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 See page A12 for details

Township's no-bid fireworks deal blasted

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Plymouth Township officials will change direction in hiring a contractor for the annual Fourth of July holiday display following public criticism Tuesday of a \$40,000 no-bid contract for the work. Supervisor Shannon Price said Friday that although Zembelli Fireworks Manufacturing Co. "has done a great job year after year," the township should seek quotes for the fireworks and will do so next year. "That's just good government," Price said.

A \$40,000 contract with Zembelli, of New Castle, Pa., was approved by a 5-2 Board of Trustees vote Tuesday. The show of nearly 4,400 shells is scheduled for Friday, July 3, with viewing at Plymouth Township Park. Trustee Bob Doroshewitz cited the township's purchasing policy in criticizing the contract and noted it was the third no-bid contract in as many months. The purchasing policy calls for seeking bids for expenditures of more than \$15,000. "I think we have a double standard on this board" regarding the policy, he said at

Tuesday's meeting. "I find it very difficult to believe there's only one vendor capable of doing this for Plymouth Township." The board also recently approved, without bids, the purchase of about \$22,000 in snow-making equipment for the sledding hill at Township Park and a \$219,275 contract for new financial management software. "If we're going to have a purchasing policy, we should follow it. No double standard," Doroshewitz said. Trustee Chuck Curmi joined Doroshe-



See FIREWORKS, Page A2



The journey begins for the refurbished F-86L Sabre on its trip home from the MIAT College of Technology in Canton south on Haggerty to Tyler Road, then west to the Yankee Air Museum.

The journey home: Sabre jet returns to Yankee Air Museum

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

Imagine driving down a road, minding your own business, when a large-as-life U.S. Air Force plane joins traffic. "When people saw the plane, they just stopped. Some took photos and video," said Bob Catalano, who works in the collections department of the Yankee Air Museum at Willow Run Airport. The journey for the F-86L began

Tuesday morning at the MIAT College of Technology, 2955 S. Haggerty, in Canton. The college, with its large warehouse-like facility, has been home to the vintage 1950-1960s long-range interceptor for more than the past six months. At least 180 students, who are studying aviation technology, rolled up their sleeves and breathed new life into the F-86L, which had been housed at the Yankee Air Museum



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Ralph Koehler attaches the hook that the tractor will use to tow the airplane.

See SABRE, Page A8

Plymouth Relay For Life moves to Kellogg Park

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

With a new venue and a shorter event time, Plymouth's Relay For Life is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, at Kellogg Park. The Relay is an annual walkathon that draws hundreds of participants and well-wishers and raises money for the American Cancer Society. It is one of hundreds of such events across the country. This year's Relay will be from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., with the lunaria ceremony, honoring local people who have battled cancer, scheduled for 9 p.m. Past Relays in Plymouth had been at the Central Middle School track, but having it in Kellogg Park had been a long-time dream of organizers, said Megan Schaper, the American Cancer Society's Plymouth Relay coordinator. Changes at Central, which is closing at the end of the school year, plus the decision to shorten the event, which had been 24 hours, pointed in the direction of a Kellogg Park location, Schaper said. "Everyone involved is very excited," Schaper wrote in an email. Relay participants typically organize in teams of walkers and raise pledges for their efforts, although individual walkers, and even people who drop in just for a lap or two, are welcome. Last year, 246 walkers in Plymouth raised just over \$79,000, Schaper said.

See RELAY, Page A2

Learn. Prepare. Thrive. P-CCS comes up with new marketing brand

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

A new marketing plan for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district offers a new logo, new brand and opportunities to expand certain programs, retain students and highlight the positive attributes of the Plymouth-Canton

Educational Park. Storytelling will be used to develop a clear and consistent picture of the district's quality and success, said Nick Brandon, associate director of marketing and



Brandon external relations.

"We can take three words and apply them to countless stories," Brandon told the P-CCS Board of Education this week as he presented the new marketing plan. "It's pretty cool." What makes it cool, Brandon said, are three simple words — Learn. Prepare.

Thrive. — that serve as the district's new brand: "It allows us to tell the story." And that is a literal commitment. District residents and others will see not only a new logo, but the three-worded brand will accompany posters, videos — you name it — to recast P-CCS marketing efforts. Staff and students will

be featured in marketing efforts with their stories of success. These efforts will accompany a new district website that will feature the new brand and logo. It is expected to be launched June 30. "This website will give us some amazing

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Burger Spot family jumps into Relay for Life fundraising

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

For Jack Ayoub there was no question, no debate, whether he would host a Relay for Life fundraiser at his Burger Spot in Plymouth. Cancer awareness and treatment hits home for the Ayoub family.

His father Mike died of pancreatic cancer two years ago. "It is such a dangerous disease," Ayoub said.

So when his relative Karen Essa asked if he and Burger Spot would host a fundraiser, Ayoub's response was an absolute yes.

"We donate to any cancer causes," said Ayoub, who took over the Burger Spot more than a year ago.

This past Thursday, Ayoub and his family — all of whom work at the restaurant — donated about 20 percent of the

day's revenue to the American Cancer Society. Plus, Ayoub accepted any direct donations offered by his customers who filled the Burger Spot, 555 Forest Ave., Suite 3.

As he is getting more settled in the business, which he says is booming, Ayoub plans to be more involved in the community and in raising money for the American Cancer Society.

Shock was the Ayoub family's reaction to their dad's cancer diagnosis. "He wasn't feeling well. He had complained about stomach pain," Ayoub said.

Mike Ayoub went to the doctor, who discovered a lump on his pancreas. "He died four months later to the day," Ayoub added.

Ayoub is following his dad's career path. He has had a few other restaurants before taking on



Raising money for the American Cancer Society is a family and friends affair for the staff at Burger Spot in Plymouth (from left): Jack Ayoub, owner, is with staff member Lindsey, mom Teri, sister Tiffanie and Vivian.

JOANNE MALISZEWSKI

the Burger Spot, at which he also features cuisine for those who follow vegan or vegetarian di-

ets. Mike Ayoub started his first restaurant in 1972 in northern Virginia. "The family has

owned several restaurants — pizza, Italian," Ayoub said. "My family is always here."

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RELAY

Continued from Page A1

"Even if they can do one lap with you, it gets them involved more, it gets that feeling of community, and just the camaraderie," said Nancy Little, a regular Plymouth Relay volunteer and walker.

Little, who lives in Plymouth Township, began walking in the Relay in 2009 with husband Ken. They were motivated to join because a friend had been diagnosed with cancer, she said.

The event took on added meaning for the Littles last year, as it occurred shortly after Nancy herself was diagnosed with breast cancer. "It's just down to



FILE PHOTO

Members of the Plymouth-Canton marching band perform during the opening ceremony of last year's Relay for Life at Central Middle School in Plymouth. This year's Relay is Saturday, June 13, at Kellogg Park.

earth ... getting together to sponsor a very good cause and increase awareness," she said.

Nancy Little said she felt a stronger connection last year to other cancer survivors. She was not able to walk a lot in 2014, with her energy level low, but she her prognosis now is good and she plans to do a lot more walking. "Knock on wood. ... At

this point my doctors have given me a clean bill of health," she said. The luminaria ceremony, which features a bagpiper, is not to be missed, Nancy Little said.

"That is really touching for anyone who hasn't seen it," she said. "If you don't get emotional with that you're not human." Walkers, teams and

cancer survivors can find out more about the Plymouth Relay or register for it by going to www.relayforlife.org/PlymouthMI or by calling Schaper at 248-663-3417. Information about fundraisers for local teams is also available through the website.

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FIREWORKS

Continued from Page A1

witz in voting against the contract; Price, Treasurer Ron Edwards, Clerk Nancy Conzelman and Trustees Kay Arnold and Mike Kelly voted in favor.

'Bang for the buck'

Price later said that, given the time frame before July 3, seeking competitive bids this year could jeopardize the show, but that quotes from other fireworks companies will be sought next year. "They do a fantastic

job every year," Price said of Zambelli. "Sometimes you have to go out there ... and make sure you're getting a good deal."

The township should be making sure it's getting "bang for the buck," Price said. "Pun intended," he added.

Edwards, who organizes the show and raises money for it, defended the contract Tuesday, saying Zambelli does a good job and officials are comfortable with the company.

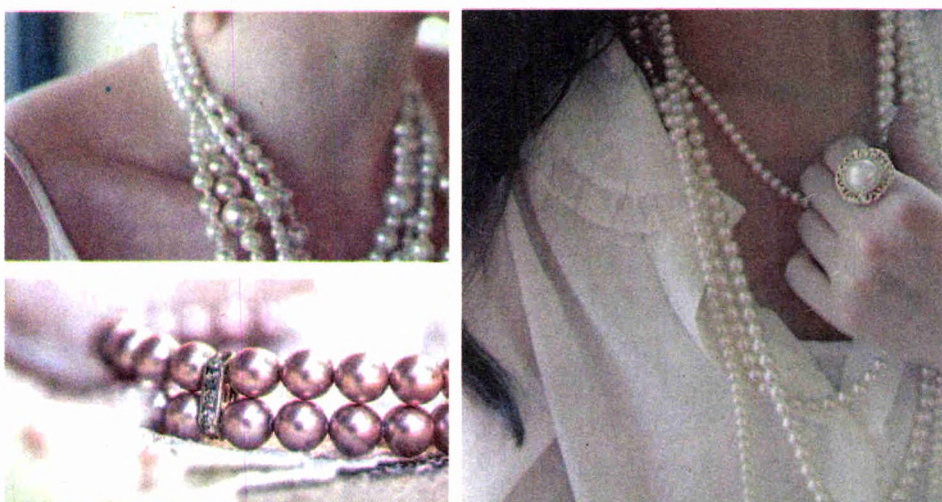
He pointed out the purchasing policy allows the full board to override the requirement to seek bids. "It's in the policy,"

Edwards said. Doroshewitz also voted against issuing a permit to Zambelli for the fireworks show; the rest of the board voted in favor.

Money for the annual fireworks show comes from private donations, not township revenue, although it's staged under the auspices of the township. The contract approved Tuesday is contingent upon the township raising the \$40,000.

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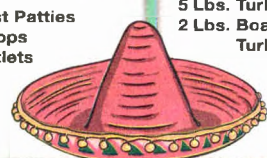
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NEVER GIVE UP

Former P-CCS students encourage Isbister kids to follow their dreams

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

Tony Roko was told his art would never make him famous until he was dead. Joe Nader was told by a supervisor he wouldn't amount to anything. Jennifer Kincer was told the same.

"Listen to your heart and soul," Roko said. "If you think it's right, follow your heart."

That message was shared with youngsters at Isbister Elementary School recently. Art mom Michelle Dillon asked the three artists — all former Plymouth-Canton Community Schools students — to talk to the kids about fulfilling their dreams.

"This is about their lives," said Dillon, who knew the artists as kids while attending P-CCS schools. "They each had a talent and I asked them to talk about how they brought their talents to fruition."

Nader, who long had an interest in cooking, thanks to his Italian grandmother, is known today as Chef Nader, the executive chef for the Levy Restaurants at Ford Field.

Roko is an acclaimed artist, who has gained recognition for his commissions, including for Lady Gaga, as well as working on a PBS documentary of his story and work.

Kincer has a long list of vocal, film (with George Clooney, Daniel Baldwin and David Schwimmer), commercial and voice-over work to her credit.

The three former students who grew up wanting a career in the arts — despite misgivings from friends, family and colleagues — today are successful in their chosen careers, Dillon said.

"You don't have to be in New York to be a fine chef," Dillon said.



Former Plymouth-Canton Community Schools students (from left) chef Joe Nader, actress and singer Jennifer Kincer and artist Tony Roko.



Isbister students ask questions of alumni who have made successful careers in the arts.



Isbister students tell of their interests.



Isbister art mom Michelle Dillon draws attention to a painting by her former classmate, Tony Roko.

When Nader wanted to be a chef, he told the Isbister kids that no one could see it as a career for him. He recalls that another chef along his way told him, "You will never amount to anything." And that was only because Nader didn't make something the exact way the older chef wanted it.

Roko started his working life at the Wayne Assembly plant. Instead of encouraging his artistic talents, others told him he was fortunate to work in the auto industry. Finally, 10 years ago, he decided to give his talents 100 percent of his attention. "I didn't have to

punch in anymore for work."

Kincer started singing at age 4. "By the time I was your age, I was performing," she told students. And, Kincer said, she is living proof that to be an actress and singer doesn't mean you have to go to Hollywood or New York.

Students asked the trio how they decided to go into one of the arts — even though others dissuaded them. Kincer, for example, was told when she was about 35 that it was doubtful at that age she would ever be a famous actress.

Right after that, work flowed in for Kincer. "I got so

much work," she said. "Even as an adult, people discouraged me. But don't ever give up."

The three told the students that they stuck with their interests because, whether it was painting, singing or cooking, each of their talents made them feel good.

"I always get the feeling that art makes you feel the way you want to feel," a student told Roko.

He agreed: "It's like finding happiness within."

It is natural, Dillon told students, to feel sad when discouraged about your in-

terests. But you have to move forward, she added.

"My art was a little different," Nader said. "When I was little, I didn't think it was an art form."

Today, Nader knows it is art, as does Roko with his paintings and Kincer with her singing and acting.

"Try not to pay attention to negativity," Roko said. "The people who encourage and uplift and love you — those are the ones you listen to."

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Advocate favors helping kids learn to be strong, resilient

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Dale Yagiela, executive director of Plymouth-based Growth Works, has been working with young people since the agency's founding as Plymouth Youth Inc. in 1971.

In reviewing a recent study at the University of Michigan, Novi resident Yagiela questioned some of the findings.

"He's talking about aggressive behavior in children. I'm more inclined to look at what kind of bonding attachment went on at an early age," Yagiela said. "The amount of trauma in a kid's early life has a lot to do with it."

Predicting which kids will continue to get into trouble with the law or have psychiatric or drug problems can be challenging if specific childhood behaviors and traits are evaluated separately, according to the U-M study.

To determine which types of behaviors and traits overlap — which could improve the odds of predicting behavioral outcomes — researchers evaluated children's antisocial behavior based on the age they started the conduct, whether they lacked empathy and had shallow emotions and the amount of aggression vs. rule-breaking symptoms.

The study followed low-income urban males from infancy to age 20 and found that children who were antisocial before age 10 were likely to have aggressive symptoms, although not necessarily less empathy.

Starting antisocial behavior early in life, as well as the presence of serious aggression in the teen years, predicted early adulthood arrests and psychiatric disorders, such as antisocial personality disorder, depression and drug



JULIE BROWN

Novi resident Dale Yagiela, executive director of Plymouth-based Growth Works, has been with the agency since its 1971 origins. He agreed some young people are written off too soon as delinquent and troubled.

addiction. A lack of empathy only predicted adolescent arrests and later drug addiction, according to the study.

"We found that any antisocial behavior in adolescence (results in) poorer outcomes in early adulthood, but that early starting antisocial behavior and those with more aggressive symptoms had the worst outcomes," Luke Hyde, U-M assistant professor of psychology and the study's lead author, said in a statement. "In fact, the presence of even one serious aggressive symptom was one of the most predictive of poor outcomes at age 20."

Hyde is also a faculty associate at the U-M Institute for Social Research.

Parenting key

Yagiela noted in treating delinquent youth at Growth Works (its name changed in 1976), often, "Parents never sat and read a book with them." Young children need to know they're protected and have consistent behavior, Yagiela said.

Otherwise, "they will in all likelihood become aggressive. It's a form of aggression for survival," Yagiela said. "We need to know more about why kids become aggressive

in the first place. Aggressive kids probably become aggressive adults.

"What they're saying is the die is cast early," Yagiela said of the U-M study. "Without any intervention, it's likely so," that such young adults will end up in prison or with other difficulties such as drug addiction.

Yagiela cited work by Western Michigan University's Jim Henry, who evaluates parents in homes where children have been removed by authorities. Henry has found children and teens need "emotional attunement," such as teaching emotions like sadness or being hurt.

"Connection is being interested in your child and putting the time in," Yagiela said, noting parents are often busy now with work. Children and teens also need structure, to understand rules and consequences, he said.

Some children and teens end up in a role reversal, he said, "parenting" their parent. "Eventually, they just give up," he said of such young people. "They're kind of on their own" to survive.

Learning to be resilient is less likely, Yagiela said, for young people who grow up with tension and stress in the family and neighborhood.

"They'll have an aroused state, be hyper-vigilant," including in school, he said.

Yagiela noted today's trend of zero tolerance rules with firm interventions. There's often a family "none of your business" attitude when it comes to agencies like Children's Protective Services, he added.

Overall juvenile crime is actually down, he said, but draws more attention. Adolescence is also defined as longer now, Yagiela noted, with brain development lasting to age 25 or so.

Social media use, he said, means that now, "Nothing is secret. Everything is common knowledge." Younger people without full brain development may react impulsively.

"Well, they weren't thinking. What they were doing was reacting," Yagiela said. "Their ability to think through the consequences isn't there."

Concerned about marijuana attitudes

Yagiela is opposed to legalization of marijuana, noting its harm on young people's brain development. "What you're doing is relaxing the social more around it," he said. Social policy makes marijuana easier for young people to acquire, just as they can for alcohol, he said.

Agreeing on not legalizing marijuana is Paul Motz, director of West-

land Youth Assistance. "Years of seeing kids struggling, lower academic performance, strained relationships" prompt his view, said Motz, with WYA 19 years and in helping work for 25 years.

"They're going to be more likely to use it" earlier, said Motz, a Westland resident. "It's not the same type of marijuana now either. It's much more potent. People are even having psychotic episodes. I've seen the effects, what it does to kids and families."

Motz added he sees young people age 17-22 going to adult court on offenses and he questions when they began drug experimentation.

Yagiela favors such measures as WMU's Henry's studies or sending a registered nurse to a young new mother's home to help her. Such resources often head off

problems later, he said.

"They are written off too soon," he agreed of some young people. Yagiela and Growth Works colleagues have seen former clients with criminal justice or drug issues later go on to finish medical school or pursue other challenging careers.

Yagiela also cited school district suspension and expulsion policies, an issue as districts accept outside students who may be perceived as less part of that community.

The U-M study's other researchers included S. Alexandra Burt of Michigan State University, M. Brent Donnellan of Texas A&M University and Daniel Shaw and Erika Forbes of the University of Pittsburgh. The findings appear in the *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*.

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CANTON TOWNSHIP

Residents of all ages are invited to participate May 2 in Canton's annual Fishing Derby.

Reel them in at Canton's annual Fishing Derby

Canton Leisure Services will host its annual Family Fishing Derby on Saturday, May 2, at Heritage Park.

The large pond at Heritage Park, behind the Canton Administration Building at 1150 S. Canton Center Road, will be stocked with bluegill and trout from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for residents of all ages to catch.

"Now that spring has arrived, the Family Fishing Derby is a chance to enjoy quality leisure time outdoors and make memories with families,

friends and neighbors," recreation specialist Jennifer Girard said. "Don't miss out on one of Canton's popular family traditions."

No fishing license or advance registration is required for this event. Participants can register on-site on the day of the event for \$5 per participant/fishing ribbon for Canton residents who provide proof of residency.

Anglers of all ages must provide their own fishing equipment. A limited quantity of bait

will also be available for purchase.

The event will take place rain or shine. In addition to fishing, their will be a kids craft and face painting by D&M Art Studio. The Mean Weenie food truck will also be on-site with lunches available for purchase.

For more information on the Family Fishing Derby or Canton's other spring and summer recreation events and programs, call 734-394-5460 or go to cantonfun.org.

Pagan hosts coffee hour Monday in Canton

State Rep. Kristy Pagan, D-Canton, has scheduled her monthly coffee hours during which residents may offer their thoughts and ideas about how she can best represent and address the needs of her constituents.

Pagan will host Coffee with Kristy at 7 p.m.

Monday, April 27, at Panera Bread, 41950 Ford Road, Canton. She hosted a similar gathering April 25 in Belleville.



Pagan

Pagan encourages

interested residents to sign up for her email updates, which will provide information about her work at the Capitol and in the community. To sign up, go to pagan.house-democrats.com.

Residents may also contact Pagan in her Lansing office at 517-373-2575.



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Here's to Plymouth-Canton students!

EEF raises some \$60,000 for classroom activities, programs

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

Good fun, a vast assortment of wines and craft beers, camaraderie and a worthy cause — students in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district — were enough to draw more than 600 guests to the Educational Excellence Foundation's primary fundraising event of the year.

"This is our main fundraising event," said Jim Harb, foundation board member. "It is for classroom enhancements."

He was chair of last weekend's fifth annual Wine Tasting & Silent Auction that raised approximately \$60,000 for the Plymouth-Canton Educational Excellence Foundation to provide grants to the district's classrooms for a host of projects and efforts.

The Friday evening event at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center featured wine and beer tasting, a strolling dinner and plenty of chances to head home with great prizes from the silent auction.

Busch's Fresh Food Market was the major sponsor. The event also drew 15 other food sponsors, plus 15 tables of wine and three tables of craft beer to try.

"They cleared out the pro shop (at Fox Hills) for us," Harb said.

The foundation provides help, such as with the \$60,000 in proceeds from the wine tasting event, for additional educational opportunities in the classroom. "With the grants we have given, about 14,000 students have been touched," Harb said.

Any teacher may go to the foundation's website at <http://eefforkids.org/> and print a grant application. The foundation's grant committee reviews the application, as do district officials, to ensure that the requested program meet curriculum guidelines.

Grants awarded in fall 2014-15 including the school, teacher, project and dollar amount:

» Tonda, Erin Wenrick: classroom books, \$573.23

» Central, Susan Kraft and Ann-Marie Konyha: Junior Scholastic, \$494.58

» Central, Molly Meeks: yoga mats, \$301

» Central, Pamela Purcell and David VandeVasse: Spanish games, \$221.76

» Central, Tracy Stop: mathematics pentathlon games, \$572

» Discovery, Jennifer



HOWARD KAPLAN

Event chairman Jim Harb with Scott and Dawn LaRiche at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Excellence Foundation's fifth annual Wine Tasting & Silent Auction.



HOWARD KAPLAN

Jim Vermeulen places a bid at the auction.



HOWARD KAPLAN

Sarah Gibson tries one of the many wines at the show.

Coffman and Sue Evans: The Physics of Fling, \$550

» Discovery, Marc Whitlock: commission a musical composition, \$500

» Canton, Gerald Lickety: automotive troubleshooting, \$2,959

» Canton, Jamie Terlaak: extensive reading, \$500

» Central, Darrin Silvester: historic preserva-

tion, \$2,500

» Starkweather, Louis Haddad: critical thinking board games, \$400

The EEF also has planned yet this spring its P-CCS golf outing for Wednesday, June 17. For more information about EEF or its upcoming golf outing, go to <http://eefforkids.org/>

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HOWARD KAPLAN

Jeff Glover of Jeff Glover & Associates Realtors tries one of the wines.

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Wealth Management – Liquidity, longevity and legacy.

Quality of life during retirement – Findings from the MIT AgeLab.

These events are free of charge and are offered as a two-part series. We suggest choosing one event on May 6 and one event on May 13 to cover the full range of important topics we will be addressing.

Part I
Wednesday, May 6
1:30 – 4:00 p.m. or 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Part II
Wednesday, May 13
1:30 – 4:00 p.m. or 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.

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For more information contact
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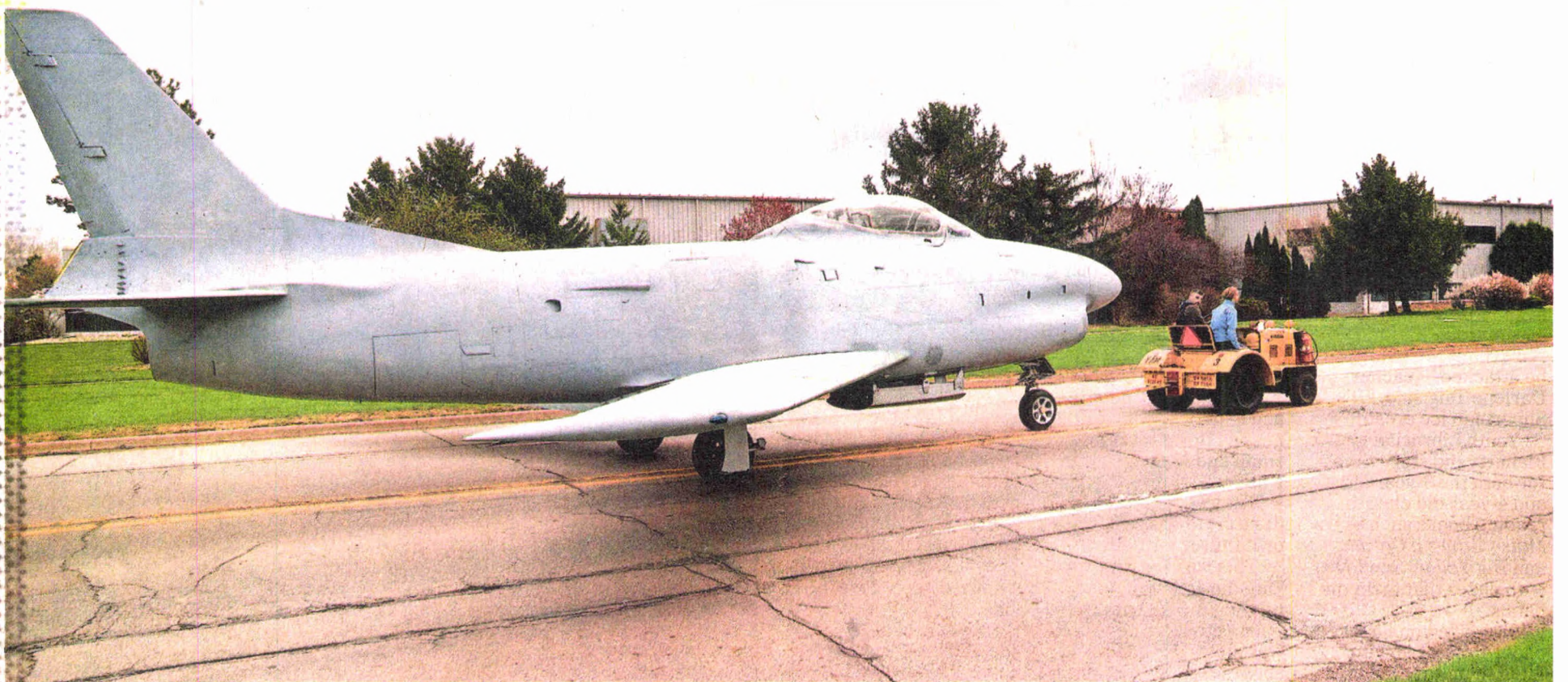
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The F-86L, which is recognizable by its unique nose, travels down Haggerty.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SABRE

Continued from Page A1

for some time.

"They were assigned specific tasks. They did the research on how to repair the plane," MIAT instructor Craig Vassell said.

The students were required to follow Federal Aviation Administration and structural repair guidelines for the single-seat military jet, which in its belly once carried a set of 20 missiles that would be fired simultaneously. "When it came in, it was pretty damaged," Vassell said.

Panels on the plane were caved in, for example, and students had to repair or build new metal panels for the jet's skin, which on military

aircraft is double-thick. Most of the work was on the exterior.

"One group drew engineering drawings, while another followed them," Vassell said.

MIAT instructor Neal Perkins supervised students on the jet's electrical components, including navigational lights on the wingtips.

As the F-86L was pulled out of the former La-Z-Boy factory, it was missing one important component — an engine. But according to rules and regulations under which the museum operates, the F-86L won't be allowed to fly, so an engine isn't necessary for display.

"I hope they will be careful with it," Perkins said as he watched the F-86L gently pulled out of the warehouse by an old

airport tractor that was once used at Detroit Metro Airport.

The F-86L made it to the Yankee Air Museum in procession. The route and the rules of the journey were established by the Wayne County Weighmaster. "He comes in with a route and when and how we are doing this," Catalano said.

The plane made its way down the MIAT driveway and turned left on to Haggerty. It then crossed Michigan Avenue and headed down Tyler to the museum. It took about 1½ hours for the plane to make it safely to the museum.

The next step for the F-86L is a paint job, which will be completed at the museum. "It won't be painted with the original configuration," Catalano said. "We found

colors online."

Because of the F-86L's association with the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics — NASA's predecessor — it will be placed in a new section of the Yankee Air Museum dedicated to the space program.

Meanwhile, MIAT students are rolling up their sleeves on yet another Yankee Air Museum project — refurbishing a T-33 Shooting Star, a Lockheed jet trainer aircraft. It has already been delivered to the MIAT facility.

"We are able to give our students hands-on practical experience," said Kevin Burchett, MIAT president and CEO. "This will be part of the legacy of their lives."

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A Yankee Air Museum military plane awaits restoration by MIAT students.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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FOR THE WAY IT'S MADE™

Preschoolers celebrate reading by totaling 847 books

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

They may only be 3 and 4 years old, but youngsters at the Willow Creek Preschool proved they were up to the challenge in reading during March.

The preschool, located in Kirk of Our Savior Church in Westland, hopped on the March Is Reading Month bandwagon by reading 847 books and earning a very special story time provided by the William P. Faust Public Library and an even more special ice cream treat.

"I think I'm going to be attacked," teacher Darlene Taig said. "It's Superman ice cream."

Youth Librarian Laura Flaherty did story times for both the 3-year-old and 4-year-old classes, reading books such as *Maisy Grows a Garden* and *Big Yellow Sunflower* with pages that form the petals.

She gave youngsters paper flowers and invited them to stand up and try to plant one.

"Dig a little hole, plant a little seed, pour a little water, pull a little weed, chase a little bug and give it a little sunshine,"



Westland Youth Librarian Laura Flaherty flips the last page open of the "Big Yellow Sunflower," turning it into a flower during a story time at Willow Creek Preschool.

she said, leading the youngsters through the different actions.

They also did counting and a bit of physical fitness as flowers tall and small and blowing in the wind.

They youngsters also did a craft, creating their own flower garden.

This was the first time Taig did something for reading month with her young students and she was amazed at the response.

"I'm proud of them all," she said. "I've had mystery readers for four years and have extended it throughout the school year because of parents

who come in and have something they want to read."

The preschool has adopted Pete the Cat as its mascot. They read his books and even have a Pete the Cat bag filled with books, CDs and a stuffed Pete that they take turns taking home. They also write a story in a journal about Pete's visit.

The school also has adopted his famous quote, "It's all good."

"They love Pete. James Dean is a very talented man. He hit a chord with the kids with Pete," Taig said. "We do anything we can to en-

gage them because literacy is the most important thing we can give a child."

Taking the library story time on the road isn't something new. According to Flaherty, "we do schools and go here and there, if requested. We try to make it work."

Flaherty was given the honor of revealing how many books the children read during March, a total that she called "just amazing."

In addition to the story time and ice cream, the students also took home their very own book, *Nutkin on the Run*.



Nakshatra Ethriago of Canton gets in close to hear Westland Youth Librarian Laura Flaherty read "Maisy Grows a Garden."

BRAND

Continued from Page A1

opportunities," Brandon said.

The new brand and marketing effort will create opportunities in three distinct areas, according to Brandon. They include:

- » Expanding the district's early childhood program
- » Increasing retention rates in elementary and middle schools
- » Highlighting the positive attributes of the Plymouth-Canton Educa-

tional Park

While board Trustee Sheila Paton suggested stories from alumni, she questioned whether the three-word brand had been vetted. She also wondered whether King Media, which had completed other work for the district, was involved in developing the new brand.

Brandon, however, explained that the final brand was the result of months of work and collaboration with a blue-ribbon panel of community leaders. The process also involved exit surveys of students and

parents leaving the district, as well as a 2014 community survey and focus groups of parents, staff and students.

"These focus groups gave us tremendously valuable information," Brandon said.

Yet Paton wondered aloud whether spending some money with King Media would be worth the effort to solicit its company officials' thoughts.

"It was expensive. We chose not to go there," Superintendent Michael Meissen said. "I'd like (Brandon) to be able to do his job."

Board Vice President Kim Crouch responded that she would just like to be sure the brand is consistent with marketing efforts and the district's goals. "From my perspective, you've done a good job," she said, though adding she would like to see "punchier words" used for the brand.

Crouch also asked that the district's diversity be highlighted, which would help to keep the district "globally focused." She suggested showing diversity in photographs used in the campaign, which Brandon acknowl-

edged is already planned.

"They (parents and students) want to see people they can identify with," Crouch said.

Trustees Mike Maloney and Kate Borninski also questioned the three-word brand. "I, too, would have like to have seen punchier words," Borninski said, adding she would have liked action words. Maloney, on the other hand, questioned whether Learn. Prepare. Thrive. gives a clear indication of the district's uniqueness.


But Brandon said the process of developing the brand involved working

out countless numbers of words and combinations of words. "It's through figuring out the strengths of the district," he said. "Everything can fall into these three words."

And how will the campaign's effectiveness be measured — in addition to digital page views and other marketing tools? Market share, Brandon said.

"That's what we are looking at the district to achieve."

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In celebration of the arts, a variety of events will be held at various Canton locations:

Special Event

"Middle Eastern Fusion Fest" on May 3 at 2 pm at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill Special concert featuring the Michigan Philharmonic Chamber Ensemble, under the director of conductor Nan Washburn with special guest Michael Ibrahim, Conductor of the National Arab Orchestra. Tickets are only \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors & youth and can be purchased online at www.cantonvillage theater.org or at 734/394-5300.

Additional Cultural Activities:

- Now through April 29: Gallery @ Village Theater Exhibition - "Pieces of Life" by Mosaic Artists of Michigan Members. Free & open to the public Monday-Friday, 10:00am-2:00pm, during any public performance and by appointment by calling 734/394-5300. www.cantonvillage theater.org.
- April 25: Plymouth-Canton Community Schools K-12 Student Art Show at Plymouth High School from 1-7 p.m. This exhibit will feature over 2,000 pieces of student artwork. Free. For more information, call 734/416-2700.
- April 25 & 26: Spotlight Players' "Young Frankenstein" at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill Godson of the infamous Victor Frankenstein, Frederick Frankenstein inherits his family's estate in Transylvania. Tickets: \$18 adults/\$16 seniors & youth. Tickets available at www.cantonvillage theater.org. For more information, visit www.SpotlightPlayersML.org.
- April 25: Mott Hospital Shower for the Children/Babies Summit on the Park, Maple/Oak Rooms from 1-3pm Everyone is invited to bring a wrapped gift for a child being treated at Mott Children's Hospital. Enjoy a light luncheon provided by Canton Kiwanis Club. RSVP to the Senior Desk at 734/394-5485.

- April 26: D & M Art Exhibition - Opening Champagne & Desserts Reception from 2-4 pm Special free preview opening reception for the "Anything Goes" Annual Ladies Dillenbeck Art Exhibition. D & M Art Studio is located at 8691 N. Lilley Road. For more information, contact Sharon Dillenbeck at 734/453-3710 or visit dmarist1@aol.com.
- April 27: Plymouth Community Arts Council Family Painting Night & Open Gallery at 5:30 pm, 6:30 pm & 7:30 pm \$25 per canvas - paint included. Register at 734/416-4278. Walk-ins welcome if space allows.
- April 28: Tonda Elementary School Talent Show Village Theater from 7-9 pm A variety show that all will love! Tickets \$10 - all ages require a ticket. Tickets can be purchased on-line at www.cantonvillage theater.org
- April 29: Plymouth Community Arts Council - You & Me Together Art Class from 9:30 am - 10:15 am Art class designed for children ages 2-5 yrs. together with their caregiver participating side by side. \$10 drop in - class size limit of 14 pairs.
- Now through May 31: D & M Art Ladies Dillenbeck 5th Annual Art Exhibition - "Anything Goes" Exhibition and sale of select original art work created by some of the finest local women artists. D & M Art Studio is located at 8691 N. Lilley Road. For more information, contact Sharon Dillenbeck at 734/453-3710 or visit dmarist1@aol.com.
- May 1: Plymouth Community Arts Council - Friday Night PCEP Senior Capstone Project at Plymouth Community Arts Council at 7 pm A Friday night PCEP Senior Capstone Project from the Arts Academy featuring Megan Johnson's Play, a student written and directed production hosted by the PCAC. Donations for charities accepted at the door by students.
- May 2: Canton Concert Band "Flight of Fancy Concert" at The

Village Theater at Cherry Hill at 7 pm Tickets: \$12 adults/\$10 seniors & youth. For tickets, visit www.cantonvillage theater.org or call 734/394-5300.

- May 3: "Traditional Japanese Crafts" by Niji-Iro Japanese Immersion Elementary School at Canton Public Library Community Room from 2-3 p.m. Enjoy learning about Japanese culture and making traditional Japanese crafts in this all-ages program. Free. Great family activity!
- May 1-31 - Gallery @ Village Theater Exhibition - "Music & Play" by Jesse Brandel and Michele Crimi Artist Jesse Brandel takes a contour drawing and brings it into the 3rd dimension. Michele Crimi recycles Detroit music into art using instruments. Free & open to the public Monday-Friday, 10:00am-2:00pm, during any public performance and by appointment by calling 734/394-5300. www.cantonvillage theater.org

Additional Upcoming Events:

- May 5 & 6 - "Canton Club 55+ 7th Annual Jewelry & Purse Sale" in the Summit on the Park Parkview Room from 9 am-3 pm Drop in at the Canton Senior Center for a great sale on slightly used handbags and jewelry. For more information, visit www.cantonfun.org or call 734/394-5485.
- May 9 - "Acts of Fashion" at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill at 7 pm Charity fashion show showcasing local designers, boutiques, retail stores, and local performers. Featured performances by American Idol Finalist Malaya Watson. Tickets: \$12 per person, 6 & under free. Purchase tickets at www.cantonvillage theater.org.

A complete calendar of the 5th annual Canton Acts of Culture Week events is available at www.cantonfun.org. For more information on this special celebration, please call 734.394.5362.



CANTON ACTS OF CULTURE WEEK SPONSORS:

Master Gardeners group reaps state award

The Michigan Recreation and Park Association honored the Canton Farmers Market Master Gardeners with a 2015 Community Service Award earlier this month.

The award was presented in recognition and appreciation for the group's inspiring and beautiful contributions to the community.

Established in 2010, the Canton Farmers Market Master Gardeners group was created to provide free education and resources for Canton residents and amateur gardeners of all ages.

These dedicated volunteers regularly provide materials and conduct workshops and demonstrations at the Canton Farmers Market, where they also diagnose plant and pest problems, hold plant exchange programs and answer

gardening questions.

In addition, the group annually plants, tends and harvests a large co-op garden on the grounds of Preservation Park and donates the resulting produce to a local domestic violence shelter for women and children.

"This is a great honor for all of our master gardeners to be recognized for helping to make Canton a more beautiful place with their green thumbs and their huge hearts," recreation coordinator Jennifer Provenzano said. "These committed volunteers continue to inspire us with their dedication to the environment and to the people of Canton."

Throughout the growing season, this group also oversees Canton's 40 community garden plots by volunteering members' expertise and assis-

tance. In addition, the master gardeners have developed special garden plots at various locations throughout Canton. Those spots include special educational and therapeutic spaces such as a preschool sunflower garden; a sensory garden for Camp A.B.L.E., a summer camp for area children with disabilities; and a butterfly garden, which provides sensory outdoor experiences for area adults with disabilities.

The Canton Farmers Market Master Gardeners group includes: Deirdre Hope (group leader), Angie Cusac, Anna Covach, Asha Carvalho, Carolyn Baetz, Cindy Haas, Dennis Standiford, Don Wellman, Gary Oswell, Jane Murphy, Julie Wellman, Kim Sanders, Luann Davis, Barb Johnson, Pat Johnson and Rona



CANTON FARMERS MARKET
Master gardeners include (from left), Deirdre Hope, group leader, Dennis Standiford, Patrick Johnson, Barbara Johnson, Angela Cusac and Asha Carvalho.

Wheeler. "It means a lot to us to be recognized by our peers for the hard work that this group selflessly provides week in and week out during the market season," market manager Tina Lloyd said. "It is important for our market-goers to have a memorable experience and having experts of

this magnitude available to answer a wide spectrum of gardening questions is another great service that we are thankful to provide." To become a master gardener, individuals must complete extensive college level courses, including biology, chemistry and botany. After being granted the master

gardener title, these garden experts are also required to complete continuing education classes each year and must volunteer in areas where they can promote environmentally responsible and sustainable horticultural practices for the home and throughout the community.

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Parking ban continues at the Gathering

The ban on parking in the Gathering will continue through Sunday, May 3, as a new concrete surface is under construction. If all goes well with no delays, parking is

expected to resume Monday, May 4. During this period, alternatives for parking include the East Central Lot behind the Penn Theatre and the newly

acquired city parking lot at Ann Arbor Trail and Union, otherwise known as the Saxton's property. There are no time restrictions at these two locations.

Lions to host White Cane effort May 1-2

The Plymouth Lions Club will sponsor its annual White Cane fundraiser May 1-2. The club, a local chapter of the Lions Clubs International, serves the local community, particularly those residents who are blind or sight

impaired. Lions members will be at a number of intersections and storefronts that weekend accepting donations. All donations are returned directly to the local community. No part of the donations are used for administrative ex-

penses. "The Lions Club is extremely grateful for all donations and thanks the public for their support," according to Lions members. For more information, go to <http://www.plymouth-lionsclub.org/>.

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COUPONS EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2015

Local Civitans bowl for Special Olympics

By Dianne Griswold
Correspondent

Plaza Lanes in Plymouth hosted 26 teams of bowlers from Feb. 3 through April 7. Nothing special about that, right – or is there?

These 26 teams were bowlers calling themselves the Plymouth Canton Stars — a Special Olympics group. Amy Hammye and Sue Campbell are the co-local coordinators. The Plymouth Canton Civitans pay for the season. The Civitans are an international service group helping those in need.

Civitans help people in many ways and know that they are committed to doing how little or how much they want in the name of volunteering. They come from all walks of life. Likewise the bowlers, too, came from all walks of life.

Initially in 1985, the Plymouth Canton Stars began with just 30 bowlers, but today they have 104. Today, 776 athletes interact with all forms of Special Olympics and the Plymouth-Canton branch is the largest. In fact, 160



The Plymouth Canton Stars bowled for Special Olympics.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON CIVITANS

families are involved — some having more than one athlete involved.

When a group of bowlers was asked what they liked best about the season, their replies were many: "Eating pizza, having drinks and enjoy-

ing each other's company" was the most commonly expressed sentiment. But Shara interrupted and said, "Parents are the best thing. My dad comes and watches me bowl every week. It makes me feel

special." Michael Tallon, a Canton High School graduate, also spoke about the event. He has been a bowler with the organization for 17 years. Because of so much encouragement from many

people, he is considering becoming a global ambassador for Special Olympics.

And encouragement is indeed the first thing any observer notices. They encourage their teammates, other teams

and anyone willing to watch. Their enthusiasm is addicting. Perhaps you might want to stop by and watch them, too.

Dianne Griswold is a member of the Plymouth-Canton Civitans.

'Tis Plymouth's compost collection season

It's the season for compost collection in Plymouth. The service will run through Nov. 25.

Compost collection is provided curbside each week throughout the spring, summer and fall. Collection will occur weekly on your regularly scheduled solid waste collection day.

The city of Plymouth provides composting disposal services for all city residents. This is at no additional cost to residents and is used as a way to dispose of grass clippings, leaves and other yard waste.

Yard waste disposal

The recommended way to dispose of your grass clippings, leaves and other yard waste is to mulch the material. When these materials are mulched and left on the lawn, the natural waste recycling system is put to work. Mulching also saves you time, money and energy. The grass clippings also work as a natural fertilizer and they do not cause thatch.

Composting materials are no longer accepted in landfills and cannot be collected in plastic bags.

Container information

The city of Plymouth requires all compost materials be placed in a 32-gallon container marked "compost only" or Kraft-type brown paper bags specifically used for yard waste. Containers or bags must not exceed 50 pounds and must be manageable by one individual. Dirt is often mistaken for compost. This is not true because dirt is in its primary state.

Conditions in which compost is not accepted include yard waste mixed with solid waste or recyclables, dirt rocks, and/or sod.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

O&E SPRING EXPO

Time/Date: 1-6 p.m., Monday, April 27

Location: VisTaTech Center, Schoolcraft College, Livonia

Details: The Observer & Eccentric will host its 12th annual spring expo, a tradition for active adults; offers variety of demonstrations, workshops, speakers, local business exhibitors.

Cost: Free

BOOKSTOCK OPEN

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, through Sunday, May 3

Location: Laurel Park Place on Six Mile, east of I-275

Details: Bookstock, the area's biggest used book and media sale returns. Donated used books, DVDs, CDs, books on tape, magazines and records are available

Contact: For more information, call the Bookstock hotline at 248-645-7840, ext. 365, or go to bookstock.info.

JAZZ @ THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m., Tuesday, April 28

Location: Elks Lodge, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Hear the legendary Johnny Trudell Quartet at Jazz @ The Elks. Trudell will be on trumpet and flugelhorn, Ray Tini on bass, Bill Cairo on drums and Chuck Smeratero on keyboard.

Cost: \$10 donation at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres. Enjoy jazz in a listening room setting close to the entertainers

Contact: 734-453-1780 or www.plymouthannarbor-elks325.com or email jazzat-theelks@gmail.com

CARS & CAFFEINE

Time/Date: 8-10 a.m. every Sunday, beginning May 3

Location: Parking lot of Biggby Coffee, 44601 Five Mile, Plymouth

Details: Car buffs and enthusiasts are invited to bring themselves, their families and their classic or hot-rod vehicles for a weekly gathering for talk and coffee

Cost: Free

FIRST STEP NEEDS

Time/Date: May 3-16

Location: Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center, Canton

Details: The Canton Public Library will accept donated items for First Step, an organization dedicated to reducing domestic and sexual violence and providing service to individuals affected by these crimes. Items include: scented body wash, lotion, hand sanitizer, gift cards for stores, such as Meijer, Kroger, Wal-Mart or Target

JOINT REPLACEMENT SEMINARS

Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, May 27, and Thursday, June



Greg Carrierre is a car enthusiast. Chris Kosmet manages Biggy Coffee. Together they will create a weekly event for car enthusiasts, beginning May 3.

25

Location: Classroom 10 at St. Mary Mercy-Livonia, 36154 Five Mile

Details: The Center for Joint Replacement at St. Mary Mercy Livonia offers free monthly educational seminars. Expert staff will answer questions, discuss joint pain, joint replacement procedures and available implant options.

Contact: To register, 734-655-2345.

MONTESSORI OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m., Sunday, April 26

Location: Livonia Montessori School, 31840 Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: Families with children entering preschool or kindergarten are invited to attend an Open House at Livonia Montessori School, which is now accepting applications for its 10-week summer camp program and 2015-2016 school year.

Contact: For more information or to schedule an individual tour, call 248-474-4764, email livoniamontessori@att.net or visit www.livoniamentessori.org

TRANSPORTATION FORUM

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., April 27

Location: Northville Township Hall auditorium, 44405 Six Mile

Details: Sen. Patrick Colbeck; John Wyke, president Joba Construction Co.; Dan DeGraaf, executive director of the Michigan Concrete Association; and Anil Sanne, director of Everlast Concrete Technologies, will

speak on the current state of Michigan's roads, options for funding road repairs including the May 5 ballot Proposal 1 and ways to improve the longevity of roads.

CENTER OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thursday, April 30

Location: Hug Center for Hearing, 705 S. Main Street, Suite 205, Plymouth

Details: To kick off Better Hearing and Speech Month and to celebrate the new office space, Hug Center for Hearing will host an open house.

Contact: 734-451-0800

SPRING WILDFLOWER TOURS

Time/Date: Every half hour 2-4 p.m., Sunday, April 26, and Saturday, May 2

Location: Miller Woods, entrance is on Powell Road, between Ridge and Beck roads

Details: Join the Friends of Miller Woods in their annual spring wildflower walks. The last tour leaves at 3:30 p.m. No dogs or strollers allowed

Contact: www.millerwoods.com or Cheryl Bord at 734 459 7666.

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: Various dates in April and May

Location: Various

Details: Widowed Friends, a peer support group offers the following activities to widowed men and women in all areas:

» 9 a.m. May 4: Widowed Men Only. Meet for breakfast on the second and fourth Thursday each month at Steve's Family

Restaurant, 15800 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. Learn about other widowed activities. Call Dick at 313-534-0399.

» 2:30 p.m. May 17: Mass/Fellowship/Luncheon at St. Kenneth Church, 14951 N. Haggerty, Plymouth. Light luncheon.

Helpers needed to assist with the liturgy or the lunch. Contact Pat at 734-895-6246 or Liz at 734-452-9149.

» 5:30-9 p.m. May 20: Dinner/Support/Games at G. Subu's, 20300 Farmington Road (one block south of Eight Mile).

Family-style meal is \$20, includes tax and tip. Must RSVP by May 14 to Carol at 313-562-3080 or Mary Ann at 313-565-5749.

MOM'S DAY BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 9-10:30 a.m., Saturday, May 2

Location: Compassionate Care Hospice, Canton office, 4730 N. Lilley

Details: Compassionate Care Hospice will have a Mother's Day breakfast for anyone who has lost their mom. Participants are asked to bring a picture of their loved one.

Contact: To register, Ann Kozma, bereavement coordinator, at 888-983-9050 or email achristensen@cchnet.net.

AGENT ORANGE TALK

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, May 9

Location: Northville High School, 45700 Six Mile

Details: Plymouth-Canton Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528 will sponsor an Agent Orange Town Hall to discuss the effects of dioxins used during the Vietnam War and since.

Cost: Free

Contact: RSVP at www.VVA528.org or call 734-421-1805, press 2. Donations to help host the town hall are being accepted at http://www.gofundme.com/16ob88.

GOLF OUTING

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Saturday, May 16

Location: St. John's Golf Course, 44045 Five Mile Road, Plymouth

Details: Join 100 golfers competing for terrific prizes. Golfers will challenge each other for the prizes that are awarded for Longest Drive, Longest Putt and other games of skill and chance. The event supports the Ruth Ellis Center and Equality Michigan.

Cost: \$99 for standard registration; \$85 for students; \$50 dinner only

Contact: www.equalitymi.org

MCVICKER CONCERT

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., May 16

Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 Sheldon, Canton

Details: St. Michael will host a Mitch McVicker concert to support Kids Against Hunger.

Cost: Free, but offerings accepted

Contact: connectingwith-God.org or 734-459-3333

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GETTING HELP

What are the circumstances that make a doctor decide to refer a patient to a specialist?

- Reasons for referral include:
- wanting to confirm a diagnosis
 - needing another doctor's experience in treatment
 - recognizing the patient's problem requires a specialist

An example of wanting confirmation is a patient with a painful foot. The physician believes the problem is not arthritis, but results from a damaged nerve. Referral to a neurologist to confirm the neuritis is in order.

An instance of needing another doctor's expertise comes up often in my field. I see patients with wrist pain that is not the result of arthritis, gout or fracture, but reflect strain on the ligaments holding the small bones of the wrist together. The patient will not benefit from pills or an injection. The patient needs a brace, cast or splint that will rest the wrist.

I have little experience in prescribing such therapy. However, hand doctors have a great deal of expertise in using splints and braces for injured wrists. A referral to a hand doctor is in the patient's best interest.

Sending a patient whose painful hands result from uncontrolled diabetes to an endocrinologist is an example of referral to a specialist. The endocrinologist can bring the diabetes under control and educate the patient on how to control his blood sugar more rapidly and completely than I, a rheumatologist, could do.

A patient may feel pushed about and upset having to go from doctor to doctor, but the intent is to expedite care, not prolong it.

BUDGET HEARING

Canton Preparatory High School

A public budget hearing will be held for Canton Preparatory High School at 46610 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, MI, on May 6, 2015 at 6:00 pm. Copies of the budget will be available at the school office.

Published: April 26, 2015 LO-000029279 2x1

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High school's annual USO dance honors Vietnam veterans

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

When Michele Anderson and her students staged their first USO dance for World War II veterans two years ago, there were more than 600 guests. Some 700 veterans showed up last year for a Korean USO dance.

A third dance will be held Wednesday, April 29, at John Glenn High School. It will honor Vietnam veterans and Anderson is anticipating an even larger number to attend.

"This started out as a one-year project and has morphed into something people look forward to," Anderson said. "I know the kids are excited. They come up to me and want to help."

The Wayne-Westland Vietnam USO Dance will start at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria of the high school,



Anderson

36105 Marquette, west of Wayne Road, Westland. The free event is open to the public — no reservations needed.

WJR-AM (760) radio personality Ryan Wooley will be the master of ceremonies. The evening will include recognition of Korean War veterans, including 25 veterans Anderson's sociology students have interviewed as part of an ongoing oral history

project. The high school music department, under the direction of Scott Cramer, will perform music of the 1960s and early 1970s.

Chef Tony Paquette and his culinary students from the William D. Ford Career Technical Center will provide food.

56 interviews

Anderson began the project two years ago with a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council. To date, students have interviewed 56 veterans, videotaping their recollections of the war in which they served. The interviews are being cataloged. They will be sent to the Library of Congress to be part of the nation's permanent cultural record.

"We have more veterans to interview; the word is getting out and they're contacting me," she said.

The veterans have come from Wayne, Westland, Garden City, Canton, Highland Park, Whitmore Lake, West Bloomfield and Pinckney. A lot of them hooked up with Anderson and her students through their involvement in the VFW. Others are through their grandchild, while some are through word of mouth.

Sixty students have been involved in the interviews, working in three-person teams. The interviews take 60-90 minutes.

Anderson sees the dance as a welcome home for the veterans.

"There were no parades for them," she said. "They got off a plane and went back into their former lives," she said. "Many told us they avoided mentioning they served because they didn't know what the reaction would be."

Students also are making remembrance boards. They're researching veterans from Wayne County or family members. The board will be displayed in the hallway leading to the cafeteria as part of the welcome.

Also on display will be the Michigan Vietnam Traveling Memorial. It is patterned after the national Vietnam Memorial, but lists only the names of Michigan men and women who lost their lives in the Vietnam War.

Anderson had hoped to have the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall at the dance, but was unable to get it.

"We even had Sen. (Carl) Levin writing letters," Anderson said. "It went to California instead."

Grants help

Anderson has been able to pay for the event

with a \$500 grant from the Wayne-Westland Foundation and a \$2,000 Voya Financial Unsung Heroes Grant for Innovative Teaching Program that she and Cramer secured.

She believes her USO project is the only one of its kind in the country. It has brought her local, state and national recognition, including being named the 2014 National History Teacher of the Year award from HISTORIC and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

Nothing is definite about next year's event, although Anderson hinted that it may be a reprise.

"We still have many Vietnam veterans we want to interview," she said.

smason@hometownlife.com
734-674-2332
Twitter: @SusanMarieMason

Canton Library to host First Step collection

This Mother's Day, make a difference in the lives of women experiencing violence and abuse by donating to First Step, an organization dedicated to reducing domestic and sexual violence and providing service to individuals affected by these crimes.

First Step has requested the following items:

- » Scented body wash
- » Lotion
- » Hand sanitizer
- » Gift cards for stores, such as Meijer, Kroger, Walmart or Target.

The Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center Road, will accept items May 3-16.

Life in Go! O&E spring expo is Monday at Schoolcraft

Workshops, exhibits, demonstration and free stuff are all part of the *Observer & Eccentric* 12th annual spring expo, Life in Go, set for 1-6 p.m. Monday in the Vis-TaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

This annual tradition for active adults features a variety of demonstrations and workshops, local business exhibitors, prizes, free admission, free parking and free refreshments. Learn to live healthy, make wise financial decisions and enhance life to make it the best ever.

The first 100 attendees will receive a Buddy's coupon for a free four-square pizza. In addition, there will also be drawings throughout the afternoon for other prizes.

The hourly gift drawings are sponsored in part by St. Mary Mercy

Hospital. Refreshments are sponsored in part by Twisted Rooster. The 2015 spring expo tote bags are made possible in part by sponsors Crystal Creek Assisted Living, Centurion Services, Inc., and Twisted Rooster.

This year, 10 dynamic demonstrations and workshops feature Rick Bloom of Bloom Asset Management, Dr. Sol Cogan of HealthQuest and HealthQuest's Back & Neck Solution Centers of America and Colleen McDonald of Senior Helpers.

Bloom, *Observer & Eccentric* guest columnist and frequent metro Detroit radio and television guest, will discuss "How to Determine What You Will Need to Retire and Stay Retired." Cogan, CEO of HealthQuest and HealthQuest's Back

& Neck Solution Centers of America and the official team chiropractor of the Detroit Lions, will speak on "New Technology in Pain Relief." McDonald, director of community relations for Senior Helpers and certified dementia trainer, will present "The Senior Gems: Alzheimer's and Dementia Care."

A special spring expo section was inserted into the April 23 edition of *Observer* and features articles, interests and resources for today's active adults. The special publication will feature participating local business exhibitors and detail

all demonstrations and workshops.

Other speakers include: » Health, Wealth and a Confident Retirement by Steven R. Swaggerty, Ameriprise Financial Klaska, Swaggerty & Associates.

» Understanding Memory Loss by Gerald E. Turlo, M.D., St. Mary Mercy.

» Emergency Preparedness by Arnold Wicker, Schoolcraft College Continuing Education and Professional Development.

» Improving Communication With Aging Parents by Jean Borin,

Home Instead Senior Care.

» Social and Emotional Benefits of Art by Grace Karczewski, Schoolcraft College Continuing Education and Professional Development.

» Healthy Smile for a Lifetime by Dr. Bruce Smoler, Smoler Institute of Implant Dentistry.

» Tai Chi by Michigan Tai Chi Association, sponsored by Schoolcraft College Continuing Education and Professional Development.

» Buyer Beware by Felix Cruz of Cruz Hearing Aid Service. What hearing loss is and how to get it corrected.

Canton Public Safety, First Step to host sex assault awareness open house April 29

Canton Public Safety and First Step will host a Sexual Assault Awareness Month open house 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, April 29, at the Canton Public Library Community Room, 1200 S. Canton

Center. Attendees will meet Canton Public Safety and First Step staff, learn how to support survivors and take home resources, as well as take a pledge against sexual assault.

For event questions, contact Hillary at 734-713-0654. To reach Canton Public Safety, call 734-394-5400. First Step Help Line is 888-453-5900 or online at www.first-step-mi.org.

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Grant recipient Joseph Miller (left) with Linda Wozniak of Shepard Insurance Agency.

Schoolcraft receives \$500 Meemic Foundation grant for book club

Schoolcraft College received a \$500 grant to support a new book club from the Meemic Foundation, a nonprofit organization created by the Meemic Insurance Co. Representatives were on hand to present the check and congratulate the recipients.

Joseph Miller, grant recipient, plans to use the funds to buy sets of graphic novels for a graphic novel book club

program. The creation of this new book club and its collection would allow the college to showcase award-winning, classic and acclaimed graphic novels at the library and subsequently host a monthly discussion during fall and winter semesters.

"Exceptional educators are always looking for new and creative ways to inspire their students and we want to

make sure that financial concerns don't stand in the way of those ideas," said Pamela Harlin, administrator for the Meemic Foundation. "The goal of Meemic Foundation grants is to provide the resources necessary for teachers to create a dynamic learning environment for students that not only educates the children but inspires them as well."

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth Housing Commission is pleased to be opening its Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Waiting List on April 30, 2015 through May 5, 2015. After May 5th, the waiting list will be closed and the application will no longer be available. All applications must be completed and submitted on-line.

The application can be obtained via a link on our website <http://www.phhousing.net> or go directly to <https://plymouth.hdswaitinglist.com>. DO NOT come to the Plymouth Housing Commission offices, we will NOT be handing out any applications. If you need access to a computer and the internet, you can go to your local library. For any updated information refer to our website. For any updated information you may call (734)455-3670, extension 224.

Madonna group donates 40 care packages to children at First Step

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

Forty children at a domestic-abuse shelter in Wayne will each receive a care package May 2 lovingly assembled by a group of Madonna University students and alumni who hope to change the course of the children's lives for the better.

Each care package – a colorful pillowcase sewed and donated by Nancy Lewis of Canton – is filled with a few new books, chalk, coloring book, crayons, notebook, pencil, ball and other games and activities children love. In addition, each contains a personalized card with encouraging words.

The care packages are part of Project DREAM, the response by Madonna University's chapter of the education honor soci-



Buying books at Barnes and Noble are (from left) Helen Oziem, Susan LaFrance, Maggie Wunderlich and Rachel Datte.

ety, Kappa Delta Pi, to a KDP challenge to promote literacy in the community.

The group is also donating more than 1,000 books to Gompers Elementary School in Detroit. The care packages will go to children at First Step.

"It is our hope that the books in the care pack-

ages to First Step and the book drive donations to Gompers Elementary will promote literacy that will inevitably change lives," said Maggie Wunderlich of Canton, president of the KDP chapter at Madonna.

Helen Oziem, the chapter's vice president, said members hope to create a lifelong love for



Madonna University KDP chapter members and Kohl's of Canton volunteers worked as a team to put together Project DREAM care packages (from left): Helen Oziem, Johnny Lazenby, Domicka Prince, Rachel Datte, Rodney Bradley, Cheryl Peters, Susan LaFrance, Chloe Prince, Tay Ford, Autumn Prince and Maggie Wunderlich.

reading in the children. "We want to engage young children in reading and create a love for reading that they will carry with them always," she said.

The Project DREAM care packages will be given to the children during a "Milk and Cookies Read-in" event in which KDP members

will read to the children and help them make a craft.

The Project DREAM care packages were made financially possible through a KDP fundraiser at Buffalo Wild Wings in Livonia, as well as grants totaling \$1,000 received through Associates in Action from the Kohl's department store

on Ford Road in Canton.

Kohl's assistant manager, Ta'Janae Ford, was instrumental in helping KDP obtain the grants, Wunderlich said. "In addition to the monetary donation, five Kohl's employees graciously volunteered three hours of their time to help us create the personalized cards and put together the care packages," she said.

Wunderlich said the program began with a dream back in December after the group brainstormed ideas. "Now it's coming true," she said. "All of it was possible because of a collaboration between KDP members and others in the community who strive to make an impact on children."

ksmith@hometownlife.com
248-309-7524
Twitter: @Karen587

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www.redfordtheatre.com

<p>HAROLD MAUDE</p> <p>Tickets: \$5.00</p>	<p>May 1: 8:00 pm May 2: 2:00 & 8:00 pm</p> <p>WINGS</p> <p>AN EPIC OF THE AIR</p> <p>CLARA BOW</p> <p>Silent Film accompanied LIVE on the Barton Organ by Stephen Warner</p> <p>Tickets: \$10 - Adults \$5 - 12 yrs. old and under</p>
<p>TITANIC</p> <p>Starring Leonardo DiCaprio & Kate Winslet</p> <p>24 hour information phone number: (313) 537-2560 Located at 17360 Lahser Road, Detroit, MI 48219 Park in one of our FREE supervised parking lots!</p>	<p>SPECIAL MATINEE START TIME!</p> <p>May 29 8:00 p.m. May 30 1:00 & 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>Tickets: \$5.00</p>

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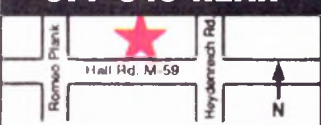
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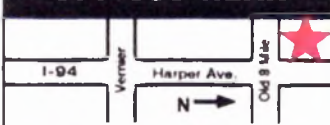
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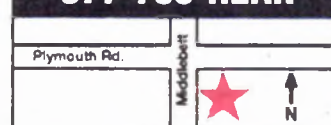
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PREP BASEBALL



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PCA's Josh Slater happily rounds the bases after hitting the first varsity home run of his career Thursday. He slammed a three-run shot over the fence in right field for the Eagles.

PREP GIRLS SOCCER

'WIN' CHILL

Sophomore's first goal, lock-down defense lifts Churchill over Canton

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

A needle-threading crossing pass into the teeth of a bone-chilling cross wind ignited a potential season-making victory Thursday night for Livonia Churchill's girls soccer team.

Playing in weather conditions better suited for pond hockey on a grassy pitch none of the current Chargers could ever remember winning on, sophomore forward Alexis Staff used her shin to one-time a sweet feed from Sara Taylor into the highest corner of the right side of the net for the only goal in the visitors' 1-0 triumph over host Canton.

The Chargers' execution leading up to the assist was something out of a how-to-play-soccer textbook, including Lauren Wynns' pass to Taylor, who was streaking down the right sideline.

"As it was playing out, I said this will be the goal of the year if she scores," recounted Churchill head coach Reid Friedrichs, whose team improved to 6-2-2 overall and 3-1-1 in the KLAA South Division. "It was the most beautiful combination."

The Chiefs' most dangerous threat of the night unfolded in the eighth minute when sophomore forward Hannah Lapko broke free about 25 yards out, but a three-

See SOCCER, Page B2

OH, MERCY!

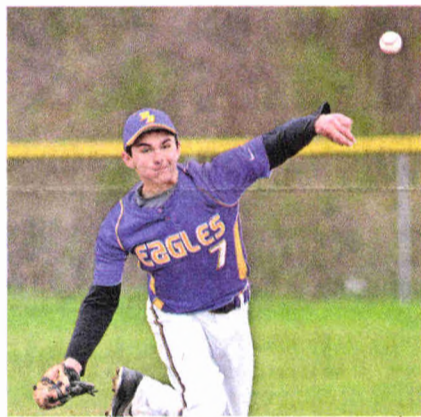
PCA romps 15-0 behind Josh Slater's homer, Hay's pitching and hitting

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

From the moment his bat struck the ball Thursday, Plymouth Christian Academy junior catcher Josh Slater knew he did something pretty special.

Slater lofted a towering fly ball that cleared the fence in right field with ease for his first varsity home run, a three-run shot that punctuated PCA's 15-0 victory over Taylor Baptist Park.

The Eagles, fueled by the homer,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

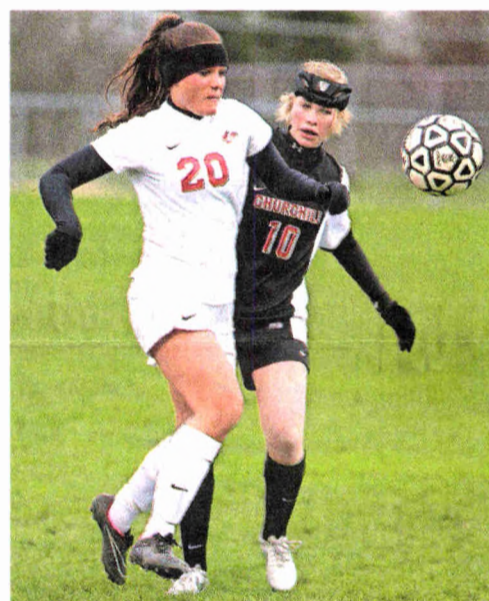
Plymouth Christian pitcher Tanner Hay throws Thursday against Taylor Baptist Park. He struck out nine in three innings as the Eagles won 15-0 via the mercy rule.

tallied eight runs in the third off Baptist Park pitcher Grant Kowalski to invoke the 15-run mercy rule and close out a lopsided Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Red Division win.

"It's my first out of the parker in my whole life, actually," Slater said. "It was pretty great, it meant a lot to me. I've been putting in a lot of hard work for it."

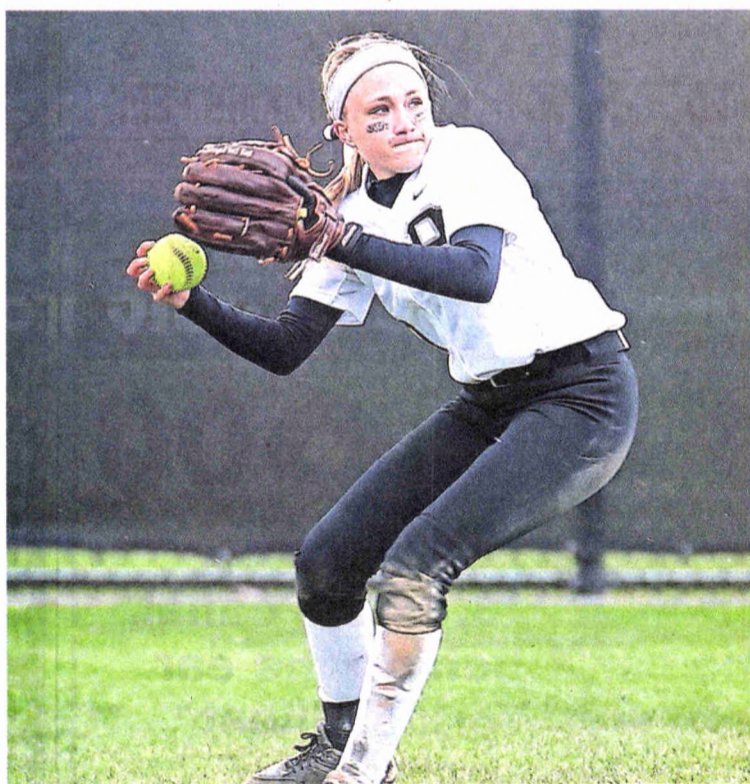
"And personally, I just want to give all the glory to lord and savior Jesus Christ. He gave me the strength and ability to play this game and it felt pretty fantastic to get it done."

See BASEBALL, Page B2



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Canton's Chloe Donlin (No. 20) battles with a Livonia Churchill player for a 50/50 ball Wednesday.



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Plymouth outfielder Rachel Zerona gets set to throw the ball back toward the infield Wednesday against Canton.

PREP SOFTBALL

'Cats' attack keys sweep of Canton

Plymouth takes pair from Chiefs in matchup of campus rivals

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Cold weather Wednesday didn't put a damper on the hot offense of Plymouth's varsity softball team as the Wildcats swept Canton.

Plymouth took the opener 7-4 and followed up with a 10-1 victory in the nightcap of the doubleheader between KLAA South Division rivals. The first place Wildcats upped their record to 10-1 overall and 7-0 in the division.

Game 1 was a see-saw affair with the Wildcats twice responding to the Chiefs scoring runs.

In the first inning, Canton went up 2-0 but Plymouth bounced back with three runs in the bottom half, with a hit by freshman shortstop Whitney

Holden (1-for-2, three RBI) the key blow.

Similarly, the Chiefs (5-2 in the KLAA South) took a 4-3 lead in the fourth but the Wildcats answered with a four-run rally to go up by three runs.

Sparking the Wildcats was junior leadoff hitter Rachel Zerona, who went 3-for-4. Chipping in with three hits in three at-bats was senior Caylin Waters.

Going the distance for the win was senior pitcher Mikayela Marciniak, who gave up eight hits but struck out six.

Top performers for the Chiefs were Halee Warren (2-for-4, RBI), Nicole Clark (1-for-3, two RBI) and Hannah Shuler (1-for-3, RBI).

According to Plymouth head coach Lauren Delapaz, a key

factor in the team prevailing in the opener was "great senior leadership" from Marciniak, Waters, Brittney Miller, Alex Rakovitis and Rachael Ring.

The nightcap was close until Plymouth scored five runs in the third to break a 1-1 tie.

Plymouth freshman pitcher Jenny Bressler was outstanding, giving up just one run and four hits while striking out six to win her fifth straight decision of the year. Bressler also helped her own cause with two hits and four RBI.

Other Wildcats with solid showings in Game 2 were Zerona (2-for-3, three runs), freshman Jes Tucci (2-for-3, run), Miller (1-for-2, two runs, two RBI) and sophomore Mikayla

See SOFTBALL, Page B2

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BASEBALL

Continued from Page B1

No doubt

Slater turned on an inside fastball and ripped it between the scoreboard and right field line, scoring teammates Evan Wright and Will Crecelius to make it a 12-0 game.

"I got a little bit of wind behind it and put a pretty good swing on it," Slater said. "I saw the right fielder look up and I was pretty thrilled with it."

Also thrilled was his coach, Joe Bottorff, whose team improved to 2-0 with its second rout of Baptist Park in three days.

"He didn't miss it, that's for sure," Bottorff said. "I knew it was gone right off the bat. I think it would have been good without the wind, too."

"He's been out here watching his cousins (Jon, Daniel and Michael) hit home runs for the last five or six years, so he was pretty happy to get his first one."

PCA then scored three more times for the required 15-run difference to finish off the Wildcats.

Base hits by Michael Slater (2-for-3), Evan Wright and Will Crecelius did the trick, with Crecelius' single to center plating Matt Cusumano (who walked) to end the contest — played on a frigid afternoon.

"I was happy with the guys, they swung the bat," Bottorff said. "We told them to go up and look for something to hit. ... They were aggressive and (Baptist Park's) an inexperienced team, but starting next week we're going to have a lot more difficult competition in our conference."

"We play Southfield Christian on Monday. They're not going to be as inexperienced as these guys were."

Also playing a major role in the win was pitcher Tanner Hay, who struck out all nine Baptist Park batters he retired (only giving up a first-inning bloop single to Matt Martin).



Taking a rip at a pitch Thursday is PCA's Will Crecelius. He and his Eagles teammates romped to a 15-0 win.



Scampering home for another Plymouth Christian run Thursday is AJ Greuber.

"Tanner was looking really sharp, his fastball was coming in pretty quick," Josh Slater said. "His curve ball was starting to get some break on it. ... I think he fooled a lot of guys."

Hay (2-for-3) also helped his cause with a triple in the bottom of the first to score two runs. He later doubled.

"Actually if he wasn't dead tired, he probably could have had an inside-the-park homer," Bottorff said about the Hay triple. "That was really good for him, he hasn't had a lot of swings in his (PCA) career."

"He's always been a good pitcher for us, but he hasn't batted that much."

Other PCA hits were collected by Adam Albert and Austin Andres.

Taking advantage

On Tuesday, in their season opener, the Ea-

gles won 17-0 over Baptist Park in three innings.

Michael Slater went the distance, allowing one hit and striking out eight.

Leading the attack were Josh Slater (three singles, three RBIs), Michael Slater (two singles, three RBIs), Nick Andres (double, three RBIs), Austin Andres (two singles) and Jordan Talbott (double).

Baptist Park committed eight errors to aid the Eagles, a generous blueprint the Wildcats followed again two days later.

"We were up there swinging the bat and putting pressure on their defense," Bottorff said.

PCA 5, ARBOR PREP 2: On Friday at Ypsilanti Arbor Prep, Plymouth Christian Academy improved to 3-0 on the young season.

The Eagles were sparked by the relief pitching of Michael Slater, who pitched five innings and gave up just one hit while striking out seven.

PCA broke open a close game with two runs in the fourth and fifth innings. The key hit in the fifth, according to head coach Joe Bottorff, was a two-run double off the wall by Jordan Talbott.

A successful squeeze bunt by AJ Greuber brought home Jake Shook for a run in the fourth.

PLYMOUTH 8-7, CANTON 1-0: Host Plymouth had it going against Canton in Wednesday's doubleheader between Park rivals.

In the opener, Kevin Anthony pitched a complete game, giving up no earned runs in miserable conditions.

Sparking the Wildcats were Andrew Jossey (2-for-3, two RBIs), Evan Claggett (2-for-3) and Dakota Lynn (1-for-2, RBI). Game 2 featured six shutout innings by Josh Janovsky, with Owen Spryzak tossing a scoreless seventh.

Patrick Downing had a huge game in the nightcap, going 3-for-4 with six RBIs, including a three-run homer in the first. Pete Carravallah went 2-for-2.

Plymouth improved to 9-4 overall and 5-1 in the KLAAS South Division, while the Chiefs dropped to 7-6, 3-4.

NORTHVILLE 13, CANTON 1: After falling twice in a Wednesday doubleheader against Plymouth, a rough week for the Chiefs continued with Thursday's rout at the hands of the Mustangs.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Twitter: @TimSmith_Smith

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Horizon honors for Thompson

For the second year in a row, Sarah Thompson (Canton/Plymouth H.S.) took home an award from the Horizon League as the University of Detroit Mercy sophomore recently was selected to the All-League Team.

The announcement was made at the annual Horizon League Golf Championship banquet on the eve of the conference tournament at the Mission Inn Resort.

Thompson led the Titans and was fifth in the Horizon League with a career-low 78.61 average, which includes seven top-20 finishes and three-top-10 efforts.

Her seven top-20 performances came in just eight events that Detroit took part in. She was runner-up at the Loyola Fall Invitational with a 239. She also finished fourth at the Dayton Fall Invite with a 165 and shared sixth tallying a 151 at the IPFW Spring Classic.

She set career bests in a round (73 in the second round at IPFW), 36-hole (149 at Dayton) and 54-hole tournament (237 at the 2014 Rocket Classic).

It is the 20th time in school history that a Titan has earned All-League honors and the first for Thompson, who was the 2014 HL Freshman of the Year.

Another Nedeljkovic Hockey fans in Plymouth and Canton already know about goalie Alex Nedeljkovic, who starred for three seasons with the now-defunct Plymouth Whalers (the Peter Karmanos-owned OHL team that played at Compuware Arena was sold earlier this year; the Whalers will become the Flint Firebirds for 2015-16).

Nedeljkovic also recently signed a three-year NHL entry-level contract with the Carolina Hurricanes. Whether he plays for the Firebirds next season depends on if he makes the parent club in training camp. He cannot be assigned to the minors, so if he doesn't crack the Carolina roster he will be returned to Flint for next season.

Meanwhile, hockey fans in Flint hopefully will get the chance to cheer for another Nedeljkovic — Alex' younger brother, Andy, who was drafted by the Firebirds in the 10th



UDM SPORTS INFORMATION

The accolades keep piling up for University of Detroit Mercy women's golfer Sarah Thompson, a prep standout at Plymouth.

round (184th overall) in the OHL Priority Selection held April 11.

Andy Nedeljkovic, a Canton resident, is a right wing.

Canton grid camps

Football players will want to start making plans to attend one of two camps taking place this summer at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park football stadium and being offered by the Canton Chiefs Football Boosters.

The Canton Chiefs Football Skills Camp (for youngsters entering grades seven-nine in 2015-16) will have two Monday-Thursday sessions, June 8-11 and July 20-23, with sessions 5-7:30 p.m. each day. Those who pre-register early (until May 19) can sign up for both camps for just \$50; fees go up to \$60 for both camps as of May 20.

Also slated for this summer is the Canton Chiefs Wing T/3-4 Camp (for youngsters entering grades 10-12). The dates are 2-5 p.m. Monday, June 15, and 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, June 16, through Thursday, June 18, at the P-CEP varsity stadium. Camp fees are \$25 for those who pre-register and \$30 for registrations after May 19.

Both camps focuses on the fundamentals, whether for becoming a lineman, running back or quarterback. Each participant will learn the Chiefs' football philosophy for offense and participate in practice sessions. All campers will receive a Chiefs football T-shirt and shorts.

Contact Richard Mui

at 248-229-2738 for information about the Skills Camp or Tim Baechler (734-455-7691) about the Wing T Camp.

Plymouth football meetings

The Plymouth High School football program is holding a pair of informational meetings during May to help prepare for the 2015 season.

On Tuesday, May 12, 6:30-8 p.m. will be a "Meet the Coaches" meeting for incoming ninth-graders.

The session, which will take place in the PHS cafeteria, is to give incoming freshmen "a head start on what the expectations are for being involved in a Division 1 high school football program."

The following week, 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, May 19, will be a mandatory parent/player meeting, also in the cafeteria.

It is "imperative" that prospective 2015 players in all grades (nine-12) attend, along with their parents. Discussed will be player and parent expectations as well as booster club information and responsibilities. Those with any questions about either meeting should contact Plymouth head coach Mike Sawchuk through email at michael.sawchuk@pccsk12.com.

Wildcat camp

The annual Plymouth Wildcat Passing/Line-man Camp is scheduled to take place Monday through Wednesday, June 22-24, at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. All football players in grades five-12 are invited to participate.

The camp will be divided into two sessions. From 5-7 p.m. each day will be camp for players entering grades five-nine in the 2015-16 school year. Players entering grades 10-12 will follow from 7-9 p.m. Those who play "skilled" positions will be taught the Wildcat passing game and how to defend the pass; offensive and defensive lines will be taught pass pro and pass rush techniques.

The cost of the camp is \$40. Go to plymouth-wildcatsfootball.com for a camp brochure. Any questions can be sent through email to coach Mike Sawchuk at michael.sawchuk@pccsk12.com.

SOFTBALL

Continued from Page B1

Rose (1-for-1, run, RBI). For the Chiefs, Elizabeth Yager went 3-for-3 while Olivia Grant had one hit in two at bats.

Plymouth was slated to square off in a Saturday doubleheader against Ann Arbor Skyline before facing host Northville Monday.

CANTON 9, NORTHVILLE 7: Sarah Hige had a day to remember at the plate blasting back-to-back homers in her first two at-bats, including a grand slam in the second inning, but it wasn't enough as Northville fell Thursday to host Canton in a Kensington Conference crossover, 9-7.

The Mustangs, who slipped to 2-4 in the KLAAS Central Division, carried a 7-3 lead into the bottom of the sixth only to have Canton rally for six unanswered runs on six hits, a pair of walks and a timely and costly Northville error.

Hige, the freshman pitcher, battled on the mound, but suffered the loss. She had five of Northville's seven RBIs, while Megan Swart and Emma Canedo each contributed two hits. Sara Moos and Alexis Koehler added one hit apiece.



Canton's Peyton Philbeck (No. 9) takes a healthy swing during Wednesday's softball twinbill against Plymouth.

Canton improved to 5-2 in the KLAAS South Division with the victory.

MERCY INVITE RECAP: The 20th annual Mercy Softball Invitational also became known this year as the inaugural Jack Falvo Memorial Tournament.

The Marlins paid tribute to their former coach, who passed away last June after a battle with cancer, by winning the championship Saturday at Founders Sports Park.

Mercy (8-0) won four games and captured the tourney title with a 3-1 victory over Plymouth in the final game.

The Marlins broke a 1-1 tie with two runs in the bottom of the fifth inning.

Sophia VanAcker's single brought Shannon Gibbons to the plate with the winning run, and VanAcker scored an insurance run on Mary Reeber's double.

Mercy tied the score in the second inning when Cari Padula singled with one out, stole second base and scored on a base hit by Anna Kiafoulis.

Andrea Elmore was the winning pitcher for the second straight game. She scattered six hits, fanned four and didn't walk a batter.

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SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

way collision just inside the 18-yard box between Lapko, Churchill goalkeeper Brittney Hayes and Charger defender Sylvia Cervantes defused the opportunity.

Canton senior captain Chloe Donlin earned a solid look at the net when she stepped in front of a Churchill clearing pass 20 yards out, but her well-struck shot was right at Hayes, who secured the sizzling sphere with both hands.

Cervantes, Hannah Damico and Liz Rubenson spearheaded the Chargers' defensive effort that ultimately left the Chiefs goal-less for the second consecutive game.

"We push the ball forward and pass, but we just have a hard time finishing," said Canton head coach Jeannine Reddy, whose team slipped to 4-5-1. "I can't say we're young because we have pretty big junior and senior classes. We just haven't found that one person to step up and be the scorer we need."

After Staff's goal with 9:20 left in the first half, Churchill kept the heat on — figuratively, at least,



Canton goalkeeper Jordan Anheuser makes a stop during Thursday's game against Livonia Churchill.

given the wind chill hovered around the 25-degree mark most of the night. With senior Erin Emmanuel running the show in the middle and Wynns making a series of strong runs down the flanks, Churchill won the possession battle over the final 40 minutes, but it didn't create a ton of scoring chances against Canton keeper Jordan Anheuser.

With 22 minutes to play, Wynns fed a cutting Taylor, but the strong-legged sophomore couldn't quite strike the ball cleanly enough from

16 yards out to make life more than semi-difficult for Anheuser, who easily corralled the rolling shot.

SCORELESS DRAWS: Livonia Franklin and Canton played to a scoreless tie Tuesday and the Patriots and Plymouth did the same two days later.

Following at least eight years of setbacks against the Chiefs, Franklin rose to the occasion in the KLAAS South Division clash played in frigid conditions.

"The girls played their hearts out," said Franklin head coach Dean Kowalski, whose team is now 2-5-1. "It was a total team effort to get the draw."

"The back line of Morgan Justice, Riley Burnette, Sara Cable and Bailey Elliott were outstanding and our keeper, Kathryn MacRae, was stellar in net, getting her first shutout of the season."

The state-ranked Chiefs picked up the pressure in the closing minutes, but the Patriots held firm.

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ALL-AREA BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

Area's top players rule the court in hoops

FIRST TEAM

Mike Edwards, sr., John Glenn: The 6-foot-10 post player emerged as an all-around force, taking advantage of an increased role by averaging 22 points, 10.3 rebounds and 2.5 blocks.



Edwards, who earned first team all-state honors, was pursued by several top-tier Division I college hoops programs before signing with the University of Georgia. Running the court like a 5-10 guard, he often piled up multiple dunks before halftime.

"Mike is a very hard worker and productive player," coach Rod Watts said. "Statistically, Mike is five times the player he was last season."

Jeron Rogers, sr., N. Farmington: The 6-foot-7 center was a four-year starter and is a three-time member of the all-area team.



Rogers is much more than a post-up center. He is a perimeter player who can shoot the three. For a big man, he can handle the ball and drive to the basket, too.

Because he plays so well facing the basket, Rogers was recruited for his outside game and signed with Cleveland State University.

He averaged 17 points, eight rebounds, two assists and two steals. He had seven double doubles and single-game highs of 28 points and 14 rebounds.

In his prep career, Rogers accumulated 1,282 points, which is second in school history only to the 1,661 scored by Kyle Vinales.

"Jeron had a great senior year, especially when people keyed in to stop him and defenses schemed to try to keep the ball out of his hands," coach Todd Negoshian said. "He did a great job of staying within the game and not forcing a lot."

"He has really put a lot of time into the game, sacrificing a lot of things to become the all-around player he is. I think his competitiveness and desire to win makes him as good as he is."

"We're in a society where we congratulate and give everybody a trophy. People who have the competitive desire that you can't teach stand out and are a little more advanced than other kids."

Greg Williams, sr., Canton: The 6-3 point guard and captain's final prep season was brilliant from start to finish, with Williams often putting the Chiefs on his back and carrying them to success.



Canton's march to the KLAAs South Division title had plenty to do with Williams, named to the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan's Class A all-state team and an all-conference selection.

Williams, also Canton's football quarterback, is being heavily recruited to play college basketball. He averaged 20 points, four rebounds, 3.5 assists and two steals per game.

"Greg is the ultimate competitor and an outstanding leader," coach Jimmy Reddy said about the four-year varsity player. "His play at both ends of the floor allowed us to be successful this season. His ability to score inside and out made him a tough cover for anybody."

"Greg has a very high basketball IQ and is always looking to make the right play."

Williams was key to the program notching 64 victories, two division titles, along with a Kensington Conference and district title during his career.

"He has been a great ambassador for our program for the last four years and he will be sorely missed," Reddy said.

Anthony Qasawa, sr., N. Farmington: He was instru-



mental in the Raiders having their best season in at least three decades. He was a perfect complement to teammate Jeron Rogers in what he was able to do on the court.

At 6-foot-5, he can post-up and rebound, or he can handle the ball and shoot the three. The latter is his forte, however.

Qasawa also averaged 17 points per game, as well as six rebounds, three assists and one steal.

In the OAA Red Division opener at Southfield, the Raiders trailed at halftime, 29-21. Qasawa scored 21 of his 23 points, including five treys, in the second half and rallied his team to a 57-49 victory.

A three-year varsity player, he had single-game highs of 25 points and 11 rebounds. Qasawa, who made 37 triples, set school records for free-throw percentage of 85 percent for a single season and 82 percent for a career.

"Anthony had an absolute great senior year," Negoshian said. "It's great to see kids who work that hard over four years have as successful a year as he did. He put in the time and made it a top priority to become a better player each year."

"I think the best thing he does is shoot it. He gets to the glass very well and does the little things that go unnoticed. He's going to play somewhere in college; he just hasn't decided yet."

Josh Reynolds, sr., Plymouth: When the third-year varsity player gets hot, he can't be stopped, which opponents discovered during Plymouth's stellar run to a Class A district championship.



Reynolds averaged 13.3 points, 5.7 rebounds, 2.2 assists and 3.0 steals per game and earned all-KLAA honors for his efforts.

Coach Mike Soukup lauded Reynolds for the improvement he has made during his career and sees a bright future in college basketball.

"Along with improving his skills as a player, he also has grown as a leader and a person," Soukup said. "We have been so blessed to have him in our program and look forward to watching and supporting him at the collegiate level as he continues his personal journey."

John Rexroth, sr., Harrison: The 6-foot-10 center moved into the starting lineup midway through his freshman season and stayed there for the next three-plus years, finishing his career



with 743 points, 627 rebounds and 124 blocked shots.

Rexroth averaged 16 points and 11.2 rebounds the past season, resulting in numerous double-doubles despite being double- and triple-teamed.

He exceeded 20 points in seven games and 10 rebounds in 15. He also averaged three assists, 2.5 blocks and nearly two steals.

His points per game might have been higher, but Harrison had inexperienced guards who didn't always know how to get the ball to their big center, according to coach Jason Pickett.

Rexroth, who also is a pitcher and first baseman on the baseball team, received a basketball scholarship to Grand Valley State University.

He was voted the Most Outstanding Player and Best Offensive Player on his team. He has a 3.9 GPA and scored 30 on the ACT.

"John improved his numbers every year and not just points but rebounds, blocks and assists," Pickett said. "I felt super privileged to have coached him for four years and watched him grow in the ways he did."

"All the accolades he re-

ceived and the respect he got from other teams in the way they guarded him was a testament to how hard he worked as a player.

"I could not have coached a better young man. He never missed a practice, never wanted to sub out, always ran hard in the drills. It was gratifying to coach him as a young man and not just a basketball player."

"I look forward to watching him in his progression and next stage of life at Grand Valley. I know he's going to work hard on his game."

SECOND TEAM

Jermell Johnson, sr., Clarenceville: The 6-foot-3 forward was a three-year varsity player. He concluded his career with a standout senior season in which he averaged 25 points per game, eight rebounds and two blocks.



"Jermell had a phenomenal senior year as he led the team in scoring, rebounding and blocks," coach Tony Paciero said. "He brought energy and toughness to our team night in and night out."

"What impresses me most about Jermell is his desire to improve his game, staying after practice, coming in on breaks and off days to work on whatever he could."

"His love for the game and desire to be better will make him a great addition to any college program."

Jakob Lenders, sr., Salem: The Rocks enjoyed another very successful season, earning the KLAAs Central Division title, and the play and leadership of team MVP Lenders was a top reason.



Lenders, also named to the all-KLAA first team, tallied 11.6 points, 6.0 rebounds, 1.8 assists per game.

He also was accurate from the field (57 percent) and free-throw line (74 percent) as he spearheaded Salem's offense.

"He is a very crafty and versatile player with good shooting range for his size and has a great ability to score around the basket," coach Bob Brodie said. "He led us in scoring, shooting percentage and free-throw percentage this season."

"He was a pleasure to coach and had great knowledge of the game."

Rickey Hudgens, sr., Thurston: Although Hudgens' statistics weren't gaudy, the 19-win Eagles wouldn't have been able to fly to such great heights during the past season without their No. 1 glue guy.



Hudgens made a serious impact on both ends of the court, racking up 11.9 points, 2.8 assists and more than three rebounds per game, while adding two steals per contest. He shot 42 percent from the field and was a marksman from long range.

"Rickey had a great season for us," coach Brian Bates said. "He was very unselfish and a team player. There were games that he needed to concentrate on defending the other team's best player for us to be successful and there were other games that we needed him to score for us to be successful."

"Eight times he scored over 15 points and in two of those games he made six 3-pointers in each game. He would take on either role and never say a word. Perhaps one of his biggest attributes is that he was a great leader for us this season. One of the best leaders we have had in years. He was always helping the younger players to understand and get better."

Logan Ryan, jr., Canton: With the upcoming graduation of Greg Williams, the leadership baton is headed Ryan's way and the 6-7 forward appears



more than able to handle that challenge.

Ryan was in the middle of things all season for Canton, displaying dead-eye shooting accuracy and willingness to get into scrums in the paint at both ends of the court.

The all-KLAA selection had a number of big games and moments, averaging 14 points, 7.0 rebounds and 2.5 blocks per game.

"Logan is a very skilled big man that can play inside and out," Reddy said. "His ability to stretch the defense by stepping out and knocking down threes really makes him unique."

"He did an outstanding job for us defensively by protecting the rim by either blocking or altering shots."

Randall Aikins, sr., Plymouth: Whenever the Wildcats needed a big-time basket or rebound during close games, the third-year varsity player came through.



Aikins made the winning shot in a game against Canton,

a victory that seemed to turn around Plymouth's fortunes as it went on to win a Class A district title.

"Randall was one of the best point guards in our area this year," Soukup said. "His ability to break down a defense and get to the basket is amazing to watch."

Named to the all-conference team, Aikins averaged 13.1 points, 4.3 rebounds, 2.5 assists and 1.9 steals per contest.

"His improved shooting touch has made him that much harder to guard this season," Soukup said. "His improvement as a positive leader for our team and the younger players has been amazing to watch. We have been blessed that he has been a member of our program."

Justin Banks, sr., Farmington: The 6-foot-5 Banks was a three-year starter at center and played a major role in the Falcons winning the OAA Gold Division championship this year.



Banks was a tenacious rebounder at both ends of the floor and was good at scoring second-chance points on putbacks.

He had nine double-doubles and averaged just under 10 points and 10 rebounds per game. For a big man, he can get up and down the floor quickly.

Banks also was a three-year starter in football. A two-way tackle and all-area selection in that sport, Banks will play football at Northwood University.

"Justin has been a pillar of our program the last three years," coach Terrance Porter said. "He led by example. He's not really a vocal leader, but you knew exactly what you were going to get from Justin with his leadership in practice and games and his work ethic."

"He was just a joy to coach, a great kid. Obviously, he was a big part of us winning the Gold Division with his ability to score around the basket, defend and rebound."

"Our defense didn't end until we got the rebound. Many times he was the one to rebound the basketball, and he allowed us to get second and third opportunities at the offensive end."

Noah Campbell, sr., Stevenson: Campbell was a nightmare to guard this past season, as his 16.8-point average reveals. Armed with a silky-smooth jump shot and equally impressive ability to drive and finish in traffic, Campbell was the Spartans' go-to guy most of the season on offense.

"Noah is a humble guy who is very unselfish and cares about his team and teammates," coach Kareem Smartt said.

2015 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS BASKETBALL

FIRST TEAM
Mike Edwards, sr. F, John Glenn
Jeron Rogers, sr. C, N. Farmington
Greg Williams, sr. G, Canton
Anthony Qasawa, sr. F, N. Farmington
Josh Reynolds, sr. G, Plymouth
John Rexroth, sr. C, Harrison

SECOND TEAM
Jermell Johnson, sr. F, Clarenceville
Jakob Lenders, sr. F, Salem
Rickey Hudgens, sr. G, Thurston
Logan Ryan, jr. F, Canton
Randall Aikins, sr. G, Plymouth
Justin Banks, sr. C, Farmington
Noah Campbell, sr. G, Stevenson

THIRD TEAM
Jon Hovermale, jr. G, Churchill
Isiah Crofford, sr. C, Thurston
Jon Swift, sr. G, Salem
Brent Davis, sr. F, Plymouth
Jacob Joubert, jr. G, N. Farmington

FOURTH TEAM
Travis Trigg, sr. F, Garden City
Alex Darden, jr. F, Farmington
Jerome Koger, sr. G, Redford Union
Mychal Bradley, sr. G, John Glenn
Jordan Graham, sr. G, Farmington
Deji Adebiji, sr. F, Plymouth

FIFTH TEAM
Jalen Cochran, jr. G, Canton
Obi Okoli, jr. G, Canton
Kevin Woodmore, sr. G, Wayne
Dayton Davis, jr. G, Churchill
James Hill, sr. F, Clarenceville
Justin Whitted, sr. F, Harrison

COACHES OF THE YEAR
Brian Bates, Thurston
Todd Negoshian, North Farmington

HONORABLE MENTIONS
Harrison: Daniel Williams, Russell Campbell; N. Farmington: Josh Hogans, Mher Tcholakian, Sasoun Tcholakian; Farmington: Ryan Coucke, Austin Thompson; Churchill: Jalen Davis; Franklin: Johnny Cantrell, Joe Chinavare; Stevenson: Jacob Dollar, Jalen Webber; John Glenn: Tyrlik Hunter; Wayne: Trevon Woods; Lutheran Westland: Luke Smith, Zach Burk; Huron Valley Lutheran: Austin Bell, Jordan Runstadler; Garden City: Travis Kidd, Joe Pummil; Thurston: Brandon Marshall, Deaunte Jackson; Redford Union: Keyon Thomas; Salem: Allante Wheeler, Jake Stropes; Plymouth: Armani Tate, Frank Brown, Pete Carravalia; Canton: Jack Zemanski, Nick Whelled, Noah Brown; Ply. Christian: Luke Yakuber, Evan Horne, Matt Malcolm.

COACHES OF THE YEAR

Brian Bates, Thurston:

Bates led the Eagles to one of their best seasons in recent

memory as they won 19 games and captured their fourth consecutive Class A district championship. They

gave eventual Class A state semifinalist University of Detroit-Jesuit all it could handle in a regional semifinal game before ultimately succumbing to the taller Cubs.

"This was a very special team to me," said Bates, a middle-school teacher in Redford. "They were willing to work every day and get better. They were never satisfied and wanted to improve. This team was very close to each other and everyone on the team was willing to do whatever they had to be successful."

"There were not any individuals on this team, just a bunch of team players. Because of this, I really looked forward to going to practices. It was one of those teams that I will always remember fondly. This team will always have a special place in my heart."

Todd Negoshian, N. Farmington: The 35-year-old Negoshian, who replaced his father, longtime North boys

coach Tom Negoshian, completed his fourth season in charge of the program.

And what a year it was for the Raiders, who finished 20-4 and won more games than any North team in more than 30 years and were Class A regional finalists.

The team's only losses were to OAA Red Division champion Clarkston (twice), Class B state champion Wyoming Godwin Heights and Class A state semifinalist U-D Jesuit.

He led the Raiders to a second-place finish in the rugged OAA Red, a district championship and one of the best seasons in school history.

"It's very humbling to receive the award," he said. "I've always believed the recognition you receive as a coach is a testament to the people you surround yourself with. I think we have a great coaching staff and a great group of kids."

"It was one of the lowest-maintenance group of kids I've been around. When they play as hard as they do and respect the game the way they do, it's great to be around a group of kids like that."



PREP ROUNDUP

'Cats lax teams hot on cold night

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Cold weather wasn't about to stop Plymouth's varsity boys lacrosse team Wednesday night.

The Wildcats scored early and often against visiting Walled Lake Western, posting an impressive 12-3 victory over the Warriors.

Pacing Plymouth with a four-goal performance was Kyle Robertson, while Zach Gallaher contributed a hat trick.

Also keeping the offense going for the Wildcats was Justin Brodzik, who netted a pair of goals. Contributing single tallies were Nolan Ouellette, Jack Balch and Shatti Saati.

Plymouth also played strong defensively, led by defender Ben Stover and goalie Trevor McManus (21 saves).

Lady 'Cats prevail

Wednesday was a winning night for Plymouth's girls lacrosse team, too, as the Lady 'Cats pounded Walled Lake Unified by a 15-1 count to improve to 7-2 on the season.

Leading the way with four goals was Michelle Burke, with Marissa Cirino scoring three times and adding an assist.

Other Plymouth contributors included Gretchen Schoen, Natalie Nowicki, Cierra Steiner and Madeleine Caswell (two goals each). Jessica Cristiu also picked up an assist.

Goalies Erin Oleszczak and Elizabeth Elliott combined with a stout defensive performance from Sarah Curtis, Elizabeth O'Donohue, Hannah-Renee Figley, Shelby Strawn, Megan Eschelbach, Abigail Bolterman, Emily Johnson and Emily LeBlanc.

"All the hard work during the off-season is showing in how the team is progressing," Plymouth head coach Jake Wieloch said. "These girls work extremely hard to improve their game and I am proud of how they are coming together as a team."

Salem girls fall

Visiting Salem could not get untracked Wednesday, dropping a 13-3 varsity girls lacrosse game against South Lyon Unified.

Leah Tardiff scored two goals for the Rocks (3-7) and assisted on the team's other goal, by Andi Marthaler.

Salem head coach Dave Medley pointed to a challenging first-half



Plymouth boys lacrosse teammates such as Zach Gallaher (No. 11) and Justin Brodzik (No. 14) are celebrating goals a lot this season.

schedule, but added that the experience should pay down the stretch.

P-CEP golf recap

Canton's varsity boys golf team rolled Thursday to a 164-245 victory over Wayne Memorial in a KLA South Division match at par-35 Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center in Plymouth.

Chiefs head coach Tom Alles said it was a difficult task for his team (1-0 in the KLA South Division) to golf in cold and blustery conditions (41 degrees, 20 mph winds).

Match medalist Suhas Potluri registered a 1-over-par 36, while Brenden Chan (40), Phillip Conrad (42), Brian Oldani (46), Dominic Dimaya (48) and Curt Yun (48) also helped the cause.

» Also Thursday, visiting Plymouth defeated Livonia Churchill 160-179 at Whispering Willows.

Spearheading the Wildcats (1-0 in the KLA South) was junior James Baldwin, who was medalist with a 38.

Sophomore Joe Fontana registered a 40, while sophomores Justin Kapke and Matt Decker each added a 41.

» Meanwhile, Salem took it on the chin Thursday, losing 164-189 to Northville.

The Rocks were led by Hayden Winch (44), with Jakob Lenders and Shawn Weldon finishing with scores

of 47 and 48, respectively.

Other Salem performers were Adam Marcero and Matt Schaumburger (50 each) and Jake Stropes (55).

Earning medalist honors was Northville's Jacob Pierce, with a 38.

Salem track

Both the Salem boys and girls varsity track and field teams were victorious Tuesday against host Livonia Stevenson in KLA Central Division competition.

» In the boys match-up, the Rocks earned a 73-64 win to improve to 3-0 in dual meets.

VerShawn Patrick continued his outstanding season by winning the 100-meter dash in 11.56 seconds, ahead of teammates Jacob Miller (11.92) and Freddie McGee (11.98). Patrick also won the 200 dash (23.71).

Ryan Young also took the top spot in the 400 with a 54.78 time.

» Salem's girls team defeated the Spartans 91-46 and now are 2-1 on the season.

The Rocks were excellent across the board, especially in distance events. Winning the 1,600 was Lauren Arquette (5:36.36); finishing first in the 3,200 was Kayla Hughes (12:24.56).

Elizabeth Tripp took the top spot in the 800, with a time of 2:37.27.

GIRLS SOCCER

Riga's record five goals lift Blazers to win over Richard

By Brad Emmons
Staff Writer

Livonia Ladywood's Samantha Riga gave new meaning to the position "striker" Thursday as the senior forward exploded for a school-record five goals in the Blazers' 8-1 Catholic League girls soccer victory at Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard.

With one of the team's leading scorers, Conner Huggins, off on a school retreat, Riga was able to pick up the scoring void and find the back of the net four times during the opening half as the Blazers built a 5-1 lead.

Riga, a senior forward from Plymouth who is headed to Grand Valley State, scored at the 5-minute mark (from Elise Pollock); 15th minute (from Amy Babon); 27th minute (from Pollock); and 39th minute (from Babon).

Clare Kelley also added a goal for the Blazers in the 39th minute from Bri Rogers, while Gabriel Richard's Analee Kosaian scored in the 10th minute to make it 1-1.

"We were able to find a nice offensive rhythm tonight, Sam Riga was fantastic," said Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker, whose team improved to 6-3 overall and 3-2 in Division 1 of the Catholic League.

The Blazers, who enjoyed a 24-5 shot advantage, added three more second-half goals including Taylor Bullard, 45th minute (from Riga); Riga, 49th minute (from Babon); and Babon, 53rd minute (from Bullard).

Goalie Holly Cusick made two saves for the Blazers, who are ranked No. 4 in latest Division 2 statewide coaches poll.

Lauren Yurko had 10 saves for the Fighting Irish, who slipped to 3-8-2 overall and 0-3-1 in Division 2 of the Catholic League.

Beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday, Ladywood will host an invitational tournament that features Livonia Stevenson, Chelsea, Dearborn, Dearborn Divine Child and Trenton.



Riga

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Call Lisa (313) 561-4540</p>	<p>RN or LPN NURSES FULL-TIME or PART-TIME Immediate opening at Beautiful Assisted Living Facility in Westland. Benefits available. Please fax resume to: 248-350-9083</p> <p>RN TELEPHONE TRIAGE Rapidly expanding GI practice seeking experienced RN. Responsibilities will include safe and accurate telephone assessment, patient intake, electronic charting, infusions and a variety of other duties. Strong computer skills preferred. Full and part-time positions available. Please email resume and cover letter: jobs@hurgongastro.com</p> <p>FOOD - BEVERAGE</p> <p>COOKS & BUSSERS Afternoon/Evening Shifts Experience Preferred Stellas 734-207-9656</p>
<p>City of Livonia</p> <p>Computer Administrator II/ GIS</p> <p>Police Officer</p> <p>Police Service Aide</p> <p>Seasonal Laborer</p> <p>Water & Sewer Supervisor</p> <p>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</p>	<p>DRIVERS Waste removal firm looking for CDL A or B Drivers. Full Benefits Accepting Applications Mon-Fri. 8-5 TLC Waste 28035 Beverly Rd. Romulus, MI 48174</p> <p>Engineering SOFTWARE QUALITY ENGINEER Opening for degreed & exp'd applicants for Software Quality Engineer in Plymouth, MI. Send resume by mail & include salary req's to: Barbara Vincent, HR Hella Electronics Corporation 43811 Plymouth Oaks Blvd. Plymouth, MI 48170</p> <p>FUNERAL ATTENDANT PART-TIME Nowi area. Weekends and Evenings Needed Please call: 248-348-1800</p>	<p>DRIVERS Company & O'Op's: Increase Your Earning Power! Run Dedicated! Great Home time and Benefits YOU Deserve! Drive Newer Equipment! 855-971-8527</p>	<p>LANDSCAPE TECH Northville area. Mowing, Good pay & overtime. EOE Call Seth Stern after 5pm at 248-640-1677</p>	<p>OFFICE FURNITURE INSTALLERS Positions available in Wixom to install office furniture, no exp needed will train! Apply in person at: 29988 Anthony Drive Wixom, MI 48393 Or email resume: mi.resume.hr@gmail.com</p>	<p>WAREHOUSE MANAGER Warehouse Mgr position for a nationwide office furniture installation company. Valid driver's license and reliable transportation is a MUST. Good pay plus benefits. Apply in person at: 29988 Anthony Drive Wixom, MI 48393 Or email resume: mi.resume.hr@gmail.com</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Dental</p> <p>DENTAL HYGIENIST Needed for busy Milford office. 5+ yrs exp. FT/PT. Email resume to: dental5000@aol.com</p> <p>DENTAL HYGIENIST Part-Time. 2+ yrs. experience required. Fax resume to: 734-453-8223</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Dental</p> <p>CNA/RN/LPN For part-time afternoon and midnight shift Apply at: West Chiropractic 3310 W. Commerce Road Milford, MI 48380</p> <p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT For podiatry office in Livonia & Royal Oak. Good pay. Previous experience needed. Looking for energetic, hard working, motivated individual. Call for interview: 734-261-3400</p> <p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT/ RECEPTIONIST Full-time for busy internal medicine office. Great pay, benefits & hours. No holidays or weekends. MA experience necessary. Willing to relocate. Knowledge preferred. Call Lisa (313) 561-4540</p>	<p>RN or LPN NURSES FULL-TIME or PART-TIME Immediate opening at Beautiful Assisted Living Facility in Westland. Benefits available. Please fax resume to: 248-350-9083</p> <p>RN TELEPHONE TRIAGE Rapidly expanding GI practice seeking experienced RN. Responsibilities will include safe and accurate telephone assessment, patient intake, electronic charting, infusions and a variety of other duties. Strong computer skills preferred. Full and part-time positions available. Please email resume and cover letter: jobs@hurgongastro.com</p> <p>FOOD - BEVERAGE</p> <p>COOKS & BUSSERS Afternoon/Evening Shifts Experience Preferred Stellas 734-207-9656</p>

Muralist paints history of west side Polonia at St. Colette Church

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Looking at Dennis Orłowski's latest, unfinished mural is like browsing an old family photo album.

Images of neighborhood homes, churches, and popular gathering spots are intertwined with familiar faces and events, including a May crowning and Corpus Christi procession. Scenes, colored in acrylic paint, depict a lifetime of activity, from baptism to marriage, working years to a funeral, all set within Detroit's old west side Polish community.

The Hamtramck artist has been working on a wall in the West Side Detroit Polish American Historical Society's heritage room at St. Colette parish in Livonia since February. The mural is in process, but will be on display for a sneak peek during the church's May crowning on Sunday, May 3. The event will start with Mass at 12:30 p.m., followed by the rosary in five languages at 1:30 p.m. Participants will proceed outdoors where a statue of Mary will be crowned and prayers will be said. Afterwards a "Meet the Muralist" reception and ice cream social will be held in the church social hall, 17600 Newburgh, north of Six Mile. Orłowski will be on hand to talk about his work and show the mural.

"We want our room and our heritage to be visible to the general public," said Laurie Gomulka-Palazzolo, a Farmington resident who serves as vice president and executive director of the Society. "Because that is why we exist, to educate people about who we are and where we came from. We want to keep our heritage alive."

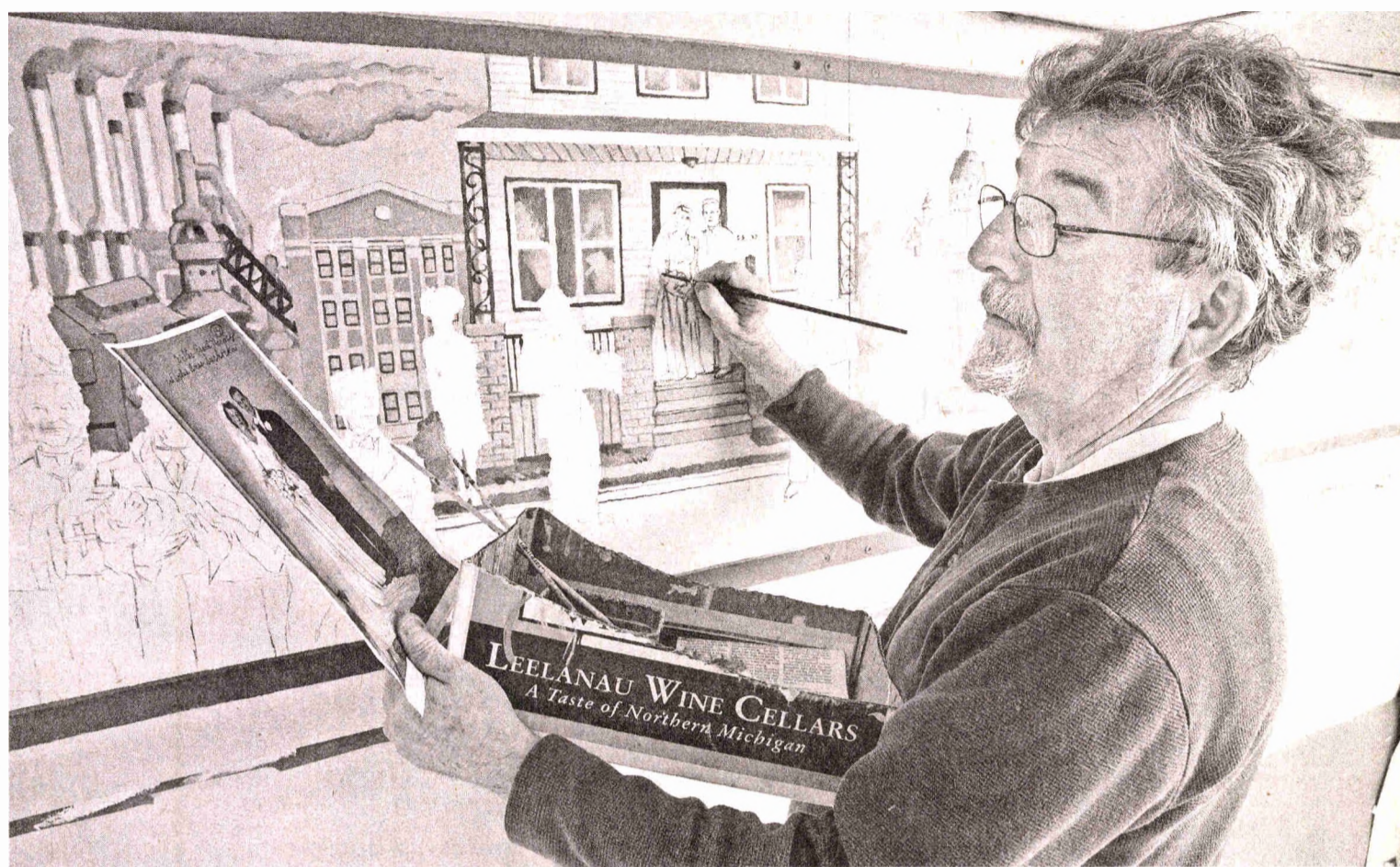
The society formed 10 years ago to research, preserve and educate the public about Polish American history and culture in Detroit's west side neighborhoods. Its membership is approximately 285 and St. Colette pastor, the Rev. Gary Michalik, serves as its president. The organization's archives include oral interviews, documents, photographs, films, and artifacts — everything from vintage capes once worn by members of the Polish Women's Alliance to century-old religious vestments to hand-decorated Easter eggs.

"Once the mural is complete we'll order glass displays and then we'll have a better idea how we're going to display everything," Gomulka-Palazzolo said, adding that the collection includes more than \$10,000 worth of items. "We'll have a rotating display. If we're doing something on Easter or first holy communion, we'll be able to set out archives for that particular subject."

Adding a mural

She said the Society's board decided a mural would help "enliven" the room and visually tell the story of Detroit's west side Polonia.

"He (Orłowski) was the obvious choice because he is local and he is absolutely wonderful at what he does. No one has more knowledge and puts more into his subject than he does. He doesn't just paint for



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Artist Dennis Orłowski paints a wedding scene using a photo of Walter Frank Pacosz and Sophia Anna Suchocka.



Laurie Gomulka-Palazzolo is vice president and executive director of the West Side Detroit Polish American Historical Society. The organization commissioned Hamtramck artist Dennis Orłowski to paint a mural in its heritage room at St. Colette Catholic Church in Livonia.



The work is arduous and detailed. There is a pencil sketch, then a painted version to explore colors to be used in the mural at St. Colette in Livonia.

the monetary aspect of painting. He paints for the message."

Orłowski, 61, has created more than 100 murals in southeastern Michigan. He tells stories in paint, a skill he began to learn by watching a church artist when he was 14 years old.

"He had painted opera curtains in World War I and he was really good. He was in his 70s. He knew his stuff. I'd watch him," Orłowski said.

After high school, Orłowski received a scholarship to study at the Art Students' League in New York, did some art work while in the U.S. Army stationed in Germany, and returned home to attend the Center for Creative Studies. He spent a year in Mexico learning to paint frescoes under a former assistant to Diego Rivera, and earned a master's degree in painting from Wayne State University. He taught art in Detroit Public Schools for more than 30 years.

Purpose and function in art are important to him.

"I want to spend my energy on something good. If they're selling cars out there and they say, we'll give you a million dollars to paint this mural, that doesn't do it for me," he said. "You want a reason to do your best. Laurie is supplying a reason to do my best ... the processions, these buildings, I know that area."

The process

Gomulka-Palazzolo and her board considered dozens of locations that Orłowski might include in the mural. They gave him a list with the most important sites highlighted and took him on a tour of west side neighborhoods.

"I printed out pictures and let him decide which were the most aesthetically pleasing, which ones would work best in his layout."

Society members and friends were given the opportunity to include their own image or a loved one's image in the piece for \$100.

"I thought the processions would be a great way to em-



Detailed drawings of the scene become a guide to painting the mural.

phasize who we are, to marry our heritage, culture and our faith and also give him a way to include the faces of people," she said.

Orłowski started the society mural by sketching a few different compositions for the piece and then creating a small detailed black and white sketch of his final choice. He created a small sketch in color and then made larger, detailed drawings that he later transferred to prepared wooden

board. After transferring the images onto the wood, he began painting.

"This is what Dennis is good at. He has incorporated that movement, that flow ... he brings a static, flat surface to life. He really is guided by the hand of God," Gomulka-Palazzolo said.

Orłowski agrees that art is spiritual.

"You're talking the language of God, in a sense," he said.

Appliance Doctor serves as expert witness in court

A year ago, I received a phone call from an attorney in Chicago, Ill., who asked if I would be willing to act as an expert witness in a lawsuit against a huge appliance retailer. The case involves a multimillion-dollar home burning down because a clothes dryer caught fire. As I write this column, I am leaving the next day to appear in court on a Monday morning. By the time this writing appears in your newspaper the case most likely will have been resolved, so that in a couple of weeks I will continue and tell you how it was finalized.

As for appearing as an expert witness, I have done this many times in the past in cases from here to California and mostly having to do with house fires caused by clothes dryers. From what I've been told I'm the only guy in America with the expertise to testify in court



Joe Gagnon
APPLIANCE DOCTOR

on dryer fires and so let me tell you a little about this case.

The clothes dryer is 13 years old and the vent line has never been cleaned. The homeowner complains to the store where it was purchased that it is taking too long to dry a load of clothes. The store sends two men to check it out and these men are not service technicians, they are delivery men. They enter the laundry room and find it has lint all over the floor and walls. They disconnect the dryer vent line and pull out several handfuls of lint and tell the homeowner that the vent line is plugged and she needs to get someone to clean it. The next day, the maid

throws a load of clothes in the dryer and the dryer catches fire. This fire causes extensive damage to this multimillion-dollar home and people are injured. This is a short synopsis of what happened.

No venting

Now the issue deals with the supposed technicians who were sent to the home to take care of the problem. Were these individuals trained on dryer repair and if so why didn't they clean the vent line? Apparently these guys couldn't find the exit on the outside of the house where the dryer exhaust to the outside. The reason was simple. There wasn't one. For 13 years, this dryer exhaust line led into the attic. You can imagine what it must have looked like in that small space and think of how much humidity was deposited there. The wood beams in

there must have looked like driftwood on a lake shore.

As for my testimony, the issue will be whether these two delivery guys were qualified to fix the problem and why didn't they? They never even told the homeowner to stop using the dryer or even shut off the power source to the product. Nothing was noted on the service invoice to indicate this was a serious, dangerous condition. Just like all consumers who need service in their homes, we expect a problem to be handled by experts who know what they're doing and this obviously was not the case.

I remember writing years ago about the lady who turned her dryer on and it caught fire within minutes. The flame burned all the hair on her head and she spent weeks in a hospital. A dryer fire happens fast and many thousands suffer this tragedy every year. I can

tell you for a fact that Michigan residents are much more aware of dryer fires than residents of other states. In many states, more than 70 percent of the population doesn't have a clue about the correct venting requirements and the importance of cleaning a vent line twice a year. If only they knew that you do not have to spend big bucks to have your vent line cleaned. Simply get a leaf blower, disconnect the vent line at the back of the dryer and stick the leaf blower in the vent line. Do this twice a year and I can almost guarantee you, your dryer will not catch fire. Stay tuned.

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

Animal rescues take on fashion runway, food drive

Guardian Angel Animal Rescue of Livonia will walk their rescued dogs on the fashion runway at the Michigan International Women's Show, which runs 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 30, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, May 1, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, May 2, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, May 3, at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi.

The GAAR component of the annual show is called Pawject Runway and features rescue dogs in canine fashions on the runway, with their rescuer or foster parent, while their stories are told, at 1 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Look for three puppies that were rescued over the winter to walk the



runway and a returning favorite, Oz, will be on hand Sunday. Oz, who is deaf, was beaten as a puppy and then contracted parvo, but survived and was adopted through GAAR. His "mom" will show how she communicates with him.

GAAR was founded in the late 1990s, has rescued abandoned and abused cats and dogs



Look for these signs on bins at local Kroger stores through April 28 to benefit the Michigan Humane Society.

from high-kill shelters and from the streets of Detroit. The group takes on hard-luck cases that often require extensive medical treatment or socialization. Volunteers

seek out strays, venturing into abandoned buildings in the inner-city with food.

Admission to the show is \$10 at the door for adults and \$5 for ages

6-12. Children under 6 enter free with a paying adult. Parking is \$5 per car.

For more about GAAR, visit it on Facebook or at gaarmichigan.org.

Adoption event

Mutts and Mutts Animal Rescue of Redford will be on the schedule twice during the upcoming Eat a Dawg, Save a Dog adoption series, May 2-Aug. 29, at Atomic Dawg Hot Dog Emporium, 2705 Coolidge Highway, Berkley.

Look for Mutts and Mutts Animal Rescue, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 2 and Aug. 15. The adoption series will include several different adoption groups noon to 4 p.m. on selected Sat-

urdays throughout the spring and summer. Visit atomicdawg.com.

Food drive

Just a few days are left in the Kroger pet food drive to benefit the Michigan Humane Society, (MHS).

Forty-one Kroger stores are participating in the spring food drive through Tuesday, April 28. Customers can donate dry and canned dog and cat food in the bins stationed at the store exits. MHS will distribute the pet food for free to qualifying low-income pet owners who otherwise might have to give up their companions. For more, visit michiganhumane.org.

Compiled by Sharon Dargay

Catechism Bowl



Students at St. Genevieve School in Livonia took second place in a recent Catechism Bowl competition between teams from the Northwest Vicariate. They are Nicholas Maccani, left, Sara Stawarz, Hannah Rawlings, Mackenzie Shick, and Julia Zurenko.

JVS Women to Work program smooths path to employment

There's such a tremendous need for the JVS Women to Work program that next month it is expanding to a second JVS location in Detroit. For the past seven years, the Trade Secrets Dinner has raised money to support this program which helps women re-enter the work force after a difficult life transition such as divorce or the disability or unemployment of a spouse or partner.

"Our Women to Work Program helps women at a crossroad to regain confidence and re-tool their lives," Paul Blatt, JVS executive vice president and COO, told the sell-out crowd of 400 women at Knollwood Country Club last month.

Stefanie Steinberg knows that firsthand, following a sudden divorce which she described as the worst time of her life.

"Never give up," Steinberg, this year's Women to Work honoree, told the audience. "These are the three words that I live by every day."

JVS's Women to Work program, which is offered at no charge to participants, helped Steinberg get back on her feet by providing job-related help such as resume writing, interviewing skills and job search techniques that ultimately led to her finding satisfying employment with two non-profits.



Starting a business

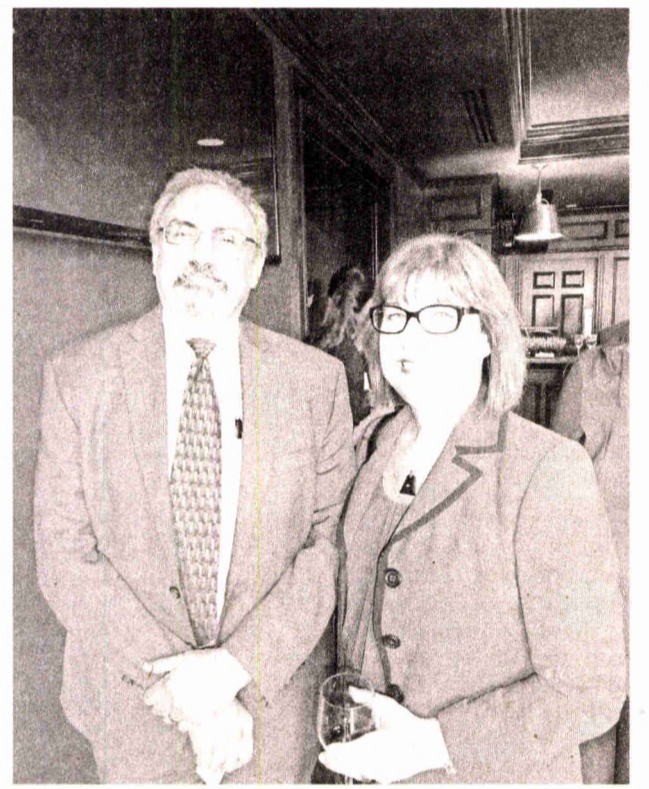
Keynote speaker Melanie Bergeron told a similar story. Her mother, Mary Ellen Sheets, had to rebuild her own and her children's lives following a horrific divorce 30 years ago. At their kitchen table in Lansing, Sheets crafted a strategy that began with a broken-down '67 Ford pickup truck and her first employees—her 15- and 17-year-old sons. Two Men and a Truck was born.

That first year, the company netted \$1,000 which it gave away to 10 different charities.

"Because we didn't know how to do taxes," joked Bergeron who was the first franchise owner of Two Men and a Truck.

She lived in Atlanta, Ga., running that franchise while being a successful pharmaceutical rep. In 1992, she moved back to Michigan to help run the company which, by then, parked its trucks in a bowling alley parking lot in Novi. By the next year, Two Men and a Truck had 30 franchises and grossed more than \$6 million. Today, it has 400 locations worldwide with a fleet of 2,500 trucks.

"We exceed our customer's expectations," said Bergeron. "We treat



Fred Frank of Allen Park and Karen Gutman of Farmington Hills, JVS director of business and career services, enjoy the seventh annual Trade Secrets dinner at Knollwood Country Club in West Bloomfield. The event raised more than \$160,000 which will go toward the JVS Women to Work Program.

everyone with dignity, respect and patience and we believe in giving back to the community."

To date, Bergeron says that Two Men and a Truck has donated \$20 million to charity, including 10 cents of every move to the American Cancer Society (\$500,000).

The seventh annual Trade Secrets Dinner raised more than \$160,000. It will go to-

ward the JVS Women to Work Program which is expanding to Detroit this month. www.jvsdet.org/women. Save the date, June 11 at the Henry in Dearborn for JVS's Strictly Business networking and awards luncheon.

Contact Julie Yolles, Social Scene columnist, at socialscenejulie@gmail.com or leave a message at 248-642-9465.

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

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



SUNDBERG, JEAN L.

Age 92. April 17, 2015. Beloved wife of the late Glen. Loving mother of Lisa Green and Jan (Dave) Dewar. Cherished grandmother of three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. A private family service will be held at Arlington National Cemetery and interment with her husband. Family suggests donations to the Michigan Humane Society, Honorariums and Memorials, 30300 Telegraph Road, Ste. 220, Bingham Farms, MI 48025-4507. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave. (1 blk W. of Farmington Rd.), downtown Farmington. www.thayer-rock.com



SWISHER, RICHARD MYLES "DICK"

June 6, 1921 - April 16, 2015. The oldest of twelve children, Dick grew up in Detroit and raised his family in Redford Township. Dearly loved by family and friends, he is survived by brothers Earle and John, and sisters Delores, Janet, and Shirley, daughters Beverly Johnson and Marie Steffes, as well as step-daughter Janet Sockolosky, and Joyce Swisher, wife of deceased son David. He is also survived by grandchildren Debi, JoAnne, Kelly, Sara, Clay, Scott, Jennifer, Karen, Steven, and Kevin, and thirteen great-grandchildren. After serving in the U.S. Army in World War II in North Africa and as an M.P. in California. Dick married Evelyn Elaine Burns, who died in 1974. In 1976 he married Rose Jean Seibert, who died in 2009. He retired from Mobil Oil and lived in Florida, where he was head groundskeeper at the training complex for the Toronto Blue Jays. He returned to Michigan and worked for Plymouth Township, and then Canton Township Parks and Recreation. Until a few months before his death, he was the Canton Leisure Services photographer. He was a member of the Free Masons and the Methodist Church. For the past fifteen years, he was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, where a memorial will be held in June. Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, or Arbor Hospice. Arrangements by Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home. To share memories, please visit vermeulenfh.com.



KIRK, KENNETH ALLEN

Died April 19, 2015. Kenny was born on January 24, 1943 to Elda and Olin Kirk. Survived by wife Barbara and children Heidi Kirk Tillman, Michael Kirk and Metchelle Bootsma. Brother Jon Kirk, sisters Elin Cherry, Andrea Casteel, Margaret Kirk and Mary Raphael. Also surviving are six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Love of the Lord and all these children were the most important things in his life. Services by Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, 30895 Huron River Rd., Flat Rock, MI. Visitation Sunday, April 26 1-8 p.m. Memorial Service Monday, April 27 11 a.m. Reception following at Grace Church, 7215 Pelham Rd., Taylor. Memorial contributions to Grace Church.



SCHAAF ARTHUR LYMAN

Age 96, of Royal Oak, passed away peacefully April 20, 2015 at his home. He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II and spent his career at Ford Motor Company in the Purchasing Department. Arthur married Frances Borgo on June 20, 1946. He quickly learned to appreciate his wife's passion for dance and was committed to the success of the Borgo Sisters Dance Studio. Lymie and Fransee spent many a happy summer traveling the world and having great adventures, while Lyman captured his love of nature through his photos. Lyman was an avid tennis player and a lifetime member of Red Run Golf Club. He enjoyed learning about architecture and doing woodworking. He also had a special place in his heart for animals, especially dogs and horses. Arthur was the beloved husband of the late Frances. Dear uncle of Leanne SchAAF-Jagtiani. Great uncle of Jayden, Jacalyn, Daniel (Rebecca) and Cara (Rob Darbyshire) Jagtiani. He is also survived by many loving friends and neighbors. Services were held. Memorials to the Leader Dogs for the Blind are appreciated. Arrangements by Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, Royal Oak, sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR



Get gardening advice at free presentations at English Gardens and Plymouth Nursery.

event held rain or shine. Questions? Call 734-425-6880; livoniagardenclub.org.

Butterfly gardening

John Blair will share his expertise on butterfly gardening through slides, handouts, and music 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 13, at Risen Christ Lutheran Church, 46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. He'll explain how to attract both butterflies and hummingbirds and make your garden a way station for monarch butterfly migration. For questions or to RSVP, call 734-453-5252. Sponsored by Women in God's Service.

Plymouth Nursery

» Learn how to grow fruit trees, 1 p.m. Saturday, May 2. Mark Boland of Eastern Shores Nursery will present the free session. » Kids can plant a flower for mom for free, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, May 9-10. » Jerry Amoroso of Week's Roses will give a free presentation about roses, 1 p.m. May 9. » Learn to create container gardens at a free presentation, 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 20, and 7 p.m. Thursday, May 28. Bring your own container or buy one at the store. Call to reserve a spot.

The nursery is located at 9900 Ann Arbor Road, west of Plymouth; 734-453-5500.

English Gardens

Blaine Fowler from WDVD 96.3's Blaine & Allison Morning Show will be at the Royal Oak store, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 2. Classes are held at all stores unless noted. Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, 734-332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, 313-278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, 248-280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield; 248-851-7506.

Miller Woods tour

Take a free guided tour, 2-4 p.m. Saturday, May 2, through the nature preserve, located on Powell Road, just east of Ridge, in Plymouth Township. Tours are approximately an hour long and the last tour leaves at 3:30 p.m. Strollers and dogs are not allowed in Miller Woods; millerwoods.com.

Livonia Garden Club

Lynda Bancroft will share tips on flower arranging and will create several arrangements, 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 5, at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. A drawing will be held to give away her creations. For more information, visit livoniagardenclub.org.

Plant sale

The Master Gardeners of Western Wayne County will sell tomato plants, pepper plants and flowers 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 9, at MSU Extension/RESA, 5454 Venoy, Wayne. Proceeds fund local grants and scholarships. www.mgwwc.org

Plant sharing

9-11 a.m. Saturday, May 9, Greenmead, 20501 Newburgh, Livonia. Free

May designated as awareness month for mental health

May will soon be here and with it comes National Mental Health Awareness Month and Child Mental Health Awareness Week. Both are great reminders to share knowledge and enhance awareness of mental health.

All too often, in the aftermath of a mental illness-related catastrophe, such as a massive school shooting, people raise the question, "When are we going to start talking about mental health?" One of the purposes of this column is to answer the question. The answer is, "We are, but..." There always is a but. Perhaps, we are not talking about it enough. Or, we're not talking about it in a manner that is shared enough. In the aftermath of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shootings of Dec. 14, 2012 in Newtown, Conn., President Barack Obama asked "When are we going to talk about mental health issues in our society?" Well, let's look



Len McCulloch
OUR MENTAL HEALTH

back.

In the past

On Feb. 5, 1963, President John F. Kennedy sent to the U.S. Congress a series of proposals to fight mental illness. He said, "These afflictions have been long neglected, occur more frequently, affect more people and can require more prolonged treatments and can cause more individual and family suffering than any other conditions in American life." In his speech to Congress, Kennedy noted that we must seek out the causes and strengthen the underlying resources of knowledge. Sharing knowledge enhances awareness.

Shortly after Kennedy's speech, Oakland County be-

came the first county in Michigan to establish a community mental health board to implement mental health programs. Next month will mark the 51st year of services in the county. Through undertakings in mental health venues, we can see a strengthening of education and rehabilitation services which makes our society leaps and bounds ahead of where we were 50 years ago. Oakland County Community Mental Health Services, as well as many like-minded mental health authorities across our nation promote mental health for all. Yet, the question is still asked "When are we going to start talking about mental health?"

What is mental health?

Sigmund Freud, Karl Menninger, and others have defined mental health for us. And, I would agree with them. However, a lesser-known physician named Michael Condra at Queen's University in Ontar-

io, Canada, sums up what mental health is in a way which can be rather meaningful to the general public. Condra said "With mental health we can engage in productive activities and enjoy fulfilling relationships. With mental health we have the ability to adapt to changes and cope with adversity when it happens. With mental health we can use flexibility to solve problems. Mental health does not equal blissful happiness, but with mental health we can find contentment and deal with stress." I would add that with mental health we can experience empathy, and enjoyment.

For 35 years, I have had on my desk a small quote by an anonymous person who said: "Please consider the feeling of others, especially those who would never let you know how they feel." It's a helpful reminder for me.

Yes, we are talking more about mental health and mental illness. But, perhaps not

long enough or loud enough. Hopefully, National Mental Health Awareness Month can lead to a decrease in stigma, an increase in implementations of treatments for mental illness, and an increase in knowledge for our readers to know where to seek help. The resources are there.

This column is a resource. There are more than 200 Our Mental Health columns — nearly 15 years worth — about numerous issues pertinent to mental health/mental illness archived at the Farmington Hills Library. Its website is www.farmlib.com. These are written in language that the general public can understand.

Len McCulloch is a Diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association. He is credentialed in mental health, addictions, traumatic stress, brain injury, and social work. He can be reached for consultation at 248-474-2963, Ext. 222.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Aging parents

When Aging Parents Need Your Help, a panel discussion, will run 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, May 13, in the South Auditorium at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Attendees will get a chance to ask questions and get advice from Audra Frye, community placement specialist, Alisa Kwang, attorney, Paula Swain, financial consultant, Jessica Weathers of the Senior Wellness Center at St. Mary Mercy, and Bruce Webb, senior real estate specialist. Free, but registration is required at 734-738-6300.

Art, memory loss

Individuals with mild memory loss can tour highlights from the University of Michigan Museum of with docents, 1-2 p.m. Sunday, May 3, at the Museum, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. The free, informal tour,

designed for people who live at home and their companions, will be interactive, using music as well as discussion to prompt thoughts. Register by emailing umma-program-registration@umich.edu or call 734-647-0522.

Balance series

St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Livonia, will offer a free eight-week workshop for seniors, 60 and up, on managing falls and increasing activity, 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday, May 6-June 24, in the hospital Wellness Center, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Participants will learn to view falls as controllable, set goals for increasing activity, make changes to reduce fall risk at home and exercise to increase strength and balance. Registration is required. Call 734-655-1310.

Breastfeeding class

Botsford Hospital's Breastfeeding Clinic offers a three-hour course to help expectant parents get breastfeeding off to a good start, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Monday, May 11, at the hospital, 28050 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills. Participants will get an opportunity to examine products and supplies. Cost is \$35. Register for Breastfeeding Basics by calling 248-888-2500 or visit botsford.org.

Childbirth class

Learn about the stages of labor, managing pain, relaxation and breathing methods, the partner's role in labor and delivery, medications and anesthesia, C-section deliveries and more in a four-see class that meets 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, beginning May 6, at Botsford Hospital, 28050 Grand River, Farmington Hills. Cost is \$75. Register by calling 248-888-2500; botsford.org.

Clothing sale

Post-operative bariatric patients will sell their gently used, plus-sized clothing, in sizes 14-32 for women and 40-60 up to 5XL for men, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 2, in the South Lobby at St. Mary Mercy Livonia, located at Five Mile and Levan, in Livonia. For more information, call the Michigan Bariatric Institute at 877-Why-Weight.

Diabetes prevention

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan kicks off its My Choice... My Health diabetes prevention program in Canton with an information session, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 30, at St. Joseph Mercy Canton Health Center, 1600 S. Canton Center Road. The 16-week program will begin at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 21, at the center. A trained lifestyle coach helps participants learn

about behavior changes, including eating properly and increasing physical activity, at weekly meetings. To qualify for the program, participants must be overweight and at a high risk for developing diabetes, or overweight and diagnosed with prediabetes. Register at www.nkfm.org/dpp or call 800-482-1455.

Learn about meal planning, medication management, blood sugar control and physical activity at a free diabetes management class, 5-7 p.m. April 29, at Oakwood Physical Therapy & Wellness Center, 17101 Rotunda Drive, Dearborn. Register at 800-543-9355; Oakwood.org.

Low vision support

Meets 1-3 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main. Ellen Stross at 734-453-0750, Ext. 232.

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- Pre-Game on field recognition
- Detroit Tigers personalized framed certificate of appreciation

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- May 24
- June 14
- July 5
- September 6
- September 20
- September 27

Email your essay to: cbjordan@michigan.com Subject line: **"PAWS FOR APPLAUSE"**

Please include the child's name, age, phone number and address.

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May 1 - May 10

Corner of 7 Mile & Middlebelt Roads

Bring the family to the carnival! Enjoy rides, games and old fashioned carnival food (elephant ears, cotton candy, and corn dogs) all while supporting the Livonia community. Ride discounts offered (see below). For more information visit www.livoniaAMrotary.org

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MAY 1 - MAY 10

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13 growing occupations with certifications to boost your hireability and pay grade

PROVE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING WITH THESE CERTIFICATIONS.

References, endorsements, degrees, certifications...there are plenty of ways to verify your expertise and experience when applying to a new job, and some checkpoints hold more weight than others. When it comes to edging out the competition and making your case for a higher starting salary, one of the best ways to influence hiring managers and establish your worth is highlighting the certifications you possess.

Trevor Lamson a senior recruiter for Connected Recruiting Ltd., says, "You can never go wrong with certifications; much like a degree it is with you forever and can be applied, either in theory or practice for years to come. [At the] end of the day, a designation adds an extra element of credibility to your profile, and in an ever increasingly competitive world it can sometimes be the difference between getting the job or not."

So what certifications should you pursue or highlight when taking the next step in your career? The answer becomes similar to anything in your job search: You need to know where you are going in order to figure out how to get there," Lamson says. "...Basically you need to have a job in mind and find a certification that either gets you there faster or more engrained in it once you are in the door."

With that in mind, here are 13 growing occupations and the certifications you'll need to be a strong candidate in the interview process and a successful negotiator during salary conversations.

1. Audio and video equipment technician* Projected growth rate through 2022: 9 percent (about as fast as average) Certifications: The Society of Broadcast Engineers offers eight broadcast engineering certifications, two operator certifications and a broadcast networking certification, each of which requires passing an exam. Similarly, InfoComm International offers an audiovisual Certified Technology Specialist credential. 2012 median pay: \$41,200 per year

2. Court reporter Projected growth rate through 2022: 10 percent (as fast as average) Certifications: The National Court Reporters Association offers certification for court reporters, broadcast captioners, and Communication Access Real-Time Translation providers. Certification as a Registered Professional Reporter (RPR) requires successful completion of a written test and a three-part skills test in which applicants must type a minimum number of words per minute. 2012 median pay: \$48,160 per year

3. Dental assistant Projected growth rate through 2022: 25 percent (much faster than average) Certifications: Dental assistants must pass the Certified Dental Assistant exam from the Dental Assisting National Board. To take the exam, dental assistants must either have graduated from an accredited program or have a high school diploma, and complete the required amount of on-the-job training. Applicants must also have current certification in CPR. 2012 median pay: \$34,500 per year

4. Emergency medical technician and paramedic Projected growth rate through 2022: 23 percent (much faster than average) Certifications: The National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians certifies EMTs and paramedics. All levels of NREMT certification require completing a certified education program and passing the national exam. The national exam has both written and practical parts. 2012 median pay: \$31,020 per year

5. Heating, air conditioning and refrigeration mechanic and installer Projected growth rate through 2022: 21 percent (faster than average) Certifications: Technicians with relevant coursework and less than two years of experience may take the entry-level certification exams. HVACR technicians who have at least one year of installation experience and two years of maintenance and repair experience can take a number of specialized exams. For example, the North American Technician Excellence offers the Industry Competency Exam; HVAC Excellence offers a Secondary Employment Ready Exam, a Secondary Heat exam, and a Heat Plus exam; the National Occupational Competency Testing Institute offers a secondary exam; and the Refrigeration Service Engineers Society offers two levels of certification. 2012 median pay: \$43,640 per year

6. Heavy and tractor-trailer driver Projected growth rate through 2022: 11 percent (as fast as average) Certifications: All long-haul truck drivers must have a commercial driver's license. Qualifications for obtaining a CDL vary by state but generally include passing both a knowledge test and a driving test. Drivers can get endorsements to their CDL that show their ability to drive a specialized type of vehicle. Truck drivers transporting hazardous materials must have a hazardous materials endorsement. 2012 median pay: \$38,200 per year

7. Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurse Projected growth rate through 2022: 25 percent (much faster than average) Certifications: After completing a state-approved educational program, prospective LPNs

and LVNs can take the National Council Licensure Examination. In all states, they must pass the exam to get a license and work as an LPN or LVN. 2012 median pay: \$41,540 per year

8. Manicurist and pedicurist Projected growth rate through 2022: 16 percent (faster than average) Certifications: After completing a state-approved cosmetology or nail technician program, manicurists and pedicurists must take a written and practical exam to get a license through their state board. 2012 median pay: \$19,220 per year

9. Massage therapist Projected growth rate through 2022: 23 percent (much faster than average) Certifications: In states with massage therapy regulations, workers must get a license or certification after graduating from an approved program and before practicing massage. The exam may be solely a state exam or one of two nationally recognized tests: the Massage and Bodywork Licensing Examination and the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork. 2012 median pay: \$35,970 per year

10. Medical records and health information technician Projected growth rate through 2022: 22 percent (much faster than average) Certifications: Certifications include Registered Health Information Technician and Certified Tumor Registrar, among others. Many coding certifications require coding experience in a work setting. 2012 median pay: \$34,160 per year

11. Phlebotomist Projected growth rate through 2022: 27 percent (much faster than average) Certifications: Several organizations offer certifications for phlebotomists. The National Center for Competency Testing, the American Society for Clinical Pathology and the American Medical Technologists offer Phlebotomy Technician certifications. Certification candidates typically need some classroom education and clinical experience. 2012 median pay: \$29,730 per year

12. Skincare specialist Projected growth rate through 2022: 40 percent (much faster than average) Certifications: After completing an approved cosmetology or esthetician program, skincare specialists take a written and practical exam to get a state license. Licensing requirements vary by state. 2012 median pay: \$28,640 per year

13. Surgical technologist Projected growth rate through 2022: 30 percent (much faster than average) Certifications: Certification through the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting allows the use of the title "Certified Surgical Technologist. Certification typically requires completing an accredited formal education or military training program and passing an exam. Certification through the National Center for Competency Testing allows the use of the title "Tech in Surgery-Certified." An applicant must pass an exam and have taken one of several routes to be eligible. Both certifications require surgical technologists to complete continuing education to maintain their certification. 2012 median pay: \$41,790

*Job titles, education and pay descriptions from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook.
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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- Allow
 - More than eager
 - Laird's attire
 - Source of iron
 - Trademark
 - Pledge
 - Tinned fish
 - Rooney or Gibb
 - Gaze intently
 - Genuine
 - High school subj.
 - Ancient tale
 - Brainstorm
 - Entranced
 - Fair-hiring abbr.
 - Shortfall
 - been had!
 - Stop the car
 - Kyoto honorific
 - Route for Ben-Hur
 - Nile goddess
 - Secret rendezvous
 - Wedding rental, for short
 - Coup d'—
 - Soft drink brand
 - Connect, as girders
 - Lawyer's work
 - Beside oneself
 - Naturalist — Fossey
 - Crony
 - Pajama coverer
 - Earthy lump
 - Sooner than subj.

DOWN

- Defeat
- QED part
- Prefix for "trillion"
- UFO passenger
- Wernher — Braun
- Disney chairman
- Two tablets, maybe

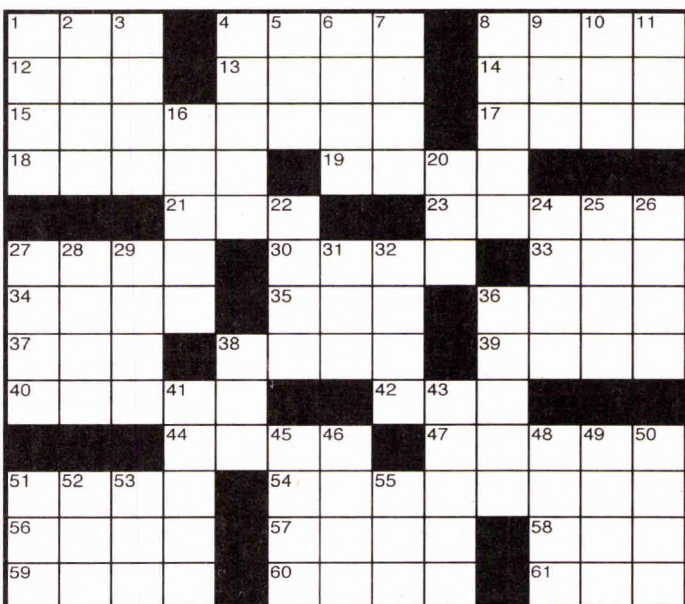
Answer to Previous Puzzle

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MAAM FLY BUDS
OCTO IOU OREO
MIEN NOLONGER
DEKED INEPT
EASELS
LAGER CEE QB5
IRIS POE SUET
DIG MAL SPINY
ICEAGE
ACRID STEPS
PROLIFIC DUAL
PEAK AMO ERLE
TENS APT REED
    
```

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- Sluggish marsupial
- Holm or Fleming
- Inc. cousin
- Your, old-style
- Fearful feeling
- Behind, at sea
- Sandpaper texture
- Arthur and Lillie
- Petty of "Tank Girl"
- Cartoon shrieks
- Prof's workplace
- Letter starter
- Counting-rhyme start
- Hail, to Caesar
- Saucy
- Dot on a monitor
- Corp. giant
- Bulrush
- Tip over
- Heavy-metal band
- Comet feature
- Bishop of Rome
- German industrial region
- Like some chatter
- Serious conflict
- Self concern
- Tennis stroke
- Paulo



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

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

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!

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

WORDS

- ACTOR
- AD-LIB
- AUDIENCE
- BEAT
- BODY LANGUAGE
- BOMB
- CHUCKLE
- CLOSING
- CLUB
- COMEDY
- COMIC
- FLOPPING
- FUNNY
- GAG
- GIG
- HAPPINESS
- HEADLINER
- HUMOR
- IMPROVISATION
- JOKE
- KILL
- LAUGH
- MICROPHONE
- OPEN MIKE
- PUNCHLINE
- REGULARS
- RIFLING
- ROUTINE
- SEGUE
- SHOWCASE
- SHITCK
- SKETCH
- STAGE
- STORYTELLING
- TAKE

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

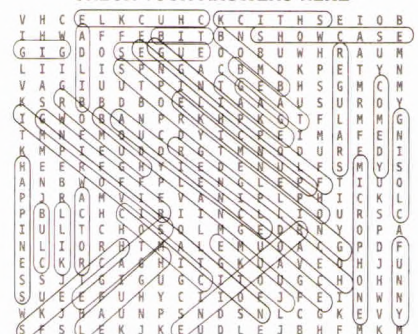
CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

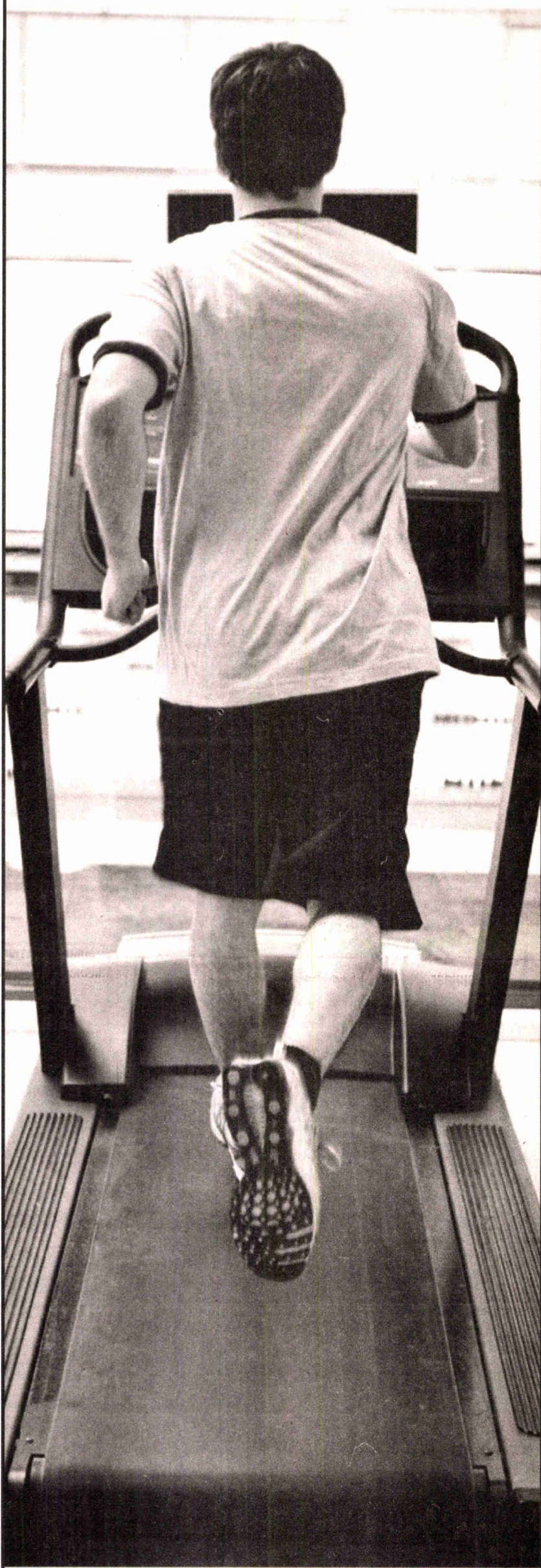
4	6	1	2	9	5	8	7	3
8	5	2	4	3	7	1	9	6
9	7	3	8	6	1	2	5	4
5	2	6	7	1	3	4	8	9
6	8	9	5	4	2	7	3	1
7	1	4	5	6	8	9	3	2
3	9	8	6	5	4	2	7	1
6	8	9	5	4	2	7	3	1
2	4	7	1	5	6	8	9	3
8	3	6	9	2	7	1	5	4
1	3	5	9	2	6	8	7	4

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May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, loved, glorified and preserved now & forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude hope of the hopeless, pray for us. Pray 9 times for 9 consecutive days and at the end of the 9th day your prayer will be answered. No matter how difficult, promise to publish this prayer as a thank you.

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Rummage Sales & Flea Markets

BIRMINGHAM First United Methodist Church
1586 W. Maple Rd. btwn Southfield/Cranbrook
Wed., April 29, 6-9pm
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Fantastic Finds, Snack Bar
Thurs., April 30, 10-3pm
Regular Price, Snack Bar
Fri., May 1, 9-11am.
\$10 per 13 gallon bag or 1/3 price
Call: (248) 646-1200

Birmingham: Unitarian Church Rummage/Boutique Sale & Silent Auction.
38651 N. Woodward Ave. Bloomfield Hills, N of Lone Pine Rd. Sale begins on Thurs. April 30th, 6:30pm-9:00pm. Everything half price on Fri. May 1st, 10am-2pm. \$5 and \$10 for a bag of rummage on Sat. May 2nd, 9am-noon.

FARMINGTON HILLS Rummage & Bake Sale 28000 NEW MARKET
Peace Lutheran Church, Fri., May 1, 9am-5pm. Sat., May 2, 9am-noon w/ \$3 & \$5 hagsale.

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
39020 5 Mile, Livonia, E of 275. Preview sale: \$2 admission, Thurs. April 30th, 7-8:30 pm. Fri. May 1st, 9:30am-3:00 pm. Sat. May 2nd, 9:30am-Noon \$3.00 Bag Sale

LIVONIA CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE
Pre-Sale (Adults \$2) Thurs., April 30, 5-7pm. Free Admission: Fri. May 1st, 9am-noon & Sat. May 2nd, 9am-noon (1/2 off sale). Newburgh United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia, 48150.

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Rummage Sales & Flea Markets

Rummage Sale - Tues. April 28, pre-sale 6-9pm surcharge. Wed. April 29, 9-5pm. April 30, 9-3pm. bag sale. Nardin Park, United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills.

Garage/Moving Sales

CANTON - Sub Garage Sale
Saturday May 2, 9-4 p.m. Bedford Villa Condos, Ford and Haggerty

Canton: Windsor Park Subwide Garage Sale 9-5 Thurs. April 30 - Sat May 2nd E. of Sheldon to Emerson N. of Warren to Arlington www.windsorparkcanton.org

FARMINGTON HILLS
39153 Plumbrook Court. April 30-May 2, 9am-4pm. Cooking & Canning, furniture, holiday items, & home decor.

Garage Sale Cruisin' Is Coming!

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LIVONIA Garage Sale
36320 Fairway Dr. April 24 - 25th 8am-4pm. April 26th. 8am-noon

Northville: Estate Sale
May 2nd and 3rd, 9am-4pm 16891 Dover, Northville. 48168 Nice. Newer things!!

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23564 Meadowbrook. Corner of Mallot. Fri May 1st. 3-6pm. Duncan Phyte style dining set, White Wicker furniture, antique dresser & headboard. Large bookcase, rollout desk, 2 cedar chests. CASH ONLY. 313-505-1961

Novi - * Moving Sale*****
Furniture, tools, decorating items, pots, ect. 4/30 - 5/2 9a-4p 22545 Summer LN.

Plymouth Garage Sale
1433 Bradford Rd. April 29-May 2nd, 9-5pm. Something for Everyone!

SOUTHFIELD HUGE BARN SALE
2513 McAllister St. Fri & Sat. May 1-2 9-5pm. Building supplies, RV parts, appl's, housewares, clothes, kids toys, and MUCH MORE!

WESTLAND: Garage Sale
8156 Flamingo April 30 - May 2, 9-4 Furniture, Home Items & More!

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2015 Lincoln MKC: Arrive in style

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.

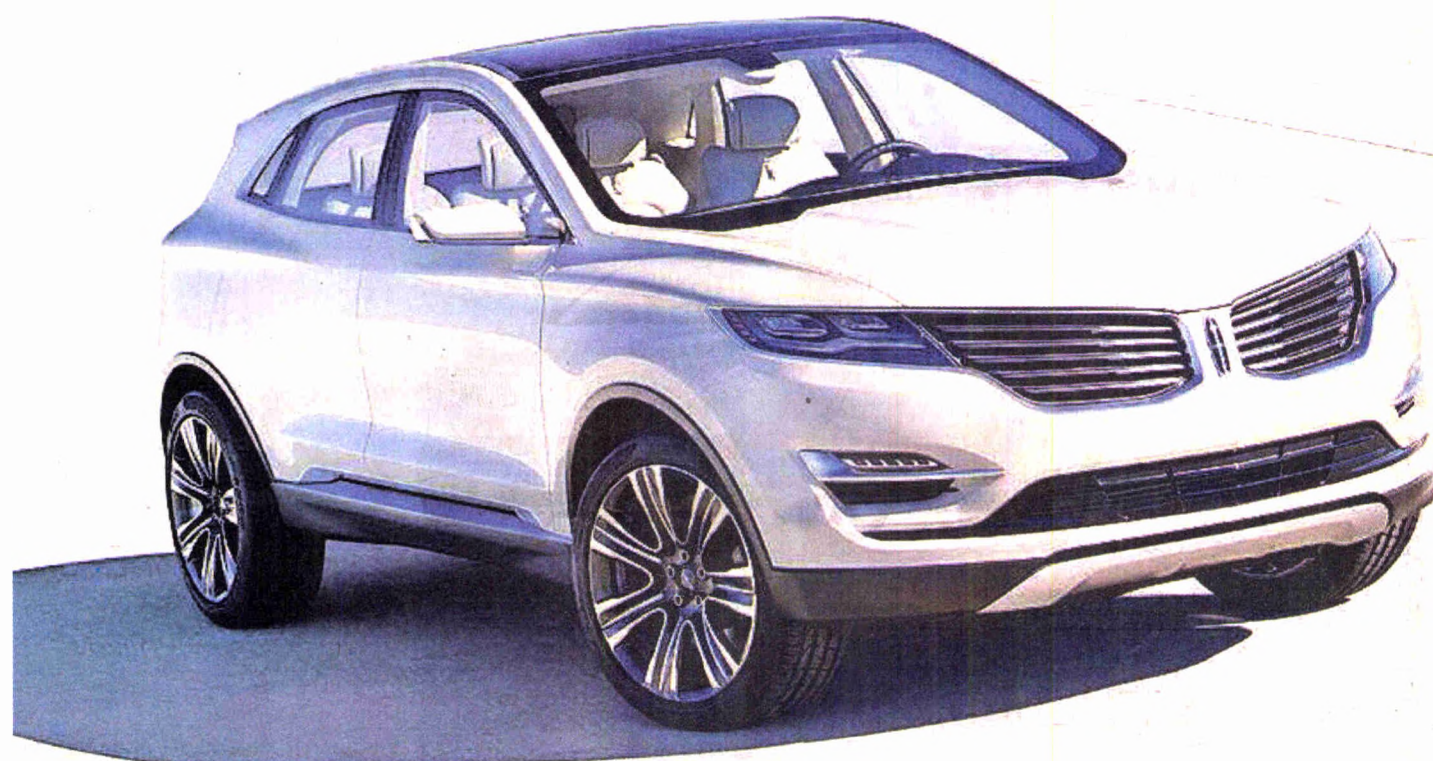
Coupled with the seal of approval from A-list movie star Matthew McConaughey — who's appearing in a series of sleek, memorable TV commercials — the 2015 Lincoln MKC is a brand on the rise.

"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 touch-screen 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.

— Cars.com contributed to this report

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2015 Lincoln MKZ



\$246/mo.

Vin #3LN6L2G96FR617747

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2015 Lincoln MKC



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Vin #5LMCJ1A96FUJ41551

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2015 Lincoln MKX



\$233/mo.

Vin # 2LMDJ6JK5FBL20794

24 Mo./21,000 Miles Lease

\$1999 Due At Signing

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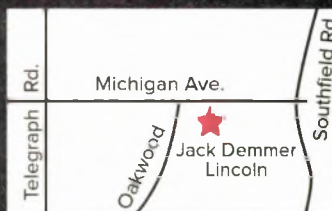
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Sunday, April 26



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Mary Frances McCaleb (248) 686-3656



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Jeanne Bechler (248) 686-3656



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bath luxurious estate \$589,000
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Farmington Hills | End unit condo. Stunning
3/3 with master suite, 2 fireplaces. \$249,900
Carol Adams (248) 686-3656



OPEN 11-1pm | 5192 Northwood, Grand Blanc
Over 2,300 sqft of living space, quiet cul-de-
sac, crown molding, open layout. \$199,881
Courtney Dunford (248) 686-3656



OPEN 2-4pm | 44 Regal, Grosse Pointe Shrs
Great curb appeal in this custom built brick
colonial. Open staircase. \$465,000
Laila Abud (313) 649-4167



OPEN 2-4pm | 35 Crestwood, Grosse
Pointe Shores | Custom built home with 3
bedrooms, 2.5 baths with master. \$295,000
Dori Daskas (313) 649-4167



OPEN 2-4pm | 718 Canterbury, Grosse
Pointe Woods | Custom and beautifully built
Cox & Baker 3200 sqft home! \$449,000
Kay Rinke (313) 649-4167



OPEN 2-4pm | 20728 Green Ct, Grosse
Pointe Woods | Well cared for home built
with contemporary flair. \$389,000
Dori Daskas (313) 649-4167



OPEN 2-4pm | 1192 Edmondton, Grosse
Pointe Woods | Spectacular Dutch colonial
on 1/3 acre cul-de-sac lot. \$379,000
Dori Daskas (313) 649-4167



OPEN 2-4pm | 1208 Hollywood, Grosse Pointe
Woods | Tastefully decorated, spacious 4
bedroom, 2.5 bath colonial. \$349,000
Kathleen Turonek (313) 649-4167



OPEN 1-3pm | 38426 Mallast, Harrison Twp
Great location, quiet street near canal. Lrg
rooms, extra large lot 100x120. \$215,000
Carol Paton (586) 789-9848



OPEN 1-4pm | 32451 S. River Rd, Harrison
Twp | A true boater & water lovers paradise!
Gorgeous custom home. \$549,000
Kevin Paton (586) 789-9848



OPEN 1-4pm | 39282 Nautical Lane,
Harrison Twp | Pristine 4 bedroom split level
home with nearly 5000sqft. \$369,900
Hosted by: Misty Weisenberger (586) 789-9848



OPEN 2-4pm | 2400 Matthew Court,
Hartland Twp | Beautifully decorated, 4
bedroom home on a cul-de-sac. \$274,900
Kori Adams (248) 365-7885



OPEN 2-4pm | 823 Canyon Creek Drive, Holly
Built in 2003, 1825 sqft, 4 bed, 2.5 bath,
colonial, minutes from town. \$204,900
Courtney Dunford (248) 686-3656



OPEN 12-4pm | 5656 Golf Pointe Dr.,
Independence Twp | Beautiful, secluded
yard extends into wooded area. \$398,000
Ann Spencer (248) 558-2072



OPEN 1-4pm | 44301 Cypress Point Dr,
Northville | Impeccable Curtis built Cape Cod
in Northville Hills Golf Community! \$600,000
John Goodman (248) 826-2349



OPEN 1-4pm | 4079 Orion Rd, Oakland Twp
Over 5,000 sqft of living space, on 4 acres,
with a 45x20 Gunite pool. \$499,900
Dianne Gouin (248) 923-4072



OPEN 2-5pm | 4528 Ascot Ct, Oakland Twp
Sought after Woods of Country Creek Sub.
Priced to sell!! \$498,000
Trica Wilson (248) 686-3656



OPEN 1-4pm | 1071 Nakomis Trail, Orion Twp
Fabulous lakefront private retreat less than
30 minutes from Birmingham. \$1,150,000
Steve Cole (248) 686-3656



OPEN 2-4:30pm | 4829 Catalina Dr, Orion Twp
Better than new...move in and enjoy!
Pristine home is light and bright. \$419,900
Mary Jo Flett (248) 923-4072



OPEN 1-4pm | 916 Ridgeview Circle, Orion Twp
Brick paver walkway, new roof, hardwood
floors, 2-story foyer, fireplace. \$309,900
Leslie Doran (248) 923-4072



OPEN 1-4pm | 46450 Shamrock Ln, Plymouth
Charisma of old and amenities of new!
Serene location w/acre+ lot! \$474,000
Chris Patrick (734) 404-7143



OPEN 12-3pm | 511 N Holbrook, Plymouth
Charismatic two family home easy to
convert into single family home! \$449,000
Chris Patrick (734) 404-7143



OPEN 12-5pm | 5045 Belmonte Dr, Rochester
Fabulous newer condo w/1st floor master &
upgraded features throughout. \$465,000
Rosalee Hill (248) 686-3656



OPEN 1-4pm | 6644 Cornerstone Lane,
Rochester Hills | Gated w/10 exclusive
homes! 1.5 stories of elegance. \$850,000
Hosted by: Joseph Stivers (248) 826-2349



OPEN 1-4pm | 1475 Graedale Dr, Rochester
Hills | On 2+ acres this truly unique home
is private and peaceful! \$374,900
Leslie Doran (248) 923-4072



OPEN 11:30-3:00 | 1923 Chalmers Dr. W,
Rochester Hills | Beautiful unique, updated
all brick home in Grosse Pines. \$366,000
Kathy Frantz (248) 923-4072



OPEN 1-4pm | 3113 Emmons, Rochester Hills
Great house in a great location! Rochester
schools! Hardwood floors \$159,900
Jacquelyn Hasenfratz (248) 558-2072



OPEN 1-3pm | 310 N Wilson Ave, Royal Oak
One of the best values in Royal Oak so
don't miss your opportunity! \$249,000
Donna Bousson (248) 686-3656



OPEN 11-1pm | 1022 Catalpa, Royal Oak
Beautiful brick bungalow w/an over-sized
yard. Move in ready. \$204,500
Jessica Tremonti (248) 686-3656



OPEN 12-2pm | 1715 River Rd, #83, Saint
Clair Twp | St. Clair River View! One level
living - one story up. End unit \$135,000
Barbara Mueller (586) 789-9848



OPEN 2-4pm | 22679 Bayview, St Clair Shrs
Five houses from the lake. Beautiful tree-
lined street. Come look inside! \$350,000
Marsha King (313) 649-4167



OPEN 1-3pm | 35436 Wellston, Sterling Hts
Stunning! Updated home on quiet street.
Newer windows, flooring & roof. \$249,900
Carol Paton (586) 789-9848



OPEN 1-4pm | 1880 Connolly Dr, Troy
One of Troy's most incredible properties!
Total renovation over \$170 K. \$899,000
Steve Cole (248) 686-3656



OPEN 1-3pm | 1879 Enterprise, Troy
Newer, East facing 2,000+ sqft West Troy
Colonial w/many improvements. \$299,000
Jack Bertoia (248) 686-3656



OPEN 12-3pm | 11570 Rickman Dr, Van
Buren Twp | Absolutely stunning 4 bed, 2.5
bath home in Lake Crest Estates \$219,900
Jim Ford (734) 404-7143



OPEN 2-5pm | 4231 Stanley Ct, Waterford
Great value in this very inviting, well-cared-
for home. Lovely kitchen \$169,900
Carol O'Neil (248) 558-2072



OPEN 1-4pm | 6663 Langtoft Ave, West
Bloomfield | Lots of room to entertain,
access to Upper Straits Lake. \$795,000
Lynn Roderick (248) 365-7885



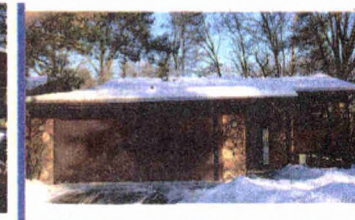
SALE PENDING | West Bloomfield
ROYAL POINTE...one of West Bloomfield's
crown jewels! Magnificent home. \$499,000
Karen Thomas (248) 365-7885



OPEN 12-3pm | 6990 Inkster Road, West
Bloomfield | Expansive ranch style home
with private hill-top setting. \$269,900
Jeff Smith (248) 686-3656



OPEN 12-3pm | 3915 Will-O-Way, West
Bloomfield | Remarkable and pristine brick
and cedar mid-century ranch. \$234,900
Perry Gatliff (313) 649-4167



OPEN 1-3pm | 6511 Blue Spruce Ct, West
Bloomfield | Condo living w/ privacy of your
own home in Locklin Pines! \$185,000
Stefanie Sanders (248) 365-7885