

# PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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## Golf course management still in the swing

**Matt Jachman**  
Staff Writer

Billy Casper Golf, which has managed Plymouth Township's Hilltop Golf Course for the last five years, will be returning for at least another three.

The township Board of Trustees approved Tuesday a renegotiated management

contract with the Virginia-based company, a contract that includes incentives that will have Billy Casper sharing a percentage of gross course revenue rather than collecting a flat fee.

The new contract, Supervisor Shannon Price said, should prompt the company to find ways to increase course usage

and food-service revenue. The company, which took over Hilltop in 2011, had been paid a flat management fee that had been rising by 3 percent a year and was about \$87,000 for 2015.

The course had lost money for the first four years that Billy Casper managed it; 2015 saw gross revenue of about \$600,000, which about breaks

even with expenses. Hilltop had an accumulated deficit of about \$408,000 at the end of 2013, according to audited figures.

But officials blame the downturn largely on a golf market that shrank during the Great Recession and is now, they say, on the upswing.

"Revenues are up significantly from where they were

and the course in in great shape," Treasurer Ron Edwards said at Tuesday's board meeting. Golf took a hit when the economy was slow, Edwards noted, but is coming back.

"There's no question in my mind that this course has been

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Store manager Randy Schaufele (left) and company president Tedd Handlesman in the new space at The Better Health Store in the Plymouth Square Plaza. Handlesman said the expansion should be completed by late this summer.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## HEALTH FOOD STORE PLANS EXPANSION

**Matt Jachman**  
Staff Writer

A natural foods store with deep local roots is expanding to meet a growing demand in the Plymouth-Canton area for unadulterated foods and personal care products.

The Better Health Store, in the Plymouth Square Plaza at Ann Arbor Road and Sheldon, will be adding about 2,000 square feet and outfitted with a full kitchen, a cafe, service counters, an additional grocery aisle

and a fourth checkout line. The larger space will also allow Better Health to carry more produce, more fresh breads and bulk foods, plus fresh meat and seafood, said Tedd Handlesman, president of The Better Health Store Inc., a Michigan chain with 14 locations.

Handlesman, who started the company about 16 years ago, said demand is such that he could use much more space at the Plymouth Square Plaza store, now at about 7,000 square feet. But with its location, loyal customer base and long history in the area — the

store was well-established as Healthways before Handlesman's company bought it — "we felt it made sense to be here and stay here," he said.

"There's a big demand for it. I think it's going to do really well here," Handlesman said.

Better Health will expand into a vacant space to its south that was formerly occupied by a travel agency. When completed — by late summer, Handlesman anticipates — the store will occupy the entire building, which is opposite the plaza's Kroger superstore,

which was expanded several years ago.

Store manager Randy Schaufele said Better Health has a large lunch crowd, even with its currently limited ready-to-eat takeout menu. A full kitchen, with hot and cold foods prepared on-site, along with cafe seating and a salad bar, should be very popular, he said.

"They're just dedicated to this lifestyle," Schaufele said of his reg-

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## Service Project puts focus on fighting hunger locally, worldwide

**Julie Brown**  
Staff Writer

Teamwork's the key to success for the upcoming Greater Plymouth Service Project.

"It's about all of us as a community that are coming together for a service project," steering committee member Nick Schultz said of the Saturday, May 7, event at the Plymouth Arts & Recreation Complex in downtown Plymouth. Organizers are focusing their efforts

on Kids Against Hunger, with plans to work three shifts that day, two hours each, on an assembly line to pack meals. Schultz in a recent interview showed the bag which contains six meals, feeding those six people at 28 cents per meal.

Schultz, a Plymouth Township resident, tipped his hat to David Siegrist, chair of the Community Foundation of Plymouth. Siegrist is also active in Kiwanis and a certified public accountant.

"It was really his brainchild to open

this up to everybody," Schultz said of Siegrist. Schultz, whose family had owned a local manufacturing business, serves as foundation president for the Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M.

Donations are welcome now for the anti-hunger initiative and may be directed to the Community Foundation of Plymouth (checks payable that way), CFP-GPSP, P.O. Box 700866, Plymouth, MI 48170.

### Many clubs, participants

"It encompasses a lot of the service clubs and foundations," Schultz said of the May 7 event at PARC. Those include: Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, local Rotary Clubs and their high school arm of Interact, local Kiwanis Clubs and their high school component of Key Club, Plymouth Lions, Plymouth-Canton Jaycees, churches in-

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## GOLF

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maintained better and they've done a better job marketing," Trustee Steve Mann said.

The vote for the contract was 5-1, with Trustee Bob Doroshewitz voting against it and Trustee Chuck Curmi, who was late to the meeting, missing the vote. Price, Edwards, Mann, Clerk Nancy Conzelman and Trustee Mike Kelly voted for it.

Doroshewitz said he favored a shorter contract, but his motion for a one-year deal died for lack of support.

The new contract will give Billy Casper 11 percent of annual gross revenue between \$1 and \$600,000, 13 percent if

gross revenue is between \$600,001 and \$700,000, 14 percent if gross revenue is between \$700,001 and \$800,000 and 15 percent if gross revenue is \$800,001 or more.

Price pointed out that, at last year's revenue, \$600,000, the management fee would be \$66,000, rather than the \$87,000 the company collected. At gross revenue of \$800,001, the fee would be about \$120,000.

Another new feature of the contract is a clause that will give the company a \$5,000 bonus if annual food and beverage sales hit at least \$225,000.

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# Maybury Farm offers summer camp

Maybury Farm will offer Day Camp for Kids once again this summer. Maybury Farm Day Camp is a hands-on experience that offers a variety of activities that are educational and fun. Campers will enjoy learning all about farm animals including grooming, feeding and walking them. Kids will have fun taking nature hikes, doing crafts, playing games and learning team building skills as they get to know all about farm life and the importance of farm animals in our everyday lives.

Maybury Farm Summer Day Camp is open to boys and girls ages 5-12. Camp hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday



FILE PHOTO

Kids get close to nature at the Maybury Farm Day Camp.

and Thursday from June 21 through Aug. 18. There will be no camp the week of July 4. The cost is \$60 per camper per day or \$150 per week (Tuesday through Thursday). Kids can sign up for one day or join for a whole week.

To register for Day Camp, 248-374-0200 or go to [www.northvillecommunityfoundation.org](http://www.northvillecommunityfoundation.org).

Maybury Farm is at 50165 Eight Mile, west of Beck Road. It is operated by the Northville Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Maybury Farm is a historic farm that provides interactive educational opportunities for the public.

## PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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## STORE

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ular customers.

### Moving into mainstream

Handlesman and Schaufele said they want a store where customers can do all of their natural food shopping in one stop, from nutritional supplements to desserts and everything in between.

The natural foods market, Handlesman said, is growing nationwide as people become more aware of food ingredients and natural alternatives. Both national and regional players in the market have emerged and natural foods are moving more into the mainstream.

"There's a lot more competition than there used to be," Handlesman said. "More and more people realize there's a difference."

Better Health has a "no-no" list of ingredients, such as artificial sweeteners, hormones, hydrogenated fats and high-fructose corn syrup,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Randy Schaufele is manager at The Better Health Store in Plymouth Township.

that are banned from its shelves.

"We're trying to set the benchmark for what healthy living is," Schaufele said.

Handlesman started The Better Health Store

Inc. after his family's Canton Township-based dental supply business, in which he spent his early career, was sold to a larger competitor. He was too young to retire, he said.

"I had a passion to build another business," Handlesman said. "I love this industry."

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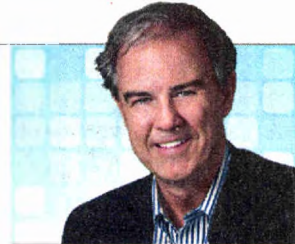
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David C. Kelsall, M.D.,  
Cochlear Medical Advisor

Dr. David C. Kelsall, a cochlear implant surgeon and medical advisor to Cochlear, the world leader in cochlear implants, answers questions about cochlear implants and how they are different from hearing aids.

**Q: How are cochlear implants different than hearing aids?**

**A:** Hearing aids help many people by making the sounds they hear louder. Unfortunately, as hearing loss progresses, sounds need to not only be made louder, they need to be made clearer. Cochlear implants can help give you that clarity, especially in noisy environments. If you suffer from high frequency hearing loss but maintain your hearing in the low frequencies, there is a solution called Hybrid™ Hearing that may be able to help as well. Be sure to discuss your options with a Hearing Implant Specialist in your area.

**Q: Are cochlear implants covered by Medicare?**

**A:** Yes, by Medicare and most private insurance plans.

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Visit [Cochlear.com/Det](http://Cochlear.com/Det) for a free guide about cochlear implants.

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Porcha Jordan of Team Tigers 1.

## Registration open for spring 2016 Miracle League of Plymouth

Spring is just around the corner and so is Miracle League of Plymouth spring 2016 registration, which must be done by March 11.

Registration for the spring season is \$60; save by registering for spring and fall for \$100. Financial assistance is available.

The spring season begins in May. Field time will be available before and during the season for players to practice their skills.

Players may be registered online at [www.bit.ly/MLPSpring2016](http://www.bit.ly/MLPSpring2016) or in person at the front desk of the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer Street. Hours are 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information on how to register, go to the Miracle League of Plymouth page on the city of Plymouth website: [www.bit.ly/MLPREgInfo](http://www.bit.ly/MLPREgInfo)

Miracle League of Plymouth wouldn't exist without volunteers. Online Buddy registration begins April 1.



Mark Kritzman, a Blue Angels player, with umpire Dave Vissar.



Jayden Gohl of the Royal Stars 2 with Buddy Wendy Williamson

For any questions about being a Buddy for the Miracle League of Plymouth, go to [www.MiracleLeaguePlymouth.org](http://www.MiracleLeaguePlymouth.org).

For large groups interested in volunteering, email [Chelsey@MiracleLeaguePlymouth.org](mailto:Chelsey@MiracleLeaguePlymouth.org).

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Chris Bitmead under his car, a 1976 Ford Falcon made in Australia. Both came from Perth, Australia, for the Detroit Autorama, and are taking home the CASI (for Champion Auto Shows Inc.) Award.



## Australian hot rod grabs recognition at Autorama

Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

A 1976 Ford Falcon from Australia — by way of Plymouth Township — found a lot of friends at last weekend's Detroit Autorama at Cobo Center.

Chris Bitmead, a civil engineer from Perth, in western Australia, brought the heavily modified muscle car halfway around the world to compete for the Detroit Autorama's Ridler Award, considered the top prize in the world of show hot rods.

The Falcon didn't take the Ridler — that went to a 1965 Chevrolet Impala owned by a couple from British Columbia — but was one of eight finalists, called the Great Eight. It also won the CASI (for Champion Auto Shows Inc.) Award for best car and attracted a lot of visitor interest, Bitmead said.

"We're very happy with what we achieved with the car," Bitmead said Tuesday. The Impala that took home the Ridler was certainly deserving, he said.

Bitmead and a team of friends from Australia spent days leading up to Autorama prepping the Falcon XB at American Speed, an auto restoration and customizing shop in the township. The car had been shipped on a

freighter from Perth to Philadelphia, a journey that took more than six weeks, then trucked to American Speed.

Bitmead, helped by more than two dozen friends, had spent years building and customizing the Falcon in the shed, or garage, at his home in Perth. The Australian-built car had started started out as a Falcon XC, Bitmead said in an interview with *Street Machine*, an Australian hot-rodding magazine, but he and his crew had added several features from the more aggressive-looking XB.

The Aussies, Bitmead said, enjoyed their visit to the area.

"Detroit gets a very bad rap" in the media, said Bitmead, who visited the 2012 Detroit Autorama for a sort of scouting trip. "The people were so friendly. Everyone helped us out."

He added, "It certainly

showed another side of Detroit."

Bitmead was off this week to a trip to New York City and Washington, D.C., and then planned to travel to the West Coast before returning to Perth later this month.

He'd like to return to Detroit some day — but without a show car, he said, because of the resources it took to get the Falcon here. "Once is enough," he said with a chuckle.

Shipping the Falcon alone, round trip, cost more than \$14,000.

Bitmead gave a shout out, and thanks, to American Speed founder Mark Trostle and the American Speed team.

"We probably would not have won ... had it not been for their help," he said.

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## PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

## Driver thought he was in the South

A drunken driving suspect awakened by a Plymouth Township officer early Monday thought he was in South Carolina, police report.

The 43-year-old from Columbia, S.C., was arrested after a preliminary breath test showed his blood-alcohol level was over the limit for a person operating a vehicle, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report.

An officer on patrol found the man, asleep at the wheel of a Nissan Versa, at Ann Arbor Road and Terry Street, just west of I-275, around 2 a.m. Monday, the report said. A woman, 29, was asleep in the front passenger seat.

The Nissan was running — with the driver's foot on the brake — and the officer shut it off, police said. He woke the driver, who at first thought he was in his home state, police said.

Police found a bottle of vod-

ka in the car, which was poured out at the scene. The car was impounded and the passenger driven to a local hotel, police said.

## Car window breaks

Something punched a hole in the a passenger-side window of a car as a woman drove west on Joy Road, west of Canton Center Road, the evening of Feb. 23, police report. No one was hurt.

Police Chief Tom Tiderington said the hole was about two

inches in diameter and was unlikely to have been caused by a bullet. A responding officer found no object inside the car that could have caused the hole, the chief said, and the interior of the car was not damaged.

A bullet, Tiderington said, would likely have gone into the car, while a rock would be more likely to have bounced off after breaking the window.

## Ammo stolen

More than 1,700 rounds of ammunition, in a variety of

calibers, was reported stolen from a pickup truck while the truck was parked Sunday at the USA Hockey Arena.

The victim told police he was at a hockey game at the arena between 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. and returned to his truck to find the ammunition, and the canisters in which it was kept, gone. The man said he thought he had locked the truck, but police found no signs of forced entry, a police report said.

— By Matt Jachman

## Dozens of cops in Livonia for community policing conference

David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

The Embassy Suites Detroit-Livonia/Novi may have just been the safest place in town Tuesday morning.

That's because about 140 law enforcement officers from across the state were inside the hotel on Victor Parkway at a presentation being done on President Barack Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing. Topics covered included constitutional and effective policing, body cameras and procedural justice, among others.

Livonia Police Chief Curtis Caid said the topics reflect an effort by police departments to connect to the communities they serve more closely so the relationship is a healthy one.

"What we're trying to accomplish is an educational component," he said. "Coming together as regionally and analyzing the recommendations, seeing what's applicable to each of our agencies, implementing those items that are good for the community sooner rather than later."

One way Caid said the Livonia Police Department hopes to accomplish one of those goals is by being open about its role in the community and

welcoming community members to meetings it intends to hold in the community in the future.

Law enforcement officers from as far west as Kalamazoo and as far north as Cadillac were in attendance to listen to attorney Eric Daigle, who represents municipalities and police departments in court on a regular basis. He touched on many topics throughout the day at the hotel, which is going through a major renovation.

## Policies in place

One unique attendee to the event was David Gelios, special agent in charge at the Detroit field office of the FBI. Having those proper policies and training exercises under law enforcement's belts is an important component to prevent issues from happening to members of a law enforcement force.

"My observation is stressing the importance of having policy, training and good supervision in place in the things that you do," he said. "You have to have all three of those pillars to be proactive and to protect yourself."

"If you have a lack of policy, if you have a lack of training, then courts or various authorities can hold that you were

negligent in doing your duty."

Garden City Police Chief Bob Muery said he's taken away ideas of how to create policy within his department. With Garden City being a smaller department, there are fewer minds to craft those policies that need to be solid and defensible.

In the past, most departments would have had someone at the top of the hierarchy crafting community policing policies. Now, Muery said, it's important other police officers, residents and other stakeholders work together to craft policies as well.

"So the biggest benefit I'm taking away from this has to do with policy development and reaffirmation of the idea that policy has to be constantly reviewed and updated," he said. "This speaker has brought up some interesting points on the sources for our policies and what those sources are."

"What I'm taking away from this is a broader view has to be taken into account. We all need to be on the same page."

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## Carbon monoxide alarms can help avoid tragedy

Tom Hughes  
Guest Columnist

Recently, two adults and four children, ages 2, 4, 7 and 9, were found dead in a Fenton home due to an apparent carbon monoxide poisoning. According to reports, the neighborhood lost power Saturday and the family appeared to have been using a portable generator in the basement of their home to provide electricity.

This tragedy is a somber reminder of the importance of understanding carbon monoxide and having working CO alarms in your home. Carbon monoxide, or CO as it commonly referred to, is also known as the "silent killer," because it is a deadly, colorless and odorless gas that is undetectable by humans. Low levels of CO poisoning can begin with a headache, fatigue or flu-like symptoms, while elevated levels can lead to confusion, unconsciousness and death.

According to the CDC, there are an average of 430 carbon monoxide-related deaths every year in the U.S. Make sure you and your family are protected by following these simple tips:

» Install a CO alarm outside of all sleeping areas.

» Install a CO alarm on every floor of your home.

» Have your furnace inspected and serviced annually.

» Have your fireplace inspected and serviced annually.

» Clean your dryer, water heater and furnace vents regularly. Birds and other animals may seek refuge in these warm vents and can cause CO backups.

» Never leave your car running in your garage.

» Clear the snow and debris away from any outdoor vents.

» Never use a generator or other fuel burning appliance in your home or garage.

» If your CO alarm activates, move all occupants outdoors and contact the fire department immediately.

CO alarms can be found at most local home improvement stores for between \$20 and \$40. Newer devices have 10-year batteries and don't even need to be plugged in. Remember to follow all manufacturer's instructions for the proper location, installation and maintenance of CO alarms.

Let this tragedy be a lesson to us all and don't let your family go another night without protection.

Tom Hughes is fire inspector for Northville Township.

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## New Plymouth company offers home-based businesses address

New business in Plymouth, [www.mailboxPlymouth48170.com](http://www.mailboxPlymouth48170.com), offers home-based business people an address.

Most clients and customers "Google" or "Map search" the business that they are thinking of using. An image called "Street view" comes onto the computer or mobile device when the business address is searched. Many small businesses look more amateur than they really

deserve because that image is often a house, a post office or a Fed Ex building.

New business [www.MailboxPlymouth48170.com](http://www.MailboxPlymouth48170.com) in Plymouth grants those small businesses a real address in an office building at 705 S. Main, Plymouth. The suite number is the same as a business owner's mailbox. For more information, contact Tom Goebel at 734-453-7000 or [TomEgoebel@gmail.com](mailto:TomEgoebel@gmail.com).

## Canton welcomes new business



The Canton Chamber of Commerce welcomed new business Accounting & Tax Services at 5840 Canton Center, Building 290, Suite 2, in Canton.

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### IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

## CORE Nutrition and Fitness on a fast track



CORE Nutrition and Fitness is at 8345 Ronda Drive, Canton.

#### Q. Your business specialty?

A. Relationship building, one-on-one coaching, group fitness classes, customized meal plans. First-timers all always free for their first visit.

#### Q. Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature.

A. We offer customized nutrition plans, one-on-one coaching and accountability and group fitness classes for all age ranges and fitness levels.

#### Q. How did you first decide to open your business?

A. Culturally, there is great need for places of encouragement. Somewhere to make friends and get 1 percent better every day. We offer free workshops every month! They all revolve around fitness, nutrition and mindset.

#### Q. Why did you choose Canton?

A. I was raised in Canton. I love this city and the surrounding area. We are passionate about building relationships and plugging people in.

#### Q. What makes your business unique?

A. Our coaches and clients. Everyone takes a stand for one another. You can feel the passion for people radiating through the club.

#### DETAILS

**Name:** CORE Nutrition and Fitness

**Address:** 8345 Ronda Dr. Canton, MI 48187

**Owners:** Jeremy and Rachel Royer

**Hometown:** Canton

**Opened:** June 2015

**Employees:** 20-plus and growing fast

**Hours:** We post our event/class schedule monthly

**Contact:** 734-578-3788, [raeroyer@yahoo.com](mailto:raeroyer@yahoo.com) or check us out on Facebook

**Q. How has it changed since you opened?**

A. It's grown a lot! We started with six coaches, now we have over 20. We also offer all sorts of new class types and times.

**Q. Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small business owner?**

A. Every day, we

bring free lunches to local businesses. We feel it's the best way to show people that proper nutrition can be convenient and delicious. We want to thank every business that we have visited for being so kind and for letting us serve your employees.

#### Q. How has the recent economy affected your business?

A. Business is good!

#### Q. Any advice for other business owners?

A. Lock arms with your community! Get to know the local businesses, the people and the events. Make a difference for people and Canton will be very receptive; plus, it's fun!

#### Q. What's in store for the future of your business?

A. We will continue to take a stand for our communities health and battle the obesity epidemic. We will continue to impact one person and business at a time.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Ribbon-cutting

The Canton Chamber of Commerce will host a ribbon-cutting at 1 p.m., March 11, for Wayne Lawn & Garden, 39915 Michigan Avenue.

#### Chamber auction

The Canton Chamber of Commerce's 29th annual Dinner Auction, will be held Saturday, April 16, at Burton Manor in Livonia. The annual event is the largest fundraiser for the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

"Our chamber depends on its resources to subsidize important programming, services and educational development. Funds raised from the auction are crucial in maintaining our mission to stimulate positive business growth in the Canton community," said Thomas Paden, president, Canton Chamber of Commerce.

"The area businesses have been extremely generous with their auction donations in the past

and we know that we can count on their generosity this year as well," he added.

The Canton Chamber Auction starts at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$75 per person and are available to the public. Your admission includes: open bar, strolling dinner, entertainment and the opportunity to participate in the live and raffle auctions. For more information, contact the chamber at 734-453-4040. This year's auction is sponsored by Jack Demmer Ford, Inc. and Beaumont Healthcare Center-Canton.

#### Promoted

Carlisle/Wortman Associates has promoted Plymouth residents Doug Lewan, AICP, to the position of executive vice president and Sally Elmiger, AICP, to the position of principal.

Lewan, 51, has more than 28 years of professional practice experience in the public and private sector, joining

Carlisle/Wortman in 1993. His experience includes all aspects of community planning and zoning. In addition to his management role with the company, Lewan currently represents 10 communities primarily in Washtenaw and Oakland counties. He received his master's degree in urban planning from Wayne State University and a bachelor's degree in community planning from Northern Michigan University.

Elmiger, 54, joined Carlisle/Wortman in 1999. She received a master's degree in landscape architecture from the school of natural resources and environment at the University of Michigan, specializing in environmental design and land conservation. In addition to providing continuing services, she contributes expertise in environmental planning, historic preservation, site design and recreation planning to many client projects.

## O'Malley is first woman president at Beaumont-Farmington Hills

Beaumont Health Chief Operating Officer

Carolyn Wilson has selected Constance O'Malley of Clarkston to be president of Beaumont Hospital-Farmington Hills, formerly Botsford Hospital.

O'Malley succeeds Paul LaCasse, who now serves as executive vice president of the Post-Acute Care division and Diversified Business Operations for Beaumont Health.

In this position, O'Malley leads Beaumont Hospital-Farmington Hills and also has responsibility for the hospital's various outpatient services. She will ensure the hospital delivers on Beaumont Health's mission of providing compassionate, extraordinary care every

day. O'Malley begins her new position March 7.

"I am thrilled to lead Beaumont-Farmington Hills," O'Malley said. "With our \$160 million construction project underway, we are improving our facilities to create a more comfortable, efficient and private healing environment for our patients and their families. The Farmington Hills area is a terrific community and I look forward to meeting and working with community members and business leaders."

O'Malley is the fourth president of the hospital and the first woman in the role. Botsford General Hospital opened in 1965. Previous presidents include LaCasse from 2005-16; Gerson Cooper, who currently serves as vice chair of the Beaumont Health board of directors, from 1984 to 2004; and Allen Ziegler, from 1965-83.

O'Malley has served as vice president and chief operating officer of Beaumont Hospital-Troy since 2012. At Beaumont-Troy, she was responsible for daily operations and ambulatory services. She previously served as vice president of Surgical Services, Trauma, Transplant and Ambulatory Services at Beaumont Hospital-Royal Oak with administrative responsibility for the Beaumont Medical Center-West Bloomfield.

Before coming to Beaumont, O'Malley held a variety of leadership positions with Ascension Health-St. John Providence Health System and Detroit Medical Center, including vice president of Clinical Services, chief nursing officer and chief operating officer. She has more than 30 years of health care experience and began her career as a surgical nurse at Providence Hospital.



O'Malley



## OUR VIEWS

# Prove transparency by using FOIA

Gov. Rick Snyder is employed by Michigan taxpayers. So are our legislators. Yet they continue to scoff at the notion of being accountable to the very people who elect them. Yes, they are accountable come election time, but what about all the important work being done — or not being done — in the interim?

It is way past time for the governor's office and the Legislature to be subject to the same Freedom of Information Act as the rest of the state's public bodies. Taxpayers have a right to know how the state's business is being conducted. The governor and legislators don't merit special dispensation.

Snyder, addressing the Flint water crisis during the 2016 State of the State, said, "You deserve better. You deserve accountability. You deserve to know the buck stops here with me. Most of all, you deserve to know the truth and I have a responsibility to tell the truth. The truth about what we've done and what we'll do to overcome this challenge."

Truth starts with transparency. Transparency requires full disclosure.

The fact is when Snyder released more than 274 pages of personal emails last month, supposedly showing transparency on the water crisis in Flint,

## & BETTER JOBS MICHIGAN



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

It's time for the governor's office and the Legislature to be subject to the same FOIA laws as everyone else.

much was redacted. And some say there are more emails that went unreleased. For true transparency to work, all emails must be released.

As one of only two states with a blanket exemption from FOIA for the executive branch (the other is

Massachusetts), Michigan seems to have followed a winding road with an attorney general's opinion also including the Legislature in the exemption.

Let's remember: FOIA law already has exemptions within which government agencies, municipalities and public school districts and universities operate. Under Section 13 of the act, there are 24 subsections exempting items ranging from trade secrets to Social Security numbers to information that might, if public, impede ongoing law enforcement investigations.

If that works for everyone else, then it should work for executive and legislative staff as well.

And if Snyder and the Legislature want to send a strong message about how to prevent another Flint-type crisis from happening in Michigan, they would immediately pass legislation subjecting themselves to the same accountability as others.

Failure to do so sends a simple message: They don't want voters to know what they are doing.

Michiganders should expect more from their elected leaders.

— This editorial first appeared in the Lansing State Journal.

## LETTERS

### Parking solution

In regard to the parking woes the president of the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce claims in the recent *Plymouth Observer* article are "choking us," I have an idea. How about constructing an underground parking garage with limited hours of operation, on the site of the former playground in back of Starkweather School and landscaping a

public park or green space on top?

It would solve several problems the city has in regard to historic preservation and preserving open space, while adding the parking business leaders claim to so desperately need. And it would definitely help Old Village business owners and eliminate the need for more historic homes to become demolished to make way for more parking.

Obviously, the proposed subdivision in back of the school would need to be abandoned. There are many reasons why it should be as I stated before. A parking garage constructed in an empty field would be easier and I believe cheaper to construct than in the downtown area near Kellogg Park. Provide some form of free or paid shuttle service from the garage to the downtown area for those that do not wish to walk downtown.

Dan Sabo  
Taylor

Colbeck how much time he is putting into this position, but did not get an answer from him. I would have asked him on his Facebook page, but I was blocked by him or by one of his staffers for agreeing more with Sen. David Knezek on the issue of Senate Bill 209, which requires the reading of the United States Constitution, Michigan Constitution and Declaration of Independence, with an emphasis on certain sections of each document.

It just makes me wonder if Sen. Colbeck is hiding something. Is he more focused on this chair position than his job as state senator, a position that pays \$71,865 per year, plus expenses?

Joe Gilligan  
Livonia

### WRITE US

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:

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uses insult to deflect or silence hecklers.

Comedian Don Rickles comes to mind. His style kept his career alive for many years.

Now we have the Don Rickles of the Republican Party, Donald Trump. He uses the same insulting style as he campaigns to become the president of the United States. If he is nominated by his fellow Republicans, it will surely derail the future success of the Republican Party.

Someone may be able to entertain with festive insult but you cannot address our present day global concerns and leaders with insult comedy — even if you feel as if the behavior fits.

Jim Brenner  
Redford

### If the shoe fits

Who do you know who fits this description: Someone who makes offensive insults. Someone who insults to maintain a competitive edge. Or perhaps someone who

# CANTON OBSERVER

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Joanne Maliszewski,  
Community editor  
Larry Ruehlen,  
Managing editor

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### Who is Colbeck serving?

On Feb. 10, state Sen. Patrick Colbeck was named the Michigan chair for presidential candidate U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz.

I tried to ask Sen.

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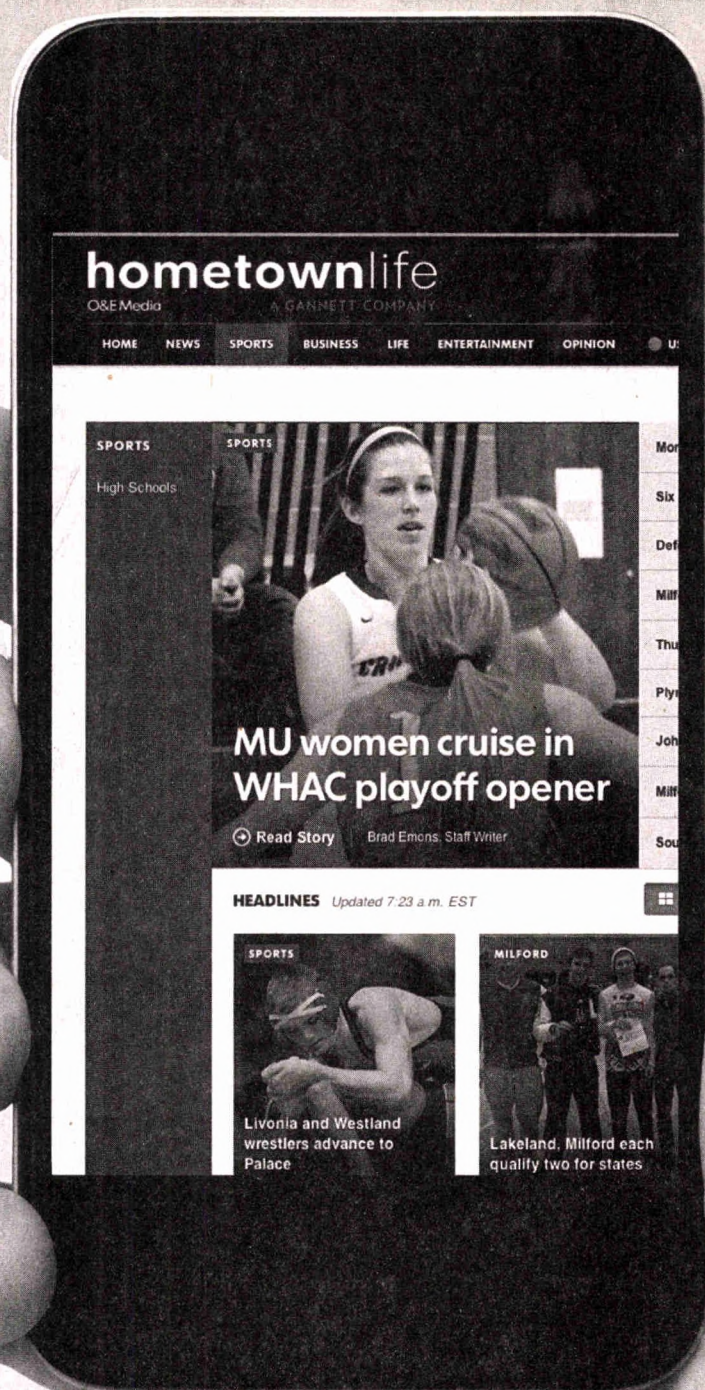
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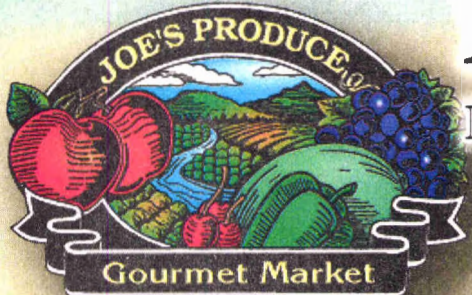
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U.S. WOMEN'S NATIONAL SOCCER



Salem junior Izzy Rodriguez proudly wears the U.S. Soccer crest during a visit to High Velocity Sports in Canton.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## TAKING ON THE WORLD

Salem junior Rodriguez All-American girl with U-17 World Cup on her mind

**Tim Smith**  
Staff Writer

When people tell Izzy Rodriguez how unbelievably talented she is on the soccer pitch, the humble teenager usually shrugs it off with a "Who me?" response.

Others take notice, of course. The Salem High School junior is embarking on

a journey only a miniscule number of athletes are able to take, as a member of the U.S. Under-17 Women's National Soccer Team.

Don't say that too loud, because Rodriguez doesn't want to have the red, white and blue rug pulled out from under her soccer shoes anytime soon.

"It's such an honor," Rodri-

guez said, pointing to the U.S. crest on her shirt during a recent interview at High Velocity Sports in Canton. "You never know when it's going to be your last chance to wear it, so every time I'm wearing it, I always know I have to give 110 percent. I always make the most of it."

See **IZZY**, Page B4



RODRIGUEZ FAMILY PHOTO  
Izzy Rodriguez competes for the U.S. Under-17 Women's National Soccer Team during a recent tournament in California.



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO  
Canton's Brianna Finn (right) tries to catch up to Salem's Darby Scott during Monday's Class A girls basketball district game.

GIRLS HOOP DISTRICTS

### Chiefs topple Rocks in opener

Canton overcomes sluggish start, posts 43-37 victory

**Tim Smith**  
Staff Writer

Canton's varsity girls basketball team dealt campus rival Salem a knockout punch Monday night, defeating the Rocks, 43-37, in a Class A district opener.

The host Chiefs (16-4) fell behind, 16-13, after the first quarter, largely due to torrid perimeter shooting by Salem's Marisa Martin and Darby Scott, who each hit two treys in the opening eight minutes.

But first-year Canton coach Rob Heitmeyer quickly assembled his team before the second quarter could get started, to bottom line it for them.

"I told them we have to close out on shooters, we have to get loose balls and we have to match their intensity," Heitmeyer said, noting that anything less could jeopardize ending what has been a splendid season.

With the Chiefs subsequently not letting Martin, Scott or other players get too comfortable near the 3-point arc, Canton went off on a 17-3 run to enter halftime up, 30-19.

"The difference-maker was they were four for their first four in 3-point shooting, but the rest of game they were 1-of-11," Heitmeyer said. "So making that adjustment, by closing out on the shooters ... being more

See **DISTRICT**, Page B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Canton's Jalen Miller (left) lays a hit on Salem's Shawn Weldon during Monday's Division 2 boys hockey pre-regional at Plymouth Cultural Center. The Rocks won, 5-2.

DIVISION 2 BOYS HOCKEY

### Salem holds off Chiefs' comeback

Hat trick by Callegari keys 5-2 victory in D2 pre-regional contest

**Tim Smith**  
Staff Writer

In the first period of Monday's Division 2 boys hockey pre-regional, Salem played as if poised to blow out campus rival Canton.

The Rocks scored just two minutes into the contest at Plymouth Cultural Center, with senior forward Nick Callegari sending a shot behind Chiefs senior goalie Isaac Salinas.

Then came sweet-looking goals by junior winger Matt Schaumburger and senior forward Evan Newel — the last

one with just 15 seconds to go in the opening period to make it 3-0. Newel took a slick feed from freshman forward Colin Goleniak, broke far to his left and waited for Salinas to commit himself before whipping a high shot into the net.

But for as easy as the first period was for Salem — and a 20-7 edge in shots was another barometer — the rest of the night turned much tougher than Rocks head coach Ryan Ossensmacher might have wanted it. Salem did hold off the Chiefs for a 5-2 victory and advanced to face Plymouth.

"You know, it doesn't really matter who we play," Ossensmacher said. "I just told our guys, 'I don't know if made one game easy this year.'"

"It's kind of ironic. For 'Secret Santa,' they bought me Just For Men Touch of Gray and I think it was pretty appropriate for the way our season's gone. Anytime you play a Park team, it doesn't matter the records, it doesn't matter the previous games. They're always going to be close, hard-fought games."

See **HOCKEY**, Page B2

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SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE ROUNDUP

Ocelots clinch another MCCA championship

Women cagers share conference crown; men's hockey team wins big against SVSU

Tim Smith Staff Writer

Six players reached double figures in scoring Monday night as the Schoolcraft College men's basketball wrapped up the MCCA championship with an 89-79 win at Lansing Community College.

The Ocelots (20-10) were paced by guards Ja'Christian Biles and Tyler Johnston with 19 and 18 points, respectively, as the team secured a second consecutive league title.

Chipping in with 14 points each were guard and Westland John Glenn product Dre Black and forward Anthony Wartley-Fritz.

Also helping the cause with 10 points each were forward Davon Taylor (Canton) and center R.J. Coil.

With Taylor and Wartley-Fritz each grabbing nine rebounds, the Ocelots enjoyed a slim 47-45 advantage on the boards while defusing any serious rally by Lansing (26-4).

Schoolcraft went up 50-41 at the intermission and held serve over the final 20 minutes.

Next up for the team is Friday's 7:30 p.m. NJCAA District 10 championship game at Delta College against either Wayne County CCD or St. Clair County CC.

On Saturday, Coil tallied 17 points and 13 rebounds as Schoolcraft defeated visiting Macomb, 86-64.

Women cagers

Schoolcraft could have two teams Friday at Delta if everything breaks right this week.

The Lady Ocelots need to defeat Mott (scheduled for Wednesday night), but if they did, they will play at 5:30 p.m. Friday against the winner of Tuesday's Henry Ford-Macomb



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Ja'Christian Biles (left) and the rest of the Schoolcraft men's basketball team wrapped up the MCCA title.

tilt.

On Saturday, a 21-rebound, nine-point performance by Rikki Scherdt was not enough as Schoolcraft (25-4, 13-3 in the MCCA Eastern) lost, 53-46, to Macomb.

T'era Nesbitt (14 points, seven rebounds), Jade Smith (10 points, 10 boards) and Birmingham Seaholm product Elise Tolbert (nine points) had excellent games in a losing cause.

Schoolcraft, MCCA Eastern Conference co-champion, lost the tie-breaker to Oakland as a result of the defeat and is the second seed in the NJCAA District H Tournament.

Men's club hockey

Schoolcraft College split a weekend set against Saginaw Valley State University at Redford Arena, winning Friday, 9-4, but falling the next day, 5-3.

"I was very happy with the team's performance," Ocelots head coach Rob Lindsay said

about the win. "We played with three solid lines and a tough defense. Vinnie Glenn (Livonia Stevenson) played a great game, just like he always does. He is a great addition to our team."

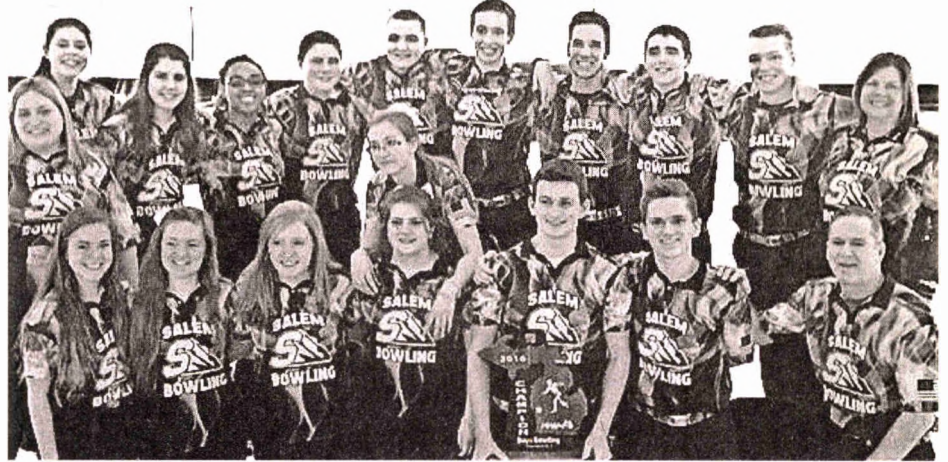
"We have established a work ethic and we have been picking up players that can play. We are making a presence and having an impact being a new team."

Glenn scored four goals in the Friday win, with Mike Lesko and Andrew Lindsay each registering two goals. Schoolcraft's ninth goal was scored by Sheldon Varhol.

Earning the victory Friday with a stellar game was goalie and Canton alum Nick Borg.

On Saturday, Schoolcraft led 3-2 after two periods, but gave up three goals in the final period.

tsmith@hometownlife.com Twitter: @TimSmith\_Sports



The Salem varsity boys and girls bowling teams celebrate together Saturday at Super Bowl in Canton, after each qualifying for the Division 1 state finals for the first time in school history.

PREP BOWLING REGIONAL

Salem bowling teams make history

For first time, both boys and girls teams earn a berth in D1 team state finals

Tim Smith Staff Writer

Talk about Rock-ing the high school bowling world.

Salem's varsity boys and girls bowling teams each finished in the top three Feb. 26 at the Division 1 regional at Super Bowl Lanes in Canton, earning a berth at Friday's state finals in Sterling Heights.

On the boys side of the equation, Salem — which shared KLAA South Division championship honors with campus rival Canton this season — finished first with 3,972 pins.

The Rocks edged runner-up Wayne Memorial (3,947) and third-place Belleville (3,882), led by juniors Mitchell Rusinek (628 series) and Alex Mattson (612 series).

"It was such a close match. I've never seen the spread between the first three teams so close," Salem co-coach Kathie Hahn said. "Going into the final match, we were leading Wayne by two pins and Belleville by 10."

Missing out on the finals were a number of teams clustered not too far behind, including Farmington (3,857), Canton (3,760), Detroit Catholic Central (3,664) and Westland John Glenn (3,642).

Hahn credited consistency "throughout the whole event," as the Rocks averaged 194 through six Baker games before posting games of 949, 902 and 952 (in the final).

Salem, coached by Glenn Clark, last won the team regional in 2013. Team members, in addition to Rusinek and Mattson, include senior captains Zach Gonyea and Jacob Kurth, junior Ryan Gonyea, junior Jake Jacobi and sophomores Brandon Kwapis and Joshua Hall.

Salem girls third

Also qualifying for the team state finals was Salem, making the ultimate tournament for the first time. The Rocks tallied 3,483 to trail only first-place Farmington (3,820) and John Glenn (3,758).

"These girls have worked so hard all year and just kept falling short," Hahn said. "They finished third in their division this year and

could never quite get that first place in a tournament this year, but they killed it on Friday."

The Rocks were consistently strong all day, led by senior captain Brynna Samuels (572 series, with a team-best 220 game).

Right behind her was senior captain Rachel Lopez, with a 527 series. Junior Olivia Harkins chipped in a 515 series.

That trio sparked the Rocks, who averaged 156 for six Baker games and had subsequent games of 855, 850 and 841 (in the final).

Rounding out the roster are senior Katherine Kehoe, juniors Leah Boucha, sophomore Alaina Langen and freshmen Abbey Harkins and Katie Collins.

Individual results

On Feb. 27, also at Super Bowl, Canton senior Tyler Pozan finished seventh in the boys individual regional to qualify for the state finals set for Saturday. Salem's Rusinek also made the cut, coming in 10th (1,182).

In the girls tournament, Canton junior Meghan Macunovich (fifth, 1,097) earned a spot in the D1 state finals.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

BOYS SWIMMING

Northville edges Novi to take victory dip

Brad Emons Staff Writer

Emotions ran the gamut in Saturday's KLAA Kensington Conference boys swim meet, with Northville successfully defending its title by the slimmest of margins at South Lyon East High School.

The Mustangs got a clutch performance from their third-place 400-yard freestyle relay team to deny rival Central Division rival Novi its first-ever championship by two points, 897-895.

Host South Lyon Unified placed third with 508, while Livonia Stevenson (499), Canton (486) and Plymouth (416) rounded out the top six in the 11-school field.

"We got our tails kicked in this weekend, but we just kept on fighting," Northville coach Rich Bennetts said. "We had an awful day today. The last four guys on the relay just kind of decided they didn't want to blow it, which we were doing a really good job of the entire afternoon today."

Stevenson captured the final event, the 400 freestyle relay, in 3:15.43 to edge Canton's runner-up finish (3:15.81).

But Northville got the all-important third as James Xue, Taiyo Ichikawa, Larry Zhao and Trevor Degroot swam 3:17.14 — two seconds clear of fourth-place South Lyon — to wrap up the crown.

"We tried everything, literally. We just didn't have anybody swimming

well, so we were trying to patchwork guys together to try and find somebody that's not going to lose us points," Bennetts said. "And the last four guys had no business breaking 3:20, but they went 3:17. I aged 10 years in the last three hours. I think they enjoy making me sweat."

Novi might have been poised to win the team title, but suffered an unfortunate break when its 400 freestyle relay team was disqualified for a false start in Friday's prelims. The Wildcats, who were the top seed going in, went scoreless in the final relay race.

"My boys are incredible," Novi coach Brent Pohlonski said. "Yesterday, after the disappointment on the relay, they started firing each other up. They didn't get mad, they didn't point fingers, they just started building each other up. We met this morning for breakfast and they just decided, 'We're going to win it anyway. We're going to go out and give it everything we have and see if we could pull it off.'"

And Novi nearly did as it captured two of the three relays.

The Wildcats' Joey Berman, Narayan Manivannan, Siddhardha Kareddy and Ryan Katuski took the 200 medley relay (meet record 1:36.15), while the foursome of Phillip Billiu, Kareddy, Alexander Yuan and Katuski took the 200 freestyle relay (1:27.88).

Kareddy captured the 100 butterfly in 52.08, plus

the Wildcats swept the first three places in the 100 backstroke, led by Berman's 53.22.

Northville's lone first came from Nikolai Arton in the 100 breaststroke (59.71), while Degroot (200 freestyle) and Kirk Maibach (50 freestyle and 100 butterfly) each placed second. The Mustangs also got a runner-up finish in the 200 medley relay.

South Lyon, meanwhile, finished nine points ahead of Stevenson for third.

South Lyon's best finish was third in 200 medley relay as Logan Boals, Brandon Bell, Max Kempisty and Zach Denny were clocked in 1:39.22.

The meet's individual star was Stevenson senior Jackson O'Dowd, who swept the 50 and 100 freestyles in 21.25 and 46.45, respectively.

O'Dowd, headed to swim for the University of Pennsylvania of the Ivy League, also anchored the first-place 400-freestyle relay and was a part of the Spartans' runner-up 200 freestyle relay (1:28.56).

Stevenson's other first-place finish came from freshman Benjamin Rojewski in the 500 freestyle (4:43.59).

Other individual conference champions crowned on Saturday included Canton's Daniel Mullen, 200 freestyle (1:45.59); Plymouth's Garrett Beauprez, 200 individual medley (1:57.50); and Livonia Churchill's Ethan Burke, 1-meter diving (446.00 points).

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# START BUILDING













ADINA ST. JOHN

Colored shells and fillings give the macarons visual appeal and help to identify different flavors.

## Tasty treats play starring role in Blu Kitchen's pop-up events

Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Adina St. John may open the Detroit area's first store dedicated to macarons.

But first, the Canton woman is testing the market with a series of pop-up events on Detroit's east side.

"If you go to some of the larger cities where they have the actual macaron stores, they'll have rows and rows of them like this," said St. John, placing the colorful pastries in a display case last month during her first pop-up sale. "Everyone is always asking where can they get them like that in Detroit. Well, you can't."

"So, the pop-ups...there is no commitment as far as having to lease a building. While everyone says they are interested in a macaron store, before I go any further, I'll know how feasible that is. Then we'll go from there."

French-style macarons look like colorful, light sandwich cookies. They consist of a filling between two meringue-like shells.

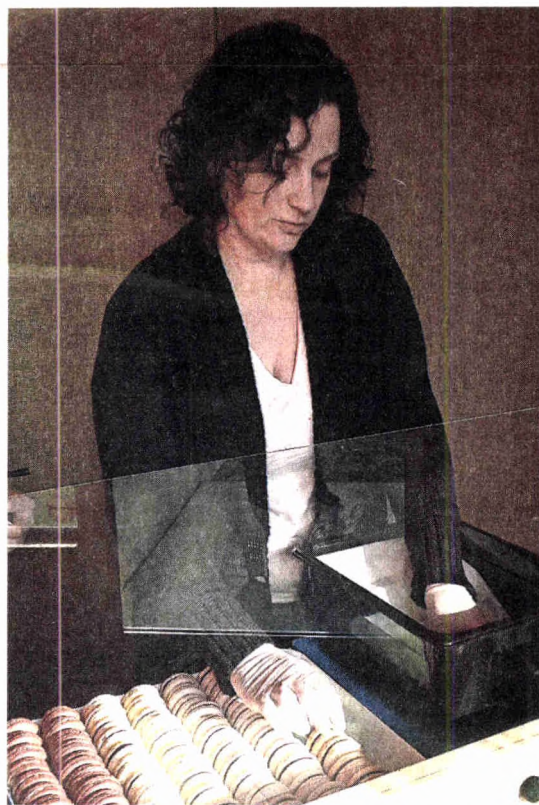
"Ninety-nine percent of the time the shells are going to be just almond, sugar and egg and the filling can be chocolate butter cream, caramel, pretty much anything you want," she said. "There is so much you can do with it."

She uses a food coloring in the shells to make the macarons visually interesting and to help identify the flavored fillings. The shells all taste the same. Macaron bakers use ganache, jam, preserves, buttercream — St. John even tried hummus — in between the cookies to add flavor.

She sells pre-packaged macarons at farmers markets, but at the pop-ups, customers can choose from a variety of flavors. Her business is called The Blu Kitchen and its pop-ups start at 10 a.m. the first and third Saturday of March and April, at The Detroit Marshmallow Co., 17215 Mack Ave, Detroit.

### First pop-up

More than two dozen shoppers waited for the door to open at St. John's first pop-up last month. They crowded into the tiny shop four and five at a time, eagerly handing over \$2.50 per macaron



Adina St. John of Canton carefully arranges her handmade macarons at a pop-up event in Detroit.



Adina St. John talks about her macarons while preparing for her twice-monthly pop-up sale.



Rows of macarons await customers at the pop-up event.

SHARON DARGAY

for a chance to taste flavors such as lemon, hot chocolate, coffee, and vanilla with sprinkles.

Chelsie Helder of New Hudson was among the first to fill a box and admitted she'd likely taste her purchase on the ride home. She decided to give St. John's

macarons a try after learning about the pop-up on Facebook.

"I love Detroit, so I came down," she said. "I wouldn't miss it. It was worth the drive."

### First taste

St. John bought her first macaron from Pinwheel Bakery in Ferndale. Then her husband, Jason, brought home macarons from France while on a business trip.

"We had them and they were great," St. John re-

called. "And I said, I can do that."

She, her husband and their teenage daughters had moved from the suburbs of Milwaukee, Wisc., to Michigan in 2010 because of a job transfer. She discovered the area's farmers markets and looked into the Michigan's cottage food law.

"I started thinking, that is so cool. I'd love to work at the farmers market. So, we were tossing around ideas of what I could make."

She considered jam, and then soap, but decided those handmade products were easy to find at local markets.

"When I started with these, there was no one else. When I started it was me," St. John said. "Now there are a couple of other people."

### Getting started

St. John at first used six different recipes and now bakes a combination of the six. She tweaked flavors and shell recipes for about six months and then began selling her creations. Her first event during the summer in 2014 was at a market in Birmingham. She sold macarons at farmers markets, including Eastern Market in Detroit and Novi Farmers Market and has been a vendor at the Detroit Urban Craft Fair for two years.

Although she started producing her macarons in the kitchen at her home, she also wanted to sell in cafes and stores, which is not allowed under the cottage food law. Eli Tea in Birmingham and Socra Tea in Detroit began selling her macarons after she switched to a licensed commercial kitchen in Plymouth, a white and stainless steel environment, unlike any of her previous kitchens.

"My kitchen (at home) is blue. The kitchen in our last house was blue. My kitchen growing up was blue. My grandmother's kitchen is blue. It's always been blue," she said, with a laugh. "If we find a permanent space, I'll make sure it's blue."

Visit her website, theblukitchen.com for a full list of macaron flavors, or see The Blu Kitchen's Facebook page.

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