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Lawmakers differ on 'gag order' fix

Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

State legislators from the Plymouth-Canton area differ on how to fix a new election law that has triggered criticism and led to a federal judge's injunction that blocks its enforcement.

Senate Bill 571 has been roundly attacked by local and

school district officials from around the state, who say the measure would prevent them from providing simple factual information, about local ballot proposals that would increase taxes, within 60 days



Pagan



Heise

of the election in which the proposal is to be decided. Even issuing sample ballots, they contend, would be barred.

The Plymouth City Commission last month approved a resolution against

the so-called "gag order."

Supporters say the bill was designed to prevent taxpayer money from being used to push for ballot proposals that would raise taxes, while critics say such guidelines were already in place.

The measure, now Public Act 269 of 2015, was blocked Feb. 5 by U.S. District Judge John Corbett O'Meara. The

injunction had been sought by 18 people, most of them officials in communities and school districts, who filed suit against the state and Secretary of State Ruth Johnson.

Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, whose district includes part of eastern Canton Township, said he

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It takes a lot of fuel to keep teams of teenage hockey players going.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

HUNGRY ICERS GET THEIR FILL

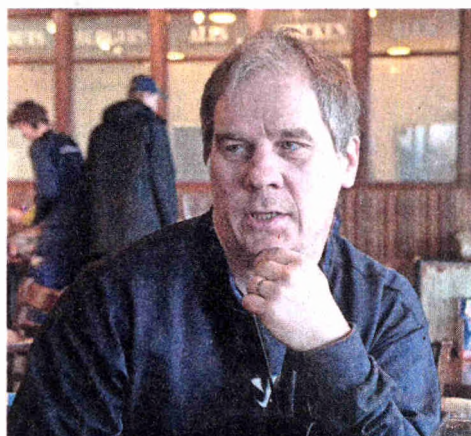
Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

It's been a busy week at C.J.'s Brewing Co. in Plymouth Township.

The restaurant at USA Hockey Arena has been feeding close to 90 teenage hockey players from Europe, plus coaches and team assistants, daily during the Five Nations Under-17 Tournament, which was to conclude Saturday evening with a game between Russia and Team USA.

The more than 100 visitors — from Russia, Sweden, Finland and the Czech Republic — are staying at the new Holi-

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Mikko Palsola is manager of the Finnish team and coaches in his home town of Jyväskylä.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Restaurant manager Amy Taffinder has been ordering huge quantities of food for the European teams.

P-CCS teachers seek salary change

Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

Plymouth-Canton teachers want a return to the step salary system that pays according to years of service.

"We don't want to alienate the community," said Bob Williams, PCEA president. "I get the big picture."

Williams spoke after a budget forum Feb. 8, following a presentation by Board of Education Vice President Sheila Paton, during which it was announced a \$3.6 million anticipated deficit for the 2016-17 school year.

Board President Kim Crouch told the crowd of some 200 at Discovery Middle School last Monday that the special meeting was designed for the public to let officials know "what you think we should be thinking about."

Audience members did just that, but not necessarily about the district's continuing financial woes, which begin with the anticipated deficit and small growth — if any, in real dollars — for per-pupil spending from the state.

Tensions have been rising with the school board with what was the effective dismissal of Superintendent Michael Meissen and last week's appointment of Monica Merritt as new superintendent, effective July 1, the day after Meissen's contract expires. And then there are the continuing contract negotiations with the teachers after union members rejected a proposed contract — the first time in recent memory — last December.

But Williams — in front of an audience filled with teachers in red T-shirts — told the board that labor peace will move the district forward. He urged the board to "return to the old way of doing business" by honoring the salary steps for teachers in the contract now under negotiation.

In 2010, Gov. Rick Snyder and state legislators passed two significant laws directly affecting schools district. One was that school boards no longer had to honor and pay the traditional salary step-ups based on years of service for

See TEACHERS, Page A6

District starts budget season with predicted \$3.6M deficit

Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

A budget deficit of at least \$3.6 million is predicted right out of the gate as the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education begins planning for the new school year.

The announcement opened a budget forum Feb. 8 at Discov-

ery Middle School, during which Sheila Paton, board vice president, provided a gloomy financial picture of what is ahead for the district. That was one of the reasons for the public forum as Kim Crouch,



Paton

board president, asked the 200-some member audience — heavy with teachers — to let the board "know what you think we should be thinking about."

The district has been beset with financial woes as per-pupil funding remains flat, student enrollment decreases, costs increase and public complaints over the district's contracted transportation and

custodial operations continue, as well as increased participation fees for sports and other extracurricular activities.

"We have very little local control," Paton told the crowd, referring to per-pupil funding from the state.

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Plymouth library to host Digital Learning Day

The Plymouth District Library will join thousands of educators, librarians and digital learning advocates around the country Feb. 17 for Digital Learning Day. From a grassroots effort in 2012, this day was designed to highlight the use and availability of electronic tools to enhance the public school learning experience in grades K-12. Since then, it has grown to a great nationwide salute to the process of digital learning.

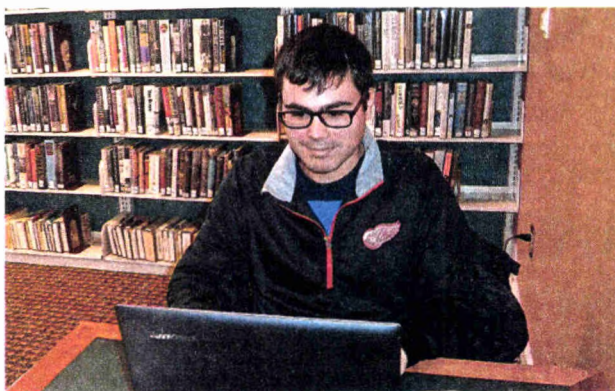
Promoting access to innovation and technological advances, Digital Learning Day also works to bring superior digital learning opportunities to all, regardless of location or economic factors. For more information on Digital Learning Day, go to <http://www.digital-learningday.org>

Adult and teen offerings

Drop-in tutoring individuals can get free personalized attention to increase their computer skills, 10-11:30 a.m. every other Saturday upstairs in the library's computer lab. Tutors provide assistance for digital users with all types of computer needs and questions. These can include an introduction to devices such as tablets, laptops and smart phones, mastering computer tasks such as creating an email address attaching photos to send online, learning how to download eBooks and more. For the upcoming tutoring schedule, users should check the Events Calendar on the library's home page.

Online training sites

The Plymouth District Library subscribes to a



Plymouth resident Brandon Morris studies for an upcoming certification exam at the Plymouth District Library.

number of online training sites for the Plymouth community.

TechBoomers

This is a free educational site designed for Internet users that offers over 65 short courses on topics like social networking and online marketplaces to information directories and even resources for Internet

safety and privacy. For those curious about using Facebook, YouTube, Netflix, Priceline or eBay, this is the perfect place to see step-by-step instructions along with lots of screen shots. Most tutorials are one or two pages in length, easy to print and keep for reference.

Gale Courses

These are available free for Plymouth library cardholders and designed for those interested in more in-depth classes. More than 325 different courses are offered on topics ranging from digital photography, investing, college preparedness, personal development or just brushing up on computer skills. These classes are available 24/7, 365 days a year. Courses take two hours a week, run for six weeks and new sessions begin monthly.

Youth offerings

The library's youth department offers many resources to assist in digital learning. Users should visit the library homepage, <http://plymouthlibrary.org>, and click on the Youth tab. Youth librarians are happy to help digital learners access these products - visit with them at the

youth help desk on the lower level of the library. Here is a sampling of these digital resources:

Beanstack

This new online product provides tailored reading suggestions, valuable learning tips, tools to log reading sessions and special badges tied to each child's goals at the library.

TumbleBooks Library eBooks for kids

Hundreds of animated talking picture books help children discover the color, joy and excitement of reading.

Infobits

Designed for children in kindergarten through fifth grade, this site features articles from 100 popular children's magazines and much more.

Culture Gram Kids Edition Users

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ICERS

Continued from Page A1

day Inn Express & Suites across the arena parking lot. Their appetites, especially those of dozens of growing athletes who were devoting most of their week to practicing and playing, has kept the restaurant staff hopping. "It's been a little crazy around here," manager Amy Taffinder said Thursday during break-fast.

Taffinder listed some of the quantities C.J.'s has been going through: a half-dozen eggs per player, three cases of bacon and three cases of sausage — every day. C.J.'s has been visiting its food supplier and taking deliveries, frequently, she said.

"We can't keep enough food in stock," Taffinder said.

The teams appeared to

appreciate the effort.

'This has been great'

"The players seem to be really happy," said Scott Monaghan, senior director of operations for USA Hockey's National Team Development Program, or NTDP, which is based at the arena. "We want to give them the best environment to perform well."

USA Hockey, the governing body for organized amateur hockey in the U.S., bought the arena (formerly Compuware Arena) last year and moved the NTDP there from the Ice Cube in Ann Arbor. Five Nations is USA Hockey's first big international tournament at its new venue, which has about 3,500 seats.

"This has been great. Everything goes smoothly," said Mikko Palsola, manager of the Finnish team. The food is good and the hotel and arena are ideally located, he

added.

Palsola, who lives in Jyvaskyla, Finland, and is active in organized hockey there, said his team's players come from about 10 different clubs from around the country. Hockey is the most popular sport in the country, he said, and the only one in which a good living can be made in Finland as a professional.

Hockey focus

The team has kept busy during the tournament, he said. "It's very tough. One week, just work, work, work, work," Palsola said.

The Finns had a 2-1 tournament record as of Friday and were to play their last game, against the Czechs, Friday afternoon. Finland was tied with the Russians at the top of the tournament standings.

Palsola said he was doing some scouting while on the trip. "This is


good for me, because now I see where the club level is in junior hockey," he said.

The Finnish players were to travel Friday to Joe Louis Arena to see the Red Wings take on the Colorado Avalanche. They were heading Saturday to Michigan State University to see the Spartans play Penn State. They planned to fly home Sunday.


The Czech team had already been to The Joe, for the Wings' 3-1 victory Wednesday over the Ottawa Senators.

"It was fun," said Petr Studnicka, manager of the Czech team, who lives outside of Prague. "After the game, we met the Czech players there. Good experience for everybody."

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Menu tinkering pays off at Burger Spot

Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

The Burger Spot, the hamburger joint at 550 Forest in downtown Plymouth, has been hitting its marks under new ownership.

Well, not exactly new. Jack Ayoub and his wife Lisa have owned the business since May 2014, but say they're always open to making menu changes to get the recipe right.

So far, Jack Ayoub said, the tinkering has paid off.

"The increase in business that we've had is just tremendous in the last two years," Ayoub said Thursday at The Burger Spot.

The Ayoubs are Burger Spot's fifth owners since the place opened in 2004, Jack Ayoub said. He said the place "never reached its potential for downtown Plymouth," but that he thinks that potential is now in sight.

Jack Ayoub is from a restaurant family; his parents opened their first pizzeria in Fairfax, Va., in 1972 and his father at one time owned several pizzerias in northern Virginia.

"I started out making pizzas at 13, 14 years old," he said. His sister, his mother and his wife all help him out at the restaurant.

The Burger Spot has a hamburger-focused menu with a "build-a-burger" option diners use to customize their sandwiches, 13 specialty burgers and 10 meatless burger and hot dog options, plus sides, snacks, fish and meat hot dogs. While the Ayoubs change up the menu, customers urged them to keep interior touches intact, like the wood floors and the



Jack Ayoub, his wife Lisa (right) and sister Tiffany have found the right ingredients at The Burger Spot in downtown Plymouth.

murals on the walls.

Ayoub and his wife were looking for a restaurant to buy a couple of years ago when they found The Burger Spot. They hesitated a bit, they said, because it seemed off the beaten path downtown, but now they like the amenity that comes with that: the large parking lot out back, off of Harvey.

"This is the absolute best location in Plymouth, because of the parking," Jack Ayoub said.

The usual crowd

The Burger Spot has a lot of regulars and Lisa Ayoub said that's an important part of its appeal for her.

"The cool thing about being here in downtown Plymouth is you get acquainted with everybody," she said. "It's nice to know these people."

The menu's vegetarian and vegan section is one area where they Ayoubs have added to the menu. Jack Ayoub said he was tempted to drop it when he took over — they

seemed out of place in an eatery that bills itself as a "burger joint" — but soon changed his mind.

"I saw the potential and we started creating new ones," he said. Now, he said, the meatless selections account for 25-30 percent of his business.

The Burger Spot has a mobile kitchen that's brought to the Friday evening concerts in Kellogg Park and also to on-site catering of events like graduation parties, birthday parties and business gatherings.

Stella Delap, owner of the gift shop Basket Creations on Forest, stopped in for lunch Thursday. She said she's a regular and there almost every day.

"The food is excellent and I love that you are always bringing out something new," she told Jack Ayoub.

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Plymouth arts council to host DIA art talk Feb. 18

The Plymouth Community Arts Council will present the DIA "Behind The Seen" Art Talk and Open Gallery Night on Thursday, Feb. 18.

Gallery doors will open at 6 p.m. for an evening viewing of Mark of The Hand: EMU Fibers exhibit, a unique collection of

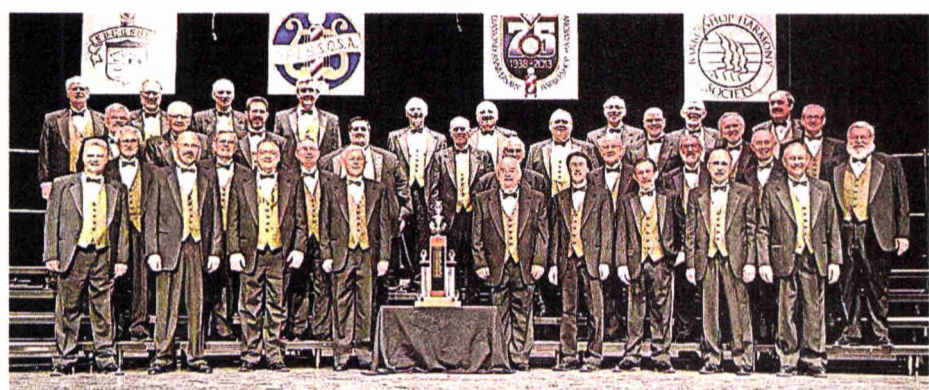
woven tapestries, printed textiles, handmade needlework and fiber art pieces by graduate students in Eastern Michigan University's fibers program.

At 7 p.m., Debra Marcon with the DIA Behind The Seen Program will present Cows at The Opera House and other

Museum Mysteries.

The event is free for PCAC members, affiliates and sponsors. Admission is \$5 for non-members. Complimentary refreshments will be available.

The Plymouth Community Arts Council is at 74 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth.



The Royal Oak-based Gentlemen Songsters, the Detroit-Oakland Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, will present its annual show Feb. 27.

The Gentlemen Songsters group presents 'Looking for Work'

Harmony is finally coming to Royal Oak — Barbershop Harmony, that is.

The Gentlemen Songsters, the Detroit-Oakland Chapter of the 22,000-member Barbershop Harmony Society, will share some songs and bring a note of harmony to the Royal Oak area with its comedy show, "Looking for Work."

The show will feature the Forefront quartet, the 2015 International Silver Medal winners, as well as Michigan's own medal-winning quartet, Tonal Eclipse, along with some top-level barbershop harmony.

Based in Royal Oak, the Gentlemen Songsters are a group of men of all ages — many without formal musical training — who enjoy singing a cappella music in the barbershop style. The group meets at 7:30 p.m. each Monday at Royal Oak Middle School. Performances of

"Looking for Work" are scheduled for 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27, at Royal Oak High School. Tickets for each performance are \$20 in advance or \$22 at the door. Go to www.detroitoakland.org or call Thomas Uicker at 248-559-7082. Group rates are available.

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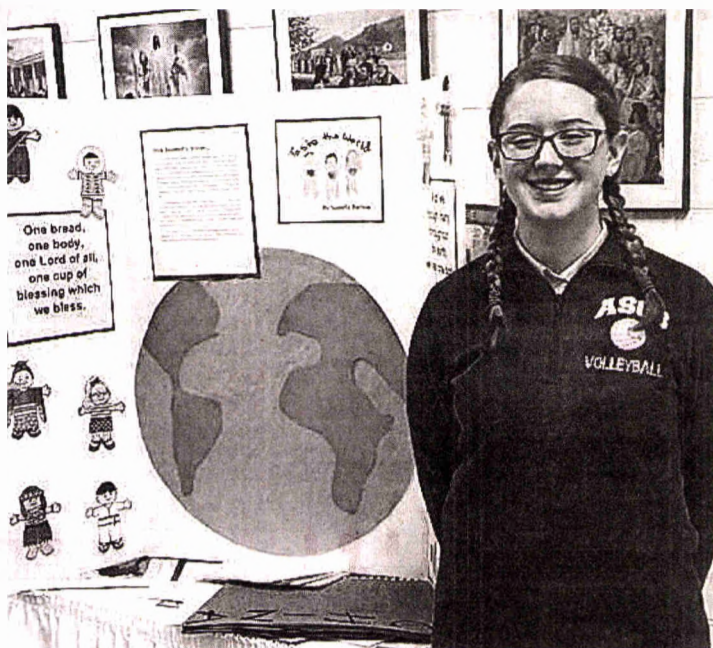


All Saints seventh-grader shares the beauty of world's cultures

It started as a simple idea two years ago and became a reality last week, when All Saints Catholic School student Isabella Barlow, in conjunction with the school's curriculum director, found a way to share the beauty of cultures from around the world during National Catholic Schools Week.

"We were able to incorporate Isabella's concept of celebrating cultures from around the world easily into our history and geography curriculum due to the rich depth of topics covered at each grade level," said Michelle Shore, curriculum director. "Celebrating throughout Catholic Schools Week allowed teachers to put a greater emphasis on studying each country through a Catholic lens. It was really a great project for the entire school community to enjoy and learn about, not just the countries at their grade, but to hear about them school-wide throughout the week."

Each grade level completed research about its assigned country, which included the presence of the Catholic Church, saints from the region, historical events, cultural elements, currency and economics. The week's events concluded with Olympic-like games and ceremonies representing each of the countries cele-



All Saints Catholic School student Isabella Barlow with her celebrating cultures project.

brated throughout the school. "My goal was to bring a number of new cultures into school as a way for us to learn more about the different places and, hopefully, eliminate some of the stereotypes that exist," said Isabella, a seventh-grader. "I was so excited to see this entire project come together and become

such an intricate part of our curriculum over the last few weeks."

The students' work will remain on display throughout Lent as a reminder of the presence of the Catholic Church throughout the world and to celebrate the curriculum students are exposed to through the year.

DEFICIT

Continued from Page A1

In 2011, for example, the per-pupil foundation grant was at \$7,604 and then dropped to \$7,234 – representing a \$7 million loss, Paton said. In the current school year, the district received \$7,391 per pupil. "This is the problem. This is the big struggle for us," Paton said.

According to the Michigan Association of School Boards, it is predicted that state funding of public education will look like the following – at least at this point:

- » \$60 to \$120 per-pupil increase to the foundation allowance
- » \$10 million statewide for educator evaluation implementation
- » \$4 million statewide for school safety grants
- » \$2.5 million statewide for a STEM advisory council and another \$2.5 million for FIRST Robotics
- » \$10 million statewide for CTE (technological) equipment, plus a \$5 million increase for early/middle colleges
- » \$9 million for statewide voluntary school water testing

In 2004-05, the district received \$7,025 per pupil. That peaked at \$7,604 in 2008-11. It dropped to \$7,234 in 2011-12 and even further to \$7,226 in 2012-13.

Paton highlighted the disparity between what surrounding school districts receive in per-pupil funding. Northville and Livonia, for example, receive \$8,099 per pupil, while Novi receives \$8,049, Farmington gets \$9,975 and Bloomfield Hills receives \$11,934.

"A Northville kid is worth more than a Plymouth-Canton kid and I don't know why," Paton said.

While funding creates a problem, so does fewer students, with birth rates dropping and competition from charter and private schools. With a \$152 million budget

"A Northville kid is worth more than a Plymouth-Canton kid and I don't know why."

SHEILA PATON
PC-CS board vice president

as of June 30, 2015, salaries accounted for 85 percent, purchased services (such as transportation and custodial) use 10.3 percent, while supplies are at 4.1 percent and capital outlays at 0.09 percent. Meanwhile, payments to the state for pensions continue to mount and are taken out of the district's school aid.

A fund balance is another part of the budget that school officials continually monitor. The state now requires each school district to have a balance of at least 5 percent of total expenditures. Anything under that level sends a warning to the state, Paton said.

In this school year, the fund balance is about 6.7 percent, allowing Plymouth-Canton a small margin. By the end of this school year, with the sale of property, P-CCS could end with an 8-percent fund balance, Paton said.

The fund balance is used to provide payroll until the state provides the per-pupil money. "Fortunately, we haven't had to borrow," Paton said, adding fund balance provides cash flow and determines, in large part, the district's credit rating.

That's also why school officials focus intently on the projected deficit, because that could be better or worse depending on a decline in enrollment and any increases in pension costs. "We start every year behind the eight ball," Paton said.

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ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS

University of Findlay

Evan Rinke of Plymouth was named to the fall 2015 dean's list.

University of Nebraska

Canton residents Steven Michael Hurlley and Alexander James Schroeck have been named to the fall 2015 dean's list. Hurlley is a graduate stu-

dent in the College of Business Administration, master of business administration. Schroeck is a sophomore studying physics.

Plymouth resident Monica Mackie was named to the fall 2015 dean's list. She is a senior majoring in Spanish.

University of Akron

Andrew Souders of Canton was named to the fall 2015 dean's list.

Kent State University

Evin Maguire graduated from Kent State University with a master of science degree.

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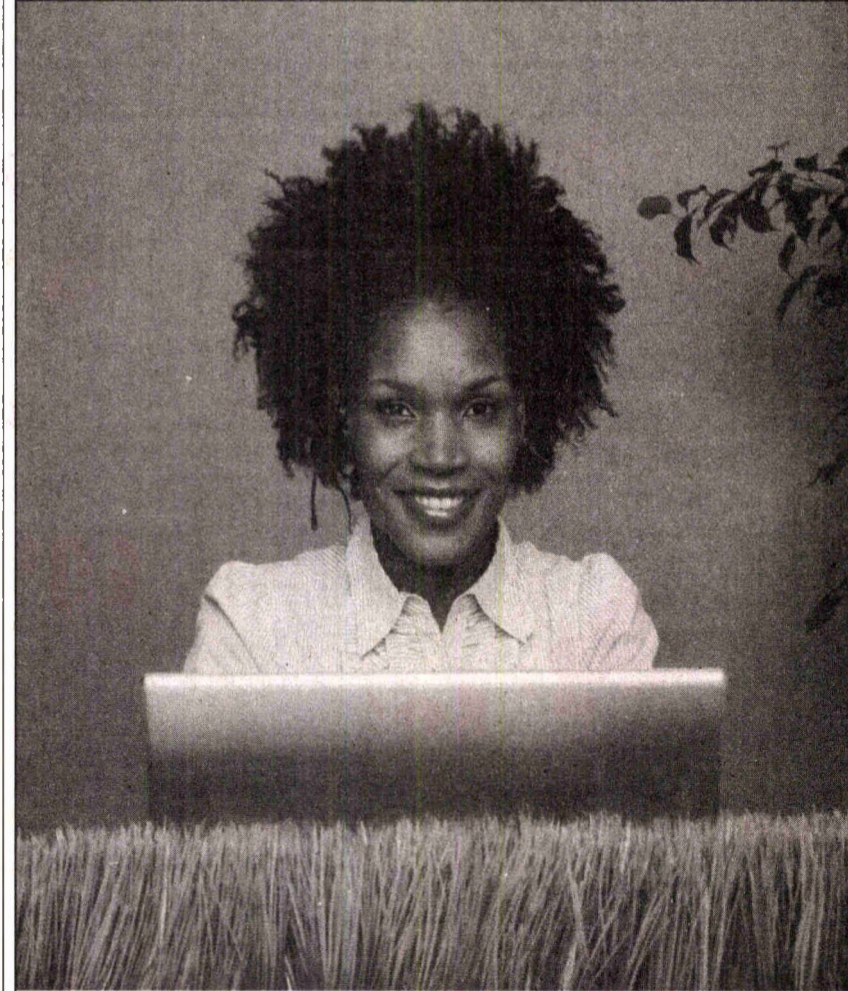
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2 Lbs. Bacon
1 Lb. Beef, Pork or Chicken Cube Steaks
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Small \$39.99
Large \$59.99

Cheese Tray

Small \$39.99
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Minimum 10 People
Per Person
with salad, bread and condiments

'GAG ORDER'

Continued from Page A1

favors House Bill 5219, which the House elections committee sent Feb. 3 to the full House, as means of clarifying the new law.

Heise, who serves on the elections committee, said O'Meara's injunction makes the need to clarify the law more urgent.

"The Legislature has to provide clear direction and certainty, so that we're all not just relying on a court decision," he said. "A good judge is going to be happy when the Legislature can clarify the issue and everybody knows what the rules are."

A vote on HB 5219 was postponed Thursday, Heise said, but it could

still be voted on this month.

Pagan: Full repeal

Rep. Kristi Pagan, D-Canton, said the House's clarifying legislation doesn't go far enough.

"What I think we need is a full repeal," Pagan said.

Pagan referred to a Center for Public Integrity study, announced last year, that ranked Michigan last in the country in its study of transparency and accountability in state governments. Such a ranking means more government information is needed, not less, she suggested.

"Voters need to be informed in a non-biased, factual way and that's why we are seeing injunctions like this come down," she said of

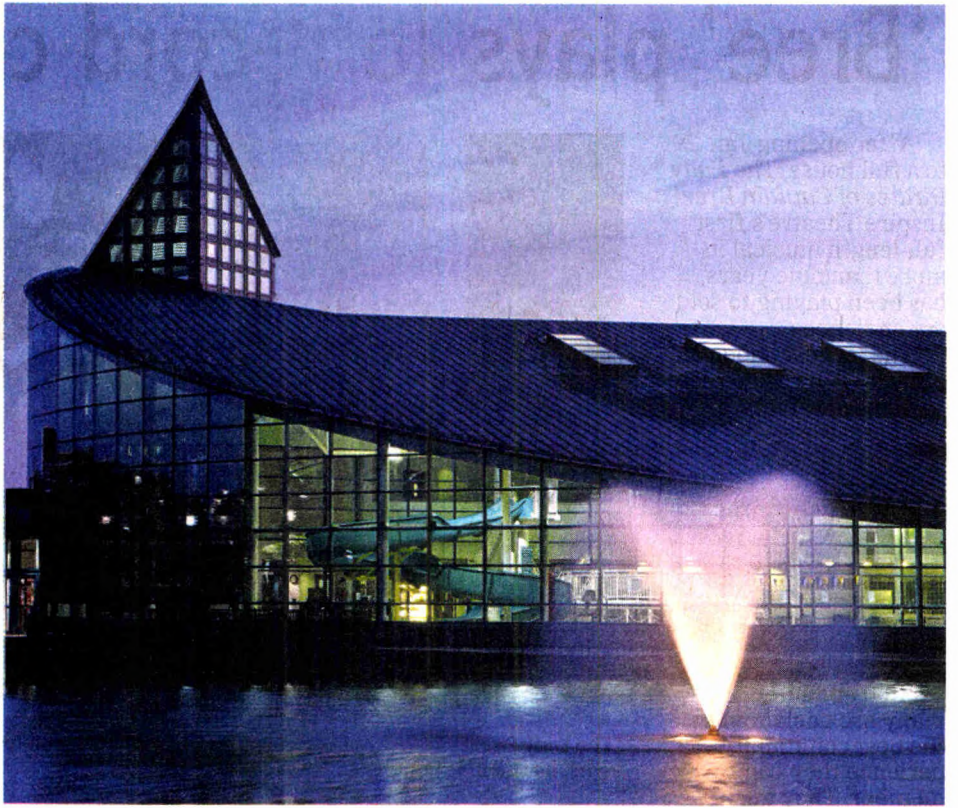
O'Meara's ruling.

Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, whose districts include Canton, Plymouth and Plymouth Township, said he's open to the House's clarifying legislation, as long as it keeps intact his "core premise." Colbeck said he had no problem clarifying, for example, that sample ballots would not be illegal.

But, "We shouldn't be using taxpayer funds to advocate for increased taxes," he said.

SB 571 was passed by the Legislature in December and signed by Gov. Rick Snyder, who also urged lawmakers to clarify it.

mjachman@hometownlife.com



CANTON TOWNSHIP

Canton's Summit on the Park is celebrating 20 years.

Summit on the Park plans celebration for 20th anniversary

The Summit on the Park, Canton's premier recreation facility since 1996, will open its doors to area residents for a special 20th anniversary community celebration 1:30-6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28.

Commemorating two decades as the community's fitness and recreation destination, visitors will be given a chance to experience many of the Summit's amenities. Entry to the building is free for all ages on this day.

Re-dedication of the facility will be held at 4 p.m. in the Summit's grand ballroom, followed by a light reception with cash bar, featuring duel-

ing pianos and giveaways through 6 p.m.

Children and youth are invited to have fun "Under the Big Top" in the gymnasium and in the aquatics area for open swim 1:30-5:30 p.m. Participants also can compete in a rubber duck race at 3:30 p.m.; check in at the aquatics center by 3:15 p.m. The first-place winner will receive a free private swim lesson, with the second-place winner receiving a free group session. Additional festivities also include giveaways throughout the day and refreshments, while supplies last, as well as a chance to win an individual annual

membership.

The celebration will continue all year long for Summit members, with membership appreciation events on the 20th of each month and special activities in appreciation of the community's support.

The Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, offers flexible membership options. Current hours are 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday.

For additional information about the 20th anniversary, go to www.summitonthe-park.org or call 734-394-5460.

TEACHERS

Continued from Page A1

teachers. The second was that school boards must adopt balanced budgets.

About five years ago, Plymouth-Canton abandoned the teachers' 11-step salary system for 14 steps, stretching out the potential for salary increases for years of service.

"Just because state law says you don't have to doesn't mean you have to," Williams said, adding teachers are not asking for an actual raise, but to honor the step system. Calling this request the "heart and crux" of it, Williams added that with the step system intact, "labor unrest will go away. It's not a true negotiated wage."

By returning to the step system, new teachers, for example, who may have started in Plymouth-Canton five years ago would be allowed to receive pay based on the next step.

According to the 2009-10 teacher salary schedule, a teacher with a bachelor's degree would

earn \$39,954 at the first step. If the teacher had a master's degree, the step would pay \$43,954. In this schedule, the next half-step increase (established to slow down salary advances), the teacher would have earned \$41,686 with a bachelor's degree and \$45,951 with a master's degree.

The schedule was changed effective for the years 2012-15 to \$39,954 for the first step with a bachelor's degree and \$43,954 with a master's degree. The next half-step would pay \$41,111 for a bachelor's degree and \$45,320 for a master's degree.

PCEA teachers last had a 2-percent salary increase in 2006-07. In 2008-09, teachers at the top of the schedule received a 2-percent raise. Since 2009-10, PCEA members have had no increases.

According to the National Education Association, in 2012-13, the average starting salary for Michigan teachers was \$35,901, while the national average was \$36,141. During that same time period for nearby states, such as Illinois, the aver-

age starting salary was \$37,166, for Indiana it was \$34,696 and Ohio at \$33,096.

"We are very interested in you guys budgeting for the steps," Williams said.

Others in the audience also criticized the board's apparent lack of transparency in choosing Merritt for the superintendent's job. "We need to be mad at our paychecks, but we are mad we vote for people who are not representing us," Discovery teacher Adrienne Quinn said.

Yet another audience member told the board: "I am concerned about that (transparency). We ought to know what is happening."

She also asked the board what it is doing to inform the state Legislature that public education needs money: "What can the community do? I am energized to get my community together."

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'Bree' plays to record crowds at Inspire Theatre

After opening Jan. 29 to a full house, *The Lady Pirates of Captain Bree*, Inspire Theatre's first full-length musical in more than nine years, has been playing to sold out audiences.

The largest undertaking for IT in recent history, *The Lady Pirates of Captain Bree* has already surpassed anticipated projections for attendance. Artistic director Len Fisher said he's "amazed" at the audience response to the show.

"People are raving about the show," Fisher said. "Not only are they excited about the show, many are acclaiming it the best community experience they can remember. They gush about the costumes, the set, the music, the acting. What more could a direc-



"The Lady Pirates of Captain Bree," Inspire Theatre's first full-length musical in more than nine years, has been playing to sold out audiences.

tor want? We have some amazing people.

"It's been an incredible amount of fun," he

added. "And the show is campy hilarity."

The play takes place on the merchant ship, *The Kayla May*, where pirates, are holding the passengers and crew of hostage. Leader of the marauders, known only as "Bree," is demanding an undisclosed amount in gold for their release. The fact the pirates are women adds to the hijinks which takes place on the ship. The Royal British Navy is dispatched to end the siege and rescue the hostages. As this drama unfolds, sword fights and musical numbers fill the deck of the *Kayla May*.

Westland's only live theater, Inspire Theatre is located inside the Westland Center for Performing Arts. Located in the former Westland cable TV station, WLND, the building has

been refitted by IT for performances, classes and concerts. Playback rooms, studios, editing bays and office space have been revamped to theater space, dressing rooms, concession and ticket offices, a green room and a scene shop. IT has been located in Westland for most of its 10-plus years of existence.

As part of the festivities, IT is holding a costume contest at each performance. Patrons dressed as pirates will be judged on creativity and prizes will be awarded.

The show closes at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 14. Tickets are \$16 and are available online at inspiretheatre.com or by calling 734-751-7057. The theater is located at 33455 Warren Road.

Presidential candidate Kasich plans campaign stop Tuesday in Livonia

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Yet another presidential candidate appears headed to Livonia for a campaign stop.

Ohio Gov. John Kasich will make a campaign appearance next week at the Livonia GOP field office on Seven Mile, west of Farmington, according to an event listing by his campaign.

Kasich, who came in second in Tuesday's New Hampshire primary, is scheduled to appear at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the office at 33462 Seven Mile. The event listing describes it as a "special town hall event."



Kasich

He will be the second presidential candidate to stop in Livonia to campaign since August. U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio stopped in and gave an address at the field office back in August when he was in Michigan. Former presidential candidate Rand Paul addressed

Republicans at the same office back in 2014.

The event is free, though the campaign is requesting those planning to attend to register beforehand, which can be done on the Eventbrite listing page for the event.

Before coming to Livonia, Kasich plans on stopping at Allendale and Utica the day before.

Other Republican candidates who remain in the race as of Wednesday morning include: Jeb Bush, Donald Trump, Ben Carson, Marco Rubio, Ted Cruz and Jim Gilmore. Both Carly Fiorina and Chris Christie dropped out of the race Wednesday.

Democrats still in the running include Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders.

The stop comes just under a month before Michigan's primary March 8. Before Michigan's primary election, candidates have several other contests, including the South Carolina primary and Nevada caucuses later this month. The Super Tuesday primaries, when elections are taking place in several states, will happen March 1.

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Book sale on tap at GC Historical Museum

The Friends of the Garden City Library will have an off-site used book sale at the Straight Farmhouse/Garden City Historical Museum from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 24-25. There will be no Friday hours. However, Saturday, Feb. 27, is \$5 bag day in which you can fill a paper bag from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and pay \$5. Hardcover books are

\$1. Large paperbacks will be 50 cents, small paperbacks 25 cents as well as children's books for 25 cents. There will be CDs and DVDs for \$1 each. The museum is at 6221 Merriman, south of Maplewood.

Half of the proceeds will go to the Straight Farmhouse/Historical Museum. Book sales are run by volunteers that belong to the Library Friends group.

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Farmington Players presents the classic 'Diary of Anne Frank' through March 5

The Farmington Players perform the classic drama *The Diary of Anne Frank*, through March 5 in Farmington Hills.

It's the gripping tale of the teenage writer, her family and others, who struggled to hide from the Nazis in their attic in Amsterdam. Despite the dark theme, Anne's unbridled optimism and dreams give the group hope for the future. Anne's adolescent antics are qualities all families can relate to, as she struggles with teenage angst and imagines the possibility of romance.

This version of the play weaves writings from Anne Frank's diary together with survivor accounts to create a passionate story of people driven by hope and to spotlight the triumph of the human spirit.

Anne Frank recorded her experiences in a diary that she left behind in 1944, when the Nazis



JAN CARTWRIGHT
Amy Cassell (Detroit, from left), Nancy Cooper (Farmington), Gary Weinstein (Farmington Hills), Madison Krumins (Waterford) and Laurel Stroud (Redford) in a scene from "Diary of Anne Frank."

captured her family. Her work has since inspired generations. The story by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett was adapted by Wendy Kesselman and earned two Tony Award Nominations in 1998 for Best Featured

Actress (Linda Lavin) and Best Revival of a Play.

The play is profoundly important to director Maureen Mansfield of Farmington Hills, who is Jewish.

"My family's history is

intertwined with the Holocaust," Mansfield said. "When I first read *A Diary of a Young Girl*, by Anne Frank, it helped me understand what my family had been through. It somehow made me feel closer to them.

"Growing up, I was always told that it was our job, as Jews, to spread the word of the Holocaust," she added. "We had to make sure that no one ever forgot about the atrocities committed, because if they did, it could all happen again. I believe anyone involved in the production of this show is doing a mitzvah, a good deed, by telling a story about that horrendous event."

The show features Barn regulars Alidor P. Lefere III (Metamora) and Laurel Stroud (Redford Township) as Otto and Edith Frank and first-time Barn member Amy Cassell (Detroit) as the young diarist Anne Frank. Barn veterans Gary Weinstein (Farmington Hills) and Nancy Cooper (Farmington) play Hermann and Petronella Van Daan. Connor Green (Farmington) is Peter Van Daan. Jared Kovacs (Detroit) plays

Mr. Dussell. Annie Schunior (Dearborn) portrays Miep Gies. Jerry Gass (Novi) lends his talents to Mr. Kraler, SS officer and assorted voices. Allie Walter (Canton) plays a soldier.

Mansfield wants everyone to know this is a story of "hope, love and courage" and she is "proud" that her talented cast will help Anne Frank's message resonate with audiences.

Reserved seats for *The Diary of Anne Frank*, sponsored by Weinstein Jewelers of Novi, are at farmingtonplayers.org or by calling 248-553-2955.

The show runs at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and at 2 p.m. Sunday, with a performance at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 3. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$14 for students and seniors. The Farmington Players Barn is located at 32332 W. 12 Mile Road in Farmington Hills.

Sports Center to host snowball tourney

The Canton Sports Center is set to host the Canton Co-Ed Snowball Tournament from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20.

This 16-inch Chicago-style softball tournament will feature WRIF-FM (101.1) celebrities, live on-site broadcast and old-fashioned fun in the snow.

Kicker's Bar & Grill, located at Canton Sports Center at 46555 W. Michigan Ave. in Canton, will host indoor corn hole games, cocktail specials and a full-service menu, with proceeds going to Sparky Anderson's CATCH Charity for Children.

This unique charity is dedicated to improving the quality of life for pediatric patients and their families at Children's Hospital of Michigan and Henry Ford Hospital.

Additional activities planned for the day include the think spring softball special registration promotion.

Any team that registers by phone, in person or online is eligible to win a free league registration, a set of team jerseys, Detroit Red Wings tickets, concert tickets and more — all valued at more than \$1,500.

Register online at

csc.canton-mi.org, by calling 734-483-5600 or in-person at the Canton Sports Center.

"The Canton Sports Center is excited to continue its long-standing tradition of hosting this annual snowball tournament outside in whatever weather we happen to have on game day," Canton Sports Recreation Coordinator Ann-Marie Carravallah said.

"We're looking forward to getting players energized about our upcoming spring season and this is a good way to put softball on everyone's mind even in the winter."

Canton hires new police officer

The Canton Police Department has welcomed its newest police officer, Robert Pasick, to the department. He took his oath of office Monday with township Clerk Terry Bennett.

All new police officers in Canton are required to successfully complete a 16-week, field training program prior to working on their own. This program is designed to orientate and develop recruit officers, maximizing their potential and providing them with the tools necessary to successfully make the transition into the position as a Canton police officer.



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Police Officer Robert Pasick is given the oath of office by Clerk Terry Bennett.

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Police: Pair swindled in travel agent scam

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Livonia police are warning residents to be careful and diligent after two women were scammed out of several hundreds of dollars by someone claiming to be a travel agent.

The two women, a 27-year-old from Detroit and a 27-year-old from Warren, came into the Livonia police station Thursday morning to report the incident, which began last month.

They told police they met an individual at LA Fitness, who told them he was a travel agent, a month ago. The two were looking to book a trip and find a travel agent, so they began speaking to the suspect. They later arranged a meeting at the Target on Plymouth Road and met with him at the store.

They gave the suspect \$400 to begin the process of setting up their trip while at the store. He told them he would be in touch and gave them his contact information, including his personal cellphone number.

Later, the women attempted to reach the suspect to inquire on the status of their trip. He told them he was still working on the trip and that they should call him back. A meeting with the women was arranged with him and was supposed to take place at a residence in the 25000 block of Midland in Redford Township, but when the women showed up at the home, no one answered the door.

They told police the originally-planned trip was supposed to begin the day they filed the police report, but they had not heard from the man. They then came to the conclusion the man was not a travel agent and had swindled them out of their money.

Anyone who has been swindled in a similar fashion can report the incident to at the Livonia police station, 15050 Farmington.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com
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FIGHT THE FLU

Time/Date: Donations 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, through February

Location: Salvation Army Plymouth Corps, 9451 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps, in conjunction with the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, is asking the community to "Share the Love - Not the Flu" and donate items that will keep students and teachers well during the flu season

Contact: Laurie Aren at laurie_aren@usc.salvationarmy.org or call 734-453-5464

WINE, BEER TASTING

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Feb. 14

Location: Waltonwood at Cherry Hill, 42600

Details: The event will feature wine and beer tasting and hors d'oeuvres, compliments of Holiday Market.

Cost: \$35 admission; sponsorships range \$250 to \$500

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 20; 7-8:30 p.m. Feb. 25

Location: Canton Public Library

Details: The Canton Public Library has announced a series of programs to celebrate Black History Month. Mancala, a challenging game that has been played from ancient times throughout Africa, is featured Saturday, Feb. 20. All ages are welcome. "Buffalo Soldiers: History & Horses" featuring a presentation by James H. Mills of the Buffalo Soldiers Heritage Center, happens Thursday, Feb. 25. Mills is set to share the history of the legendary African-American U.S. Army regiment.

RECORD SHOW

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20

Location: Salem High School Cafeteria, 46181 Joy Road

Details: Hosted by student radio station WSDP-FM (88.1), known as The Park, the annual record show returns. Record show patrons often can find early releases by groups such as the Beatles and the Rolling Stones — sometimes "for significant amounts of money" — or they can opt for the \$1 album bins, 45-rpm vinyl singles and the occasional cassette tape

BEN DANIELS BAND

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Feb. 20



The Ben Daniels Band will perform Feb. 20 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill and Ridge in Canton.

Location: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill at Ridge and Cherry Hills roads, Canton

Details: The band brings to the stage original songs and covers that span a wide range of music genres, including Americana, blues, jazz and rock 'n' roll. Son of actor Jeff Daniels, Ben Daniels is joined by Tommy Reifel on bass, George Merkel on guitar and Wesley Fritzeimer on drums and mandolin, along with Daniels' wife, singer/songwriter Amanda Daniels.

Cost: Tickets are \$15 and available at www.cantonvillagetheater.org or by calling 734-394-5300

BASELINE FOLK PERFORMANCE

Time/Date: Sign up for open mic, 6:15-6:40 p.m.; open mic performances at 7 p.m.; featured guest at 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20

Location: Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth

Details: Second gathering features Beverly Meyer, singer/songwriter. Room for 10 open mic performers. Host is Rick Pitts, president of East River Folk Society, who will perform a couple of tunes and introduce entertainers for the night.

Cost: \$5 per person

Motorcycle swap meet

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21

Details: Motorcycle enthusiasts are expected to pack the Sub-

urban Collection Showplace during the Detroit Area Motorcycle Swap Meet. With a new event manager, the swap meet returns after a one-year absence. The event will be a one-stop-shop for bikers looking to buy, sell and swap motorcycles. Individuals attending the event will also have the opportunity to shop a variety of vendors offering one-of-a-kind accessories, bike parts, leather apparel and more.

Admission for the event will be \$8 per person and free for children 12 years of age and younger. For more information on the Detroit Area Motorcycle Swap Meet call 989-225-1244 or go to www.hugeswapmeet.com.

ESSAY CONTEST

Time/Date: Applications due April 1

Details: The Beloved Community, partnering with the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion, has announced the second annual Dr. Martin Luther King Essay Contest. The contest is open to all sixth- through 12th-grade students in Plymouth and Canton, including those children who attend traditional public, charter and private schools or who are home-schooled. Participation in the essay contest is intended to foster a deeper understanding of the importance of diversity and inclusion and further the goals of education, deep reflection and reconciliation on topics critical to racial justice in the Plymouth-Canton community.

Contact: Inquiries about the

application process may be directed to Loren Khogali at lorenkhogali@gmail.com or Sommer Foster at sommer.foster@gmail.com.

Bollywood Bash

Time/Date: 6 p.m. to midnight Friday, March 11

Details: Third annual Bollywood Bash to benefit Good News India, which rescues children from bonded labor, sex slavery, providing them a safe haven. It runs the largest network of care centers for orphaned and destitute children, seeing them through university and vo-tech training. GNI currently owns and operates 30 "Dream Centers." To be held at Novi Christian Community Center, 45301 W. 11 Mile Road, Novi. Tickets are \$12 online or \$15 at the door. Email novibollywoodbash@gmail.com or go to www.facebook.com/nccc78 for more.

ANNUAL AUCTION

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 14

Details: Concordia Lutheran School hosts its annual auction, "With One Heart," at the Helene Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, in Westland. Tickets are \$30 (\$270 for a table of 10) and must be ordered by Feb. 8. Ticket includes appetizers, dinner, dessert and drinks. For more information and to order tickets, call 248-474-2488 or 313-937-2233.

CANCER SUPPORT

Time/Date: 6-7:30 p.m. third Monday of each month

Details: Connecting with others who know what it is to have lung cancer can help during this difficult time. To start, join the Lung Cancer Support Group at the Beaumont Cancer Center-Farmington Hills, 27900 Grand River Ave., Suite 230. Thoracic surgeon Dr. David Sternberg leads the group. The group is open to anyone living with lung cancer and their loved ones. Meetings are free the third Monday each month. For more information, call 248-473-4828.

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 9 a.m. the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

Details: Join Widowed Friends, a peer support group, hosting a Men's Only Breakfast and Fellowship at Steve's Family Restaurant, 15800 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. Contact Dick at 313-534-0399.

Time/Date: 9 a.m. the first and third Monday of each month.

Details: Join Widowed Friends, a peer support group, hosting a Ladies Only Breakfast and Fellowship at Connor's Restaurant, Haggerty/Five Mile Road, Northville. To save a seat, contact Carol at 313-562-3080.

Time/Date: 9 a.m. the first Thursday of each month.

Details: Join Widowed Friends, a peer support group, hosting Co-Ed Breakfast at Richard's Restaurant, on Plymouth Road at Eckles Road. Contact Jerry at 734-455-2651.

SENIOR PROGRAMMING

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday

Location: Friendship Station Senior Center, 42375 Schoolcraft, Plymouth Township

Details: The Plymouth Community Council on Aging announces new programs for senior community from the city of Plymouth and Plymouth Township Upcoming programs and events will include Chair Exercise, Free Wii Bowling, Knitting & Crocheting Class, Craft Classes, Free Drop in Game Day, Senior Cardio Fitness and Senior Yoga. In addition to the new programs, the center will offer free monthly bingo beginning Feb. 16. Presently, the Community Senior Transportation is at the Friendship Station. The center will offer Focus Hope distribution and a newly created food pantry.

Contact: For more information and a calendar of dates and times and information on membership, call 734-354-3222. For transportation information, call 734-459-8888.

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Find us on Facebook: Canton Village Theater



Wayne County Executive Warren Evans was joined by a diverse group of residents when he visited Canton.

Wayne County executive makes visit to Canton

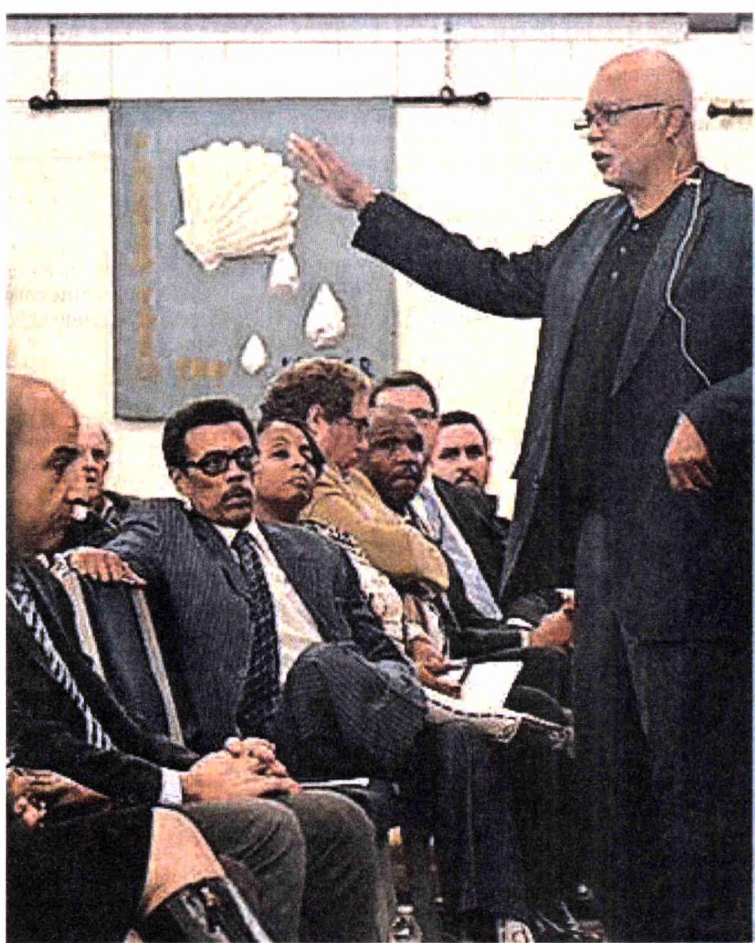
Topics such as roads, taxes and the Flint water crisis arose as Wayne County Executive Warren Evans and 15 of his department heads paid a visit to Canton.

The event in late January was hosted by the Plymouth-Canton Interfaith Community Outreach group at Geneva Presbyterian Church.

Residents and the ICO team asked the county administration about issues such as roads, jail bonds, taxes, domestic violence, homelessness, Michigan State University extension courses, health and dental care for senior citizens, veterans services, substance abuse and juvenile justice, ICO coordinator Anne Marie Graham-Hudak.

She said the discussions emphasized building bridges and sharing services in order to eliminate duplication of services and costs to taxpayers. She said follow-up meetings will occur between Wayne County departments and the community to assist residents, build relationships and establish funding partnerships.

Anyone who has more questions for the county or ICO may send an email to plymouthcantonico@yahoo.com.



Wayne County Executive Warren Evans address a group in Canton.

Library hosts Oscar Shorts fundraiser

The Farmington Community Library hosts the fourth annual Oscar Shorts Red Carpet event Sunday, Feb. 21.

The event is a fundraiser for the Farmington Friends of the Library. Tickets are on sale at both library branches for \$20 per person. The event includes a pre-party at the downtown branch library beginning at 6 p.m. The shorts will be shown at the Farmington Civic Theatre at 7:30 p.m.

"We will be showing the live action and animated shorts that are nominated for an Academy Award," adult services librarian Judy Donlin said. "It should be noted that the evening is intended for adults only."

Shorts being shown include:

Short film-animated

» *Bear Story* — Every day, a melancholy old bear takes a mechanical diorama that he has created out to his street corner. For a coin, passersby can look into the peephole of his invention, which tells the story of a circus bear who longs to escape and return to the family from which he was taken.

» *Prologue* — 2,400 years ago, four warriors — two Spartan and two Athenian — battle to the death in an intense struggle witnessed by a little girl, who then runs to her grandmother for comfort.

» *Sanjay's Super Team* — Young Sanjay, a first-generation Indian American, is obsessed with TV, cartoons and his superhero action figures. He is reluctant to spend time in daily prayers with his devout Hindu father, but a flight of imagination helps him develop a new perspective that he and his father can both embrace.

» *We Can't Live Without Cosmos* — Two best friends have dreamed since childhood of becoming cosmonauts and together they endure the rigors of training and public scrutiny and make the sacrifices necessary to achieve their shared goal.

» *World of Tomorrow* — A little girl named Emily is taken on a fantastical tour of her distant future by a surprising visitor who reveals unnerving secrets about humanity's fate.

Short film-live action

» *Ave Maria* — Five nuns living in the West Bank find their routine disrupted when the car of a family of Israeli settlers breaks down outside the convent. Unable to use the telephone due to Sabbath restrictions, the family needs help from the nuns, but the sisters' vow of silence requires them to work with their visitors to find an unorthodox solution.

» *Day One* — On the heels of a painful divorce, an Afghan-American woman joins the U.S. military as an interpreter and is sent to Afghanistan. On her first mission, she accompanies troops pursuing a bomb-maker and must bridge the gender and culture gap to help the man's pregnant wife when she goes into labor.

» *Everything Will Be Okay (Alles Wird Gut)* — Michael, a divorced father devoted to his 8-year-old daughter Lea, picks her up for their usual weekend together. At first it feels like a normal visit, but Lea soon realizes that something is different and so begins a fateful journey.

» *Shok* — In Kosovo in 1998, two young boys are best friends living normal lives, but as war engulfs their country, their daily existence becomes filled with violence and fear. Soon, the choices they make threaten not only their friendship, but their families and their lives.

» *Stutterer* — For a lonely typographer, an online relationship has provided a much-needed connection without revealing the speech impediment that has kept him isolated. Now, however, he is faced with the proposition of meeting his online paramour in the flesh, and thereby revealing the truth about himself.

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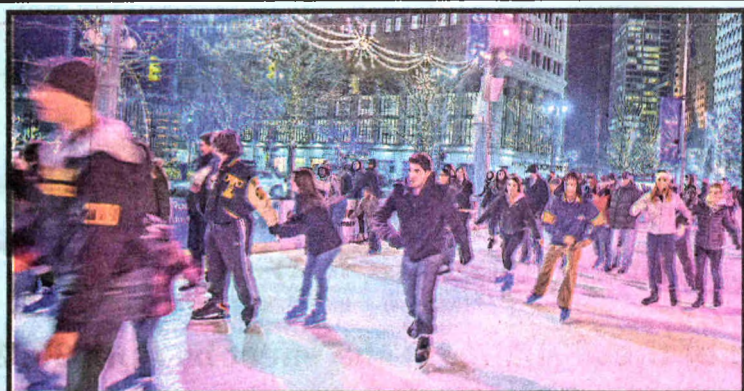


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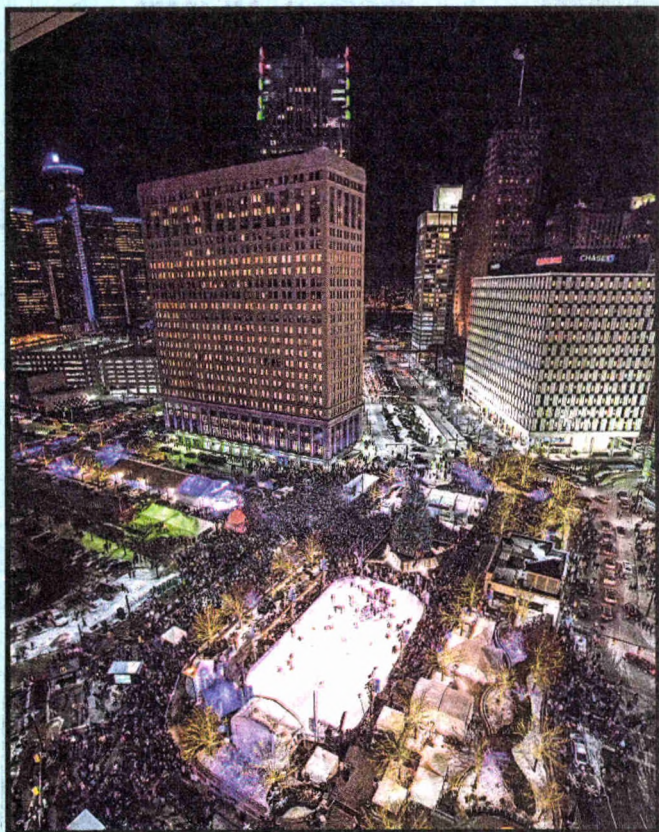


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The announcement was made that the 2017 Lincoln Continental was named the 2016 North American International Auto Show's Best in Show at a Detroit Economic Club annual luncheon with Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan, Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans, Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel and Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson.

The Lincoln Continental is one of many amazing vehicles that will be available to consumers from Lincoln in 2016. Dealerships all over the country are preparing to receive these vehicles. Varsity in Novi already has the best of what Lincoln has to offer and will soon have the Continental, as well. The dealership has held the honor of highest volume sales globally since 1997.* Varsity offers a newly remodeled showroom, indoor delivery area and service reception where the highest in customer service is available.

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BOYS BASKETBALL

Jamming me: Ryan's dunk spree lifts Chiefs

Senior sparks 15-0 run against Plymouth

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

For a while Friday night, Plymouth's varsity boys basketball team looked in control against Canton.

It was a 6-0 lead for the host Wildcats in the second half of an emotion-packed Canton-Plymouth twinbill (the girls teams played the night's first contest.)

Plymouth enjoyed a 15-7 advantage with 1:15 to go in the first, following a triple by Julian LeDoux. But after a tip-in at the buzzer by Canton's Obi Okoli the lead was down to six (15-9).

And then, Logan Ryan took over. By the time he was done hammering home dunks of the roundhouse and two-handed variety, the Chiefs were in the midst of a 15-0 run. Plymouth never recovered, falling 51-40.

The division champion Chiefs improved to 16-0 overall and 10-0 in the KLAA South, the first undefeated division record in school history.

Special stretch

"Plymouth came out like gangbusters and, as a staff, we had a feeling that might happen," Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy said. "They're talented,

See CHIEFS, Page B2



JOHN KEMSKIJ EXPRESS PHOTO
Flying to the basket Friday night is Canton senior forward Logan Ryan.

D1 WRESTLING TEAM DISTRICT



Battling it out at 189 during Wednesday's D1 team final are Salem's Roy Foster (top) and Plymouth's Ethan Shulaw. Foster won the bout.

SCALING THE HEIGHTS

Rocks climb to top at Division 1 team district

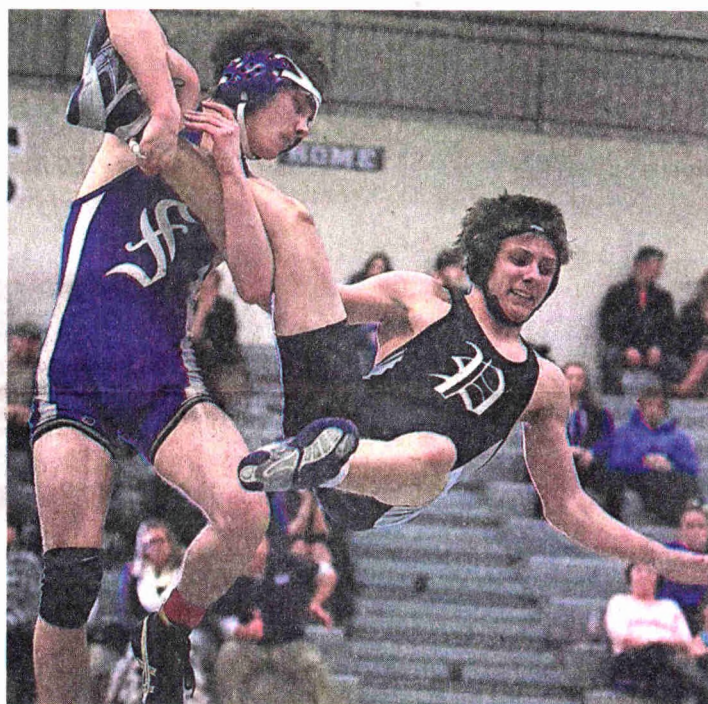
Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Sequels can be pretty sweet.

Just ask the Salem varsity wrestling team, winner of a Division 1 team district championship for the second season in a row.

The Rocks captured the crown Wednesday at Plymouth High School, knocking off both campus rivals to get it done. Salem opened with a resounding 55-6 victory over Canton before outlasting gritty Plymouth, 35-29, in the district final.

"I am so proud of our boys tonight," said Salem coach Jeremy Henderson, who shares coaching duties with



MICHAEL VASILNEK
Cam Shaughnessy of Salem (left) takes down Plymouth's Josh Banks during the 130-pound bout of the Division 1 team district final.

Pete Israel. "We set a goal at the beginning of the season to be division and district champs and that's exactly what the kids did."

Of course, awaiting Salem in the D1 team regional semi-finals is top-ranked Novi Detroit Catholic Central. The Rocks-CC match-up is set for 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at Salem.

Henderson said there were numerous wrestlers who stepped up against the Chiefs and Wildcats.

"Cam Shaughnessy avenged a loss to Harrison Samoy (Canton), then came up big in overtime against Josh Banks of Plymouth," Henderson said. "Andrew Lindsay came up with a big win against Justin Winnie (Canton) and lost a nail-biter to Collin Reed (Plymouth). Both these guys have been pushing the pace lately and it

See WRESTLING, Page B3

NATIONAL SIGNING DAY — PART 3

Club players get their due

Michigan Hawks, Wolves connect with college soccer programs

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Serious soccer players deserve a serious send-off.

On National Signing Day at Total Soccer in Wixom, that's exactly what was given to a large group of Michigan Hawks and Michigan Wolves elite club players who made official their plans to continue playing the sport at the collegiate level.

"They grow up here at our club and they get to see each other bloom as players and as people," said Hawks/Wolves coach Scott Duhl, also varsity

boys soccer coach at Salem. "And to see the end product of them signing at big-time schools ... it's fun not only for us as coaches, but for parents and friends' parents.

"It's just a fun night that we're trying to make bigger and bigger, to celebrate the players and all the work they've put into it."

The Feb. 3 event featured nearly 50 student-athletes, coaches and family members for plenty of ceremonial photos, congratulations and conversation — about the role played by the Hawks and Wolves in helping young women and men, respectively, grow into college-bound standouts.

"We're really fortunate to come from a place that's had a

See SOCCER, Page B3



MICHIGAN WOLVES AND HAWKS SOCCER CLUB
Michigan Hawks and Michigan Wolves elite club players signing with colleges who have connections to Canton and Plymouth include (front row, from left) Casey Muglia (Ashland), Natalie Winters (Iowa), Justin Murray (University of Detroit Mercy), Madeleine Lucas (Northwestern) and Leah Moss (Iowa) and (back row, from left) Olivia Janke (Valparaiso), Megan McCurry (Siena Heights), Madison Archibald (Siena Heights) and Anna DeBiasi (Cleveland State). Also signing were Hunter Olson (Calvin) and Hunter Gibbons (Spring Arbor).

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FIVE NATIONS TOURNEY

Team USA bounces back

NTDP U17s skate to wins over Finland, Sweden

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Team USA is on the rebound — and that's a good thing — after hitting a Czech wall named goalie Tomas Vomacka in Tuesday's opening game of the Under-17 Five Nations Tournament.

The United States National Team Development Program U17s skated to a 5-2 victory Wednesday against Finland at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth.

Making 34 stops for the victory was NTDP goaltender Dylan St. Cyr of Northville, while forward Sean Dhooghe scored a pair of goals.

Other goals for Team USA came from Brady Tkachuk, Grant Mismash and David Farrance.

Riding the momentum of that victory into Friday, Team USA prevailed 5-2 over Sweden to improve to 2-0-0-1 (seven points), one point behind first-place Finland in the round-robin tournament.

Only 35 seconds after spotting Sweden an early 1-0 lead, the NTDP U17s struck for an even-strength goal by Vanya Lodnia. Breaking the deadlock at 10:37 was Dhooghe.

Lodnia and Dhooghe each scored their second of the game in the second and third period, respectively, to make it 4-1. Closing out the scoring for Team USA was Scott Reedy, who also had two assists.

St. Cyr made 19 saves to earn his second straight win for the NTDP U17s.

The only blemish on his record after the early goal was a shorthanded tally at 17:48 of the third period by Max Wennlund, but by that time the outcome was decided.

Team USA bombarded Sweden goalie Olle Eriksson Ek with 46 shots.

On Saturday, in what could be the deciding contest, Team USA was scheduled to square off against Russia (2-1-0-0, six points). An overtime or regulation win will give the hosts the tourney championship, because Finland is idle on Saturday.

In the tournament, regulation wins are good for three points, with overtime victories good for two. Teams falling short in OT or shootout garner only one point.

On Thursday, Finland (2-1-0-0, six points) blanked Sweden, 4-0, and Russia earned a 5-2 win over the Czech Republic (0-1-1-0, two points).

Earlier Friday at USA Hockey Arena, Finland defeated the Czech Republic, 3-2, in overtime. Finland finished the tourney with a 2-1-1-0 record (eight points).



RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY

Team USA's Sean Dhooghe (from left), Jacob Tortora and Scott Reedy celebrate after Dhooghe's goal in the first period Friday.



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Canton junior Kelsea Kernosek was one of many key contributors for the Chiefs against Howell and Brighton.

PREP ROUNDUP

Canton depth comes through again

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Canton's varsity gymnastics team finished 13-1 in dual meets with Wednesday's victory over Howell and Brighton.

The Chiefs, also undefeated in league matches, tallied a season's best 145.65 points, enough to stymie Howell (140.5) and Brighton (139.475). "With a dozen nines, we are starting to round into late season form," Canton coach John Cunningham said. "The KLAA conference championship at Walled Lake Central on Feb. 20 is the next challenge."

Securing Wednesday's wins for the Chiefs were five nines on beam (a 38.6 total, a team record) and four nines on floor.

Jana Hilditch registered 9.8 on beam to tie Stephanie Cox's 9.8 record; Cox and Hailey Hodgson were close behind

with 9.65 scores. Kelsea Kernosek and Rachel Socha chipped in with respective scores of 9.5 and 9.2.

Hodgson placed first on floor exercise with 9.35, with teammates Katie Dickson (9.075), Cox (9.025) and Hilditch (9.0) close behind.

Going third through fifth on vault were Hodgson (9.05), Hilditch (9.0) and Kernosek (8.95).

Victorious on uneven parallel bars with 9.0 was Dickson, followed by Kernosek (8.7), Hodgson and Hilditch (each with 8.65).

CANTON BOYS HOCKEY: A four-goal first period Wednesday sparked the Chiefs to a 9-4 varsity boys hockey win over Dexter at Arctic Edge.

Registering two goals each were Michael Tucker and Marcus Cook, while Brian Oldani spearheaded the rout with a goal and four assists.

Other Canton skaters with multiple points included Jalen Miller (goal, two assists), Michael Testani (goal, assist), Michael Gaffka (two assists), James Tucker (two assists) and Joe Powers (goal, assist). The ninth

goal was scored by Jake McClune. Splitting goaltending duties for the Chiefs were Donald Jardine and Isaac Salinas.

PENGUINS FALL SHORT: The Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins varsity girls hockey team lost 3-1 Monday to Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett.

Scoring the lone goal for the Penguins was Brianna Waggoner.

PCS head coach Jenna Donnelly said her team played strong defense against the undefeated Liggett squad.

The Penguins dropped a 3-1 decision Feb. 2 to perennial Division 1 powerhouse Cranbrook-Kingswood.

Michelle Cirino's goal late in the second period was all the scoring for PCS.

PLYMOUTH BOWLING: Wayne Memorial bowling teams earned their stripes Tuesday against Plymouth at Novi Bowl.

In the boys contest, the Zebras won, 23-7, despite Plymouth standouts Luke Meiers (240, 192 games), Justin O'Shaughnessy (204, 216 games) and freshman Brett Caldwell (213).

On the girls side, Wayne prevailed, 22-8. Leading the Lady Wildcats was freshman phenom Maddie Harder, with 191 and 205 games in her first stint at the anchor position.

Also solid for Plymouth were sophomore Madison Sharp (169) and senior captain Jessica Joppich (172, 170).

Both Plymouth teams will wrap up the regular season Tuesday, Feb. 16, against Canton at Town and Country Lanes.

Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

Chiefs ward off 'Cats to clinch KLAA South

Canton able to withstand late push by Plymouth

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

When Jordyn Chouinard hit a nifty scoop layup with just 17 seconds left Friday night, host Plymouth closed the gap to two points against first-place Canton.

The gym at Plymouth High School rocked with anticipation of a possible upset in the making. But then Brianna Finn stepped up to the free-throw line and hit both shots to make it a two-possession game.

Ultimately, the Chiefs managed to hang on to a 47-45 varsity girls basketball win over Plymouth, clinching the KLAA South Division title in the process.

"I think it was definitely emotional," said Canton's Erin Hult, who noticed the gritty effort turned in by Plymouth. "Any time you play a Park team, anything can happen."

"It doesn't matter who the better team is. It's always emotional, it's always high-energy. They were hyped."

Rob Heitmeyer, first-year coach of the Chiefs, gave high marks to the way his team competed defensively to make sure Plymouth shooters Cassidy Lewis (13 points) and Hannah Badger (10 points) were

unable to get loose and do serious damage down the stretch.

And he underscored the contribution made by Finn with her clutch free throws.

"If she misses one or two of those, it's a completely different game," Heitmeyer said. "They have a shot at a tie."

Canton (13-3, 9-1 in the KLAA South) was strong on the glass, with 17 offensive rebounds. Leading the way with 16 points and 12 rebounds for another double-double was Madison Wolfbauer.

Hult contributed 15 points and five boards, while senior guard Natalie Winters helped the cause with seven points and strong defense.

"Natalie Winters had just an absolutely rock-solid steady game," Heitmeyer said. "Defensively, she's everywhere."

Ryan Ballard, first-year head coach for Plymouth (6-10, 5-5), said his team "got crushed on the glass," but played a relentless brand of basketball.

"At any point in the game when we were down, we didn't think we were going to lose, we thought we were going to win," Ballard said. "That's why I love our kids. They battle, they battle through adversity. They just played so hard."

Canton led 13-7 after one quarter and 28-19 at halftime, with the 'Cats closing to within 38-31 going into the fourth.



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Canton senior Natalie Winters dribbles around Plymouth's Jordyn Chouinard (middle) and Madison Wolfbauer (left) of the Chiefs.

CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

they're a good team and they were ready to play.

"We sustained that first punch and we had a really good second quarter there. There were a couple plays in the run that I haven't seen before. The steals and the dunks, it was one of the best runs I've seen as a head coach."

Three of the dunks were by Ryan (19 points, seven rebounds), who transformed a 19-14 deficit into a 25-19 edge over a 2:15 span.

"I think it conveniently happened," Ryan said. "We were in a slump and that's a good way to bring a team out of a slump — get a blocked shot

or a dunk. The bench got into it after that and that was kind of the turnaround for the game."

From the Plymouth perspective, the way the contest did a 180 was a shocker.

"We turned the ball over like that and you let the other team get momentum," Wildcats senior guard Brent Davis said. "A few dunks here and there, it could have gone either way."

"Once they got that momentum, they kind of shocked us a little bit. We're a young team. ... We got a lot of sophomores on the team, so this is really their second big Park game, so they don't really know how to react when there's a momentum change."

Davis scored six of his team-leading 14 points in the first quarter, but was blanked

during the second by Canton sophomore guard Colin Troup.

"I think the guy that changed the game for us defensively with Davis was Colin Troup," Reddy said. "I told him he did a heck of a job. Davis had a tough time scoring on Colin tonight."

Under the radar

According to Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup, whose team takes a 7-9 record (5-5 in the KLAA South) into the conference tournament, the way Ryan seized control of the game was something the Wildcats could not recover from.

"He made some plays, we just weren't able to respond," Soukup said.

Soukup noted two early fouls called against senior guard Pete Carravallah as a

key factor in how Plymouth got into trouble during the second quarter (which ended with the Chiefs up 29-21). "(Carravallah) does so many things that go under the radar for us."

The coach added that scrappy senior guard Pete Brown (13 points) also was strong for the Wildcats.

"Frank really played hard today, really played hard," Soukup said. "It was awesome effort on his part."

Canton wasn't without a number of gritty performers, such as Troup, Okoli (14 points, five rebounds), senior forward Jalen Cochran (seven points), senior guard Hamoudy Turfe (five rebounds) and freshman guard B. Artis White (four assists).

Almost as impressive as Ryan's torrid stretch was a

steal-and-slam to close out the third quarter by Okoli, which provided an exclamation point on the night. That basket at the horn made it 47-31.

"The dunk that Obi finished the third quarter with was amazing," Reddy said. "A steal and a dunk at the buzzer and it looked like his elbow was above the rim."

According to Okoli, a key to the win was getting in sync defensively following the first quarter. He also pointed to the fact anybody that takes the floor can do just about anything it takes to win.

"We got a diverse team. Everybody can do almost everything and it makes us hard to defend," Okoli said. "We got a lot of weapons; we share the ball. I feel like we can be the best Canton team yet."

NATIONAL SIGNING DAY — PART 3

Zhang twins eager for own identity

Salem seniors get scholarships to separate NCAA Division I colleges

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

For four years at Salem High School, they have been known as the Zhang Twins. And with good reason. Both Linda Zhang and Lisa Zhang have simultaneously been all-state girls swimmers for the Rocks throughout their careers — competing at an elite level in multiple events and smashing Salem records along the way. Finally, they will have the chance to make their mark out of the other's shadow. Linda Zhang will join the women's swimming and diving program at the University of Pennsylvania, while Lisa Zhang will swim at Columbia University. At a National Signing Day event held Feb. 3 at Salem, both siblings talked about going to different Division I colleges located 90 minutes apart. "I'm excited to finally not be known as 'the sisters,' to finally be my own person," Linda said. "It will be a different experience, something I'm looking forward to."

Topic of debate

According to Lisa, whether or not to stay together in college proved to be a topic worthy of much debate around the family dinner table. "It was a hard decision for us to make (to be split up)," Lisa said. "Throughout the whole process, we were, like, debating and it could go either way. "But in the end, we think that we're going to be OK being apart. It's only a short train



Salem's Zhang twins — Linda (left) and Lisa — celebrate on National Signing Day with parents Jie Liu and Kevin Zhang.

ride away from each other. It's an hour-and-a-half train ride." The swimming sisters, whose parents are Jie Liu and Kevin Zhang, both are students with 4.0 grade-point averages who earned full-ride scholarships. It's not just about swim-

ming. Lisa will go for a degree in economics at Columbia, while Linda said she liked Pennsylvania because it has "one of the best business schools, so I decided to go there." Of course, swimming still will be an important compo-

nent of the next four years for both Zhangs. "I really liked the team when I visited there," Linda said. "The coach is really nice and all the teammates were really encouraging." Lisa said she is "really excited to be competing for a D-I

swim and dive team. The team is really welcoming and the coach really thought I can help the team become better. I'm excited to go to Columbia." She added that she is optimistic about being slotted in the backstroke and butterfly events. "I hope some relays, too," she said. "It's really nice to finally see our hard work pay off," Linda added. "After, like, 10 years of swimming."

Hard-working duo

They might be splitting up, but both said competing for the Rocks helped them improve immensely. "The high school team, it builds a sense of teamwork and helping other people," Linda said. "At practice, if you're the only one swimming, there's no way you could go that fast. It's the other people around you that help you get to where you are. "They push you to work harder and swim faster." Lisa had a similar take about her Salem career and the impact it had on her development as a versatile swimmer. "The work ethic I learned in high school helped me, pushed me to go after my goals," she said. Longtime Salem coach Chuck Olson, who recently retired, also lauded both Zhangs for their solid leadership and academic skills. They were co-winners of the team's Rock Maurer Award. "Obviously, they've been a big part of the program for four years," Olson said. "They did a great job all four years and served as captains this year. I can't say enough about them."

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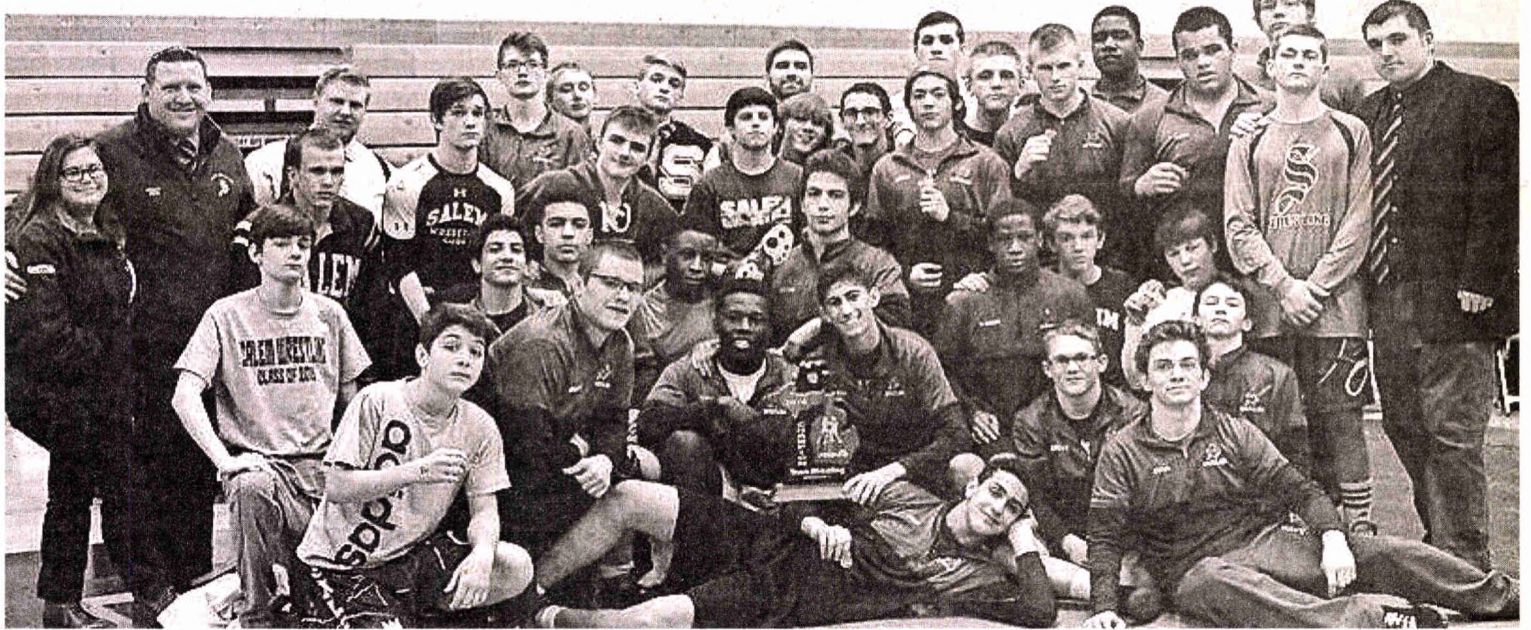
WRESTLING

Continued from Page B1

paid off. "We got clutch bonus points from Bruce Haslitt, Demetrius Fields and Roy Foster, as well as a big win at heavyweight from sophomore Jake Giorgi."

Bouncing back

According to Henderson, there were some mini-plots against Plymouth that were worth watching. "That was a big pin from Bruce (against Lucas Harden, in 5:18)," he said. "(Haslitt) had just had a tough match with that kid Saturday (at the KLAA individual championship), so for him to step up and pin him was huge for our team. "Jake Giorgi has also been working hard and beating some quality kids lately. Jake's match (a 9-3 decision against Sean Jensen) sealed the deal for us and it was good for him to get that experience." Shaughnessy (130), Haslitt (140), Foster (189), Fields (171), Giorgi, Akash Rai (125) and Seth Dunn (160) all went 2-0 for the day. Plymouth actually opened the district final with a win at 103 to take a brief 5-0 lead. Isiah Berry won in a technical fall at 5:50 against Salem's DaQuan Baker. After a Salem victory via forfeit at 112, the Rocks built a



Salem's varsity wrestling team celebrates after winning the Division 1 district title for the second year in a row.

15-8 lead following wins by Rai, Shaughnessy and Haslitt — sandwiched around Reed's 5-2 decision against Lindsay at 135. Back-to-back pins by Plymouth's Darwin Filey (in 1:17 against Tyler Knopp at 145) and Nourdeen Hussini (in 1:27 against Brodie Saincome at 152) lifted the Wildcats into a 20-18 edge. But the Rocks regained the lead, 21-20, following Dunn's 3-1 victory against Jacob Griffith. Fields and Foster then

racked up 11 more points for the Rocks with a pin and tech fall, respectively. The Wildcats did climb back to within 32-23 when Zach Lohrmann bested Tyler Moore, 3-2, at 215, but Giorgi's subsequent decision over Jensen virtually sealed the district title for Salem. "Everybody had a job to do tonight and the kids really dug deep and found a way to get it done," Henderson said. "It is all their hard work and dedication

to the sport that has made Salem a successful program in the last couple years." **Semifinals** Plymouth, meanwhile, reached the district final after routing Northville, 73-6. The lone points tallied by the Mustangs came via forfeit at 119. Prevailing with pins for the Wildcats were Tyler Campbell (103), Zachary Lundberg (125), Harden (140), Hussini (in 20 seconds at 152) and Charlie

Shaver (171). In perhaps the closest bout of the semifinal, Griffith earned an 8-7 decision over Artan Tagani. Helping the Plymouth cause were six wins via forfeits, good for a total of 30 points. In the Salem-Canton semifinal, the only points secured by the Chiefs came at 160 by Armando Chacon (who pinned Dez Dewberry in 5:26).

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SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

lot of success over the years, that is a big draw to players," Duhl said. "And even myself, I'm fortunate to work with some good coaches, that have lots of contacts. Because of it, we have over 40 kids signing today. "Half of them are Division I schools and the other half are really good NAIA, Division II, Division III schools. And places where they're really comfortable and excited about going and playing."

Ramping it up

Several of those future college players live in Canton and Plymouth, two of the club's top areas for recruits (along with Livonia, Novi, Northville and Walled Lake). "Can't wait to be a Hawkeye, from (Michigan) Hawks to Hawkeyes," said Leah Moss, a Salem senior who is a center-defender for the Hawks' Elite Clubs National League Un-

der-18 team. "It just happened like that." Moss will be going to play Division I soccer for the University of Iowa, as will Canton High School senior Natalie Winters. "Hawks just really helps you, because it's intense and they help you get better soccer-wise," Moss said. "Going there with Natalie? That will be nice. Seven hours from home (Iowa City), it's nice to see a familiar face." Winters, a speedy forward, is in her fifth year with the Hawks after cutting her soccer teeth with the Canton Celtic club. "I've known Leah since I was, like, 3," Winters said. "I think (both going to Iowa) was coincidence, mostly, but it's going to be fun." **Getting noticed** She stressed that although high school soccer is fun (she is not playing her senior season at Canton, however), "club is more serious and they help you a lot with recruiting." For anybody hopeful of

getting the attention of college scouts, "it would be beneficial" to play with the Hawks or Wolves, Winters continued. "We go to a lot of showcases and a lot of college coaches come and watch us," she said. Plymouth senior Anna DeBiasi joined Moss, Winters and other club players from the Canton and Plymouth communities for a group photo. She also is thrilled about how playing for the Hawks helped her land a D-I scholarship with Cleveland State University. "I really like it. It's really close to home and it's a good college in academics," said DeBiasi, a midfielder who, unlike Winters, will play this spring with her high school team. "It's D-I, so it was the full package for me." DeBiasi said she benefited from playing both high school and club soccer, as they complemented each other in helping her grow as a player, although her time with the Hawks "really pushed me to be a better player." Also gearing up for D-I soccer is Justin Murray, a

senior at Novi Detroit Catholic Central and Canton native who will play defense at University of Detroit Mercy. "Here, I played two years and Canton Celtic for nine years," Murray said. "It just feels like it's paid off; it really feels good." Murray stressed that playing for the Wolves was instrumental in UDM spotting him and ultimately signing him. "They offer big tournaments, Disney (in Orlando, Fla.) being one. That's where I was seen," Murray said. "I think club is more beneficial for a college scholarship. You just see more college coaches; you're playing better teams. But high school is more pride." **Family support** Other area players on the Hawks taking part in the National Signing Day celebration included the following: Madison Archibald (Canton HS), Siena Heights; Olivia Janke (Plymouth HS), Valparaiso; Madeleine Lucas (Canton HS), Northwestern; Megan McCur-

ry (Plymouth HS), Siena Heights; and Casey Muglia, (Canton HS), Ashland. In addition to Murray, area players from the Wolves signing with colleges included Hunter Gibbons, a Salem senior going to Spring Arbor, and Hunter Olson, a Canton senior who signed at Calvin College. Duhl — whose duties at the club include coaching the Hawks' U18 Black squad as well as the U17 Wolves and U16 Academy Wolves — also made sure to praise the players' parents for their significant role in helping their athletes stay the course, which veered far away from the club's metro Detroit hub more often than not. The families "provide a lot for their kids. They give them opportunities to play in our club. They travel and take them all over the country to play in games, different training environments. I think it goes to show you what a great community we have, more so than just a great club," he said.

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PET PROJECTS

Paint your pet's portrait and aid The Buster Foundation

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Joanie Wazney created her very own 'pitcasso' paintings and says you can, too.

"I don't have an ounce of artistic flair but I was so impressed with the picture I made, said Wazney, president and co-founder of The Buster Foundation, a nonprofit pit bull education and rescue organization based in Belleville.

Wazney is planning the Foundation's third Paint Your Pet Party, which is set for 7-10 p.m. Saturday, March 19, at The Paint and Pour, 22000 Michigan Ave., Dearborn. Participants will create an acrylic painting of their pet during the event, which will benefit the Foundation's rescue efforts.

During two previous parties, Wazney painted portraits of her dog and a foster dog — creations she calls her pitcasos — but she said painting party subject matter isn't limited to pit bulls.

"Everyone gets to leave with a keepsake of their precious pet, whether that's a dog or cat. People do birds, a turtle," she said. "It's a really great time. A lot of the people are Buster supporters. Others are animal lovers who just want to do a picture of their pet."

The Buster Foundation will receive a portion of the \$55 per person ticket price. Participants must buy tickets and submit a headshot of their pet by March 11 to thepaintand-pour.com.

Paint and Pour artists will sketch each submitted photo onto canvases.

"When you get there you'll have a copy of your photo in color and the paint will be set up. The artists will stroll along and guide you, if you're having a tough time mixing the color or getting shading right. But they won't do it for you," Wazney said. "It's a fun evening."

Wazney rescued dogs independently for 18 years before co-founding the organization in 2003. The foster-based group has approximately 25 dogs available for adoption. Volunteers, funding and training for foster dogs are among the challenges that she and many other rescues face.

"To get them homed they have to be well-balanced and able to get along with other animals," she said. "Today, shelters and rescues are inundated with pitty mixes. That's the what the majority of the dogs are, the reality of rescue."

For more information about The Buster Foundation, visit busterdogs.com or the Foundation's Facebook page.

Here's a sampling of other pet-related news:

"Puppy machine"

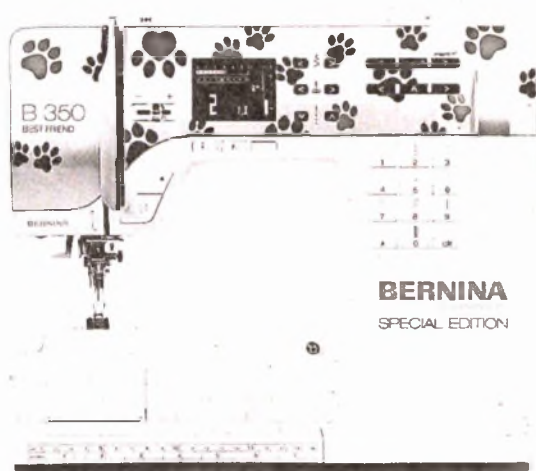
Bernina of America has introduced a sewing machine



Ready for your portrait? Pippa the dog says, yes.



Tink is posed with a toy and ready to be captured in acrylic.



Bits 'n Pieces in Wayne quickly sold out of these special paw print edition Bernina sewing machines, but has more on order. Bernina will donate a portion of the machine's sales to Petfinder Foundation.



A previous painting party benefiting The Buster Foundation

aimed at pet lovers.

The 2016 Bernina 350 Special Edition Best Friend is decorated in a paw print design, with a portion of sale proceeds benefiting the Petfinder Foundation.

And boy, is it selling fast. Bits 'n Pieces in Wayne sold two before it even got a machine out of the box for display.

"We sold the last one two weeks ago. Ours are all gone. We've sold out of what we here called the puppy machine," store owner Julie Hale said. "I know more have been ordered."

Hale and her crew called the product "puppy machine" because of its packaging.

"They made the box look like a dog house with wooden sides and a red top. It was adorable," she said. "I don't have pets but they did such a good job on this I wish I had taken time to photograph the box."

Hale said the machine's paw print faceplate makes it unique among other sewing machines. It also includes a few more accessories than the regular Bernina 350 model. Suggested retail price for the special edition Best Friend machine is \$1,899.

In addition to benefiting Petfinder Foundation, \$30,000 will go to The Quilt Pattern Magazine's Kennel Quilt Team, to help shelter pets. Petfinder

Foundation offers grants animal shelters and rescue groups to make animals more adoptable and shelter operations sustainable.

Bits 'n Pieces is located at 34629 W. Michigan Ave. For updates on Bernina 350 SE Best Friend sewing machine availability, call Hale at 734-641-4970 or visit bitsnpieces.net.

Spay and neuter

The Humane Society of Huron Valley is offering \$20 spay surgeries for up to 150 female cats this month through the "Beat the Heat" campaign sponsored by PetSmart Charities.

The idea is to spay cats in

advance of their heat cycles and prevent unwanted litters from being born this spring. Spaying and neutering is safe for kittens as young as 8-10 weeks, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Mention the "Beat the Heat" campaign when scheduling an appointment to get the reduced spay surgery price. Cats must be up to date on their vaccines. If needed, they'll be given at an additional charge.

Visit hshv.org/clinic or call 734-662-4365.

sdargay@hometownlife.com
Download our free apps for iPhone, iPad or Android!

Handbell ensembles move, ring in sync at BronzeFest

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Imagine ringing one bell that's as round as a metal trash can and another that's as small as a thimble.

Add 78 bells of different sizes to fill that seven-octave stretch.

How would they sound?

"In sync. We're the same thing. We're one instrument," said Darlene Ebersole, director of Classical Bells, a Livonia-based handbell music group.

"We have one of the largest sets of bells. We have 80 bells and almost that many chimes. We have ringers who can ring from a dozen big bells on the table. In the upper (octave) bells they usually have two bells in each hand.

"We get just so many notes and we're all a piece of that. You have to be in tune with everyone to do that."

That isn't so easy for beginning bell choirs, but Classical Bells, now in its 32nd season, consists of handbell ensemble directors and experienced musicians. The 15-member group includes flute players, piano teachers and percussionists who all love to ring bells.

The group has played with the Detroit Symphony, the Michigan Opera Theater and for Pope John Paul II's visit to Detroit.

"We rang once on a moving float in the Thanksgiving Day parade. We do some crazy things. You get a little seasick when what you're standing on is moving," Ebersole said.



Members of Classical Bells perform during the 2014 BronzeFest.



Classical Bells rehearses at St. Matthews United Methodist Church in Livonia.



Classical Bells is Dave Hunsche (seated, left), Sue Minkus, Karen Thompson, Melanie Notestine Draper, Sally Spearin, Julie Douse-Anglieri, Rebecca Rowan, Margie Moore, Kay French, Darlene Ebersole, director, (standing, left), Amy Clark, Darcie West, Heather Mills, Kayren Cross, and Judy Mellen.

Public concert

Classical Bells will be on solid footing — with six other handbell choirs on hand — at BronzeFest Invitational, a weekend workshop that culmi-

nates in a public performance at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, at Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills.

Classical Bells is hosting the event that will give advanced

handbell ensembles from Midland, Kalamazoo, Ohio and West Virginia the chance to work with Fred Gramman, a composer-arranger who is director of music and an organist at the American Church in

Paris, France.

"We love doing stuff like this because it makes you grow as a musician. It stretches you," Ebersole said.

BronzeFest, held biennially, celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. Ebersole said it's one of few gatherings that bring advanced ensembles together for practice and performance.

"We don't get to do mass ringing very often because we're not a church or school group. There are a lot of bell festivals with church and school groups, but when you put seven professional groups together, it's an amazing sound," Ebersole said. "The conductor is an incredible musician and he will get the ensembles to sound like one instrument magnified."

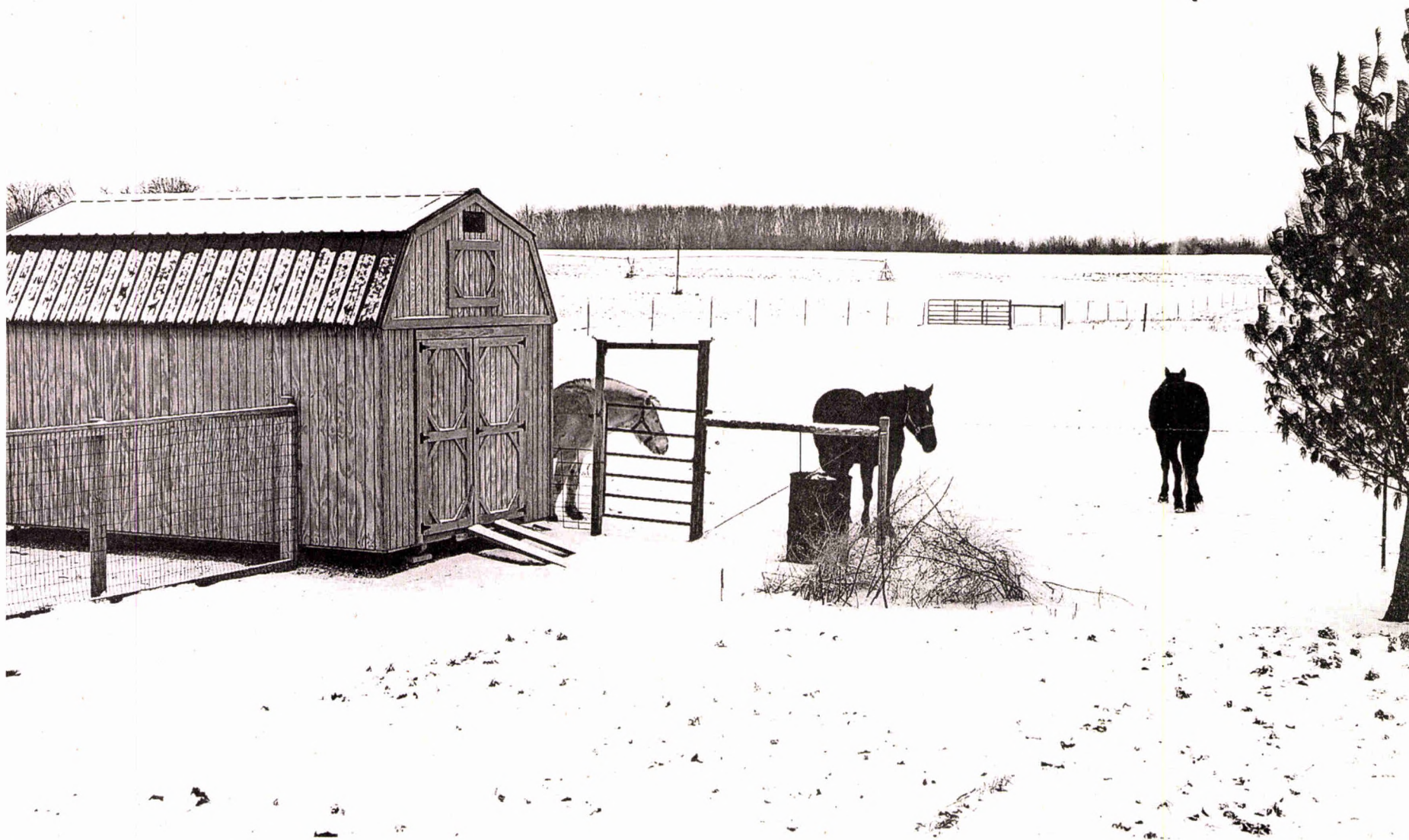
Sound, choreography

Participating ensembles each will perform a solo piece, in addition to playing together in one massive choir. Viewers may see more than just ringing by hand. Ebersole said handbell players have invented new techniques and pay close attention to their choreography as well as sound.

"It's not just making them on the table. It's talleting a wooden stick and stirring it around the rim to make the bells sing. It's suspending the bells and playing them with mallets. There are a lot of techniques for that."

She said Classical Bells has invented a few techniques of

See BELLS, Page B7



Former race horses and a work horse spend some time outside the barn.

JOE GAGNON

KEEPING IT SIMPLE

The Appliance Doctor spends three days living with the Amish

The story begins last summer while driving a county road near Union City with my good friend, Bob Merchant, who owns the hardware store in town.

I was telling him of my great interest in the Amish way of life when he pulled into the driveway of a well-

kept white house. When we stepped out of the vehicle, a group of little kids surrounded us and the mother came out onto the porch and asked how she could help us. We conversed for a while and then I boldly came right out with the question: "Is it possible that I could spend three days living with you and I



Joe Gagnon
THE APPLIANCE
DOCTOR

would be willing to do whatever chores might be assigned?" A date was set for three days and nights.

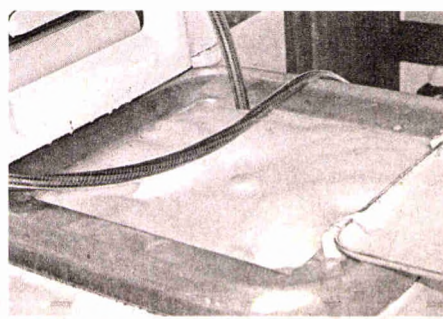
The day I arrived, it was 2 degrees above zero. Armed with long underwear and gloves and boots and a Red Wings Alumni Carhartt jacket, I was ready. Let me tell you right now, it was the most beautiful visit of a lifetime. You just can't imagine the love and kindness that I felt in those three days. The grandparents who put me up live in an addition to the home that the son built when he purchased the farm two years ago. Between the two homes is a breezeway that has a propane gas range, a Maytag wringer washer and four large laundry tubs with a huge table and chairs.

The grandparents live alone and the son and his wife with four children live in the original home. Across the driveway is a huge barn with six horses in immaculate stalls. Two of these beautiful creatures are used to drive the buggies. Keep in mind, when you are driving down the highway and see these buggies on the side of the road, that the horses mostly are former racers. There is a huge shed which contains a storage area for the buggies and a large workshop with another smaller shed they call the chicken coup. I quickly became an expert in that subject. There is another penned-in area where they keep piglets, raising them for a year and readying them for a dinner table. Needless to say, ham is a favorite meal.

Everyone works

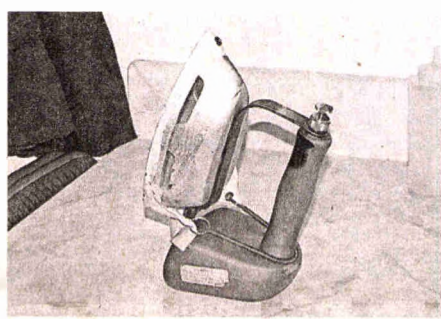
There are many Amish families in the area and all play and pray by the same rules. No electricity in the homes, no telephones in their pockets, with a land line allowed in the barn connected to an answering machine. They make their own clothes, which are solid colors, and wear these little bonnets that remind me of the nuns who taught me in the old days.

The men do not farm, except what they need from their small acreage for their homes, because they work every day at factories that produce small and large campers. The two men in this family are up at 4 a.m. to



JOE GAGNON

The wringer washer is in full agitation cycle, filled with homemade detergent made of lye, rendered tallow, ammonia, white sugar, borax and water.



JOE GAGNON

A steam iron that uses white gas has a temperature setting control and a face cover installed to prevent a shiny effect on the outside of men's pants.



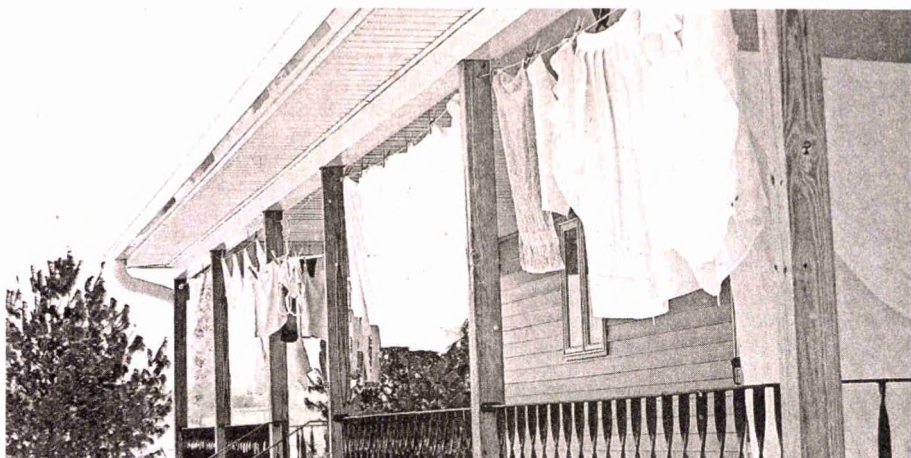
The home's kitchen includes a large wood- and coal-burning range.

JOE GAGNON



The family's summer harvest is canned and used throughout the winter.

JOE GAGNON



Clothing hangs on a line outside the Amish home where Joe Gagnon, the Appliance Doctor, spent three days learning about the family's lifestyle and appliances.

JOE GAGNON

feed the horses, no matter what temperature, sit for breakfast and leave for work when their driver picks them up at 4:30 a.m. sharp. It was a long day for the new guy by the time they arrived home at 4 p.m. The children arrived from school and each had certain chores to do before the dinner hour arrived. There is no slacking off for anyone.

There was a birthday celebration during one dinner, where three mothers, three husbands and eight children sat at the dinner table. The meal was out of this world, but most beautiful were the children participating with about 30 seconds each saying grace. It was all in German, which is their main language. Each person speaks perfect English, with a bit of an accent on some words.

Versatile stove

Bedtime arrives at 8:30 p.m., when the very beautiful and large wood-burning stove is filled with coal and banked for the night. The temperature inside is 88 degrees, but a cool 60 degrees when you get up at 4 a.m. Call it "sleep like a log." This huge kitchen stove is not only used to heat the place, but all cooking is done on and in this range. The top is a solid piece and clean as a whistle; bread is simply laid on it to give you the most evenly-browned toast imaginable. There is a long tray with a cover that you fill with water and leave open to provide humidity in the house and also a ready supply of hot water. It reminded me so much of growing up in northern Canada. Doing the wash brought back more memories.

The Amish are very religious and abide by ways that live up to their culture. They love to do it all their way. Their children are very well-behaved and very warm once they get to know you. Their clothing is immaculate and, let me tell you why. This family's clothes washer is an old Maytag Square tub wringer washer, which is driven by a gasoline motor. The grandmother and I spent more than three hours doing the wash. We pre-soaked for a half hour, rinsed, placed it in the wringer washer, put it through the wringers and rinsed it again and ran outside and hung it all on clothes lines that run around the porch. I remind you, it was 6 degrees outside and the clothes froze quickly. Once that happened, they were brought inside to hang on lines throughout the house. I can attest to the fact that there is not one speck of any dirt on any item of clothes, just unbelievable.

Each night when we knelt down to prayers, I thanked God for giving this opportunity to all of us as it opened all eyes to what is right and wrong in this world. It gave me a whole new perspective, which was so easy to feel, but hard to describe. Asked by a friend what I learned from this wonderful experience, I replied, "Keep it simple." Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m. each Saturday on WAAM-AM (1600). You can email your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Taste healthy foods, learn home exercise tips and get free health screenings at Heartland Health Care's annual heart health event.

It's free and runs from 2-4 p.m. Feb. 25 at the Heartland, 7025 N. Lilley, Canton.

"It will all be going on at the same time. There will be different stations and you can come through at your own pace," said Melissa Kersten, Heartland business development director.

Blood sugar and pressure screening will be available, along with body mass index assessments.

"We'll have cards to write it all down and take back to your physician."

The center's dietary department will demonstrate heart-healthy recipes and offer tastings. Its physical therapists will teach exercises for practice at home.

Heartland Health Care in Canton is a short-term rehabilitation facility, that helps patients transition from hospital to home after surgery, such as hip or knee replacement, or illness. Heartland Health Care, with locations nationwide, also offers skilled nursing facilities, assisted living residences, hospice and home health care.

Other health-related events:

Blood drive

St. Mary Mercy Hospital will hold a blood drive from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, in the North Auditorium of the hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. To schedule an appointment, call 800-GIVE-LIFE or visit redcross-blood.org. Walk-ins also are accepted.

Childbirth education

Expectant parents can learn about the stages of labor, relaxation and

breathing methods, strategies for managing discomfort, C-section deliveries, medications, anesthesia and more from 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, 9, 16, and 23 at Beaumont Hospital-Farmington Hills, 28050 Grand River Ave. The Childbirth Education Comprehensive Series costs \$75. Register by calling 248-888-2500 or visiting botsford.org.

Hearing Loss Association

Rick Boyce of Memtech Acoustical will present "Acoustic Noise Control" from 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 9, at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster, Garden City. For more information, call Tony at 734-664-3297 or email afe-rack@comcast.net.

Joint replacement

Learn about joint replacement procedures and implant options from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, at St. Mary Mercy Livonia, 36154 Five Mile, Livonia. To register, call 734-655-2345.

Peripheral Arterial Disease

Mohammed Abu-Mahfouz, M.D., and Mohamad Sobh, D.O., will discuss the guidelines for diagnosing, treating and managing PAD from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27, at Westland Shopping Center, 35000 W. Warren, Westland. Attendees will receive a free screening certificate. Register at 734-458-4259.

Enjoy a light lunch while vascular experts Nicole Kennedy, M.D., and Syed T. Ahsan, M.D., discuss peripheral artery disease from noon to 1 p.m. Feb. 22, in the demonstration kitchen at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital, 6777 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. Peripheral artery disease (PAD), is a narrowing of the peripheral arteries to the legs,

stomach, arms, and head. PAD is similar to coronary artery disease. Register by calling 248-325-3890 or email dk@hfhs.org.

Women's heart health

The women's heart health conference starts at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17, at the Townsend Hotel, 100 Townsend, in downtown Birmingham. Session topics include stress reduction and integrative medicine, the power of positive self-talk, heart-healthy foods and recipes, the perils of sitting versus standing, and more. The conference will include exhibits, massage and an opportunity to talk with physicians and medical experts. Cost is \$25. Register at beaumont.edu/cardiology-conferences or call Shannon Herrington at 800-732-6368.

Ongoing

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

Amputee support

The Amputee Support Group meets from 2-3 p.m. the second Tuesday of every month in Classroom #1 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan), Livonia. Call 734-655-2837 for more information.

Download our free apps for iPhone, iPad or Android!

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

Butterflies

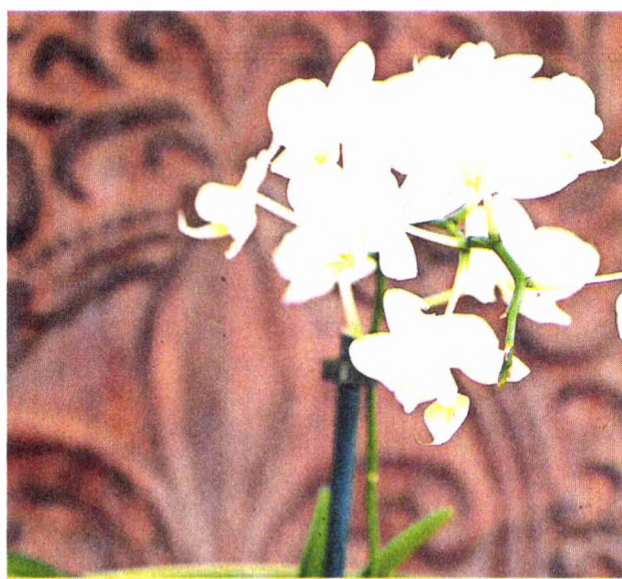
Mark Hunter, University of Michigan professor, will talk about the current patterns and future problems for Monarch butterflies at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17, at Nankin Mills Nature Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Free for members of the Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association; \$3 for non-members. 734-223-5510. sembutterfly.org

Livonia Garden Club

Cheryl English, Advanced Master Gardener and Master Composter, will talk about incorporating native plants into the garden at 7 p.m. March 1 at the Civic Center Senior Center, Five Mile and Farmington Road, Livonia. English has almost 200 species of native plants and more than 50 varieties of clematis growing in her yard in Detroit. She owns Black Cat Pottery and will have pottery samples and note cards for sale at the meeting. For more information, visit livoniagardenclub.org or email lgccpresident@yahoo.com.

Valentine Day hike

Adults, age 18 and up, can take an evening hike from 8-9:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 14, through Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. A naturalist will lead the "Stroll with your Sweetheart" hike, while talking about courtship behaviors of the park's nocturnal animals. Hot



Find dendrobium orchids and other species at English Garden's 14th Annual Orchid Festival Feb. 20.

drinks and sweet treats will be available after the hike, along with an opportunity to win prizes. Cost is \$5 per person. Register at recreg.fhgov.com or at the Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Call the park nature center at 248-477-1135 for more information.

Frogs

Friends of the Rouge seeks volunteers for its annual frog and toad survey. Surveys are conducted independently on warm evenings, after dark, several times each month from March-June. Potential volunteers must attend a training workshop from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 27, at Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. Register for the

workshop at therouge.org.

English Gardens

14th Annual Orchid Festival will include a free presentation, "Orchids 101," at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20. Make an orchid garden for \$24.99 at 2:30 p.m. Sign up online. Learn the latest trends and tips for landscaping to increase your home's value, 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27. Free. Classes are offered at all stores. Local stores are 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, 734-332-7900; 22650 Ford Road, Dearborn Heights, 313-278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, 248-280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, 248-851-7506.

BELLS

Continued from Page B5

its own and makes choreography a prominent part of its performance.

"We like to think of ourselves as the Rockettes," she said, with a

laugh. "Trying to make it look easy is important."

The group will play a new arrangement of "Singin' in the Rain" at BronzeFest.

"They'll be some rain stick and umbrella action," Ebersole noted. She doesn't want to reveal all about the piece, but hints at a twist in the choreog-

raphy. Think Gene Kelly meets handbell ringer.

Tickets to the BronzeFest concert are \$10 and will be available at the door. For more information, call 734-521-2525 or email info@classicalbells.com.

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Build a brand that sends the right message

BY DEANNA HARTLEY
CAREERBUILDER

It's nearly impossible to remain anonymous in today's connected world. The rise of the Internet and social media has had a profound impact on how we ought to conduct ourselves in the public eye — which extends to the job search as well.

Here are five tips to help you build and maintain your personal brand.

1. Identify your brand.

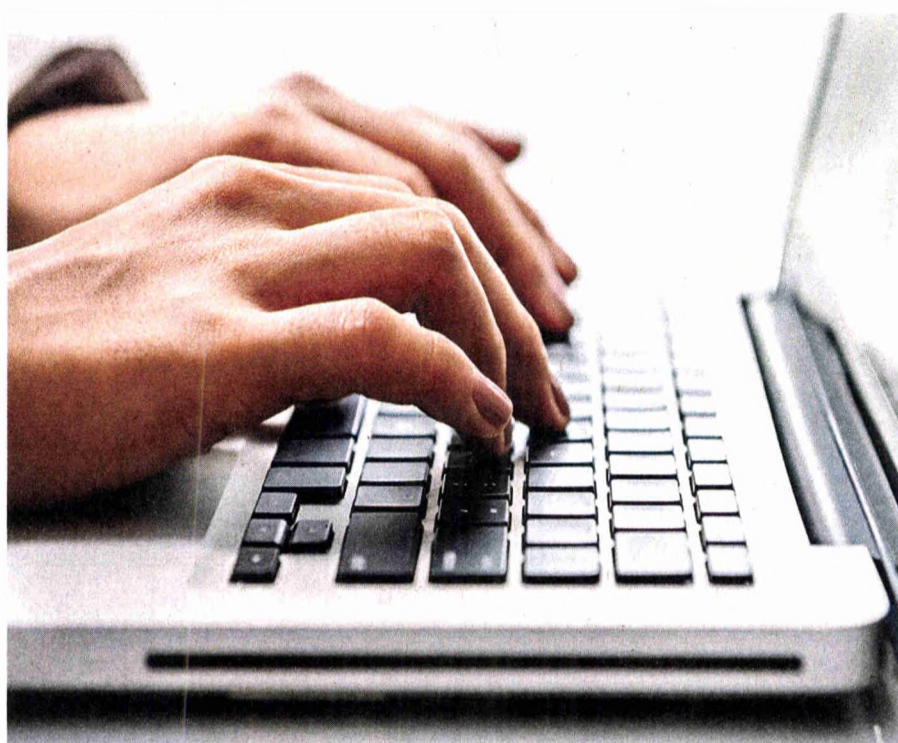
In today's digital age, you already have a brand, whether you like it or not. Do some research to find out what that is.

"Google yourself (and) see what your potential employers see," says Darius Fisher, president and co-founder of Status Labs, an online-reputation management firm. "Search yourself and analyze what shows up online. Anything you want to improve? Immediately tackle and correct areas of vulnerability."

"It's natural to be concerned with negative publicity or unflattering photos, but be equally concerned if nothing shows up in your search results," he adds. "If you have no digital footprint, create one today."

2. Be authentic.

It's important to be yourself, or people will see right through you. "Be authentic in all communications. Be likable and someone your audience can relate to," says Trish McDermott, co-founder of Panic Media Training. "When thinking in terms of your personal brand, you must first



THINKSTOCK

be authentic with yourself."

Lida Citroën, owner of reputation-management company LIDA360, echoes that sentiment. "Strive for consistency in building a reputation that's authentic and compelling," she says. "Be the same person online as in person, stay authentic and relevant, and build your reputation over time to achieve your desired brand."

3. Add value on social media.

Ross Simmonds, a strategist and entrepreneur who co-founded Crate content marketing software and the Hustle + Grind subscription service, suggests leveraging social media to drive awareness to your personal brand.

"It's very important for individuals looking to build their personal brands

to be consistent in telling their story," he says. "You need to identify the channels — Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram or Snapchat — that you want to use as your primary channel for communication, and be consistent in adding value in that space."

4. Start a website or blog.

It may seem intimidating or tedious, but a website or blog is a great way to control your messaging while showing off your interests and areas of expertise.

"Start a blog based on a passion or hobby or something having to do with your career," says Jennifer Krosche, president and founder of Blue Frog Communications. "For instance, if you are an HR person, you can write about connections and helping people; or if

you are (an) accountant, you can write about tax tips and deduction; or if you are a nurse, maybe a blog on health and wellness."

Regardless of the avenue, what's important is to put yourself out there. "Whether through blogging, podcasting, creating videos or self-publishing a book, if you can find a way to share your ideas publicly, it reduces the risk for employers to hire you because they already will have a sense of who you are and whether you'd be a good fit for the organization," says Dorie Clark, an adjunct professor at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business and the author of "Reinventing You" and "Stand Out."

5. Don't be afraid to show your personality.

While you should be letting your professional side out for the world to see, it's equally important to show a little personality.

"If you love travel, you may want to have pictures of the places you have gone or want to go; if you are athletic, maybe posts of fitness and health; and if you are focused on goals, maybe inspirational quotes, books you are reading and workshops you attend," Krosche says. "Whatever your hobbies, you should communicate those in a positive and fun manner to let people get to know the real you as well as the professional you."

Deanna Hartley is a writer for the Advice & Resources section on CareerBuilder.com. She researches and writes about job-search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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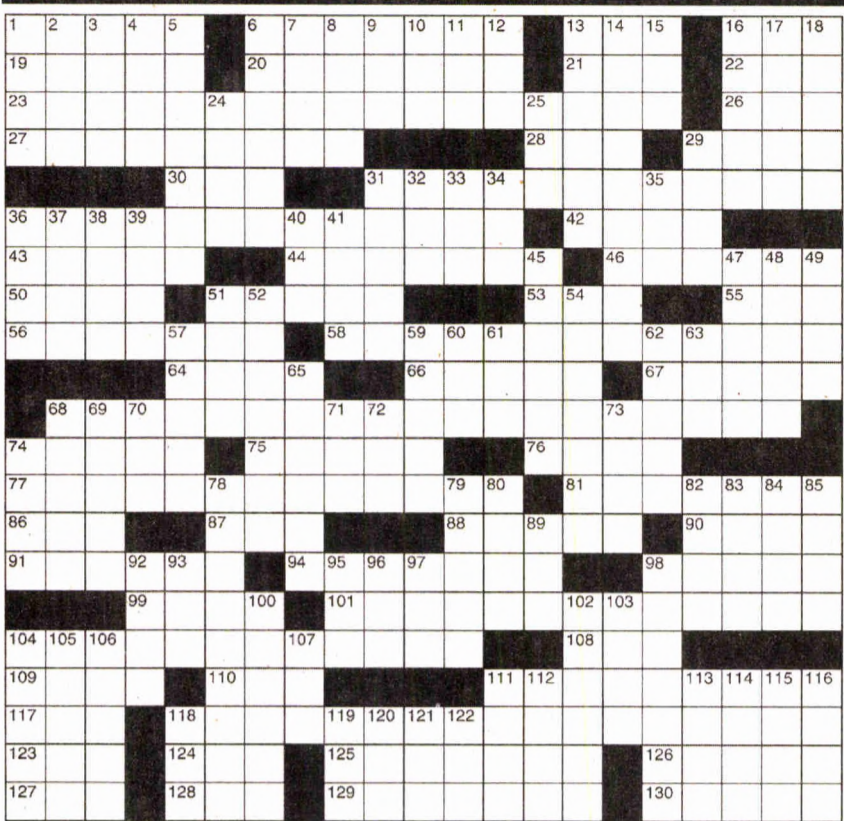
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SUNDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER



For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702/4247 or smcclellan@hometownlife.com. Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Flynn of old films
 - 6 Hardly subtle
 - 13 Census datum
 - 16 Actor Belushi
 - 19 Primed
 - 20 Its capital is Bucharest
 - 21 Install, as tile
 - 22 Prefix with polar
 - 23 Old directory-assistance request, in Belmopan?
 - 26 Pan coverer
 - 27 Vitamins, e.g.
 - 28 "— -haw!"
 - 29 Ale barrels
 - 30 Caesar of 1950s TV
 - 31 Add an inducement, in Stockholm?
 - 36 Rock band staple, in Doha?
 - 42 Galaxy unit
 - 43 Steelmaking places
 - 44 Divided-skirt garment
 - 46 Really anger
 - 50 — fact
 - 51 In the vicinity
 - 53 Early TV comic Louis
 - 55 Contemplable
 - 56 Alternative to GPS
 - 58 Tart pie
 - 64 "Break —!" ("Do well!")
 - 66 Duo
 - 67 Gets close to
 - 68 Dependents expecting meals, in Budapest?
 - 74 Mortise's counterpart
 - 75 Full-speed, archaically
 - 76 Place to live
 - 77 Really tough puzzle, in Manama?
 - 81 Like Bach's music
 - 86 Paul's "Exodus" role
 - 87 RR building
 - 88 Less effectual
 - 90 — lang syne
 - 91 Hip-hop artist
 - 94 Bona fide
 - 98 Radiate
 - 99 Jai —
 - 101 Hand over a duty, in Thimphu?
 - 104 Beach Boys hit, in Kigali?
 - 108 Will be now?
 - 109 Locality
 - 110 Lav. in Bath
 - 111 Promise
 - 117 Deli salmon ("Do well!")
 - 118 Orwell novel, in Port-au-Prince?
 - 123 Sch. URL ender
 - 124 Sporty truck, briefly
 - 125 Norm
 - 126 Ornamental ruffie
 - 127 "You're right"
 - 128 Actor Wass
 - 129 Argue in too much detail
 - 130 Long suit
- DOWN**
- 1 Land o' leprechauns
 - 2 Bausch & Lomb brand
 - 3 Balsa floater
 - 4 Sign of rot
 - 5 Greek harp players of old
 - 6 Chastal of women's soccer
 - 7 Poi Trent
 - 8 Gallic pals
 - 9 Lao-tzu's universal
 - 10 Journalist Curry
 - 11 Pen tip
 - 12 — kwon do
 - 13 Vulcans, e.g.
 - 14 Dictionary of geography
 - 15 Needle hole
 - 16 Kentucky Derby drink
 - 17 — Montoya ("The Princess Bride" swordsman)
 - 18 Center
 - 24 Israeli leader
 - 25 Soap stuff
 - 29 Deborah of "The King and I"
 - 31 La — (Philadelphia university)
 - 32 Intl. commerce group
 - 33 Munch on
 - 34 Richard Gere little role of 2000
 - 35 Fictional Solo
 - 36 Arabian ruler
 - 37 Lead-in to suction
 - 38 Snow queen in "Frozen"
 - 39 Blockhead
 - 40 300, to Livy
 - 41 Pier
 - 45 Tangle up
 - 47 Pond flora
 - 48 Melon, e.g.
 - 49 Lea females
 - 51 "Tra" follower
 - 52 Producing an effect
 - 54 So-far nonexistent
 - 57 Carta lead-in
 - 59 Everest, e.g.
 - 60 Outer: Prefix
 - 61 High degree
 - 62 Conclude
 - 63 Premaritally named
 - 65 Duffel with workout gear, maybe
 - 68 "You could — pin drop"
 - 69 Far from cool
 - 70 "— any drop to drink"
 - 71 Egyptian — (spotted cat breed)
 - 72 Grafton's — for "Outlaw"
 - 73 Sharif of film
 - 74 Ski lift type
 - 78 Manna eater
 - 79 Donovan of "Clueless"
 - 80 Speak wildly
 - 82 Waikiki site
 - 83 Cease
 - 84 Arm bone
 - 85 Early utopia
 - 89 "I'm not impressed"
 - 92 The old man
 - 93 Samara-dropping tree
 - 95 Green gp.
 - 96 Indian bread
 - 97 Amer. money
 - 98 County officer
 - 100 Pressed
 - 102 Less difficult
 - 103 Very dry, as champagne
 - 104 Bill — and His Comets
 - 105 Whittle away
 - 106 Infiniti rival
 - 107 Adversity
 - 111 Starbuck's captain
 - 112 Pudding starch
 - 113 '60s hairdo
 - 114 Dark genre
 - 115 Unorthodox sect
 - 116 — Stanley Gardner
 - 118 Bistro —
 - 119 Bisto check
 - 120 Cain raiser
 - 121 Silthery fish
 - 122 Pro-gun gp.

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

Here's How It Works:
 Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken 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 provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

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WORDS

- ADAPTION
- ALTRICIAL
- AVIAN
- AVIARY
- BANDING
- BEAK
- BILL
- BIOME
- BIRDWATCHING
- BROOD
- CAMOUFLAGE
- CHICK
- CLUTCH
- COLT
- COMMUNITY
- COURTSHIP
- DUSTING
- ECOSYSTEM
- FEATHERS
- FLEDGLING
- FOWL
- INCUBATION
- INSECTS
- JAKE
- MOLT
- NEST
- PLUMAGE
- PREENING
- PULLET
- RAPTORS
- SCAVENGER
- SEEDS
- SONG
- SQUAB
- SUNNING
- VANE

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

Crossword Answers

Word Search

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