand, the meet-ending 400-yard freestyle relay featured both teams blitzing

See SPLASH, Page B4

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL

Salem powers past Lions in rout

Over at Plymouth, last-second trey by Reynolds edges Glenn

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

There was a 42-point blow-out at Salem and last-second heroics at Plymouth.

Plymouth-Canton Educational Park hosted a night of extremes Friday night at the two varsity boys basketball games played on campus.

At Salem, the Rocks blitzed South Lyon 63-21 in a game that was pretty much decided after the Rocks broke a 12-12 tie in the first quarter on a break-away slam by senior forward Allante Wheeler.

That jump-started a 7-0 run that put Salem up 19-12 and the advantage swelled to 35-17 at halftime.

In the second half, the Lions managed four points — two in each of the quarters — as Salem improved to 8-3 overall and 4-1 in the KLAAs Central Division.

"They (Lions) have been in every game pretty close, though," Salem head coach Bob Brodie said. "So tonight we just played above and beyond what I thought we should of."

"We did a great job defen-

See SALEM, Page B3



BRIAN QUINTOS

Salem sophomore Cameron Grace, shown from earlier this season, tallied 14 points Friday night against South Lyon.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

Wildcats take charge against Glenn

Plymouth's pressure defense sparks 54-35 win

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

After the Plymouth varsity girls basketball team received the crushing news that senior post and co-captain Leah Kliczinski was lost for the rest of the season due to a torn ACL, the Wildcats responded the way that head coach Nick Brandon knew they would.

They came out on a mission Friday night, winning 54-35 over host Westland John Glenn in a KLAAs South Division contest.

Plymouth players knocked

down shots and — by design — let themselves be knocked over, in order to draw offensive charges against the Rockets. The Wildcats' pressure defense also led to 30 John Glenn turnovers.

"It was a great win for us, especially our team's response to some really tough news this week," Brandon said about the loss of Kliczinski, who was injured Jan. 16 against Canton. "I loved the way we came out and played together as a team and stayed focused on the task at hand."

"We know some other people are going to have to step up and I think that happened tonight."

Leading Plymouth (9-2, 5-0

in the KLAAs South) was senior wing Kendall Rose with 14 points, while junior wing Cassidy Lewis tallied a career-best 13 points.

Contributing eight points was senior point guard Courtney LaVallee, while senior point guard Paige Slominski and senior post Patti Begoske each scored seven points.

Plymouth led 24-13 at halftime, following a 9-0 surge. But in the third, the Wildcats took control, with a 23-6 quarter sparked by plenty of defensive pressure and offensive heroics from LaVallee.


"Courtney LaVallee scored six points in the third quarter," Brandon said. "She was

See WILDCATS, Page B3



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO


Plymouth senior point guard Courtney LaVallee (left) dribbles past Westland John Glenn's Kimah Stribling on Friday night.



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KLAA WRESTLING

Young Chiefs fall to Rockets

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Westland John Glenn's wrestling team put a stranglehold, so to speak, on the top spot of the KLAA South Division standings Wednesday night at Livonia Franklin.

In a quad meet that also included the host Patriots, Wayne Memorial and Canton, the Rockets outlasted Franklin 36-24 before dominating the youthful Chiefs, 62-11.

Winning their bouts for Canton were heavy-weight Adam Armesto and 145-pounder Ty Jassman.

The Rockets improved their overall record to 21-3 overall and 3-0 in the South with only a division encounter against the winless Wolfpack remaining.

In the night's other matches, Canton up-ended Wayne and Frank-

lin out-pointed the Wolfpack, 54-19.

"Tonight's matches went pretty much as we expected," said John Glenn head coach Bill Polk. "We know it's always going to be a battle against Franklin. Our matches against Canton are usually very competitive, but they're extremely young this year."

The Rockets constructed a concrete 30-8 lead against Franklin before the Patriots cut the margin to 30-24 heading into the deciding 152-pound encounter.

Early on, pivotal wins were registered by Rockets Nate Irving, who edged Josh Retting, 4-2, in a 215-pound showdown; and Avery Casey, who outlasted Joe Fortin, 3-2, in a compelling 285-pound classic.

John Glenn's Michael Mars followed up his beefier teammates' close triumphs with a 52-sec-

ond pin at 103 pounds to keep the Rockets' momentum train going.

Franklin's Johnny DiPonio then started his impressive 2-0 night with a 19-4 technical-fall win, but Rockets Anthony Gibson (119) and Chase Spano (125) put together back-to-back W's to help John Glenn re-establish a solid lead.

JOHN GLENN 62, CANTON 11
171 pounds: Logan Beaudoin (JG) dec. Nick Durocher, 3-2;
189: Jawaun Peete (JG) pinned Armando Chacon in 8 seconds;
215: Nate Irvine (JG) won by major dec. over Ryan Morelli, 16-3;
285: Adam Armesto (C) pinned Ewing Joyce in 3:57;
103: Isaac Lefler (JG) won by void;
112: Michael Mars (JG) pinned Robert Laird in 1:03;
119: Anthony Gibson (JG) pinned Ben Samoy in 1:49;
125: John Siemasz (JG) dec. Harrison Samoy, 13-5;
130: Payton Beneteau (JG) dec. Justin Winnie, 10-2;
135: Brad Speen (JG) pinned Justin Van Berkel in 1:54;
140: Steve Spencer (JG) won by tech. fall over Abdelhadi Shuair, 18-2;
145: Ty Jassman (C) won by tech. fall over Genaro Acerrano, 21-5;
152: Rick Laurence (JG) pinned Grant Trotman in 2:48;
160: Derrick Lester (JG) pinned Clayton Dedue in 1:44.



RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS

U.S. veteran Frank Rogers drops the puck before a Plymouth Whalers game during last season's Military Appreciation Weekend. The team will reprise the event Friday and Saturday, Jan. 30-31, at Compuware Arena.

COMMUNITY EVENT

Whalers to toast military

Second annual Military Appreciation Weekend set for Jan. 30-31 at Compuware

The Plymouth Whalers have supported the military in a big way over the years and the team will continue the tradition Friday and Saturday, Jan. 30-31, in the second annual Military Appreciation Weekend at Compuware Arena.

The Whalers will be wearing specially designed jerseys with a military theme against the Belleville Bulls and Windsor Spitfires at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, respectively. The jerseys will be auctioned, with Whalers ticket sales and 50/50 fundraisers to be donated to VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System.

The Whalers are teaming with VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System for a pre-game celebration Friday highlighting benefits veterans can receive at VA Ann

Arbor Healthcare System, including health care information, benefits information and community resources. The program also offers food and entertainment. The celebration and resource fair begins at 5 p.m. at Compuware.

Veterans participating in the pre-game program receive a free ticket to the game that evening. The event is free for the first 250 veterans and family members to RSVP. To RSVP, call Mignon Sizemore at 734-845-3429 or email her at Mignon.Sizemore@va.gov.

Participating partners with the Whalers in supporting Military Appreciation Night include Xfinity, Foundations for American Veterans, Atlas Oil Co., radio station WYCD-FM (99.5), Farmers Insurance, Pepsi and Bill & Rod's Appliances.

"Atlas Oil Co. is pleased to be a sponsor of the Plymouth Whalers Military Appreciation Weekend," said Sam Simon, CEO and owner of Atlas Oil. "We owe our

men and women veterans of the U.S. military so much and this is a small way of giving back to them and showing our appreciation."

NIAGARA 5, PLYMOUTH 1: On Friday night at Niagara, the Plymouth Whalers got off to a good start when Mathew Campagna scored on the power play at 19:06 of the first period.

But that was all she wrote for the Whalers (15-25-21) as Niagara tallied five unanswered goals to earn a 5-1 Ontario Hockey League victory.

Niagara scored four times in the second period against Plymouth netminder Alex Nedeljkovic, who was under siege much of the night. Nedeljkovic stopped 36 of 41 shots directed his way by the IceDogs.

Tying the contest at 3:11 of the second period was Anthony DiFruscia and the IceDogs took a 2-1 lead at 4:21 when Brendan Perlini garnered the first of his two goals in the frame.



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SCHOOLCRAFT BASKETBALL

TAMING THE BEARS

'Unselfish' Ocelots play strong defense, make enough plays on offense to edge Mott 67-60

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Since the holiday break, Schoolcraft College's men's basketball team has been a bit out of sync.

Nothing better then, to face longtime Michigan Community College Athletic Association rival Mott Community College for a tough, physical contest Wednesday night.

Although the offense still is trying to click, the Ocelots cobbled together enough treys and hard-fought rebounds at both ends of the floor to edge the Bears 67-60.

"We didn't execute very well offensively, especially against their zone," Schoolcraft first-year head coach Abe Mashhour said. "They seemed to get very stagnant, very slow."

"It was a physical game, which is to be expected when you play Mott. But I thought we defended well and that obviously kept us our lead and kept us going."

Schoolcraft improved to 16-3 overall and 5-1 in the MCCA Eastern Conference (tied for first with Oakland) while Mott slipped to 11-5, 3-2. The Ocelots' win over Mott was the first in several years.

Making an impact

Leading the Ocelots with 14 points was guard Lito Booth, while forward Javon Thomas was an all-around difference maker with 13 points, six rebounds and three steals.

Also in double figures for Schoolcraft were forwards Anthony Wartley Fritz (11

points, six boards) and Marcus Williams (10 points, eight rebounds).

"He does all the intangibles, he does all the little things other guys don't want to do," said Mashhour about the 6-3 Thomas, a freshman from Melvindale who missed the first half of the season. "He's obviously very active on the boards offensively and defensively."

"He runs the floor well and guards. His offensive game will get better as we go."

For Mott, forward Daryl Bigham tallied 21 points while guard Darryl LeVert scored 10.

The teams traded buckets in the early going with a layup by Wartley-Fritz making it a 10-10 contest about five minutes into the first half.

Schoolcraft then went on a 26-13 tear to build a 36-23 half-time lead.

A 3-ball by freshman guard DeShawndre Black (Westland John Glenn, who scored five points) helped jumpstart that surge.

Mott could not find the range in the opening half, making just 9-30 from the floor (including 1-5 from behind the 3-point arc).

The Bears were able to get more of their shots to fall following the intermission and kept chipping away only to have Schoolcraft get some of those points back every time.

A trey by Mott's Austin Daniels made it a 38-30 Schoolcraft lead with 18 minutes to go in regulation, capping an early 7-2 run by the Bears and prompting Mashhour to call a full timeout.



NATHAN GARTNER

Putting the defensive squeeze on Mott's Ray Ray Lewis (No. 10) Wednesday night are Schoolcraft's Davon Taylor (left) and DeShawndre Black (No. 1). Taylor and Black went to Canton and Westland John Glenn, respectively.

Out of that break, guard Tyler Johnson (Howell) made a pair of free throws and Wartley-Fritz hit a bank shot and it was back to a 42-30 advantage.

After Williams connected on a triple from the right wing to pad the Ocelots' lead to 49-37 with 15 minutes left, the Bears went on a 13-5 surge.

That tightened the score to 54-50 with eight minutes left on the clock.

Arm's length

Schoolcraft then came up with some timely defensive plays that resulted in baskets, helping keep the Bears at bay.

Booth stripped the ball and dished it to Thomas for a layup with four minutes left, making it a 63-54 edge.

A minute later, Biles (eight points) swatted a triple try by Mott's Tommie Johnson. On the ensuing possession, Biles went in for a layup to put Schoolcraft up 65-54.

Effectively closing out the win was a nifty three-way play in the final minute.

Thomas pulled down a de-

fensive board and sent the ball up to Biles, who in turn fed Booth for the deuce. That gave the Ocelots a 67-58 lead with just 30 seconds remaining.

Mashhour credited the way his team made the defensive stops needed to hold off Mott, doubly important on a night the offense was less than prolific (26-57, 45.6 percent).

One player he singled out was Williams, a Romulus product who grabbed all of his rebounds on the defensive glass.

"Marcus Williams was excellent on the boards," Mashhour said. "He got a lot of big rebounds for us, in the first half and the second half, especially on the defensive end."

"Marcus is another one of those kids that just does anything you ask him to do. He just plays hard, doesn't ask for the ball and just makes plays for us."

Rewarding win

Wednesday's workmanlike win was a rewarding one for Mashhour and the Ocelots.

"I like how we're playing," Mashhour noted. "I like the fact we played Mott's style of game and we were able to win the game today."

"I like the fact we're together, we're playing very unselfishly. We just need to get a little bit more rhythm on the offensive end."

That could start to happen in the next few games, such as Monday's at Delta College and next Wednesday (Jan. 28) at home against St. Clair Community College in the "Pink Zone" game (7:30 p.m., preceded at 5:30 p.m. by the women's game).

"That's just going to take a few games where we're playing well offensively and guys will start getting their confidence back," he continued. "I don't think our confidence is what it was earlier in the year, as crazy as that sounds."

"Before the holidays, we were really clicking offensively."

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WILDCATS

Continued from Page B1

really important in the run that opened up the game in the third quarter. She's been a really important player for us all season."

Yet Brandon emphasized that the key to the victory was the five charges drawn by his players — two each by junior post Elise Wehmer and Begoske and one by LaValee.

"Charges are, in my opinion, the most important play in basketball," Brandon said. "It's momentum, it's foul trouble (for the opponent), it gives your team a spark."

"And so we work on it so much, we work on taking charges all the time in practice."

Brandon added that both Lewis and Begoske were strong up front, picking up the slack to help offset Kliczinski's injury.

CANTON 74, FRANKLIN 33: The host Canton Chiefs registered 25 steals Friday night and that sparked a lopsided KLAA South Division girls basketball win over Livonia Franklin.

Canton (6-5, 4-1 in the KLAA South) featured big offensive games from sophomores Erin Hult (24 points, nine rebounds) and Madison Archibald (20 points, seven boards five steals). "Archibald had a really, really great all-around game," Canton head coach Kevin Palmer said.

Chipping in with eight points and four steals was senior Alanna Brown, while Brianna Finn tallied eight points.

"We really got them to turn the ball over," Palmer said. "We had 25 steals on the night; we were really aggressive defensively."

"And offensively, we had seven out of eight girls score tonight, so we had a lot of balanced scoring."

SALEM 35, SOUTH LYON 19: Thursday at South Lyon, senior Jamyra Wilson scored nine points to help the Rocks earn a low-scoring KLAA Central Division victory.

The win upped Salem's record to 7-4 overall and 5-0 in the KLAA Central, good for first place.

INTER CITY BAPTIST 53, PCA 41: Despite a hot-shooting game from Kennedy Horne (4-9 from beyond the 3-point line for 16 points), Plymouth Christian Academy could not overcome a slow start against Allen Park Inter City Baptist.

The Eagles (3-8, 1-5) trailed 14-10 after the first quarter of the MIAC Blue Division game and were down 29-19 at halftime. It was a 44-26 deficit entering the fourth.

PCA did cut the Inter City Baptist lead to 46-39 with three minutes left following a pair of treys by Horne, but the Eagles could not keep the rally going.

"Kennedy made some big shots for us tonight," PCA head coach Rod Windle said. "It was good to see us playing hard until the end of the game."



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Looking for a teammate to pass to during Friday's game is Plymouth senior wing Kendall Rose (right). At left for Westland John Glenn is Nadia Reed.



NATHAN GARTNER

Schoolcraft's T'era Nesbitt (No. 24) defends guard Mott guard Keshawn Jones during Wednesday's game.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Lady Ocelots heat up in time

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

After a dismal first half in which Schoolcraft College made six field goals, the Lady Ocelots got things in gear Wednesday night against Mott Community College.

Schoolcraft battled back from a 23-20 halftime deficit to earn a 55-46 victory over the visiting Bears. The win upped the Lady Ocelots' record to 13-5 overall and 5-1 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

Scoring 13 points for the victors was Sara Gammons, while Ashley Bland (Wayne Memorial) and T'era Nesbitt added 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Strong defense by Rikki Sherdt also keyed the win. She led all players with 12 rebounds (seven defensively) and also collected two steals.

Jessica Parry helped the cause with eight points while Birmingham Seaholm product Elise Tolbert scored seven. Bland registered nine rebounds, six on the defensive end.

For Mott (7-8, 4-1), Keshawn Jones and Day'na Holmes scored 14 and 12 points, respectively.

The first half was one to forget for the home team, as Schoolcraft hit on just six of 28 shots from the floor (21.4 percent).

Following the break, the Lady Ocelots were much better (12-29, 41.4 percent) on offense. They also shut down Mott, as the Bears managed to make just 9-31 (29 percent) in the second half.

The Lady Ocelots will visit Delta College for a game 5:30 p.m. Monday before returning home for the "Pink Zone" game 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, against St. Clair Community College.

SALEM

Continued from Page B1

sively, held them to four points in the second half. That's a tremendous job at the defensive end, I don't care who you're playing."

If the Wheeler dunk got the Rocks rolling, it was a thunderous slam in the final moments by sophomore forward Cameron Grace that put an emphatic cap on the night's proceedings.

Grace led Salem with a season-high 14 points and 13 rebounds, while junior guard Calin Crawford scored nine.

Helping the cause with eight points and seven rebounds was junior center Kenny Topolovec. Senior guard Jon Swift also scored eight, junior guard Freddie McGee added seven and senior forward Jakob Lenders scored six.

"He's been pretty steady for us," Brodie said about Grace. "He's a good sophomore who doesn't play like a sophomore."

"He's gaining more confidence, learning what we're supposed to do out there. ... I can tell he's improving every day."

Asked about Grace's slam

with under two minutes left, which turned out to be the final points of the game, "that was pretty nice coming from the 3-point line with a tomahawk dunk. But it's still only worth two points, as impressive as it was."

For South Lyon (1-9, 0-5), Josh Remstad scored five points.

Brodie also praised Topolovec's effort off the bench, helping provide a bit of energy.

"Kenny did a nice job, he had some nice blocks in key situations and did a good job rebounding," Brodie said. "Everybody got a chance to play tonight."

Salem remains a game back of Novi, with the next game Jan. 30 at Northville.

"But as I told the kids, destiny's still in our hands," he said. "We just got to take care of every game one at a time."

"It's not going to be easy the second time around (in the division). A lot of teams are going to be after us."

Plymouth rallies

Over at Plymouth, Westland John Glenn seemed to be in control with a 48-43 lead with two minutes to play in the KLAA South Division game.

That hardly stopped the Wildcats from making a late charge. Plymouth grabbed victory out of the jaws of defeat, 53-52, when senior Josh Reynolds drained a trey from the left wing with just six seconds to play.

Reynolds was wearing No. 42 instead of his customary No. 11 when he hit the big shot, because the jersey he wore for most of the night got blood on it.

He smiled when asked if he would stick with his lucky number.

"It'll have to be a big decision," Reynolds said.

Turning serious, Reynolds (nine points), called it a key win for the team as it tries to stay in the KLAA South race.

"We haven't beat Glenn in our conference for the past two years, so this was a big game for us," he said.

Leading Plymouth with 19 points was senior Randall Aikins, while junior Brent Davis chipped in with nine.

Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup also praised the two-way effort all night from senior Deji Adebisi (five points), who assisted on Reynolds' winning triple.

"Our leaders certainly rallied the troops a little bit, especially Deji," Soukup said. "He did a great job of

keeping the group together and that's what you expect out of your seniors."

Plymouth improved to 8-2 overall and 3-2 in the hotly contested KLAA South. John Glenn dropped to 4-7 and 3-2.

There were a couple of other important plays in the final minute to enable the Wildcats to pull ahead. First was a trey by junior Chris Walls to make it 51-50 with 28 seconds left.

And after the Reynolds 3-ball, Adebisi blocked Michael Bradley's bid for Glenn to regain the lead.

Mike Edwards scored 23 points for John Glenn.

Plymouth got off to another slow start, a recent trend that Soukup would like to see ended immediately.

The Wildcats trailed 15-2 to open the game; it was the same kind of hole Plymouth fell into at the start of the Jan. 16 showdown against Canton.

CANTON 62, FRANKLIN 32: The visiting Chiefs improved to 10-1 overall and 5-0 in the KLAA South with this Friday night romp at Livonia Franklin.

Canton held the Patriots to just three points in the second quarter, building a 35-10 halftime edge.

Logan Ryan and Jalen Cochran each tallied 15 points for the Chiefs, while Greg Williams scored 14.

John Glenn (0-11, 0-5) was led by Johnny Cantrell's 16 points.

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IN MEMORIAM

Stevenson coaching great Reardon dies

Longtime mentor remembered for success, integrity

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

A kind-hearted disciplinarian, Jack Reardon earned the respect of his Livonia Stevenson football players the old-fashioned way.

"The worst thing a player could do in Jack's eyes wasn't dropping a pass or jumping offside, but rather breaking an academic rule," said Reardon's longtime friend Tim Gabel, who succeeded him as head coach of the Spartans. "He didn't waver when it came to academics, and his players knew that. You'd better not miss a class or fail a test if you played for Jack."

"In a sense, he came from a different era in that he felt the purpose of sports was educational, not for recruiting or getting on TV."

Reardon, who was Stevenson's first football coach and guided the Spartans to a 168-97-1 record over 30 years before stepping down in 1995, passed away earlier this month in Ohio.

A native of Cleveland and a graduate of Detroit Southwestern High School, Reardon was a giant in the coaching profession — and not just because of his 6-foot-5 stature. He led the Spartans to 13 division or



Jack Reardon is pictured delivering instructions to his quarterback during a 1969 game at Livonia Stevenson.

league titles, two playoff berths and a pair of undefeated seasons.

Reardon was inducted into the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association's Hall of Fame in 1985.

A master strategist on the gridiron, Reardon's stellar reputation was carved out more so by the way he treated people than his coaching prowess.

"Jack was one of the most principled men I've ever met," said Pete Mazzoni, a current Stevenson assistant principal who was Stevenson's starting quarterback in 1986. "He wasn't a yeller or a screamer. When he talked to you as a player, it was always a teachable moment."

"Jack was always stone-

faced. You never knew if he was mad, happy or upset. He'd always have that clipboard in his hand, observing and taking notes. He would have practices planned out to the minute."

Mazzoni said he learned many priceless life lessons from Reardon.

"I was fortunate enough to coach football for him at Ste-

venson," Mazzoni said. "One of the things he told his assistant coaches that I'll always remember — and that I used when I coached — was to treat every one of your players like you'd want your own son to be treated."

Gabel said one of the qualities that made Reardon such a successful football coach was his flexibility.

"Early in his career, he was a run-oriented coach; he ran a lot of wing-T-type stuff, hiding the ball, keeping the defense guessing," Gabel said. "But he was always willing to adapt to his personnel. For example, when he had [former University of Michigan quarterback] David Hall in the late '70s, he threw the ball a lot. He wasn't afraid to switch things up."

Several years ago, the coaching icon's legacy was cemented in the Livonia community when the Stevenson High School football stadium was named after Reardon. A bronze plaque noting the honor was placed on one of the buildings that surround the gridiron.

"Jack Reardon will be deeply missed," said Stevenson athletic director Lori Hyman. "His impact at Livonia Stevenson was second to none. He was a true educator, teacher of life's lessons and a mentor to many students, coaches and teachers who highly respected him as a great leader, person and friend."

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Canton senior bowler Aaron Madsen (right) is congratulated by Concordia University bowling coach Doug Spicer after Madsen signed to bowl there. At left is Canton varsity boys bowling coach Karl Brubaker.

PREP BOWLING

Madsen hits pocket with Cardinals

Canton senior signs letter to bowl at Concordia University

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Aaron Madsen's list of notable achievements during his Canton bowling career is long and impressive.

Soon, he will look to start another list at Concordia University.

The Canton High School senior Monday signed his national letter of intent to bowl at Concordia next season.

On hand for the signing were Chiefs head coach Karl Brubaker and onetime Canton assistant coach Doug Spicer, Madsen's future coach with the Cardinals.

"Aaron has been a great kid to work with and to have on the team," noted Brubaker about Madsen. "He has and continues to be a leader for our team."

Madsen is in his fourth season on the Canton varsity and his third season as team captain.

He rolled a 300 game as a Chief along with a 779 high

series along the way. His first two seasons, Madsen was part of Canton teams that finished second and fifth in the Division 1 state finals.

Individually, he qualified for state finals in singles play as a sophomore.

Madsen won the Plymouth-Canton-Salem and Lakeland Invitational tournaments this year, and also placed third in 2014 in the prep doubles tournament.

Throw in all-KLAA and all-Observer accolades and it is pretty obvious Madsen has been highly regarded by others throughout his career.

Outside of high school play, Madsen has competed with the Western Wayne Youth Traveling Classic for eight years, joined the Woodland Rangers and Teen Trio Scholarship League at Vision Lanes in Westland.

Other notches on his resume belt include making the cut for match play at two Michigan Junior Masters Association events and qualifying for the MJMA Dan Ottman Invitational Championship.

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SPLASH

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through the water in a race to the finish.

The Wildcats did hold off the Chiefs, 3:30.17 to 3:32.68.

Plymouth's tandem of senior Ben Yang, sophomore Michael Wischer, juniors Aniketh Visai and Garrett Beauprez edged Canton's unit of freshman Daniel Mullen, junior Cole Malhoit, freshman Tristen Shao and junior Gerard Niermann.

"They brought it on that relay, they had everyone I thought they would in it," Forbes said. "And everyone swam well for both teams. It was a good race."

Forbes said his team showed a great deal of improvement from the Jan. 8 tri-meet involving Plymouth, Canton and Salem and he attributed that to outstanding work ethic.

"We had a lot of time drops," he noted. "We've been working hard all week putting in good yards (laps in the pool), good drylands. We're getting PRs left and right. Guys are hitting times they hit at (the 2014) state meet. ... So we're on par for a really great finish to the year."

Forbes said Wischer "anchored the medley (relay) as fast as he did at the state meet last year, actually faster, so that's good."

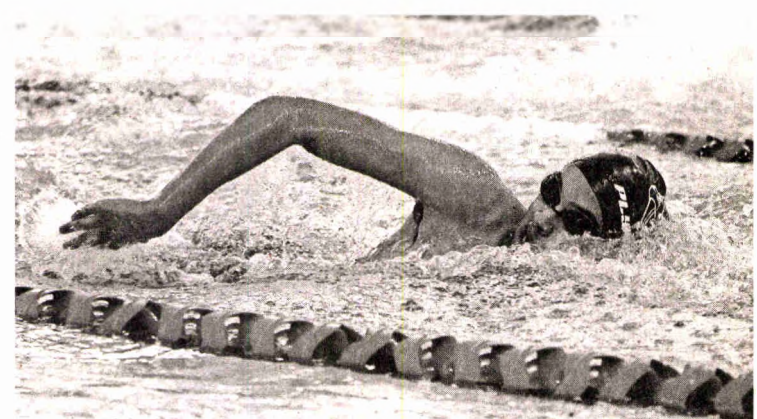
Wischer teamed up with Yang, junior Bronson Knowles and senior Ryan Heinze to win the 200-medley relay in 1:46.55. That topped Canton's runner-up quartet of sophomore Kyle Amick, freshman Richard Ling, Shao and freshman Derek Goderis (1:48.70).

Meanwhile, Wischer also took the top spot in the 50 free with a time of 23.54, ahead of teammate Brandon Burger (23.76), who Forbes said had a good return after missing time with a ruptured ear drum.

Double winners

Garnering firsts in two individual events for the Chiefs was Niermann, who won the 200 IM (2:07.73) and 100 breaststroke (1:07.34). In the latter, Niermann barely edged Visai (1:07.74).

Beauprez prevailed in two events for the Wildcats. He topped the field in the 200 free



Plymouth's Aniketh Visai rips through the water during the 100 freestyle Thursday night.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

(1:52.39) and 500 free with an impressive 5:08.60 finish.

Another double winner for Plymouth was senior Ben Yang, who took the 100 backstroke (58.19) and the 100 butterfly in an exciting finish against Shao (57.41 to 57.79).

Canton's Mullen took first in the 100 freestyle with a time of 52.40, narrowly edging Visai (52.52).

Plymouth outpointed Canton 9-4 in diving, with first place going to sophomore Jordan Groves (150.70 points). In second with 121.10 points was Canton freshman Charles Carey, while Plymouth junior Calvin Rogers took third (120.85).

The Wildcats grabbed first in the 200 free relay, with Heinze, Burger, Wischer and Beauprez registering a 1:34.36.

According to Forbes, it was a good night for a sophomore who didn't figure in the scoring.

"John Lobb dropped four seconds off his 50 (41.27), he continues to drop time every time, which is great," Forbes said. "He started at a mid-50 in the 50 and we've worked really hard at practice and it's showing."

Duly rewarded

Le listed swimmers who enjoyed season's bests, crediting the improvements to tireless workouts and dedication.

"Connor Hook in the 500 dropped 10 seconds from last week, and three seconds from last year," Le said. "Gerard Niermann dropped four seconds in his IM and qualified for MISCA. Tristen Shao dropped a second in the 100 fly, qualified for MISCA."

"All three of our relays had season's best times. So overall it was a very successful day."

He said there are plenty of challenges to come as the Chiefs prepare for the stretch drive.

"The season does not end today," Le emphasized. "We still have four or five more weeks before division meet so we're on the right track in terms of training."

"It will be exciting to see how fast they can go at the end of the year."

DUAL MEET RESULTS

PLYMOUTH 116 CANTON 67

Jan. 22 at Canton H.S.

200-yard medley relay: 1. Plymouth (Ben Yang, Bronson Knowles, Ryan Heinze, Michael Wischer), 1:46.55; 2. Canton (Kyle Amick, Richard Ling, Tristen Shao, Derek Goderis), 1:48.70; 3. Plymouth (Keegan Kendall, Jack Boczar, Aniketh Visai, Brandon Burger), 1:52.11.
200 freestyle: 1. Garrett Beauprez (P), 1:52.39; 2. Daniel Mullen (C), 1:53.01; 3. Matt Weiner (P), 1:58.98; 4. Liam Deppong (C), 2:01.73; 5. Cole Malhoit (C), 2:02.04; 6. Logan Kendall (P), 2:03.84.
200 individual medley: 1. Gerard Niermann (C), 2:07.73; 2. Shao (C), 2:09.85; 3. Nicholas Case (P), 2:12.50; 4. B. Knowles (P), 2:15.36; 5. K. Kendall (P), 2:21.05; 6. Caleb Moraw (C), 2:24.84.
50 freestyle: 1. Wischer (P), 23.54; 2. Burger (P), 23.76; 3. Jemal Vaunado (C), 24.83; 4. Goderis (C), 25.01; 5. Ethan Byrnes (P), 25.78; 6. Noah Adams (C), 26.19.
1-meter diving: 1. Jordan Groves (P), 150.70 points; 2. Charles Carey (C), 121.10; 3. Calvin Rogers (P), 120.85.
100 butterfly: 1. Ben Yang (P), 57.41; 2. Shao (C), 57.79; 3. Jake Cason (P), 1:00.28; 4. Ling (C), 1:00.60; 5. Weiner (P), 1:01.15; 6. Amick (C), 1:06.54.
100 freestyle: 1. Mullen (C), 52.40; 2. Visai (P), 52.52; 3. Heinze (P), 53.98; 4. Goderis (C), 54.68; 5. Cameron Zinn (P), 57.64; 6. Vaunado (C), 58.63.
500 freestyle: 1. Beauprez (P), 5:08.60; 2. Case (P), 5:18.51; 3. L. Kendall (P), 5:32.90; 4. Malhoit (C), 5:38.78; 5. Deppong (C), 5:38.85; 6. Connor Hook (C), 6:06.95.
200 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Heinze, Burger, Wischer, Beauprez), 1:34.36; 2. Plymouth (B Knowles, Cason, Weiner, Case), 1:39.22; 3. Canton (Mullen, Vaunado, Goderis, Niermann), 1:39.26.
100 backstroke: 1. Yang (P), 58.19; 2. K. Kendall (P), 1:02.25; 3. Amick (C), 1:02.84; 4. Moraw (C), 1:06.46; 5. Zinn (P), 1:08.70.
100 breaststroke: 1. Niermann (C), 1:07.34; 2. Visai (P), 1:07.74; 3. Ling (C), 1:09.80; 4. B. Knowles (P), 1:10.28; 5. Boczar (P), 1:14.28.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Yang, Wischer, Visai, Beauprez), 3:30.17; 2. Canton (Mullen, Malhoit, Shao, Niermann), 3:32.68; 3. Plymouth (Heinze, Weiner, Burger, Case), 3:35.15.
Dual meet records: Plymouth, 2-0; Canton, 1-3.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Salem coaching vacancies

Salem High School has several open coaching positions. Those include varsity girls soccer, varsity boys lacrosse and varsity girls volleyball.

Please email Brian Samulski at brian.samulski@pccsk12.com if interested in applying.

Canned food drive

The Plymouth Wildcats varsity

boys hockey team is hosting a food drive Saturday, Jan. 31 at Arctic Edge Arena in Canton to support Plymouth Community United Way.

Plymouth will host Salem in the game, which is slated to begin at 5:30 p.m.

Those who bring non-perishable food items to the game will receive a \$1 discount on the price of admission.

All food items will be distributed via PCUW to local food pantries.

Arctic Edge Arena is located at 46615 Michigan Ave. (south side), west of Canton Center Drive.

Heart check event Jan. 31

From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, Plymouth High School is hosting a free screening to high school students as part of Beaumont Health System's Student Heart Check program.

Medical personnel will conduct noninvasive screenings to determine

any students with signs of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, the condition that last summer killed 20-year-old Max Pardington of Canton.

Students will have their blood pressure checked, and electrocardiograms and echocardiograms will be performed.

For more information, call 800-328-8542 or Beaumont event coordinator Jennifer Shea (248-551-5707).

Great life, legacy: 'Ma Jazz' to be remembered with scholarships, concerts

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Gary Ellis told band friends and followers that his mother, local jazz advocate and promoter, Midge Ellis, had died, by posting a message on his Broken Arrow Blues Band website.

"I've been a little pre-occupied of late taking care of my Mother, MaJazz," he wrote, also posting two photos of his mom. "She took her walk to the other side at 9:22 a.m. on January, 9th, of 2015. I will miss her until we walk together with the Ancestors In Paradise...."

His message will go beyond the Web page and into the concert hall this spring, when the Ellis family stages a musical memorial to "Ma Jazz," the longtime Livonia resident who co-founded the Montreux (Detroit) Jazz Festival, ran a popular big band jazz series for years in the Clarenceville School District, and produced the Michigan Jazz Festival at Schoolcraft College. She was 91 and vice president emerita of the Michigan Jazz Festival board when she died earlier this month.

"This is a party. The tentative date is (Sunday) May 17 at Schoolcraft College in the DiPonio room," said Gary, who lives in Brighton. "We still have to figure out a time frame, but it probably will be 1-7 p.m. or 8 and it will go and go and go. Musicians from all over the world have expressed interest. It could be huge."

He said the concert probably will include a few headliners and a jam session. Although he drums for a blues band, Gary said he likely will play during the jazz jam.

"It will be open to the public and if you want to come in, I suggest that you come on Saturday," he said, referring to the anticipated crowd. "We're trying to make it accessible to



Midge Ellis is inducted into the Livonia Hall of Fame in 2011.

FILE PHOTO

everyone." The list includes the Southeastern Michigan Jazz Association, Greater Detroit Jazz Society, Michigan Jazz Festival organizers, Schoolcraft College where Ellis held several administrative jobs in the 1970s to early 1990s, fellow Livonia Hall of Fame inductees — she was in the class of 2011 — jazz club regulars, students and "all the musicians."

"It could be enormous," Gary said.

That's at least partly because jazz musicians "absolutely loved" his mother, he said.

"Musicians say how much she changed their lives," said her daughter, Holly Ellis, who lives in Washington state. "A lot say 'I wouldn't be where I am if it weren't for her.'"

"She gave them their first

gig," Gary added. "She was an advocate. She talked to every musician I know. People would call her from all over ... Count Basie, Stan Kenton and others."

Rick Selva, Ph.D., director of the jazz studies program at Schoolcraft College, considered Ellis his "friend and mentor."

"I call her my Jazz Grandma," he said.

Selva is planning a special tribute to her at his annual spring concert on April 20. The Up Jumped Spring Concert starts at 7:30 p.m. in the VisTa-Tech Center on campus, 18600 Haggerty, in Livonia.

In the works

Craig Strain and Joan Schott, both members of the Michigan Jazz Festival board, said the group will discuss a potential tribute when it meets next month.

"There's a lot of talk on different things. I would not want to tell you anything definite at this time," said Schott, who lives across the street from Ellis' home. "There will be a tribute. Her contribution has been unbelievable. Jazz was her life. She was a great promoter and everyone loved her. She will be sorely missed."

The Greater Detroit Jazz Society's twice-monthly concert last weekend at Shield's of Southfield turned into a tribute to Ellis. The Society had booked Ron Kischuk's Tartar Sauce Traditional Jazz Band, with Johnny Trudell on trumpet.

"They're all Midge's friends," said Sally Bolle, Society co-founder. "I got a call from Holly Ellis ... she said I'd like to make the concert into a tribute for my mom. She brought 20 people and the board of the Michigan Jazz Festival had a table. We were packed. We had no seats left. There were tears flowing that

day. It was heartfelt."

Bolle described Ellis as a powerful music promoter who "laid the groundwork for many fine events."

Music pioneer

Gary said his mother honed her mediating skills as a music promoter, while trailblazing her way through what was then a male-dominated industry. He said his mother could get things done, even when others couldn't. He even uses "some of the tools she used" as a promoter when marketing his own band.

Both Gary and Holly say their mother also taught them how to listen to jazz. When legendary drummer, Peter Erskine, told Holly "you get it" after one of his concerts, she responded, "Of course I do, I'm Midge's daughter."

Gary said his mother "was carrying on a tradition given to her from our grandfather," by teaching her children to appreciate and understand jazz. Gary remembers riding in the back of the family's 1965 Mercury Country Squire, his mother at the wheel and singing jazz tunes, as they headed south to visit their grandfather.

Ellis also stressed the importance of teaching youth not only to listen to jazz, but learn to play it.

"You've got to grab the kids," Gary said. "It's not about the people who can play jazz, it's about people who need to learn to play jazz."

Her children will help pass jazz literacy on to the next generation, by setting up a scholarship fund through the Schoolcraft Foundation in her memory. Gary said the fund should be in place by Jan. 28. Checks may be made out to the Schoolcraft Foundation, noting that it is for the Midge Ellis Scholarship Fund.

"Get those kids educated — that's the message," he said.

Gagnon household: Goodbye, front loader, hello, new washer

My last column about smart meters created several emails and enough reading material to keep me busy for the next month.

I am still waiting for a spokesperson to contact me so we can attempt to clear up the question marks voiced by the end user. Until then, I appreciate all the comments you want to send me and will continue to work on your behalf.

Speaking of appliance dissatisfaction, I watched a television show a few weeks ago on CBC Canada called *Marketplace*. This show airs Friday at 8 p.m. on Channel 9 out of Windsor. It was amazing to me when the host introduced two qualified appliance technicians, both with 33 years of experience, to talk about the appliance industry. What really struck me was that these guys were saying the same things that I have talked about for the last 20-some years. The opening comment was, "They don't make them like they used to." And here they were on a national stage without restrictions on their opinions and words and let me tell you, they weren't shy. The word quality came up and they said it doesn't come close to what it once was.

They pointed their criticism at Whirlpool and Samsung and described a defrost drain problem which is caused by a collapsed drain tube. They interviewed a consumer who had spent \$1,300 in repair bills on products in his home which were only a few years old. He talked about the irritation of trying to get restitution from Whirlpool and what he went through on the telephone. Once contacted by *Marketplace*, Whirlpool was very quick in sending him a refund of \$1,300.

Costly parts

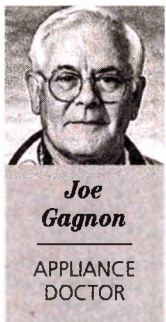
They talked about parts replacement being way too expensive, causing consumers to throw away a major appliance before its time. They also pointed out that parts are

no longer available for products in just a few years after purchase. All in all, their conversation covered everything I've written in these columns or talked about on my radio show. Now here is another kicker. You can go to CBC television and click onto their website for *Marketplace* and see this television special broadcast, but don't even try. They removed it the next day and I'll suppose why. Once Whirlpool and Samsung got wind of this, I can imagine that these companies called the head of CBC and talked about the monies they spend with CBC, and as you know money talks.

As for the word controversy, we have had some in the Gagnon household for the last few years. My darling Valorie did not fall in love with the Maytag front loader when we purchased it seven years ago. We used to have a 35-year-old Maytag top loader that I rebuilt from scratch. She loved that old machine and it washed clothes better than anything. At the time her mother was in a senior home and Val would wash her clothes and sheets. During this period is when we took delivery of this front loader and that's when she began to complain of the stinky clothes and how they were not getting clean. Just a few days ago I bought a new washer and with the help of my son, Mark, and son-in-law, Virgil, it was installed and is now in operation. Valorie would say, quite a difference.

Drop me a note and I'll tell you what kind of washer solved the controversy in our home. Speaking of front loaders, let me tell you a story of just a few days ago. Dr. Finley's daughter called me about her 16-month-old Whirlpool front loader. It has a bad tub bearing and the parts cost alone is well over \$300. Total repair cost would come close to \$600 and she is going to purchase a new washer. I could repeat this story a few hundred times but this is just an example to think about when you are shopping for a new washer. By the way, Dr. Finley was the Red Wings doctor for over 40 years and he took great care of players. I take great care of him today. Stay tuned.

You can email appldr@twmi.rr.com.



Joe Gagnon

APPLIANCE DOCTOR

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

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

Farmington Garden Club

Karen Auch, a certified arborist, landscape specialist and advanced master gardener, will talk about problem-solving plants, 1 p.m. Monday, Feb. 2, at the Spicer House in Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. For more information, email fgc1932@gmail.com or call 248-477-3854.

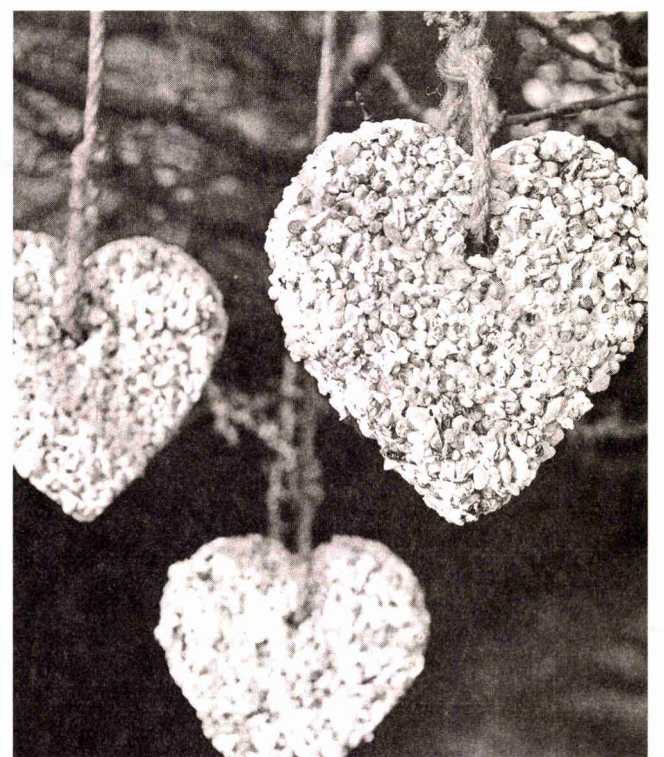
Livonia Garden Club

Cheryl English, an Advanced Master Gardener and Master Composer, talks about "Return of the Native Plant," 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3, at the Civic Park Senior Center, located at Farmington Road and Five Mile, in Livonia. English has nearly 200 species of native plants and more than 50 varieties of clematis in her Detroit garden. She owns Black Cat Pottery, and will have samples of her work and note cards for sale at the meeting. For more information email rmo78jsa@aol.com or visit livoniagardenclub.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.



SUBMITTED

Kids can learn how to make heart-shaped treats for birds, Feb. 7 at English Gardens stores.

» 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 mgwwcoorg@gmail.com

Friends of the Rouge

Volunteers are needed to search for stoneflies in the Rouge River on Saturday, 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 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, Feb. 7. Cost is \$5. Register at englishgardens.com.

Classes are held at all stores.

Auto Show galas draw glamorous guests, more than \$5 million for charity

The Charity Preview at Cobo Center in downtown Detroit and the AutoGlow at Ford Field drew thousands of guests to help kick off the North American International Auto Show on Jan. 16.

The Charity Preview also raised \$5.3 million for nine children's charities. AutoGlow took in nearly \$220,000 to benefit The Children's Center of Detroit.

The North American International Auto Show wraps up Sunday, Jan. 25.



Julie Yolles
SOCIAL SCENE



PHOTOS BY JULIE YOLLES, SOCIAL SCENE COLUMNIST
AutoGlow Gala Hosts Bill and Lisa Ford, Children's Center assistant vice chair



NAIAS Chairman Scott LaRiche, Northville resident and executive manager/vice president of Lou LaRiche Chevrolet in Plymouth; and his wife, Dawn; and their son, Steve LaRiche of Livonia.



Canton residents Jayson and Corinna Trantham from Ford Motor Co. Global Travel, attend the Ford-sponsored AutoGlow. The AutoGlow, held at Ford Field, benefited The Children's Center of Detroit.



Plymouth residents Brian and Renee Godfrey, Corporate Alliances manager, Ford Motor Co., enjoy the Charity Preview and AutoGlow. Renee looked stunning in a navy Monique Lhuillier gown from Saks.

He has roots: Plymouth church pastor feels right at home

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Pastor Randy Short arrived at Living Peace Church in Plymouth Sept. 1, 2014. The Westland resident had worshiped at Trinity Church of the Brethren, Living Peace Church's predecessor.

"That's the church I attended as a youth," said Short, who grew up in Livonia and graduated from Livonia Franklin High School in 1986.

Short, 47, is finishing up the master of divinity equivalent through Bethany Seminary in Richmond, Ind., which is yoked for his Church of the Brethren and the Quakers. Trinity Church of the Brethren in Redford began in 1951.

"I'll be ordained later this spring," said Short, who also studied at Northwood Institute, now Northwood University, in Midland.

"Not to conquer a neighborhood but to become part of it," he said of Living Peace Church's work. "So a more kingdom-based approach than a church-based approach. So far, pretty positive," he said of community reaction to the church in a neighborhood near downtown Plymouth.

"Visitation's important in my ministry," he said. "Worship preparation. Trying to find God in the neighborhood."

In 1997, Short moved to a community near Defiance, Ohio. He served in his ministry at Lick Creek Church of the Brethren in Bryan, Ohio, and then Middlebury Church of the Brethren in Middlebury, Ind.

Trinity Church of the Brethren sold its Redford building in 2010, rented for worship at Field Elementary in Canton for awhile and then made the move to Plymouth under its new name.

Celebrating peace

Short noted his denomination, the Mennonites and Quakers are the three recognized in the U.S. as conscientious objectors. That includes opposition to violence. "It also means being with those who are marginalized," he said. "We help support a transitional homeless shelter in Ann Arbor."

The church observed National Day of Peace last Sept. 21 with the Muslim Community of Western Suburbs, based in Canton.

"We dedicated our Peace Pole out front," Short said of the "May Peace Prevail on Earth" pole in six languages — English, German, Chinese, Spanish, Arabic and Hindi. That Sept. 21, the Christian and Muslim worshippers prayed for Nigerian schoolgirls kidnapped in that country and held hostage by Boko Haram.

Short noted 179 girls were of the Church of the Brethren, and that there has been violence toward Christian worshippers and pastors, including murders. "That was nice to have both of us (Muslim and Christian) there standing up for peace against Boko Haram."

"We would much rather create faithful disciples of the kingdom," he said of Living Peace Church, which has had football watching parties for fun and is planning to show foreign films while serving appropriate cuisine, such as from Lebanon. "Our congregation, I

think, is a good reflection of Plymouth. There's a strong core of educated middle class."

The church membership is also diverse economically, he added. "The real question is how well have we treated Plymouth? The city worked with our congregation very well. The neighbors were receptive to our being here. Plymouth has been a welcoming place for us," with a couple nearby businesses helping out with Sunday parking.

Short's proud of his denomination's roots back to the late 1500s and early 1600s in Germany, with the belief that those baptized should be of age to understand why. "Ever since our inception we've been very socially active," he said. "A church of community and peace."

Indeed, the sign out front says "Continuing the work of Jesus/Peacefully ... Simply ... Together."

Short's the permanent, part-time pastor who's starting a job search to supplement his ministry. "I wanted to get my feet under me and get to



JULIE BROWN
Pastor Randy Short of Living Peace Church in Plymouth with the "May Peace Prevail on Earth" peace pole in six languages. Short is a Westland resident who grew up in Livonia.

know the congregation," which numbers 60-65 with average attendance around 30.

Short's married to Kathie, who works at NovaStar Solutions in Livonia. "We were blessed with one beautiful daughter," he said of Bailey, 18, a freshman music education major at

Manchester University in North Manchester, Ind.

Living Peace Church is at 684 Deer St., Plymouth. Its phone is 734-667-4821. The website is www.livingpeacechurch.com. The church is on Facebook.

jbrown@hometownlife.com

Guide to Employment

Check out these exciting career opportunities!

For even more opportunities see our "award winning" classified section!

To place your ad here contact us at careers@hometownlife.com or call 1-800-579-7355

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RELIGION CALENDAR

JANUARY FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH

Time/Date: 1:30 p.m. Jan. 25
Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia
Details: The Rev. Jason Thomas will conduct a class that will explore faith, including church history, the Trinity and more. Light lunch provided
Contact: Rev. Roger Wright at 313-682-7491

GRIEFSHARE

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Sunday
Location: New Life Church of Garden City, 33111 Ford Road, Garden City
Details: Sessions began Jan. 18 and are held weekly for anyone suffering the loss of a loved one. Workbooks cost \$20
Contact: Jo Alley at 248-766-5977

MIDWEEK WORSHIP

Time/Date: 6 p.m. every Thursday
Location: First United Methodist Church of Garden City, 6443 Merriman, at Maplewood, Garden City
Details: New midweek service includes music, scripture, prayer, and a message based on Scripture
Contact: 734-421-8628

OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25
Location: St. Michael the Archangel School, 11311 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: Take a student-led tour of this K-8 parochial school, meet staff members, and other parents and students. St. Michael offers half- or full-day kindergarten, latch-key programming, and an extended curriculum which includes computer science, art, music, and Spanish. It is a Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools accredited School of Distinction
Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 226; livonia@michael.org

OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 26
Location: St. Michael Lutheran School, 3003 Hannan, between Palmer and Michigan Ave., Wayne
Details: Take a guided tour of the school and meet with teachers. St. Michael is accredited by Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools and National Lutheran School Accreditation. The preschool-eighth grade parochial school is celebrating its 32nd school year. It offers morning and afternoon licensed latchkey and bus service for residents in the Wayne-Westland School district
Contact: 734-728-3315; stmichaellutheran.org

PRAYER GROUP

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday
Location: Parish office building at St. Edith, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia
Details: Group meets weekly for prayer and snacks
Contact: 734-464-1223

WORLD SABBATH

Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Jan. 25
Location: Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills
Details: Celebrate peace and religious diversity through this interfaith experience of music, dance and prayer. Afterglow follows the service
Contact: 248-851-5100

FEBRUARY ASH WEDNESDAY

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Feb. 18
Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 3003 Hannan, Wayne
Details: Worship service
Contact: 734-728-1950

AUCTION

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15
Location: Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, Westland
Details: Concordia Lutheran School's annual auction, Disney Dreams, will include appetizer, dinner, dessert, and beverages. Tickets are \$30 per table or \$270 per table of 10. Buy them at either campus, 20805 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills, 248-474-2488; or 9600 Laverne, Redford, 313-937-2233. Tickets must be purchased in advance by Feb. 9
Contact: Raeann Kusch at 734-432-7777

DINNER/DANCE

Time/Date: 7-11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14
Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market, Farmington Hills
Details: Catered chicken dinner with dessert bar, music and dancing. \$20 per person. Buy tickets at the church in person or by phone before Feb. 9
Contact: 248-553-3380

GRIEFSHARE

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22-June 7
Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia
Details: This nondenominational program features Christ-centered Bible-based teaching that focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved. Includes videos that

feature grief experts and real-life stories of grieving individuals; support group discussion; and work-based personal study and reflection. Registration fee is \$15, which includes the workbook and other materials
Contact: Rev. Roger Wright at 313-682-7491; griefshare.org

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25-March 25
Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia
Details: Grieving with Great Hope workshop is for anyone who is mourning the loss of a loved one. Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization co-founded by John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy, presents the five-week series
Contact: goodmourningministry.net or St. Michael's at 734-261-1455

GRIEF RECOVERY

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 1-March 22
Location: St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia
Details: The free four-week program is for widows and widowers. It will deal with topics

such as loneliness, anger, and depression. It's presented by Widowed Friends, a peer support group in the Archdiocese of Detroit
Contact: Priscilla at 734-591-7879

OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: Noon to 2 p.m. Feb. 1
Location: St. Genevieve Catholic School, 28933 Jamison, Livonia
Details: Open house for preschool through grade eight
Contact: 734-425-4420

WEDDING, COMMITMENT CEREMONIES

Time/Date: 10 a.m. commitment ceremony; 12:30 p.m. wedding, Feb. 14
Location: Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: The church offers a complimentary group wedding and group commitment ceremony on Valentine's Day. Couples must pre-register, and those participating in the wedding ceremony must deliver their license to the church no later than Wednesday, Feb. 11
Contact: 734-421-1760

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

Men's Bible study
Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.
Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township
Contact: John Shulenberg at 734-464-9491

Our Lady of Loretto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday
Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township
Details: Scripture study
Contact: 313-534-9000

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. last Saturday of the month
Location: Canton Christian Fellowship, 8775 Ronda Drive, Canton
Details: No documentation needed
Contact: info@cantoncf.org

FAMILY MEAL

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday
Location: Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal
Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May
Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners
Contact: Ethanie Defoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at 734-658-2463

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays
Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford
Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.
Contact: Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday
Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.
Contact: 313-563-0162

ting. Pet blessings are available after the service.
Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER

St. Edith Church
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday
Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through back.
Details: Music, singing, prayer
Contact: Grace at 734-464-1896, Shirley at 734-464-3656 or Geri at 734-464-8906

St. Michael Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday
Location: 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton
Details: Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.
Contact: 734-459-3333 for additional information

SINGLES

Detroit World Outreach
Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Sunday
Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, Room 304
Details: Divorce Overcomers
Contact: The facilitator at 313-283-8200; lef@dwo.org

Passages

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Deadlines: Friday, 4:00 p.m. for Sunday papers • Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. for Thursday papers • Holiday deadlines are subject to change.



ABRAMOVICH, JAMES

Age 75 - January, 17, 2015
 Dearest brother of Robert (Jessica). Dear uncle of Jennifer (Carl) Haslett. Preceded in death by his parents Joseph and Hilma. He was a dedicated employee for 48 years at Town & Country Hardware in Garden City. He was an avid pilot of single engine planes and enjoyed flying. He was a collector of cast iron toys. Private services were held. Family suggests memorials to the Yankee Air Museum-Willow Run, Ypsilanti, MI
www.santeiufuneralhome.com



DAESCHNER, NANCY ELIZABETH

Lost her two year battle with cancer on November 20, 2014. She was always positive during her illness and refused to give up. Nancy resided in Henderson, Nevada and was a daughter of William H. and Mary K. Daeschner. She was the youngest of four children and a graduate of Seaholm High School and Northwood Institute. Nancy loved her nieces and nephews and was always proud of their accomplishments. She is survived by her husband, William Gault; siblings, Mary and Doug Warren, William Daeschner, Sally and Doug Houck; and two nieces and two nephews, Jeffrey and Kathryn Warren, Emerson and Hanna Houck. Nancy's Funeral will be held June 13, 2015, 11 a.m. at St. James Episcopal Church, Birmingham, MI. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Nathan Adelson Hospice located in Las Vegas, NV.



DuCOMB, WILLIAM F. JR.

Born: April 17, 1945. Passed: January 9, 2015. Dedicated his life to running the W.C. DuComb Co. and in service to the March of Dimes. He is survived by wife Karla, sons Keven and Steven. Memorial service to be held February 6th from 3-7pm at the Detroit Golf Club. Donations may also be made to the March of Dimes in his honor.

PACHLA, CHARLOTTE ROSE

Charlotte Rose Pachla, daughter of Emily and Steven Pachla, was stillborn on Thursday, January 8, 2015, at William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, Michigan. Though she was born without a heartbeat, she was a beloved member of our family, and was a joy to her parents, brothers, and grandparents, who could not have loved her more. Now she is in heaven where she can be held and cuddled and loved by God, but she will live on in our hearts forever. Survivors include her parents, Emily and Steven (Troy); her brothers, Carter Schultz (Sterling Heights) and Jonathan Pachla (Troy); aunts and uncles, Martin and Carol Pachla (Troy) and Andrew and Megan Stewart (Clawson); grandma, Ellen Guenther (Bloomfield Hills); grandpa, James Stewart (Troy); grandparents, Louise and Robert Pachla (Hamtramck); and the many aunts, uncles, and cousins of Emily and Steven. A private memorial service was officiated by Father Stanley Pachla at St. Veronica Catholic Church in Eastpointe, MI on Saturday, January 24, 2015. Donations in Charlotte's memory can be made to "Charlotte's Wings" at: www.charlottes-wings.com

REARDON, JACK

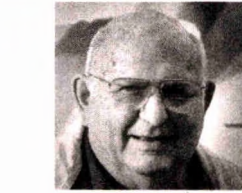
Age 84, passed away January 17, 2015. Born in Cleveland, Jack had lived in Tallmadge for the past 18 years. He served in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1955 as a Specialist Second Class. Jack retired in 1994 from Livonia Stevenson High School in Livonia Michigan with 32 years of teaching service. He was Stevenson's Head Football Coach for the first 30 years of the program and was inducted into the Michigan High School Coaching Association Football Hall of Fame. He was preceded in death by his wife, Rose Marie Reardon. Jack is survived by his daughter, Mary (Jeff) Garrison of Stow; grandchildren, Paige, Mike, and Megan. Visitation will be 6 until 8 p.m. Friday, January 23, 2015 at the Donovan Bagnoli Funeral Home, 339 Southwest Ave., Tallmadge Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday, January 24, 2015 at Our Lady of Victory Church, 73 North Ave., Tallmadge with Rev. Mike Matusz officiating. Interment will be held at Tallmadge Cemetery.



Paying tribute to the life of your loved one.



May you find loving comfort in your time of loss.



REUTHER, KENNETH ROBERT

Age 84 of Canadian Lakes, passed away Saturday, January 17 at Gulf Coast Medical Center in Ft. Myers, Florida. He was born April 26, 1930 in Maywood, New Jersey, the son of Edward and Mabel (Heinze) Reuther. Ken attended Rutgers University and was a graduate of General Motors Institute in Flint, MI with a degree in Engineering. He married Barbara Ann Crimmins on March 29, 1952 while she was attending the Hurley Hospital School of Nursing in Flint. Ken served in the army overseas during the Korean War as a motor pool mechanic. After his return, Ken and Barb eventually made their home in Plymouth, Michigan for 36 years and had three sons who were active in various sports and music activities. In 1952, Ken was hired by the Ford Motor Company, beginning a 41 year career with that company where he earned a reputation as a tough, hands-on, get the job done problem solver. He became the guru for heading the national launch programs of numerous car and truck lines over many years and was known as an out of the box, innovative thinker. He served as the plant manager at the Dearborn Pilot Plant, as an Executive Engineer and retired as a Chief engineer. During his time with Ford, he forged a bond between that company and the Ferris State University School of Technology, beginning a long relationship that included serving on the Ferris Foundation, the funding of 2 scholarship funds and his being awarded an Honorary Doctorate in 1999. Ken was very active in the Canadian Lakes Community where he and Barb first bought a weekend getaway home in 1978 that they eventually occupied year round after his retirement. He cofounded the Canadian Lakes Ford Club with Bob Emerson, sponsoring an annual Golf Outing that raised tens of thousands of dollars for Mecosta County Hospital. Two years ago, at 82, he conceived, funded and oversaw a team of talented people who donated services for the construction of the Reuther Music Pavilion as a gift to the Canadian Lakes Community. In his spare time he enjoyed home improvement projects and gardening. Ken is survived by his partner and friend Avis Gerber of Canadian Lakes; two sons; Rick Reuther of Grand Rapids, Robert Reuther of Canadian Lakes, one sister; Dorothy Schafer of South Carolina, two nephews; John Schafer of South Carolina, Carolina and Bob Schafer of Michigan. Ken was preceded in death by his parents, a son, Tom in 1995 and wife Barbara in 2008. He will be remembered at a private service for family members this Monday and a memorial service for friends and family planned for a spring date, to be determined. Interment will be at Highland View Cemetery in Big Rapids. Memorial contributions in Ken's name may be directed to the Canadian Lakes Gifts and Memorials, 10690 Pierce Road, Canadian Lakes, MI 49346. Contribution envelopes may be obtained at the Daggett-Gilbert Funeral Home, Big Rapids. Share a memory or leave a condolence for the family at www.daggett-gilbertfuneralhome.com

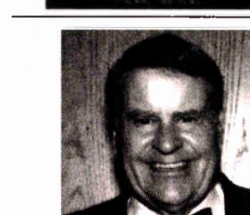
May you find comfort in family and friends



SCHEIFELE, MARILYN

January 9, 2015. Beloved wife of Hudson for 66 years. Dear mother of Lynetta 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

A J DESMOND SONS



SHERMAN, ROGER FOWLER, SR.

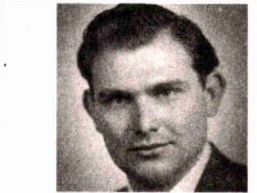
January 15, 2015. Surrounded by his loving family. Age 76. Formerly of Winnetka, Illinois, Evanston, IL and Glencoe, IL. Proud veteran of the US Army. Longtime advertising and marketing executive in Detroit and Chicago. Beloved husband of Judie (nee Young) for 53 years. Dear father of Roger F., Jr. (Susan) and Ingrid Anne Turner (Stacy). Grandfather of Jack and Kathleen Turner. Brother of Anne Owens (the late Clyde) and the late Sally Mudgett. Also many nieces and nephews. Also survived by his beloved dog Charlie. Services were held at Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills. Memorial tributes to WRCJ Classical Music Public Radio Station or Michigan Animal Rescue League. A.J. Desmond & Sons (248) 549-0500. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

A J DESMOND SONS



May the memory of your loved one...

...bring you peace.



TRAWICK, JAMES LEON

Formerly of Farmington Hills, Michigan, passed away on January 21, 2015. He was born in Repton, Alabama on October 7, 1925 to Lucy Mae (Fendley) and William Edward Trawick. He was predeceased by his wife, Ruth Willingham Trawick, and his brother, Ramsey Leroy Trawick. He is survived by his four children, Mary Lynn Trawick Freeman, Leslie (Bill) Clark, Allison Trawick (Rick Rothermel), and Steven (Alicia) Trawick; seven grandchildren, Shannon Fink, Nicholas and Steven Clark, Zachary and Jacob Rothermel, and Alexandra and James Willingham Trawick; sister, Keeble Poellnitz; brother, Roy Keith Trawick, and a number of nieces and nephews. Jim served overseas in the Coast Guard as a signalman on LST 831 during WWII before attending Marion Institute and Duquesne University, where he received his B.S. in accounting. A certified public accountant, he worked for General Motors for 30 years, rising to the position of Assistant Divisional Comptroller, Fisher Body. Contributions in Jim's name may be made to the American Heart Association.



WOOMER, MATTHEW THOMAS

58, husband of Patti Saligman Woomer, and a former resident of Birmingham, Michigan, died December 17, 2014 at his Lexington, Kentucky home with his family by his side. Born in Honolulu, Hawaii, Matt was the son of Anthony (deceased) and Catherine Woomer of Lexington, KY. Survivors include Patti, his wife of 32 years, and his seven sons: Ryan (Lauren), Keith, Anthony (Karen) of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, Adam, Joseph, Samuel and Bryan. Matt is also survived by his mother Catherine Woomer and his seven siblings: Judith Woomer Keating of Lexington, KY, John (Christine) Woomer of East Grand Rapids, MI, Katie (John) Guido of Rocky River, Ohio, Joseph Woomer of Nesbit, Mississippi, Nancy (Kevin) Sidow of Piedmont, California, Susan (Robert) Schneid of Birmingham, Alabama, and Andrew (Cindy) Woomer of Rocky River, OH. Raised in Birmingham, MI, Matt graduated from Birmingham Seaholm High School in 1974. Matt attended West Virginia University and earned a degree in Mining Engineering and later earned his MBA from The Ohio State University. After college, Matt worked throughout Ohio, West Virginia and Virginia in the coal mining industry. In 1989, Matt and his family moved to Lexington, KY where he owned and operated Spartan Rock Products of Boonesboro, KY. Matt served as President of the company until his death. An avid learner, Matt was a member of The Alternate Board where he met many close friends who shared in his passion for business. Matt's life was centered around his family, he enjoyed the outdoors, ice hockey and boating. Funeral services and interment have already taken place. Memorial contributions in Matt's name are suggested to Camp Hayo-Went-Ha - Campership Program 919 N. East Torch Lake Dr. Central Lake, MI 49622.

Plan ahead to assure secure future for aging parents

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Tom Dobolski worries about his mother-in-law's well-being. She is elderly, lives alone, experiences symptoms of dementia, and doesn't accept help easily.

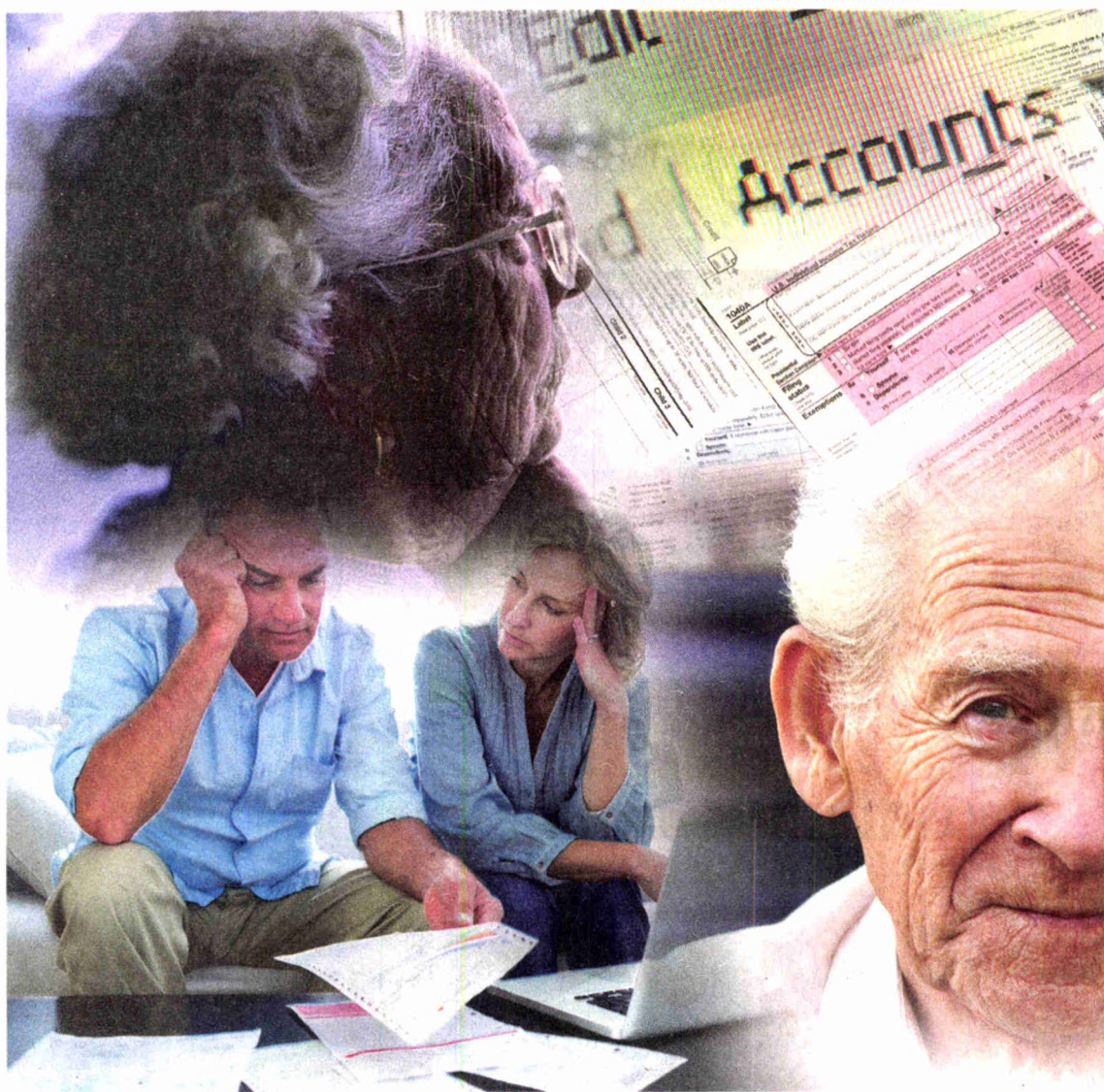
"She refuses to have strangers in the house. She has lost all effort to cook, but she will not have someone come in to help her with cooking," said the Livonia man. "We tried a couple of house cleaners, but they don't clean the way she does. She refuses to even look at any of these assisted living places. If she knows my wife is taking her there, she refuses to get in the car. She's stubborn. What do you do, call the cops?"

Dobolski was part of an over-flow crowd of mostly baby boomers, who shared their frustrations, stories and questions with a panel of experts recently at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, in Livonia.

The free two-hour session, "When Aging Parents Need Your Help," gave attendees a chance to ask specific questions about finances, housing, legal needs and other issues they've encountered as they provide care for elderly loved ones.

Joanne Darga, community liaison for Comfort Keepers, a home care assistance company; Erin Mortenson, an elder law attorney from Northville; Paula Swain, a financial consultant from Plymouth; Jessica Weathers, a social work at St. Mary Mercy's Senior Wellness Center; and Bruce Webb, a senior real estate specialist for Coldwell Banker Preferred Realtors, came together to field questions and offer advice.

The panel meets in libraries, hospitals and other venues approximately eight times a year. It will be back at St. Mary Mercy for another round of questions on Tuesday, Feb. 10. Call 734-738-6300 for more information.



Getting advice

"We've seen an elder law attorney. For us, it was is there any new information we don't have. Is there anything we're not familiar with that we should be?" said a Livonia woman, explaining why she and her two sisters attended the event. They declined to give their names because they hadn't told their mother about the panel discussion.

"We just don't want to miss out on any help that is available for our parents," another sibling said.

The panel members stressed the importance of

planning well before elderly parents are physically or mentally unable to care for themselves.

The process should include two important documents — a power of attorney that can give an adult child legal authority to act on behalf of elderly parents with financial matters and a patient advocate designation to assist them in medical matters. Children and parents can work together to make sure documents, are in place.

"Without those two documents you can spend thousands and thousands of dollars in court," Mortenson said, adding that one of her clients

might have saved \$10,000 if only she had both in place.

Here's a sampling of topics that surfaced during the meeting:

» Do you recommend putting your name on your parents' bank accounts?

"I never recommend that kids be joint owners. You are subjecting your parents' assets to all of your liabilities," Mortenson said. "You are causing problems for any kind of benefit in the future."

She said the government will be more likely to scrutinize a joint account if the parent applies for Medicaid when transitioning to a skilled nurs-

ing facility.

"They may want a receipt for every \$100 debit for the last five years."

She said a signed financial power of attorney can allow an adult child to pay bills, sign checks and assist their parent with other financial responsibilities, without the need for joint bank accounts.

» If an elderly parent, on Medicare, needs rehab in a skilled nursing center, who pays?

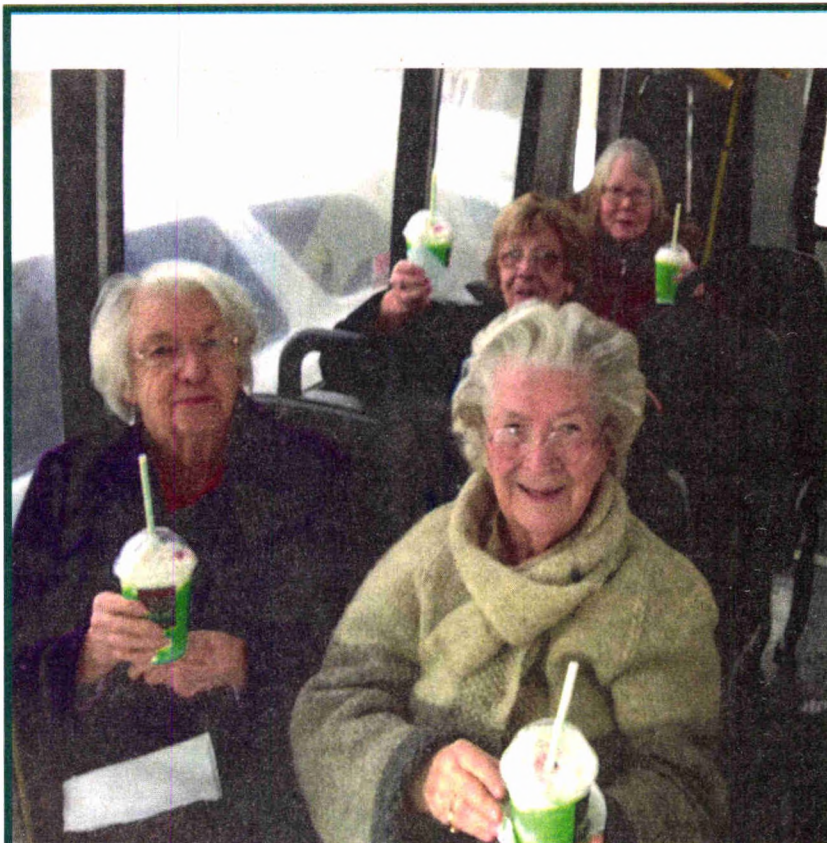
"The first 20 days Medicare pays 100 percent. Once day 21 hits, Medicare pays 80 percent," Weathers said, adding that supplemental insurance may pay the other 20 percent of the bill.

"There is a 100-day Medicare benefit, but it's broken up that way. You also need to have a 30-day wellness period outside the hospital or a skilled nursing center for that benefit to reset. So, let's say mom or dad goes home Friday, but they are back in rehab next Friday. If they left off at day 20, they will start at day 21 when they return, because they didn't have a 30-day wellness period."

» Should you give any money away if you are considering going into a skilled nursing home (with Medicaid assistance)?

"The answer is no," Mortenson said. "Medicaid has a five-year look back, meaning that if you give away any money other than gifts at Christmas, for birthdays and usual tithing at church, then you will get a penalty. For every approximately \$7,800 you give away, you'll get a one-month penalty. And you won't get Medicaid even if you have zero dollars."

"So don't give away your money. There are other things you can do ahead of time. Talk to an elder law attorney to make sure you are maximizing your dollars, that you can still give your kids some kind of inheritance and still go into a skilled nursing home on Medicaid."



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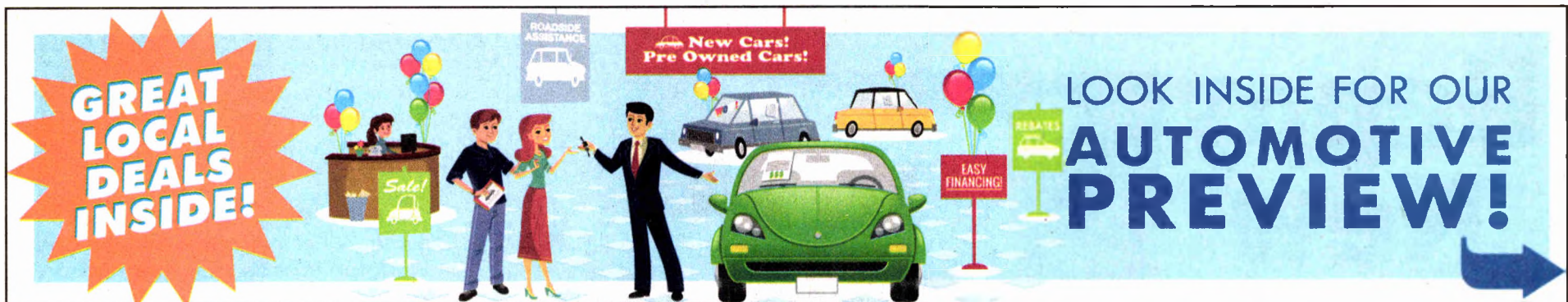
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JOB

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7 jobs for people who like to travel

By Susan Ricker
CareerBuilder Writer

Traveling can be more than just taking a break for a few days. For those who love to travel, it's about seeing the world and interacting with people from different cultures. Some may enjoy traveling so much that they make it a part of their job. Here are seven occupations for people who like to travel:

1. Airline and commercial pilot*

What they do: Airline and commercial pilots fly and navigate airplanes or helicopters. Pilots spend a considerable amount of time away from home, because flights often involve overnight layovers.

Typical education level that most workers need to enter this occupation: Many pilots learn to fly in the military, but a growing number have an associate or bachelor's degree from a civilian flight school. All pilots who are paid to transport passengers or cargo must have a commercial pilot's license.

Median pay: \$92,060



2. Anthropologist and archaeologist

What they do: Anthropologists and archeologists study the origin, development and behavior of human beings, past and present. They examine the cultures, languages, archaeological remains and physical characteristics of people in various parts of the world. Although some anthropologists and archaeologists work in an office, many work in laboratories or travel occasionally for fieldwork.

Typical education level: Master's degree.

Median pay: \$54,230

3. Geographer

What they do: Geographers study the Earth and its land, features and inhabitants. They research the physical or human geographic characteristics of a region, ranging in scale from local to global. Most geographers work for the federal government. Some travel to foreign countries or remote locations for fieldwork.

Typical education level: Bachelor's degree

Median pay: \$72,800

4. Heavy and tractor-trailer truck driver

What they do: Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers transport goods to and from locations. They deliver goods over intercity routes, sometimes spanning several states. Long-haul truck drivers can be away from home for days or weeks at a time and spend much of their time alone.

Typical education level: High-school diploma or equivalent

Median pay: \$37,770

5. Meeting, convention and event planner

What they do: Meeting, convention and event planners coordinate all aspects of professional meetings and events, such as choosing meeting locations and arranging transportation. They work onsite at hotels or convention centers,

and they often travel to attend events and visit prospective meeting sites.

Typical education level: Bachelor's degree

Median pay: \$45,260

6. Reporter, correspondent and broadcast news analyst

What they do: Reporters, correspondents and broadcast news analysts inform the public about news and events happening locally, nationally and internationally. They work for newspapers, magazines, websites, television and radio. Reporters and correspondents spend a lot of time in the field, conducting interviews and investigating stories.

Typical education level: Bachelor's degree

Median pay: \$36,000



7. Train engineer and operator

What they do: Train engineers and operators ensure that freight and passenger trains stay on schedule and travel safely. Train engineers drive trains, while train operators work the brakes, signals or switches. Locomotive engineers drive trains between stations, and rail-yard engineers move trains around in a rail yard.

Typical education level: High-school diploma or equivalent

Median pay: \$46,100

*All median annual pay figures, job descriptions and education levels are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook.

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



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For complete information visit our website at: www.ci.livonia.mi.us or apply in person at Livonia City Hall, 3rd floor, 33000 Civic Center Dr. Livonia, MI 48154
E.O.E. M/F/H

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REAL ESTATE SALES OPPORTUNITY
work with Michigan's #1 REALTOR
Real Estate One
Earn High Commission Income Rapidly Expanding Real Estate Market Start Earning
Commissions Right Away
•Own Your Own Practice
•Be Your Own Boss
•Work Your Schedule
•You Determine Your Income
•Bonus Programs
•Health/Life/Disability/Retirement
•Full Time Support Staff
Real Estate One
PAT RYAN, REALTOR (734) 591-9200 PatRyan@RealEstateOne.com

CASH IN with O&E Media's CLASSIFIEDS
800-579-SELL

Help Wanted - General
TAX PREPARER
Farmington Hills based accounting firm seeking exp'd tax preparer for seasonal help. Experience with Ultra Tax required. Pay based on experience. Email resume to: jobsarch8606@gmail.com
Help Wanted - Office Clerical
ACCOUNTING CLERK
For Bingham Farms firm. 20 hrs/wk. Flexible hrs. \$14/hr. Works directly with the Office Manager, assisting with: Accounts Payable/Receivable; Billing; Cash Management; Reporting; Filing and various other projects. Must have intermediate Microsoft Excel & Word exp. If you are a dynamic, energetic individual with accounting exp & would like to join our fast paced Law Office. Send resume to: rholland@thavgross.com THAV GROSS

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER
SWGM

Help Wanted - Office Clerical
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Farmington Hills based real estate development company seeks an Administrative Assistant! Must be self-motivated, dependable and have good organizational and communication skills. Should also be proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel.
Email resume to: jdemetriou@grandsakwa.com

MEDICAL BILLER
Full-Time, Exp'd biller. 3-5 yrs experience required. A qualified candidate for this position would have experience working in a fast-paced medical office environment, the ability to multi-task and be detail oriented. In March we will celebrate our 20th anniversary, located downtown Royal Oak.
Email resume to: resumeswg@hottmail.com Fax: 248-398-6265 Attn: Feida

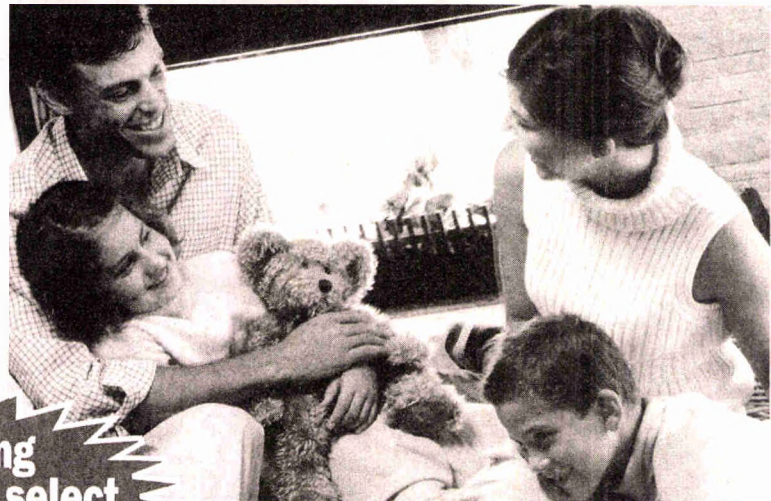
Maybe the Grass IS Greener...

You'll never know if you don't look. Take a peek today, and browse hundreds of local job opportunities from a variety of exciting employers.

O&E Media's Jobs Section
In Print & Online

Search hometownlife.com
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OBSERVER & ECOSYSTEM MEDIA

Happy New Year!



Now offering lease to own in select communities!

Take the winter OFF! No site rent until April 1st!*

Homes from \$11,900 to \$75,900

PLYMOUTH HILLS

Call Patrick in Plymouth at 734.414.9760



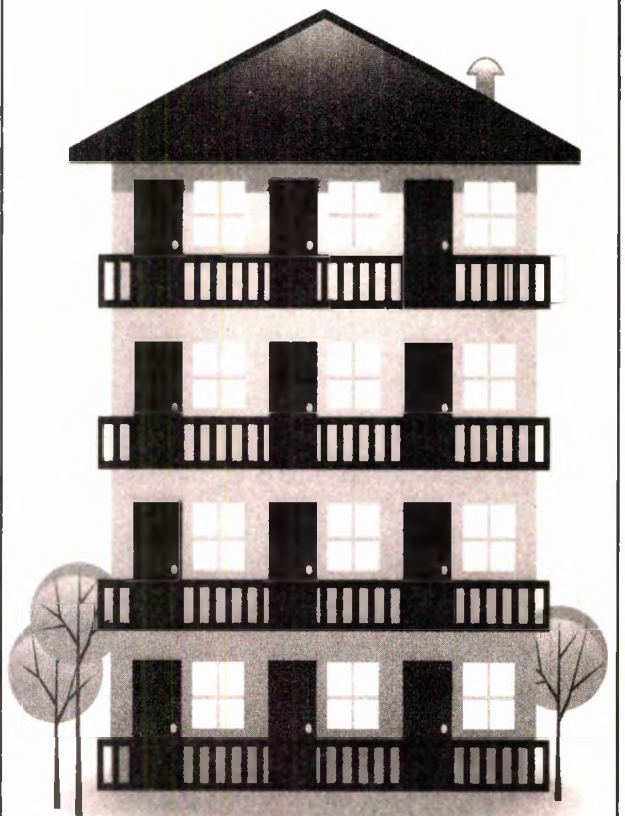
www.ajrhomesales.com

*WAC, certain restrictions apply. Cannot be combined with any other incentive. No cash value. See housing consultant for details. Please bring ad to receive offer. Offer expires 1-31-15.

APARTMENT & REAL ESTATE GUIDE

Find the perfect place to call home in the Observer & Eccentric Media classified advertising section. We have apartment and real estate listings every week in the following communities:

Berkley • Birmingham • Canton
Clawson • Farmington • Garden City
Huntington Woods • Livonia • Milford
Northville • Novi • Pleasant Ridge
Plymouth • Redford • Royal Oak
Southfield • South Lyon • Westland



To place a listing in the Observer & Eccentric Media's Apartment & Real Estate Guide call: 1-800-579-SELL

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
hometownlife.com A GANNETT COMPANY

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO APARTMENT LIVING

WAYNE
You hit the Bullseye...Wayne Tower is the Place for YOU.
Wayne Tower Senior Apartments
55+
35200 Sims, Wayne, MI
NOW LEASING - IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY
1 Bedroom, Central Air
\$593
We pay Moving Cost of \$500
Leasing call: 734-721-0660

INKSTER
THOMPSON TOWER APARTMENTS
Affordable Housing for Seniors 62+ or disabled
1 & 2 bedroom apartments - all utilities included!
Immediate Occupancy
Income Based Rent.
Our features include:
• Spacious floor plans
• Laundry Rooms • Community Room
• Resident Activities
For more details, call (313) 565-3022
(800) 567-5857 TDD
Hours: Monday-Friday 8-5; Saturday 9-1
Or visit us at: 27727 Michigan Ave, Inkster
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

WESTLAND
WESTGATE TOWER APARTMENTS
ATTENTION SENIORS: LOW RENT
CALL US TODAY!
734-729-2900
34567 Elmwood in Westland
Not 62 yet? Ask us about our temporary age waiver!
Income Limits Apply. Equal Housing Opportunity.

TO PLACE YOUR AD IN THIS DIRECTORY CALL US TODAY AT: 800-579-7355

THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

	NMLS#		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.
1SPMortgage	138501	(313) 215-1766	3.5	0	2.75	0
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	138560	(734) 459-0782	3.5	0	2.75	0
AFI Financial	2431	(810) 588-4424	3.5	0	2.625	0
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	3.5	0	2.75	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	3.875	0	3.25	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	3.625	0	3	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	3.5	0	2.75	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	3.375	1	2.75	0
Group One Mortgage	107716	(248) 282-1602	3.625	0	3.25	0
Zeal Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	3.75	0.25	3.125	0

Above information available as of 1/16/15 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032

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JOBS

Help Wanted - Medical
DISABILITY NURSE CASE MANAGER (RN):
Comprehensive review, oversight, and completion of Disability claims review process. Must have unrestricted Michigan RN license. Preferred background in Disability Case Management or Work Comp. Computer literate, excellent written/verbal skills. Minimum 5 yrs. clinical experience. Resume to: humanresource497@yahoo.com

Food - Beverage
COOKS
Afternoon/Evening Shifts Experience Preferred.
Stella's Black Dog Tavern
734-207-9656
Elderly Care & Assistance
I am a Professional Senior Caregiver 248-247-5893
susanmariehomecare.worpress.com
Email: susanmariecare@aol.com
Starting rate \$18/hr.

HOMES

Homes
GARDEN CITY PRICE REDUCED
3 BDRM RANCH, TOTALLY UPDATED, PART FINISHED BSMT, GA, CA \$64,800
GREAT LOCATION
3 BDRMS, UPDATED KITCHEN, BSMT, GA, CA \$62,000
CENTURY 21 CASTELLI
734-525-7900

WESTLAND PRICE REDUCED
3 BDRM, ALL BRICK RANCH, 1013 SQ FT, KITCHEN W/DISHWASHER & FRIDGE, BSMT W/WASHER & DRYER & CA, GA \$74,800
OLD WORLD CHARM
2 BDRM RANCH, UPDATED KITCHEN & LGA, BSMT, CA, LARGE FENCED LOT \$30,400
NEW LISTING
3 BDRM, 1.1 BA'S, OPEN FLOOR PLAN, DECK, CA 2 CAR GA \$88,000
PRICED RIGHT
3 BDRM BUNGALOW, BSMT, UPDATED BA \$37,000
CENTURY 21 CASTELLI
734-525-7900

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Help Wanted - Medical
CLINICAL CASE MANAGER (RN)
Must have unrestricted RN license & CCM cert or ability to qualify. Minimum 5 yrs clinical exp. Case Mgmt exp. in Disability, Medical, WC or Auto Responsible for oversight of disability claims. Computer literate, exc. written/verbal skills. Nov. Good Benefits. No weekends or holidays. Email resume: humanresource497@yahoo.com
MEDICAL ASSISTANT - CERTIFIED/PHLEBOTOMIST
Full or Part-Time. Exp. preferred. No weekends, holidays, or evenings. Internal Medicine office in Livonia. Call Wendy btwn. 10-2pm. 48.476.4724

MDS Nurse FT
New State of the Art Rehab Center. RN with at least 2 yrs. of MDS exp. that wants to be part of a dynamic, cutting edge team. Knowledge of Point Click Care a plus!
HR/Payroll Coordinator
Exp using ADP payroll software, a degree in Human Resources or related field preferred.
Apply at: **Medlodge of Novi**
48300 W 11 Mile Rd. Novi, MI 48374
248-662-2300
or Email: kmonday@noviwellness.com
MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Full-Time for busy internal medicine office in Troy. Must have excellent computer skills. be able to multi-task & good communication skills.
devanshksme@gmail.com
O&E Media Classifieds
Just a quick call away.
800-579-7355

WANT TO CLEAN OUT YOUR HOUSE?
Place an ad with Observer & Eccentric Media, and let the Classifieds do your work!
800-579-7355

Homes
Farmington Hills Ranch
Stunning Contemporary Brick & Stone. \$214,000 35928 Quakerdown 3 BD, LR, FR Full Fin Bsmt w/Day Light Win Lg Deck, 2 car garage, Many Upgrades. Realtor Debbie Amato BHS, HWWB 248-406-1882

Open Houses
South Lyon - Open House Jan 31st 2p-5p. 621 Mayfair (48178) Updated home steps from downtown. 4br, 2ba. Completely updated kitchen, w/ Granite. New cabinets & Stainless steel appl. New crpt throughout & oversized two car garage. For sale by owner. 199,900 248-894-9514
Cemetery Lots
KNOLLWOOD MEMORIAL PARK Canton 1 Crypt in The Messiah Mausoleum Garden \$1500/neg 734-692-6744

Apartments For Rent
GARDEN CITY:
Beautiful remodeled 2 bdrm. Heat & water incl. credit friendly. (248) 474-3005
Condos & Townhouses
★ **Plymouth MAYFLOWER COOP**
2 bed apt Coop \$505
2 bed apt rent \$710
Call 734-386-0239
Office Retail Space
PLYMOUTH OFFICE SPACE For Rent. 15 x 12. 734-416-3341

Multi-Real Estate AUCTIONS
Over 60 homes throughout Michigan at public auction
Potentially great investment opportunities on
February 8th
12 noon
at
Holiday Inn Hotel
17123 Laurel Park Dr. Livonia.
See details at www.MichiganAuctionCompany.com

Medical Assistant - Certified/Phlebotomist
Full or Part-Time. Exp. preferred. No weekends, holidays, or evenings. Internal Medicine office in Livonia. Call Wendy btwn. 10-2pm. 48.476.4724

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apartments.com HomeFinder.com
Apartments For Rent
FARMINGTON HILLS ANNIE APTS.
FREE HEAT! 1 bdrms from \$525, 9 Mile/Middlebelt 248-478-7489
FARMINGTON HILLS MAPLE RIDGE APTS.
Spacious 1 & 2 bdrms, 2 baths. c/a. \$570-\$660 w/ special. 50% off 1st 3 mos with approved credit 248.473.5180
Farmington Plaza
Spacious 2 bedroom, central air, pool, Heat included with rent. 50% off 2 months rent with approved credit. Call 248.478.8722

SERVICES
hometownlife.com
Drywall
COMPLETE DRYWALL SRV.
Plaster Repair. All jobs welcomed! Lic/ins. Free Est. 30 yrs. exp. Mark. 313-363-6738
Hauling - Clean Up
Clean-up/Hauling Sr. Cheap Rates! Garages, bsmts, attics. Free Est. 248-521-8818, 248-489-5955

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SINCE 1979
18 MONTHS 0% INTEREST FINANCING
We will beat all written estimates!
Most carpets in stock!
• INSTALLATION • REPAIRS
• RESTRETCHING • FREE ESTIMATES
We Accept **(734) 612-7570**

PAINTING BY ROBERT
• Wallpaper Removal • Int
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• Staining 25 yrs exp. Free Est. 248-349-7499, 734-464-8147
Snow Removal
SNOW PLOWING & SALTING
24 hr Emergency Srv - Comm. & Res. Lic & Ins. Free Est. 248-521-8818, 248-489-5955
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Place an ad with Observer & Eccentric Media, and have it rented in no time!
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It's all about results...
Get the BEST results here!
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PERSONALS
hometownlife.com

Personals

Please help save a life. Canton father of two in dire need of an O+ Kidney. Call or text 734-502-4513. We need your help!

Card of Thanks

PRAYER: Pray 9 hall Marys for 9 days. On the 9th day, make 3 wishes & promise to publish this prayer. Your wishes will be granted. O.

PETS
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Dogs

JAPANESE CHIN AKC, 2 girls 1 boy 7wks, adorable must see. \$500 ea. M/F 231-468-2709 or 231-349-0569

Labrador Puppies Yellow AKC For Sale!

We have a litter of five beautiful puppies with three females left for adoption! Each will come with their first round of shots, de-wormed and dewclaws removed. They will be ready to take home Feb 14th just in time for Valentines Day!

\$750/puppy but other offers will be considered!

Tony (313)920-9352
trachlav@gmail.com

Sports Utility

JEEP LIBERTY 2012
4x4, 4WD, 4dr Spt, 1 owner, 40,000 miles \$17,000
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Sports & Imported

CHEVY AVALANCHE 2011
4WD, LTZ, leather, back-up camera, remote ignition. \$29,995
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Kia

CADILLAC CTS 2009
3.6L V6, AWD, Options galore! \$14,995
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KIA RIO 2013
4 dr sedan, auto Ex, ABS, MP3 player, lots of extras! \$12,995
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LEXUS ES 350 2008
4 dr, Sedan, Leather, Heated Seats, Loaded! \$17,000
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Large, older style, works perfect. Recipient must transport. (734) 718-2877

Sofa and Loveseat FREE in good condition. Taupe and blue, great for a starter or rec room. changing decor, must go! (249)348-7230

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cars.com

Auto Auctions

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Mother Waddies Vehicles
14666 Telegraph Rd.
(between 196 and Fenkell)
Midwest Auto Auction
Fridays Open Sam

Trucks for Sale

FORD RANGER SPORT 2011
4x4, extended cab. Great for work or play \$18,988
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BUICK VERANO 2014
1778 miles, rear camera, crumple zones, steering wheel cont. \$18,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500

BUICK VERANO 2014
Driver info system, Bluetooth, rear view monitor in dash - lots more! \$18,595
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Challenging fun for ALL ages

Sunday

PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

1 Sleep in a tent
5 Exclusively
9 Prone to
12 Dye-yielding plant
13 Froth
14 Cote murrur
15 Not allowed
17 Highway menace (2 wds.)
19 Kapow!
21 Flight prefix
22 Evaluate
25 Web habitues
28 Omitted syllables
30 Fine wool
34 — kwon do
35 Clock numeral
36 — Derek of films
37 Sgt.'s status
38 Filled with delight
40 Approved

DOWN

1 Abyssinian or Siamese
2 Wheel buy (2 wds.)
3 Playing marble
4 Did a snow job
5 Right — way
6 Standards
7 Philosopher — tzu

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

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!

OATMEAL WORD SEARCH

WORDS

BREAKFAST
CARBOHYDRATE
CHOLESTEROL
CINNAMON
COOKIES
DELICIOUS
DIGESTION
DOCTOR
ENJOY
FIBER
FILLING
FLAPJACK
GRAIN
GRINDING
GRUEL
HAGGIS

HEALTHY
HEAT
HURT
HUSK
INGREDIENT
LUNCH
MEALS
MICROWAVE
OATCAKES
OATMEAL
PACKAGE
PORRIDGE
RAISINS
RECIPE
STATIN
SWEETENER
WARMTH

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

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

Word Search

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

2015 Lincoln MKC: Arrive in style

By Greg Mullin
and Cars.com Staff

Ford's premium brand is entering the luxury compact crossover fray with the 2015 Lincoln MKC.

For the folks at Jack Demmer Lincoln in Dearborn, the move is a game-changer.

"It's a unique vehicle to Lincoln," sales manager Steve Hunsinger said. "It's a brand-new product for us, which is fantastic. The '15 MKC is Lincoln's new flagship for a new style and a new product to expand the Lincoln lineup and target additional customers."

"With our location in the heart of Dearborn and in the heart of Ford country, it's great to have the Lincoln lineup available, not just to Ford employees or retirees, but to the Dearborn market itself and Detroit," Hunsinger said. "And with our ever-increasing product lineup, our store is going to expand and it's going to grow. It's just a matter of time — as our volume grows, our clientele list will grow."

"It's a great day for Jack Demmer Lincoln."

The 2015 Lincoln MKC aims to compete with established luxury compact crossovers like the Audi Q5, Acura RDX and Cadillac SRX and somewhat smaller, new premium entries like the upcoming Mercedes-Benz GLA. The MKC compares favorably, Hunsinger says.

"It's the lowest price of the class, but equipment-wise, it's right up against the toughest competition head to head," he said.

A wide selection of inventory is available now — customers don't have to wait to drive home the model they desire.

Coupled with the seal of approval from A-list movie star Matthew



McConaughey — who's appearing in a series of sleek, memorable TV commercials — the 2015 Lincoln MKC is a brand on the rise.

"It shows Ford's commitment to Lincoln and the Lincoln brand with this new product," Hunsinger says. "And tied in with the new spokesperson for Lincoln, it really shows that Ford is standing with a commitment to the Lincoln brand and we're moving forward, which is fantastic."

"It's a nice feeling to know that we're not forgotten and we're expanding our product line to increase our clientele base."

Exterior

The MKC slots below the MKX in size and Lincoln stayed true to the concept car in styling the production version. The MKC retains the concept's prominent winged grille, sculpted body, menacing LED-accented

headlamps and full-width LED tail lamps with wraparound lift gate.

Interior

Inside, a panoramic sunroof, leather seats with French stitching and real wood trim give the cabin an airy, upscale look. An 8-inch touchscreen that uses Ford's Sync with MyLincoln Touch is front and center. Unlike many vehicles that use Ford's troubled multimedia system, the MKC's panel also features buttons and knobs for controlling audio and climate functions — a welcome sight.

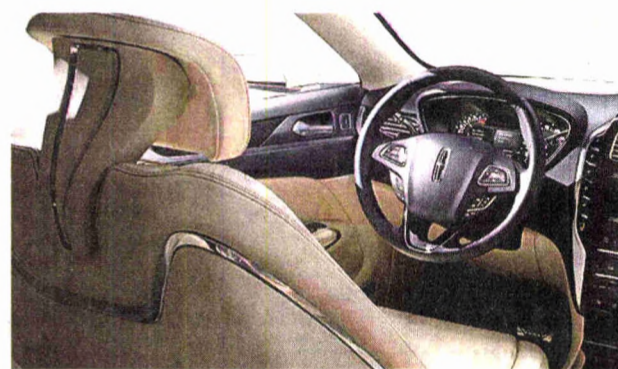
Connectivity is a highlight. With the MyLincoln Mobile app, drivers can start, lock, unlock and locate their MKC. They also can use the app to call roadside assistance and check the vehicle's fuel level, tire pressure and battery charge.

Under the hood

Although the MKC

shares a platform with the Ford Escape compact crossover, one of its powertrains is new. Under the hood is a turbocharged 2.3-liter EcoBoost four-cylinder. Lincoln says it's good for 275 horsepower; fuel-economy figures are not yet out. The standard engine, however, is the Escape's turbocharged 2.0-liter; it makes 240 horsepower in this application. Lincoln hasn't confirmed the MKC's transmission, but we expect it to use the Escape's six-speed automatic. One item carried over from the concept version is the push-button shifter instead of an actual mechanical shifter.

Front-wheel drive is standard; all-wheel drive is an option and includes a new continuously controlled damping system. Drivers can select from Sport, Comfort and normal drive modes, and Lincoln says CCD continually monitors the road



and adjusts the suspension according to the mode selected.

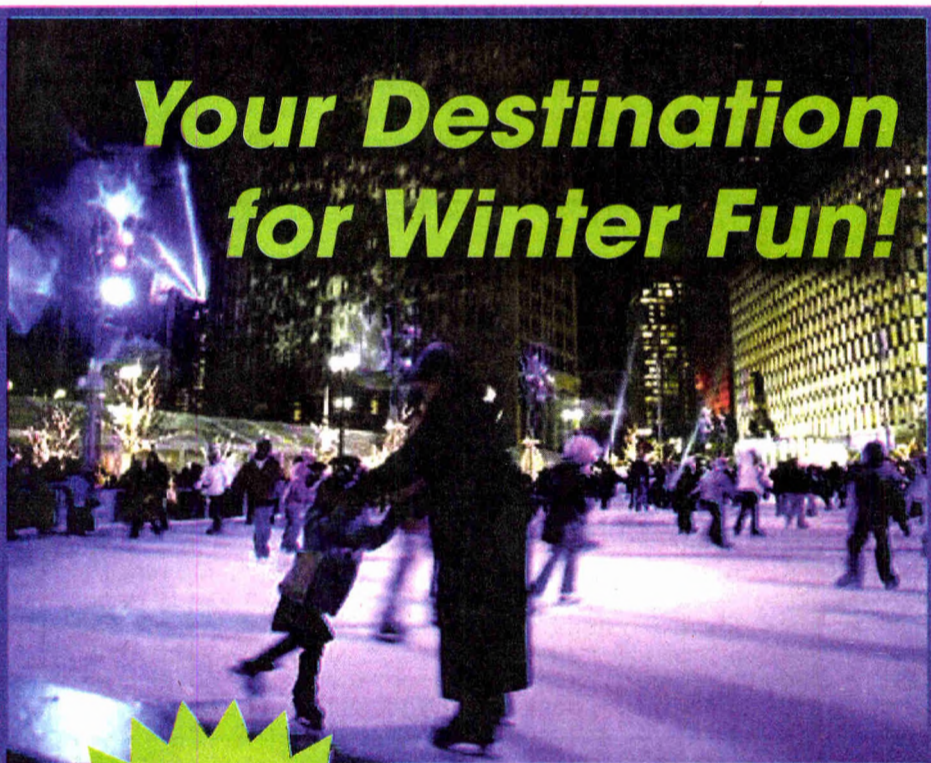
Safety features

The MKC is loaded with safety options, including a blind spot warning system, collision warning with brake support, lane keeping system, cross-traffic alert and the class-exclusive park-out assist system. Rather than help guide the vehicle into parallel parking spots, the latter system helps steer the car out of a tight parking spot.

Value in its class

The MKC is a well-rounded luxury car with athletic looks and a driving experience to match, along with all the luxury goods buyers expect in the segment. Lincoln sold roughly 600 MKCs per month during its first two months on sale, May and June 2014. Cars.com's national inventory is quickly populating with MKCs and most run from \$40,000 to \$45,000, a price range in which the MKC should be a serious consideration.

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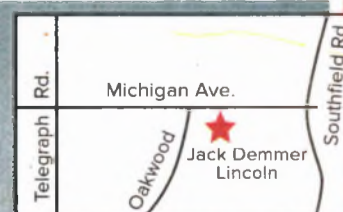
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Wounded Warriors Mustang becomes 'focal point' of Bill Brown Ford

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.

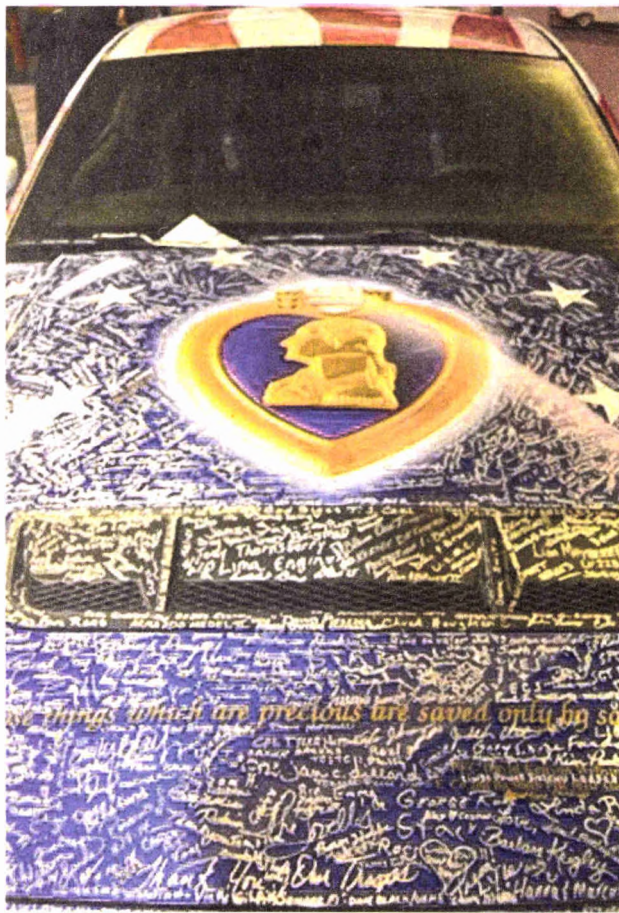
The 662-horsepower, 6.2-liter V8 powerhouse recently completed the 2014 High Five Tour, a 48-state road trip that covered 60 cities and 27,000 miles in an effort to show appreciation for military members and raise funds to build "smart homes" that service wounded warriors and their family members.

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



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BILL BROWN FORD

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

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



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.

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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\$269...

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*** Auto Show Bonus Cash (Program 12708) offer available only on retail contracts for 2014 Focus, 2015 Fiesta, 2015 Fusion, 2015 Escape. Residency restrictions apply. Customers must take new retail delivery from dealer stock by February 2, 2015.

**** All payments and prices are for qualifying A|Z Planners. For qualifying non (not new) A|Z Planners an additional \$800 to \$1,500 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.

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