

PIPELINE **OLGC** celebration

To begin National Catholic schools week, Our Lady of Good Counsel school has invited area families to join students and staff for a special open house celebration.

"This year is particularly special as we showcase the wonderful advantages of a catholic education offered at Our Lady of Good Counsel School (OLGC),' said Kay Reilly, School Principal. "This is the 60th year OLGC parish school has spent dedicated to serving our students academically and spiritually, The theme this year resonates with us, as we continue to give students the most important building blocks for life; Faith, Knowledge, Discipline and Morals. The education offered to students at OLGC is built on the solid fundamentals of math, science, English, religion and we complete it with exceptional art, music and sporting programs."

The open house takes place 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31. All are welcome to see the school, meet the staff and talk with current students and families about OLGC. Registration information will be available. Registrations for the 2010/11 school year are due Feb. 5.

OLGC Parish School Alumni and their families are also invited to a mass in honor of the OLGC school 60th Anniversary on Saturday, Jan. 30 at 4 p.m. Be sure to join your fellow alumni in the parish hall following mass for pizza, cake and fellowship.

More information about OLGC's Philosophy, curriculum and certified educators can be found at http://olgcparish.scho

Warm reception



First Step buoyed by federal dollars

U-of-M

Chris

Maue **buts** finishing

touches on his

sculpture

of a

pair of

dolphins.

ice carver

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The job of creating a better life for battered women and children is going to be at least a little easier for the folks at First Step.

The western Wayne County group dedicated to providing education, advocacy and support services to victims of domestic violence is about to get some \$375,000 in federal stimulus money.

'We are encouraged by this funding," said Judy Ellis, executive director of First Step. "On behalf of our board, staff and hundreds of volunteers, supporters and, most important, the families we serve, we send a message of thanks."

Ellis called the crimes of domestic and sexual violence a "critical social problem," and hailed lawmakers who made the funding possible.

"These funds will assist families by providing housing and support services over a period of two years ... families will be able to remove themselves from the violence and begin the process of healing and rebuilding their lives," Ellis said. "We are extremely grateful to our leaders for recognizing that the crimes of domestic and sexual violence are a critical social problem facing so many families today."

State Rep. Marc Corriveau (D-Northville), whose district includes Plymouth, Northville and a portion of Canton, hailed the signing of the new law that will ovides the money

fusion.us/

Open house

All Saints Catholic School, located in Canton on Warren between Beck and Ridge Roads, hosts an open house 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31. Registration is now taking place for the 2010-2011 school year.

For further information please contact (734) 459-2490, www. allsaintses.com, or ascs9@hotmail.com

Talent show

Band students from the **Plymouth-Canton Educational** Park have planned a variety talent show for the local community Friday and Saturday, Jan. 29-30, at Salem High School on Joy Road in Canton. "Variety Is ... ? starts at 7 p.m. each evening. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$4 for students and senior citizens. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

The "Variety Is..." event is a two-night talent show.

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Saturday was a day for college competition and large crowds at the 2010 Plymouth Ice Festival.

BY MATT JACHMAN

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Organizers estimate that

more than 100,000 people

visited the festival in down-

appears to be solid.

Thousands chill despite temps at Ice Festival enthusiasm for the event

For more coverage, see A5.

town Plymouth on Friday and Saturday - even before Sunday's temperatures turned While the weather eventually things into a sloppy mess and melted many of the sculptures forced the cancellation of an at the Plymouth Ice Festival, outdoor concert.

"Based upon the large crowds, we know we're onto something good," said Sam

Please see ICE, A2

Demonstrators call for action on national health-care reform

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OBSERVER STAFF WRITER Calling on Democrats to "show some backbone," about 20 people braved icy temperatures Tuesday in downtown Plymouth to demonstrate for health-care reform. The noontime rally drew people from Plymouth, Westland, Canton, Redford and Ann Arbor. It was sponsored by a coalition of organizations advocating national health-care reform, including MoveOn.org and the Service Employees International Union. "It's time to show some backbone," organizer Anne

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Marie Hudak, of Canton, told demonstrators before they began circling Kellogg Park. "Now is definitely not the time to scale back or give up on health-care reform." Hudak said she had called the offices of Michigan Democratic Sens. Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow to leave messages about the rally.

Please see HEALTH, A3

BY MATT JACHMAN

"Domestic violence is a social problem that affects all of us," Corriveau said. "In these tough times, it's vital that we support organizations like First Step and their work on behalf of our residents here in western Wayne County. This much-needed funding will go a long way toward ensuring that domestic violence victims and their families receive the help they need. I commend my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for working together to help pass this common-sense plan into law."

The funding for First Step's Plymouth facility is part of a larger plan that provides \$4.9 million in federal economic stimulus funds to the Department of Human Services, the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Transportation. Under the plan, which was signed into law Thursday, nearly \$2 million will go to six community organizations in Michigan for transitional housing, support services and follow-up services for victims of domestic violence, including:

• Shelter, Inc. in Alpena – \$250,000

• YWCA of West Central Michigan in Grand Rapids \$375,000

- YWCA of Kalamazoo \$300,000
- Every Woman's Place in Muskegon \$300,000
- \$300,000

"We must do all we can to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault from tearing apart our families and communities," Corriveau said. "This funding will make sure that First Step has the tools they need to provide education and awareness to stop this devastating crime, and help victims rebuild their lives."

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"Around Plymouth" is designed to announce upcoming events taking place in the community. Items will run on a space-available basis. Send details to bkadrich@hometownlife.com

February classics

A2

(P)

The Thursday Classics film series at the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth continues in February with "Spencer Tracy Month."

The schedule includes "Without Love," Feb. 4; "Father of the Bride," Feb. 11; "Mannequin," Feb. 18; and "Woman of the Year," Feb. 25.

Box office opens at 6:30, with the movies starting at 7 p.m. All seats are \$3.

The Penn Theatre is located at 760 Penniman in downtown Plymouth. For more information visit www.penntheatre. com or call (734) 453-0870.

Tea and tales

Cozy up to the table for some midwinter tales of yesteryear during the Plymouth Historical Museum's upcoming "Tea and Tales" event, Sunday, Feb. 28 at 2 p.m.

Debra Christian will regale listeners with stories following the delectable treats prepared by Sweet Afton Tea Room in Plymouth. Christian is a speech and language pathologist at Douglas Elementary School in Garden City. A Victorian-style tea will be served complete with scones, tea sandwiches, and other fare. The tea that will be served is the Museum's new signature blend, "Mary's Blend," a tantalizing cherry and almond black tea in honor of Mary Todd Lincoln.

Purchase tickets at the **Plymouth Historical Museum** or using Paypal on the Museum's website at www. plymouthhistory.org/Events. html. Tickets are going fast and will not be available at the door. For more information, call (734) 455-8940 or e-mail secre-

tary@plymouthhistory.org. The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, one block north of Kellogg Park.

Rockettes clinic

The Salem Rockettes Pom Team hosts its annual pom/ dance clinic at Salem High School Saturday, March 6.

Youngsters in grades K-5 go from 9 a.m. to noon; grades 6-8 go from 1-4 p.m. The cost is \$40. For more information, contact Kim Benintende at (734) 340-9360 for more information, or check the team's Web site at www.pompon. salemrocks.com

LifeCare seminar

LifeCare Christian Center presents a "Change Your Life" Saturday Seminar, "Recharge Your Marriage with GRACE." featuring topics such as "This isn't what I signed up for," and "Where did the love go?" 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6, at 570 S. Main in Plymouth.

The seminar is presented by Reid and Marilyn Kistler. Cost is \$15 per individual, \$25 per couple (proceeds go to support the life-changing efforts of LifeCare.

For more information, contact Lillian Easterly-Smith, info.lifecarecc@gmail.com or call (734) 956-2109.

Crafters wanted

The Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters host their seventh annual Spring Arts and Crafts Ensemble on Saturday, March 13. Exhibitors who hand-craft their own items are invited to submit an application to exhibit at the fundraising event to be held at Plymouth High School in Canton. The juried art event is produced twice each year by the PCMB to help support the band and color guard programs at the Plymouth-Canton **Educational Park**

Artists and crafters who are interested in applying for consideration to exhibit should visit www.pcmb.net/artcraft to download an application and submit, with photos as soon as possible. For more details, contact exhibit coordinator Carol Rosati at (734) 455-0714. Only 105 exhibitors will be permitted to exhibit at this artistic event. The most recent PCMB Art & Craft Ensemble had over 2,000 visitors.

"The Arts & Craft Ensemble has grown to be a high quality, well-attended event where only hand-made items are sold," said John Noss, president of the 2010 Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters. "The money raised helps the Concert and

Marching Bands, Color Guard and Percussion programs that provide students with a one of a kind arts experience. Our recent Holiday event had record-breaking attendance of over 2000 people, so we know the community is accepting of this show."

Plymouth High School is located at 8400 Beck Road in Canton. The Spring Arts & Craft Ensemble will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on March 13. In addition to over 100 exhibits, there will be food, a raffle, and entertainment by local musicians and artists throughout the day. Admission is \$2.

Pioneer Peace Project

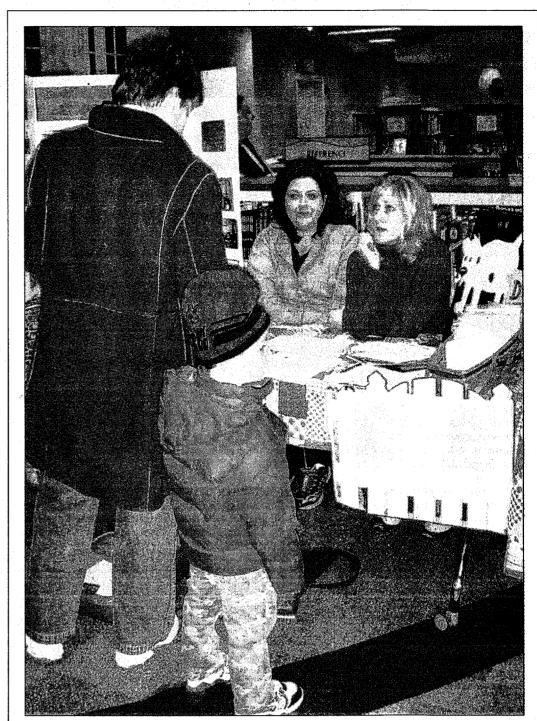
The Village Theater at Cherry Hill will be showcasing the photographs of Pioneer Middle School students now through Feb.24 in the Gallery@VT. This powerful exhibit is part of "The Pioneer Peace Project," a service learning initiative connecting students with each other and to their world.

As part of yearlong service learning project, eighth graders from Pioneer Middle School were challenged to explore the concept of peace from behind the lens. The photographs were taken when the students traveled to New York City this past April in collaboration with Todd Parr, professional artist and author of "The Peace Book," to spread a message of peace. While in the Big Apple, each student documented their experiences as a part of Behind the Lens III-a photojournalism project displaying photographs, poetry, reflections and art.

These dynamic black and white photographs illustrate the ideals of peace and the importance of the arts while contributing to part of "The Great Conversation," an exchange of ideas that has evolved over thousands of years and continues to examine who we are and what our purpose is.

This multi-media art exhibit at the Gallery@VT is free and open to the public Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and during public performances at the theater. The Gallery@VT is closed on holidays.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry



Preschool parade

The third annual Parade of Preschools takes place at the Plymouth District Library 7-8:45 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 4. Representatives from more than 20 area preschools will be on hand to visit with parents, share philosophies and answer questions. Parents are encouraged to attend without children ,if possible. For more information, call the library at (734) 453-0750.

Hill Road in Canton. For more information call (734) 394-5300 or visit cantonvillagetheater.org.

CFCU scholars

Community Financial will be awarding 11 scholarships in April, valued at \$1,000 apiece. Applications can only be made on-line by going to http://scholarships.egrant.org, creating an account and log-

ging in. Read the guidelines for our "Community Financial Margaret Dunning and George Lawton Scholarships."

March 5.

Students who qualify need only complete just one application; they will be considered for both scholarships.

Deadline to submit four copies of the application is

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Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Novi, Alpena, Otsego and

petition for college- and high

school-age carvers which was to

"Unfortunately, water and

Saturday's outdoor concerts,

electricity don't mix," Walton

sponsored by the Downtown

Development Authority, took

said, was to draw visitors to parts of downtown Plymouth they might not have seen. At the Candy Trail on Ann Arbor Trail, owner Sandi McGrew estimated that some 500 customers came in

place as planned on Penniman

and on Forest. The idea, Walton

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ICE FROM PAGE A1

Walton, whose Signature Professional Group produced the festival. He estimated Saturday's attendance alone at 72,000 by 6:30 p.m.

Saturday's dueling chainsaws event, which pitted four carvers against each other and the



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clock, was the festival's highlight because of a large and enthusiastic crowd, Walton said. have 15 teams. The winner was Jimmy Burr. The competition - perhaps several of them - will be returning said. next year, Walton said.

Among the lowlights would have to be Sunday's weather, which forced the cancelation of a concert by Steve King and the Dittilies, and also of the com-

> Saturday, by far the store's best day since it opened last March. "I thought the art fair was good, but this was probably double the business of the art fair," McGrew said. M&Ms, Jelly Bellies and Pucker Powder, a powdered candy, were among the big sellers, McGrew said. "I've got so many empty bins now," she said. Walton said ideas for next year's festival are already being

discussed, including the idea of featuring some type of winter sports, such as a snowboarding exhibition.

He said the festival's support from different segments of the community, such as the DDA's concert sponsorship and the events, like a petting zoo and pony rides, paid for by business owners on Forest Avenue, helped the overall festival and will be continued.

"We want to continue the good momentum we started this year and bring this event back to its former glory," Walton said.

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A3 (P)

Chamber kicks off new year with call for volunteers

BY MATT JACHMAN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Memo to Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce members: Get involved, stay involved.

From committee work to event-planning to keeping track of political developments to voting in this year's elections, personal involvement was the theme at Wednesday's state-of-the-chamber breakfast, held at the Inn at St. John and attended by about 130 people.

"Through that (chamber) connection, I'm able to give back to the community," said Greg Blackwood, the chief executive officer of Fraza Forklifts and the chamber's new board president. "I think businesses should give back to the community."

"Not only did I get to meet some great people and network, it allowed me to develop my business," said Joe Grima, of Freudenberg NOK, of his 10-year chamber membership. Grima was given a plaque in recognition of his service as board president last year.

Chamber committee chairs took turns making after-breakfast pitches for volunteers, listing the programs and events



Teri Allen of Dearborn Jewelers talks about the state of the retail community in Plymouth.

their committees sponsor. "It's a good organization that does a lot of good for this Plymouth community," said Bill Pratt, an accountant, of the education committee, which he chairs. He described the committee's scholarship program, which is based on community service, and an upcoming youth leadership day.

Chamber executive director Wes Graff urged the crowd to pay attention to political developments and candidates for public office, especially state offices. With the prolonged downturn in the state's economy and Michigan's

chronic budget problems, "this is a critical year for the state of Michigan," he said.

"We need candidates who are serious about creating jobs and getting our finances in line," Graff said. "This is the year, in Michigan, to get involved."

Chamber member Kate Rosevear, who owns Travel Leaders travel agency, said she was convinced to get reinvolved with the chamber, to which she has belonged for 30 vears. Rosevear is a member of the Plymouth AM Rotary, but said her chamber involvement has dropped off in recent years.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chamber member Mike Lapinski listens to the presentations during Wednesday's State of the Chamber breakfast at the Inn at St. Johns.

"I need to get back out there and get my face in front of these folks," Rosevear said. She added that she attends the annual breakfast in order to be "reinvigorated." In other chamber develop-

ments: • The chamber-sponsored Diva Day event in downtown Plymouth, which debuted last year, will return this year.

• Ideas are being discussed for an event to replace the holiday open house.

• The chamber, already on Facebook and Twitter, plans to start a YouTube channel.

miachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405

The demonstrators, some with signs, walked around the park several times, sometimes chanting: "We're not stopping. Don't stop the fight. Health care is a human right."

Hudak, an electrical engineer laid off from automobile parts supplier Visteon Corp., said she favors the so-called "public option," or public insurance plan, which is part of the House of Representatives' bill, but not the Senate's. "They aren't

going to be able to reconcile the two," she said. She expressed frustration with President Barack Obama, saying he has been stretching too far to try to win over critics while ignoring his

base. "When you're elected into office to do something, you've got to do it," she said.

Citing the results of polling, Hudak said last week's election of underdog Massachusetts Republican Scott Brown to the U.S. Senate was not a rejection of health-care reform, which Brown has pledged to vote

against, but a wakeup call to Democrats.

"It was a referendum on Wall Street, corporations, and (was) telling Obama and the Democrats to listen to their base," she said.

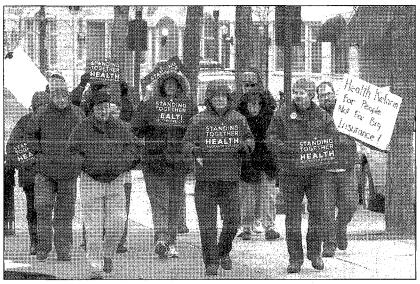
Paul Woolner, also of Canton, said he turned out to "make sure that we get health care for everybody.'

"I don't know which way it's going to go," Woolner said. After the demonstration,

many who attended headed across Main Street to Panera to warm up with some coffee.

den rees.

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Demonstrators gathered Tuesday in Plymouth's Kellogg Park to urge action on health-care reform.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 28, 2010

PUBLIC SAFETY

A 28-year-old Ferndale woman was arrested on charges of drug possession and drug paraphernalia possession during a traffic stop on the night of Jan. 21 after admitting she had marijuana in her truck.

A patrolling officer had stopped the woman because one of the headlights of the 2003 Silverado she was driving was not working, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report. The officer had spotted the Silverado at Sheldon Road and M-14; the traffic stop was made at Penniman and Evergreen in the city of Plymouth.

When the driver opened a door of the Silverado, the officer noticed a strong odor of marijuana, the police report said. He asked the driver, the vehicle's only occupant, where the marijuana was located, and she replied that it was in the center console, police said. When he asked if she had anything else that she shouldn't, she answered that she had a marijuana pipe and prescription medicine in her purse without the prescription bottle, police said.

The woman handed over the suspected marijuana, which was later confirmed as marijuana, and the pipe, police said. She was arrested; the truck was impounded.

Garage burglary

Two chainsaws and a jackhammer were reported stolen from the garage of a house on North Territorial after it was broken into on the night of Jan. 21 or early the next morning.

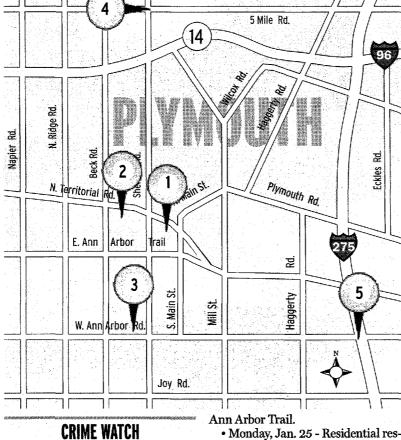
A Plexiglas window on the roll-up garage door had been broken out, a police report said. More tools had been stacked up outside but not taken, police said.

Garage break-in

A door to the garage at a house on South Turtlehead Court was forced in last week, but nothing was reported stolen from the garage.

A police report said the door jamb had been cracked and a shoeprint left on the door. The break-in occurred between 4:30 p.m. on Jan. 21 and just after 7 a.m. the next day, police said.

A woman at the house told police she had heard noises outside about 2:30 a.m.



Property damage

An overhang at the Charter One Bank branch on Five Mile near Sheldon Road was damaged late on Jan. 21 or early the next morning.

The structure is near a drive-up automatic teller machine, a police report said. Police surmised the damaged was caused by a high truck; the repair cost was estimated at \$8,000. By Matt Jachman

FIRE RUNS

The Plymouth Community Fire Department responded to the following emergencies during the period Jan. 20-26:

• Tuesday, Jan. 26 - Residential rescue runs on Adams, on Spring, on Lamond, on Sheridan and on Union; commercial rescue run on Haggerty; special runs on Sheridan, on Pinewood, on industrial and on Ann Arbor Trail; industrial rescue run on Industrial; vehicle accident on

• Monday, Jan. 25 - Residential rescue runs on Woodgate, on Northville Road, on Deer and on Canton Center; rescue run at a public building on Church.

• Sunday, Jan. 24 - Residential rescue runs on Drury Lane, on Manton and on Simpson.

• Saturday, Jan. 23 - Rescue run at a public building on Haggerty; rescue run on Ann Arbor Trail; special run on Deer; residential rescue runs on Canton Center, on Northville Road, on Beacon Hill, on Plymouth Road and on Stonehedge.

• Friday, Jan. 22 - Residential rescue runs on Ann, on Eastside Drive, on Red Maple, on Williams, on Wilcox and on Northern; rescue run on Canton Center.

5• Thursday, Jan. 21 - Downed wires at N. Territorial and Beacon Hill; residential rescue runs on Northern, on Woodgate, on Woodgrove and on Karmada; commercial rescue run on Plymouth Road; vehicle accident at Ann Arbor Road and I-275.

Police offer tips on handling traffic stop

The sight can be daunting to drivers - looking in the rearview mirror, seeing the flashing lights on the police car behind them.

The Plymouth Township Police Department, on its Web site (www. plymouthtwp.org) offers the following tips for how to handle being stopped by a police officer:

WHY DID I GET STOPPED?

There are many reasons why a police officer might stop you. Whatever the reason, the officer needs your cooperation.

• You may have committed a traffic violation.

• You may fit the description of a suspect.

• The officer might think you are in trouble and need help.

• You may have witnessed a crime.

WHEN STOPPED, REMEMBER:

• A police officer may pull you over at any time for a traffic offense or police investigation.

• When you see the red overhead lights and/or hear the siren, remain calm and safely pull over parallel to the right side of the road.

• Remain in your vehicle unless the officer advises otherwise.

• Keep your hands on the steering wheel so the officer can see them.

 Avoid any sudden movements, especially toward the floorboard; rear seat or passenger side of the vehicle.

• Do not immediately reach for your license or other documents until the officer requests them. Michigan Law requires drivers to show their license, registration and insurance card upon request.

• If your documents are out of reach, tell the officer where they are before you reach for them.

• If the stop occurs during darkness put on your dome or interior lights so the officer can easily see that all is in order.

• If there are passengers in your vehicle, encourage them to remain quiet and cooperate with instructions. You as

the operator are solely responsible for your vehicle and its occupants.

• The officer may issue you a ticket. If vou feel the reason is vague or unclear, ask the officer for the details.

• Avoid becoming argumentative. Arguing will not change the officer's mind. If you contest the violation, you will have the opportunity to contest the matter in court.

• Be honest with the officer. If you really didn't see the stop sign, or are unaware of the speed limit, let the officer know. Being honest about any situation never hurts.

 Many departments use one-officer patrol cars, especially in the suburbs. It would be normal to see two or three marked units on a routine traffic stop.

• Finally, if you receive a ticket, accept it calmly. Accepting it is not an admission of guilt.

GENERALLY, A POLICE OFFICER:

• Will provide his or her name upon request.

• A police officer who is not in uniform will present proper identification; you may request to examine their credentials so that you are satisfied that they are a law enforcement officer.

• Will inform a person of the reason for being stopped.

• Will only use the force necessary to affect the arrest of a suspect and to maintain the custody of a prisoner.

• Will not search the body of a person of the opposite sex except to prevent injury to the officer or another person, or to prevent the disposal or destruction of evidence, and

• Will only arrest a person for a crime committed in the officer's presence, or when the officer has probable cause to believe the person has already committed the crime.

If you have a question about procedures or a complaint about your treatment, contact the Department and ask to speak with a supervisor. You may also send a letter of compliment if you feel the officer was particularly helpful in your situation.

A4 (P)

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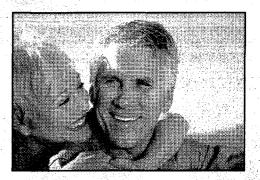
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organization serves seniors, you'll want to be a part of this exciting event!



Your Exhibitor Package Includes:

Print Advertising One-quarter page black and white ad or one full page ad (color option available) for your business will appear in the accompanying special section publishing Sunday, May 9, 2010, in the South Oakland and Birmingham Eccentric and Thursday, May 13, 2010, in the Observer & Hometown Newspapers

Web Presence The Senior Fall Expo special section will be featured on Hometownlife.com, which receives upwards of 1 million page views per month!

Exhibitor Listing You'll be featured on the center spread of our special section plus newspaper promotion during April and May.

Expo table plus two chairs Use your space for giveaways, food demonstrations and promotional materials. Electricity available on a first come, first served basis for an additional charge.

Food Two complimentary boxed lunches for exhibitioners.

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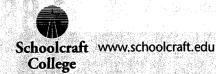
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PLYMOUTH ICE FESTIVAL



Macomb Community College student Steve Layne works on his Egyptian-inspired sculpture.



Snow cone, duels trump warm weather

BY MATT JACHMAN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

While an estimated 100,000 people visited downtown Plymouth over the weekend for the Plymouth Ice Festival, it was a restaurant in the city's Old Village Section that was drawing rave reviews.

Several thousand people trekked over to Station 885, a restaurant on Starkweather in Old Village, where volunteers made what they called the world's largest snowcone. The raspberry-, cherry- and orange-flavored confection, built in a giant cone of seven layers of cardboard, weighed in at 5,714 pounds, said restaurant general manager Paul Zajac.



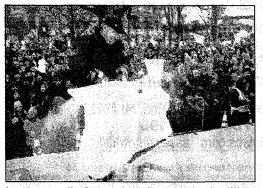


Jim Shields, left, a nationally recognized ice sculptor, came back to share his talents and advice with students. He offers advice to Macomb Community College student Sean Ess.

The crew - (from left) Kevin Larsen, Paul Holt, Rick Fite and (far right) Robert Costanza - bests the old snow cone record of 4,600 pounds.



Jeff Lao smooths his sculpture. Michelle Klucka stands back from the torches. They are students at Henry Ford Community College.



Local carver Jim Burr won the first round competition with his steam locomotive.



Local pro carver Ted Wakar of Canton offers advice to Brandon Billiau of Westland.



Jack Leyden of Plymouth and Alex and Grace Boatright, of Romulus, watch the college carving competition.



Doug Ganhs of Oakland Community College judges sculptures.

والارتحاد المرافع المراجع والمراجع والمركبين المتحد والموارع منعملان والمنافع منعون والمراجع والم

Zajac estimated the restaurant served 2,400 individual snowcones from the giant cone.

"We just had a wonderful time and it was so great seeing the community come out," Zajac said. "It was just a wonderful event."

The restaurant documented the effort through video and still photography and independent witnesses and is awaiting confirmation from the publishers of the Guinness Book of World Records, Zajac said. The previous record was 4,650 pounds, he said.

The giant snow cone was one of several attractions that drew large crowds, particularly on Friday and Saturday, when temperatures were still low enough to provide for good ice-carving. The dueling chainsaws carving competition, which took place on the band-shell stage in Kellogg Park, was particularly riveting

ing. The only downside to the festival was caused by Mother Nature, who brought temperatures nearing 50 degrees to town on Sunday, forcing festival organizers to cancel student carving competitions and a concert by the popular Steve King and the Dittlies.

That was bad news for Melissa Ritthaler, who made the trek from her Taylor home for her first ice festival visit.

"I figured they'd be a little melted," said Ritthaler, who brought her 6-year-old son, Adam. "We'd never been here before, and we thought it would be fun to see. I was still excited to come."

Staff writer Brad Kadrich contributed to this report.

mjachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

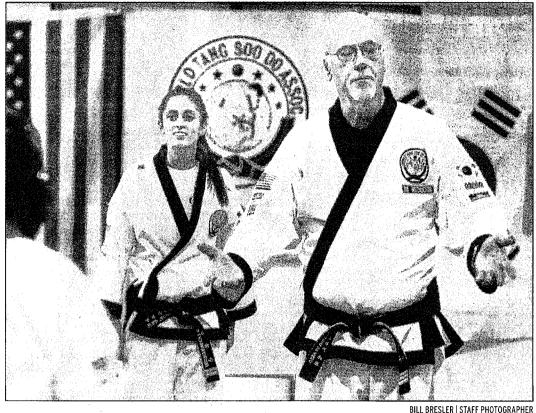
Thursday, January 28, 2010

A6

(P)

Phymouth Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Teacher Bob Elmore and Amanda Richardson lead the class at Grand Tradition Martial Arts - Plymouth, which meets at New Morning School on Haggerty in Plymouth.

Martial arts school teaches growth, respect

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

GTMA-Plymouth: GTMA-Plymouth is one of three schools operating under the GTMA name. The others are GTMA-Livonia and GTMA-Linden. We offer training in the traditional art of Tang Soo Do, to virtually all ages and physical abilities. Our goal is not just to teach the physical skills, but to encourage people to grow and to incorporate things like integrity, respect, and honor into everyday life. To improvement ones self. To meet this goal, the instructors of GTMA concentrate on each individual student's strengths and abilities. This is done in small groups as well as one on one.

GTMA-PLYMOUTH

Business Name and address: Grand Tradition Martial Arts - Plymouth, 14501 Haggerty, Plymouth Your name and title: Robert Elmore, Sam Dan, chief instructor **Business opened when? 2003** Number of Students: Started

with 8; up to 30-35, ranging in age from 4-64 Hours of operation: Age 7 to

Adult: Monday & Thursday, 7-8:30 p.m.; Little Dragons (4-7 year olds), Thursday, 6-6:45 and 7-7:45 p.m.

Business phone and/or Web site: (734) 968-1871; www.gtmaplymouth.com; e-mail relmore@ gtma-plymouth.com

martial arts. We are a school that is filled with leaders, innovators, students, friends and family, all of whom inspire and challenge each other to become better mentally and physically.

Observer: Has your business changed since you opened it?

GTMA-Plymouth: Oh yes. In the beginning, we were very small and struggled sometimes to pay the bills. We have grown since then, and have reached a more comfortable level of enrollment, even though expenses have increased. I like to say that we have reached "critical mass". Another change is in the makeup of the students. When we started, there were no other Black Belts. Now, there are now seven other Black Belts besides myself, who share the teaching responsibilities. This makes for a richer learning experience.

Top lawyers

• Daniel P. Dalton of Plymouth, founding member of Royal Oak-based Tomkiw Dalton, plc, has been named by Super Lawyers magazine as one of the nation's top corporate counsel attorneys for 2010. He will be included in a nationwide listing of leading attorneys in the May/June 2010 issue of Super Lawyers - Corporate Counsel Edition.

As general counsel to many small businesses, Dalton advises clients on a range issues, including business formation, employment non-compete agreements, contracts,

leases, buyouts, financing and

shareholder disputes. He is an

appointed Arbitrator of the **Financial Industry Regulatory**

Authority and actively serves

in governance and leadership

tions, including the Society for

Nonprofit Organizations, the

roles for several organiza-



Dalton

MORE program and Cabrini Clinic. Dalton has achieved the highest industry ratings for ethics and skills.

Dalton earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Western Michigan University in 1986 and a law degree from the University of Detroit, School of Law in 1990. He resides in Plymouth.

• Three Plymouth men have been named as "Top Lawyers" in Metro Detroit in the November/December 2009 edition of dbusiness magazine (Detroit). The men include William J. Lawson, Jr., James P. Ryan and James F. Lewandowski. Rankings are based on evaluation by fellow attorneys in diverse areas of law.

All three of these men are members of the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth, and Ryan is currently president of that organization.

New Business

• Sun and Snow has begun its build out in the old Parkside Gallery/Michigan Made building at the corner of Main and Ann Arbor Trail. The store sells summer and winter wear, as well as sporting equipment.

Plymouth Ice Festival

• Coming soon: Informational meeting dates concerning the upcoming Streetscape Project in the DDA district are being finalized; but will most likely be held in early March at the Plymouth Cultural Center with engineers to present the paving and upgrading plan and answer all your questions. We will have at least one morning and one evening meeting

BUSINESS MILESTONES

to facilitate your schedules. Look for upcoming Weekly Updates and e-mails for times and dates. There will be construction downtown for nearly 8 weeks, starting sometime in March with the bulk of the work in April and May.

Networking event

Bruce Webb and Kevin DeVoy, Coldwell Banker Preferred Realtors, invite you to their social networking event, "Working Strategies," for a chance to come together and meet local business leaders at the Plymouth Roc, 1020 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth Thursday, Jan. 28, 6-8 p.m.

The Plymouth Roc (formerly Boulder's) is under new management, remodeled with 17 televisions. Attendees should bring networking ideas, business cards and brochures.

For more information, call Bruce Webb, (734) 392-6021 or e-mail bruce@brucewebb.com, or call Kevin DeVoy, (734) 392-6028 or e-mail kevindevoy@cbpreferred.com

Newcomers Welcome Service

 Carolyn Baetz of Newcomers Welcome Service says she can help merchants spread the word about their businesses to those families who move into Plymouth and Canton. If you want information on how Kitchen Table Marketing works and how much it costs, give Carolyn a call at (734) 459-1097 or e-mail her at cbaetz@newcomersws.com.

Barefoot Production Tickets

• Barefoot Productions, the Plymouth theater group, is extending an invitation to see their upcoming presentation "Rope", which runs Tuesday, Feb. 2 and runs through Feb. 28. Barefoot is making 20 tickets available for the Friday, Feb. 19, 8:40 p.m. performance at the old Walker-Buzenburg building on Main Street. Call or e-mall the DDA staff if you are interested in tickets.

Real Estate class

Out of a job? Changing careers? Become a real estate agent and be ready for the upcoming real estate boom.

REMERICA HOMETOWN will be presenting a pre-license training class beginning soon. Real Estate Professional Education Group, LLC at: 41025 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170 Special price.

Total class cost is \$50 and it includes all materials. Call for a reservation or a private interview, Chris or Judy, (734) 459-6222 or email info@remericahometown.com.

GTMA teaches a wide variety of basic and advanced techniques. We also teach sparring, self defense, open hand and weapons forms using the knife, sword, and staff. We also teach practical self defense, making use of items such as pens, keys and belts for example.

The two separate classes that are taught are for the Little Dragons and those who are 7 years old to adult. The Little Dragons class is oriented towards the students, ages 4-7, and is designed to introduce martial arts training in an environment that specifically takes their age into consideration. This class focuses on developing basic martial arts skills and child safety skills. The class for ages 7 and above is designed to take students all the way from beginner to Black Belt, and takes a serious approach to martial arts. Physical and mental skills are taught and matched to the ability of each student.

Observer: How did you first decide to open your business?

GTMA-Plymouth: My son actually started the school in 2003. In early 2004, he moved

On Thursday, Feb. 11, from 8-9 a.m., you can

enjoy a delicious cup of coffee and breakfast

treats while having the opportunity to make

new connections with other chamber members.

and Ann Arbor Trail) is hosting the event with a

special section of the restaurant designated for

the Chamber Coffee. This will be a great way to

If you are interested in attending, please con-

tact the Chamber at teri@plymouthmich.org

or call (734) 453-1540. There is no fee to attend

• Nico and Vali now serving beer and wine -

at 744 Wing Street, has been granted a beer and

Nico and Vali Italian Eatery & Market, located

wine license. Nico & Vali is a fun, casual, quick

fresh using authentic Italian cooking methods.

serve Italian restaurant where food is made

Eat in or take out. Visit their Web site, www.

Panera Bread at 400 S. Main (corner of Main

Chamber coffee

start your business day.

Community/Business news

this event.

nicoandvali.com.

to Seattle, and that is when I began to run the school. **Observer: Why did you choose** Plymouth?

GTMA-Plymouth: Plymouth is a great community with many families who could potentially be interested in the martial arts. It is also relatively close by for the instructors. but far enough from the other GTMA schools so that competition is not an issue. **Observer: What makes your** business unique?

GTMA-Plymouth: As a member of the World Tang Soo Do Association, GMTA is different from many other schools because we maintain a family centered, traditional and professional training mentality while teaching martial arts. GTMA participates in clinics, seminars and tournaments, however, students are taught more than the physical means of kicking and punching. Students are also taught the history and culture of martial arts. We also promote the development of leadership skills and other valuable character traits. Our school is more than a place to learn

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

GTMA-Plymouth: Not too much. People become very involved and dedicated to their training. I think that helps our activity to not be one of the first things abandoned when times are difficult. **Observer: Any advice for other** business owners?

GTMA-Plymouth: I think that one of the most important things a person needs to succeed at anything is a passion for what you are doing. If you love doing it, it helps to smooth out the bumps along the way, and makes your successes that much more enjoyable.

Observer: What's in store for the future of your business?

GTMA-Plymouth: We have been at New Morning School for nearly 5 years now, and it has been a wonderful arrangement. The people at the school are terrific, and I would like to be there another 5 years. Their gymnasium is a great facility and I hope to continue to grow the enrollment.

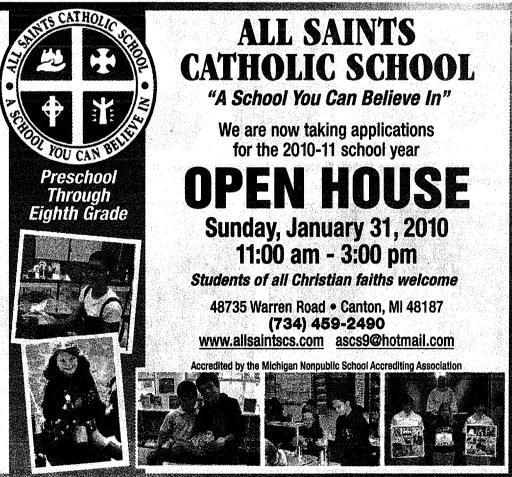
CHAMBER CHAT

• Penn Theatre Thursday Classics - Thursday Classics Film Series at the Penn Theatre continues in February with "Spencer Tracy Month." The schedule includes "Without Love," Feb. 4; "Father of the Bride," Feb. 11; "Mannequin," Feb. 18; and "Woman of the Year," Feb. 25. Box office opens at 6:30 p.m. with movies starting at 7 p.m. All seats just \$3.

• Plymouth Community Arts Council family concert - The Penn Theatre will be hosting another family concert on Feb. 6 at 11:30 a.m. Sponsored by the Plymouth Arts Council the concert will feature Nan Washburn, conductor for the Plymouth Canton Symphony Orchestras; members of the Celebration Youth Orchestra; actors from PCAC's Plymouth Uptown Players and special guest performer Elmo Thumm. Admission is \$4. For more information call the PCAC at (734) 416-4278.

• Members invited to upcoming Grand Opening Ribbon Cuttings - The Rock Bar & Grill, 844 Penniman, 4 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29; Wednesday, Feb. 3, 4 p.m., Hug Hearing Center, 705 S. Main St., Suite 101.





LOCAL NEWS

(CP) **A7**

'Sole' sisters

Teammates raising funds to fight leukemia

BY MAGGIE WUNDERLICH CORRESPONDENT

The mission of the Leukemia & Lymphoma society is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma - and improving the quality of life for patients and their families.

It's a cause very much on the minds of Michele Lundberg and Melissa Irsrael, who bill themselves as Canton's "Sole Sisters" as they prepare to walk a half-marathon in May to benefit LLS. The Sole Sisters share in the LLS mission and, unfortunately, know first-hand about fighting a blood cancer. About a year ago, Lundberg was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

"It was quite a shock, as you can imagine," said Lundberg, who is currently in remission and cancer-free. "But I was fortunate enough to have insurance to get the medical treatment I needed, without the added worry of how to pay for it. I'm so thankful for all the love, prayers and support from so many friends and family."

Because of Lundberg's heartwrenching experience, she said she "wants to give back and especially help people who don't have the same blessings I had." She formed "Team Molina" with Nancy Wanchik, of Farmington. Wanchik is a fellow cancer survivor, as well as her boss at Molina Health Care of Troy.

Soon, Lundberg's co-workers, Kym Ford and Sheronde Battle, both of Detroit, and her sister, Melissa Israel, joined the team to show their full support. Israel is an elementary teacher in Novi, as well as the author of Heaven Sent, a picture book which helps children cope with the death of a loved one.

Team Molina began their training in November, through Team in Training, for the



Annette Bernett (from left), Brian McCabe, Carol Pershing and David Rizzo took part in a fund-raising euchre tournament at the Northville Sports Den earlier this month.



Members of Team Molina (from left) Sheronde Battle, Michele Lundberg, Melissa Israel and Kym Ford are raising money to fight leukemia. Team member Nancy Wanchik is not pictured.

Cincinnati Flying Pig halfmarathon in May. Since then, they've met at Kensington Park, in Milford, for weekly training walks/runs. So far, the worst they've endured was walking seven miles, in sub-freezing temperatures, at eight in the morning. The women encourage one another as they trudge forward in their training.

TNT is the largest worldwide endurance sports training program for anyone who wants to participate in half-marathons, marathons, hiking adventures, triathlons and 100 mile bike rides. In exchange, participants raise money to benefit LLS. When someone joins TNT, they "become part of a team that is saving lives one mile at a time." Their work isn't limited to the half-marathon. Lundberg and Israel helped raise funds at a charity euchre tournament earlier this month at the Northville Sports Den. Not only did supporters play for a cure, but they also bid on a wide range of silent auction items and a 50/50 raffle.

Northville Sports Den donated 10 percent of all food sales. Organizers proclaimed the event "a huge success," with several tables of ongoing euchre games and a large turnout. An estimated \$1,500 was raised to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

To help Canton's Sole Sisters, and the rest of Team Molina, visit Team Molina's page on the TNT Web site, www.teamintraining.org or call (800) 456-5413 or (248) 581-3942.

Tire theft ring busted

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK Observer staff writer

Investigators from several law enforcement agencies arrested several suspects Monday and Tuesday who investigators believe comprise a tire theft ring.

Two search warrants were expected to be executed by Wednesday as the investigation continues, according to Lt. Bill Darnell of the Western Wayne Auto Theft Task Force. Investigators believe at least two shops bought the stolen tires from thieves for \$300-\$800 for a set of four tires and rims. The shops would then sell the tires to shops that refurbished them and then those shops would sell the tires for \$1,000-\$4,000 back to the insurance companies as those companies paid the claim, Darnell said.

The system worked as one big circle, Darnell said. Victims would find their tires stolen, then file claims with insurance companies. Insurance companies required used or refurbished tires instead of new ones, Darnell said. Shops that would install the tires on the victim's vehicle would install stolen, refurbished ones.

"It's a vicious circle of 'supply and demand,' where essentially the insurance company is buying back its stolen tires and rims," Darnell said. Livonia was hit with scores of tire thefts in 2009. Darnell added that the thieves operated all over western Wayne County and Oakland County, including Canton, Redford, Westland, Southfield and other communities.

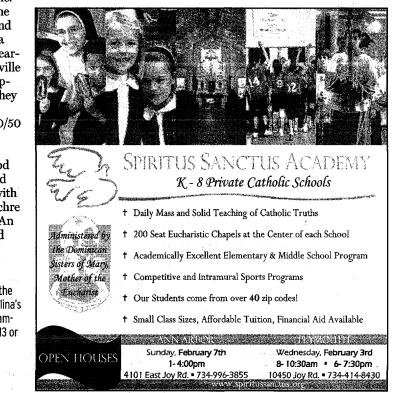
The raids are the result of an undercover operation started eight months ago by the Western Wayne Auto Theft Task Force, Detroit Police Department, the FBI and officers from the Livonia and Southfield police departments.

Investigators are looking at charging the shop owners with continuing a criminal enterprise.

Darnell credited Mike Riley, a Livonia police officer, for assisting in the investigation. "He's run with this case," Darnell said. "He was the one who handled all the paperwork on it."

Darnell said insurance companies could decrease the automatic demand for the refurbished tires by installing new ones. "They could buy new ones," Darnell said. "(The tire thefts) are still going to happen, but they are creating a market of the refurbished tires."

Darnell expected prosecution of individuals would begin in several weeks.





Tuesday, May 18, 2010 • 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Schoolcraft College Livonia Campus in the VisTaTech Center Haggerty Road between 6 and 7 Mile Roads

If your business or organization serves seniors, you'll want to be a part of this exciting event!



Your Exhibitor Package Includes:

Print Advertising

One-quarter page black and white ad or one full page ad (color option available) for your business will appear in the accompanying special section publishing Sunday, May 9, 2010, in the South Oakland and Birmingham Eccentric and Thursday, May 13, 2010, in the Observer & Hometown Newspapers.

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The Senior Fall Expo special section will be featured on Hometownlife.com, which receives upwards of 1 million page views per month!

Exhibitor Listing

You'll be featured on the center spread of our special section plus newspaper promotion during April and May.

Expo table plus two chairs Use your space for giveaways, food demonstrations and promotional materials. Electricity available on a first come, first served basis for an additional charge.

Food

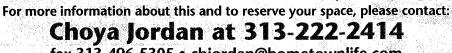
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Local business makes mark at auto show

BY NATHAN MUELLER STAFF WRITER

Detroit's Big Three were well represented at the recent North American International Auto Show with displays showcasing some of their newest technology and most popular cars. Interactive displays gave people a change of pace, but people were there to see the cars — and each automaker brought plenty.

"The mood is definitely better than last year and that is without a doubt," Lyle Otremba, vice president of sales and marketing for Novi-based Cooper-Standard Automotive, said prior to the public opening. "From the people manning the stands from the car companies to the people in the industry viewing the exhibits, you could feel it. Everything is much more positive."

Cooper-Standard, which is a leading global automotive supplier, also had its mark on several vehicles with products that will likely go unnoticed by the general public.

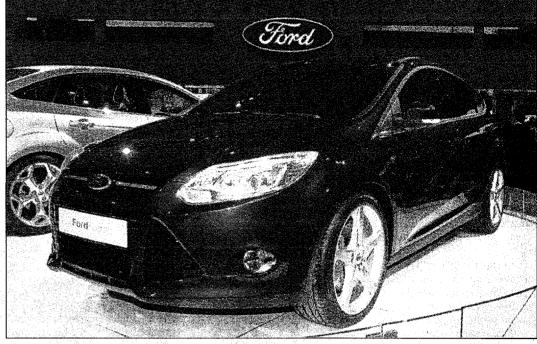
The business is a major supplier for the 2011 Cadillac CTS-V Coupe, 2012 Ford Focus, 2011 Ford Lincoln MKX crossover and 2011 Ford Mustang GT. The products on these vehicles range from door seals and heater hoses to fuel lines and various belts.

"Certainly we take a lot of pride in what we have out there," Otremba said.

He also said he hopes the public gets the same kind of positive vibe he got, and thinks attendees will notice all the new options in cars that consumers didn't have before.

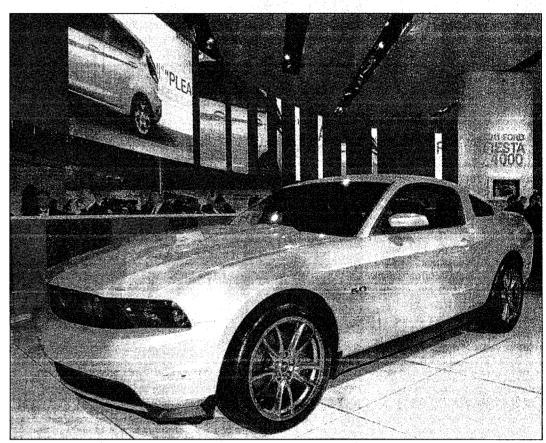
The majority of the cars on display were actual vehicles available to the public. There was still a fair share of concept vehicles and electric cars of the future, but they did not dominate the scene.

"It isn't the same old Detroit, the same old industry," Otremba said. "There is a lot of technology ready now."



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cooper-Standard Automotive in Novi was well-represented at the North American International Auto Show, with parts inside this 2012 Ford Focus.



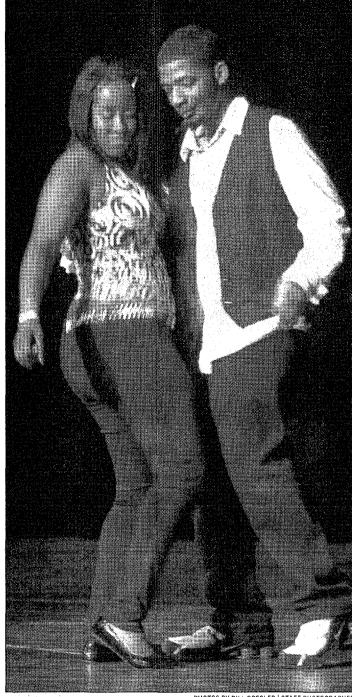
This 2011 Ford Mustang features several products from Novi-based Cooper-Standard Automotive, including fuel lines, belts and hoses.



Å8 (*)

LOCAL NEWS

Groups get message across as schools celebrate diversity



BY MAGGIE WUNDERLICH CORRESPONDENT

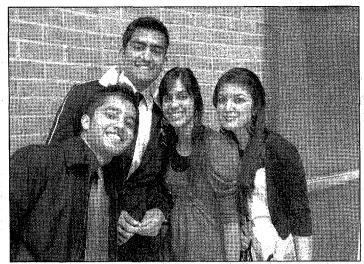
Plymouth High School senior Marvic Malabanan thinks "it's important to expose people to different cultures and lifestyles so they accept those differences and learn to live together," which is why Malabanan was among the co-facilitators for the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's 10th annual Celebration of Diversity Friday and Saturday.

Malabanan facilitated the event with Canton High School seniors Heba Ansari and Heidi Nguyen-Tran, advised by Canton math teacher Stephanie Edgerton.

"It's about bringing awareness to issues that are still here, even in the 21st century. like racism, and lack of tolerance," Ansari said, drawing agreement from Nguyen-Tran, who added, "It brings groups together to mingle and, hopefully, to accept each other and that leads to more diversity."

In addition to Diversity Council, other club participants included the Spanish American Latino Student Association (SALSA), Peace Club, Gay Straight Alliance, Muslim Student Association, Break dancing Club, African American Student Association, Asian Pacific American Club and the Indian American Student Association.

Each of the nine clubs brought its own unique diversity message as they performed in the Salem High School auditorium. The performances included memorable skits and narratives, ethnic and popular dances, native dress, meaningful videos and passionate singing. Also,



Rujal Parikh, Kishan Sutariya, Isra Haider and Fatima Ansari are ready to take tickets at the door to the auditorium for P-CEP's 10th annual celebration of diversity.

donations were collected for Haiti relief.

More than 350 tickets were sold for this popular event. "It showcases all of the different cultures and is a great way to bring awareness to the community," said, Shirley Shue,

a Canton senior with APAC. APAC's mesmerizing ribbon dance "combines elements of our tradition and today's modern dancing," said Linda Yang, another Canton senior.

Karen De La Rosa, a Plymouth senior with SALSA, danced to the Latin beat and said, "I want people to know about all the different dances, but it's not about dancing. It's about making friends because we're all different races and dancing unites us."

AASA performed impressive Caribbean dances, as well as Gospel dances with a hip hop flare. Miyon Redman, a Canton junior with AASA, said, "I want people to understand that African Americans



Backstage, cofacilitator Heba Ansari asks for guiet.

are not all about shaking their behinds and giving negative feedback, as sometimes seen in the media. We can reach deep down into our heritage and to our tradition and actually look good and respectful."

Cassidy Creech, a Canton junior with GSA, said, "We don't expect any special treatment. We just want to be treat-



The Salsa Club isn't just about dancing, but making friends with people who have common interests.

ed equal and we want safety in the schools for all students.

By the end of the nearly three-hour show, not only was the audience thoroughly entertained, but the diversity message resonated in the crowds.

James Dong, a Canton sophomore, said, "I'm pretty impressed with the show and really enjoyed MSA's airport skit," said Canton sophomore James Dong. "I think of how people can be and I want to be more accepting to diversity."

Caitlin Berdijo, a Plymouth sophomore, said, "I learned more about each culture and, especially with the different skits, about different stereotypes and what I can do to change it. This show makes me want to change the way I act and stop things, if I see other people acting the wrong way.'

Peace Club summed it up with their message that "in acceptance, there is peace."

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chynna Christian and Marcus Smith Jr. danced across the stage during their celebration of diversity performance.

Some can do their own tax return; heed tax pro's background

s tax information begins to show up in the mailbox, the issue everyone needs to address is how best to prepare a 2009 tax return.



In today's world there are more options than ever before. In the past, you either did it yourself or you paid someone to prepare a return. Today, with technol-

prepare their return by hand without the assistance of a software program. Except in a very few cases, I don't recommend this method. If nothing more, there is a greater chance of mathematical error when you complete your return by hand as opposed to using a software program.

For individuals who make less than \$57,000 a year and who want to do their return, use the IRS free file program. Go to www.irs.gov and click on "free file." The ogy, there are additional beauty of this program is you're not using IRS software but rather, you can choose from numerous software providers such as Turbo Tax and H&R Block. The IRS has sponsored this program for a number of years and it has proven to be successful. If you're the type of person who either doesn't pay attention to detail or just doesn't want to complete the return, seek the assistance of a professional. Look for a professional who stays current with the changing tax laws. In addition, you want someone who will stand behind their work if there are problems with your return. That doesn't mean you need a certified public accountant to prepare your tax returns. However, you don't want someone preparing your return who doesn't have any qualifications.

the more I would lean toward a CPA or an enrolled agent.

This time of year, a variety of lowlifes come out of the woodwork. They claim to have the inside scoop on how to avoid paying taxes, either by taking a variety of non-existent deductions or claiming certain income as not taxable. Bottom line is it is your responsibility to make sure that you do not hire these shady characters. Just as you wouldn't go to an incompetent



options. In weighing the options, know that you are ultimately responsible

Rick Bloom

for your tax return. If you Money Matters file a tax return that is incorrect, you are liable to pay any additional taxes, interest and potential penalties. Because the consequences of

filing an incorrect return are substantial, it is important to make an informed decision about how to prepare your 2009 tax return.

The first decision to make is whether to hire a professional. As far as I am concerned, not everyone needs a professional tax preparer. There are many situations where you can do your return on your own, particularly, these days with the help of a software program. For someone willing to take the time and follow instructions, he/she can prepare a return.

To prepare a return, pay attention to detail. If you're not the type who pays attention to detail maybe you should not prepare your return. After all, preparing your return is more than just putting numbers on a page and adding them up. I recognize there are people who still

Everyone is invited.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth Housing Commission is revising its approved FY

2009 Agency Plan. It is available for review at the Commission's

Office located at 1160 Sheridan Street, Plymouth, MI, 48170. The

Commission's hours of operation are Monday through Friday

between 8:30am and 4:30pm. In addition, a public hearing will be

held on March 17, 2010 at the Commission's office at 5:30pm.

In addition to CPAs, enrolled agents are a group of individuals with continued education requirements who are generally qualified to prepare tax returns.

I have no problem with some of the national companies that prepare tax returns because they generally do have education requirements for preparers. However, the more complex your return, doctor, you need to avoid incompetent tax preparers.

I know some people believe the best tax preparer is the one who is most aggressive and not afraid to push the envelope when it comes to completing your return. My definition of the best tax preparer is a little different. Yes, I want them to identify any and all deductions. However, when it comes to being aggressive, I want to make that decision, not them. In other words, I don't want the tax preparer taking an aggressive position without consulting me. After all. I am the one who is ultimately responsible for my return. I want to be involved in making all decisions.

We are at the beginning of tax season so there is plenty of time to decide how you're going to do your 2009 return. My advice, don't automatically do what you did last year. Take your time and make the right decision for this year. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. **Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions** at moneymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit his Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

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NOTICE PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system, you must file a written claim with the Plymouth Charter Township Department of Public Works within 45 days after the overflow or backup was discovered. Notice should be mailed to Plymouth Charter Township, Department of Public Works, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, Michigan 48170. Failure to provide the written notice will prevent recovery of damages. Contact the Department of Public Works, 734-354-3270, Extension 3, for assistance immediately upon discovery of an overflow or backup. Thank You

PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

JOE BRIDGMAN, CMC Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth Publish: January 24 & 28, 2010

STOW & GO SELF STORAGE AUCTION NOTICE

Pursuant to state law, Notice is hereby given that a public auction will be held at STOW & GO SELF STORAGE, 41999 ANN ARBOR ROAD, PLYMOUTH, MI on February 6, 2010 at 10:00 am, on past due tenants listed below. The entire contents of the following units will be auctioned and sold to the highest bidder on each individual unit. CASH ONLY! DESCRIPTION IS BRIEF SUMMARY OF ITEMS, MAY OR MAY NOT CONTAIN MORE **OR LESS ITEMS.**

Unit #339 - JAMES ALTER, P.O. BOX 512, DEARBORN HTS., MI 48127 Lumber, tape player, alarm clock, fax machine, misc. boxes, and other misc. items. Unit #412 - ERIC HAARZ, 243 E. ANN ARBOR TRAIL,

PLYMOUTH, MI 48170 Leather chair, (2) footlockers, foot stool, headboard and frame, framed paintings, suitcase, rocking chair, wood chair, metal shelving, miter saw, video camera, metal tripod, books, misc. plywood, 2-step ladders, misc. boxes, and other misc. items.

HICKLING, Unit #557 - DAVID 9050 MARLOWE, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170

- Coffee table, (2) end tables, golf club bag 2/irons only, xmas tree, misc. garden tools, mechanics tools, washer/dryer combo, microwave, gas oven, small step ladder, hand truck, misc. cds, (12) misc. boxes, and other misc. items.
- Unit #328 VALERIE CLARK-BROWN, 41151 WINDCHASE, **CANTON, MI 48188** 1971 Plymouth Duster with rebuilt motor, not in car. Repair receipt included.
- Unit #237 Miscellaneous Items.

Each item priced to sell. SALE DATE IS February 6, 2010 AT 10:00 A.M.

Publish: January 28 & 31, 2010

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EXTRA SPACE STORAGE

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, February 15, 2010 @ 9:30 AM; TATE & CO. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Extra Space Storage, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: Extra Space Storage, 6729 N Canton Center Rd. Canton, MI 48187.

McMillon, Patricia B40 10x15	13" TV, microwave, skateboard, 8 plus boxes, 6+ bags, fichus tree, couch, golf clubs, misc. household goods.
Stopchinski, Claud E196 10x10	Fridge, microwave, vacuum, bedroom set, faux tiffany lamp, 2 pole lamp, mountain bike, misc. outdoor furniture, misc. household goods.
Gibbons, Hanoe F218 5x10	8+ totes, 6+ bags, small animal cage/crate, stereo speakers, misc. household goods.
Beattie, William I324 10x15	Full mattress & box springs, twin mattress & box springs, Spiderman razor style scooter, bedroom set, washer, dryer, 4+ totes, 6+ boxes, misc. household goods.
Kurtycz, Rene J346 10x10	Pool skimmer, fishing nets, sewing machine, Halloween decorations, crutches, skis, 4+ totes, 15+ boxes, misc. household goods.

uary 4, 2010



C) GANNETT

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 Share blame, fixes for fire breakdown

The Plymouth Township Board of Trustees didn't just flirt with the third rail of local politics when it decided to lay off three firefighters from the Plymouth Community Fire Department.

It jumped on it with both feet.

Barely a week after representatives of both sides said talks on a new union contract were going swimmingly and expressed optimism about the possibility of a deal, discussion between the firefighters and township officials broke down. Two days later, layoff notices went to three firefighters.

And now the outcry has started, with critics lambasting the board for jeopardizing the safety of residents over money they say the board should have done a better job of managing in the first place.

And all of those questions are worth looking at. Is the safety of residents really put in jeopardy with a smaller department? That depends on your definition of jeopardy, we suppose. In this day and age, a very small percentage of the fire department's runs are for actual fires; the vast majority of their runs are rescue runs for traffic accidents and the like.

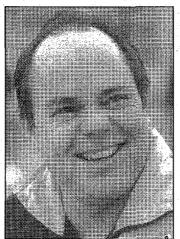
The firefighters are still a vital element of resident safety; it's just that the nature of their assistance has changed.

On the other hand, township officials asked for \$300,000 in concessions from the firefighters, who then responded with a plan to save that amount. They did (they believe) what the township asked, and were rejected out of hand, it seems, without much discussion. That's certainly not fair to a group trying to do what is asked of it.

Perhaps the standoff between the township and its firefighters brings with it a chance to reinvent the wheel. The layoffs leave the department with 21 firefighters, or seven firefighters per shift (while currently there are typically eight on duty per shift, the contract

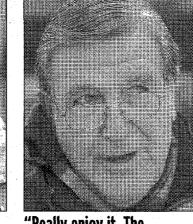
COMMUNITY VOICE

What's your favorite thing about the Plymouth Ice Festival? We asked this question at the ice festival on Friday.



a a construction of the second se

"Enjoying the sculptures." Dan Powell Whitmore Lake



"Really enjoy it. The sculptures are really unique, very good. Talented people do these." M. Katzman



"I like to look at the sculptures, but just getting outside and getting some fresh air." Lynn Powell Whitmore Lake



"Probably seeing the cool things they can do with ice. ... SpongeBob!" Carrie Bedner Westland

Ice mess?

Plymouth Ice Spectacular? More like Craptacular.

Ŵhere were the big show pieces as in the past? As a Plymouth resident, I was very disappointed in the ice show and felt sorry for the visitors that packed up their families, traveled to our fine city, fought the parking mess and endured the cold weather for a huge letdown.

Congratulations to Station 885 for the only spectacular showing with its world-recordbreaking snow cone. Too bad it was so far away from Kellogg Park that most visitors missed it!

> Christine Lalinsky Plymouth

Time to merge?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Southfield

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats. Web: www.hometownlife.com E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com. Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com. Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

LETTERS

tainable, but most public employees are deaf to assisting curbing costs in any meaningful way. The private sector has already dealt with this; it's time the public employees follow suit with the citizens they supposedly serve.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gov. Jennifer Granholm at a meeting with officials from Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

Letter to Granholm

calls for only six).

Maybe there's a different way to do things. One idea (it's not ours; it belongs to a local official we'd prefer not to name so firefighters don't picket his house) might be changing how the department's three stations are manned. Just because there are three fire stations doesn't mean all three stations have to be manned.

If overtime is such an issue, why not develop and use a list of part-time or paid on-call firefighters to supplement the active duty members? Firefighters obviously hate that idea because it depletes their numbers, but in today's economy, businesses are downsizing on a daily basis. It's a financial reality of life.

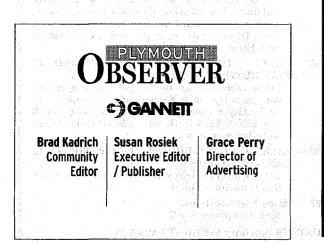
Another financial reality of life is the answer to the most-asked question of the day when it comes to the fire department: What happened to the money that was supposed to be collected by the millage dedicated to the fire department?

It's a valid question, and here's the township's answer: the 1.6348-mill renewal and 0.5631mill increase voters passed in 2005 no longer brings in the tax revenue it was designed to raise. The township has always had to subsidize the department with general fund money (along with about \$1 million that comes from the city of Plymouth); with declining tax revenue and slashes to state shared revenue, that subsidy has been tougher and tougher to swallow.

We think two firefighter proposals — their plan for furlough days to combat current budget problems and their idea for doing 100 percent of the transport — deserve a closer look than they appear to have gotten.

We also think every time a township official cries "no money," firefighters and their supporters roll their eyes.

All of that means two things in terms of the current situation: There's enough blame to go around, and there should be enough of a sense of urgency on both sides to fix it.



I read with interest your article on the layoffs of the Plymouth community firefighters. While I find it commendable that the township officials are trying to stay within a set budget, I have to ask why there aren't sufficient funds in place to provide these basic emergency services to our community?

It would seem as though the township board hasn't fulfilled its obligation to the citizens by providing adequate funding for our township services. Having the lowest property tax rate in southeast Michigan doesn't mean much when you need emergency services and no one comes to your aid.

Perhaps it time to evaluate having both Plymouths and Northvilles merge into one community. The City of Meadowbrook?

Randolph Maycock

retired chief, Plymouth Community Fire Department

Fight seems personal

Plymouth Township trustees display open hostility toward the Plymouth Township firefighters.

Citizens who are dismayed by this turn of events should turn up at Township Hall to attend meetings. When firefirghters were prepared to present their plan to raise revenue for the township by manning more ambulance runs, Treasurer Ron Edwards declared the discussion off the agenda.

That these cuts could not be avoided would not hold up under close (and honest) scrutiny. The firefighters came up with the necessary savings, but the board will not accept them. Was it the plan all along to cut firefighters?

Sometimes the antagonism directed at the firefighters appears personal. Whatever the basis, the result is to place Plymouth Township citizens at risk.

Sallie Roby Plymouth

Not cooperating

Yes, they should have laid (firefighters) off, at least until they can modify the contract through arbitration since the firefighters here and across the state won't cooperate with the cities trying to solve their financial problems.

In municipal circles the firefighters are legendary in the lack of cooperation with their employers while they try to run their PR campaign on the public without telling them that the typical firefighter costs over \$100,000 a year.

Cities can only survive financially by cutting costs; cost for cities is approximately 75 to 80 percent labor costs. Labor costs must be cut.

The current cost structure of city employee (including police and fire) pension, health care and retiree health care cost is NOT susKent Herbert Canton

Corporatist states

All doubt, as if any really existed, about whose corner the Republican Party stands in has now been removed. Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority leader from Kentucky and long an opponent of the people, was unabashedly giddy, almost unable to contain his joy.

Now the downtrodden, beleaguered corporations would finally, after all these years, be able to emerge from the darkness and fully claim the final most important blessing of full citizenship in this democracy, one that they so richly deserve and have been denied: freedom of speech. John Boehner, Republican from Ohio and House Minority leader, similarly elated and obviously moved, in a cracking voice stated as tears seemingly welled up in his eyes, "It's high time, this a victory for the First Amendment."

They were acting as if some grand initiative that would really help humankind like "peace in our time" or "an end to disease and poverty' had been achieved instead of what really had happened. The Republican leadership and most of their brethren were celebrating something really monumental: the facilitating of the entire hijacking of the electoral process by big money, the corporations of America and, yes, the rest of the world. So much for "We the People" and "one man, one vote." Welcome to the Corporatist States of America!

According to Republicans, some solace for Dems should be that organized labor will also benefit from this new degree of enfranchisement, knowing full well that this will more likely be the death knell for unions. The expansion of the so-called "right to work," the subsequent in-sourcing of foreign-based auto companies and suppliers without requiring that they pay the going rate in wages and bennies, and the outsourcing of American jobs is already killing one of the few advocates for the people's interests and the interests of the middle class that still exists, big labor.

Today unions represent only 10 percent of American workers and miss the clout they once enjoyed that enabled them to boost wages, benefits and working conditions for all Americans, not just those in unions. Thanks to Republican-based facilitation, labor now lacks the resources needed to defend itself against the corporatist-funded electoral onslaught.

This is a conservative Republican gift that will keep on giving, courtesy of Reagan and the Bushes and the justices they appointed.

> Mitch Smith Canton

Dear Gov. Granholm:

I'm writing you in regards to the decision to forfeit the continuance of the Michigan Promise Scholarship. As an American citizen who believes in the free market system, I would never ask or expect a fellow taxpayer to finance my higher education. However, I cannot overlook a few things that are troubling to me.

1. The irony is uncanny; it encompasses and solidifies the popular belief that words mean nothing to politicians. Actions speak louder than words and what we see is a broken promise.

2. In 2008, tax incentives were created for films to come to Michigan that cost taxpayers \$127 million per year. The scholarships cost \$100 million per year. Are you saying that it's more important for shortterm jobs than an investment in knowledge for Michigan's long-term future?

3. The Michigan Promise Scholarship was initiated in 2007 on the basis as an investment in our future. I find the priorities in the budget that trump the scholarship troublesome and inexcusable.

Welfare spending in 2010 will reach \$7.9 billion. Thomas Jefferson said "the best way to help the poor is to make them uncomfortable in their poverty." All this does is perpetuate the cycle instead of solving the problem.

I'm 21 years old and I work two jobs in an effort to pay for college. Your actions are rewarding those who would rather not work than those who would. Your written apology in this matter is not acceptable or enough. I'm requesting that you reinstate the Michigan Promise Scholarship and decrease welfare spending in fiscal year 2010 by at least 10 percent so that you can renew our trust in our leaders and, truly, invest in Michigan's future.

> David Herbeck Livonia

is Kennedy's cause dead?

The late Sen. Edward (Ted) Kennedy served in the U.S. Senate for 47 years being second only to Michigan's Sen. John Dingel. Sen. Kennedy said many times that universal health care was the "cause of his life."

It's very sad that the year following Sen. Kennedy's death, any type of concrete health care reform is dead in the water. In addition, his successor, Scott Brown, is a Republican to the right of Sen. John McCain who defends waterboarding as a interrogation technique.

At least he did speak respectfully of Sen. Kennedy in his acceptance speech.

> Linda A. Koch Milford

MALLS & MAIN STREET

online at hometownlife.com

Program helps autistic students One Bead at a Time

BY WENSDY VON BUSKIRK CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Joe De Marsh is helping students with autism "one bead at a time."

The teacher at Berger East in Garden City started a unique entrepreneur program in which his students create beaded jewelry that they sell to the public.

The jewelry makes perfect gifts, or favors for weddings, showers and parties.

Making it offers students with severe behavior issues a valuable lesson.

"It's teaching them a skill that they normally wouldn't be able to get. It's something they can do after they leave Berger. They can make the jewelry and sell it," DeMarsh said.

DeMarsh started as a teacher at the Berger School for Students for Autism three years ago, and quickly noticed the students enjoyed stringing beads.

"A lot of the students who normally wouldn't do the other work that was provided would sit and string beads and I think they found it relaxing," he said. "I thought what if we did it for a purpose? I didn't know if they could, but I thought what if we try?"

DeMarsh want out and bought a batch of beads and jewelry findings with his own money. When he brought them into class the students were delighted. They began making necklaces, bracelets, earrings, keychains and magnetic lanyards for ID badges.

"I had a few students who could do their own designs, they could actually see shapes and patterns. It was just amazing to us to watch them. With other students we would make pattern boards and have them follow," De Marsh said.

The craft quickly became a business. "We came up with the name started selling to

just the people in the school," he said. From there, the program has grown.

BUSY BEADING

DeMarsh's students, ranging in age from 18-26, have provided beaded keychains as gifts for the celebrity models in the Redford Suburban League's Annual Fall Fashion Show, which benefits Berger School.

They've also created favors for weddings, tailoring keychains to fit each theme by using different color beads and charms ranging from snowflakes to inspirational words.

Each keychain — which can also be used on flash drives, or to decorate the zippers of backpacks or handbags — is packaged with a special card to create a meaningful gift.

"The couple writes something on the front and we have our story on the back," he said.

DeMarsh attended two weddings where One Bead at a Time favors were offered at each place setting, and saw firsthand how appreciated they were.

"Of all the weddings that I have been to this is the first wedding favor that I have seen taken with nothing left behind," he said.

SHARING PROFITS

The students also have sold their work at the Acorn Shop in Wayne, but since it recently closed they are looking for another venue. Most of their business has been word of mouth. All the money raised through sales of the jewelry returns to the program to replenish supplies and pay students for their work.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 28, 2010

At the end of the year each student receives their share of the profits as a gift card for Target.

DeMarsh said the best part of the program is that students can continue to make the jewelry after they leave Berger School, and sell it to earn money for their themselves.

Audrey Bantom said her daughter Kyra, 21, loves making jewelry at Berger so much they bought her a bead set for Christmas.

"It keeps her mind focused for one thing," Bantom said. "She has a steady hand for it and she's learned patience."

Bantom has sold Kyra's jewelry to family and friends as well as at the local beauty shop.

"As a matter of fact I have people asking me when they're going to make some more," Bantom said. "We love Berger. She's been there since she was five and she's come a long way."

To find out more about One Bead at a Time, e-mail demarsj@gcity.k12.mi.us.

Spring Trends from Saks

TROY - The season's runways revealed three prevailing themes for Spring 2010: Safari Accents, Feminine Frills and Purity of Design. Safari Accents is all about animal prints, military jackets and pops of bright color. Fringe detailing on long-strap bags and sandal booties round out your safari-ready gear.

Feminine Frills is all about ladylike accents like pleats, ruffles, bows, a soft muted color palette, sheer layered fabrics and floral prints on ready-towear and accessories. Mini-bags and lace-detailed shoes are the perfect touches to complete this look.

Purity of Design puts the emphasis on body conscious cuts. Think asymmetry, cutouts, banding, geometric shapes and the continuation of the strong shoulder. Whether you go bold in animal prints, dainty in ruffles, or alluring in a one shoulderbaring dress, don't forget about these must-haves for the season, all available at Saks Fifth Avenue, Somerset Collection in a wide range of styles from the world's top designers.

• The Shirtdress: Wear a shirtdress and achieve the chic simplicity of a button down shirt without worrying about the bottoms. Opt for a belt if you want a more contoured silhouette.

• Shorts: From short shorts to slim Bermuda lengths, shorts are your staples for work days, weekends and even those evening cocktail parties.

 The Sporty Jacket: Trenches, parkas, anoraks, fitted zipfronts, and military styles. A range of options to keep you stylish and prepared for those unpredictable Spring days.
 Sandal Booties: Power dress-

ing for your feet is no longer for the winter. Make way for this sandal/boot hybrid for spring and summer. Slip on a pair with a stacked heel or stiletto, but don't let your feet be caught without them.

• The Long-Strap Bag: Pick one with a very long drop and wear it three ways: across the body, over the shoulder or with the strap tucked inside to create a clutch.

Global Jewelry: Go for large, unfinished stones like coral, turquoise, and amber. Mix with layered gold tone chains to make a multicultural statement. Layer and stack for maximum impact.
Showpiece Belts: For Spring,

these usual accents command a wardrobe on their own. Pick bold colors with hardware details. Changing your silhouette is a cinch: wear them high and lady-like or low slung for added

attitude.

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

• Crystal Clear: Look for clear embellishments on ready to wear and accessories in the form of Lucite, PVC and crystals, from simple detailing to entirely seethrough bags and shoe soles.

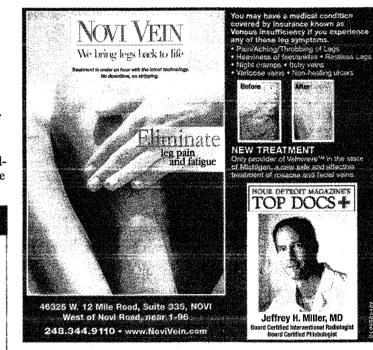
• Asymmetry: If you haven't embraced the one shoulder, here's your second chance. Bare the other shoulder completely or meet halfway with a thin support strap.

Bridal showcase

ROYAL OAK -- The 10-day StylineBride 2010 Bridal Showcase ends Saturday, Jan. 30, at Lisa's Gift Wrappers. During the free event, visitors are learning about the latest color trends (2010 is the year of turquoise) and discovering the unique touches Lisa Gleeson and her staff can put into a wedding including invitations, place cards, escort cards, menu cards, favors, favor boxes and napkins. StylineBride is also a resource for showers and shower gifts, attendant gifts and out-of-town guest gift baskets.

Featured this year are new professional resources including engrossed marriage certificates using a detailed stylized art form dating to the 1800s that make an incredible keepsake for generations; custom monograms that can be incorporated into aisle runners and printed pieces; and a plethora of personalized touches like embroidered ribbons.

Lisa's Gift Wrappers is located at 28834 Woodward Ave., one block south of 12 Mile. For information, call (248) 547-9094 or visit www.stylinbride.com.



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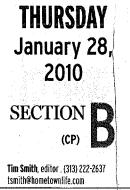




Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 28, 2010

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Stretch run lifts Chiefs

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

For most of Tuesday night, young Salem gave campus rival Canton reason to worry as the Rocks led for much of the first three quarters.

But the more-experienced Chiefs woke up in the nick of time and parlayed Salem miscues into points down the stretch, earning a 45-37 KLAA crossover boys basketball victory

"It's a game of runs, and when you're young (like Salem) like that, you kind of break down once in a while," Rocks head coach Bob Brodie said. "A team like Canton they showed some moxie, and they've got that guard (Dietrich) Lever who handled the ball real well and recognized things."

Lever scored six of his game-high 19 points during Canton's 16-7 fourth quarter, wiping out a 30-29 Salem lead after three quarters.

Scoring 11 points and tallying seven rebounds for Canton (7-4) was senior forward Kevin Weisz (11 points, seven rebounds).

Salem sophomore guard Tyler Stewart helped keep the Rocks in the game with three triples among his 13 points. Adding 10 points for Salem (6-5) was senior center Jake Peterson, while junior guard Devonta Riley scored six.

Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy said one reason his team might have been slow out of the gate was players

are taking their first-semester finals this week.

TIP OF THE HAT

"This week is tough in general, because it's finals week," Reddy said. "We have some pretty good studentathletes. But our energy wasn't real good until the fourth quarter.

"Credit to Salem, they did a great job, they played their tempo and did a good job passing and catching and scoring around the rim early, slowing us down."

The Chiefs didn't give up their pressure defense, however, and that eventually wore down the Rocks and led to the fourth-quarter turnaround.

"(Stewart) got away from us a couple times," Reddy said. "But we did a better job pressuring the ball and keeping people in front in the fourth quarter."

That defensive attention prompted several key Salem turnovers that Lever and his teammates took advantage of at the other end of the floor.

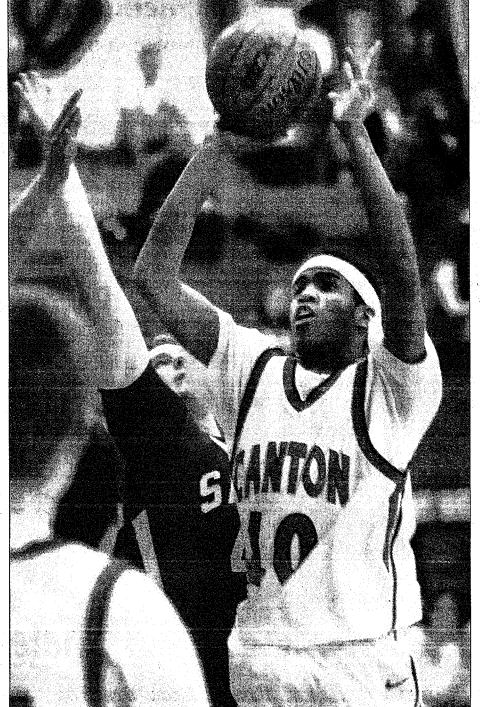
That's good pressure defense by Canton, they put a lot of heat on you the entire game," Brodie said. "It disrupts you and eventually wears on you. We've got to deal with that better."

ANSWER TIME

Earlier, however, the Rocks gave Canton fits.

Salem, trailing 21-20 at the inter-

Please see CHIEFS, B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFE PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Brandon Duffey (No. 10) puts up a shot Tuesday night despite defensive pressure from Ethan Walsh of Salem.

Silver lining in loss

Puzzle page

inside, B9

13

0

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Plymouth girls basketball head coach Ted Sturdivant prefers to look at the bright side of things, particularly after games like Tuesday – a 70-35 loss to visiting Novi.

Sturdivant pointed to the how sophomores Taylor Birman, Katelyn Watson and Rachael Hille were sparkplugs against the Wildcats. Watson, in particular, is beginning to nail down the starting point guard spot.

"We got a lot of energy from our sophomores," Sturdiyant said.

But Novi (10-1) took early control of the KLAA crossover with a 20-5 first quarter.

'We weren't able to shut down their outside scoring and we couldn't handle their pressure as well as we should have," said Sturdivant, whose team dropped to 3-8 overall. "And that caused a lot of turnovers."

Plymouth committed a ton of those, for sure, giving the ball up 30 times.

"That's way too many turnovers if you want to win," he said.

There were a couple of other bright spots for the Wildcats. Senior forward Stacey Klonowski tallied 15 points and six rebounds, while senior forward Danielle Desilets chipped

Observerland field sets sights on defending champs

BY DAN O'MEARA **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

If you're wondering who the favorite is to win this year's Observerland Invitational wrestling tournament, you

need only look to last year's results. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, with five defending individual champions returning, appears to be a consensus

pick to retain the crown. Livonia Churchill High School will serve as host for the 19th annual event, which begins at 9 a.m. Saturday. Admission is \$5.

CC has won the tournament a record seven times since it was started in 1992, but the Shamrocks went six years without a championship until last year.

Their main competition for the team title will likely come from Canton and Westland John Glenn.

In a Division 1 statewide poll by michigangrappler.com, CC is third, Canton fourth and Glenn eighth. The Rockets were runners-up last year, and the Chiefs finished fourth behind Salem.

"CC has way too much talent for any of the other Observerland schools to unseat them," Canton coach Cory Mancuso said. "They have the opportunity to recruit kids to come to their school and wrestle. The Plymouth-Canton schools do not have these same advantages. I'm not sure anyone will beat them for a very long time."

CC's returning champions are sophomores Todd Melick (119) and Alec Mooradian (125), senior Charlie Joseph (130), junior Justin Melick (135) and senior Mike Kinville (215). All won at

It's simple.

being sick.

MAT EXTRAVAGANZA

What: 19th annual Observerland Wrestling Invitational.

When: Saturday, Jan. 30 (First round action starts at 9 a.m. with the finals starting at approximately 5 p.m.) Where: Livonia Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh Road (between Joy Road and Ann Arbor Trail).

Admission (all day): \$5 (family discounts available).

Participating schools: Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin, Livonia Stevenson, Westland John Glenn, Wayne Memorial, Canton, Plymouth, Salem, Farmington, Farmington Hills Harrison, North Farmington, Garden City Redford Union, Belleville, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central. Pats winners: Catholic Central (1993) 96, 99, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2009); Franklin (2005, 06, 07); Stevenson (1994, 95, 97); Canton (2001, 08); Salem (1998); Churchill and John Glenn (2004); Farmington (1992).

lower weights last year; their current competitive weights are in parentheses. Including those five, the Shamrocks have four others who are ranked among the top 10 at their weights in the state. They are freshman Kenny Bade, the No. 1 wrestler at 103, sophomore TJ Fagan (103), senior Doug Eldridge (140) and senior David Knuth (285). Mooradian also is ranked No. 1. "In my opinion, the team that is the

healthiest among the top teams will

win," Glenn coach Bill Polk said. "CC is obviously the team to beat, but we're up for the challenge."

CHIEFS ON ROLL

Mancuso believes the Chiefs, who are 22-5 in dual meets, have their best team in the history of the program. The Rockets, who are 25-6 overall, are 3-0 in the KLAA South Division and the Chiefs 2-1.

"We're in good shape as a team right now," Mancuso said. "We are definitely a better team than we were a year ago.

"We're consistently changing lineups," Polk said of the Rockets, "but we're steady and should be ready to battle with the best by the end of the season if all falls into place."

There will be two other returning champions on the mats Saturday. Both are from Canton – Donnie Watkins and Brent Winekoff, who was the MVP of the upper weights last year when he won at 145.

Winekoff is ranked No. 2 in the state at 152 this year. Watkins won the 135-pound title and is fourth in the state at that weight, right behind CC's Justin Melick.

Other area wrestlers who have state rankings are Glenn's Steve Wakeford (112), Josh Austin (119), Anthony Pavlich (130) and Dustin Gajowski (285), Canton's Keith Zech (171) and Josh Abro (189), Plymouth's Alec Breckenridge (112), Salem's Nick Kim (112), Churchill's Curtis Castleberry (171), Farmington Harrison's Andre Sanders (119) and Kevin Beazley (160) and Lutheran Westland's Justin Palka (130).

As a group, Farmington's three

schools are having their best season collectively in nearly a quarter century.

North Farmington has a 19-1 dual record, leads the Oakland Activities Association White Division and won the Farmington city meet Friday.

Competing with the aforementioned Division 1 powers Saturday will be a tall order for the Raiders, however.

"I think this year's tournament will probably be the most competitive since I've been coaching," North's Tom Seremet said. "There are probably four or five teams there that are clearly better than we are to be honest."

Harrison (17-5) has several wrestlers who should do well, according to coach Jim Stuef, who said the Division 2 Hawks will use the tournament to assess the state of their team.

Sanders (119) and Beazley (160) have 32-2 records: James Roberts (135) is 30-5 and Evan Doyle (112) 22-8.

"Kevin, Andre and James have a chance to do well at Observerland, and Evan Doyle is no slouch either," Stuef said. "We have a whole bunch of kids with a chance to place, but those three have the best shot at being in the finals.

"Then you have the kids from Canton. A lot of those kids will give everybody a go for their money. Canton, John Glenn and CC are all tough Division 1 teams with individuals we haven't seen yet.

"It's great competition. It will give us a good idea for the district and regional coming up. We have to wrestle some good teams here, so we can kind of gauge ourselves. It will be a good indication of where we stand."

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Plymouth's Taylor Birman (32) is one of the bright spots for the Wildcats.

in with six points. Plymouth next hosts Livonia Franklin at 7 p.m. Friday, followed by another home game at 7 p.m. Tuesday against Wayne Memorial.

'We got a lot of energy from

TED STURDIVANT, Plymouth coach

tsmith@hometownlife.com

our sophomores.'



Razor sharp Sharks

82

(CP)

The Plymouth Razor Sharks, of the Plymouth Canton Hockey Association, recently completed a four game sweep to win the Rock 'N Roll Cup Hockey Tournament in Cleveland. After defeating three Ohio teams in the preliminary rounds, the Razor Sharks edged the Rochester Racers 3-2 in the championship game. Scoring the winning goal was Ethan Fitzgerald while David Cook was named tournament MVP. Members of the team include: front row (from left) Mitchell Gonzalez, Steven Sisolak, Austin Foos, Nolan Kerwin; middle row (from left) Matthew Cusumano, Andrew Pascaris, Ethan Fitzgerald, Alex Remski, Max Chumley; back row (from left) coach Tom Remski, Tom Kowalkoski, head coach Chris Hoehn, David Cook, coach Steve Kowalkoski, Jay Andrusiak, Erik Liubakka and Amanda Hoehn. Not pictured is coach Lee Cook.



Canton Crush cruises

The Canton Crush Pee Wee AA Travel Hockey Team won the Rock 'N Roll Classic Cup Tournament in Cleveland recently, defeating squads from Hatfield, Pa., Woodhaven, Geauga Lake, Ohio and Chicago. The Crush won the semifinal game against the Geauga Lake Leafs in overtime and went on to defeat the Chicago Hawks 4-3 in the finals, scoring with 4.5 seconds to go in the third period. The tournament MVP was captain Joe Nevalo. The Crush includes: front row (from left) Ben Chafin, Joe Nevalo, Jared Merandi, Andrew Rozenbaum, Noah Willer, Tommy Kiddle; middle row (from left) Lewis Campbell, Andrew Jossey, Jake Smith, David Mitchell, Justin Barr, Scott Bazner; back row (from left) coach Dennis Smith, coach Cam McCausland, coach Steve Willer, Nicholas Glud, coach Joe Mitchell, Colin McCausland, Eric Locke and Dylan Smith.

Schoolcraft women's team keeps rolling

Canton icers flip power switch

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Better penalty killing and a six-goal second period lifted Canton's varsity boys hockey team to a 7-1 drubbing of host Walled Lake Western Tuesday night.

The Warriors actually led 1-0 after the first period, scoring against Canton sophomore netminder Spencer Craig.

But the floodgates opened in the middle stanza, with junior forward AJ Rosales scoring twice and setting up two others and senior forward Riley Hoernschmeyer scoring and assisting on a pair.

Tallying the other Canton goals were junior forward Phil Baciak, sophomore forward Duggan Tear, junior defenseman Jimmy LaFontaine and (in the third) junior forward Matt Rodgers.

Hoernschmeyer finished with three assists in the KLAA crossover tilt.

'We came out a little slow." said Chiefs head coach Jeremy Majszak. "Whether it was the late night, finals, whatever it was, maybe they were looking past Walled Lake Western.

"But we came out flying in the second."

Majszak said his team continues to play well following the Christmas break, going 6-2 with the victory and featuring a balanced attack.

'We've had five or six kids with 10 points," said Majszak. "AJ, Riley, Jordan Smith, Kyle Korte. Alec Gilo actually has been really tearing it up lately (with) five goals over the last four or five games."

Canton also is tightening its defensive belt, and against the Warriors killed off all five penalties. The PK had been a

bit of a concern recently, the coach said.

We're working on staying out of the box," Majszak continued. "We've been limiting the amount of penalties we take.

"But for a while, the past five games, except the Plymouth game (Jan. 19) all of the goals scored against us were all on the power play. But we had five penalties tonight and they went 0-for-5 which was really nice to see."

Craig and sophomore Ryan Bazner (who played the third period) split the goaltending duties Tuesday.

The Chiefs host Northville 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 3 at Canton Arctic Edge in the team's final regular season home game. It will be Senior Night.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Piwowar sparks Canton gymnasts

Canton junior Robyn Piwowar placed first in all four events as well as all-around standings Tuesday night to pace the Chiefs to a doubledual girls gymnastics victory over Brighton and Howell.

The Chiefs (6-1) tallied 140.9 points while Brighton took second with 130.55 points. In third place, with 129.65 points, was Howell.

"It was a good meet, but we were depleted a little bit," said Canton head coach John Cunningham. "This was an exam day and a lot of girls were either studying or left

early from the meet." Even so, his team had an excellent day, especially Piwowar, who finished first all-around with 37.2 points. She won the vault (9.25),

uneven bars (9.05), balance beam (9.5) and floor exercise (8.55).

Canton freshman Alex Fideler (35.2) was second allaround and placed second both in uneven bars (9.15) and floor exercise (9.15). Fideler tied for sixth in vault at 8.4 with sophomore teammate Ayana Lewis.

Mallory Hudak were the fourth and fifth all-around scorers, with 34.35 and 33.4 points, respectively.

Lewis took third in uneven bars (8.75) and sixth in balance beam (8.4) while Hudak's 8.9 was good for third in floor exercise. Meanwhile, junior Kali Pierce - fifth in beam (8.45) and floor exercise (8.85) – and freshman Nicole Lasecki also were productive. Lasecki earned fourth in beam (8.55) and fifth in vault (8.45).

The Chiefs square off with Plymouth on Monday.

Lewis and Canton senior

Whalers double up Petes, 4-2

Center Tyler Seguin figured in on all four goals, goaltender Matt Hackett stopped 45-of-47 shots and the Plymouth Whalers won the battle of special teams Saturday night en route to a 4-2 victory over the Peterborough Petes.

With the win, before 2.653 at Compuware Arena, Plymouth (28-20-0-1) moved into second place in the Ontario Hockey League's West Division and fourth in the OHL Western Conference. Peterborough dropped to 23-22 - 1 - 2Seguin, who leads the league in scoring with 79 points, tallied a goal and three assists against the Petes – coming one night after he potted two goals and two helpers in a 5-1 victory in Mississauga. Against Peterborough,

of the year, the Whalers received goals from AJ Jenks (game-winner and 16th of the year), Joe Gaynor (11th) and Robbie Czarnik (9th). Jamie Doornbosch (10th) and Justin Larson (11th) replied for Peterborough.

Peterborough took a 2-1 lead after one period, but Czarnik tied the game at 4:24 of the second period, accepting Tyler

ing the Petes' two-man advantage, robbing Brett Theberge from the right wing side of the crease.

Later in the period, Jenks gave the Whalers a 3-2 lead at 15:33 of the period with a power play goal, snapping a shot from the high slot past Peterborough goaltender Jason Missiaen, who was screened by Gaynor.

Five players scored in double figures Saturday as the Schoolcraft College women's basketball team rolled to its 20th straight victory without a loss in a 90-30 romp at Macomb Community College.

It was the Lady Ocelots' seventh straight 20-win season and their 37th consecutive MCCAA Eastern Conference victory

Schoolcraft has now won 69 of its last 71 conference games.

Angela Burrell and Kimberly Bee each tallied 15 points for Schoolcraft, which is now 10-0 in the conference and ranked No. 1 in the latest NJCAA Division II national poll.

The Lady Ocelots, who shot 54 percent from the field (34of-63), also got 13 points from Antania Shepherd.

Emelda Chew and Amber Avery chipped in with 11 and

Publish: January 24, 28 & 31, 2010

10, respectively.

Avery also had a teamhigh 13 rebounds to go along with six assists and six steals. Bee also pulled down nine rebounds.

Macomb (8-10, 4-6), which was outrebounded 58-33 and committed 26 turnovers, got nine points from Chanequa Hills.

MADONNA 75, UM-DEARBORN

74: The first career tripledouble from junior Tabatha Wydryck along with a clutch free throw from junior Katie Mount was just enough Saturday as visiting Madonna University (7-11, 3-3) held off a pesky University of Michigan-Dearborn (1-19, 0-6) for a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference triumph.

Wydryck scored 19 points, grabbed 15 rebounds and handed out a career-high 10

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BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY, MORTGAGE SALE -Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Carl M. Klugh and Brenda F. Klugh, husband and wife., to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated May 1, 2003 and recorded May 19, 2003 in Liber 38352, Page 1271, Wayne County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by BAC HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP FKA COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS SERVICING LP by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety-Two Thousand Eight Hundred Sirie and 49(100 Dollars (292 806 42) isolution integrate at

Eight Hundred Six and 42/100 Dollars (\$92,806.42) including interest at

5.75% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public verifue at the Courtroom 1607, Wayne County Circuit Court Tower in the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center in Detroit

in Wayne County, Michigan at 1:00 p.m. on FEBRUARY 4, 2010. Said premises are located in the City of Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan, and

are described as: Lot 117, Drennan and Seldon's Regent Park Subdivision, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 53, Page 72 of Plats,

Wayne County Records. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the

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600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can

rescind the sale. TO ALL FORCHASERS. The interesting horizage can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. If you are a tenant in the property, please contact our office as you may have certain rights. Dated: January 3, 2010 Orlans Associates, PC. Attorneys for Servicer P.O. Box 5041 Troy, MI 48007-5041 File No. 617.2585 ASAP#

3393558 01/07/2010, 01/14/2010, 01/21/2010, 01/28/2010

Publish: January 7, 14, 21 & 28 2010

assists in producing the first triple-double by a MU player in over five seasons.

"Honestly I had no idea I had it until you guys told me after the game," said Wydryck, a 6-foot guard from Wyandotte (Riverview Gabriel Richard). "As a team we did not play up to our potential. A game like this is not a success for us, we should have done better. Even though the numbers show a good game, it could have been a lot better."

Sophomore Heather Goodwin added 15 points while a pair of freshmen, Shantelle Herring and Kaylee McGrath (Livonia Stevenson) contributed 15 and 13 points, respectively.

Kim Lackowski posted a double-double of her own in the loss for the Wolves with 18 points and 15 rebounds. Megan Robinets added 16 points, while Katie Gulliver and Candace Cobb added 13 and 12, respectively.

Recycle this newspaper

besides Seguin's 34th goal

BOYS BASKETBALL Friday, Jan. 29 Plymouth at Franklin, 7 p.m. Canton at Wayne, 7 p.m. Salem at South Lyon East, 7 p.m. Oak. Christian at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m. Franklin Road at Huron Valley, 7:30 p.m. Washtenaw Acad, at Plv, Christian, 8 p.m. **GIRLS BASKETBALL** Thursday, Jan. 28 Huron Valley at Luth. South, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29 Franklin Road at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m. Luth. N'west at Luth. Westland, 5:30 p.m. Washtenaw Acad, at Ply, Christian, 6:30 p.m. South Lvon East at Salem, 7 p.m. Franklin at Plymouth, 7 p.m. Wayne at Canton, 7 p.m. Ladywood at Birm. Marian, 7:30 p.m. PREP HOCKEY Friday, Jan. 29 Salem at Northville, 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30 Northville vs. Plymouth at Compuware Arena, 2:30 p.m.

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Publish: January 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2010

G. Brown's feed and scoring from the right wing with a hard shot inside the far post.

"We always talk and Czarnik's one of my closer buddies on the team," Seguin said after the game. "He's got great hands, great skill. That goal proved it."

Then the Plymouth penalty killers did their part, stopping a 5-on-3 Peterborough power play. Hackett made his best stop of the hockey game dur-

THE WEEK AHEAD

Ladywood vs. Cranbrook at Plymouth's Arctic Pond, 6:30 p.m. PREP WRESTLING Saturday, Jan. 30 Observerland Inv. at Churchill, 9 a.m. **BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING** Thursday, Jan. 28 Salem at Novi, 6:30 p.m. Plymouth at Canton, 6:30 p.m. PREP BOWLING Thursday, Jan. 28 Salem vs. Canton Plymouth vs. Northville at Super Bowl (Canton), 3:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29 Ladywood vs. F.H. Mercy at Sterling Lanes, 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30 **Clarenceville Open Doubles** at Country Lanes, 8 a.m. Tri-County Invitational at Five Star Lanes, noon. GIRLS GYMNASTICS Thursday, Jan. 28 Livonia Red at Salem, 6:30 p.m.

We've been really good on the power play lately," Seguin said. "We took advantage of our opportunities. (The Jenks goal) was a really good play."

Peterborough outshot Plymouth, 15-11, in the third period, but Gaynor scored the only goal into an empty Petes net at 18:54.

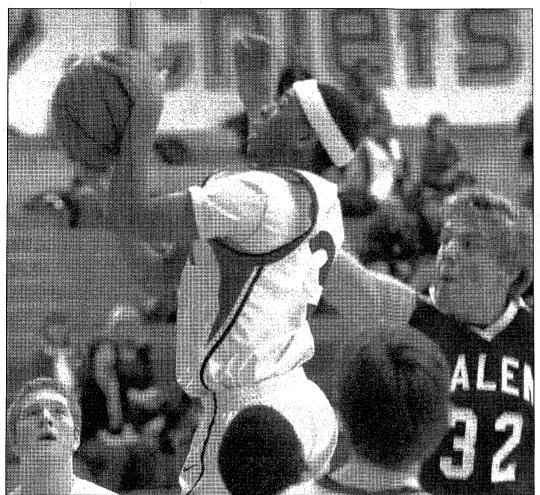
Plymouth hosts Brampton Friday and London Saturday, with both games starting at 7 p.m.

> GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER Thursday, Jan. 28 Clarenceville, Lutheran Westland at Lutheran Northwest, TBA. Saturday, Jan. 30 Northville Invitational, 9 a.m. Stevenson Invitational, 2:30 p.m. **MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL** Saturday, Jan. 30 Flint Mott at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m. Madonna at Siena Heights, 7:30 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Saturday, Jan. 30 Siena Heights at Madonna, 1 p.m. Flint Mott at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m. **ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE** Friday, Jan. 29 Brampton vs. Plymouth Whalers at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30 London vs. Plymouth Whalers at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m. TBA - time to be announced

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LOCAL SPORTS



BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Salem center Jake Peterson (No. 42, right) tries to thwart Canton's Dietrich Lever (No. 3) from taking it to the basket.



mission following the Chiefs' 5-0 run to end the half, had a strong third quarter and took a 30-26 edge with 1:45 to go when Stewart nailed a rainbow trey from beyond the top of the arc.

"He can shoot the basketball," Brodie said about Stewart. "He has the capability of taking it inside or shooting the basketball (outside). He has a nice touch for a sophomore.'

But just seconds after

Stewart's triple, Canton's Weisz answered with one of his own to bring the Chiefs within 30-29 after three. In the fourth, two free throws by Lever put Canton in

front to stay. Following with layups were Weisz and senior guard Hayatt Ali to give the Chiefs a 37-32 lead with 5:20 remaining.

The closest Salem would get was 37-35 following another Stewart 3-pointer.

Reddy now will get his team ready for a big KLAA South contest Friday night at Wayne Memorial. "It should be a real good game and hopefully we have a lot more energy than we

did tonight." Salem will visit South Lyon East on Friday.

Wildcats fall

Despite 14 points each from Mike Nadratowski and Brennen Beyer, the Plymouth varsity boys basketball team dropped a 53-48 decision Tuesday night to Novi in a KLAA crossover.

(9-2) was Samar Ozeir. Plymouth fell below the

Livonia Franklin.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

canll.com. Plymouth soccer signups

Plymouth Soccer Club is holding spring registration through Jan. 29 at the City of Plymouth Recreation Office during business hours (Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).

Those who are interested are invited to download forms or e-mail a password to do on-line registration at www.ci.-plymouth.mi.us.

Canton bowlers take second

The Westland John Glenn boys bowling team hauled in its second tournament title trophy of the season by seizing the fifth annual Wayne County Tournament held Saturday at Cherry Hill Lanes.

The Rockets defeated KLAA Central Division rival Canton for the crown in the best twoof-three elimination finals under a Baker game format of alternating shots, 215-211 and 166-146.

Glenn reached the final with a 214-145, 180-138 win over qualifying leader Flat Rock Woodhaven. The Rockets also scored victories over Salem, 244-216 and 247-214, and Dearborn Divine Child, 191-188, 177-177 (lost roll-off), and 242-181.

Glenn placed fourth among 20 schools in the qualifying block with regular games of 968-1,030-966 and Baker sets of 426-425 for a grand total of 3,777.

Woodhaven was first with 4,139 followed by Flat Rock (3,983) and Canton (3,857).

Glenn's top individual singles performer was senior Kyle Hamlin, who placed eighth with a 678 series on games of 214-261-203.

Sophomore teammate John Cleavenger was next in 23rd with a 634 on games of 208-213-213.

Other Glenn scorers included Chris Harper, 46th (191-190-174-555); Josh Duprie, 71st (191-185-376); Steve White, 107th (191); Jordon Hornes, 110th (187).

Meanwhile, Wayne Memorial was seventh 935-903-1,104 (regular games) and 487-400 (Bakers) for a 3,693 total. Riverview ousted the Zebras in the opening round, 214-134, 168-192, 202-184.

Wayne was led by Elliot Arnold, who was 13th overall with a 649 series on games of 200-216-233.

Mike Gabriel was next in 32nd with a 588 series on games of 183-191-214. He was followed by teammates Zack Huffman, 85th (183-172-355); Jeremy Brown, 89th (175-171-346); Scott Franklin, 101st (227); and Kellen Collison, 102nd (217).

Salem's Ryan Clark and Flat Rock's Brandon Zurawski tied for high game honors with 279 each. Woodhaven's Kurt Domke rolled a high series of 727.

Wayne County girls

Taylor Kennedy captured the girls championship by defeating Southgate Anderson in the finals, 197-171 and 216-148.

The Eagles ousted Wayne Memorial in the semifinals, 180-158 and 179-155. The

PREP BOWLING RESULTS

CANTON 16, SOUTH LYON 14 Jan. 21 at Super Bowl (Canton) Canton scorers: Casey Bindas, 193-213-406; Ross Terrasi, 213-183-396; Andrew Klein, 214-180; 394; Billy Keppen, 180-204-384; Trevor Cummins 177; David Blythe, 169. Team totals: 977-949-1,926 (12 points).

Baker games: 168-174-342 (4 points) South Lyon scorers: Jared Choiniere, 200-213-413; Freddie Rlagrose, 193-210-403; Gordon Gelorneaur, 184-216-400; Jon Bandy, 179-180-359; Tim Harper, 167; Thomas Marcus, 147. Team totals: 903-986-1,889 (8 points). Baker games: 167-182-349 (6 points)

Zebras, sixth in the qualifying block with a 3,113 total, defeated Dearborn Heights Crestwood, 155-201, 156-153 and 183-162, and Flat Rock, 186-170 and 193-192.

Wayne's Tiffany Markham was ninth in singles with a 567 series on games of 186-177-204. Teammate Brianna Evert was 31st with a 492 series.

Southgate ousted the Glenn in the quarterfinals, 156-153 and 188-170.

The Rockets, runner-up in the qualifying block with a total of 3,229, downed **Riverview Gabriel Richard** their opening match, 169-141 and 171-148.

Glenn senior Natalie Brown placed sixth overall in singles and had the tournament high game (258) in a 587 series.

Junior Khiry Sparks 155-188-214 for a 557 series (13th overall) and Senior Alysson Kassab 156-181-187 for a 524 series (23rd overall).

Livonia Ladywood, ninth in the qualifying block with a 2,949, got a 231 game and a 560 series from Kerry LaValley, who was 10th in singles.

Teammate Jessica Stamper had a high game of 210 and a 506 series (27th overall).

Northville's Jessie Sammut posted the high series with a 621.

GIRLS DUAL MATCHES CANTON 20, SOUTH LYON 10 Jan. 21 at Super Bowl (Canton) Canton scorers: Allison Fries, 197-179-376; Cheryl Cosby, 153-120-273; Jackie Polaski, 158; Ashley Cade, 132; Lauren O'Bradovich, 123; Kelsey Joseph, 93. Team totals: 749-688-1,437 (10 points).

Baker games: 213-185-398 (10 points). South Lyon scorers: Ally Meyette, 190-123-313; Rachael Caskey, 124-187-311; Kasie Allen, 148-157-305; Toni Cadena, 151-122-273; Kenzie Warner, 120; Lieren Jaques, 105. Team totals: 733-694-1,427 (10 points)

Baker games: 141-179-320 (0 points).



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Are you a Bad Bowler? • Spring Lacrosse: Registration for youngsters in grades 3-8 continues all month at the rec office from noon to 4:30

Super Bowl on Ford Road in Canton might be your place if you are. The facility is hosting a 12-week "Bad Bowlers Club" at 8 p.m. Thursdays through March. The program is for beginning or low-average bowlers.

Teams of four (any combination of men and women) may participate in a pressure-free environment. The cost is \$9.95 per person per week. Call (734) 459-6070

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Scoring 19 points for Novi

.500 mark with the loss at 5-6 entering Friday's game at

832-1,655 (1.5 points).

203-393; Tony Paradise, 181-181-362; Tim McDonnell 187-157-344; Álex Regan, 166-167-333; Joe McDonnell, 124-192-316. Team totals: 848-900-1,748 (18.5 points). Baker games: 143-184-327 (4 points)

PINCKNEY 22.5, PLYMOUTH 7.5 Jan. 21 at Super Bowl (Canton) Plymouth scorers: Kyle Webb, 215-192-407; Justin Thompson, 164-181-345; Brandon Congdon, 169-149-318; Andrew Fraser, 130-159-289; Antonio

Spinale, 151; Rob Korstjens, 142. Team totals: 820 Baker games: 190-162-352 (6 points) Pinckney scorers: Brandon Sheppard, 190-

BOYS DUAL MATCHES

for more information

Football inductees

Longtime Detroit Catholic Central assistant coach Rick Coratti and former Wayne Memorial standout Al Slamer (Holt) will be among those honored at the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame induction and banquet Saturday, March 27, at the Four Points Sheration Hotel in Ann Arbor.

Doors open at 5:45 p.m., with the social hour at 6 p.m. Dinner is at 7 p.m., followed by induction ceremonies at 8 p.m. Guest speaker will be University of

Michigan head coach Rich Rodriguez. To obtain tickets, call Gandalf Church at (269) 963-0865. For more information, call Larry Merx at (845) 837-9438; or email lmerx@maxpreps.com.

Plymouth rec offerings

Registration is continuing throughout January for two spring programs being offered by the city of Plymouth Recreation Department. The recreation office is located at 525 Farmer St. Call (734) 455-6620 for further information or go to www.ci.plymouth.mi.us.

Programs include the following:

• Spring Youth Soccer: Register at the recreation office during business hours (Monday through Friday from noon to 4:30 p.m.) the entire month of January. All first-time registrations require a birth certificate.

or coach is preferred, but not mandatory. Contact recreation director Steve Anderson at (734) 455-6620, ext. 302, or e-mail him at sanderson@ci.plymouth. mi.us.

p.m. weekdays. Roster space is limited

and the program will be filled on a first-

Applications are being taken by the city

of Plymouth Recreation Department for

coach. Lacrosse experience as a player

a boys seventh- and eighth-grade lacrosse

Coaches, please call

come, first-served basis.

Lacrosse coach wanted

Coaches of high school teams for the winter season are reminded to send in results to Tim Smith, Plymouth-Canton sports editor, in order to spotlight the achievements of local student-athletes. Call (313) 222-2637 or e-mail him at tsmith@hometownlife.com.

Please provide as much detail as possible as well as your team's current record. Deadlines are 11 p.m. both Tuesday nights for the Thursday edition and Friday evenings for Sunday's paper.

Join PCLL spring leagues

The Plymouth-Canton Little League is holding walk-in spring registration for five leagues available to residents of Plymouth, Plymouth Twp, Canton and Canton Twp.

The signups will take place 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6 at Plaza Lanes, 42001 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

The leagues include the following: T-Ball (ages 5-7), Coach Pitch (ages 6-8), Minor League (ages 7-10), Major League (ages 10-12) and Junior League (ages 13-14). Early registration is encouraged as the teams fill up fast.

For more information, go to www.ply-

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Ice shavings

Plymouth Cultural Center is hosting drop-in hockey sessions through March 31, from 4-5:20 p.m. Tuesdays. Fees are \$5 for skaters except for the first four goalkeepers to sign up (they can play for free). Full equipment is required and participants must be age 14 or older.

The Cultural Center (525 Farmer) also features open skating and "Sticks & Pucks" through March 31. Open skating is 12 noon to 1:20 p.m.

Tuesdays and Fridays and 4-5:50 p.m. Sundays. Fees: adults, \$5; under 16 and over 55, \$4; skate rental, \$2.

For "Sticks & Pucks" all skaters must pay \$5 and wear full equipment for the sessions, 2-3:50 p.m. Monday-Friday, also until the end of March. Parental supervision is required for participants under age 16.

Call 734-455-6620 or go to www. ci.plymouth.mi.us for more information.

Football tutorials

Popps QB Tutor will offer instruction for quarterbacks and wide receivers from 2-3 p.m. Sundays, Feb. 7, 21, 28; March 7 and 14 (Session VII), at Center Court, located at 7171 N. Haggerty, Canton.

The cost is \$150 per session. Sessions are limited to 16 quarterbacks and 16 receiver. Walk-ins, when space available, are \$35 per date.

For more information, e-mail Richard Popp at: theqbtutor@yahoo.com.



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BELIEFS & VALUES

Religion calendar items appear on Thursdays on a space available basis. To submit an item, e-mail sdargay@hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226, Attn: Sharon Dargay. Item must include the venue address and phone number and any admission costs for events. Items must be submitted at least a week in advance of publication. Feel free to send a related photo in jpg form. For a complete listing online, go to hometownlife.com.

JAN. 28-FEB. 3

All Saints Catholic School Time/Date: 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunday,

Jan. 31 Location: On Warren between Beck and Ridge Roads in Canton Details: Open house; registering now for the 2010-2011 school year Contact: (734) 459-2490, www.allsaintscs.com, or ascs9@hotmail.com **Christ Our Savior Lutheran** Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.,

Sunday, Jan. 31 Location: 14175 Farmington Road, just north of I-96, Livonia Details: Concert Choir and Honors

Choir from Lutheran High School Westland will sing for the worship services

On radio: Listen to the church's pastor, Rev. Anthony Creeden, offer a message titled "Gifted" on "The Lutheran Hour," Sunday, Jan. 31. The show is broadcast weekly on more than 800 radio stations including WDFN (1130 AM) at 6:30 a.m.; WRDT (560 AM) at noon; WPOS (102.3 FM) at 7 a.m. and on XM Satellite Radio dial 170 at 1 p.m.

Contact: (734) 522-6830

Congregation Beth Ahm Time/Date: Kids' service starts at 6

p.m. and adult service begins at 6:15 p.m.

Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Friday night Shabbat services will mark Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish New Year of the Trees. Services will be followed by a kosher catered Shabbat dinner and Tu B'Shevat Seder. The Tu B'Shevat Seder explores traditional and contemporary themes of protecting the environment and repairing the world - ideas with roots in Biblical teachings about respect for the natural world, medieval Jewish mysticism, and 21st century environmentalism. Prepaid reservations are a must for dinner. Cost for dinner is \$20 for adults, and \$12 for ages 4 thru 10. RSVP for the dinner by Wednesday, Jan. 27

Contact: Reserve by phone at (248) 851-6880 or e-mail director@ cbahm.org Assistance is available to help cover the cost of dinner. For more information call Rabbi Steven Rubenstein at (248) 851-6880 ext. 17 or e-mail ravsteven@cbahm.org

First Presbyterian Church of Farmington

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 31

Location: 26165 Farmington Road at 11 Mile, Farmington Hills Details: The deacons at the church offer a wellness seminar in response to the poor economy that is creating anxiety, depression, stress and desperation in many people. Paul Melrose, executive director of the Samaritan Counseling Center of Southeastern Michigan, will discuss how to work through this difficult time and relieve stress. The focus will be on ways to understand emotional and physical responses and to explore coping skills, including faith. Contact: (248) 474-6170



Blackthorn will perform Jan. 29 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church.

Our Lady of Good Counsel

Time/Date: 8 p.m., Friday, Jan. 29 Location: 47650 N. Territorial, Plymouth **Details:** Blackthorn Irish band performs at a World Youth Day fund-raiser. Light hors d'oeuvres also will be served. Tickets are \$150 for a table of 10 reserved in advance or \$20 per person at the door.

Contact: Buy tickets through the church's Office of Youth Ministry at (734) 453-0326, ext. 243

Holy Trinity Lutheran Time/Date: 7 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 30 Location: 39020 Five Mile, west of Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Musical evening of family entertainment features local senior entertainer Jack Bailey. Sing and dance to music. Admission is free. Refreshments provided. A free will offering will be taken for Haiti Disaster Relief.

Contact: (734) 464-0211 **Power Centre Church International** Time/Date: Noon-midnight, Saturday,

Jan. 30 Location: 16650 Sumpter Road in Belleville Details: Artists united in prayer, poetry, dance and song will perform at Hope for Haiti, a 12 hour marathon. The public may watch the various musical groups, dance troupes, and poets in concert. Admission is free; donations will be collected with all profits going to Haitian relief.

Contact: (734) 697-7421

St. Aidan Church

Time/Date: 1-7 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 31 Location: 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Pasta dinner fund-raiser to benefit the earthquake victims in Haiti. All proceeds will benefit Catholic Relief Services. \$10 for adults; \$5 for children, 3-12; under 3 is free. Menu includes three kinds of pasta dishes, beverages, salad and rolls and desserts. Contact: www.myclassiccatering. com

St. Michael the Archangel Time/Date: 7 p.m., Wednesday,

Feb. 10 Location: 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, in Livonia

Details: WXYZ-TV reporter, weekend anchor, and former host of "Sunday Sports Update", Vic Faust, is the guest speaker at "Why Be Catholic," a new program series. Faust was joined the evangelistic fundamentalism movement during his teen years. He shares the story of his return to the church, along with his wife and three young children, and the new insights he has found for living a Christian life in a secular world. No admission charge Contact: (734) 261-1455, ext. 207

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian

Time/Date: 8 p.m., Jan. 29 Location: 40000 Six Mile, at Haggerty, Northville

Details: John Tesh will perform at a celebration of Lutheran Social Services of Michigan's 75th anniversary. Tickets

online at hometownlife.com

First United Methodist Church of Wayne

Time/Date: 4-7 p.m., Feb. 5 Location: 3 Town Square, Wayne Details: A dinner fund-raiser for Haiti will include mostaccioli, salad, garlic bread, beverages and dessert, for a free will offering. The money raised at the dinner will go to United Methodist Committee On Relief, which works with many denominations to help the Haitian people. Everything - from paper plates to pasta – for the dinner fund-raiser is donated by the church and all proceeds will benefit Haiti. Helping Haiti comes naturally to the church. It sends school supply kits, hygiene kits, blankets and other items to the island nation every year.

Contact: (734) 721-4801

FEB. 11-17

First United Methodist Church

Time/Date: 4-7 p.m., Friday, beginning Feb. 12 and running through March 26

Location: 3 Town Square, across the street from the Wayne post office, in Wayne

Details: 4th Annual Fish Fry offers choice of baked or fried fish, french fries or baked potato, Cole slaw, roll and beverages, for \$8. A child's portion will be available. Fresh pie will be offered by the women's group for \$1 per slice. The money raised goes to help needy family's during the holiday season Contact: (734) 891-2523

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 5:30-8 p.m. Feb. 12 Location: 28000 New Market Road, **Farmington Hills**

Details: All-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner includes a salad and ice cream bar. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$4 for youth ages 4-10 and under 4 free. Prince of Peace also will collect health kits for Haiti. Items include: soap, washcloth, towel, toothbrush and toothpaste, nail clippers and a comb. Contact: (248) 553-3380

FEB 18-24

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church Time/Date: 5:30 p.m. meal and Bible study; worship service at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 24 Location: 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, in Livonia

Details: The Lutheran Choraliers will sing at the Lenten midweek service; a free will offering will be accepted for the meal

(248) 442-8822 or e-mail to jcook59@ att.net.

Livonia Unity

Time/Date: Monday movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m. Location: 28660 Five Mile, Livonia Details: Learn Qigong, the ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine - a safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions Contact: (810) 813-4073 or gary@energeticarts.org. Men's Bible study Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and

study at 8 p.m. Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township Contact: John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491

Merriman Road Baptist Church

Details: Adult and English as a Second Language literacy classes are available for those who want to improve reading, writing and English conversational skills. Open to age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day or evening. Contact: (734) 421-0472; leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you

New Life Community Church

Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 am., Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville Contact: (734) 846-4615

Our Lady of Loretto

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

St. Andrew's Presbyterian

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Wednesday and 10:30 a.m. Thursday Location: 26701 Joy Details: Wednesday study/discussion group focuses on relationship with God and that of other religious groups and philosophical and scientific issues that might impact faith. Thursday group examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey Contact: (313) 274-3820

St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., second and fourth Thursday of each month Location: 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, in Livonia



B4 (*)

ALLEN CHASE

Age 68, of South Lyon, passed away on January 25, 2010 at his home, surrounded by family. He was born on August 18, 1941, in Dearborn, to the late John and Jenelle (Lewis) Chase. Dr. Chase was a Chiropractor in the Plymouth community for 30 years. He is survived by his beloved wife Alice (Comport) Chase; children: Rick (Katie) Chase and Candi (Joe) Chodacki; grandchildren: Rebecca, Abigail, John, Lane, and Tristan; and his sister Charlene Nippa. A memorial gathering will be held on Jan. 30, Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A memorial service will follow at 1 p.m. at Phillips Funeral Home, 122 W. Lake St.(Ten Mile), South Lyon. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com.

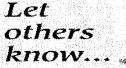
Rosemary Bannon Finn

Age 74, Jan. 20, 2010. Funeral was Jan. 23 at St. Colette Church, Livonia. Donations can be made to Food For The Poor (Haiti Relief), 6401 Lyons Rd., Coconut Creek, FL 33073. Online condolences at www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com



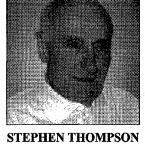
BESSIE LUE PENDEREL

Age 97, January 24, 2010. Beloved wife of the late Rowland. Dear mother of William F. (Diane) and Richard A. (Carolyn). Sister of Roger Kiper of Bloomington, IL. Also survived by eight grandchildren. Funeral Service at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Friday 11 AM. Visitation Thursday, 1-8pm. Memorial Contributions may be directed to Covenant Baptist Church, 5800 W. Maple, West Bloomfield, MI 48322. Share a memory of Bessie at: www.rggrharris.com



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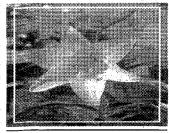
January 25, 2010, age 94, of Birmingham, formerly of Plymouth and West Bloomfield. Born November 23, 1915 in San Francisco. He was raised in Alexandria, Egypt. After returning to the United States, he graduated from Detroit Central High School and Detroit College of Business. He married his high school sweetheart, Judy Weldgen and they were married for 67 years. He served as a Captain in the US Army Air Corps. in France as an air traffic controller during WWII. After the war he returned to Detroit and founded Villaire, Inc. and operated the company until he retired in 1980. Stephen was a gourmet cook and faithfully prepared all the meals for his family throughout his life. He was fluent in several lan-Stephen and Judy enjoyed guages. traveling the world for over 40 years. He was a dedicated health enthusiast and worked out every day of his life. He was a loving caregiver for his wife during her battle with Alzheimer's and was at her bedside when she peacefully passed away on February 6, 2009. After her death he moved to a high rise apartment building in Birmingham to be near his daughter. He was always n avid reader and joined the Birmingham library. He leased a new car, continued to enjoy cooking for himself, going out for dinner and working out. Rain or shine, he walked daily in downtown Birmingham and made many new friends. He had a remarkable personality and was always ready to engage in spirited conversation. No matter where or what Stephen was doing, he always kept and carried his sense of humor. He enjoyed an active and full life until he became suddenly ill. He passed away peacefully with family at his side and the devoted care of Beaumont Hospice. On January 25, Stephen joined his late wife, Judy in heaven with God. Beloved husband of the late Justine "Judy" (nee Weldgen). Dear father of Stephenie VanHellemont and Ronald Thompson (Susan). Loving grandfather of Ronnie S. (Kristy), Katie, Joey, Trevor, and Megan and Julian VanHellemont. Also survived by his pet friend, Niki. Memorial Mass Saturday 11am at Holy Name Church, 630 Harmon Rd. at Woodland in Birmingham. Visitation begins at church 10:30am. A Celebration of Life luncheon will follow at The Community House after the Mass, A.J. Desmond & Sons, 248-459-055. View obituary and share memories at:

www.desmondfuneralhome.com SI DESMOND - SON



In Loving Memory **ROBERT (Bob) MEYERAND** 9-24-1947 to 1-30-2009

It's been a year without you, leaving a painful void in our lives, we miss you every minute of everyday. Your love, smile & laughter live forever in our hearts & memories will never leave us. We Love and miss you, your wife Bonnie, your children, their spouses and your grandchildren.



ĥ OBITUARY POLICY

The first five "billed" lines of an 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: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

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

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

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Attn: Obits c/o Char Wilson 313-496-4968 For more information call:

Char Wilson 586-826-7082 or Liz Keiser 586-977-7538 or toll free

800-579-7355 ask for Char or Liz

are \$35 for general admission and \$75 for the VIP reception, starting at 6 p.m., that includes food and drink, valet parking, preferred concert seating and a silent auction.

Contact: Order tickets online at www. Issm.org or by phone at (313) 823-7983, or mail orders with checks, payable to Lutheran Social Services of Michigan, to 8131 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, MI 48214, Attention Development

FEB. 4-10

Christ Our Savior Lutheran

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 9 Location: 14175 Farmington Road. Livonia

Details: Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County will hold an organizational meeting for its 2010 Apostles Build program. The program brings together any interested religious organizations in the community to sponsor and help build a Habitat for Humanity home. Clergy, outreach directors and other lay leaders interested in involving their congregation in this local outreach program may attend. **Contact:** Barb Fichtenberg at (734) 981-4205 or e-mail to bfichtenberg@ hotmail.com

Congregation Beth Ahm

Time/Date: 6 p.m., Feb. 28 Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: 78th Annual Inter-Congregational Men's Club Dinner with guest speaker Oakland County Sheriff Michael J. Bouchard. Cost is \$54 per person and will include kosher dinner catered by Paul Wertz of Kosher Too Catering. Advance reservations are required.

Contact: Members of local synagogues and temples may contact their Men's Club or Brotherhood by Feb. 1 to make reservations and advance payment. Others may make reservations through Beth Ahm by calling Ron Jedwab by phone at (248) 788-3068 or by e-mailing him at dannys1dad@comcast.net or by mailing a check in the amount of \$54 per person (payable to Cong. Beth Ahm Men's Club) to: Beth Ahm (ATTN: Ron Jedwab / Men's Club), 5075 West Maple Road, West Bloomfield MI 48322

Contact: (734) 522-6830

HEAL AWANA

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesdays Location: Faith Bible Church. 23414 **Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills** Details: AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade Contact: (248) 426-0096

BREAKFAST

St. Michael the Archangel Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-noon, third Sunday each month, October through May

Location: 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth, in Livonia

Details: The Ushers' Club presents an "all-you-can-eat" pancake breakfast served in the school cafeteria and featuring pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, hashbrowns, and assorted breakfast beverages. Meals are served buffet-style. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, 4-11, free for children under 3, and \$15 for a family with two adults and children Contact: (734) 261-1455

CLASSES/STUDY

Detroit First Church of the Nazarene Time/Date: 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesday Location: 21260 Haggerty, north of **Eight Mile**

Details: Tuesday Ladies Bible Study; \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5 Contact: (248) 348-7600

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 7-8 p.m., second Monday of the month

Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia Details: Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs, Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun

Contact: Judy Cook at Emmanuel,

Details: Led by Catholic author and apologist, Gary Michuta. The in-depth study of the Gospel of St. Matthew continues, using the Hahn-Mitch study guide. New students of any faith are welcome

Contact: (734) 261-1455

Seeds of Mercy Mission Home

Time/Date: 7 p.m., every Friday Location: 21819 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

Details: Bible study Contact: Nicole Christ at (313) 531-1234

Ward Presbyterian

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Mondays Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville Details: Learner's Bible study Contact: (248) 374-5920

CLOTHING BANK

Canton Christian Fellowship

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., fourth Saturday and 5-6:30 p.m., second Wednesday Location: 41711 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty Details: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank offers free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need

Contact: (734) 404-2480, visit www. CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@ cantoncf.org

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

St. James Presbyterian

Time/Date: 6 p.m., the first Thursday of the month

Location: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford Details: Cost is \$8 and includes dinner, beverage and dessert. The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, provides the meals Contact: (313) 268-7780. The church phone number is (313) 534-7730

FOOD BANK

New Hope Church Time/Date: 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only Location: is 44815 Cherry Hill Rd., Canton Contact: Call Pastor Ranay Brown to schedule an appointment at (734) 270-2528

Please see CALENDAR, B5

Farmington Hills native helps bring Emerald City to Detroit's Fisher Theatre

BY SHARON DARGAY 0&E STAFF WRITER

Stephen Simkowski plays five characters in his first national tour with a major musical production.

But theater-goers who see the Farmington Hills native in *The Wizard of Oz* during it's two-week run at Detroit's Fisher Theatre, may not recognize all of them.

"This is the 70th anniversary of the Wizard of Oz and that has been so cool for us. There has been so much celebration over the original film. The play does a nice job of staying faithful to the story that people know and love while at the same time adding fresh inspiration, such as the jitterbugs and crows.

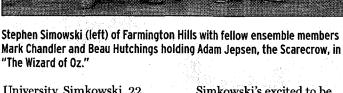
"The jitterbugs are creatures that come out and dance with Dorothy and her friends until they're wiped out, so the flying monkeys can collect them. The jitterbugs were part of the film, but at that time swing dancing was too risque and they were cut out."

As a member of the ensemble, Simkowski also portrays a poppy, a crow, a citizen of the Emerald City and a member of the witch's guard, called a "winkie."

"In this production the poppy field is dancers and we portray flowers. The most fun is doing the crows because we're there to sing and dance back-up for the Scarecrow. The most challenging thing about the show is because we do so many roles during the production, it's nonstop."

Simkowski has gotten accustomed to the fast-paced action, the quick costume changes and endurance-testing physical movements since joining the tour in September 2009. Fresh out of college with a bachelor of fine arts degree in musical theater from Syracuse

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University, Simkowski, 22, auditioned for the musical in March 2009 and was called back for a final audition in July 2009.

By that point his performing credits included *Fiddler on the Roof* and *A Christmas Carol* at the Syracuse Stage, a venue associated with the university, and summer stock at the Merry-Go-Round playhouse in upstate New York.

He spent his last semester of college in New York City, auditioning and learning the ropes from other working actors.

SEEING THE COUNTRY

The tour has taken him to stages in Canada, and to small towns and big cities in the United States. During his nine-month contract he'll perform in more than 70 locations.

"I've been to places that I didn't know how much I'd enjoy. We were in Knoxville, Tennessee and it was fun, beautiful, with great food and great people." Simkowski's excited to be back in Michigan and working at the Fisher Theatre Jan. 29-Feb. 15.

The North Farmington High School grad started taking dance lessons when he was 8 and studied at several dance studios. He performed in Farmington community musicals, attended Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp and got involved in acting and singing in high school. Frequent trips to the Fisher Theatre also left an impression.

"We used to have season tickets. My parents would take me downtown. I remember seeing tons of stuff at the Fisher Theatre, which is incredible because we'll be performing there."

Tickets for "The Wizard of Oz" are on sale at the Fisher Theatre box office, all Ticketmaster locations, by phone at (800) 982-2787, and online at www. ticketmaster.com or www.broadwayindetroit.com. The Fisher Theatre is located at 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit.

FILTER



MOMS Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., second Tuesday and 7-9 p.m., fourth Tuesday Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Details: Mothers of Preschoolers.

FAMILY YMCA

Find Yourself

at the Livonia

Family YMCA

Aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners **Contact**: Angie at (248) 427-1020

Dunning Park Bible Chapel Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., first and third Tuesdays Location: 24800 West Chicago Road, Redford

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope **Contact:** Amy at (313) 937-3084 or

Kristen at (734) 542-0767

PRAYER

Good Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. the first and third Tuesday Location: 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City

Details: Prayer, spiritual healing and outreach Contact: (734) 427-3660

Join YMCA by January 31st

for all 12 month memberships

SIGN UP NOW! Winter II Session: March 1 - April 25 (7 weeks)

- Y Tennis Y Gymnastics
- Y Aquatics
 Y Holiday Camp
- Y Sports
 Y Group Fitness

1/2 Off a Winter II Class With a Full Facility Membership by 1-31-10 Some restrictions apply

*Offer valid at Livonia Family YMCA only. Savings depend on membership type. Offer valid with 12-month agreement only.

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www.ymcadetroit.org 734-261-216

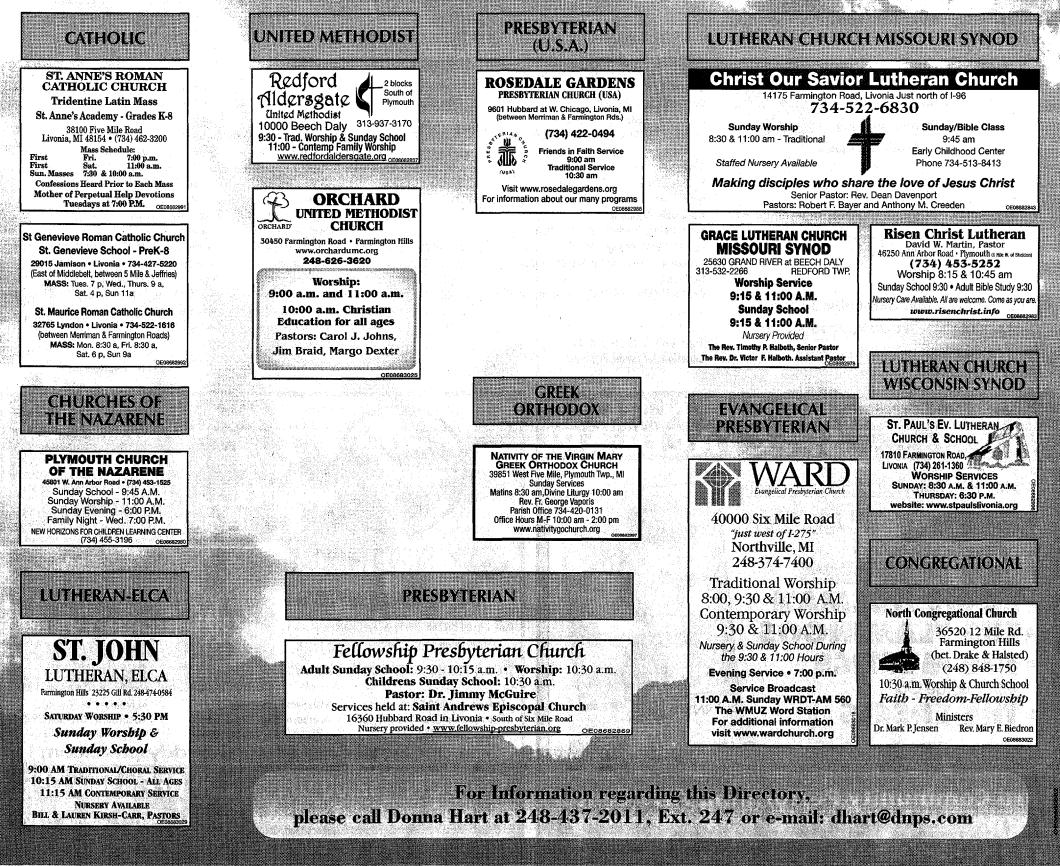
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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 28, 2010

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Your Invitation to Worship



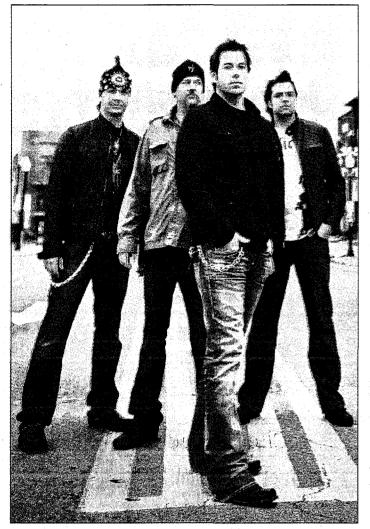
Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 28, 2010

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FILTER

Local post-grunge rockers release CD



Fifth Way is Adam Trahan (left), guitar; Dave Reingardt, drums; Tim Gossman, vocals; and Zak Stelmaszek, guitar. The band will release its new CD, "No Boundaries," Jan. 30 at The Magic Bag Theater in Ferndale.

 Figure ALGAR

 rediscover the romance of travel

 Free Europea

 Fou're invited to join Paul Wiseman,

 Trafalgar's President, along with one

 of our expert European Tour Directors, to

 learn about the Trafalgar experience and

 why traveling with us to Europe is the

 smartest way to discover your dream

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

Zak Stelmaszek of Canton wants to sell a thousand CDs next month.

"If we can do that, I think there will be some notice by an Indie label or bigger label," said Stelmaszek, 32, who plays guitar and pens original songs for Fifth Way, a "post grunge" band that's set to release its first CD, *No Boundaries*.

The CD release party and performance is set for 8 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 30, at the Magic Bag Theatre, 22920 Woodward, in Ferndale. Tickets are \$8 and available in advance from the Magic Bag box office or online at Ticketmaster.com. Local bands The Wall Clocks, Forest Wade and Core Effect will open the show, which is open to ages 18 and over.

"We should have some people from the industry at the show," Stelmaszek said. "I know some scouts from different labels should be there. We're keeping our fingers crossed."

The group recorded *No Boundaries* at Rustbelt Studios in Royal Oak over the past two years. Collectively, that's almost as long as Stelmaszek, Tim Gossman, 32, of Waterford, Adam Trahan, 32, of Rochester Hills, Dave Reingardt, 37, of Fenton and Nicholas Cole-Klaes. 18, of Garden City have played together as Fifth Way. Separately, they have logged years on the local music scene.

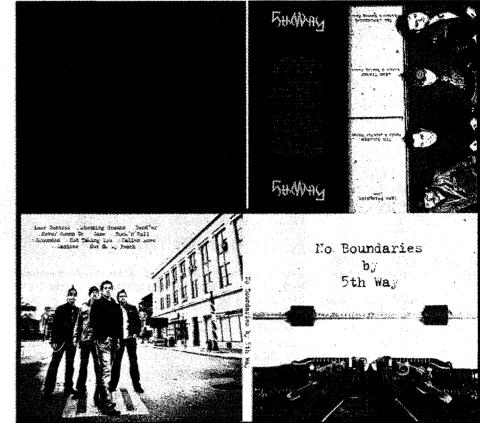
"I played with Tim in a band called Courtesy Stitch five years ago," said Stelmaszek, an electrical engineer who works for ESG Automotive Inc. in Southfield. Stelmaszek, an upper peninsula native, learned to play guitar at age 11 when his uncle handed him the instrument and some music books. He has played in bands ever since.

"Courtesy had already released a CD independently. We had some good shows. But I started writing new songs and things weren't clicking for that band and it was a long commute, to Ortonville."

RECORDING TOGETHER

Stelmaszek continued to play in cover bands and still plays a few weekends a month with Cruzin' Jupiter. He met up with Gossman and Trahan professionally again a little over two years ago at Rustbelt Studios.

"I didn't know where it would go, if it would be a full-blown band and have pro-



Fifth Way's new CD, "No Boundaries"

fessional records. I wrote and Adam wrote. We didn't have a bass player or drummer. We had studio musicians fill in for that."

Trahan discovered Cole-Klaes through a Web site. He joined the group and rerecorded all the bass tracks for the CD. He's studying bass in college and commutes from Chicago, Ill., to gigs in southeastern Michigan.

They auditioned a half dozen drummers and liked Reingardt, but weren't sure about his electronic drum set.

"We weren't too keen on electronic. We're trying to stay with true analog music style — not over processed. He proved to use he could play. He found a different drum set and brought it in."

INFLUENCES

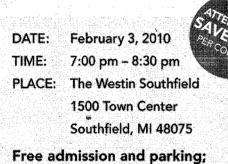
Stelmaszek describes the band's sound as "a little heavier than Pearl Jam" influenced by Nirvana, Alice in Chains, Soundgarden and Pearl Jam.

"Our writing technique is crafted from a guitar riff that Adam or I come up with. Then we try to create a verse and chorus and we take it to Tim who has been successful in writing lyrics on top of it."

The group plays mostly in southeastern Michigan and has performed at the Magic Bag several times. They've also played at Machine Shop in Fling, Harpo's, the Crowfoot in Pontiac among other venues.

"If we were a travelling band we could get out and play more," said Stelmaszek, who is married and has a teenaged stepdaughter, as well as three daughters, ages 10, 8 and 3. "I'd like to try and expand in Michigan and out of state. Maybe set up shows in Traverse City and towards the northern region, and expand south."

No Boundaries is available from the Fifth Way Web site at www.fifth-way.com. The group also is submitting one of its songs to the Fox Rocks contest, hoping to win a chance to open for Bon Jovi in March at the Palace of Auburn Hills. Fans can vote at Fox2's Web site, myfoxdetroit.com. For information about the CD release concert, call the Magic Bag at (248) 544-3030.



Free admission and parking; plus, coffee, tea, dessert and Grand Prize drawing!

To RSVP call 800-626-6604 option 1 or email rsvp2@trafalgartours.com

* Conditions apply. Details at show. CST# 2077132-20

ART

Costick Center

Time/Date: Through Feb. 26 Location: 28600 W. 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills Details: "Metallics: Photography by Janna Bissett"

Contact: (248) 473-1856 Lotus Arts Gallery

Lotus Arts Gallery

Location: 995 West Ann Arbor Trail, downtown Plymouth

Details: Ronnie Wood is the artist of the month **Contact**: (888) 889-4ART (toll free) or (734)453-5400

Northville Art House

Time/Dates: "Made of Wood: Multiple Perspectives" through Jan. 30 Location: 215 W. Cady Street, downtown Northville

Contact: (248) 344-0497, or visit www.northvillearts.org

plan B gallery

Time/Date: Through Jan. 30 Location: 167 Union, Plymouth

GET OUT

Details: "Undomesticated" show includes contemporary sculpture, painting, drawing, installations **Contact:** (734) 834-3827

AUDITIONS

Costick Center

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 7 Location: 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills **Details**: The Farmington Hills Youth Theatre auditions youth in grades 3-12, with or without previous experience, for the spring production of "Disney's Cinderella." Grades 3-4 audition 12:30 - 2 p.m., grades 5-7 audition 2-3:30 p.m., and grades 8-12 audition 3:30 - 5 p.m. Auditioning students should bring a recent school photo, otherwise photos taken at auditions will cost \$2. All other materials are supplied and nothing needs to be prepared in advance. Actors cast in the play will need to register and pay a program fee of \$135/ residents or \$145/non-residents at the parent meeting 7-9 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 17. The fee

includes costume cost. Class/rehearsal dates and times vary depending upon role. Show dates are April 29 - May 2 **Contact**: 248-473-1859

COMEDY

Go Comedy!

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays

Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale

Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays **Contact**: (248) 327-0575; www.gocomedy.net **JD's House of Comedy**

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield

Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday

Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster. com



Eat heart healthy with Go Red for women campaign

FOOD

BY SHARON DARGAY O&E STAFF WRITER

Joy Blumenau Bebry guarantees that no one will be hungry after attending the Go Red Girlfriends Cooking Class at Henry Ford Hospital's West Bloomfield campus.

"Don't eat before you come," advises Blumenau Bebry, supervisor of the hospital's demonstration kitchen. "We're gearing up for this wonderful class. It's a demonstration with generous tastings."

The class at 6:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 5, is among many events that make up this year's Go Red For Women campaign, which launches next week and runs through February.

The American Heart Association program aims to raise awareness — during American Heart Month — of the ways women can battle heart disease. The campaign gives women tips and information on healthy eating, exercise and reducing risk factors through smoking cessation, weight maintenance, blood pressure control and blood cholesterol management. More American women die of heart disease than any other illness, according to the American Heart Association.

"This is the first time we're partnering in the demonstration kitchen with Go Red," said Blumenau Bebry. "The Henry Ford Health System has been involved with the American Heart Association for many years. Henry Ford is a huge supporter of the heart walk."

She said the hospital will partner with the American Heart Association on another cooking demonstration before the walk in May.

"One thing we do in the demonstration kitchen is focus on fresh. We always focus on fresh from local farmers. When you do that you don't have to worry about cholesterol and sodium."

Chef Frank Turner will prepare heart healthy foods during the upcoming class in the 86-seat kitchen. Participants will receive a recipe book, a full meal and samplings from the Great Lakes Tea & Spice Kisosk.

Cost is \$39 per person. Register by calling (248) 325-3890 or e-mail to www.ck@hfhs.org.

Here's a sampling of Heart healthy recipes from the American Heart Association:

SALMON WITH CILANTRO PESTO

Serves 4; 3 ounces fish and 1 tablespoon pesto per serving Vibrant orange salmon fillets get a double dose of crunchy almonds, one in the pesto and one in the topping.

4 salmon fillets (about 4 ounces each), rinsed and patted dry

- ¼ cup sliced almonds (for topping)
- ½ cup loosely packed fresh cilantro
- 3 tablespoons fat-free, low-sodium chicken broth
- 2 tablespoons sliced almonds (for pesto)
- 2 tablespoons shredded or grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 teaspoon salt-free garlic-herb seasoning blend

Preheat the oven to 400°F. Line a baking sheet with aluminum foil or lightly spray with cooking spray. In a food processor or blender, process the cilantro, broth, 2 tablespoons sliced almonds, Parmesan cheese and seasoning to make pesto. Process ingredients for 15 to 20 seconds, or until slightly chunky.

Place the fillets about 2 inches apart on the baking sheet. Spread the pesto evenly over the top of the fillets. Sprinkle with ¼ cup almonds. If you prefer a fancier presentation, after spreading the pesto over the salmon, slightly overlap the almonds on the fillets to resemble fish scales, then bake as directed. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes, or until the fish flakes easily when tested with a fork.

Nutritional analysis per serving: Calories 206, cholesterol 66 mg, total fat 9.5 g, sodium 129 mg, saturated fat 1.5 g, carbohydrates 2 g, trans fat 0.0 g, fiber 1 g, polyunsaturated fat 3.0 g, sugars 0 g, monounsaturated fat 4.0 g, protein 28 g; dietary exchanges $-3\frac{1}{2}$ lean meat.

RED AND GREEN BELL PEPPER BOATS

Serves 8; 3 pieces per serving Flavorful toasted almonds and zesty lemon-pepper contrast nicely with crisp bell pepper pieces in this festive appetizer.

- 1 medium green bell pepper
- 1 medium red bell pepper
- ¼ cup sliced almonds
- 4 ounces low-fat cream cheese, softened

1 teaspoon salt-free lemon pepper seasoning blend

1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice

Cut each bell pepper in half lengthwise; discard the stems, ribs, and seeds. Cut each half into six pieces. Arrange the pieces with the skin side down on a decorative serving platter. Set aside.

In a medium skillet, dryroast the almonds over medium heat for 3 to 4 minutes, or until golden brown, stirring occasionally. Transfer 1 tablespoon of the almonds to a small plate and reserve for garnishing. Process the remaining almonds in a food processor or blender for 15 to 20 seconds, or until finely ground.

In a medium mixing bowl, beat the cream cheese, lemon pepper seasoning blend, and lemon juice with an electric mixer for 1 to 2 minutes, or until creamy. Add the ground almonds and beat for 10 seconds, or until combined. Spoon the mixture into a piping bag fitted with a wide star or round tip. Or snip the corner off

Salmon with Cilantro Pesto



epper Boats

a resealable plastic bag (a plastic freezer bag works well) and spoon in the mixture. Pipe about 1 teaspoon of the mixture onto each bell pepper piece. Garnish with the sliced almonds.

Nutritional analysis per serving: calories 57, cholesterol 8 mg, total fat 4.0 g, sodium 43 mg, saturated fat 1.5 g, carbohydrates 3 g, trans fat 0.0 g, fiber 1 g, polyunsaturated fat 0.5 g, sugars 1 g, monounsaturated fat 1.5 g, protein 2 g; dietary exchanges – 1 fat.

BERRY-TOPPED PUDDING PIE IN MERINGUE-NUT CRUST

Recipe courtesy Alton Brown Serves 8; 1 slice per serving

- Canola or corn oil for pie pan
- 2 large egg whites ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- % teaspoon cream of tartar
- % teaspoon salt
- ½ cup sugar

³/₄ cup walnuts or pecans, finely chopped

- 1 small package fat-free, sugar-free
- instant lemon or vanilla pudding mix, prepared with 2 cups cold fat-free milk
- 12 ounces fresh berries or other fruit,
- sliced if needed ½ cup fat-free frozen whipped topping,
- thawed (optional)

Preheat the oven to 300°F. Pour a small amount of oil onto a paper towel and lightly wipe the bottom and side of an 8- or 9-inch pie pan.

In a large mixing bowl, using an electric mixer, beat the egg whites, vanilla, cream of tartar, and salt on medium speed until foamy. With the mixer still running, gradually add the sugar in a slow steady stream, until stiff peaks form. The peaks shouldn't fold over when the

beater is lifted. Very gently fold in ½ cup of the nuts. Using a flexible spatula or rub-

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B7

ber scraper, spread the meringue over the bottom and up the side of the pie pan and onto the lip of the pan, but not over the edge of the pan. Sprinkle the bottom the pan with the remaining nuts. Bake for 50 minutes, or until the meringue is firm and lightly browned. Transfer to a cooling rack and let cool completely, at least 2 hours.

Using the package directions, prepare the pudding. Spread over the cooled crust. Arrange the fruit decoratively over the pudding. Top with the whipped topping. In warm weather, meringues will get gummy after a few days, so it's best to serve this dessert within 24 hours.

Nutrition analysis per serving: Calories 169, total fat 6.5 g, saturated fat, 0.5 g, polyunsaturated fat 4.5 g, monounsaturated fat 1.0 g, trans fat 0.0 g, cholesterol 1 mg, sodium 223 mg, carbohydrates 25 g, sugar 18 g, fiber 3 g, protein 5 g; dietary exchanges $-\frac{1}{2}$ fruit, 1 other carbohydrate, $\frac{1}{2}$ fat





January 30, 2010 • Noon - 4:00pm

Blizzard Breakfast

8:30 - 11:00am Hosted by Northville Parks & Recreation at Genitti's

Chili & Salsa Cook-off

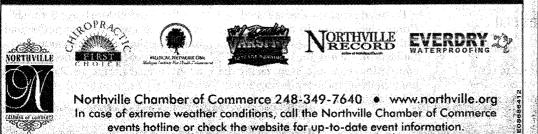
Northville Senior Center

Chili and salsa participants include: Edwards Cafe & Catering, George's Senate, Hotz Catering, Independence Village of Plymouth, Lake Street Tavern, Northville Sports Den, Poole's Tavern, Rocky's of Northville and Rusty Bucket

> Hot Entertainment Noon - 2:30pm Live Salsa music by Saoco

Chili Cook-off Firehouse Challenge! City of Northville Fire Department

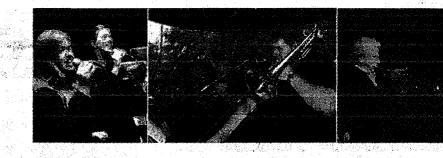
Northville Township Fire Department



Henry Ford Community College presents

Big Band Motown Review

featuring Ed Nuccilli & Plural Circle HFCC's Henry Ford Big Band Rick L. Goward, Director HFCC's Midnight Blue G. Kevin Dewey, Director



Saturday January 30, 2010 8 p.m.

Ford Community & Performing Arts Center 15801 Michigan, Avenue

Dearborn, Michigan Reserved Tickets \$20

Call (313) 943-2354

REAL RSTATE THURSDAY January 28, 2010



Red Cross offers winter home safety tips

The American Red Cross wants everyone to be prepared and safe when Ole Man Winter comes knocking on the door.

"Heating the home is expensive and one of the leading causes of home fires," said Scott Conner, Red Cross senior vice president for Preparedness and Health and Safety Services. "We have steps people can follow to cut their risk of starting a fire in their home, and to cut down on their heating bills."

USE ALTERNATIVE HEATERS SAFELY

First, never use your stove or oven to heat your home.

Never leave alternative heaters unattended - turn off space heaters or extinguish the fireplace before going to bed or leaving home.

Keep all flammable materials and potential fuel sources - including but not limited to newspapers, matches, bedding, clothing, carpets and rugs - at least three feet away from heat sources such as space heaters, fireplaces and stoves.

Place your space heater on a hard, level, nonflammable surface. Do not put space heaters on rugs or carpets, near bedding or drapes, and keep children and pets away. Look for a space heater model that shuts off automatically if the heater falls over.

Keep the fire in your fireplace by using a glass or metal screen large enough to catch sparks and rolling logs. Never leave fireplaces unattended. Be sure to have wood and coal stoves, fireplaces, chimneys and furnaces professionally inspected once a year.

BE PREPARED

Install smoke alarms on every floor of your home. Check them once a month by pressing the test button, and replace batteries as necessary.

Make sure both your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are working properly, and practice your home fire escape plan so every member of your family, including young children and elderly, can get out quickly and safely. Your escape plan should include at least two routes out for every room in the home, and a meeting place outside your home.

REDUCE YOUR HEATING BILLS

Some experts are predicting that most of the country will see temperatures below normal this winter. The Red Cross offers these suggestions on how to get your home ready for the cold weather.

Simple solutions

•Turn down the thermostat and put on a sweater. You'll be surprised at the savings on your heating bill.

•Close off any rooms you aren't using and close heat vents or turn off radiators in those rooms.

•Make sure heat vents aren't blocked by furniture.

•If you can, buy heavy curtains to help keep cold air out of your home, even in the kitchen. Open them during the day to let the sun help warm your house, and close them at night. Use "fabric snakes,"



or old rugs in front of windows and doors to help eliminate drafts.

•If you have a wood burning fireplace, use it to cut down on your heating bill. Make sure you close the damper when not in use or heat will escape through it. If you can seal off the fireplace when not in use, do so.

•Turn off vent fans in the kitchen and bathroom as soon as the job is done.

•Set your ceiling fans to blow air down. Insulate -

Drafts mean cold air is leaking into your home. Use either insulating tape or caulking strips to surround your windows and door moldings. You can also cover windows with plastic sheeting. If you have storm windows or storm doors, get them up to keep the cold out.

Cold air can even seep into the house through out-lets, so insulate your light switch and outlet plates with foam pads.

Additional insulation tips:

•Cover your hot water heater with insulating material. You'll use less energy to heat the water. Prevent frozen pipes — when the weather is very cold outside, open cabinet doors to let warm air circulate around water pipes. Let the cold water drip from the faucet served by exposed pipes. Running water through the pipe - even at a trickle - helps prevent pipes from freezing because the temperature of the water running through it is above freezing. Keep the thermostat set to a consistent temperature.

•If your home sits above ground and some of your pipes are exposed, wrap them to save on energy and prevent freezing.

•Turn off any outside faucets, drain your hose, and cover the faucets. Use caulking or weather stripping around all pipes where they enter the house - yet another way to eliminate drafts.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies nearly half of the nation's blood; teaches lifesaving skills; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a charitable organization not a government agency - and depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit www.redcross.org or join our blog at http:// blog.redcross.org.

Talk to pros on New York market

Q: I know that the economic slowdown has affected New York City, but I am interested in buying a condominium unit in the upper east side area of New York and am wondering what you would suggest that I do.

A: As you may know, initially most of the high-rise living units were co-ops in New York but that has changed



dramatically. Indeed, many co-ops have been converted to condominiums, and I note that there is new construction of condominiums in the upper

east side, near

Robert Meisner

the East River and not far from the bridge that goes to Queens and LaGuardia Airport. The prices have slipped somewhat and there are possibilities for negotiations. Another area that is hot in terms of development is the Soho area depending upon where you want to live in New York City. You are best advised to consult with two or three different Realtors initially to find one who best suits your interests. It is also important that you retain an attorney as you well have to have one at your closing should you purchase real estate. An attorney may also be able to give you some insight into the operation of the condominium association and/or the developer, so, you are best advised to retain a condominium-wise attorney, not just a real estate attorney.

Q: We are thinking about moving to suburban New York City and are wondering what you can tell us about areas in Connecticut.

IUMES SULD - UAKLANI)
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These are the area residential real-	
estate closings recorded the week of	
October 12-16, 2009, at the Oakland	
County Register of Deeds office.	
Listed below are cities, addresses,	
and sales prices.	

Auburn Hills	· ·	
899 Chase Way Blvd	\$150,000	
3937 Forester Blvd	\$92,000	
Beverly Hills		
32660 Bellvine Trl	\$175,000	
15621 Buckingham Ave	\$230,000	
20040 Old Coach Rd	\$170,000	
Bingham Farms		
31990 Bingham Rd	\$240,000	
Birmingham		ž
2120 Avon Ln	\$285,000	¥.
2400 Devon Ln	\$345,000	
1968 E Melton Rd	\$173,000	
950 Shirley Rd	\$600,000	
1843 Stanley Blvd	\$485,000	
575 Vinewood Ave	\$320,000	

Bloomfield Township	
5411 Lane Lake Rd	\$284,000
522 Newburne Pointe	\$129,000
3255 Pebble Ln	\$165,000
2673 Plum Brook Dr	\$215,000
276 S Williamsbury Rd	\$199,000
Clarkston	•
6680 Deer Ridge Dr	\$185,000
3835 Klais Dr	\$250,000
5083 Maybee Rd	\$135,000
5256 Ridge Trl N	\$290,000
Commerce Township	
2188 Briar Ct	\$253,000
8216 Dickert St	\$114,000
4256 Driftwood Dr	\$215,000
5004 Greenview Dr	\$215,000
Davisburg	
6861 Tamcyn Dr	\$225,000
Farmington	
23509 Stonehouse Ct	\$250,000
Farmington Hills	
36911 Kenmore Dr	\$295,000
31134 Sturbridge St	\$210,000
Lake Orion	
2327 Hammerslea Rd	\$103,000

	1357 Marina Pointe Blvd	\$340,000
	3743 Rolling Hills Rd	\$235,000
	Novi	
	23547 Highmeadow Dr	\$275,000
	25731 Mulberry Ln	\$265,000
	45334 Roundview Dr	\$245,000
	23267 Willowbrook	\$165,000
	Oakland Township	
	4246 Bold Mdws	\$249,000
	5360 Old Mill Rd	\$555,000
	Oxford	
	1181 Fox Ct	\$169,000
	1792 High Pointe Dr	\$159,000
	206 Oxford Lake Dr	\$153,000
	2911 Seymour Lake Rd Un	it 6\$20,000
	Rochester	
	519 E University Dr	\$53,000
	1388 Pebble Ridge Dr	\$450,000
	Rochester Hills	
	655 Fieldstone Dr	\$145,000
	3332 Fulham Dr	\$225,000
	1790 Jason Cir	\$218,000
41	2362 Lassiter Dr	\$182,000
	3140 Longview Ave	\$97,000
	1665 Northumberland Dr	\$186,000

HOMES SOLD - WAYNE

323 Torrent Ct	\$172,000
979 Wexford Way	\$130,000
712 Whitney Dr	\$186,000
1852 Willowood Rd	\$128,000
146 Wimpole Dr	\$160,000
South Lyon	
1147 Fountain View Cir	\$80,000
26301 Great Plains Dr	\$45,000
26335 Great Plains Dr	\$45,000
24179 Martindale Rd	\$215,000
Southfield	
19442 Dorset St	\$70,000
28219 E Larkmoor Dr	\$115,000
15970 Harden Cir	\$87,000
29235 Rock Creek Dr	\$39,000
25465 Saint James	\$93,000
Тгоу	
3449 Balfour Dr	\$490,000
3750 Beach Rd	\$190,000
3923 Boulder Dr	\$226,000
3793 Gatwick Dr	\$307,000
2104 Lancer Dr	\$340,000
2728 Lovington Dr	\$60,000
2680 Roundtree Dr	\$45,000
3406 Upton Dr	\$170,000

301 W Big Beaver Rd \$325,000 Waterford 3465 Alisa Ln \$105,000 3039 Dixie Hwy \$151,000 4574 Elizabeth Lake Rd \$128,000 1382 Fieldcrest Dr \$65,000 4358 Heatherstone Dr \$159,000 3557 Lakewood Dr \$355,000 4710 Meigs Ave \$45,000 1429 Parkcrest Dr \$26,000 4836 Rossiter Ave \$56,000 121 S Avery Rd \$64,000 194 S Avery Rd \$87,000 West Bloomfield 3221 Bloomfield Shore Dr \$345,000 1536 Cardinal Ridge Ct \$180,000 7214 Hidden Creek Ct \$490,000 White Lake \$160,000 8815 Cove Ct 9100 Mandon St \$16,000 9499 Portage Trl \$80,000 9493 Shelby Dr \$160,000 Wolverine Lake \$77,000 1650 Killarney Ct

A: Obviously Connecticut has been a suburban playground for New York workers for many years. A number of lovely cities intersect the Merritt Parkway and Route 15 to cities like Stanford, Norwalk and West Port, all of which are near Long Island Sound and are within a one hour to one and one-half hours of driving to Manhattan. These communities are also serviced by rail commuter services and while the prices are steep, relatively speaking, they have evened out and, in some instances, bargains are obtainable. Again, you are best advised to consult with a knowledgeable real estate expert.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying 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.

real-estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 5-8, 2009, at the Wavne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices

Canton These are the area residential

43587 Abbey Cir \$246,000 4444 Hunters Cir E \$70,000 1945 Knollwood Dr \$92,000 Livonia 7005 Poppleton Rd\$250,000 47625 Torrington Dr N\$319,000 **Garden City** 28651 Barton St \$66,000 \$86,000 32990 Barton St \$50,000 29571 Lori St 28438 Block St 33511 Bock St \$66,000 15468 Mayfield St \$85,000

14040 Merriman Rd \$80,000 \$53,000 31960 Bridge St 32665 Dover St \$115,000 35558 Orangelawn St\$118,00 7089 Helen St \$100,000 16142 Penn Dr 16012 Riverside St \$175,000 \$177,000 37317 Bennett St 18216 Whitby St 14640 Bredin Ct \$113,000 Northville 18586 Comstock St\$200,000 383 Eirst St 46353 Pinehurst Dr\$430,000 15316 Fairfield St \$85,000 19239 Laurel Dr \$230,000 17803 Wildflower Dr\$640,000 \$129,000 Plymouth

14040 Merriman Rd \$80,000	120 Hartsough St \$133,000
35558 Orangelawn St\$118,000	500 Provincetown Ln\$147,000
16142 Penn Dr \$200,000	Redford
16012 Riverside St \$175,000	11432 Columbia \$60,000
18216 Whitby St \$100,000	9949 Farley \$75,000
Northville	16850 Inkster Rd \$60,000
383 First St \$103,000	16030 Meadowbrook Rd
46353 Pinehurst Dr\$430,000	\$100,000
17803 Wildflower Dr\$640,000	10039 Mercedes \$89,000
Plymouth	9655 Nathaline \$21,000
41139 Greystone Blvd\$256,000	18515 Olympia \$59,000

9127 San Jose \$67,000 9376 Tecumseh \$55,000 Westland 1938 Ackley Ave \$24,000 6781 Emily Ct \$112,000 8307 N Henry Ruff Rd\$73,000 38655 Palmer Rd \$150,000 34731 Sansburn St \$94,000 34202 Sheridan St \$78,000

Investors

Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne County will meet Tuesday, Feb. 2, at the Holiday Inn, 17201 Northline Road, Southgate (exit 37 from I-75). Matt Bezanson, of Sherlock Homes Inspection Ltd., will speak on home inspections.

There will be a free Investor Educational Forum at 6 p.m. or dinner in the dining room with other members and investors. Registration is 7 p.m., member presentation 7:15 p.m., meeting 7:30 p.m. For information, visit relawaynecounty.org.

Career Seminar

Keller Williams Realty will host a free 59-minute Career Seminar 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 9. Questions regarding startup cost, commission and success potential will be answered. The office is at 36642 Five

Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 266-9000 to reserve a seat.

Plymouth Career Seminar

Keller Williams Realty will host a Career Seminar 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, at 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth.

Candidates would benefit from previous experience or successes in: service industries, account management, retail sales, small business operations, marketing or event planning. Candidates should have: good people/communication skills, some computer knowledge, a strong work ethic, and an optimistic "can do" attitude.

Seminar includes: cost vs. income potential, available training, company profit share, commission structures. Call (734) 459-4700 to reserve a free seat.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Rental Property

A Beginners' Workshop for Rental Property Investors will be held three consecutive Saturdays, Feb. 20, 27 and March 6, four hours per day in Royal Oak. This event will provide a basic foundation that gives the beginning investor with the knowledge and confidence to make their initial investment and enhance their financial success.

Price: \$99 for three days. Presented by the Real Estate Investors of Oakland. To register, contact: www.REIAofOakland.com; (800) 747-6742.

Real Estate Sales and Appraising

Learn about a career in residential real estate. Attend a free one-hour seminar, or shadow a top

agent to get an inside feel of the business. Seminars are at noon or 6 p.m. Mondays. To reserve a spot, contact Steve Leibhan, Keller Williams Realty International, at (248) 893-2500, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills 48331.

BIA

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present its economic forecast luncheon and meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 3, from noon to 2 p.m. at the Best Western Sterling Inn, 34911 Van Dyke Avenue in Sterling Heights.

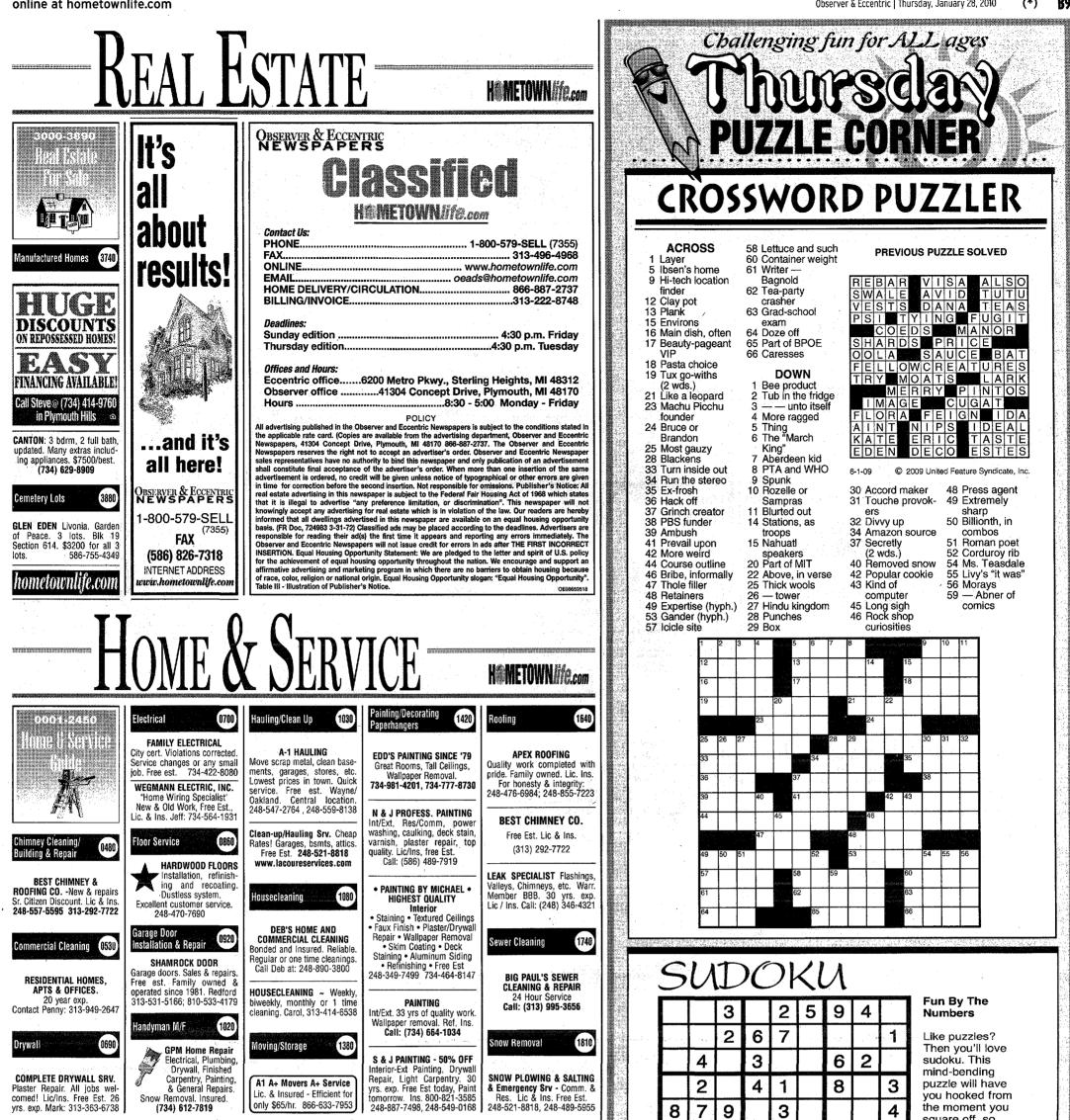
Featured guest speaker is David Crowe, chief economist of the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C. He will address the economic issues facing the home building industry during 2010. In conjunction with this event,

industry awards will be given to BIA's 2009 President Darshan S. Grewal of Singh Development LLC and the other award honorees. Registration fees are \$40 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members with advance reservations made by Jan. 22; \$60 for members after Jan. 22, and \$75 for guests. Registration fees include entry to BIA's Builders & Remodelers Trade Show at the same location from 10:00 a.m. to noon. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation. Learn about reverse mortgages. Please RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, January 28, 2010 (*) **B**9



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HING.	starting at \$450/mo. incl at \$449	with approved credit 1 & 2 bdrm, \$570 - \$705. 734-455-6570			appe	ar by us	ing the	numeri	c clues	alread	y provi	which the numbers w ded in the boxes. The
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nents/ 4000	1 bdrm avail, \$580 plus secu- rity. Near downtown. Incl. Plymouth House	Newly remodeled by builder. Hardwood floors, rear deck, fresh finishes, very clean.	-	× y			an a				y ana ang ang ang ang ang ang ang ang ang	
DN: Huge 1 bdrm on 5	heat. No dogs. 734-455-2635	\$575/mo. 313-535-1350 WESTLAND/CANTON 1 bdrm.	-									
next to private home, new, all utilities includ- 25/mo. 734-658-8823	When seeking out the best deal check out	upper \$725 & 2 bdrm lower \$775. All appliances incl. Washer/Dryer. 734-341-6203						Ι Λ Ι		ĽĽ.	ļ∎	'INV
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1 bdrm upper. Cozy. no + sec dep & ref. clean. (313) 657-8125	1-800-579-7355 1-800-579-SELL	Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)	1-800-579-	1355	appointr		denti		fill		ins	struments c
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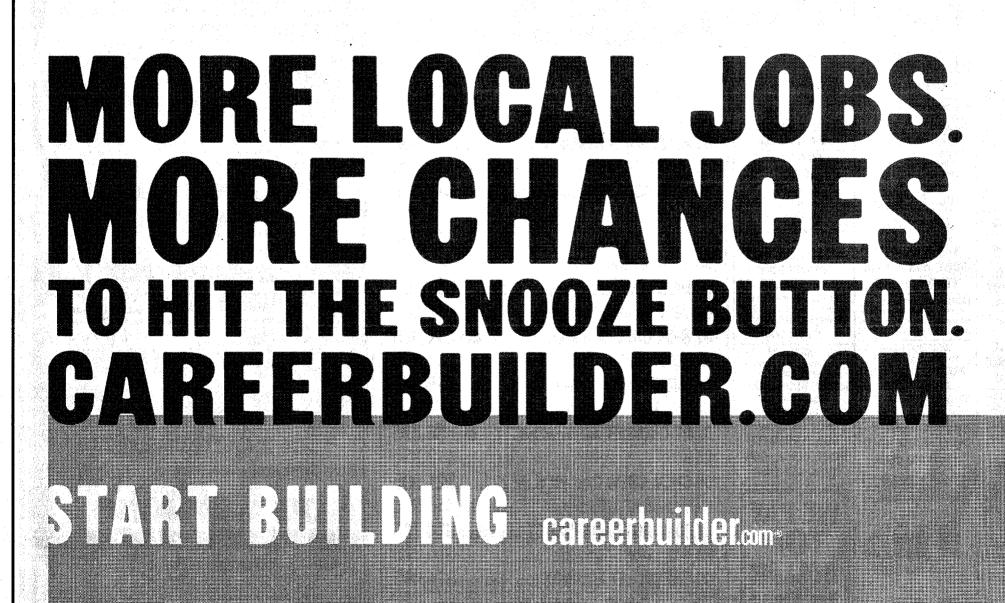
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