The League of Women Voters

Guide for the Nov. 3 general election.

available at the public libraries as well

as on the League's Web site, www.

The League of Women Voters

features non-partisan candidate

information, and the Voter Guide

to compare the candidates.

League's Web site.

Plymouth **Township Police** 

are looking

for this man in

connection with a home invasion

and the use of

stolen credit cards.

provides an easy vehicle for the voters

Both Comcast and WOW have committed to re-broadcast the Candidate Forums that the League

sponsored on Oct. 8 for these two contests. The dates and times for the airtimes will also be available on the

Suspect sought

Police in

Township are asking for help in

shown in this still from a security video using a credit card that was reported stolen in

a Sept. 22 home

invasion in the township.

businesses.

The card has

been used at several

information about the man can call

Anyone with any

locating this man,

Plymouth

lwvnww.org.

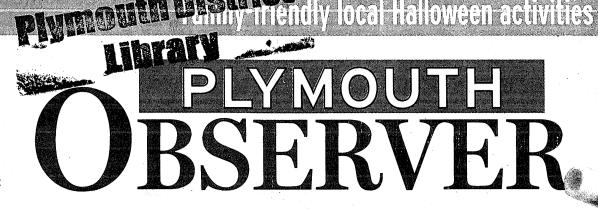
Voter Guides for the Plymouth City

Commission and the Plymouth-

Canton Public School Board are

of Northwest Wayne County has

prepared a non-partisan Voter



Softball-loving senior citizens stay in the game - B1

online at hometownlife.com

### Price hikes trimmed in trash pact **PIPELINE** Voter guide

BY MATT JACHMAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

Last-minute bargaining by Plymouth officials trimmed two of the five scheduled price increases in a five-year extension of the city's contract with its waste-hauler.

The deal with Republic Waste Services was unanimously approved by the Plymouth City Commission on Monday after Commissioner Ron Loiselle tacked on an amendment cutting the 2010 and 2011 increases from 4 percent to 3 percent each. Stephanie Glysson, Republic's director of governmental services, had

accepted the reductions in a discussion with commissioners.

"Our budget is so uncertain that I'm really, really dicey about signing a contract that's going to guarantee someone 4 percent a year," said Loiselle, who proposed a one-year contract.

The contract that was approved will move the price Republic charges the city for trash, recycling and yardwaste pickup from \$10.82 to \$11.54 per stop, per month, when it takes effect, which is expected to be next month. It calls for 3-percent increases each year for 2010 and 2011, and 4-percent increases for 2012 and

Republic has more than 2,900 stops in Plymouth, at both homes and businesses, according to a 2008

The contract also calls for a surcharge should the wholesale price Republic pays for diesel fuel average more than \$3 a gallon over one month. The surcharge would be .05 percent of the monthly fee for every penny above \$3; should the fuel price average \$3.25 a gallon one month, for example, the surcharge would be 1.25 percent.

Conversely, Republic would pay a rebate, based on the same formula,

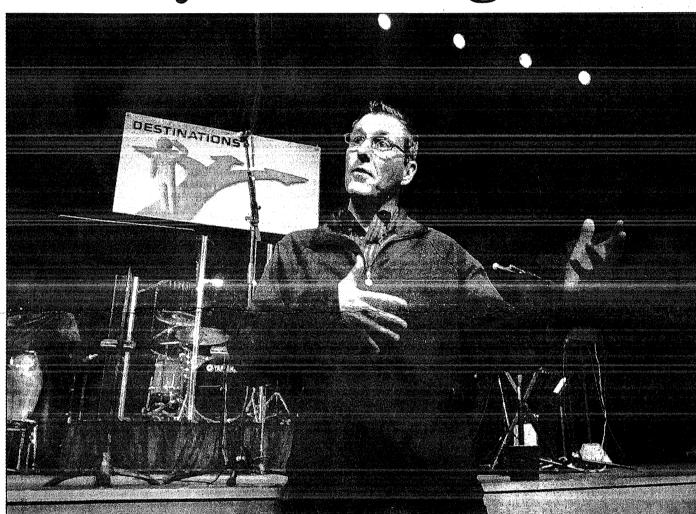
if its diesel fuel averages less than \$2.25 a gallon in a given month.

Republic previously wasn't able to recover any fuel costs recently in times when the price of diesel fuel rose sharply. "We've had to bite the bullet pretty hard on that," Glysson

said. In addition, commissioners decided to stick with the current program of weekly curbside recycling pickup, despite Glysson's pitch for everyother-week recycling, which would require the use of larger, wheeled, 95-gallon recycling bins that would

Please see TRASH, A3

## Back yard to big house



music used in worship

Pastor Alex Rahill, in the

auditorium of

contemporary

the church, talks about the

Worthy speaks The Plymouth Democratic Club

hosts a special event with guest speaker Wayne County Prosecuting Attorney Kym Worthy at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 29, at the Plymouth District Library on Main Street. This event is free and

detective Sgt. Steve Rapson at (734)

open to the public. RSVP to PlymouthDemocrats@gmail.com.

For more information, visit the club's Web site at www. PlymouthDemocraticClub.com

#### Citizens meet

The Plymouth Citizens Committee meets in the Friends Room at the Plymouth District Library at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28.

On the agenda will be a discussion of comments made by a Northville Township trustee about "how they are doing the responsible thing and funding their future retiree health care cost," Citizen Committee officials said.

Talk will also center around the Plymouth Township Compensation Commission and other agenda items on the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees meeting the night before.

Growing church tries to 'lead by

example'

BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

A Canton church that started as a small group meeting in Alex Rahill's back yard in 2002 has grown into an 800-member congregation worshipping inside a 21,000-square-foot brick building on the northwest corner of Haggerty and Warren.

It's called lifechurch, but don't be fooled by the small "l" in its name. "There's something big going on inside those walls," 26-year-old member Jeff Packer of Canton said.

Packer and others describe lifechurch, part of the rapidly growing Evangelical Covenant Church, as a welcoming place where they can dress casually, talk frankly about real-life problems and watch a rock band perform Christian and secular songs. Rahill, the lead pastor, incorporates the music into

Please see CHURCH, A2



LifeChurch is located on **Haggerty Road** at Warren.

#### Index

APARTMENTS ... ... ... C2 AUTOMOTIVE ... ... ... C5 CAREER BUILDER ... ... C4 CROSSWORD PUZZLE ... ... C2 FILTER ... ... ... B7 FOOD & WINE ... ... ... B8 OBITUARIES.. ... ... ... B5
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## New Jaycees chapter gets city recognition

**OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

The Plymouth Area Jaycees, a new group of young people looking to improve leadership and organizational skills and get more involved in the community, gained traction earlier this month with a proclamation from Plymouth Mayor Phil

The mayor's Oct. 5 proclamation declared the Plymouth Area Jaycees, which earlier this year replaced a defunct local Jaycees chapter, Ambassadors of Plymouth. Membership vice president Dominique Duong said it's an important recognition, noting the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce has a similar

We want to be recognized as a group in the community," Duong said.

The new Jaycees chapter has been holding regular monthly meetings and has sponsored a discounted "bowling bailout" social event earlier this month.

The Jaycees are also planning increased community involvement, especially in next year's Plymouth Relay For Life fund-raiser for the

American Cancer Society, for which the chapter is fielding a team of walkers who've already started raising money, Duong said. Nationally, the Jaycees are partners with the American Cancer Society in hosting Relays around the country.

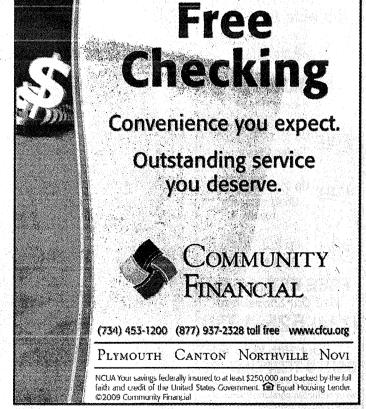
"We definitely want all our members there," said Duong, who also serves on the local Relay for Life committee.

There are currently some 26 members of the Plymouth Area Jaycees; Duong said the goal is to have 35 members by year's end. "We're hoping to grow a lot more. We're trying

to get out in the community a little bit more," she said. The Jaycees, known formally as the Junior Chamber of Commerce, is for men and women

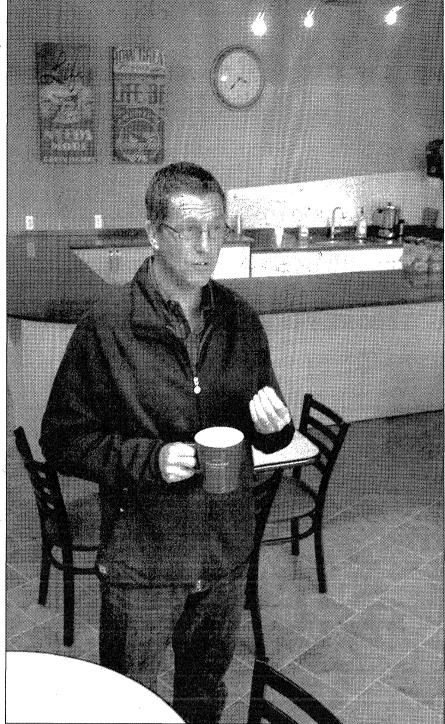
ages 21 to 40. The Plymouth Area Jaycees hold general membership meetings on the fourth Thursday of every month. The October meeting is 6:30 p.m. Oct. 22 at the Plymouth Coffee Bean, on Penniman between Main Street and Harvey. Visitors are wel-

The Plymouth Area Jaycees can be reached via e-mail at PlymouthJuniorChamber@gmail.com.



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, October 22, 2009

**Pastor Alex Rahill** of LifeChurch, in the coffee lounge area of the



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

his sermons to get his message

I don't have to put on a front and be somebody I'm not," Packer said. "It's hard to show up on a Sunday without having something tug at your heart?

Just in time for Halloween, a band performance of Michael Jackson's Thriller is coming to the Sunday, Oct. 25, services.

Rahill, 46, said lifechurch draws members from Canton Plymouth Livonia Westland, Redford, Garden City, Farmington, Dearborn and other communities. After its backyard beginnings, the congregation leased space in elementary schools before moving in April to a site that formerly housed a construction firm and warehouse.

The stylishly decorated church houses a large worship area and stage, a cafe, basketball goals, children's rooms for age-appropriate activities, and a place where nursing mothers can comfortably tend to their newborns while watching services on a television screen.

'We look kind of like Starbucks. We try to create a barrier-free facility to God," said Rahill, who has four children with wife Marcie.

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NEW

#### **SUNDAY SERVICES** try to be relevant in minister-• What: lifechurch Canton ing to their largely youthful congregation, unemployed auto workers, foster parents,

Rahill and five other pastors

debt-ridden families, recover-

ing substance abusers — any-

one who needs help or inspira-

healed here," Rahill said. "The

church is a place where people

can find friendship and mean-

ingful relationships, a place

Although lifechurch is a

Christian church, Rahill said

people who have no religious

"People are allowed to

elong before they believe

Rahill said lifechurch

started out mostly as a congre-

gation of teens and people in

their 20s. "Then they started

Some services incorporate

rock and popular music, and

Rahill said the performance

machines and dancing. He

of Thriller will include smoke

said even someone as talented

as Michael Jackson had strug-

ines the lyrics in popular songs

"Whatever the song is, we

piggyback on that theme," he

Sunday services are at 9

third service at 12:30 p.m. will

a.m. and 10:45 a.m., and a

begin on Nov. 1.

gles in life, and Rahill exam-

to teach his congregation.

bringing their parents."

background or who aren't sure

what they believe are welcome.

where they can be real."

"We've had marriages

tion.

said.

said.

• Where: 7001 Haggerty, Canton

• When: Sunday services are at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., and a third service at 12:30 p.m. will begin

Nov. 1. Phone/Web site: (734) 927-1175; www.lifechurchcanton.org

The church teaches by example. Rahill said congregation members drive in a mobile soup kitchen to deliver food to the homeless in Detroit, a city where lifechurch also has a sister church, Messiah Church.

"Church is not a product consume, but a commitment you engage in," Rahill said.

To that end, services may include not only rock music, but videos, drama and props. One time, Rahill started up a motorcycle and drove it across the stage to demonstrate how people need to turn a key in their own lives in order to move forward.

"This church is so real," said 23-year-old member Jennifer Kompoltowicz of Plymouth. "I've been to churches before where I leave and wonder what they were talking about. When I go to lifechurch, I can apply it to everyday life. It helps me learn to be a better person."

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238

#### available basis. Send details to bkadrich@ hometownlife.com Pipes Spooktacular St. John's Pipes Spooktacular

"Around Plymouth" is designed to announce upcoming events taking place in the community. Items will run on a space-

will feature eerie and spooky music for organ and other instruments starring St. John's Minister of Music, Julie Ford, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon in Plymouth.

Also included in this unusual Halloween celebration will be Stephen Warner of the Ann Arbor Michigan Theater and Detroit's Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church; the Celebration Flute Choir (part of the Plymouth Symphony's Celebration Youth Orchestra) led by Director Nan Washburn; and Annette Masson, Professor of Theatre at the University of Michigan. Concertgoers are encouraged to attend in costume!

Admission is free and the concert is open to the public. A free-will offering will be accepted. For more information, call (734) 453-0190.

#### Mary Todd program

Mary Todd Lincoln spent the latter years of her life in mourning for a murdered husband and the loss of three children. On Sunday, Oct. 25, the Plymouth Historical Museum will host "Mary Todd Lincoln and Civil War Mourning Rituals" along with a Mourning

Sip on our special brew of Victorian tea and nibble on scones, tea sandwiches, and other Victorian fare while enjoying a performance by The Sorrowful Sisters. The "sisters," Debbie Eleson and Gail Smalley of The Petticoat Ladies, will put on an educational performance detailing the sorrowful and tragic life of Mary Lincoln. They will also provide a description of how Victorians handled mourning during the Civil War. The tea begins at 2 pm and will be catered by Sweet Afton Tea Room in Plymouth. Tickets are \$20 for Plymouth Historical Society members and \$25 for non-members, and can be purchased at the Plymouth Historical Museum during open hours, or on the website at http://www. plymouthhistory.org/Events.html using PayPal. The tea and presentation are being sponsored by Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth

The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, a block north of downtown Plymouth. Hours are Wednesday. Friday, Saturday, Sunday 1-4 p.m. For further information, call (734) 455-8940.

#### Chiefettes clinic

The Canton Chiefettes are hosting a Pom Pon Clinic for kids ages 5-14 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14, at the Canton High School gym in the Phase III building.

Kids will learn a pom routine and a short dance routine. Cost is \$45 per child and includes a T-shirt, poms and a snack. Discounts are available for additional siblings and for participants of the August 29 clinic. Parents are invited to watch their daughters perform at 2:30 p.m. All girls attending are invited to perform at a Canton Varsity Basketball game Dec. 11.

Registration is from 11-11:30 a.m. the morning of the clinic. Visit our Web site at www.cantonchiefettes.com to pre-regis-

#### AROUND PLYMOUTH

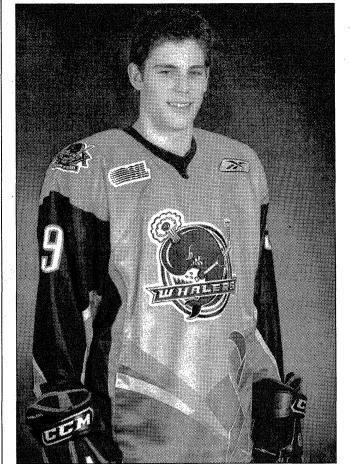


PHOTO BY WALT DMOCH

#### Pinked out

Plymouth's Tyler Sequin models the pink jersey the Whalers will be wearing on Saturday when the Plymouth Whalers annual Pink Out! For Breast Cancer Awareness happens Saturday, Oct. 24 at 7:05 p.m. against the Belleville Bulls at Compuware Arena. The Whalers will be wearing special pink jerseys for the event and the entire team will be dying their hair pink. The game-worn pink jerseys will be auctioned off the night of the Pink Out!

ter and save \$5 before Nov. 13. Registration is limited to the first 100 participants.

For more information e-mail pomclinic@cantonchiefettes.com

#### Halloween movie

The Plymouth Community YMCA is hosting a Halloween celebration at the Penn Theater with a showing of "Monster House" on Saturday, Oct. 31. Doors open at 10 a.m. with a gift bag for all the kids and chances to enter a drawing for gift baskets from local merchants. There will be a photographer to take photos, so wear vour costumes!

Tickets are \$4 and are available by calling the YMCA at (734) 453-2904. Space is limited, so call for your tickets today. This event is sponsored in part by Community Financial. Tickets must be pur-

Proceeds go toward the Plymouth YMCA's Strong Kids Campaign which helps ensure that no one is turned away from our programs that help build a healthy spirit, mind, and body.

#### Halloween block party

Monsters will be out in force in Old Village on Sunday for the neighborhood's third annual Halloween Haunted Block Party.

The block party is 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday on Liberty Street between Mill and Starkweather. The street will be closed to traffic from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The party will feature train rides and games for kids, live music, a 50-50 raffle and, at 3 p.m., costume contests for children, adults and pets. Professional costume photography will be available free of charge.

Trick-or-treating at participating Old Village businesses will be from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, or to volunteer, send an e-mail to PlymouthOVA@yahoo.com.

#### First Step program

Judith Barr, Associate Director of First Step, will present a program on domestic violence on Oct. 29, 2-3 p.m. at the Canton Public Library.

First Step is a local resource offering free services to individuals affected by domestic violence and sexual assault. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and First Step believes that prevention and awareness are key

components to ending violence in our communities.

This program will be held in the library's Purple Room. It is free, no registration is required. For more information, visit www. firststep-mi.org or www.cantonpl.

The Canton Public Library is located at 1200 S. Canton Center Road in Canton.

#### Lineage workshop

Individuals who feel they might have an ancestor from the American Revolution will want to mark their calendars for an upcoming workshop sponsored by the DAR and the SAR - Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution. To be held 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 31, at the Plymouth District Library, shop will provide ad on lineage research and information on both the DAR and SAR.

The Sarah Ann Cochrane DAR chapter and the Huron Valley SAR chapter welcome individuals from all surrounding communi-

For more information call (248) 437-1954. The Plymouth District Library is located at 223 S. Main Street in downtown Plymouth.

#### Getting published

The Plymouth Senior Life Journaling Writing Group, sponsored by the Plymouth Community Council on Aging, welcomes David Haslam, who will present "From Author to Amazon in 12 "Easy" Steps", addressing the question of "how to" get published and offer suggestions and advice for would-be authors on getting their inspirations from concept to creation.

Born and raised in England, Haslam moved to Michigan in 1988 and resides in Plymouth with his wife, Cecilia, and their youngest son.

Haslam has recently completed his first book, "The Twitter Workbook" and is working on his second and third. These ventures have led him to become the publisher at HMSI Publishing L.L.C., and, as a result, now enables him to help other aspiring authors to see their dreams become a reality.

The program, which is free and open to the public, will be given on Monday, Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. in the Dunning Room at the Plymouth District Library.

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## Turning the page

### Local author pens story of overcoming abuse

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton writer Gregg Tyler Milligan has penned a harrowing new book about a young boy who escapes the physical, sexual and emotional abuse of a vicious mother — only to learn he still loves her and, even after her death, remains haunted by a brutal childhood.

Milligan, 46, said the story is

his own past.

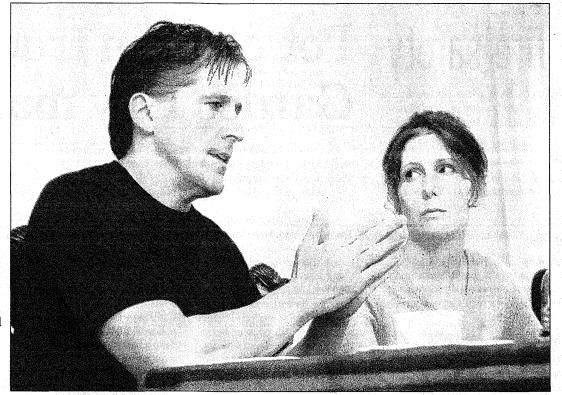
Despite a wretched childhood that he said still triggers panic attacks, chronic nightmares and anxiety disorder, Milligan has achieved in academics, athletics, the military and corporate America. Yet his 142page book, curiously titled A Beautiful World, mostly focuses on the years when he was 8 to 11 years old, before he and two siblings were removed from their mother's home.

"One of the decisions I made when I decided to write the book was to be brutally honest," Milligan said, sitting with wife Sarah in the dining room of their home near Beck and Cherry Hill roads. She occasionally placed a comforting hand on his back as he talked about his first book.

Milligan said he spent his early years in Ypsilanti — the second youngest of seven siblings. His younger sister verified statements Milligan made for this story.

Milligan said his late father left home when he was only 2 years old but returned, off and on, over the years, and the father was abusive to the mother.

During what Milligan called his mother's "fits of rage," he recalled times he said he was punched, kicked and hit with objects such as hammers, ash trays and belts. He said his mother received government aid but also worked as a prosti-



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton author Gregg Milligan and wife Sarah Milligan talk about his book, 'A Beautiful World.'

tute to get money, partly for her bachelor's degree in business substance abuse involving alcohol and pharmaceutical drugs.

She was a prostitute as long as I can remember," he said.

Milligan said he was between the ages of 8 and 11 when the worst physical and sexual abuse occurred — much of it by his own mother. He said she also occasionally turned him over to adult men for sexual favors to

Milligan began phoning his oldest siblings for help, and he said a court battle ultimately resulted in authorities taking him and two other siblings, who also were abused, from their mother. He said the other, older children already had left home.

Milligan at times stayed with older siblings, his father, with friends, in a boys' home, in foster homes and, when he was 17, with a minister who helped

"I did my best to stay in school, and I avoided the drugs and alcohol, but I was quicktempered," he said.

Milligan ran track in high school, got a partial scholarship and eventually earned a and mathematics from Siena Heights University. He spent time in the U.S. Air Force before getting his master's degree in computer engineering from Wayne State University.

Milligan said he suffered a "severe nervous breakdown" when he was 19 and began seeing a therapist.

That's when things really began to change," he said.

Around the time he was in boot camp for the U.S. Air Force, Milligan learned his college girlfriend was pregnant with his only son, Gregg Tyler Milligan II. The couple married for several years before splitting

"My greatest accomplishment is that my son has never, ever known violence," Milligan said.

Milligan has held computer engineering and executive level positions in corporate America. He took a severance package last year, and he has now finished a book he said he spent 10 vears writing.

The book, self-published through Dog Ear Publishing LLC, debuted in August for-

a list price of \$14.95, and it is available online through Barnes & Noble and through Amazon.com. It can be found on those sites by searching the title or Milligan's full name.

Milligan and wife Sarah, who has a career in the computer field, have been married just over a year but have known each other for 13 years. He said he mostly has contact with only two of his siblings.

"Gregg's story — and knowing he was able to persevere may help others know that they're not alone," his wife said.

When Gregg Milligan began writing his book, he initially had a working title of God Must Be Sleeping. But he settled on A Beautiful World because he has had achievements despite a troubled childhood that still haunts him. He hopes the book will help others who may have endured the pain he survived.

The message I want to put out is a message of hope — that we are here to save one another, and as long as you stay in the game, it'll be OK," he said.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238

## Tossing an old fridge? New plan could save on freon removal

Plymouth's contract extension with its trash-hauler, Republic Waste Services, calls for a new, potentially money-saving procedure for disposing of appliances, such as many refrigerators, that contain freon.

Once the contract is signed, which is expected to be by November, residents who need to toss out an old refrigerator must buy a \$40 tag from the Department of Municipal Services that marks the unit for freon removal. The sticker should be placed on the appliance, which can then be put out with the trash. The doors must also be taken off as a safety precaution.

The \$40 will pay for Republic to remove the freon, said Chris Porman, neighborhood services coordinator for the DMS. The old system required the freon to be removed by a professional before the appliance was set out for pickup, which could cost \$75 or more, Porman

Freon is a refrigerant gas that can be damaging to the

The Department of Municipal Services is at 1231 Goldsmith, east of Sheldon Road, just north of Junction. The phone number is (734) 453-7737.

ly successful, she said.

be lifted and dumped automatically by one-worker trucks. "By providing them with a larger container, they will recycle more," Glysson said. Such a program in Westland, that city's first curbside recycling program, has been wild-

City officials had explored the every-other-week recycling option, looking for savings, but Republic's prices for the weekly service and the every-other-week service were the same, said Chris Porman, neighborhood services coordinator in the Department of Municipal Services. Glysson said that was because any savings realized by moving to one-worker trucks would go toward equipment the changeover would require.

"I don't feel I want to buy a used car here tonight," said Commissioner Ed Hingelberg.

The city passes on some trash-hauling costs to residents and businesses with a fee of \$1.65 a week per trash bin. The fee, averaging \$7.15 a month for customers with one 65-gallon bin, is charged on water bills, which are sent out quarterly to residents, monthly to businesses.

The commission had frozen the fee earlier this year, but officials are expected to take another look at it in the coming months now that a contract with Republic has been settled.

Customers can also opt out of the bin program and pay for specially marked trash bags that Republic will pick up, though that is viewed as a more expensive option for the typical household.

mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2405

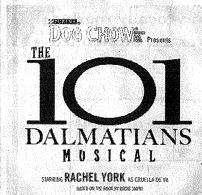


### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH FROM NOON - 3pm AT THE HOME DEPOT PARKING LOT - FORD ROAD'S ORANGE BLOCK **EVENT GOES ON RAIN OR SHINE!**

- Kids in costume can see "Spookly the Square Pumpkin" for only \$2 at Ilam at the Canton Emagine Theater
- Trick or Treating for kids of all ages at participating merchants in Orange and Brown Blocks. Have your Trick or Treat card stamped by all of the merchants and you'll go into a drawing for special gifts. Shuttles will transport families to and from The Home Depot lot to Trick or Treat locations. Merchants will have coupons and information for the adults too.
- Noon 2pm Performances by The Amazing Clark Magician
- Kids: Home Depot's Craft's Workshop- Create and take home the project you make! Adults: Home Depot will be hosting clinics running from Noon - 3pm on-Tiling, Installing a Ceiling Fan, Interior Painting, and Crown Molding
- Magic 105.1 WMGC and Mitzi Miles will be hosting the event. They'll have Trick or Treat bags for the kids, Scary/Friendly Storytelling, Skeleton Hoop Game, Magic Haunted Mingo (bingo).
- · Pumpkin Painting, Face Painting, Climbing Wall, Inflatables, FREE cider and donuts
- Fun with
- Stop by the SHOPCanton Gazebo for your coupon bag!

Register to win tickets to "The 101 Dalmatians Musical" playing at The Fox Theatre Nov 17-22.

SPECIAL OFFER: The first 25 people to present a receipt from a Canton retailer for a purchase of \$15 or more spent on 10/23-10/25 will receive one FREE travel mug. Receipt to be presented at Shop Canton Gazebo.



**Comfort Suites** Fairfield Inn Gordon Food Service Hampton Inn & Suites **Emagine Canton** Home Depot Logan's Roadhouse Restaurant Parthenon Coney Island Sam's Club Starbucks

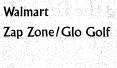
Trick or Treat Merchants

Ashoka Indian Restaurant

**Bob Evans Restaurant** 

Carrabba's Italian Grill

**Participating** 







www.shopcanton.org

## PUBLIC SAFETY

## Plan, practice keys to fire safety

Every year, more than 4,000 Americans die in home fires. That's 12 people a day, dying in their own homes. Tens of thousands more suffer pain and even disfigurement from fire injuries. It could happen to you and your family. People can survive even large fires in their homes if they get out quickly. To be among the survivors, there are things you can do, courtesy the Plymouth Community Fire Department.

Among them:

• Install and maintain smoke detectors to warn you of a fire.

• Make an escape plan, and practice it.

 Consider home automatic sprinklers for complete fire safety protection.

Play It Safe: Install Smoke Detectors

The majority of fatal home fires happen at night, while people are asleep. So every home needs smoke detectors to wake people up before they are trapped or overcome by smoke. With smoke detectors, your risk of dving in a home fire is cut in half! You need smoke detectors outside each sleeping area and on each additional level of your home - including the basement. Smoke detectors are inexpensive. Follow the installation instructions carefully, and test your detector every week, following the manufacturer's

#### Escape Plan

When a fire occurs, there's no time for planning. So sit down with your family today, and make a stepby-step plan for escaping a fire.

#### Two ways out

Draw a diagram of your home. Plan two ways out of every room, especially bedrooms.

#### In an Apartment

Be sure you can unlock all locks quickly, even in the dark. Use stairways to leave the building. Never use an elevator during a fire; it may stop between floors or even take you to the floor where the fire is burning!

#### In a Two-Story House

Make sure everyone can unlock all locks and open all windows and doors quickly. If you must escape from a second-story window, be sure you have a safe way to reach the ground. Make special arrangements for small children and people with disabilities.

#### **Get Out Fast!**

In case of a fire, don't stop for anything. Do not try to take possessions or pets. Just get out! Call the fire department from a neighbor's phone after you are

#### Meeting Place

Everyone should gather at one meeting place

outside, preferably at the front, where the fire department will arrive. Each family member should know how to call the fire department from a neighbor's

#### Don't Go Back

Make sure everyone in your family knows that once they're out, they must not go back for any reason. If people are trapped, fire fighters have the best chance of rescuing them.

#### Practice Your Plan

At least twice a year, have a fire drill in your home. Appoint someone as the monitor, to sound the alarm and make sure everyone participates. Remember, a fire drill is not a race. Get out quickly but carefully!

#### Start from Bedrooms

Because the majority of fatal fires occur at night when people are sleeping, start the drill by going to your bedroom, closing the door, and waiting for the monitor to sound the alarm.

#### Prepare

Make your exit drill as realistic as possible. Practice both escape routes. Pretend that certain exits are blocked by fire, that there are no lights, and that the hallways are filling with smoke.

#### **Crawl Low**

Smoke contains deadly gases and is hot, so it will fill the room from the top down. If you encounter smoke using your primary exit, use your alternate route instead. If you must exit through smoke, the best air will be several inches off the floor. Get down on your hands and knees, and crawl quickly to the

#### **Test Every Door**

Before opening a door, make sure there's no fire on the other side. Kneeling or crouching at the door, reach up high and use the back of your hand to touch the door, the door knob, and the space between the door and the frame. If any of these feels hot, use your second way out. If everything feels cool, brace your shoulder against the door, and open it carefully. Be ready to slam it shut if heat or smoke rushes in. As you leave, close all doors behind you. They can slow down the spread of fire and smoke.

#### If You Are Trapped

Close doors between you and the fire. Stuff the cracks around doors, and cover vents to keep smoke out. Wait at a window and signal for help with a flashlight, if you have one, or by waving a sheet or other light-colored cloth. If there's a phone in the room where you're trapped, call the fire department, and tell them exactly where you are.

#### l Felt Immediate Relief from Low Back Pain!

"I came in because my lower back hurt so bad that it interfered with my daily life. My first adjustment was amazing and I felt relief right away! Since beginning care, my improvements have been outstanding. I feel like my active self again and I feel happier and healthier! Thank you for making my experience pleasant and for being so helpful."-Kelly Techentin





We love when our patients share their experience of great results with others-thanks, Kelly! We want our community to understand that while chiropractic certainly doesn't treat any conditions, it does correct the underlying cause of many symptoms so that our patients experience tremendous relief and results.

Your nervous systems is the communication network of your body. If there is interference to the normal functioning of your nervous system, then your body won't work properly. We locate and correct areas of nerve interference to restore normal communication between your brain and your body so that healing can take place naturally.—Drs. Tucker and Stacie Ford

Mention this ad and receive a COMPLIMENTARY Nerve Function Test to see if chiropractic can HELP YOU without drugs or their side effects.

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## Le Cocoa Bean

**Chocolatier & Coffee House** 50166 Cherry Hill Rd. • Canton, MI Located in Canton's historic Cherry Hill Village area

734.340.5865



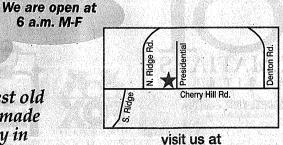
Serving the finest Fair Trade Organic, locally roasted coffee, lattes, cappuccinos ... Hot, over ice, or blended

6 a.m. M-F

We make our own brand

of chocolate in house Now featuring the best old

fashioned ice cream made



by the Calder Dairy in Carleton, Michigan www.lecocoabean.com

Hours: Mon-Wed 6am to 6pm, Thu-Fri 6am to 7:30pm, Sat 8am to 7:30pm, Sun 10am to 4pm

Indulgence never tasted so good...it only tastes expensive!

## Pot plant in truck gets Garden City man jailed

A 41-year-old Garden City man was arrested Thursday night after police discovered a marijuana plant in the pickup truck he was driving.

According to a Plymouth Township Police Department report, a patrolling officer saw the man traveling east, in a GMC Sonoma, at about 55 mph in a 45mph zone on Ann Arbor Road. The man then turned south onto Haggerty, police said, and crossed the center line three times before the officer stopped him near Joy

Upon speaking with the man, the officer noticed the odor of marijuana coming from the truck. police said. When the officer asked if he had anything, the man said he had a marijuana plant behind his seat, police said. He was arrested and the plant was confiscated.

The plant later tested positive for marijuana, police said. The pickup was impounded.

#### Suspect flees, gives up

A shoplifting suspect sought refuge in a Plymouth Township car dealership Monday, only to surrender, saying, "OK, you got me," when confronted by a responding officer.

The 44-year-old South Lyon man was arrested at Don Massey Cadillac on Ann Arbor Road shortly before 3 p.m., a township police report said. He was accused of trying to take a package of Robitussin Cough Gels from a nearby Kmart, and of fleeing from a security guard who had recovered the cough remedy.

Police had been dispatched to the area on a report of a shoplifting suspect running east from Kmart. The man was said to be wearing a green shirt and carrying a bottle

#### **CRIME WATCH**

of bleach; witnesses then reported that a man took off a green shirt and left it and a bottle of bleach outside the neighboring Hines Park Lincoln Mercury. The man wore a white T-shirt, witnesses said, according to police.

One officer saw a man in a white T-shirt go into Don Massey Cadillac, and followed him inside, police said. The man sat down in the service area and began talking to someone else, police said. When approached by the officer, the man said he was waiting for his car, police said.

When asked what kind of car, the man said, "OK, you got me," adding that he had been accused of shoplifting at Kmart and had run because he was scared, police said.

The officer recovered the shirt and the bleach.

The Kmart security guard told police he had seen a man put a package of Robitussin Cough Gels in a pants pocket and, after paying for a bottle of bleach, try to leave the store. The guard confronted him, he said, and escorted him to the security office. There, the guard recovered the cough gels and was calling police when the man pushed his way past him and fled the store, the guard said.

#### Truck theft

A Ford-F-150 pickup truck was reported stolen from a parking lot on Greenview Place, south of Ann Arbor Trail and east of I-275, on Monday.

The truck had been taken between about 4 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. Monday, the complainant told police. It was not reported whether

the truck had been locked.

#### Auto break-ins

A green duffel bag found in the driveway of a house on Briarwood Drive, east of I-275 and south of Ann Arbor Road, led police to two automobile break-ins on the same street early Friday.

A man reported finding the duffel bag in his driveway around 4 a.m. Friday, police said. There was paperwork inside.

The responding officer took the bag and, on the same street, noticed a Geo Metro with an interior light on parked in another driveway, police said. A man at that house identified the duffel bag and said it had been taken from the Metro, which had been left unlocked, police said. Nothing was taken from the bag, he said, and nothing else appeared to have been taken from the car.

Later, still on Briarwood, the officer noticed a parked Ford Econoline van with two smashed windows, police said. The officer tried unsuccessfully to contact the owner, who later phoned to say it appeared nothing had been stolen from the van, police said.

#### Vandalism

A house on Howland Park Drive, near Ridge and North Territorial, was vandalized Friday night or early Saturday, police said.

Eggs had been thrown at the house, outdoor items covered with plastic wrap, toilet paper left on trees and blue paint put on the lawn and driveway, a township police report said.

The incident occurred between 11 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. Saturday, the report said.

By Matt Jachman



#### CITY OF PLYMOUTH LEGAL NOTICE

#### NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2009

3, 2009 from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time. At that time candidates for the following offices will be voted upon

> CITY COMMISSIONER (Four Positions to be vacated November, 2009)

PLYMOUTH-CANTON SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER (Three regular positions and One Partial Term Ending 12/31/2011)

> "PROPOSAL SECTION - WAYNE COUNTY" PROPOSITION O OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL

To renew the millage authorized in 2000, shall Wayne County be Authorized to continue to levy this millage at the estimated 2008 rollback Rate of 9.9529 (about 95 cents per \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for ten More years (2010 through 2019), and proceeds used to continue Existing County services, including programs for arrest, detention and Prosecution of criminals, juvenile court and related services, public health, Recreation, County parks, job training, senior citizen services, and Programs for meeting medical needs of the poor, the disabled, and the aged? This renewal is projected to generate \$43,495,573 in 2010.

· YES

NO

STATEMENT AS REQUIRED BY ACT 278 OF PUBLIC ACTS OF 1964 Amending the Property Tax Limitation Act

I, RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ, Treasurer of Wayne County, Michigan, do hereby certify that, as of August 12, 2009 the total of all voted increases in excess of the tax rate limitation established by Section 6, Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Michigan, as amended, and the years such increases are effective on property in the County of Wayne are as follows:

WAYNE COUNTY

Wayne County, Michigan									
axing Authorities	<u>Date of Election</u>	Voted <u>Increases</u>	Years Increase Effective						
ounty of Wayne	August 8, 2000	1 mill	2009						
ayne County Jail	August 6, 2002	1 mill	2011						
ayne County Parks	August 2, 2005	0.25 mills	2010						
ayne County community College	November 6, 2001	1.5 mills	2010						

SCHOOL DISTRICTS Voted Years **Date of Election Increases Increase Effective** 

Wayne County Treasurer

Plymouth-Canton Community SchoolsSeptember, 2004 18 mills 2014

(non homestead only) Raymond J. Wojtowicz

Absentee ballot applications may be requested in person from the Clerk's office, 201 S. Main Street. Plymouth, MI, or by calling 734-453-1234, ext. 234 or 225. Absentee ballots will be issued to qualified absentee voters in person in the Clerk's office from 8:00 a.m. – until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 31, 2009. On Monday, November 2, 2009, qualified voters can receive their ballots and vote them in the Clerk's office until 4:00 p.m.

Individuals with disabilities who require special accommodations to participate in this election should contact 734-453-1234, ext. 234 or 225.

PRECINCTS AND LOCATION

Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer Street

Publish: October 22, 2009

PRECINCTS #1, 2, 3, 4

W

Co

**Taxing Authorities** 

Linda Langmesser, CMC

## OCC Expo delivers facts, fun for seniors

Health screenings, demonstrations, expert speakers and a meet and greet with the star of Ethel Merman's Broadway at the Gem Theatre attracted hundreds of visitors last Friday to the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Newspapers Senior Health & Living Expo at Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills.

Experts delivered presentations on income and tax strategies, when is the right time to make a move, stress management, massage therapy, yoga, dental care and nutrition.

The OCC Nursing School provided free health screenings.

Popular stops for expo goers was the chocolate fountain offered by Independence Village Waterstone, free massages and morning coffee by Starbucks along with the 40 exhibit

The expo was presented by the  $O \mathfrak{S} E$ and Hometown Newspapers in partnership with Oakland Community College, AM580 Motor City Favorites and V98.7

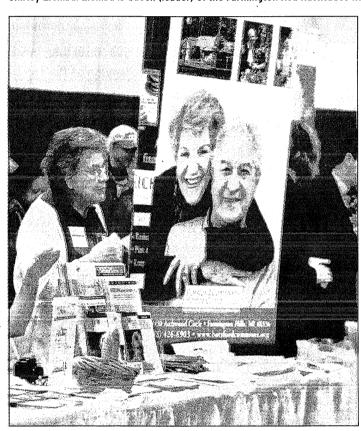
**Exhibitors included The Preservation** of Affordable Housing — 920 On the Park and 8330 On the River, Abbey Park at Mill River, AM 580 Motor City Favorites, American House Senior Living Residences, Ameriprise Financial, Bath Fitter, Bergman Porretta Eye Center, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Botsford Hospital, Brookside Senior Living, Chelsea Retirement Community, Denopt Inc., Erickson Living/Fox Run, Fluke Hearing Instruments, Garan Lucow Miller P.C., Gem & Century Theatres, HeathQuest's Back & Neck Solution Centers.

Also exhibiting Heartland Healthcare, HearUSA, Hug Center for Hearing, Humana, Huron-Clinton Metroparks, Innovative Hearing Services, Jack W. Bolling, P.C., Medical Diagnostics, Medilodge, Metlife Bank, Midwest Financial Consultants, Inc., National Multiple Sclerosis Society (Michigan Chapter), Oakland Community College, Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens, Optimum Hearing Care, Oreck Clean Home Centers, Planned Home Improvement, Saturn of Farmington Hills, Senior Helpers, Senior Village Management, Stevens Worldwide Van Lines, Trinity Senior Living Communities, University of Michigan Livonia Vein Center (Livonia), V98.7 and Waltonwood Senior Living.

A spring expo is planned for May 2010 at the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.



Members of The Farmington Red Hattitudes (a local Red Hat Society Chapter) meet and greet Rita McKenzie, star of "Ethel Merman's Broadway" at the Gem. Pictured (from left) are Hattitudes members Harlean McGrath, June Mahle and Renae Banks, McKenzie, Red Hatter Dorothy Bruce, Steve Nesbitt, house manager at the Gem and Red Hatters Polly Varhol and Shirley Ziemba. Ziemba is Queen (leader) of the Farmington Red Hattitudes which meets the third Wednesday of the month for lunch at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills.



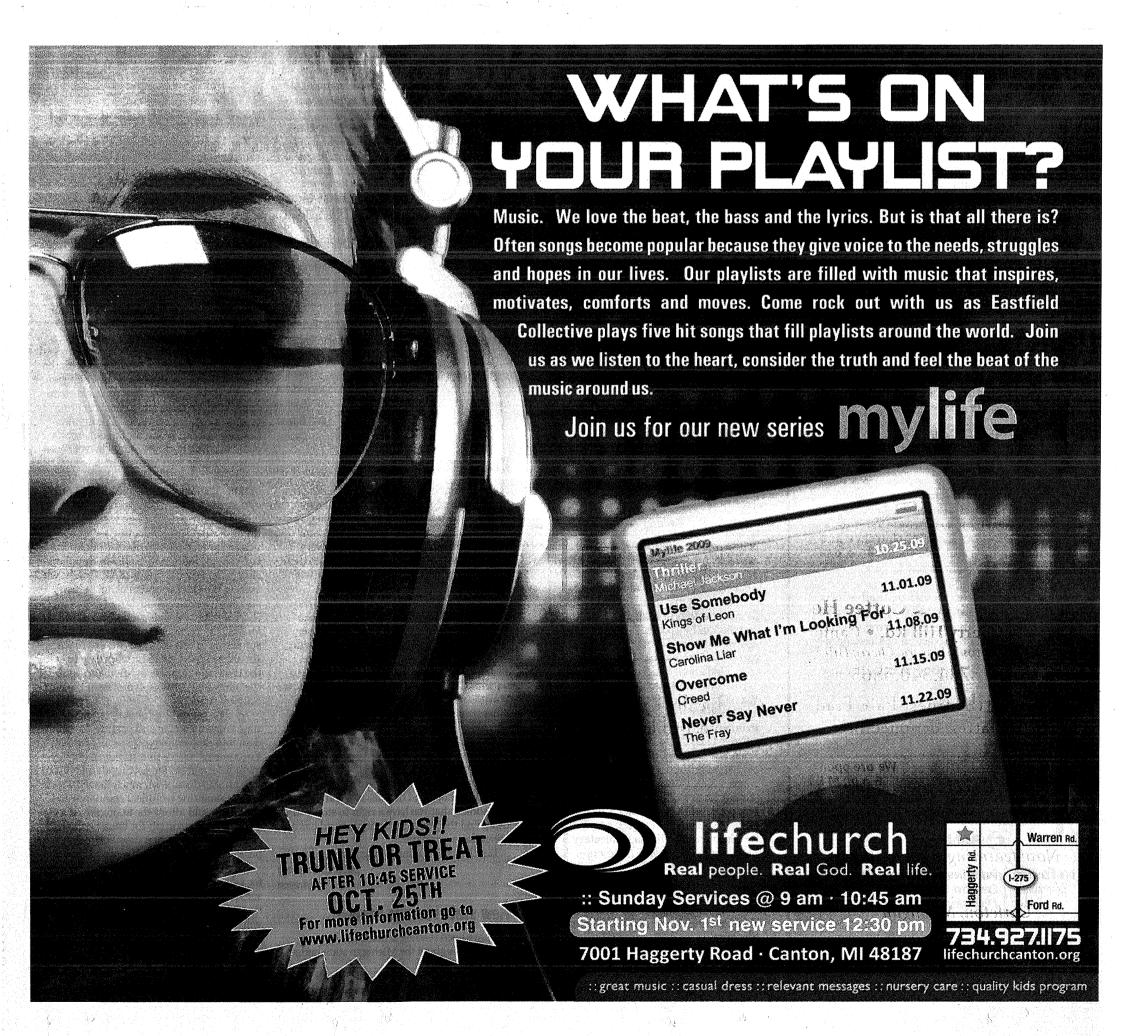
Botsford Commons, a senior living community in Farmington Hills, was among the exhibitors at last week's expo.



**Greeting guests** at the chocolate fountain is Doug Waller from Independence Village Waterstone. He talks with Reta Alexander from Redford Township.



Bill Joyner, of Livonia, talks with Pat Krolikowski at the Planned Home Improvement booth at last week's expo. The Westlandbased business, founded in 1969, is now owned and operated by the third generation of Kwoleks - Mike and





Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

#### **OUR VIEWS**

## Kids the focus as holidays draw near

The Plymouth Salvation Army is changing its approach to the holidays, dropping its Adopt-a-Family program and shifting its focus to what officials hope will be a more equitable Christmas for the families they serve.

It's a new idea officials believe will allow more people to give while trying to provide a merry Christmas to some 2,500 youngsters they're hop-

And with the need rising on an almost daily basis in the Plymouth-Canton community, finding better ways to spread the help on a more equitable basis is a necessity. Since they're asking donors to their new "Adopt an Angel" program to stick as close as they can to a \$50 limit, Salvation Army officials are hoping to do exactly that.

Consider this: Last year, one extraordinarily generous donor outfitted one adoptee family's home with two full bedroom sets. Other families, while still receiving help, got much less. Not everyone can afford to offer that much help, and donors who can help at that level have plenty of outlets to do so, what with church groups and other charitable organizations all seeking assistance, especially at the holidays.

What the Plymouth Salvation Army, which serves the needy in Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Belleville, hopes to accomplish is simple: Give 2,500 kids a merry Christmas. Here's how it's going to work: Donors will know whether they're buying for a boy or a girl and what age group, and all donated gifts will be placed in the Salvation Army's toy shop, which officials have renamed "Toy Town."

Toy Town will be set up to resemble a toy store in the Salvation Army's gym, and parents of needy children will be able to shop in the store.

As always in a community that never ceases to amaze with its capacity for generosity, plenty of organizations have already jumped on the "Adopt an Angel" bandwagon. Unisys will run its annual toy drive and PEO International will adopt 50 angels — and other community organizations will work in concert with the Salvation Army to make sure as many children have a happy holiday as possible.

Both the Plymouth and Canton Goodfellows will work with the Army, cross-referencing their lists of needy families in an effort to eliminate duplicate effort, thereby increasing the numbers of children who benefit.

Salvation Army officials are taking a degree of heat from some quarters, with some critics saying they're abandoning families in a time of need. It's an unwarranted criticism, considering the numbers of people on the Salvation Army's call sheet.

They've got the Thanksgiving program coming up, where families can get help with a traditional Thanksgiving meal. The food pantry is still active, and the Salvation Army next month will again kick off its annual Red Kettle campaign, the largest fund-raiser for an organization that spends 365 days a year helping people pay rent, pay utilities, and clothe and feed their children.

And they're not the only ones. Around the community, Rotarians, Kiwanians, Lions, Goodfellows, veterans groups, churches and other civic organizations are focused on one thing: Helping the community at large and children in particular.

The light shines a little brighter on their efforts toward the holidays, simply because it's a more noticeable effort at a higher-profile time of year. But there's a simple truth about all of these organizations:

None of them needs a reason to help, because they're always there.



Brad Kadrich Community Editor

Susan Rosiek **Executive Editor** / Publisher

**Grace Perry Director of** Advertising

#### **COMMUNITY VOICE**

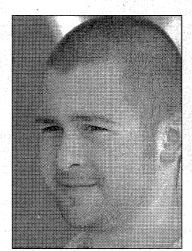
#### Do you think Michigan should ban text-messaging while driving, and why or why not?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



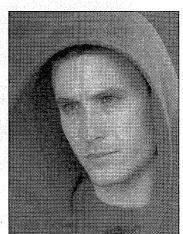
"Yes. I almost got in an accident and got killed 'cause I was texting and driving."

**Jennifer Mills** Plymouth



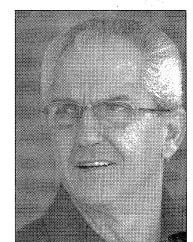
"Yes, I do. 'Cause it takes your observation off the road completely."

**Justin Evans** Plymouth



"Oh, yeah, definitely. ... If you're texting, you're not looking at the road, you're not paying attention to other drivers."

Jake Laird



"Yes. I think it's dangerous."

Tom Janiga Plymouth Township

#### **Supports Dwyer**

I have had the distinct pleasure of knowing Dan Dwyer since we campaigned together for the City Commission in 1999.

In addition, I had the honor and privilege of serving in that capacity with him for eight years, from 1999 to 2007. During that time, we worked together diligently to ensure that the City of Plymouth was a great place to live, work and raise a family.

In the time that I have known him, Dan has proven to be one of the most dedicated and driven, yet compassionate, leaders I have ever met. He is willing and able to understand all facets of every issue and weigh each in order to make the most informed and best possible

He is forthright, honest, dependable and committed. I am a richer person by virtue of the friendship that Dan and I have forged throughout our years together and I am certain that the City of Plymouth will be well served if he is given the opportunity to serve on the City Commission again.

Please join me in casting a vote for Dan Dwyer on Tuesday, Nov. 3. We won't regret it.

Michele R. Potter

Former Plymouth City Commissioner

#### **Spelling Bee thanks**

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the sponsors, participants and audience for the 2009 Spelling Bee fund-raiser for the Plymouth Canton Community Literacy Council, Inc. held on October 14 at Yazaki North America.

All proceeds will be used to help adults in our community gain proficiency with reading, writing, and speaking the English language. It was a fun night of competition, emceed by the wonderful voice of Chris Butzlaff, with 13 teams of spellers.

Congratulations to the Spellbinders from Community Financial who took first place, otherwise known as Sue Bellaire, Brynn Paskauchas, and Barb Johnson. The Spellbound team from the Plymouth District Library took second place (Mary Mackie, Vicki Sistek and Susan Stoney), and for several rounds it was anyone's guess which team would win.

This event is significant for at least two reasons, one being that there are always more people who need tutoring than there are tutors available. All proceeds from this event will be used to train tutors, provide materials for tutoring, and to coordinate services.

The other is that even though we are suffering the effects of a sluggish economy, we matched and surpassed last year's donations; and we did it because more sponsors participated than ever before, and they did it at levels they could afford. We had 45 sponsors in all!

Heartfelt thanks go to our Gold sponsors— Yazaki North America, Inc., Alphagraphics, and Michigan Educational Credit Union. Also thanks to our Silver Sponsors — Barone Law Offices, PLC, Canton Chamber of Commerce, Friends of Canton Public Library, Friends of Plymouth District Library, Plymouth District Library, Rotary Club of Plymouth (Noon), Blackwell Ford, Inc., Community Financial, Inline Chiropractic, New Liberty Bank, Plymouth Rock Lodge #47, Telcom Credit Union, and Tonda Elementary School. Thank you to the Bronze Sponsors — Allan Levy/IRIE Caribbean Restaurant, Creatopia Pottery, Laginess Insurance Agency, Max & Erma's Restaurant, Comfort Keepers, Genuine Toy Company, Leo's Coney Island, Mayflower Towing, 1999 Tavern, and Showroom of

And last but not least, 19 businesses and

individuals joined us as Friends of Literacy. A special thank you goes out to Terri

Goehmann from Mayflower Towing who was not only a sponsor with real dollars, but who dressed up in a bee costume and cheered loudly to help the Canton Chamber of Commerce win the first-place Spirit award!

> **Joyce Silagy** Co-Chair 2009 Spelling Bee

Plymouth Canton Community Literacy Council

#### **Inclusion action plan**

The Strategic Planning Committee for the Plymouth Canton Citizens for Diversity and Inclusion has been working through the summer to develop an action plan to further Inclusion in the life of our communities.

We are focusing on education, law enforcement, public representation, history, employ ment practices in public institutions, and community life. We aim to forge better relationships among neighbors, celebrating our

We have created mission and vision statements and begun drafting a strategic plan to guide our efforts for positive change in our communities. We will present a preliminary draft for community comment at an open meeting on Oct. 29, at 6:30 p.m. in the DuBois Theater in Canton High School, 8415 Canton Center Road, Canton.

You can also check out www.miroundtable. org and click on Plymouth Canton Initiative for more information or call (313) 870-1500. Thank you to all who are helping us to create a more welcoming community. Working together we can make a difference.

> Stan Olszewski Plymouth Township Loren Khogali Plymouth

**Naren Balasubramaniam** 

Canton **Gail Guann** Canton

#### **Budget in Lansing**

To say that Sen. Mike Bishop is holding the Michigan Budget hostage is a mild understatement of what is actually happening. The House has forwarded their bills to Senator Bishop who was to send them on that very day. Instead Sen. Bishop is holding on to them because he is "afraid" that the governor will VETO them.

It is apparent that the governor was deliberately not included in the "so-called" negotiations between the speaker of the House, Rep. Andy Dillon, and the Republican leader of the Michigan Senate. The fact that Sen. Bishop has not forwarded the bills having to do with the "Promise Scholarships," "The State Police" and "Medicaid Funding" along with other things which could be a short-term fix is Illegal.

Sen. Bishop should stop trying to prove that he is above the law.

Remember, folks, he wants to be the next attorney general of the State of Michigan. So Sen. Bishop Send the bills along and stop pretending that you have a right to stop everything and the present attorney general has an obligation to stop you.

But then he is running for governor, right!!! **Deborah Goldberg** 

Farmington

#### **New state revenue needed**

I have been reading articles and hearing news stories about the Michigan state budget crisis, which is very real indeed.

However, too many of the cuts seem to affect seniors adversely. Major cuts in programs and services for the elderly, disabled and vulnerable among us are unacceptable. Programs for children in need must also be maintained.

Instead of severe cuts to programs for seniors and others in need, it would seem prudent to look for new revenue streams, such as taxes on bottled water (1 cent per bottle surely should not be a hardship; tap water is, after all, available). Taxing vending machine pop and junk foods, as well as closing tax loopholes, such as on those on international phone calls are other examples of options.

Please urge our legislators in Lansing to deal wisely with this budget crisis in a way that continues to provide assistance to those among us who are in need. Thank you.

**Anna Marie Horn** 

#### Work application reform needed

The key to economic recovery is jobs. I think everyone knows that by now. Getting a job requires submitting an application either in person or online. I've only applied online for years. And over time, I've spent literally hundreds of hours completing applications and submitting resumes to many employers' sites.

Every employer has their own format and information requirements which is fine, but all the data required is almost always the same data that exists in the Michigan Works database already. For those who have never been unemployed, completing a Michigan Works profile is required before one collects unemployment claims. Yet, as candidates hunt for open positions, all candidates need to populate each employer's forms with the same data that already exists in Michigan Works. It is a huge waste of time, slows the application process, and almost certainly results in data inaccuracies. The application process can be streamlined if employers could just link data structures in Michigan Works to their own forms, which would reduce the colossal and ridiculous waste of time. It should be a requirement, not an option, of Michigan companies.

Technically, this problem is similar to hundreds of suppliers conducting e-commerce with a few large companies within an industry - like the automotive OEMs. Suppliers simply map their systems (SAP, Oracle, whatever) to the OEM's system using industry standardized Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) formats. This is pretty basic stuff for IT folks, once they have the formatting standards. In my opinion, this approach should be investigated immediately to help the thousands of folks in Michigan apply for the many new positions coming in the next couple years.

As a job seeker, I estimate 90 percent of my time is spent cutting and pasting the same data into each employer's specific format, so I've come to believe that standard employment information formatting should be put into an ISO document, much like EDI and other computing technical standards are - which would afford the unemployed a far greater ability to apply for open positions rather than spend their days cutting and pasting text.

If you have similar frustrations searching for jobs, write your representatives - make some noise about it. Help launch work application reform. It is your time that this initiative will save.

**John Miller** 

## Family-friendly local Halloween activities

BY WENSDY VON BUSKIRK **CONTRIBUTING WRITER** 

Michigan's economy may be struggling, but Halloween is something we don't scrimp on. Here's a roundup of local Halloween happenings.

#### HALLOWEEN JAM

In downtown Farmington, Trick-or-Treating is part of a larger Streetscape Jam celebration 12:30-4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24. Grand River Ave. will be closed between Grove Street and Farmington Road, and downtown merchants will pass out candy 2-4 p.m. Festivities also include live music, street performers, food tents and a Farmers Market at Sundquist Pavilion. The event, meant to celebrate the Farmington Streetscape Project, kicks off at 12:30 p.m. with a ribbon cutting ceremony between Sunflour Bakehaus and Rocking Horse.

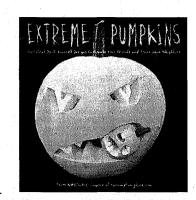
Annette Knowles, executive director of the Farmington Downtown Development Authority, said downtown stores have been passing out candy for years.

"It's a tradition," she said. "Kids love to dress up and come out, and it's a really good opportunity for businesses to get exposure."

About 400-500 children are expected if weather permits.

#### **GREAT PUMPKIN CAPER**

Kellogg Park, adorned with 25 scarecrows decorated by residents and community organizations, is the seat of Halloween festivities in down-



Tom Nardone will sign his book and demonstrate pumpkin carving at Borders in Ann Arbor.

town Plymouth during The Great Pumpkin Caper 5:30-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 30. There, costume contests for children will be held 6:15-7 p.m., with prizes awarded for scariest and most creative costumes in two age categories - five years old and under, and six and above. New this year is a pet costume contest, with registration at 5 p.m. in Kellogg Park.

Teri Fry, executive director for the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, said 1,500-2,000 children Trick-or-Treat in Plymouth every year.

"Pretty much all of the merchants pass out candy," she said. "It just brings people to downtown Plymouth."

#### **FALL-TASTIC FUN**

For the first time this year, the Charter Township of Canton will stage a Fall-Tastic Family Fun Fest, noon-3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25 in the parking lot of Home Depot. The Magic 105.1 team will take the stage with storytelling, prizes, and interactive games

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like Skeleton Hoop and Magic Haunted Mingo. There will also be Halloween music, cider and donuts, a magician, pumpkin painting, face painting, inflatables and a climbing wall. Children can pick up a Trick-or-Treat bag, then visit merchants in the Orange and Green blocks to fill it with candy. Adults can stop by the SHOPCanton

Gazebo for coupons. "It's a new event to help showcase some of our merchants along Ford Road, and acquaint people to all we have to offer here," said Kathleen Salla, coordinator for the Downtown Development Authority.

#### **HALLOWEEN USA**

Leave it to Michigan to spread Halloween cheer across the nation. Halloween U.S.A., a rapidly-expanding business that opens temporary storefronts in several states, is headquartered right in Livonia. The seasonal shops sell decorations, party supplies and gear for virtually any costume you can imagine. Superheroes, from Wolverine to Wonder Woman, are hot this year for all ages. If you want to stock up for 2010, locations in Canton, Livonia and Westland will hold closeout sales the day after Halloween. The Royal Oak storefront,

on Woodward Ave. between 11 Mile and 12 Mile, is open through Nov. 2. Visit www.halloweenusa.com.

Michigan's only IKEA is located in Canton, and the home goods giant has spooktacular plans for Halloween. From 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31, IKEA associates will pass out candy throughout the 30,000square-foot store. Children are encouraged to wear costumes. IKEA is located at 41640 Ford Road. Call (734) 981-6300 or visit www.ikea. com.

#### **EXTREME HALLOWEEN**

If you need ideas for your Jack O' Lanterns, stop by Borders Ann Arbor 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23 as the bookstore hosts extreme pumpkin carving with Tom Nardone, a Troy businessman and creator of the popular Web site www.extremepumpkins.com. Nardone will demonstrate some of his new diabolical ideas with power tools and pumpkins, and autograph copies of his book, "Extreme Halloween." Borders Ann Arbor is located at 3140 Lohr Road. Call (734) 997-8884.

#### MALLS & MAINSTREETS

#### Just Face It

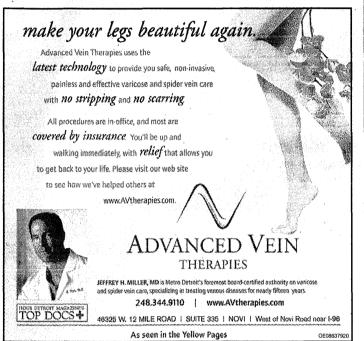
LUSH Fresh Handmade Cosmetics is offering Macy's shoppers something special during one day sales events in October, November and December. Spend \$40 or more on LUSH products and get an exclusive LUSH Just Face Kit free. The unique "pick and mix" kit contains a solid cleanser, two toner tabs, and moisturizer. Each kit is tailored for individual skin types during a skincare consultation. Shopping days will be held Oct. 23-24; Nov. 17-18; and Dec. 8-9.

#### **Dior Divas**

Christian Dior Cosmetics, Smooth Jazz V98.7 and Ambassador Magazine will present the Third-Annual Smooth Style Masquerade Ball Beauty Bash 7-11 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23 at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham. The gala includes red carpet photos, Dior makeup artists, a fashion show by Diva, live smooth jazz, strolling hors d'oeuvres, vendor booths and a cash bar. In addition, the identity of the 2009 Lighthouse Dior Diva and for the first time, Distinguished Gentleman, will be revealed. Tickets, \$45, benefit Oakland County's Lighthouse PATH, where homeless women and children live in a safe, nurturing environment for two years. The first 200 to purchase tickets at www.neptix.com will receive a swag bag. For more information, visit www.smoothjazzdetroit.com.

#### **Costume Rentals**

Looking for an extra special costume this Halloween? Try The Parade Company. Thousands of adult-sized costumes from America's Thanksgiving Parade are available for rent year round and include a creative line-up of everything from pirates to toy soldiers to princesses. Costume rental prices range from \$35-\$65, adult sizes only. All proceeds benefit The Parade Company. For information or to reserve your costume, call (313) 432-7835 or visit www.theparade.org. Founded in 1984, The Parade Company is a not-for-profit organization governed by the Michigan Thanksgiving Parade Foundation whose board of directors is comprised of key civic and corporate leaders in the greater Detroit region. The Parade Company is celebrating 83 years of Parade tradition in Detroit.





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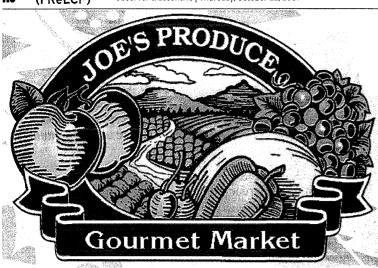
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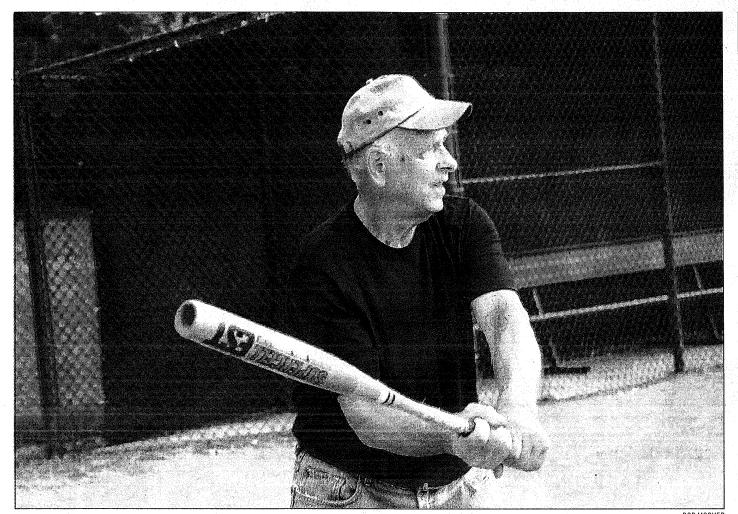


## HOMETOWN LIFE



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ROR WOZHE

Getting ready to take a cut is Miron "Mike" Stolaruk of Canton, one of a group of senior citizens who enjoy turning back the clock by playing softball every Wednesday in Plymouth Township.

## OLD-TIMERS DAY

## Softball-loving senior citizens stay in the game

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Miron Stolaruk took a healthy swing at one of Don LaMay's pitches and held up his hand.

"Wait a minute," said Stolaruk, a 76-year-old from Canton who is nicknamed Mike. "All I do is swing and I get winded."

LaMay, 76, served up some consolation before letting another offering go toward Stolaruk.

"Take your time," Livonia's LaMay said. "No one's in a

After catching his breath, Stolaruk smacked a hard grounder into left field at Plymouth Township Park. He was smiling again.

It's all part of the Wednesday morning routine for a bunch of guys in their 70s and even early 80s who convene from spring until the snow flies at the park to play some softball.

LaMay, who graduated in 1951 from long-defunct Livonia Bentley, was the guy who in 2007 initiated the weekly sessions at the McClumpha Road-Ann Arbor Trail facility.

#### ANYTHING GOES

With the third year of the informal softball group ending



BOB MOSHEI

After all the stretching and kibitzing, it's time for some serious softball. Here a pitcher sends one toward home plate where John Finch of Livonia gears up to hit it.

soon, anywhere between 10-20 guys come out. They do some stretching with physical trainer Stephanie Montera and then take to the diamond.

Depending on how many turn out, their Wednesdays entail anywhere from batting practice to actual games. Every week has plenty of banter, not to mention lunch at a nearby coney island. "I try not to miss it," said Canton's Bob Mosher, who at 69 is one of the youngsters of the group. "The guys here are pretty die-hard."

Other regulars include Westland's Bud Welcher and Dick Horie and Livonia's Bill Lloyd — all in their mid-70s.

Horie and Lloyd played baseball at Bentley with LaMay, but they couldn't make it to the park on this particular day. Neither could the group's elder statesman, 83-year-old Rick Price of Plymouth.

"We have a guy (Price) who is 83 years old," LaMay said.
"He just had eye surgery, so he has to watch getting out in the sun."

#### SOMETHING NEW

The Plymouth Park venture began after LaMay and others felt they needed a new softball outlet.

In recent years, many of them had played in a 65-andover softball league at Victory Park in Canton. That league suddenly was becoming too competitive for the older guys.

So LaMay got the green light from Plymouth Twp. public service coordinator Susan Vignoe to use the fields. Then, all that was needed was recruiting buddies who like him have played ball (baseball in their younger days) since they were kids.

"For most of us, what's important is to come out, play ball and have a good time," LaMay said. "So I told the guys that I'd try to start an over-75 league."

Interest in his plan didn't take off immediately.

Please see SOFTBALL, B2

# Canton hangs on, survives Wildcats

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Didn't they do that before?

Just like their first volleyball matchup this season, Canton Tuesday night grabbed the first two games against Plymouth before letting the visiting Wildcats even the KLAA South match at 2-2.

And, in deja vu fashion, the Chiefs again took care of business in the deciding game.

"It's the same thing we did to Plymouth last time, take them to five games and have to work for our win," said Chiefs head coach Mary Kryska following the 3-2 triumph. "That only kills us because it's that much more energy and physical pounding on them."

#### **OUT OF THE GATE**

Canton (24-8, 7-2 in the South) came out all fired up even more than usual for the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park rival matchup because it was "Senior Night."

"They were very excited (about playing on Senior Night), but in the third game they ran out of steam," Kryska continued. "They get this mentality that they can

win, the game's already over and they don't finish."

According to Canton senior outside hitter Jordan Kielty (22 kills, 16 digs, 15 assists), the Chiefs wanted to win on the special occasion. But she had a qualifier.

"It's against Plymouth, so it's already motivation to win because it's a cross-campus rivalry," Kielty said. "And Senior Night you want to go out with a bang, even though we have another home game on Thursday."

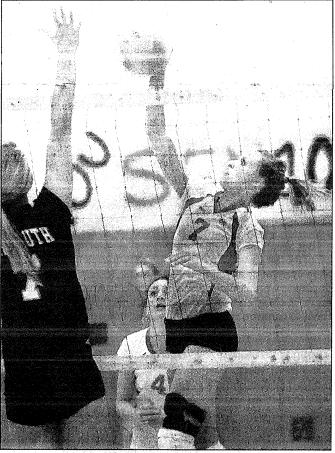
Kelly McCausland, head coach for Plymouth (22-9-1, 5-4 in the South), said her team "battled back strong" to square the match after losing 25-22, 25-17 in the first two games.

Plymouth evened things with 25-22 wins in Games 3 and 4 before falling 15-11 in the fifth game.

"In the first two games, which seems to be our weakness whenever we lose games, it was because of our serve-receive," McCausland noted. "So we went back into the huddle after Game 2 and that was our main focus."

"Once you serve-receive the ball, pass the ball, everything else follows. In Games 3 and 4 we did exactly that."

Please see **VOLLEYBALL**, **B3** 



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton senior Jordan Kielty (right) concentrates on hitting the ball past the block of Plymouth senior Kelly Smoltz during Tuesday's contest.

## Early break sparks Rocks to district win

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Under the bright lights at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's varsity turf field Monday night, the soccer ball fluttered toward Plymouth goalkeeper Kyle Brindza.

The varsity boys district opener between the Wildcats and Salem wasn't even two minutes old when that ball glanced off Brindza's fingertips as the keeper came out trying to retrieve a floating shot. The ball then slowly bounced into the goal behind him.

That marker — the first of two scored by Salem junior midfielder Dan Martin — put the Wildcats in a tough spot and they never recovered.

The Rocks took a 3-0 lead into halftime and came away with a 3-1 victory to move on to Wednesday's district semifinal at Northville.

'TOTALLY UNEXPECTED'
Following the contest, Martin said

he was "just trying to get around the defender but I got lucky and it slipped through the keeper's hands. It was totally unexpected."

"Those were two great goals by Dan Martin," said Salem head coach Ed McCarthy. "He came through in the biggest game of the season. That was fantastic." According to Plymouth head coach

Jeff Neschich, whose team finished 10-7-2 overall, Martin's goal took the wind out of his team's sails for the opening 40 minutes. Neschich said Salem's second

goal (at 22:28) by senior forward Sal Savage also was due to a defensive miscue.

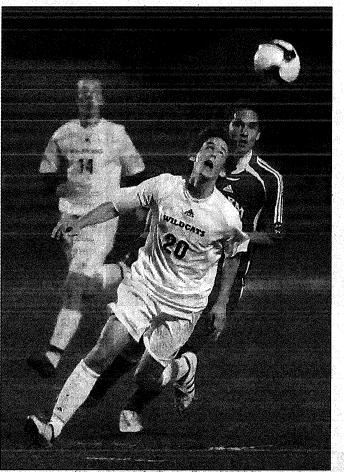
Savage picked up a long through

Savage picked up a long through ball and got around defenders and Brindza before ripping a low shot into the goal.

DEFLATING

When you give up two and they

Please see **SOCCER, B3** 



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Going all-out to gain possession of the ball Monday night are Plymouth's Michael Ambrose (No. 20) and Salem's Sal Savage.

### Chiefs blank John Glenn

**BY TIM SMITH**OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton opened the Division 1 boys soccer districts with a 3-0 whitewashing of Westland John Glenn Monday night at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

The Chiefs (11-7-3) scored two first-half goals and were never in much danger of falling to the Rockets, with Canton goalkeepers Kai Walther and Brandon Laabs facing minimal action (1 save each).

"I thought we did a good job to create scoring opportunities and we had three really nice finishes," said Canton head coach George Tomasso. "It's nice to start off scoring goals and keeping the ball out of our net."

Freshman midfielder Danny Ovesea got Canton on the board about 10 minutes into the match, converting a nice pass from Shean Krolicki.

Ovesea then was fouled inside the box, and the Chiefs were awarded a penalty kick. Senior defender Jon Dugan scored on the PK, and it was 2-0 with just two minutes to go in the half.

Chipping in the third goal for good measure was sophomore forward Mitch Posuniak, with the assist going to senior midfielder Kevin Zemanski. With the win, Canton advanced to Wednesday's district semifinal against the winner of Monday's Garden City-Detroit Western International match-

tsmith@hometownlife.com

## Pre-game exercises essential

· Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, October 22, 2009

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

What's wrong with a little special motivation for old guys to want to leave the comfy confines of their living rooms in order to play some softball?

**'I am having** a great time talking with the quys and helping Stephanie them out. I actually think I'm probably getting more out of all of this than they are.' STEPHANIE MONTERA, physical trainer

**Providing** just that is 28-yearold physical trainer Montera, enlisted by the organizer of a weekly softball group - it'snot exactly a league — that gets together every Wednesday at Plymouth

Township Park near McClumpha Road and Ann Arbor Trail.

Montera has a background in physical therapy. But it was through her day job as a life insurance agent that she was recruited to help guys like one of her customers (Livonia's Don LaMay) properly limber up before running, throwing and swinging a bat.

"Yeah, if I say, 'OK guys, let's get together and do these stretches' they'll say they don't need it," said the 76-year-old LaMay, who like most others in the unorganized softball group is a lifetime ball player.

With a smile and a wink, he goes on to say something that perhaps would be considered politically incorrect if not coming from an old-timer.

"But if you get a pretty girl out here," he joked, "no matter what you do, they'll come over and they'll join in."

Montera is flattered by all the sweet talk. And she's just thrilled to be able to help them loosen up enough to avoid



Physical therapist Stephanie Montera leads senior softball players Tom Tomkiewicz (left), Bud Welcher and John Finch (right) in stretching exercises before the players take the field at Plymouth Township Park.

pulled muscles and other iniuries that septuagenarians can expect if not properly warmed

up.
"I am having a great time talking with the guys and helping them out," Montera said. "I actually think I'm probably getting more out of all of this than they are.

They brighten my day and get me started with a smile every Wednesday. I can only hope to be as active, happy and entertaining when I am their

#### **FITNESS AND FUN**

According to Montera, the whole connection with LaMay's softball group (he organized it

in 2007) began during casual conversations between the insurance agent and client.

She told LaMay that she had been a physical trainer during college and had taught senior citizen fitness classes.

"In talking to Don, I learned that the team might need some help getting them to continue with daily stretches to help prevent injuries," Stephanie said.

She also provides some informal counseling about issues that resonate with senior citizens, such as Medicare and long-term care planning.

"Through meeting weekly with the guys and helping them stay healthy," Montera said, "I can also talk to them about

ways to protect their families and plan for the best possible retirement years."

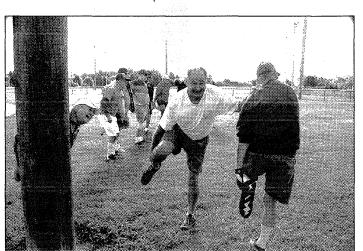
That's all well and good. But LaMay and his buddies still have some softball on their plates.

"We play ball to get some exercise," he said. "If we get enough guys, we'll make up two teams to play. If we get enough to play three teams, we'll play with three teams.

"If we don't get enough guys to make teams, we'll just do batting practice."

Of course, not without going through the paces with Montera.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



Leaning on a softball buddy during pre-game stretches is Westland's Bud Welcher. Among players enjoying the scene in the background is Canton's Tom Valleau.

"But then I took the names off of all the rosters I had who were over 75, or weren't able to play or weren't playing anymore," LaMay added. "I asked them to come on out here and we'll do whatever."

#### MIXING IT UP

For them, it's the perfect way to blend athletics and exercise with friendship and camara-

"We just come out and if there's enough for a game we play a game," said Mosher, a retired manufacturing engineer at Visteon. "If not, we just hit balls and that's what we're doing today."

With a laugh, Mosher added, "We don't have enough for one team, let alone two." Swinging at pitches and

shagging fly balls isn't quite as much fun as playing a game. But Stolaruk, a former teacher in Livonia Public Schools, still can't wait for Wednesdays to roll around.

"It does help to get you going," Stolaruk said. "We could use more guys coming out here. We've been practicing, but we need a few more to have games."

Westland's Ernie Dinatale, 76, enjoys the Wednesdays, but stops short of saying the softball makes him feel young

again.
"I feel like an old man," he cracked.

Dinatale trotted out to the softball field after a couple of hours of swimming and cardiovascular exercises at a nearby gym. He recently had both knees replaced.

But he still plans on playing in a competitive softball league this winter in Florida, where he'll stay sharp until the



Camaraderie is the name of the game every as shown here by (from left) John Finch of Livonia, Bud Welcher of Westland and Livonia's Tom Tomkiewicz.

LaMay group reconvenes in

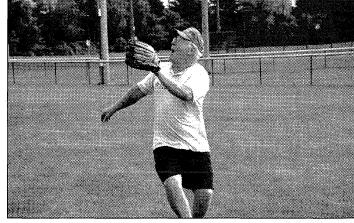
#### **DOING ENOUGH**

And as long as the grizzled veterans stay in the game, that's fine with LaMay.

"I'm concerned about

getting these guys off the couches," he said. "Instead of sitting home watching TV right now, they're out here playing ball."

No matter the turnout, there's always room for more. There's always a spot for somebody who finds out about LaMay's group, as Mosher did in 2008.



Tracking a fly ball is Livonia's Don LaMay, who orchestrated the weekly softball sessions that take place Wednesdays at Plymouth Township Park.

"I hadn't played for 50 years until last year," Mosher said. "Some of them have played all their life and are now in the

"Here's a place where we're pretty much on the same page. ... We can all do a little, we can run a little, we can throw a little, hit some."

As it turns out, a little is

just enough for these softball seniors to keep the flame of youth alive.

It's not too late to start planning for the 2010 season. Anybody who is interested in joining the group should e-mail Don LaMay at bentleydon@ sbcglobal.net.

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## Windsor goalie stymies Whalers

Windsor rookie goaltender Troy Passingham stopped 29 shots Saturday for his third shutout of the season, while veterans Adam Henrique and Greg Nemisz scored one goal apiece as the Spitfires defeated the Plymouth Whalers, 4-0.

Richard Panik and Justin Shugg scored Windsor's other goals in the Ontario Hockey League game played before 2,601 at Compuware Arena. The Spitfires improve to a

league-best record of 9-3-0-1 and have won three games in a row. Plymouth is now 7-5-0-0.

Nemisz started the scoring at 3:23 of the first period with his 10th goal of the season.

Wellwood picked up a loose puck on the left wing in the Plymouth zone and found Nemisz in the slot.

Perhaps the key goal came at 0:12 of the second period. Taylor Hall carried the puck deep into Plymouth terri-

tory to the left goal line and found Richard Panik at the left circle, who buried a shot in the top shelf over the shoulder of Plymouth goaltender Matt Hackett.

Henrique (a New Jersey draft) increased the Windsor lead to 3-0 after 40 minutes.

Shugg scored the only goal of the third period when he batted home a second rebound past Hackett at the left wing side of the goal.

#### PREP GOLF

Murphy cards 171

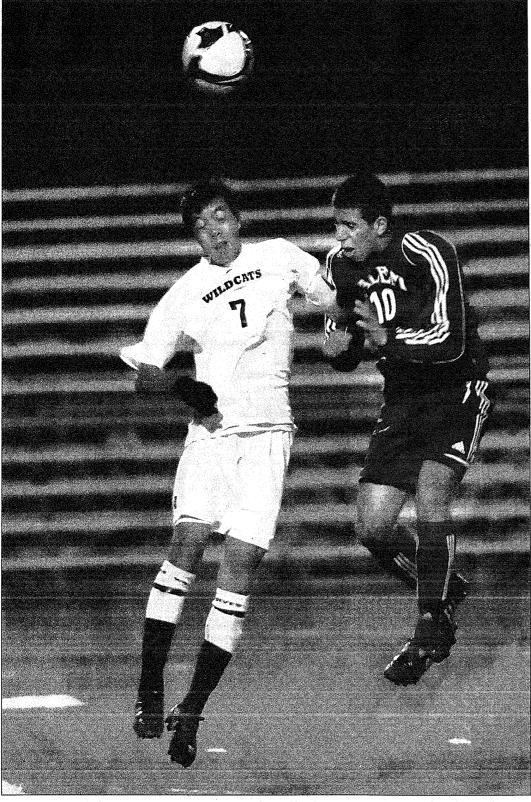
Plymouth freshman golfer Kelsey Murphy registered a 92 on Friday and a 79 on Saturday, finishing 15th for individual-only qualifiers during last weekend's MHSAA

Division 1 girls golf finals

hosted by Michigan State University's Forest Akers West Rochester, led by individual

medalist Christine Meier, captured the team title with a two-day total of 343-342-685 to place ahead of Saline (367342-709), and both Rochester Hills Stoney Creek (366-358-724) and Grosse Pointe South (371-353-724).

Meier, who carded rounds of 73-74 for a 147, was eight shots better than runner-up Gabby Yurik of Stoney Creek.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

was a very good one for his

far," he noted. "To finish in

record in the league (KLAA

South) was awesome. The kids

The win was a costly one for

Salem however. With just over

sustained an undisclosed iniu-

Adsit was tackled hard by

Griffiths before somersaulting

McCarthy wasn't pleased

to lose a key player like that

in the waning moments of a

game that was already decid-

"It was a huge blow, I'm very

upset," McCarthy said. "I think

the game was far too rough for

a 3-0 and 3-1 game, especially

"That was disappointing to

late in the game. I wish the

referee had called it tighter.

lose such a great player like

that. Our odds of winning on

Wednesday simply go down."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

three minutes to play, Salem

senior midfielder Dan Adsit

second place with a 7-2-1

really did well."

**ADSIT INJURED** 

ry to his left knee.

and hitting the turf.

"It was our best finish so

team.

Battling for a 50-50 ball during Monday night's district boys soccer game are Plymouth's Vinh Nguyen (No. 7) and Salem's Mohammad Pourmandi.

really didn't make a good play," Neschich said, "... it was hard to bounce back from

"He (Brindza) wants that one (the first goal) back. He's played so good for us all year. Hey, it was a mistake.'

There weren't many mistakes by Salem during the first

The Rocks (16-4-4) came with waves of offensive pressure and had a wall of defenders protecting senior goalkeeper Sasa Miskovic, preventing the Wildcats from putting much together.

"I thought in the first half we were outstanding," McCarthy said. "We created a lot offensively and defensively we were great not giving up any shots.'

Speedy senior midfielder Alex Tramel sparked the Rocks with several dashes into Plymouth territory. Late in the half, Tramel found senior midfielder Lachlan Savage with a pass and Savage in turn

IN BRIEF

Time to register for YMCA

leagues, classes

centered a feed to Martin in

rebound with 1:16 left to make it a three-goal spread.

#### BETTER EFFORT

stronger after the intermission, putting an extra forward That contributed to the

left in the match.

Senior defender Dan Jasewicz was tripped up in

On the subsequent penalty kick, senior midfielder Vinh

But the closest the Wildcats would come to cutting that

19 minutes to go. A hard shot by Plymouth junior forward Ian Griffiths

"We had a strong second should be proud of the way

Martin chipped in his own

Plymouth came out much

Wildcats' lone goal with 29:44

the box trying to move in on Miskovic.

Nguyen rifled the ball into the top left corner.

deficit to 3-2 came with about

bounced off the right post.

half," Neschich said. "The boys they played. We made a few adjustments."

Despite the season-ending loss, Neschich said the year

#### THRILLS AND SPILLS

She said her team just couldn't come up with the knockout punch in the clincher.

"I think there were some crucial plays that we needed to do, I needed a big swing on the outside," McCausland said. "We couldn't seem to get that going in the fifth game as well as the fourth game.

"But other than that, both teams, whenever we show up we both show up to play. We play aggressive.

That's quite an understatement the way players were tumbling, diving and racing to the back wall of the court to retrieve balls and continue lengthy rallies that thrilled the bipartisan crowd.

Plymouth actually jumped out to a 6-2 edge in the opener and still led 16-13 when Canton senior libero Lauren Macuga (36 digs) stepped to the serving stripe.

Macuga reeled off four points, three hammered home by Kielty off of sets from senior setter Traci Breitmeyer (13 digs, 22 assists) to help even the score. Canton pulled away from that point on.

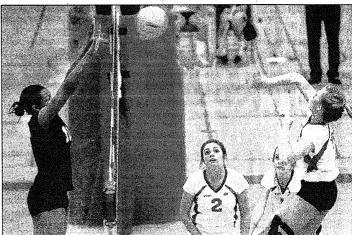
Game 2 was pretty much all Canton, with Breitmeyer serving two aces among her three service points to get it

Chipping in with a threepoint run was Macuga to make it 10-4 and the serving of sophomore middle hitter Alaina Turner (a four-point string including two aces) gave the Chiefs a commanding 18-10 advantage.

#### **NET PRESENCE**

Helping Canton's cause in that game was sophomore outside hitter Kristen Muir (17 kills, 18 digs for the night), who showed her ability to thump — registering five kills.

But Game 3 put the



Going up to block a scoring bid by Canton's Jordan Kielty (far right) during Tuesday's match is Plymouth's Alex Roberts (left). Watching for the Chiefs are Traci Breitmeyer (No. 2) and Kelsey Lindberg.



Making a play on "Senior Night" for Canton is Torry Riley, one of eight players honored before the match with Plymouth.

Wildcats in the win column, partly due to a four-point serving run by senior setter Katie Salo (29 assists, 18 digs) to open it up.

The Chiefs eventually caught Plymouth (16-16). But strong blocks at the net by senior middle hitter Kelly Smoltz (8 kills, 8 blocks), junior middle hitter Alex Roberts (7 blocks) and sophomore middle hitter Jessica Scott helped keep Canton from starting an offensive

The Wildcats continued to thrive in Game 4 with more of the same. Roberts blocked Kielty for a key point and so did Scott on Muir.

Going head-to-head, Smoltz got the better of Kielty with a timely block at the net for Plymouth's 24th point and junior outside hitter Kayla Bridge (10 kills, 18 digs) drilled home the clinching point.

Muir's five-point run to start Game 5, however, put Plymouth in a tough spot it could not recover from.

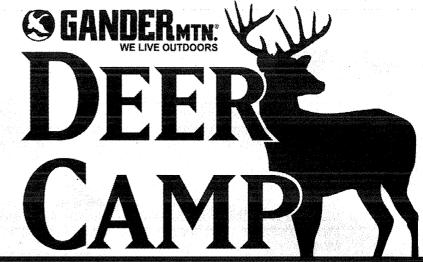
Other Plymouth standouts included junior outside hitter Dana Risi (10 kills) and sophomore defensive specialist Lindsay Stemberger (25 digs).

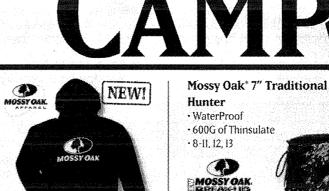
#### **SENIOR NIGHT**

Before the match, eight Canton seniors and their parents were introduced while individual top memories were announced. Flowers also were present-

ed to co-captains Kielty and Macuga, Breitmeyer, defensive specialist and co-captain Leah Powers, right-side hitter Anna Larner, outside hitter Kelsey Lindberg, middle hitter Allison Trapp and outside hitter Torry Riley.

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Offers may change on November 15th, 2009. See Associate for details

#### The Plymouth Family YMCA Heating, Cooling & Electrical is offering plenty of leagues and instructional classes this fall and Serving the entire metropolitan area. winter, as detailed below: Detroit: **North Woodward:** YMCA Fall and Winter 248-548-9565 • 313-792-0770 Basketball leagues are forming Downriver: for children, ages 4-11. The fall session will take place from Nov. 2 through Dec. 18 with the winter session slated from Jan. 19-to-March 26, 2010. There will be one practice and Sales, Service, PARTS & INSTALLATION one game (Friday nights) per Service changes & upgrades week. The cost is \$73 for program We carry ALL premium name Outlets added • Generators members or \$105 for community brand equipment so members who register by the that we can meet hot tubs & more Oct. 22 deadline. All participants your needs. Interior & exterior worl need a YMCA Youth Sports Reversible Jersey (\$15). Programs are filled on a first come-first

serve basis, so hurry in. There is something for everyone this Fall at the Plymouth YMCA. Registration is ongoing for Girls Volleyball Clinics (for Reg. \$89.95. SAVE \$20.00 ... NOW ONLY: ages 8-10 and 10-12), Basketball Clinics (for ages 6-7 and 8-9), Sports Sampler Class (for ages 3-5) and Little Dragons Martial Arts (for ages 4-7).

For more information on YMCA leagues and programs, check out www.ymcadetroit. org or call the office at 734-453-2904



Canton boy bags 1st deer

#### PREP GRID PICKS

Week 9 Friday, Oct. 23 Luth. Westland (3-5, 3-2) at Det. Urban Lutheran (2-6, 1-3), 6 p.m Redford Union (4-4, 4-1) at U-D Jesuit (3-5, 1-4), 6 p.m. Farm. Harrison (5-3, 4-2) at Roch. Stoney Creek (5-3, 4-2), 7 p.m. Farmington (5-3, 3-3) at North Farmington (2-6, 1-6), 7 p.m. Salem (2-6, 2-3) at Canton (7-1, 5-0), 7 p.m. Plymouth (6-2, 3-2) at Adrian (7-1, 5-0), 7 p.m. Livonia Franklin (4-4, 2-3) at Hartland (4-4, 2-3), 7 p.m. Redford Thurston (6-2, 5-0) at River Rouge (2-6), 7 p.m.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, October 22, 2009

Livonia Churchill (2-6, 0-5) at Livonia Stevenson (6-2, 5-0), 7 p.m. Livonia Clarenceville (4-4, 3-1) at D.H. Annapolis (6-2, 3-2), 7 p.m. Dearborn Edsel Ford (7-1, 4-1) at Garden City (0-8, 0-4), 7 p.m. W.L. Western (3-5, 1-4) at Westland Glenn (7-1, 4-1), 7 p.m. Wayne (3-5, 1-4) at W.L. Central (7-1, 5-0), 7 p.m. Last week Overall

#### Dan O'Meara **Brad Emons** Urban Lutheran Urban Lutheran U-D Jesuil U-D-Jesuit Stevenson Stevenson Harrison Harrison

Farmington

Canton

Adrian

**Annapolis** 

Franklin

Thurston

Central

Edsel Ford

Farmington

Plymouth

**Annapolis** 

Franklin

Thurston

**Edsel Ford** 

Central

12-2 (.857)

76-28 (.731)

**Tim Smith** Luth, Westland Stevenson Stoney Creek Farmington Canton Plymouth **Annapolis** Hartland Thurston **Edsel Ford** Central 12-2 (.857) 11-3 (.786) 80-24 (.769) 72-32 (.692)

Jim Toth Urban Lutheran **U-D** Jesuit Stevenson Harrison

Farmington Canton Adrian Clarencevill Franklin Thurston Edsel Ford Central 10-4 (.714) 80-24 (.769)

Canton sixth grader Travis Stott already knows what it's like to successfully nab a deer.

Travis, 11, who attends Pioneer Middle School, recently used a bow to nab the doe during the 2009 Michigan Youth Deer Hunt.

The event marked somewhat of a quandary for Travis, according to his dad, Dave Stott. The father noted that Travis - a happy go lucky, kind-hearted friend of animals - had to decide whether to put his love for fresh venison above his love for animals while hunting from a tree stand in

Mecosta County. He decided to go ahead with the venture. Dave Stott then enlisted Ed Perdue to help Travis in his first attempt at bow-hunting. Perdue is a professional hunting guide with the

Perdue not only guided young Travis to his first successful deer hunt, but the entire event was captured on video and presented to the Stotts on a com-

Powder Horn Ranch in Hersey,

memorative DVD. Also part of the family hunting excursion was Travis' older brother, 13-year-old Jacob.

## Young Lions gridders impressive

The Canton Lions varsity vouth football team rolled to a 36-12 victory over the Garden City Chargers on Oct. 11.

On the first offensive play from scrimmage, James Hall dashed 65 yards for his first of four touchdown carries on the day.

Andrew Hunt was explosive as defensive nose guard with several sacks, a blocked punt, and two blocked extra points.

Other solid defenders included Ben Cockrum, who broke up a key Chargers pass; Sam Rizzo, who had an interception; Robert Daoud, who recovered a fumble for a touchdown and Kenny Arnold, who had numerous tackles.

"Defensively, we played as well as we have all season," said head coach Chris Tidwell. "Our defensive coordinator, Mike

San Millan really worked with the boys this week on a solid game plan.

'They had their best week of practice this season and it translated onto the field."

Notable game offensive blockers included Dykiece Pruitt, John Schumaker, Manmeet Singh, and Daniel Paulot. Additional defensive featured tacklers were Austin Fisher, Forrest Hall, Devon Wade, and LeValle Steeple.

■ The Lions junior varsity improved to 4-2 behind a running attack led by Daniel Kilgore and Charles Turfe.

The O-line was opening gaping holes in the Cougars defense leaving huge alleys for the backs. Jackson Austin, Isaac Jackson, Jake Stropes, Jakob Wickens, Matthew Wayne, and Richard Lenczewski make up, arguably, one of the best lines in the league. The defense flew to the ball all day making it difficult for the Garden City offense to get anything going. William Bode had a sack in the game, while Allante Wheeler had the biggest hit of the day on a kick return. Eric Daniels and Keith Gillespie added key tackles in the con-

■ The freshman Lions dominated from the beginning, building a large lead in the second quarter, and never looked back on their way to a 32-7 victory.

Everyone contributed to the victory and were led on defense by Mason Lamarand, Jack Underwood, Carter Kahl, Wesley Askew, Ryan Cassidy, Cody Tapp, and Adam Abdallah.

The offense received strong quarterback play from C.J. Wieloch and was led by strong blocking from Ethan Balogh, Preston Sokol, Matthew Pelukas, and Devin Farmer.

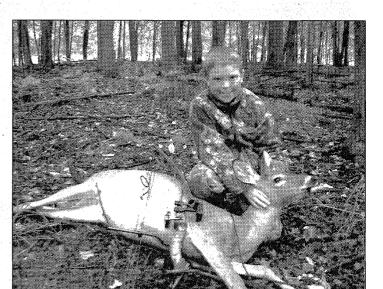
Victor Abraham, Jr. led the scoring by recording four touchdown runs, including a 90 yard touchdown run late in game.

For the fifth consecutive week the junior freshman Lions have shut out their oppo-

This time it was the Cougars who fell victim to the tenacious Lions defense, which was led by David Bowen, Justin Crouch, Myles Wagstaff, and Kyle Hurley.

The defense never allowed the Cougars to cross midfield. The Lions offense was equally as impressive, scoring on their first three possessions.

The offense was led by outstanding blocking of Kameron Arnold, Preston Parana, Nathan Hunt, and Michael Linderman. The Lions offense had scoring runs by Bennett Austin, Steven Shoats Thomas, Justin Reynolds, Darrell Harding Jr., and Jerome Nichols.



Canton's Travis Stott, 11, poses with the doe he hunted with a bow at the 2009 Michigan Youth Deer Hunt.

#### **SPORTS ROUNDUP**

#### Selection Sunday

Fox Sports Detroit will air the MHSAA Football Playoffs selection show beginning at 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25.

The 30-minute program, hosted by FSN's Mickey York and Trevor Thompson, will provide a rundown of the 256 teams that have qualified for the MHSAA Playoffs, as well as their first round matchups and game sites. The show will air again that evening at

The qualifiers and pairings will also be posted to the MHSAA Website at the conclusion of the program.

#### Club Extreme spikers

Novi Christian Community Center, 45301 W. 11 Mile Road (corner of Taft), will again host Club Extreme Volleyball. The program intends to "create an opportunity for girls to participate in a challenging yet rewarding environment.'

Tryouts for the 2009-10 Club Extreme Asics team begin Nov. I and continue on Nov. 8. Interested players must pre-register with the AAU (www.aausports.org) prior to tryouts.

For more information, go to www.eteamz.com/clubextreme or send an e-mail to clubextremevolleyball@ yahoo.com.

#### Plymouth YMCA eyes grant

Liberty Mutual will soon donate a \$2,500 Responsible Community Grant to 20 youth sports organizations demonstrating their commitment to doing the right things on and off the playing surface.

The Plymouth Family YMCA is hoping to be one of the recipients.

"The Liberty Mutual Responsible Sports program targets many of the issues we see happening at youth sporting events by shining a positive light on what it means to be a responsible coach and a responsible sports-parent," said Greg Gordon, vice president of Consumer Marketing at Liberty Mutual. "Beyond that, Liberty Mutual is making a significant financial contribution to support the efforts of local organizations like Plymouth Family YMCA."

The ongoing, communitybased program offers meaningful, easy-to-use educational resources for youth sports parents and coaches, including access to on-the-field game and practice preparation tools as well as self-paced online courses filled with learning tools, videos and topics addressing youth sports issues.

The Responsible Sports program, including community grants, comes at a crucial time for communities where youth programs are under pressure from increasing numbers of participants, limited volunteer activity and mounting program-administration costs.

Through the resources provided by the grants, it is hoped that "our organizations thrive even under challenging circumstances.'

For more information, contact the YMCA at (734) 453-2904 or go to www.responsiblesports.com.

## success stories



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The Observer & Eccentric will be publishing a special Veteran's Day page honoring the service of Veteran's, past & present.

This is the perfect opportunity to honor the Veterans in your life who have served our country so bravely.

**Publication Dates:** 

Thursday, November 5th in the Hometown Weekly Newspapers - Sunday, November 8th in all the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers Deadline: Friday, October 30th

We join the rest of the nation on Veterans Day in remembering the sacrifices of American's veterans and expressing our appreciation of their service.

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### Family caregivers reach out for support at annual caregriver expo

BY SALLIE JUSTICE CORRESPONDANT

Knowing where to turn when you need help and accepting help when it is available can be life changing. Alvin Fouche cares for his 94-year-old mother Julia Fouche in his Oakland County home because he does not want her living in a nursing home. It has not been easy but he does it because he wants the best for her.

Julia is in the advanced stages of dementia and most days does not know who her son is. Early on, Fouche contacted the Area Agency on Aging 1-B, and was connected to supportive services and programs to help him manage some of the responsibilities associated with caring for his mother.

"The support I have received has been a life saver," said Fouche. "I don't know what I would do without it.'

On Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings Fouche takes his mother to Sheltering Arms Adult Day Service, a program of Catholic Social Services of Oakland County, where Julia participates in social activities, such as games, current events, exercise and music. She also has a good lunch and a snack throughout the day. A SMART bus comes to get Julia to take her back home at about 3 p.m.

Julia's visit to Sheltering Arms makes it possible for Fouche to work about five hours each day.

A former environmental engineer and business owner, Fouche now manages a flexible work schedule by doing carpentry and home modifications for various clients. This allows Fouche to care for his mother.

"It's not easy," he said. "I need to

make a living but right now Mom is my priority."

#### FINDING HELP

Caregivers like Fouche can learn about resources, products and services that are available to assist them at the Area Agency on Aging 1-B's 10th Annual Solutions for Family Caregiver Expo, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 24, in the Diamond Ballroom at the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., in Novi. The event is free, parking is free and complimentary morning refreshments will be provided.

"Caregivers often find themselves facing enormous responsibilities and are not aware of the services available to assist them or where to turn for help," said Tina Abbate Marzolf, chief executive officer, AAA 1-B. "The Caregiver Expo provides access to experts, information, and resources under one roof, and the opportunity for  $% \left\{ 1\right\} =\left\{ 1\right\} =$ caregivers to give and receive support from other caregivers."

At the expo, guests can attend expert presentations on topics ranging from Alzheimer's Disease, to managing caregiver stress to legal tips. More than 100 exhibitors will be on hand representing businesses and nonprofit organizations that provide products and services to assist caregivers.

The Caregiver Expo is sponsored by Henry Ford Health System, Kroger Pharmacy, the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Newspapers, and 16 other sponsors.

For more information about the Area Agency on Aging 1-B and the Caregiver Expo, please call 1-800-852-7795, or visit www. aaa1b.com.



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#### MARGARET AULT

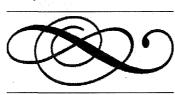
Age 90, October 19, 2009. Beloved wife of Forrest; dearest mother of Marcia Waters, Eran Deran, Forrest II (Anne) and Heather Webb (Richard); loving grandmother of Rebecca (Larry) Smith, Sarah (Bradley) Imhoff, Audrey (Mark) Ullrich, Hannah (Tim) Clough, Ashley and Rick Webb; great grandmother to Cara and Kelsey Smith, Morgan and Gretchen Ullrich, Phineas and Thurston Imhoff. She is also survived by Lena Uptigrove, Laura Ann Roberts and many nieces and nephews. A memorial visitation will be Thursday 4-9 pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home. Memorial Service will be Friday 12 pm at the funeral

www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com JOHN LYNCH HANLEY III

Age 69, of Fowlerville, died October 15, 2009 in Howell He was been a second to the se , 2009 in Howell. He was born Dec. 19, 1939 in Detroit to John L. and Elanor (Carland) Hanley Jr. He was a 1958 Graduate of Clarenceville High married School. He Barbara (Harrington) in 1983. He worked for Consumer's energy as a welder for 30 years. He was a Charter Member of 2 Ham Radio Clubs, Member of the Emergency Management team of Iosoco County for several years thru the 90's, Member and sat on the Board of Directors at Iosco County Sportsmen's Club, life member of NRA and an accomplished Drummer. He is survived by his wife: Barbara sons: John L. IV of Sterling Heights, Patrick Charles of Victoria British Columbia, Michael Andrew of Garden City, 4 Grandchildren: Jason, Breanne, Alyssa, and Brandon. Visitation was held on Monday October 19 at 1-8PM. Services were held Tuesday October 20, 2009 at 11AM at Niblack Funeral Home, Dillingham Liverance Chapel, Fowlerville with Pastor Tom Tarpley officiating. Interment will be at Highland Cemetery. www.niblackfuneralhome.com

#### BETTY J. KRAUSS

Age 72, October 19, 2009. Loving mother of Philip "Happy" (Jennifer) and Craig (Masami) Krauss. Dear grandmother of Philip "Trey", Adrian, Jimmy, Allen and Renee. Beloved sister of Joy Kinun and Jerry Parks and the late Bill Wood and the late Bob Parks. Betty was a member of Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church and retired from the Ford Motor Company. Visitation Friday from 3-9pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 W. Six Mile, Livonia. Saturday visitation at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Rd., ivonia from 10 am until her funeral at 11 am. Burial at Lenawee Hills, Tecumseh. Memorials may be made to the church or the American Cancer Society in her honor.



#### MATILDA A. LACONIS

Age 95, of Farmington, Michigan. October 17, 2009. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, Farmington.

#### RICHARD C. MILLER

80, of Flat Rock MI, joined his loving mother, Mildred Ballard, wife, Martha Jean Miller and his brother Robin (Butch) Miller on October 18, 2009. Dearest brother to Joan (Robert) Avery and loving father to Gene (Doreen) Miller, Jill (Curtis) Oxendine-Collins and Gene (Jill) Stewart. Adorned grandfather of Stephanie Oxendine, Rebecca Collins and Haley Miller. Memorial services held at the VFW Hall at 1055 S. Wayne Rd. on October 26 from 1-3pm.



#### PHYLLIS ANN **QUARTUCCIO**

October 17, 2009 Age 84 of Wayne. Beloved wife of the late Joseph. Dear mother of Michael (Connie), Josephine (Jimmie) Schewe, Larry (Julie). Grandmother to Michael (Judy), Doug (Leslee), Jennifer Schewe, Anthony, and Leslie (Anthony) Keller. Great grandmother of Eric, Bradley, Tyler, Hayley, Brett, Cameron, Colin, Tori, Taylor, Bryson, Jacob, and Aubrey. Memorial service was held Wednesday 1pm from The Uht Funeral Home, Westland, with a gathering from 11am-1pm. Cremation rights were accorded. Family requests

memorials to St. Jude Hospitals. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhtfh.com

#### JOSEPH CLYDE ROBERTS

Age 89. October 17, 2009 of Dearborn. Beloved husband of Norma. Loving father of Marjorie Roberts, Mary Beth (Edward) Fest and Jeffery Roberts. Also survived by two grandchildren and two greatgrandchildren. Visitation was held Wednesday at Henry Ford Village Chapel. Arrangements by the Dearborn Chapel of the Voran Funeral Home. Obituary/guestbook at: wwww.voranfuneralhome.com





obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: merican Flags, symbols, etc.) religious

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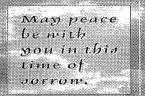
Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

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Worship: 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. **Childrens Education** provided during both services

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#### **PRESBYTERIAN** (U.S.A.)



St. James Presbyterian **Church, USA** 25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (313) 534-7730

Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M. Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm Rev. Paul S. Bousquette

#### **ROSEDALE GARDENS**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)



Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am

Visit www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs

### 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)

(734) 422-0494



#### **GREEK** ORTHODOX

NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI Sunday Services Matins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Rev. Fr. George Vaporis Parish Office 734-420-0131 Office Hurs M-E 10:00 am 2:00 pm

Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm www.nativitygochurch.org

#### **PRESBYTERIAN**

#### Fellowship Presbyterian Church

Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org

Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road

#### **LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD**

#### Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96

734-522-6830

**Sunday Worship** 

8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional

Sunday/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413

Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dean Davenport
Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden

#### **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD**

Staffed Nursery Available

25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP **Worship Service** 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.

**Sunday School** 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Nursery Provided The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor

**EVANGELICAL** 

PRESBYTERIAN

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"just west of I-275"

Northville, MI 248-374-7400

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9:30 & 11:00 A.M.

Nursery & Sunday School During

the 9:30 & 11:00 Hours

Evening Service • 7:00 p.m.

**Service Broadcast** 

11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560

The WMUZ Word Station

For additional information

visit www.wardchurch.org

### Risen Christ Lutheran David W. Martin, Pastor 46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1 Hille W. of Shekko

(734) 453-5252 Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30 Nursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are www.risenchrist.info

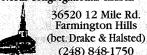
#### **LUTHERAN CHURCH** WISCONSIN SYNOD

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360 WORSHIP SERVICES

## CONGREGATIONAL

THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulslivonia.org

#### **North Congregational Church**



10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School Faith - Freedom-Fellowship

Ministers

Rev. Mary E. Biedron Dr. Mark P. Jensen

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 734-582-8342 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

# Strictly Business

**BUSINESS MILESTONES** 

#### Bridal opening

Birmingham's Bridal Couture has been providing Metro Detroit brides with the perfect gown shopping experience for two years, Amy Pohlod, new owner of the couture bridal boutique, has mixed affordable luxury with flawless customer care to create exactly what every bride is looking for.

With her increasing popularity, Amy decided to open an unbelievable new location in Plymouth. With the growing demand of brides wanting the ideal experience paired with an extensive collection of designer options, Bridal Couture wanted to offer their unique services to even more brides to be!

Located at 408 South Main Street, the new haven of couture will definitely be a jaw dropping unveiling. The grand opening takes place Oct. 29, with the ribbon cutting at 5 p.m., and an open house from 6-8 p.m.

Designed like a New York bridal boutique, the new Bridal Couture location boasts exclusive designers like LeaAnn Belter and Robert Bullock, from Birnbaum & Bullock. The unique collections of Jane Wang, Matthew Christopher and Kate Bennett are also exclusive pieces that cannot be found in other bridal boutiques in Michigan.

For more information go to www.BridalCouture.com

#### Food for good causes

Hiller's Markets is changing it up again. Two new dishes will appear in the prepared foods cases at all seven Hiller's grocery stores, including its Plymouth location, offering shoppers good food for good causes.

Tony Fayne's Buffalo Chili and Samira Cholagh's potato chop, kibbie and eggplant salad will be available at Hiller's through Oct.



Wellness Center opening
Plymouth Wellness Center recently cut the ribbon at their new office. The Center is located at 1075 W. Ann Arbor Road. There are a series of services offered including chiropractic, holistic healing, rehabilitation, cellulite reduction, relaxation-massages and more. Cutting the ribbon is Brian Waskiewicz along with other members of his team and those who attended the grand opening. Also, Dr. Elizabeth Sisk who is a long time Chamber member has started a chiropractic clinic in the center. For more information on the Plymouth Wellness Center go to www.plymouthwellness.com

19, with 100 percent of profits from sales of Buffalo Chili benefitting the Agree Foundation at Temple Israel, giving birthday parties to children of battered and homeless mothers. One hundred percent of profits from sales of potato chop, kibbie and eggplant salad will go to the Chaldean Foundation's Adopt a Refugee Family Program, helping Iraqi refugees resettle safely in America.

The following schedule indicates the individuals, dishes and their causes remaining in the program's initial launch. All sales of these

dishes will send money to their  $respective \ charities. \ Jim \ Hiller \ is$ considering extending the program through the new year, in an effort to bring back the first few dishes and send more donations to worthy causes.

• Through Nov. 2: Lisa Diggs' corn and smoked whitefish fritters and Danialle Karmanos' tuna pasta; Causes: Gleaners Food Bank and DKWIO

• Nov. 3-Nov. 16: Janice Cherkasky's diabetic apricot salad and Jeff Loeb's pasta; Causes: Juvenile Diabetes Research

Foundation and Hiller ALS Center at WSU

• Nov. 17-Nov. 30: Deena Lisak's corned beef and cabbage and macaroni and cheese; Cause: the Achievement Center at the Multiple Sclerosis Society

• Dec. 1-14: Robbie Timmons' turkey meatloaf and Paula Tutman's DISH TO COME; Cause: CANTER and Children's **ToothFairy Foundation** 

• Dec. 15-Jan. 1, 2010: Joy Cantor's pasta with Thai peanut sauce and tofu; Cause: SASHA Farm

#### CHAMBER CHAT

#### **Gala Auction countdown**

With the auction a couple of weeks away, there are three great ways to get involved:

1. Make your reservation to attend. Tickets are just \$75 and include hors d'oeuvres, dinner, dancing, the auctions and an open bar.

2. Donate an item or service for the auction. We are still looking for great items to raffle.

3. Become a sponsor of the auction. There are multiple options for sponsorship still available.

The Chamber's Gala Auction is Nov. 6 at Laurel Manor starting at 6 p.m. If you would like more information about participating, please call (734) 453-1540.

The Major Sponsors for this year's Auction are Genisys Credit Union and Hines Park Lincoln Mercury.

#### Halloween morning movie

Bring the kids and start Halloween early at the Y! The Plymouth Community YMCA is hosting a Halloween celebration at the Penn Theater with a showing of "Monster House" on Saturday, Oct. 31. The doors open at 10 a.m. with a gift bag for all the kids and chances to enter a drawing for gift baskets from local merchants. There will be a photographer to take photos, so wear your costumes!

Tickets are just \$4 and are available by calling the YMCA at (734) 453-2904. Space is limited, so call for your tickets today. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Proceeds go toward the Plymouth YMCA's Strong Kids Campaign which helps disadvantaged children participate in YMCA programs that build a healthy spirit, mind and body.

#### Childtime festival

Childtime Day Care at 45678 Helm St. will host a free Fall Festival on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will include pony rides, a petting farm, cider, donuts and much more.

#### Scarecrows in the Park

The Chamber is again hosting 25 scarecrows facing Main Street from Kellogg Park built by local organizations and businesses. Community Financial is the sponsor of this year's scarecrow display that will be up until Halloween.

The Scarecrow tradition is one more way the Chamber works to enhance our quality of life with traditions for our community.

Wes Graff is executive director of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce. He can be reached via e-mail at wes@plymouthmich.org or by calling (734) 453-1540.

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

## Love of her craft spurs Plymouth tailor

Observer: Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you

Plymouth Tailoring: I have been working as a tailor for about 18 years now. I have worked about 13 years in my home country(Albania) where I also owned a small business like this one. I worked here in Michigan for about 4 years at Parkway Drapery which is where I learned how to make drapery and upholstery. Observer: How did you first decide to open your business?

Plymouth Tailoring: One thing that made me decide to open my own business is that I love to tailor and alter. Observer: Why did you choose Plymouth?

Plymouth Tailoring: I chose Plymouth because it is where I live and in my opinion it is a good place to start a business. Plymouth is also very peaceful and quiet.

#### Observer: What makes your business unique?

Plymouth Tailoring: What really makes my business unique is that I work very fast and my prices are much lower than other tailoring shops near

#### Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

Plymouth Tailoring: I am very happy with my business so far because it has really improved since I opened it. Observer: How has the economy affected your business? Plymouth Tailoring: The

recent economy is keeping my business a little slow, I try to make my prices as low as possible so that I can get decent money.

Observer: What is in store for the future of your business? Plymouth Tailoring: In

the future I am planning

on exceeding it. I want to

window designs.

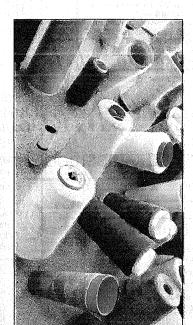
also work on upholstery and



Mimoza Shkembi in her shop, Plymouth Tailoring and Alterations.

#### **PLYMOUTH TAILORING & ALTERATIONS**

- · Business name and address: Plymouth Tailoring & Alterations, 1100 S. Main, Plymouth
- · Your name and title: Mimoza Shkembi, owner
- Your hometown: Plymouth · Business opened when: Aug.
- 17, 2009 Your Business specialty: I specialize in altering any type of clothing, making new clothes with any material and/or design, making window treatments, pillow cushions, and upholstery. Hours: Monday through
- Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. · Business phone: (734) 254-



Colorful spools of thread hang on the wall of the shop.

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What kind of community do you want to live in? How we spend our money makes a difference in the wellness of our residents and the overall success of our businesses.

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impact your local economy. Choose locally owned businesses that are truly invested in your community's future!

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS

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The Observer, Eccentric & Hometown Newspapers proudly supports this message.

## FILTER

## Dogs can parade in costume for good cause

Can we ever get too much Halloween fun? No, say Friends of Canton's Dog Park and Crimboli

They've teamed up to present "Howling for the Dog Park, noon-3 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 24 at Crimboli Sweetwater village, 50145 Ford Road, Canton.

This dog-friendly event is designed to provide families with a fun-filled afternoon while supporting and building awareness for Canton's future dog park.

Planned activities for this pet-friendly event, include hayrides, live entertainment, free kids attractions, tasty treats, and pumpkins available for purchase from Hauk

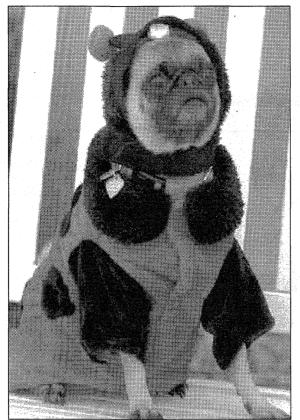
The Humane Society of Huron Valley also will also be on hand for those looking to adopt a new four-legged friend into their family.

The howling costume contest also will involve the entire family and their furry companions. Participants are invited to dress up their pets and themselves in scary, funny, or just downright cute costumes for a chance to win prizes.

To provide a safe recreational opportunity for participating dogs, all pet-owners must show proof of current vaccinations and be licensed by the local government where the dog's owner lives. Proof of residency will be

Canton Leisure Services along with the Friends of Canton's Dog Park are working together to create a three acre off-leash dog park in Canton. Their goal is to raise \$60,000 to build a year-round puppy playground that will be located off Denton Road, just north of Cherry Hill Road. The fenced-in field will allow dogs to play and run free, allowing for socialization and recreation in a safe environment. Separate sections will be created for large dogs of more than 20 pounds, and smaller dogs.

For more information on the Howling for the Dog



A pug dressed as a bug: Humans and dogs alike can wear costumes to Howling for the Dog Park.

Park or the Canton Dog Park, visit cantonfun.org or call the Canton Park's Division at (734) 394-5310.

#### Hear live music in intimate setting at Village Theater

"The Atomics," known for getting audience members on their feet and to the dance floor, will perform Friday, Nov. 6, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton.

The group, with its members coming from diverse musical backgrounds, has played in coffee houses and local pubs throughout southeast Michigan. The Atomics draws from all music genres for its set list.

The performance, a part of the First Friday Studio Series at the theater, starts at 8 p.m. in the Biltmore Studio, an intimate setting for live music. A cash bar will be available and all seats cost \$12. This and all First Friday Studio Series performances are general admission and will take place in the Biltmore Studio, an intimate setting for experiencing live music. A cash bar will also be available.

Buy tickets at www. cantonvillagetheater.



The Atomics will perform Nov. 6 the Village Theatre at Cherry Hill in Canton.

org. Tickets can also be purchased at Summit on the Park by phone at (734) 394-5460 or in person. The Summit's box office hours are 8:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdav-Sunday. To purchase tick-

ets at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill box office, stop by during box office hours 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The Village Theater ticket office will also be open one hour before to each performance.

### Athletic events support breast cancer research

If you're a breast cancer survivor, you can watch the Detroit Pistons take on the Oklahoma City Thunder for free at 8 p.m. Oct. 30 at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

And if you like hockey, see The Whalers hockey team "pink out" on Oct. 24 to raise awareness of breast cancer.

The Pistons teamed up with the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute to raise awareness of breast cancer prevention, screening and early detection; and to recognize breast cancer survivors at its season home opener. Survivors will receive a special pink T-shirt in addition to complimentary tickets for the game. Their friends and family can buy discounted upper level seats for \$15, \$5 of which will go to the Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Breast cancer survivors also will be able to participate in pre-game and halftime activities. They'll form a fan tunnel to welcome the players on the court, be involved in player introductions and be on the court during the National Anthem.

The Pistons' pink night at the Palace is just the start of a season-long emphasis on charitable causes. The team will recognize one cause per month with a home game devoted to raising funds and awareness.

"Hosting a rare October regular season game presented us with a great opportunity to get involved in National Breast

Cancer Awareness month and contribute to a cause that touches everyone," said Tom Wilson, president and CEO of the Detroit Pistons. "Obviously, we hope to make a nice contribution, but more so, we see this as a great platform to raise awareness for research, early detection and prevention of a disease that affects hundreds of thousands of people each year. We think it is going to be one of the most special opening nights we have ever had."

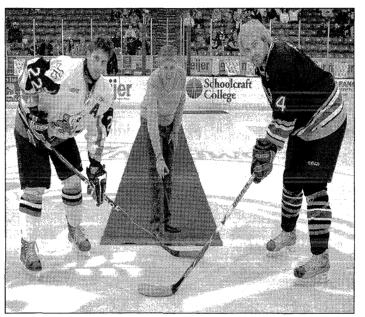
The series continues with a military salute in support of Veterans as part of the Pistons' Nov. 11 Veterans' Day home game. As the season progresses other beneficiaries will include Society of St. Vincent De Paul, rewarding volunteerism and the Pistons Care Telethon.

To register for free tickets and to order the specially priced tickets, visit Pistons. com or call The Palace Box Office at (248) 377-0100.

#### **MORE PINK**

The Whalers hockey team will be in pink from head to toe at its game against the Belleville Bulls, 7:05 p.m., Oct. 24 at Compuware Arena, 14900 Beck. Plymouth.

Players will wear special pink jerseys, which will be auctioned, and will sport pink hair. The proceeds from the jersey auction, along with the 50/50 raffle and Hines



Breast cancer survivor Mary Beth Bloom drops the puck at last season's "Pink Out!"

Park Chuck-a-Puck will also go to the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Team members had their hair colored at Lucky Hair Company earlier this week, giving them a few days to show off their new hair color.

"We did the same thing last year," said Plymouth defenseman Leo Jenner. "Doing this a couple of days before raises awareness. People get to see you out in public and it raises questions. We can tell the public why we're doing it and support the cause at the same time. (In the end) that's what it's all about."

Last season's first Whalers Pink Out! drew an unprecedented response from fans, according to Pete Krupsky, director of communications and community relations.

For more information visit www.compuwarearena. STATE OF MICHIGAN, PROBATE COURT, COUNTY OF WAYNE, File No. 2009-745948-DE

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Brion Robert West, Deceased Date of Birth: March 2, 1959

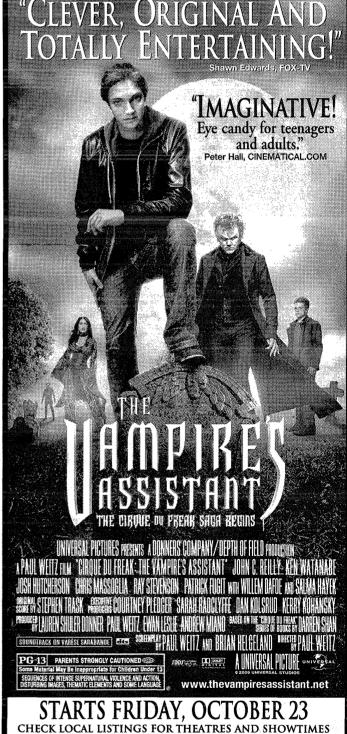
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The decedent, Brion Robert West, who lived at 38410 Cherry Hill Road, Westland, died October 23, 2006.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Leslie Sprague, named personal representative or to both the probate court at 1305 CAYMC, Two Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI and the named personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice

Personal Representative: Leslie Sprague, 219 Welch, Houghton Lake, MI 48629, (989) 422-6416

Publish: October 22, 2009



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## Classified Preview.

www.hometownlife.com

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Garage Sales FARMINGTON HILLS SUB WIDE SALE 10 Mile 8 Briar Hill, Woodbine Sub. Oc 24-25, 10am-4pm. Many families! Lots of great stuff!

Oh Yeah! Make your life find it in your classifieds!

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WEST BLOOMFIELD MOVING SALE at 6559 Pembridge Hill 48322. Fri, Sat, Sun, all days 9am-4pm. Oct. 23-25 & Oct. 30-Nov. 1. Appliances, toys, furniture, home decor, sports equip, tools, patio. Everything must go!

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## FOOD & WINE

## Healthful holidays

### Local cooks serve up plant-based foods for tasting

**BY SHARON DARGAY 0&E STAFF WRITER** 

If you can't say vegetarian and tasty in the same breath, you're the perfect candidate for Jeanie Weaver's annual holiday tasting party.

"It gives them an eye opener to really how good they can eat and not have the flesh component, if that's what they choose," Weaver described the "Vegetarian Holiday Tasting Extravaganza" that she founded 22 years ago.

The community event on Nov. 8 will bring together local cooks — some of them members of the Seventh-day Adventist church — who will serve favorite non-meat holiday dishes, from appetizers to entrees to desserts.

"The biggest reason I started doing this was as an educational venture. You're not sitting through a lecture. You'll look and see how it's done. If you make notes, and ask questions and look at how they're displayed, you'll come away with 50 different meal plans for vegetarian holiday dinners," Weaver said. "They'll show you ways to serve a vegetarian dish and make it beautiful and festive.'

Weaver, who coordinates the annual tasting hopes the word "vegetarian" doesn't discourage meat-eaters from attending the event.

"I don't set out to make people vegetarian. I set out to help people eat better. That means moving more toward plants."

Diehard meat-eaters will learn how to include more plant-based foods into their diets; vegetarians will broaden their repertoire of meatless dishes; and everyone will learn to serve a substantial, tasty holiday meal without

meat. Cooking vegetarian around the holiday can be a challenge.

#### 22 ANNUAL VEGETARIAN **HOLIDAY TASTING EXTRAVAGANZA**

What: Taste more than 50 nonmeat dishes

When: Sunday, Nov. 8 Where: Metropolitan Adventist School Gym, located on Haggerty, just north of Five Mile, Plymouth

Details: Three seating times, 11 a.m., 12:45 p.m. or 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$14 for adults and \$6 for children, age 6-12. Make checks payable to Metro SDA School and send to "Holiday Tasting," 695 N. Ridge road. Canton, MI 48187-4635. If you don't reserve tickets, call (734) 420-4044 the day of the event to check for ticket availability Cookbooks: A booklet of the recipes used will be available for \$8. A paperback book with 15 year's worth of Exravaganza recipes costs \$25 and a CD with ebook with 20 year's worth of meals costs \$12.

Contact: Visit www.veggieholiday.com or call the hotline at (248) 446-9176

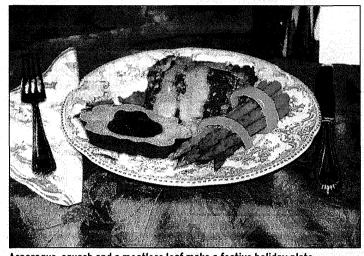
holiday table) is based around

#### **MORE THAN BEANS**

Inexperienced vegetarian cooks often know little about preparing satisfying and tasty foods and vegetarian cuisine is stereotyped as "a salad and bowl of beans."

Weaver said the Extravaganza will turn that notion upsidedown.

"Many of the patties and wonderful twists on meatless meatballs give you a meaty reel in the mouth and protein. plateful of rice and pasta."



Asparagus, squash and a meatless loaf make a festive holiday plate.

Weaver's had her share of "scary vegetarian" dishes while eating out. At a recent medical gathering with her husband. who's both a surgeon and lifelong vegetarian, the nonmeat fare consisted of a baked potato and pasta.

"It was a fancy place and he was supposed to be an inventive chef, but he didn't know anything about cooking plantbased foods."

#### **BECOMING VEGETARIAN** Weaver, who is self-

employed as a fitness trainer, got her first taste of vegetarian cooking while in a Seventh-day Adventist boarding school when she was a teen-ager.

"They don't serve meat. After six weeks I went home on break and ate a steak like I used to. I got so sick."

When she returned to school, she worked in the kitchen and learned to make meatless loafs and patties that help add balance and variety to a vegetarian diet. Weaver, who volunteers as a physical education teacher in a Seventh-day Adventist school, earned a bachelor's degree in health and nutrition and a master's of special education. Her three children, ages 26, 23 and 20, are vegetarian and have

through the years.

Joy Hyde of Livonia is one of Weaver's many friends who cook for Extravaganza every year.

She gave up meat years ago while working for a company that was located near a meat packing plant. "The trucks would pull in

with pigs and the only thing that came out were the dump trucks going down the street and spewing liquid ... taking parts to the rendering company ... the smell was horrendous." Hyde tests her recipes — some

are adapted from meat-containing entrees — on her husband, a life-long vegetarian.

She'll make Middle Eastern chick pea patties, watercress and cauliflower soup and an applecranberry casserole for the Extravaganza.

"It can add up. It can be costly," said Hyde, who, like the other volunteer cooks, pays for her own ingredients. "But we want people to know health principles. Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. We should take care of our bodies."

## Cookbook raises funds for developmentally disabled

Look for 250 new recipes in the newly released Feast from the Heart cookbook, available from the **Community Living** Centers of Farmington.

Compiling a cookbook, with recipes from chefs, friends,

and family members is a 20-year tradition for the nonprofit organization that runs group homes, apartments and independent living programs for the developmentally disabled. "It was a

nice thing the women's auxiliary decided would be a great fundraiser,' said Ronald Weber, develop-

ment and

marketing manager. "Every time we put one out the recipes are brand new. We print up to 600 books. We go after recipes from staff, parents, sibling. It's original recipes — not pulled out of books."

Community Living Centers of

popular cookbook series.

Farmington is selling this new edition

"Feast from the Heart" from its

The organization publishes a new cookbook every three to four years.

Chef Milos Cihelka of Golden Mushroom fame submits several recipes for each new book. "He's a big supporter of the

organization. Every time we ask he submits recipes.'

Weber said the organization has sold its cookbook at the Farmington Farmer's Market and

may attend a few Christmas bazaars. "It's a nice thing to build involvement by people outside the area," he said, add-

ing that the book "always Community Living Centers of

Farmington has 120 residents and

94 staff members. It runs 10 facilities in Farmington, Farmington Hills, Southfield and Royal Oak.

"It's a step program to get them to become independent. They start in a group home setting and then go into independent living. We have a couple of managed apartment buildings."

Clients who are able to live on their own move from a managed setting into an apartment building where Community Living Center

offer them transportation. Most people are here for life," Weber said. "They don't pay anything. The state funds 65 percent of the

"Most of them do work and we

staff routinely visits.

raising. For more about Community Living Centers of Farmington visit www.clchomes.org To buy Feast from the Heart

cost and the rest comes from fund-

cookbook, call (248) 478-0870. A \$12 donation includes shipping. Community Living Centers

is located at 33235 Grand River Avenue, Farmington. Sharon Dargay







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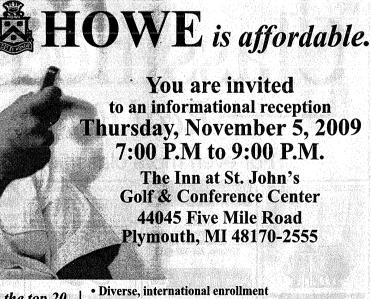
Westland, MI 48185

www.ashfordcourtwestland.com

Howe is listed among the top 20 boarding schools out of 260 for affordability. (least expensive tuition, high percentage of students on financial aid and student attention because of small class sizes.) According to

BoardingSchoolReview.com

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## Push on to extend first-time buyer credit

BY JULIE BROWN **0&E STAFF WRITER** 

Gary Reggish is an optimistic guy. The Livonia resident, a Realtor and president of the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors, hopes Congress will extend the first-time homebuyer tax credit past its Nov. 30 expiration date. The National Association of Realtors has been working to that end, said the owner of Remerica United Realty in Novi.

"The government has been receptive. They have not committed," he said, adding state and local Realtor boards are also pushing for the extension which allows first-time buyers up to \$8,000 or 10 percent of the purchase price as a tax credit for a home bought.

Realtors would like to see the provision extended to all buyers, he said. Time's drawing close now as work must be done in time for a Nov. 30 closing.

"They need to get off the fence and go buy," Reggish said. "Now's the time." Interest rates and prices are low, he said.

The NAR has provided Congress with documentation the credit has boosted the housing market and lowered inventory, Reggish said. "We're heading towards stabilization. Stabilization of the housing market is crucial. It is the key element."

That ties into WWOCAR's Jump Start initiative to bring new jobs to Michigan. "We absolutely need small business growth," he said. Michigan's below average for startups for small business, which nationwide generates 70 of all jobs.

Independent contractors in real estate, insurance and other fields don't show up in unemployment totals, he said, and don't collect unemployment. He and others want new jobs to replace those lost in manufacturing.

Mary McGaw, mortgage loan officer with Bank of America out of Canton, agreed the provision's needed beyond Nov. 30. "It definitely is a good thing," said



McGaw, a Westland resident. "We've been seeing quite a few more people coming in."

She said 85 percent of her customers are first-time buyers. "There's really been a lot of advertising on it," she said of the provision. "Realtors are doing a big push."

Buyers get \$8,000 or 10 percent of the purchase price as a tax credit. "By all means, I think it's done a lot for everyone. It's definitely improving," she said of the housing market. "We are having multiple offers on homes."

Prices aren't what they once were, although McGaw said some are going for above the listing. Some are short sales, sold for less than the buyer owes.

Congressional action could soon follow.

28935 Murray Crescent Dr 18602 W Nine Mile Rd 23657 Philip Dr

\$110,000 \$57,000 \$60,000

27075 Pierce St 27232 Red Leaf Ln

17302 Roxbury Ave

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, said in a statement, "I support the tax credit and want to see it as a stand alone bill. I oppose attempts to tie this helpful tax credit to legislation that will be harmful to our recessed economy."

Many taxpayers who purchase a home this year will qualify for an \$8,000 federal tax credit. The refundable first-time homebuyer credit is a major tax provision in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Time is running out to qualify for this credit.

Here are 10 things the IRS wants you to know about the first-time homebuyer

To be considered a first-time home-

buyer, you - and your spouse if you are married - must not have jointly or separately owned another principal residence during the three years prior to the date of purchase.

You cannot claim the credit before there is a completed sale and purchase of the residence. The sale and purchase are generally completed at the time of closing on

To qualify for the credit, the completed purchase must occur before Dec. 1, 2009. The home must be located in the United

The credit is either 10 percent of the purchase price of the home or \$8,000, which-

The amount of the credit begins to phase out for taxpayers whose modified adjusted gross income is more than \$75,000 or \$150,000 for joint filers.

The credit is fully refundable. A homebuyer with no taxable income, who qualifies for the credit, may file for the sole purpose of claiming the credit and receiving a refund. The credit will be paid out to eligible taxpayers, even if they owe no tax or the credit is more than the tax owed.

The credit is claimed on IRS Form 5405, First-Time Homebuyers Credit.

Taxpayers can claim the credit for a qualified 2009 purchase on either their 2008 or 2009 tax return. For those who have filed a 2008 return, a Form 1040X, Amended U.S. Individual Income Tax Return can be filed in order to get a refund in 2009.

The credit for qualified 2009 purchases does not have to be repaid, as long as the home remains your main home for 36 months after the purchase date.

Qualified taxpayers who have been considering a main home purchase may find extra incentive from this tax credit to buy now so they can complete the purchase before the Dec. 1 deadline.

For more information on this and other key tax provisions, visit the official IRS Web site at IRS.gov/Recovery.

## Not obeying court order serious business

Q: I have been in a lawsuit against my homeowners association where I have represented myself. The association has gotten an injunction against me continuing to maintain a barbecue pit on the side of my home. What happens if I decide not to honor the court's order? Will I be fined, etc.?

A: I suggest that you contact an attorney immediately to further advise you on the ramifications of you not



Robert Meisner

with the court order, and whether it should be appealed. On the other hand, generally speaking, a court order

disobeyed

complying

by a party can result in a contempt proceeding by the court, which would include not only fines, but potential incarceration. depending upon the nature of your violation. That is not something to play with, and you are best advised to comply with the Court Order while preserving your appeal rights, should you wish to do so.

Q: I am a member of a homeowner association, and believe that one of our directors has absconded with funds. I am trying to get a copy of the financial statement of the association, and want to look at the books and records, but am being denied access.

associations are nonprofit corporations and the Nonprofit Corporation Act and, presumably, the bylaws of your homeowner association give you the right to review the books, records and, perhaps, the minutes of the association. You should write a letter to the Board of Directors demanding access to these records, but be specific as to what you want to look at. Absent a proper response, hire a lawyer, and if necessary, seek recourse in circuit court to compel the Board of Directors to allow you access to the books and

and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staving on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

## What can I do? A: Typically, homeowner

records. Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer

exceed FDIC insurance limits. Similarly, if MSHDA makes a deposit under this program because of a direct investment in Deal A, MSHDA cannot make an additional deposit as a result of another investment through Syndicator B because of the aggregate deposit limits. Additionally, MSHDA cannot guarantee renewal of the deposit since longer-term cash management needs cannot be predicted.

It is also possible that more banks decide to participate than MSHDA can accommodate within the gross deposit limitation noted in the program notice. MSHDA intends to track the aggregate investments made and notify the industry if the limit is approached.

#### **HOMES SOLD - OAKLAND**

\$144,000 \$53,000 \$513,000

35455 Lone Pine Ln

28367 Ridgebrook Rd

38167 Turnberry Ct

These are the Observ	er &						
Eccentric-area reside	ntial real-						
estate closings recorded the							
week of July 13-17, 20	09. at						
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Auburn Hills							
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2887 Edna Jane Dr \$82,000							
106 Oakmont \$80,000							
2066 Walnut Rd	\$129,000						

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4187 Blue Heron Dr	\$282,000	
2887 Edna Jane Dr	\$82,000	
106 Oakmont	\$80,000	
2066 Walnut Rd	\$129,000	
Beverly Hills	V.=7,000	
15581 Amherst Ave	\$198,000	
16236 Beechwood Ave	\$155,000	
16265 Beechwood Ave	\$175,000	
32950 Bellvine Trl	\$155,000	
18432 Riverside Dr	\$273,000	
16207 Wetherby St		
	\$240,000	
Birmingham	4000 000	
1115 N Old Woodward Ave # 5		
1762 Webster St	\$365,000	
Bloomfield Township		
1763 Golf Ridge Dr	\$145,000	
756 Palms Rd	\$875,000	
4246 Sandy Ln	\$455,000	
6380 Sunningdale Dr	\$265,000	
6350 Telegraph Rd	\$37,000	
2520 W Hickory Grove Rd	\$501,000	
Clarkston		
5957 Forest Grove Ct	\$267,000	
4984 Oak Park Dr	\$49,000	
6511 Ridgeview Dr	\$95,000	
8165 Woodview Rd	\$331,000	
Commerce Township		
4046 Heatherwood Dr	\$217,000	
5290 Huron Hills Dr	\$270,000	
252 Phoenix St	\$30,000	
4418 Ravinewood Dr	\$140,000	
5354 Seminole Ct	\$242,000	
1881 Thorndale St	\$138,000	
1560 Vanstone Dr	\$150,000	
5000 White Tail Ct	\$50,000	
Davisburg	450,000	
13883 Rattalee Lake Rd	\$80,000	
12143 Windcliff	\$173,000	
Farmington	3113,000	
24185 Farmington Rd	\$168,000	
36491 Saxony Rd	\$158,000	
Farmington Hills	\$150,000	
36840 Aspen Dr	\$280,000	
32450 Chesterbrook St	\$110,000	
32301 Colfax St		
31109 Country Blf	\$180,000	
	\$85,000	
30971 Country Ridge Cir 29043 Creek Bend Dr	\$184,000	
	\$332,000	
22390 Diamond Ct	\$360,000	
30212 Fink Ave	\$98,000	
39205 Grand River Ave	\$36,000	

	35097 Valley Forge Dr	\$168,000		17565 Roxbury Ave	\$50,000
	Lake Orion			29702 Somerset Dr	\$87,000
	47 Eagle Ridge Rd	\$145,000	2	25430 Southfield Rd	\$38,000
	3643 Green Meadow Ln	\$195,000		5000 Town Ctr	\$46,000
	32 Highland Ave	\$300,000		20975 Virginia St	\$119,000
	Milford			8301 W 13 Mile Rd	\$17,000
	1076 Eagle Nest Dr	\$150,000	7	26683 W Carnegie Park Dr	\$39,000
	204 Hickory St	\$185,000	•	Troy	
	875 Rockweed Ct	\$186,000	1	302 Burns Dr	\$180,000
	Northville		1	963 Freemont Dr	\$225,000
	43824 Westridge Ln	\$170,000		3350 Kilmer Dr	\$63,000
	Novi			5550 Livernois Rd	\$100,000
	45508 Addington Ln	\$324,000		3344 Paddington Dr	\$268,000
	23902 Avery Ln	\$100,000	1	227 Provincial Dr	\$620,000
	21572 Chase Dr	\$355,000	7	2713 Roundtree Dr	\$35,000
	22455 Havergale St	\$314,000		3219 Troy Dr	\$144,000
	24522 Olde Orchard St	\$50,000	1	570 Troy Valley Dr	\$240,000
	39901 Sandpoint Way	\$190,000		Walled Lake	
	27255 Victoria Rd	\$270,000	1	630 Commerce Pines Dr	\$212,000
	42589 Wimbleton Way	\$238,000	- 2	2157 Hidden Meadows Dr	\$79,000
	Oakland Township		7	2121 Park Place Dr	\$70,000
	4871 Georgetown Dr	\$147,000		2171 Park Place Dr	\$58,000
	5776 Paint Valley Dr	\$220,000	ē	528 Pine Tree Ct	\$150,000
	Oxford	The State of State of	- 1	233 Vollmers St	\$260,000
	3726 Country View Dr	\$106,000		Naterford	
	495 E Peninsula Ct	\$260,000		882 Colonial Village Way	\$40,000
	75 Pineview Ct	\$160,000		3199 Coventry Dr	\$156,000
	180 State St	\$205,000	1 1	178 Lakeside Dr	\$73,000
	643 Welchview Ct	\$308,000	1.5	1351 Louella Dr	\$95,000
	Rochester		4.4	066 Meadowlark Dr	\$85,000
	1160 Great Oaks Blvd	\$230,000	194	3125 Roseanne Ln	\$150,000
	1169 Krista Ct	\$388,000	1	166 Sherwood Forest Ct	\$95,000
1	366 Maywood Ave	\$325,000	1	West Bloomfield	
	1383 Pebble Ridge Dr	\$525,000		5510 Apple Blossom Trl	\$331,000
	1014 River Mist Dr	\$235,000		6345 Brookview Ln	\$145,000
	Rochester Hills			5435 Buxton Dr	\$138,000
	1365 Chestnut Cir	\$220,000		7436 Camelot Dr	\$150,000
	3140 Davenport Ln	\$277,000	. (	5589 Cardinal Place Ct	\$174,000
	195 Eastlawn Dr	\$167,000		7189 Cottonwood Knoll St	\$120,000
	658 Glasgow Ct	\$148,000		474 Franklin Ridge Ln	\$219,000
	3691 Hogan Cir	\$50,000		1474 Gateway Cir	\$128,000
	1780 June Ave	\$100,000		5947 Manderson Ter	\$210,000
	20 Kirks Ct	\$90,000		5202 Odessa Dr	\$150,000
	170 Manor Way	\$99,000		6139 Orchard Lake Road	\$69,000
	1055 Paint Creek Ln	\$118,000		5223 Orchard Woods Dr	\$270,000
	133 Stratford Ln	\$94,000		1731 Patrick Rd	\$182,000
	2788 Tallahassee Dr	\$157,000		1267 Pinehurst Dr	\$258,000
	733 Ten Point Dr	\$237,000		1710 Rolling Ridge Rd	\$285,000
	1830 Westridge Dr	\$430,000		6425 Tamerlane Dr	\$114,000
	South Lyon			'623 Watford Dr	\$400,000
	1108 Appaloosa Ct	\$190,000		White Lake	
. '	26623 Daria Cir W	\$80,000		130 Fairview St	\$110,000
	25931 Hunters Ln	\$214,000		276 Horizon Rd	\$100,000
	320 Whipple St	\$124,000		27 N Williams Lake Rd	\$136,000
	Southfield	074 000		'60 Robar Cir	\$110,000
	28780 Fairfax St	\$76,000		3136 Springdale Dr	\$100,000
	28491 Glasgow St	\$49,000	8	3170 Timber Trl	\$115,000
	23335 Grayson Dr	\$33,000			
	19010 Hilton Dr	\$130,000			
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#### **HOMES SOLD - WAYNE**

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential realestate closings recorded the week of July 6-10, 2009, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

1652 Bennington Ct	\$101,000
747 Buchanan St	\$203.000
47955 Cardiff Ave	
	\$100,000
42255 Chase Dr	\$229,000
2150 Cleveland Way	\$183,000
48738 Crescent Dr	\$297,000
46948 Fieldview Ct	\$193,000
6670 Kennesaw Rd	\$296,000
2337 Leigh Ct	\$217,000
44863 Leslie Ln	\$176,000
2283 Liberty St S	\$225,000
46268 Overhill Ln	\$260,000
44250 Postmill Ct	\$176,000
733 Scottsdale Ct	\$138,000
2605 Siever Dr	\$255,000
41050 Southwind Dr	\$55,000
44548 Tillotson Dr	\$171.000
1950 Woodmont Dr W	\$168,000

Garden City		45921 Riviera Dr	\$425,000
31467 Alvin St	\$95,000	49562 S Glacier	\$285,000
534 Henry Ruff Rd 💏 .	\$86,000	18393-Stoneridge Ct 🥀	\$620,000 ;
6530 Lathers St	\$63,000	15688 Troon Ct	\$575,000
29655 Sheridan St	\$62,000	Plymouth	
Livonia		499 Auburn St	\$175,000
31705 Seven Mile Rd	\$163,000	11325 Eastside Dr	\$95,000
15765 Alpine Dr	\$188,000	42115 Old Pond Cir	\$85,000
11411 Arden St	\$125,000	12731 Portsmouth Ct	\$290,000
30505 Bonnydale St	\$145,000	14219 Shadywood Dr	\$142,000
33617 Curtis Rd	\$175,000	918 Simpson St	\$168,000
18453 Deering St	\$23,000	15249 Thornridge Dr	\$125,000
9323 Eastwind Dr	\$150,000	50535 W Fellows Creek Ct	\$472,000
14053 Ellen Dr	\$130,000	Redford	
17729 Francavilla Dr	\$215,000	11678 Beech Daly Rd	\$78,000
9881 Garvett St	\$100,000	20587 Centralia	\$7,000
31291 Kendall St	\$148,000	13512 Fenton	\$70,000
29966 Mcintyre St	\$113,000	11414 Inkster Rd	\$52,000
18505 Melvin St	\$102,000	17225 Macarthur	\$130,000
30290 Minton St	\$95,000	11695 Virgil	\$66,000
29655 Nottingham Cir	\$123,000	Westland	
38151 W Chicago St	\$112,000	39340 Armstrong Ln	\$95,000
28043 W Stanmoor Dr	\$114,000	33639 Fernwood St	\$80,000
9409 Westwind Dr	\$100,000	32314 Glen St	\$33,000
35421 Wood St	\$160,000	38948 Huron Pkwy	\$169,000
Northville	10.400	260 Larchmont Dr	\$165,000
18240 Clairmont Cir E	\$690,000	8200 Liberty Blvd	\$83,000
16013 Cog Hill Dr	\$450,000	32125 Mackenzie Dr	\$90,000
42336 Crestview Cir	\$287,000	38455 Meghan Ln	# \$103,000°
46066 Greenridge Dr	\$320,000	128 N Hiy Rd	\$112,000

## State forms Affordable **Housing Investment Fund**

The Michigan State Housing **Development Authority recently** announced the creation of the Michigan Affordable Housing Investment Fund, a new program that will allow MSHDA to encourage local banks and other financiers to support the development and preservation of affordable rental housing in the state through the end

Beginning Oct. 1 and continuing through Dec. 31, 2010, MSHDA may deposit up to \$250,000 with any Michigan regulated financial institution making a new investment in Low Income Housing Tax Credits related to a MSHDA-financed project. A participating bank investing in LIHTCs already receives an opportunity for a return on the LIHTC investment and potential Community Reinvestment Act credit for the investments. This new program adds the prospect of receiving MSHDA deposits as a result of the investment.

The program is part of a broad effort by MSHDA to improve the state's rental housing stock, make housing costs more affordable, rebuild cities and create jobs.

"Affordable housing and keeping and attracting jobs are major concerns to Americans across the nation," said MSHDA Executive Director Keith Molin. "Michigan is moving forward to help employers, developers, lenders and families plan their strategies as we create more successful communities."

Under the terms of the Michigan Community Fund, participating banks can directly invest in a standalone MSHDA-financed development or in a LIHTC investment fund that is investing in MSHDA financed developments. An investment in either the 4 percent or 9 percent LIHTC program will be eligible for MSHDA deposits. The properties must be located within the state of Michigan.

The plan requires all participating banks to be a financial institution: Fully licensed to conduct business in the state of Michigan;

 Holding any and all applicable certifications of compliance with the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Community Reinvestment Act, the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the Truth in Lending Act, and any other federal or state regulation related to the lawful operation of the financial institution, and;

Whose deposits are FDIC

•And whose minimum participation is \$250,000.

The MSHDA deposit:

 Shall be evidenced by a newly created investment account in the form of a Certificate of Deposit or similar instrument which shall provide for a market rate of return on the investment;

·Shall have a negotiable maturity date specified in the Certificate of Deposit or other document with no guarantee of renewal;

Shall be in an amount not to exceed the applicable FDIC insurance limit (presently \$250,000 per depositor);

·Shall explicitly state that it is not and shall under no circumstances be considered as collateral for any LIHTC or Authority related investment made by the Participating Bank.

"While MSHDA is heavily

engaged in and supports all efforts to invest in Michigan communities and housing, LIHTC investments come with attendant financial, market and operational risks," Molin said. "Participating banks should invest with an understanding of these risks and the understanding that MSHDA is not assuming or insuring against this risk as a part of any agreement related to a bank deposit."

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS** Q: What do you mean by MSHDA financed? Does this require participation in the direct lending program?

A: Yes, this program is focused on LIHTC investments in projects participating in MSHDA's Direct Lending program, including both taxable and tax exempt lending. Q: Is there a minimum investment?

A: While individual syndicators

may have differing requirements for how investments in their funds will work, MSHDA typically expects an investment of no less than \$250,000 before it would consider making a deposit. Q: Are there other limitations? What if a bank makes several new investments through more than one direct investment or via multiple syndicators?

A: As noted in the program announcement, MSHDA intends to make deposits that are otherwise consistent with its current investment practices. If a bank already holds MSHDA deposits, MSHDA may not be able to make a new deposit under this program if the aggregate total deposits

## Challenging fun for ALL ages ZZLE CORNER

kindergarten

58 Gauguin's prop 60 Ocean bird

63 Acorn, to an oak

**DOWN** 

2 Martini garnish

3 Half a sawbuck

9 Army quarters 10 Removes a

. goatee 11 Livy's tongue

12 Queen of the

Misty Isles 13 Theater awards

counterpart 23 Places of refuge

Receptive

32 Turned chicken

"Honest" fellow

64 Bakers' meas.

61 Similar 62 Movie part

65 Male voice

Fergie's first name

Classier

Blizzard Hubbub (hyph.)

8 Eager

### CROSSWORD PUZZLER

#### **ACROSS** To date (2 wds.)

- 6 Wild guess
- 10 Lath
- 14 Perp's need
- 15 Forum garb 16 Moon
- phenomenon 17 Bolt for a girder
- 18 Fragrance
- 19 Nefertiti's god 20 Gladiator's hello
- Space station environment
- (2 wds.) 24 Bravery
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- 30 More ticked off 33 Hoofs it
- 34 Irritate
- 37 Hot oven 38 Retail centers
- piece Common rental
- 42 Decorative vessels

- 48 Most agile

- 39 Faint, with "over" 40 Desperado's
- Comes in second 44 Battery size 45 Volcanic rock
- 52 Totally amazed 55 Pig's digs 56 Minnows
- 28 Foxes' prey 29 Choir member 30 Hang loosely 31 Buckeye st. campus

22 NASA

#### PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

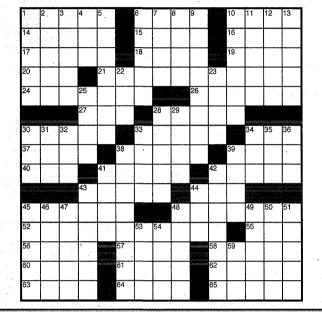


- © 2009 United Feature Syndicate, Inc 4-29-09
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Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have ou booked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Fun By The

Like puzzles?

**Numbers** 

Here's How It Works:

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

## SEEKAND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

APERTURE **CAMERA** CHEMICALS **DARK ROOM**  FILM **FLASH FOCUS** LENS

SHUTTER TRIPOD **VIEWFINDER** 

**PHOTOGRAPH** 

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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Deadlines: Sunday edition ...... Thursday edition......2:00 p.m. Tuesday

4:30 p.m. Friday

Eccentric office......6200 Metro Pkwy., Sterling Heights, MI 48312 Observer office ......41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170 Hours ......8:30 - 5:00 Monday - Friday

POLICY

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WESTLAND

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3 bdrm, \$599 & also 1 bdrm

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50% off 1st 3 month's rent w/ approved credit. (248) 478-8722 GARDEN CITY - 2 bdrm apts upper/lower units avail. Heat & water incl, updated & remodeled. (248) 474-3005

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**Bedrooms** 

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4050 lomes For Rent

FARMINGTON - 1800 sq. ft. ranch, attached gar, Ig master suite 4 vr old house no bemt \$1300/mo. 248-563-1733 GARDEN CITY: 3 bdrm, 2 bath, finished bsmt, 2 car

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Extremely clean. \$500/mo. \$700 deposit. No pets. rr. lease. 989-657-3494 1 yr. lease. LIVONIA - 1200 sq. ft. freshly nainted 3 bdrm, detached gar new carpet. Appli, fenced yard. \$950/mo, 248-342-0314

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Homes For Rent

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4050

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4, 19320 Suffolk, Detroit,
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Garage Sales

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CANTON- 2001 Roundtable East, S. off Palmer, W. of Lilley Over 500 books, furniclothing, household c, exercise equipment ture. goods, exercise equipr 10/22-10/24; 10am-6pm.

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(7100)

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Sheldon, S. of Ann Arbor Rd. **Moving Sales** 

CANTON: Moving/Estate Sale Thurs-Sun. Oct. 22-25, 10am-4pm. 2413 Lexington Cir. N S. of Cherry Hill, W. of Beck. Appliances, collectibles, etc.

REDFORD MOVING SALE

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7320

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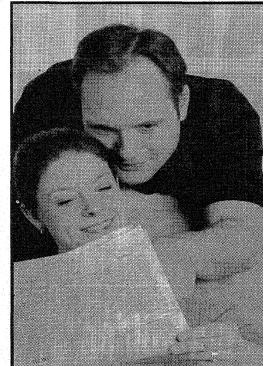
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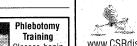
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## **GM-BACKED STARTUP BRINGS 'FLEX' ETHANOL CLOSER TO REALITY**

*AdvertisingFeature* 





**Bv Dale Buss** 

Coskata Inc. pushed toward the front of the pack of second-generation ethanol producers last week by firing up its new "semi-commercial" facility for manufacturing cellulosic ethanol in Madison, Pa., near Pittsburgh. The move represented a huge step for the company that was originally brought into the limelight nearly two years ago by General Motors, which took an initial minority stake in the Illinois-based concern.

And by striking a blow for the future of ethanol fuel at a time when it has fallen into some economic and political disfavor, Coskata is helping to revitalize prospects for GM's huge fleet of vehicles that are powered by gasoline-ethanol blends. GM and Ford continue to expand the number of their products that run on the fuel and still have tied major portions of their "green" propulsion programs to corn- and cellulose-based ethanol.

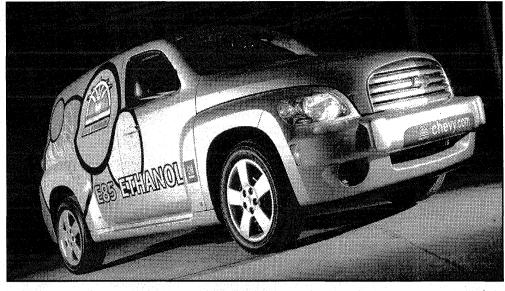
The opening of the facility moves Coskata closer to building a full-scale commercial plant, which it anticipates opening by late 2012.

And the Pennsylvania plant, with annual capacity of about 50,000 gallons of ethanol, "gives us a proof statement and demonstrated capabilities," William Roe, said Coskata's CEO. "We've put our head down and for the last year have completed a lot of the deliverables that have to be done in order to do this on a commercial scale."

Coskata already has been delivering small quantities of cellulosic ethanol to GM for use in its test fleet in Milford. That was one of the early markers laid out by Roe and his colleagues when GM originally touted the startup's product and technology as a promising development in America's efforts to break free of dependence on foreign oil.

GM has been preoccupied with other things lately, but Coskata has stayed on task. The company long ago validated its technique for using bacteria to produce "flex" ethanol from numerous feedstocks, including not only wood biomass but also agricultural waste, sustainable energy crops, construction waste and even certain municipal

Roe said that Coskata believes the Pennsylvania plant will help demonstrate that the company can produce the fuel commercially for \$1 a gallon or so, its long-declared cost goal that analysts say would make flex ethanol cost-competitive with gasoline. And Coskata's technique is as much as 7-times as "energy-positive" as the fossil fuels used in its production. Nor is it



Fuels that can run on gasoline-ethanol blends, like this Chevrolet HHR, are still a big part of General Motors' 'green" future -- as well as present.

particularly thirsty when it comes to water requirements for production.

Coskata also has managed to stay largely out of the way of the economic and political storm that has battered the corn-ethanol industry over the last vear or so. And its funding has remained adequate thanks to other major investors including the venture capitalist Vinod Khosla and the Blackstone Group investment firm.

Now, Roe said, Coskata is moving fullspeed ahead toward building full-scale facilities on its own or with big partners who might supply feedstocks, or are interested in the ethanol output, or both. For example, Coskata is working with Florida-based U.S. Sugar to explore the possibility of using wastes from sugarcane production and processing to fuel an ethanol plant.

Roe noted that Congress has been helping GM and Ford's Flex Fuel fleets c by mandating demand for Coskata's end products. In 2007, Congress established a quota for gasoline marketers to blend 100 million gallons of advanced biofuels into gasoline by next year.

Roe maintained that Coskata is on a timetable that puts it at or near the pole position in the developing flex-ethanol industry. "The differentiators for us are the simplicity of our approach and our cost points, both operating and capital [costs] and the speed with which we can get this to market on a commercial scale as advertised," he said. "I think we'll be among the first out there operating plants at the scale and cost points that we've targeted for the last few years."

He also believes that Coskata may be

now may make a lot of sense at some point."



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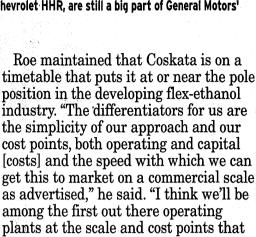
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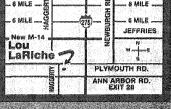
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