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INGREDIENTS



THURSDAY April 8, 2010

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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PLYMOUTH PIPELINE

Pub crawl

A variety of Plymouth hot spots is banding together next week to provide some tax relief of a different kind with the first Pub & Grub Tax Relief Crawl from 6 p.m. to midnight Thursday, April 15.

For a \$5 ticket, those taking part in this first crawl will get a T-shirt, a raffle ticket and complimentary buffet at the five participating locations, including Ironwood Grill, the Penn Grill, Sean O'Callaghan's, E.G. Nick's and 1999 Tavern.

Raffle prizes will include a 50-inch flat screen TV, a Sony Playstation, a Detroit Tigers ticket package and a variety of gift baskets, plus gift certificates from éach location.

The nonprofit event will benefit Plymouth charities.

New digs

City of Plymouth officials will christen the remodeled reception and meeting rooms at the Plymouth Cultural Center during a grand-opening event 1-5 p.m. Sunday, April 18.

The remodeled center now boasts what city officials say is "the perfect place" to host an event, wedding reception, business meeting, graduation party or special event.

Local vendors such as Connie's Catering and Canton Canopy will be on hand. The event will feature a raffle for a complimentary night at Comfort Inn Plymouth Clock Tower. There's also a chance to win an engagement photo with Rawlinson Photography.

The Plymouth Cultural Center is located at 525 Farmer in Plymouth. For more information, contact Michelle VanDenBeurgeury at (734) 455-6620, ext. 304.

Mothers, daughters: Send us your photos

Hometown Life Woman, a monthly special section inside your Plymouth Observer, will celebrate "Mothers and Daughters" in the May edition.

E-mail a favorite photo of you and your mom, you and your daughter or the aunt, grandmom, stepmom or woman who was/is that special mom-like person in your life. Remember — favorite means old or new! E-mail your photo (jpg format please) to woman@hometownlife.com and make sure you identify everyone in the photo. Tell us about the photo in a sentence or two and be sure to include a phone number or e-mail address where we can contact you for more information. Then look for your photo in the Thursday, May 6, edition of Hometown Life Woman.



Easter enjoyment

Julia McDermott makes friends with the Easter bunny during the annual Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored by the Plymouth Lions Club at Plymouth Township Park Saturday. For the story and more photos from the eggs-citing day, please turn to page A6.

Stabenow: Bill would level playing field

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

In 17 years at Atlas Tube, one of the country's largest manufacturers of hollow steel tubing products, plant manager Jeff Cole has seen sales drop and employees laid off because of uneven pricing that allows overseas competitors to sell products and services cheaper.

If legislation being pushed by U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, aimed at the way the Chinese value their currency, can do something about it, Cole is all for it.

Stabenow was at Atlas Tube's Plymouth plant Tuesday, stumping for support for her Currency Exchange Rate and Oversight Reform Act, which would penalize countries like China, she says, which undervalues its currency to artificially discount its foreign

Stabenow contends some countries undervalue their currency to give themselves a competitive advantage in the global economy. One of those, Stabenow said, is China, which she says undervalues its currency by as much as 40 per-

"I have been focused on making sure, in a global economy, the rules are fair," said Stabenow, who is preparing for a trip to Beijing. "It needs to be a level playing field. It's not OK for countries to cheat."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow talks about legislation to force countries to properly value their currency, a bill she said would help companies like Atlas' Tube in Plymouth Township.

According to Stabenow, China has undervalued its currency since its 2001 admission to the World Trade Organization, which provides a formula for how member countries are to value their money. Stabenow said the Chinese haven't ever followed those rules; consequently, she said, the Chinese "dump their products" into the U.S. at much cheaper rates than companies like Atlas Tube.

Atlas Tube, located on Eckles in Plymouth Township, has a production capacity of some 180,000 tons and employs more than 50 workers. It's a division of John Maneely Co., which Atlas president Dave Seeger said has lost some 500 jobs because of tactics such as those he says the Chinese use. Stabenow believes the job loss due to such practices numbered more than 2 million between

"When you undervalue your currency, it gives you a huge unfair

Please see STABENOW, A5

Revised cap corks city's liquor licenses

BY MATT JACHMAN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

From veterans organizations to the Cultural Center to downtown restaurants and the bar down the street, 22 places in Plymouth are licensed to serve beer, wine or liquor by the

That number will go no higher, at least for a year, under a new ordinance that caps the number of alcohol-serving licenses available in the city. A final reading of the ordinance, with two major revisions, was approved with a 5-2 Plymouth City Commission vote Monday after an extended debate.

'We're confident that 22 represents a good number right now," said Commissioner Michael Wright, who led a commission subcommittee that studied the issue for several weeks, amid concerns that additional licensed establishments could overburden city services, compromise public safety and detract from Plymouth's image as a family friendly town.

Others weren't as pleased with the vote. The majority of speakers Monday were against a cap; when the proposal's first reading was approved last month, many speakers were current bar and restaurant owners, and most of them favored a

"Obviously, this came as quite a disappointment," said Keith Kecskes, an attorney who represents the Grecian Cafe, where the owner has a purchase agreement for a liquor license but needs city approval.

"It's a false choice between running-amok liquor licenses and cap ping it," added Kecskes, who had told commissioners that Plymouth's liquor license ordinance already provided the protective tools the city

Kecskes argued that newer, younger Plymouth residents with children are attracted to Plymouth because of its variety of dining establishments, including those that serve alcohol.

"They're not afraid to live in this town, and there's nothing about the number of liquor licenses in this town that will deter them," he told the commission.

Two big changes were made to the ordinance before final passage: The cap and how it's working will be revisited every year by the commission's liquor license review committee, and either changed or kept the same by the full commission. And a requirement that establishments that serve alcohol have it make up no more than 30 percent of their business (with food making up at least 70 percent) was written into the ordinance; the rule had been in place, but was only required to be part of each license-holder's business plan.

Please see LIQUOR, A5

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State police look into shooting incident

BY SUE BUCK **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Detectives from the Michigan State Police Department are investigating the officerinvolved shooting that resulted in the death of Jonathan Rhodes Longsdorf, 22, of Plymouth.

The incident occurred about 1:30 a.m. on Friday, April 2, in Plymouth Township and involved Garden City police officers.

"There are currently no charges and the investigation is active and ongoing," said MSP Detective Kenneth Walker. "Preliminary indications are that the shooting involved one officer but evidence is still being processed and that cannot be confirmed until the investigation progresses and is completed."

Walker said that any reassignment of officers during incidents action by their department and would be made independent from our investigation."

Garden City Police Lt. David White declined to comment while the investigation is ongoing and called it routine procedure.

"We are not hiding anything," White said. "When the investigation is over, we can talk about it." Preliminary investigation has

shown the pursuit started on

northbound Sunset near Warren in Garden City, Walker said. According to a press release issued by Garden City Police Chief Kim Scott on Friday, her department received a 9-1-1 call at 2 a.m. of a man with a gun. The caller told police the man

had threatened other people and

was believed to be suicidal. Police were responding to the call when they received an alert

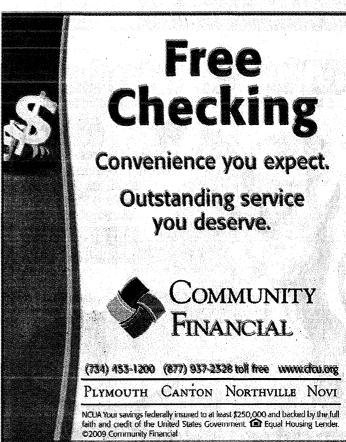
like these are "an administrative from the Plymouth city police to watch for a Plymouth man wanted for questioning in connection with the discharge of a firearm and a hit-and-run accident that had happened in their city at 1 a.m. The Plymouth incident was believed to have been domestic in nature.

> Garden City police officers located the suspect, believed to be that man, and attempted to stop his vehicle. When he failed to stop, they chased him.

According to Scott, the driver fired a weapon several times at the police during the chase, which ended when the vehicle came to a stop in Plymouth Township.

At that point, the driver allegedly fired several more shots at police before turning the gun on himself. He was transported to a hospital, where he was later

Please see SHOOTING, A5



"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

Second helpings

Plymouth Church of the Nazarene hosts its "Second Helpings Ministry" from 9-11 a.m. Saturday, April 10.

Second Helpings Ministry is a free breakfast for the community, an effort by the church to reach out to the community. The breakfast is scheduled the second Saturday of each month.

Plymouth Church of the Nazarene is located at 45801 Ann Arbor Road, just west of Sheldon. For more information, call the church, (734) 453-1525.

Barefoot show

Barefoot Productions, Plymouth's only "theatre for the community" and a nonprofit, volunteer-driven arts organization, hosts its first-ever Variety Show Extravaganza fund-raiser highlighting local talent through acting, singing, dancing, comedic sketches, improv,

acoustical music and more. The event takes place 8 p.m. Saturday, April 24, at Barefoot Productions, 240 N. Main (the old Walker-Buzenberg furniture building) in Plymouth. Admission is \$20 and includes a full evening of entertainment and patrons' choice of beer, wine, soft drinks and snacks. The event will also feature two raffles, including a 50/50 raffle and chances to win a Barefoot Productions' 2010/2011 season pass and gift certificates.

All proceeds go toward the Barefoot Productions/Wilcox Foundation Partnership Grant, a matching grant awarded to Barefoot to help subsidize its marketing expenses. For each \$20 admission, the Wilcox Foundation will match that

amount. As a 501(c)(3) organization, Barefoot Productions heavily relies on funds generated by ticket sales and patron donations to sustain its presence in the Plymouth com-

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 8, 2010

Barefoot's goal is to raise \$10,000 prior to the June 30 grant deadline. Tickets can be purchased online at www. justgobarefoot.com or at the door. For more information, call (734) 582-9688.

Call for crafters

The Delta Kappa Gamma **Education Society hosts its** annual juried handmadeonly Craft Show on Saturday October 15, at West Middle School in Plymouth from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The event draws some 1,500 customers and features food and drawings.

For information on how to take part, call or e-mail Judy Stone at JBSTONE 716@ comcast.net or Alice Chrenko, (248) 348-5561 or dachrenko@hotmail.com

University women

The Plymouth/Canton branch of the American Association of University Women will hold its Spring Luncheon on April 17 at Karl's Cabin, 6005 Gotfredson in Plymouth. Guest speaker will be Maria Dismondy, teacher and author of Spaghetti in a Hot Dog Bun.

Attendees will have a choice of Chicken Picatta, Herbed Whitefish, New York Strip Steak, or Salmon Chardonnay as an entrée. Salad and dessert is included. The cost is \$25 per person. Members will be notified via the Catalyst and nonmembers may email Shirley Zaetta at szaetta@wowway. com prior to April 10 if interested in attending.

AAUW is dedicated to advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. AAUW membership is open to all. For more information, contact Esther Nelson at enelson1c@att.net or (734) 981-4938.

Wildflower tours

The native spring wildflowers have been blooming early because of the warm weather. Join the Friends of Miller Woods for guided tours on Sunday April 11 and April 18 from 2-4 pm. Tours begin on the half-hour and are free of charge. Each tour lasts approximately an hour.

The entrance to the woods is on Powell Road, just east of Ridge, and north of Ann Arbor Road. No dogs are permitted. Check our Web site for additional information at www. millerwoods.com.

Scrapbook event

The Salvation Army of Plymouth and Creative Memories consultant Cassie Hull are teaming up to host a National Scrapbook Day event, an all-day crop to help raise funds for the Salvation Army's Summer Day Camp program.

Scrapbookers ages 10 and up are welcome to join in on Saturday, April 24, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. A full 12 hours of scrapbooking costs \$35, and includes all your meals for the day, or you can choose a six-hour option for \$20. Kids ages 10 to 14 must attend with a parent, and get \$10 off their registration fee if they share a

The deadline to sign up is April 16. For more information please contact Cassie Hull at (734) 612-9000 or e-mail cassiekh@gmail.com.

Adventure guides

Are you looking for a great opportunity to spend quality time with your child while doing some fun activities and getting to know other families? Then the Plymouth YMCA Adventure Guides program is for you. This yearlong program includes month-

Hear it for the band

Sixth-grade band students, here with band director Karen Storey, put on a show for concert-goers at the school's Spring Band Concert. The band played a variety of music in their annual concert, one of three annual performances. Storey directs some 220 sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade band students.

ly circle meetings, as well as larger events each month that include activities such as pinewood derby, campouts, bowling parties and caroling.

The next event is a work weekend at Camp Ohiyesa in Holly, April 23-25. The weekend will consist of helping prepare the camp for the upcoming summer as well as provide participants with a chance to have some fun as well. This event is great chance to find out more about the guides program without making a full commitment. The cost of the event for potential members is \$25 per person.

People interested in finding out more about the Adventure Guides program and this event should contact the YMCA at (734) 453-2904 or jlandefeld@ ymcametrodetroit.org.

Damaris scholars

The Plymouth Community Arts Council will recognize a Plymouth-Canton School district senior who has displayed outstanding abilities in visual

arts and plans to continue his/ her education in this field with the \$1,000 Damaris Fine Arts Award.

Students' artwork will be judged on its originality, creativity, and use of material. Artwork will be professionally

Applications will be accepted April 27-30, the work will be juried April 30-May 3, and the Damaris Fine Arts Award will be announced May 4.

Applications can be downloaded at: www.storytellerdesign.com/DamarisAward.pdf Contact Tamara Trudelle at

the PCAC, (734) 416-4278 to make an appointment to submit application and portfolio.

Garden club

The Plymouth Garden Club meets Monday, April 12, at 12:30 p.m. in the Plymouth District Library.

Guest speaker Vicki Hicks will discuss the "Features of Good Garden Design." Light Refreshments will be served. After the presentation, there will be a short business meeting.

For more information contact Eileen Wittenberg (734) 340-2062 or visit our Web site sites.google.com/site/plymouthgardenclub

DAR meets

The Daughters of the American Revolution-Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter of Northville/Plymouth meets at noon Monday, April 12, at the Northville District Library on Cady Street in Northville.

Speaker Cathy Cottone, a genealogist with the Lyon Township Public Library,

presents "Smorgasbord of Genealogy." It's an annual meeting featuring prepared reports from officers and the chairman.

For more information, call (734) 459-4764.

Show and tell

"Show and Tell" takes on a new dimension at the Plymouth Historical Museum when collectors display their collections and possibly sell an item or two.

"Show and Tell... and Sell" showcases are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, April 17, and Saturday, May 15. The May 15 showcase is planned to feature military collectibles, as the event occurs on Armed Forces Day. The museum is still looking for collectors for these events. Details and an application can be found on the museum's Web site at http://www.plymouthhistory. org/Events.html.

The showcases are part of the Plymouth Historical Museum's current special exhibit, "Show and Tell Collectibles," which runs through Sunday, June 13. The exhibit consists of an eclectic mix of personal and Museum collections ranging from antique tools to chatelaines to stuffed animals.

The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, a block north of downtown Plymouth. Hours are Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday 1-4 p.m. For further information, call (734) 455-8940 or visit the museum's Web site at www. plymouthhistory.org.



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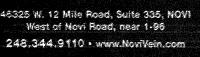


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In new home, New Hope celebrates 10 years of helping

BY PAM FLEMING STAFF WRITER

When someone suffers a loss, it's often helpful to have someone from outside the family supply a kind word or shoulder to cry on.

That's when the New Hope **Center for Grief Support** comes into play.

What started as a small venture in Cathy Clough's home in Plymouth in 2000 is now a thriving nonprofit organization that has helped people deal with personal loss for a decade.

The center will celebrate its 10th anniversary with an April 16 gala benefit at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman in Livonia.

The event will begin with appetizers at 6 p.m., with dinner served at 7 p.m. Cost is \$50 per person, with a portion of the cost tax-deductible.

Local celebrity Chuck Gaidica of Northville, WDIV Channel 4 weathercaster, will serve as the master of ceremonies.

ENTERTAINMENT, RAFFLE SET

Entertainment will include a slide show of New Hope's past 10 years of activities, live and silent auctions, a raffle for a cruise, and live music by the Shawn Riley Band for dancing or just listening.

in advance by 4 p.m. Friday, April 9. Area residents are encouraged to purchase a table for 10. Register online



New Hope Center Executive Director Cathy Clough started the center in her Plymouth home before moving it to Northville.

at www.newhopecenter.net or call (248) 348-0115.

All proceeds from the benefit will be used to continue the free grief support services. The main sponsor for the event is Thompson Platte P.C., Attorneys and Counselors at

zation. Clough is the executive director of New Hope and along with John and Betty Baird started New Hope. By April 2000 she moved New

Dunlap St. in Northville. In April 2009, New Hope moved again to its current location at 315 Griswold in

Hope from her house to 113

public grief support. Programs

include the eight week "From Grief to New Hope" workshops at various churches throughout Southeast Michigan, including Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville

New Hope also offers many ongoing support groups for both adults and children. many here in Northville at Ward Church. The Circles of Hope and New Hope for KIDZ and Teens group meet at the First Church of the Nazarene in Northville.

Visit New Hope's Web site for more details and information about monthly tours or volunteer opportunities.

THE UPCOMING GALA

"We're very excited, because a lot of people will be coming to the gala that we helped early on," Clough said. "They're coming back to celebrate with

"This is a wonderful way for the community to celebrate 10 years of New Hope and all the work that Cathy and the volunteers have done to help bring hope to thousands of grieving individuals," said John O'Shaughnessy, fund development director. Patti Bingham serves as special events and outreach coordinator, and Arlene Kurcawa, administrative assistant, has been with Clough since the beginning.

Macy's Optical

"Grief support is something people don't want to think about until it (death) happens, and then they're glad we're here," Clough said. "Because we provide age- and lossspecific support, we can help people even more because they can be with people who have had a similar loss."

"They realize they're not alone," O'Shaughnessy said.

KIDZ GROUP EVENTS SLATED

Elaine Dzwonkowski is a volunteer and the center's KIDZ group coordinator. Some grant money from Hitachi will help provide a children's camp this summer, according to Clough. The camp will tentatively take place at the New Hope center on Griswold Street and Mill Race Village.

"It will be a two-day, day camp," Clough said. The Bee's Knees ceramic shop on East Main Street in downtown Northville also wants to sponsor a children's event for the center where children can make items.

ENJOYING NEW LOCATION

After being at the tiny office on East Dunlap Street for so many years, the staff is enjoying its new Victorian-style house on Griswold Street. Many improvements have been done on the new office, and the center welcomes area residents who would like to volunteer to weed or plant items in the area around the home.

"We actually have a landscape designer, Dana Mulder, who drew up a plan for us," Clough said. "We have a gardening crew of volunteers that has come together and will get started in a couple of weeks. We'd also love to have some plants donated."

Clough said if anyone wants to plant a certain area in memory of a loved one that the center is planning to accommodate that around the center.

"We're trying to get the outside in shape," she said.

FUTURE GROUP PLANNED

Clough said the center is considering starting a group for those who have lost a baby due to miscarriage, stillbirth or other cause. "There's a real need for this," she said. "We've had a lot of calls requesting this. This type of loss may not fit into our group that deals with the loss of a child because this other group doesn't have the memories of the child to share. A lot of what they're dealing with is the hopes, plans and dreams they had for that child. It's a disenfranchised experience because people don't recognize it.'

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Seniors citizens can take steps to limit vulnerability to crime

BY MATT JACHMAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The nation's fastest-growing demographic group — senior citizens — is also the one whose members are most likely to be the victims of crime, says Officer Tony Angelosanto, the Plymouth Police Department's crime prevention officer.

And the physical complications that often come with aging, such as hearing loss, diminished eyesight, and emotional problems such as loneliness, grief and depression, make seniors less likely to be able to defend themselves and more likely to feel vulnerable, Angelosanto said

"Seniors perceive themselves as more vulnerable to personal injury if attacked," said Angelosanto, estimating that senior citizens are victims in about 20 percent of the crime reported in Plymouth.

In addition to falling prey to violent "street" crimes, such as robbery or burglary, that touch many segments of society, seniors especially are the targets of con schemes and home-repair scams, Angelosanto said.

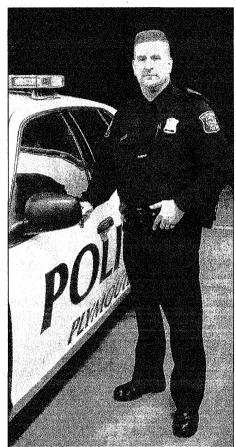
Con artists, Angelosanto said, are crafty in the ways they hook seniors, sometimes dropping the names of celebrities from the past in order to pique their interest, or scaring them into believing something is wrong with their furnace or the roof on their home. Some even comb newspaper death notices in search of widows and widowers to victimize, or look through phone books for people with old-fashioned first names, who are more likely to be elderly, he said.

The scammers, he added, are also looking for victims with the "Three Gs" that can make people more susceptible to being conned: goodness (the belief that most people are good), gullibility and

"Basically, they have no conscience," he said of the scam artists.

But, he added, there are steps seniors can take to protect themselves from becoming crime victims, and to build networks that can support them in times of need. Angelosanto offered seniors these crime prevention tips:

· Be wary of fraud attempts and con



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Officer Anthony Angelosanto offers tips to seniors on how to protect themselves from con artists and schemers.

schemes — the investment opportunity that's too good to be true, the offer by a stranger to share money he claims to have found (called a pigeon drop), or the unsolicited home repair quote by a fly-bynighter who demands a big deposit.

 Use direct deposit to receive Social Security, pension or other checks. Thieves sometimes watch for seniors who are cashing Social Security checks, follow them home and then approach them there to attempt a scam (or a robbery).

 Don't give out vital numbers, such as Social Security or credit card numbers, over the phone.

 Be cautious about unsolicited offers of any kind: home repairs, purchases, investments, help with living trusts. Don't be rushed or pressured into making hasty, sometimes costly, business decisions.

· Stay alert when out in public, and extra vigilant in parking lots and garages. Seniors should go out with family members and friends if possible. Women should protect their purses, carrying them close to their bodies.

· Ask for photo identification from utility workers, company service personnel, etc., before letting them in the home, and if still uncertain, call the employer involved for verification.

• When using public transit, try not to wait alone at a stop, be ready to board with exact change, and sit near the front. When exiting a taxi, get the driver to wait until you are safely inside your destina-

• If involved in a traffic crash, call police immediately and be wary. Crashes are sometimes staged, Angelosanto said, as a set-up for an insurance scam, a phony demand for a quick damage settlement, or an outright robbery.

• Get good locks for the home — and use them. Consider a home alarm system or a personal emergency response system such as Lifeline.

· Family members should do a background check of nursing homes, including asking about crime, before sending a relative to one. The Better Business Bureau, the American Association of Retired Persons and the local police can help.

· Report any crime to police and don't be afraid to ask for help. Senior citizens often don't report crimes because they're ashamed, or because they don't know where to make a report, Angelosanto said.

The National Association of Triads, which works to bring seniors together with law enforcement and community groups, has more suggestions for protecting seniors. The Web site is www.nationaltriad.org and the phone number is (703)

Suspected cases of senior abuse or neglect can be reported to Wayne County's protective services unit at (800) 716-2234.

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

CRIME WATCH

Man arrested for gun violation

A Toledo-area man was arrested by Plymouth police early on March 26 on a charge of illegally carrying a concealed pistol.

Police found an unloaded 9 mm pistol, and a loaded magazine for it, under the driver's seat of the car in which the 25-year-old was riding after the car was stopped on Plymouth Road near I-275, said Plymouth Sgt. Jamie Grabowski. The arrest occurred about 4 a.m.

Police had stopped the Chrysler Sebring, with four men in it, in connection with a break-in in progress that had been reported minutes earlier at a Northville Township condominium, Grabowski said. A Plymouth officer, after hearing the men involved had left the scene in a Chrysler Sebring, had spotted the car at Plymouth and Haggerty, police

The Sebring was impounded and the three other men released. Grabowski said the victim in the Northville Township incident had declined to press charges.

Car stolen

A car reported stolen from a Plymouth Township parking lot on March 31 was recovered in Detroit later that day.

The complainant, a Taylor man, told police the 2000 Chrysler Cirrus had been stolen that morning from the lot of Poof Products (also known as Poof-Slinky Inc.) on Helm Street, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report.

The car had been recently purchased through financing, and the dealer had put a tracking device on it, police said. The dealer was able to tell police that the Cirrus was on Riverview Street, near Telegraph and I-96, police said.

Police contacted the western Wayne County automobile

theft task force, which confirmed the location of the car. police said. The car's ignition had been damaged.

Larceny from auto

Cash and credit and debit cards were reported stolen March 31 from a vehicle parked outside the Compuware Arena on Beck Road.

The items were taken from a purse that had been left in an unlocked Jeep Compass, a township police report said. The theft occurred between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m.

The credit and debit cards were canceled, but not before they had been used in neighboring communities, the report said.

- By Matt Jachman

FIRE RUNS

The Plymouth Community Fire Department responded to the following runs during the period March 31 through April 6:

• Tuesday, April 6 -Residential rescue run on River Oaks.

• Monday, April 5 -Commercial rescue runs on Haggerty and on Ann Arbor Road; mutual-aid run on southbound I-275 north of 5 Mile; residential rescue runs on Haggerty, on Canton Center, on Shadywood, on Terry, on Eastside, on Northville Road, on Westbrook and on Polk.

• Sunday, April 4 -Residential rescue runs on Fox Drive North, on Elmhurst and on Van Buren; rescue run on Ann Arbor Road.

• Saturday, April 3 -Residential rescue runs on Linden, on Starkweather, on Grant, on Elmhurst, on Evergreen and on Postiff; vehicle accident (with wash-down) on I-275 at M-14; rescue run on Penniman.

• Friday, April 2 - Residential rescue runs on Eastside, on Parkview and on Brownell; commercial rescue runs on Main and on Haggerty.

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advantage," Seeger said. "Congress has been reluctant to address it. I'm sure it's complicated politically ... to get tough with China on trade. I think (that reluctance) comes at the cost of thousands of manufacturing jobs across the country."

The legislation would:

• Require the Department of Treasury to act when it sees that a currency is being undervalued as a result of clear government policies that interfere with the currency market.

• Require the Department of Commerce to act when an American company complains that Chinese products get a subsidy or because manipulated currency results in prices that are artificially low.

• Provide the Department of Commerce with formulas to impose penalties for dumping or subsidies so manufacturers and businesses do not have to wait for action by the Treasury Department.

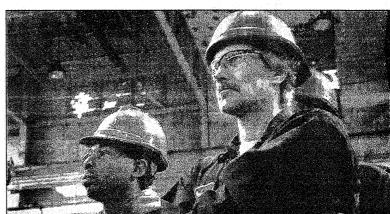
If it works, it'll cut down on the competitive advantage for overseas coun-

"I don't deal with (jobs), I deal with our volume," said Cole, Atlas' plant manager. "Over the past couple of years, we've seen our volumes drop. Our customers are buying overseas

because they can get it cheaper. They've had anti-dumping laws, but with their price manipulation, Chinese get around them. It's time someone did something

Stabenow said the legislation, and the attitude that comes with it, is as important as the bill itself.

"We're going to commit ourselves to American manufacturing and American jobs," she said. "We've had a decade of 'being in a global economy.' But that doesn't work if the other countries aren't following the rules. This isn't about closing borders. It's about making everyone follow the rules."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Atlas Tube employees Rodney Jones of Detroit and Rob Sliwka of Plymouth listen to

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Some commissioners said the annual review of the cap was reassuring.

"Just like another moratorium, if you want to look at it that way," said Commissioner John Barrett, who served on Wright's committee, along with Commissioner Ed Hingelberg. "In one year we can say, perhaps, let's get rid of this ordinance."

Voting for the cap were Barrett, Hingelberg, Wright, Commissioner David Workman and Mayor Dan Dwyer. Voting against it were Commissioners Gerald Sabatini and Ron Loiselle.

Loiselle said the issue required more study and urged another six-month moratorium on new liquor licenses in order to make time for study. A moratorium approved by the commission last fall is about to expire.

Loiselle said liquor licenses held by bars are different from those held by, for example, a veterans group, and therefore shouldn't be treated the same way with a blanket ordinance.

"We need to use the enforcement tools that we already have," he said.

Former Mayor Phil Pursell, who had indicated last year that he favored a cap, said commissioners should err on the side of caution when it comes to protecting the community.

"Maybe you're dead wrong,' Pursell said. "But at least you won't be saying, 'Too late."

The cap does not apply to places, such as party stores, that sell alcohol for off-premises consumption, nor to temporary licenses issued for special events.

Wright's subcommittee also recommended that a committee with representation from different segments of the community be formed to study, on an ongoing basis, the issue of licensed establishments and how best to manage the impact they have on the city.

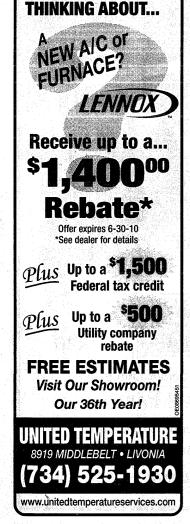
FROM PAGE A1

pronounced dead.

A Garden City police officer returned fire during the incident. No one was injured from the exchange of gunfire between the officer and the suspect, Scott said.

The names of the officers involved in the incident are not being released and the Garden City Police Department is conducting a complete internal administrative review of the incident, Scott said.

That day, the department turned criminal investigation of the incident over to the MSP.





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Eggs-ellent adventure

Hundreds of children clean up thousands of eggs in annual hunt

How long does it take some 800 youngsters to find 7,000 eggs "hidden" on the fields of Plymouth Township Park?

If you've ever wondered that, the Plymouth Lions Club can

now answer the question. It takes fewer than 10 min-

At least, that's what it took children taking part in the annual Easter Egg Hunt, hosted by the Plymouth Lions out at the park. Organizers estimated between 700-800 children "cleaned up the eggs" in no time.

"There wasn't a one left on the field," said Lion Jo Ellen Hincker, the Easter Egg Hunt chairperson. "We believe it

was a great success and, more importantly, a good time was had by all."

Participants had hot coffee and hot cider, and lots of parents took pictures of their kids with the Easter Bunny, who was on hand to help them celebrate.

Hincker said the event wouldn't be possible without the help of volunteers and sponsors, and thanked all of

"Sponsors and donors are a large part of any project like this," Hincker said. "We believe this is one of the best projects we run during the year. Seeing the happy faces on the kids is really rewarding."



The Easter Bunny was a big hit with the crowd of little ones at the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Plymouth Township Park Saturday.



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LUCAL NEWS

The crowd is ready for the signal to start the egg hunt.



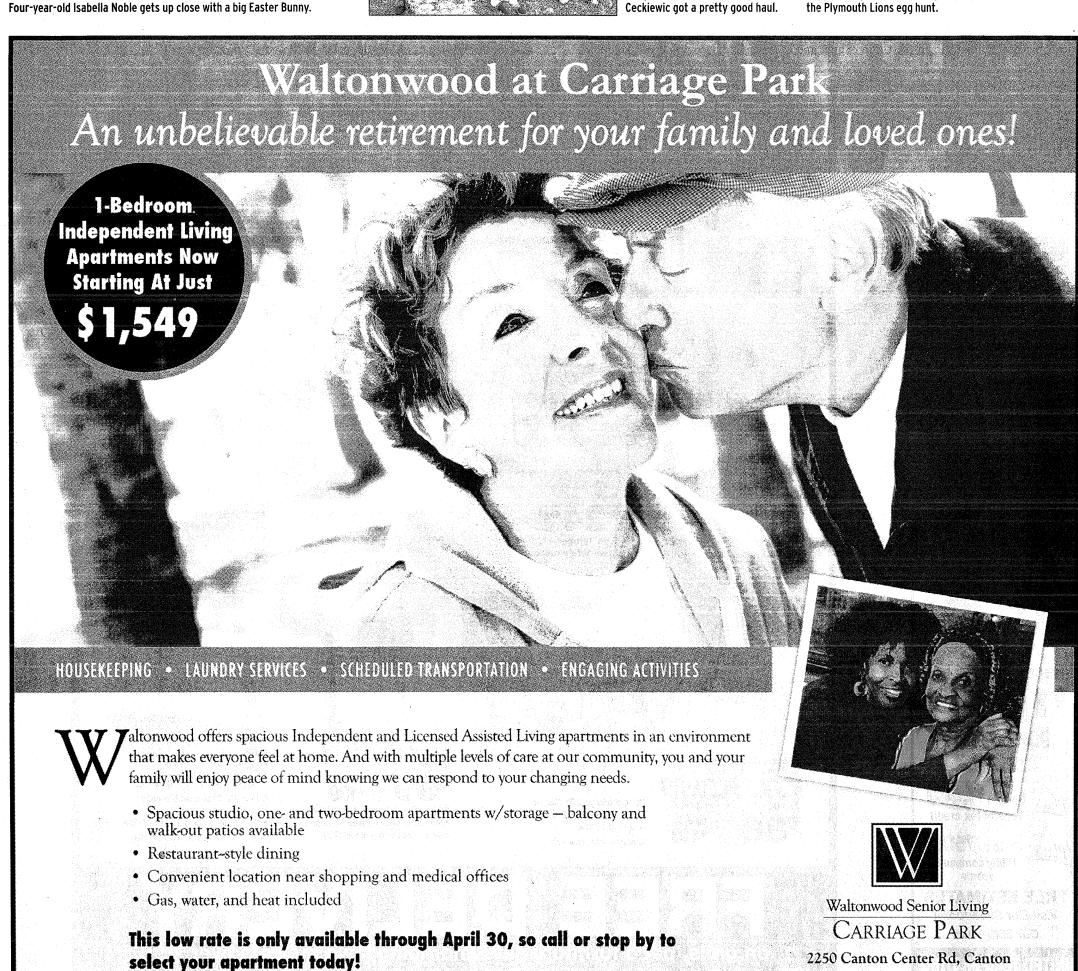
Morgan Abb, 9, and Dominique Ceckiewic got a pretty good haul.



Dapper Reagan Devlin, 3, might be the best-dressed kid at the Plymouth Lions egg hunt.

www.Waltonwood.com

SINGHL 鱼长





The Paisley Fogg — including (from left) Dave Birchler, Dawn Dehring, Tommy Anderson, Tom Birchler, Ron Graham and Keith Birchler — will be among the bands performing at 'Jammin' to End Famine' April 23 in Livonia.

Birchler family fights hunger with music

The Birchler family hosts "Jammin' to End Famine 2010," its third annual concert to benefit Kids Against Hunger, at 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 23, at Monaghan's Knights of Columbus Hall in Livonia.

"This year our goal is to double the amount of money we raise. The need here in Michigan, as well as places like Haiti, is just staggering," said Dave Birchler, 60, of Birmingham, one of five brothers involved.

The show will feature four acts, three of which contain members of the Birchler family, said Tom Birchler, 56, of Livonia, concert organizer.

Tickets, which are taxdeductible, are \$20 each, or \$10 for students. A cash bar, free pizza, salad, sweets and face painting Cat's Meow Face Design are included.

Last year, the concert drew 175 people and raised more than \$3,000. This year, the Birchlers hope to attract 350 people and raise more than \$6,000. They reduced the ticket price for students in an

effort to attract more young people and help spread the word about Kids Against Hunger, Tom Birchler said.

Kids Against Hunger is a worldwide hunger relief organization that also assists needy Michigan families. "Haiti has always been the No. 1 country KAH has sent food to, even prior to this year's earthquake," Tom Birchler said.

Tom Birchler said he was very impressed with Kids Against Hunger after participating in a mega packaging event in Okemos, where 800 volunteers assembled 100,000 meals. "I was astounded to see hundreds of grade school and high school kids enjoying themselves while helping to package food for the less fortunate. All the profit from this concert will go directly towards buying more food to take advantage of the tremendous participation Kids Against Hunger inspires."

Kids Against Hunger sets up food packaging satellites in the United States and worldwide through partnerships with humanitarian organizations, enabling them to deliver its specially formulated rice-soy casserole to starving children and their families in more than 40 countries.

Music at the concert will be geared to all ages, Tom Birchler said. "We try to give them something different each year. I am extremely excited about the talent we'll have on stage."

John Birchler of Plymouth, a past president of the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth, is the one who suggested the family raise money for Kids Against Hunger.

Monaghan's Knights of Columbus Hall is at 19801 Farmington Road. Tickets are available at the door or in advance by contacting Tom Birchler via email at tbirchler@twmi.rr.com. or by calling him at (248) 722-1820. For more information about Kids Against Hunger, go to www. kidsagainsthungercoalition. com. For venue information, go to www.livoniakofc.com.

Spring brings opening of Greenfield Village

The start of the spring season means Greenfield Village is about to reopen.

The historic village reopens April 15, allowing visitors and members to enjoy the sights and sounds of over 300 years of history. Tickets are \$22 adults, \$21 seniors (ages 62 and up), \$16 youth (ages 5-12); children under five and members are free. For more information, call (313) 982-6001 or visit www.thehenryford.org.

It's the first chance of the season to see 300 years of history in Greenfield Village. Stroll down to Firestone Farm to see the barnyard animals and the newest additions to the family - wrinkly Merino lambs. In the fields, lend a hand with springtime chores whether it be planting, clearing the fields of rocks turned up by plowing and more. Also, while at Firestone Farm, check out its new roof, fresh coat of paint, new rag rug made at the weaving shop and new wall paper.

At the Ford Home, visitors can catch costumed presenters hand-shearing grown merinos just as farmers would have done in the late 19th century. Lend a hand at the Daggett Farmhouse in sorting, picking, washing, carding and spinning wool after the Merino sheep are shorn.

Visitors can also take a
Model T ride, a turn on the
carousel or a leisurely tour
of the village on the horse
and carriage. Visit Liberty
Craftworks district to see our
world-class artisans in the
glass, pottery and tinsmith
shops working on new creations and techniques.

The first big event weekend starts with Thomas the Tank Engine and his friends as they return for Day Out With Thomas: The Celebration Tour 2010, April 24-25 and May 1-2 and 8-9. All Thomas fans are invited to come spend the day with their favorite No. 1 engine and celebrate his 65th birthday. Children of all ages can watch one of their favorite storybook characters come to life, and take a 20-minute train ride on a real steam engine pulled by Thomas. Additional tickets are required for the train ride.

The Henry Ford, located in Dearborn, is a National Historic Landmark that celebrates American history and innovation. Its mission is to provide unique educational experiences based on authentic objects, stories and lives from America's traditions of ingenuity, resourcefulness and innovation. Its purpose is to inspire people to learn from these traditions to help shape a better future.

Five distinct attractions

at The Henry Ford captivate more than 1.6 million visitors annually: Henry Ford Museum, Greenfield Village, The Ford Rouge Factory Tour, The Benson Ford Research Center and The Henry Ford IMAX Theatre. The Henry Ford is also home to Henry Ford Academy, a public charter high school which educates 485 students a year on the institution's campus and was founded in partnership with The Henry Ford, Ford Motor Company and Wayne County Public Schools. For more information please visit www. thehenryford.org.

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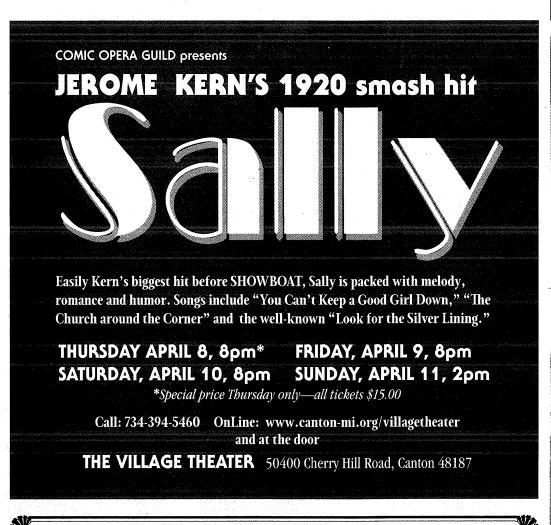
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SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

The tragedy is that less than half of those persons who are denied benefits file an appeal. Thus, many thousands of people who deserve benefits never receive them.

Those denied can appeal on their own, but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

Attorney J.B. Bieske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 20 years. That is the only type of law he practices. And, he personally meets



with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less

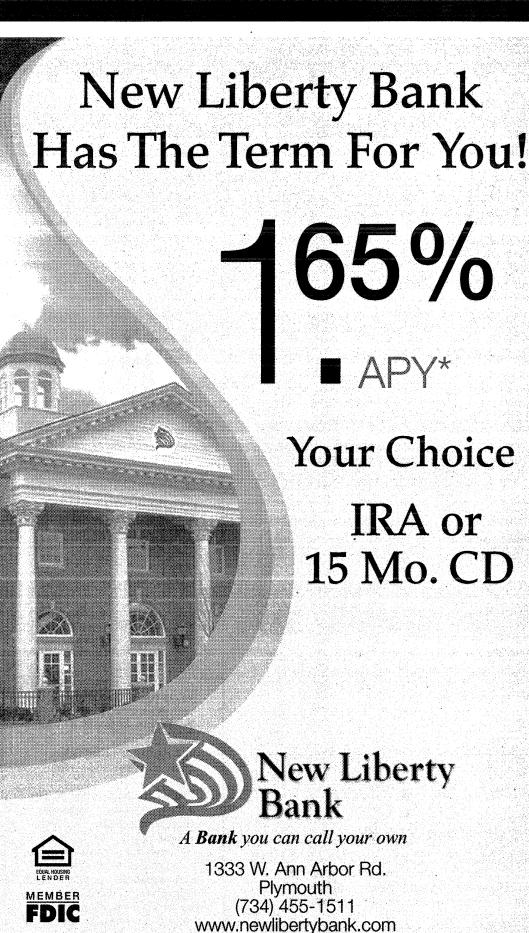
In addition to practicing only Social Security Disability law Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject. He also has been interviewed on various radio and television programs and has given speeches to many groups.

Bieske's office staff consists of paralegals and secretaries who are also highly experienced in assisting him with Social Security Disability cases. And they are extremely helpful in answering questions with regard to the status of clients' cases and administrative procedure.

Attorney Bieske welcomes you to call him to determine if you may be eligible for these benefits. He offers free phone or office consultations. If Bieske represents you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is woon. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

In a recent radio interview attorney Bieske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability benefits. These are not the same as Workers' Compensation benefits. It is possible to receive both benefits at the same time. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related to your work), are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work record or your deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits).

Bieske represents clients from all over the state of Michigan. Call him at 1-800-331-3530 for a FREE consultation if you have been denied. Or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits call him for FREE advice.



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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

Our libraries are more than books to read

A library plays an unique role in our society. It is a reflection of our civic pride -acenter for learning, a hub for social interaction and a safety net for those in need.

A library also is the cornerstone of the community. In person and online, it connects people to a whole world of ideas and information.

Next week, April 11-17, is National Library **Week. Sponsored by** the American Library Association, it's a celebration of the contributions of libraries, librarians and library workers. The theme this year is "Communities thrive @ your library," and we believe that describes the Plymouth District Library to a 'T.'

The Plymouth District Library reflects the diversity and character and the needs and expectations of the Plymouth community. Those needs and expectations are extensive, and the services the library provides are invaluable.

Society is changing and the Plymouth District Library is keeping pace. It is no longer a place for people to find a book to read and students to find information for term papers. Sure, it has computers and

even Internet access available for visitors, but there's much more.

Storytimes and the summer reading program for youngsters and foreclosure information, displaced worker assistance and training opportunities guidebooks, recession resources and State of Michigan job opportunities for adults.

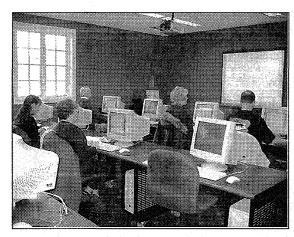
The Plymouth District Library has become the heart of the community.

Next week, April 11-17, is National Library Week. Sponsored by the American Library Association, it's a celebration of the contributions of libraries, librarians and library workers. The theme this year is "Communities thrive @ your library," and we believe that

describes the Plymouth District Library to a We offer our heartfelt thanks to library Director Pat Thomas, PR whiz Susan Stoney and the rest of the library staff for all they have done to make the library an integral

part of the community. And while we're at it, we'd like to give a shoutout to the librarians and library workers in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. April also is School Library Month. They, too, do an awesome job encouraging kindergartners through high schoolers to use the books and services available in the school media centers.

Whether it's the school library or the public library, take some time to stop buy and experience what they have to offer. Who knows, you may find a good book, a video or CD and make a few new friends along the way.



Libraries are no longer just a place to find a book, as these computer-users demonstrate. They've become a social outlet and an integral resource to displaced workers plotting their next career move.



Brad Kadrich

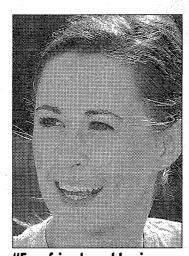
Susan Rosiek **Executive Editor** Community Editor / Publisher

Grace Perry Director of Advertising

COMMUNITY VOICE

What do you think of when you think of Opening Day?

We asked this question outside the U.S. Postal Service station in downtown Plymouth

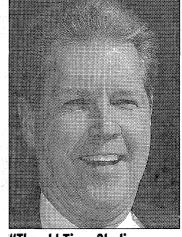


"Fun, friends and having a good time."

Elise Stabnick Plymouth Township

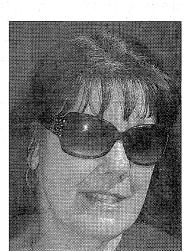


"When I do think of it, I think of Tigers and beer." **Roxanne Chang** Plymouth



"The old Tiger Stadium. I was the backup for Fat **Bob** (who sang the national anthem), so I always had to be ready."





"Oh, it's fun."

Jan Mullen Plymouth Township

Preserving the past

I applaud the decision to save the historical Plymouth Post Office Building. The preservation of such a distinguished old building with its beautiful mural is essential to preserving our past and adding to our identity as a caring community with an appreciation of art, history, and our civic leaders such as Congressman Carl Pursell.

Historic preservation is important. A group of local business people rescued the Penn Theatre. Their successful and enterprising leadership, along with the support of interested citizens, preserved an important landmark for us to enjoy. Let us work together to investigate the possibilities for the utilization and maintenance of the building on Penniman.

With its prime location, we need to consider what Plymouth needs to attract and keep people coming to the downtown area. Plymouth's reputation as one of the best place in the nation to live depends on our careful development of new and existing buildings.

As I walk through Plymouth, I am aware of the many people who have contributed to preserving Plymouth's unique characteristics. Let us keep our commitment to this tradition.

> Joseph N. Cleveland Plymouth

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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.

Enough aiready

"Theatrics, GOP, power grab, conservative, Democrats — They." This is some of the blather we wrote about here last week. Enough already!

Neighbors, our problems aren't about Republicans/Democrats, liberals/conservatives, or we/they. The problem in the state of Michigan is that we, WE, are spending too much. When things were good, WE, through our representatives spent too much, now WE have to stop. In our country where an income of \$20,000/ year is considered "poverty," we need to remember Haiti, and then get down to the business of fixing things.

We've got an example in this state in Ford. They found a leader and when their revenues went down, they cut costs. Nothing was sacred, and many people felt the pain. Some lost their jobs; some left. They planned for the future, not what they wanted today. And NO ONE helped them.

We need a leader like Ford found; we need to be as tough as Ford employees were in taking the pain. There can't be anyone or thing that "has given enough." No sacred cows. No lobbying for "our interests."

We did one thing right in the past in Michigan: we set term limits. We don't have to throw the bums out; they'll be gone soon enough. We can elect new legislators who have, like Mr. Mulally, demonstrated success, not just promised it.

We don't need politicians or parties, we need leaders to fix our state — and we need to do what we can ourselves to bear some of the burdens, to help our neighbors in need. Let's not have church leaders writing to Washington or Lansing for help; let's have them leading their people in getting things done.

It won't be easy. Let's roll!

Tom Salapatek

Mail delivers details of a place to 'die' for

e all know that piece of property we are just dying to acquire. A place we spend our entire life working and saving for, a place to kick back and make our final resting spot.

But today, many of us are experiencing that sinking feeling with the value of our properties dropping like a trap door being pulled



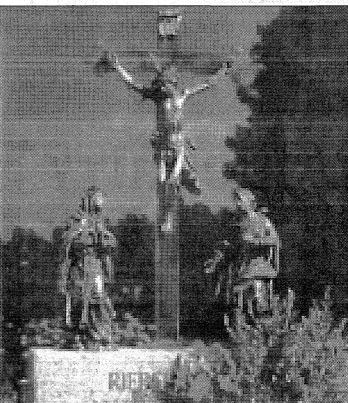
Tom Watkins

open. Hard-working people across the state and nation are losing their homes to foreclosures. The implosion of our economy has resulted in both job and home losses while

values continue to plummet. It truly is a sinking feeling whether it is happening to you or to family and friends.

It is just not a good feeling to see home values drop from between 25-30 percent. You might have noticed that people who have lost their homes have that gaunt, dead man walking appearance.

Clearly those with a steady job, a decent income, a substantial sum of cash for a down payment, might be lucky enough to find a lender so now might be a good time to buy. My daddy always told me "buy low, sell high." Now property is as low as 6-feet under. Foreclosures, bank owned



The writer received a brochure from Knollwood Cemetery in Canton.

properties, people 'underwater' in their mortgage and walking away from their homes - the sheer number of properties listed today makes it a sad and tragic time for distressed sellers, but also one of the hottest buyers' markets in recent history.

LOOKOUT FOR A DEAL

Opportunity is all around us. Although not necessarily in the market to buy new property - but this is a heavenly deal, I thought. As I opened my mailbox

recently and pulled out the real estate value of the century, it occurred to me 'This is my lucky day!' Right here in my hands is one hell of a deal - a piece of

property to die for! It was an idyllic plot, a real

estate price rolled back to 2001! "It sits on 46 acres of unique, pastoral, park like setting .. a place that "protects family heritage ... and "eternal beauty." The place sounded heavenly!

The advertisement lured me further by pointing out: "making decisions together about important life events is just plain smart." It went on: "Everyone knows that planning for future health needs, living arrangements and retirement, makes those inevitable transitions easier and more comfortable." "Sign me up!" I screamed.

This was clearly a long term investment, a piece of property that I would not occupy immediately but would always be there for me, located in the diverse, growing community of Canton and being offered at a bargain basement 2001 price.

A lot that offers peace, serenity and solitude, a community with such a peaceful name: **Knollwood Memorial Park** Cemetery.

Look around your community for one of these everlasting places. Hey, a deal is a deal! An everlasting one at that!

Tom Watkins is a freelance writer and business an educational consultant in the US and China. Read his regular commentary at www.domemagazine.com

Save only essential documents, shred rest

fter Michigan State's loss Saturday in the Final Four, I decided to do some housekeeping. I sat down next to my shredder and got rid of documents that had accumulated over the last couple of weeks. Lo and behold my shredder died. As opposed to tearing up documents like I did in the old days, I immediately vowed to get a new shredder.

I went online and started the research on what type of shredder to purchase. As I was looking at the different types of shredders, it reminded me how fast things have changed over the last few years with regard to document retention and document destruc-

It wasn't too long ago that most people just threw sensitive financial statements in the garbage. Whether it was financial statements from mutual fund companies, statements from banks or billings from doctors, they were merely tossed

We have all learned this type of document destruction is unacceptable and that a shredder is as important to your household as is the microwave, TV and refrigerator. When it comes to document destruction, don't throw documents away, shred them.

Whenever you talk about document destruction is document retention. What documents should you retain and for how long? Because of technology it is not nearly important to save documents like you used to. In fact, the general rule is if you're not sure shred it because more likely than not if you ever need a copy you can always get one. My advice for most people is to

save less and shred more. For most people the most important documents that need to be saved are tax returns and the related documents. The IRS generally can audit you for three years from the time your return was filed. However, in certain situations when



Money Matters

recommend saving tax returns and the support-

fraud they

can audit

you for a

ing docu-

mentation

for at least

longer period of time. I

Rick Bloom

seven years. For investments, there is no reason to save monthly or quarterly statements. If you still receive paper statements, verify it for accuracy then shred the old statement. The same applies to bank statements. Once you reconcile your bank statement there is no reason to save the old statement.

It is amazing what information shows up on statements that we regularly receive. Not only do statements include account numbers, but some statements may include Social Security numbers and other sensitive information. Because identify theft is so prevalent, make sure you do not leave sensitive financial information just lying around the house. There have been too many cases where housekeepers and house guests have taken sensitive information and have caused all sorts of problems.

Keep documents safely secured. The same thing applies to items that you are going to shred. Keep them secure until they are actually shredded.

Document protection and document destruction are important in today's technology savvy world. As part of spring cleaning, make sure you spend some time to assure yourself that documents that contain sensitive information are protected at all times. 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.



PHÓTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Vinny Lewan identifies the blanco (white) section of the beach ball, and tosses it back to Senora Jennifer.

iHola, amigos! Library hosts Spanish storytime for kids

BY JULIE BROWN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

A Bilingual Storvtime for children 2-5 has drawn some 15-25 youngsters in the past, "which is pretty nice for a storytime," said Carol Champagne, youth services coordinator at the Plymouth District Library.

Children and their caregivers enjoy Spanish language through music, movement and stories. The storytimes, offered Tuesday twice and Wednesday this week, are done in a partnership with a woman who has a language school.

"It's not necessarily for a

special audience," Champagne said. "It's more of a cultural expansion."

Foreign-born adults who move to Plymouth and Plymouth Township are often from India or other Asian countries, and are very good English speakers, "better than we do," she said.

"We're just trying to broaden what's available and to expose kids to different things."

Down the road, library staffers are thinking of inviting parents who speak other languages to do storytimes. "That's in the thought stages right now," Champagne said. The library staff would do the English portion, with the parent translating into the foreign language.

"We've always tried to be open to a lot of cultures, Champagne said. "It's a strength, we feel.'

She agreed preschoolers do well in learning and absorbing new things such as language. "The spirit is willing but the mind is unable for us older people."

This week's storytimes featuring Spanish will likely be repeated in the fall, she said. The library also had scheduled other activities this week, to coincide with the Plymouth-Canton school district break.



Jennifer Manriquez and her bilingual story hour at the Plymouth District Library teaches kids Spanish.

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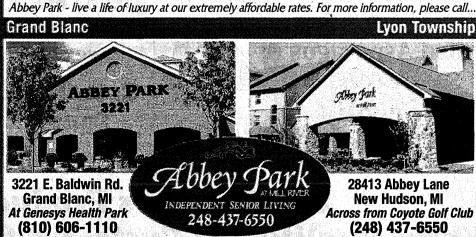
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*Sale ends May 31st or while supplies last. See store for details Our Premium Weber grills have: more stainless steel features

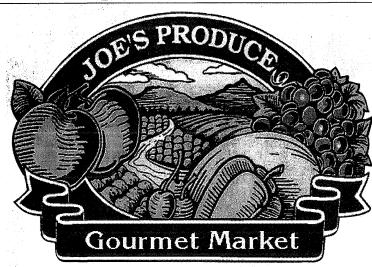


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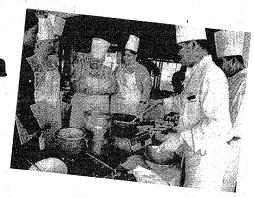


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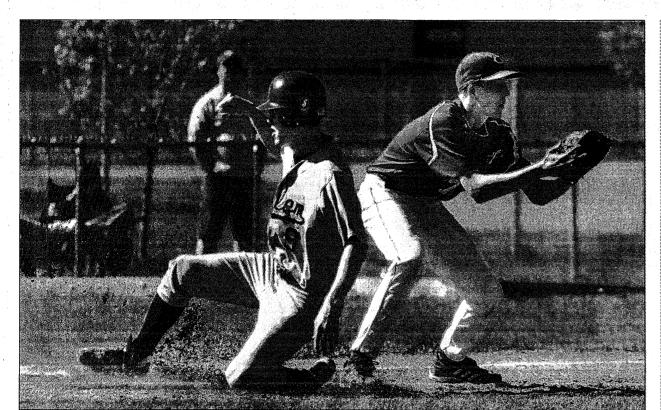
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2010 BASEBALL PREVIEW - PT. 2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRA

One of the veterans who will help lead Canton in 2010 is senior Andrew Tidwell, shown playing third base during a 2009 game. He also is a starting nitcher

Fired up Chiefs ready to go for it

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

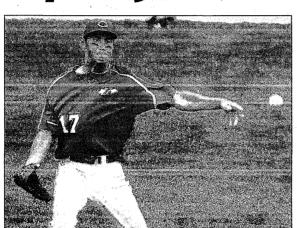
The memory of losing a heartbreaker to Birmingham Brother Rice in the 2009 regional final hasn't gone away for Canton varsity baseball coach Mark Blomshield or his returning players.

That marked the second consecutive season that the Chiefs' postseason march ended thanks to the Warriors. But Blomshield, whose KLAA South Division team finished 25-12 last year and won the district title, knows he has a bevy of seniors who are ready for payback.

"The team is highly motivated and has high expectations to meet this year," said last year's *Observer* Coach of the Year Blomshield on the eve of Canton's road trip to the Cincinnati, Ohio, area later this week.

The Chiefs will face teams from Oak Hills, Colerain and Milford (Ohio) on April 9-10.

Please see CANTON, B3



Canton pitcher Kevin Delapaz, shown trying to pick off a baserunner in this file photo, is a top-flight starting pitcher for the Chiefs.

PCA should score plenty

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With an influx of talent from a nowclosed school and a conference realignment, the 2010 baseball season promises to be one of change for Plymouth Christian Academy.

But that could be a good thing, said head coach Joe Bottorff.

The Eagles have been shifted from the Blue to Red division of the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

"I believe that we will be very competitive in the division as last season we were 4-1 vs. Red Division teams," said Bottorff, whose team opens play on Monday at Lenawee Christian Academy.

Bottorff also has an excellent newcomer in senior Ethan Walker, who played in 2009 at Canton Agape Christian (which is closed). Walker will be a starting pitcher and also play third base and catcher.

"On the mound, Ethan throws hard and mixes in a nice curve," Bottorff said. "At the plate, Ethan will bat third or fifth and has the power go deep at any time and has the wheels to steal a base whenever he wants."

Also expected to be a strong performer on the mound and in the batter's box is senior David Baum, who will pitch as well as play third and the outfield.

"David's breaking pitch is nasty and he has developed a knuckleball over the winter," Bottorff said. Baum also brings solid power to the opposite field.

Both Walker and Baum usually will throw to sophomore catcher Daniel Slater, who is taking over from All-MIAC firstteamer Brent Zinn (who graduated).

"We started working with Daniel in the summer and he has made outstanding progress," said Bottorff, who expects Slater

Please see PCA, B3



MAGGIE WALSI

Canton's Matt Rodgers was instrumental in the Chiefs two victories last week, scoring four times in each contest as the varsity boys lacrosse team improved to 3-0 on the young season.

Canton wins, still perfect

Canton senior midfielder Riley Hoernschemeyer's overtime goal April 1 lifted the Chiefs boys lacrosse team to an 12-11 victory over host Clarkston to improve to 3-0 on the season.

It was a clutch victory, as Canton missed the services of three senior defensemen.

With junior varsity defender Ryan Schwinke up for the contest, and with freshman Christian Munch and sophomore Brandon Schlieger given extra minutes and duties, the Chiefs gave ample support to senior and co-captain goalkeeper Sean Walsh (16 saves).

Canton head coach Kevin Riley praised Walsh for playing "out of his mind" against the Wolves and giving the Chiefs the chance to win in OT.

The Chiefs were paced by senior cocaptain Jake Underwood, who scored five goals and collected three assists. He had big-time help from Matt Rodgers (four goals, three assists).

Besides scoring the winner,
Hoernschemeyer helped the cause with
two assists and seven ground balls while
Trevor Moore scored twice.

On March 31, Canton earned a 10-5 win at Huron Valley Lakeland with Rodgers leading the offensive charge (four goals, one assist) and Tim Popp scoring two

Underwood and Hoernschemeyer each tallied one goal and three assists while the other Canton goals were collected by Ben Popp and Moore.

Walsh made 14 stops for the victory.

Spits put series clamps on Whalers

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Hockey fans from both sides of the Detroit River jammed Compuware Arena Saturday night to catch the top two prizes in the upcoming NHL Entry Draft.

But in Game 2 of the Ontario Hockey League second round series between host Plymouth and Windsor, fans of Spitfires sensation Taylor Hall had plenty more to cheer for than those of Plymouth's Tyler Seguin.

Hall scored the tie-breaking goal on the power play at 6:28 of the second period and assisted on Dale Mitchell's game-winner in the third to lift Windsor to a 5-3 victory before 3,922 at Compuware and go up 2-0 in the best-of-seven series.

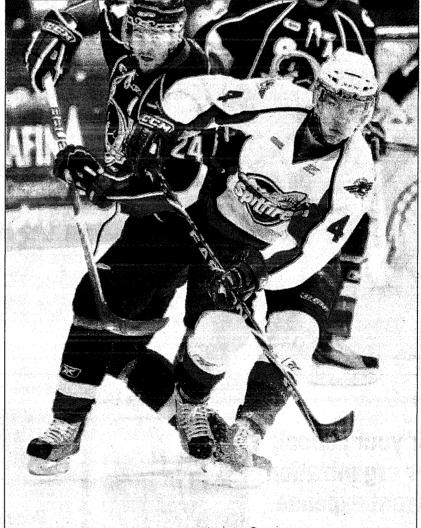
"It's two games now (where) I can't get a goal or can't get an assist," lamented Seguin following the game. "Now, our whole team's got to regroup for the next game. Game 3's the biggest and we're going to come out ready."

(Monday night, however, Windsor took a commanding 3-0 series lead thanks to a 5-0 victory at HFCU Centre and can sweep the Whalers Wednesday night at Compuware. Go to www.hometownlife.com for Game 4 results.)

Seguin, a forward who tallied 106 points during the regular season to share the OHL scoring title with winger Hall, did have a dangerous scoring chance with about 13 minutes left in the game. But Windsor netminder Philipp Grubauer (23 saves) sprawled to pick off the hard shot.

"I kind of went glove too many times," said Seguin. "Tomorrow (in practice) I'm going to go take 100 shots and they're all going to be low."

Grubauer's counterpart, Whalers goalie Matt Hackett (55 shots, 51 saves), was bombarded from start to finish — particularly during the middle stanza when he faced 25 shots and turned aside all but two of them. Hackett — who recently signed with the Minnesota Wild — put on a clinic for the many NHL scouts in attendance, who obviously were there to see Hall, Seguin and Top-5 draft



WALT DMOCI

Standout Windsor winger Taylor Hall gets a leg up on Plymouth center Joe Gaynor. Hall sparked the Spitfires to a 5-3 playoff victory Saturday.

OHL PLAYOFFS

hopeful Cam Fowler (Windsor's defenseman from Farmington Hills).

QUICK RESPONSE

Plymouth's best line so far in the series scored all three goals, with center AJ Jenks scoring twice and assisting on Ryan Hayes' first period marker. Linemate Phil McRae chipped in with three assists.

The Whalers showed some bounceback capabilities when Hayes scored just 10 seconds after Mitchell banged home Adam Henrique's centering pass at 11:45 to open the scoring.
Following the subsequent centerice faceoff, the McRae-Jenks-Hayes line dashed into the Spits end and Hayes finished the play off to the delight of the home fans in attendance.

Hackett kept the game tied going into the second period, getting a shoulder on center Scott Timmins' powerful blast from the right circle and then thrusting out a pad to stop Mitchell (2 goals).

It was the Whalers goalie who again rose to the occasion about 2:15

Please see WHALERS, B3

SIDELINES

Hot Comet

Olivet College junior Ben Kosmalski, a Canton resident and Plymouth High School graduate, has been named the Comet of the Week.

Kosmalski led the Comets with .583



batting average (7for-12) and five RBI last week. His hits included two doubles and one home

Kosmalski one home run for a 1.000 slugging percentage. Kosmalski also did

not commit an error in 13 chances at second base for a perfect 1.000 fielding percentage. For the season, Kosmalski

For the season, Kosmalski is hitting .345 to go along with a team-leading 15 RBI. He has five doubles and two home runs for a .534 slugging percentage, while scoring eight runs.

Dragons hoops

Parents, it's that time again to register your fifth-, sixth-, seventh- or eighth-grader for the Michigan Dragons summer basketball program. Go to michigan-dragons.com and register. The registration period ends April 16.

Captain's Corner

The Observer looks to continue running the Captain's Corner series, which gives senior studentathletes a chance to give their views about leaderabin

ship.
Please e-mail sports editor Tim Smith (tsmith@hometownlife.com) with any candidates for the weekly spotlight. (Limit nominees to one per team.)

Spring coaches call

The spring season for high school sports is here and, as always, the *Observer* wants to spotlight the efforts and accomplishments of athletes from the Canton and Plymouth communities.

Please call sports editor Tim Smith at (313) 222-2637 with detailed recaps of games, matches or meets. Those also can be e-mailed to him at tsmith@hometownlife.com.

Deadlines are 11 p.m.
Tuesday for the Thursday
paper and 10 p.m. Friday for
the Sunday paper.

Hoop shootout

The boys basketball season around the tri-county area isn't quite over yet as the Palace of Auburn Hills will play host to the Michigan Slam Dunk Championship & 3-Point Shootout Saturday at 7 p.m.

The event, featuring both high school and college participants, begins with the women's 3-Point Shootout and will be followed by the men's 3-Point Shootout. The winners of each contest will then square off against one another to determine the best long-range shooter in Michigan.

In accordance with

the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan, the evening's activities will conclude with the state's top leapers competing in the always-electrifying Slam Dunk Championship to be judged by area celebrities.

Tickets are \$20 VIP, \$15 reserved and \$10 general admission and may be purchased at the Palace box office and all TicketMaster locations.

Check-up.5K

The Spring "Check-up" 5-kilometer run-walk will be held 11 a.m. Sunday, April 11, at the Belle Isle Remick Music Shell in Detroit.

Please see **SIDELINES**, **B2**



Farm. United



Farm. United



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 8, 2010



Canton



Livonia Blue



Kyoko Yamamoto Farm. United



Livonia Red



Farm. United



Farm. United



Ayana Lewis Canton



Canton's big year rewarded on All-Observer team

DIVISION 1

Kristen McKelvey, Jr., Farm. United: McKelvey finished third in the D-1 all-around competition with a 37.725 total. She also earned all-state honors in three of the four events, placing second on vault (9.625), fourth on bars (9.4) and fifth on floor (9.425). At the Athens regional, McKelvey was second or third in all events, taking second in the all-around (37.3). She also was

All-OAA (36.95). "Kristen is the nicest girl in the world," coach Jeff Dwyer said. "She's very complimentary toward other competitors, but she wants to win. It's not a deceiving personality, but

she has an inner drive." Though a longtime club gymnast, McKelvey competed for the high school team for the first time and played a key role in Farmington United finishing second in the state. She also was a first-time diver at

North Farmington last fall. "I knew she had a ton of talent and wasn't in shape at the time, gymnastics-wise," Dwyer said. "I told her: 'Kristen, you're going to be one of the top gymnasts in the state! When I got the call she wanted to join the team, I exhaled and said:

'All right; let's go!" Alyssa Bresso, Soph., Farm.

United: Bresso overcame injuries during the season to have a quality finish. She was seventh in the state in the all-around (37.325) and also is all-state on beam and floor; she was fourth (9.4) and seventh (9.4), respectively. Bresso just missed on vault and bars with ninth- and 11thplace finishes. She was the third in the all-around at the regional (36.275), taking second on floor, fifth on vault and bars and sixth on beam.

"She grew up as a sophomore, because I don't know if she would have been able to do that last year," Dwyer said. "I give her a ton of credit. She's gifted; she's one of the most effortless gymnasts on our team. It'll be hard to match this, but she has the potential to do even better

the next two years." Alex Fideler, Fr., Canton: What a freshman season it was for Fideler, making an immediate impact at

Division 1. Fideler was the all-around champion both at the KLAA conference and state regional meets on the uneven parallel bars.

"Alex Fideler was a gift to walk in as a freshman with so much talent and be a rookie who could make us so successful," said Canton head coach John Cunningham, adding

2009-10 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS GYMNASTICS TEAMS DIVISION 1

Kristen McKelvey, Jr., Farm. United Alyssa Bresso, Soph., Farm. United Alex Fideler, Fr., Canton Robyn Piwowar, Jr., Canton Emily Quint, Sr., Livonia Blue Kyoko Yamamoto, Jr., Farm. United Katie Kretzschmar, Fr., Livonia Red DIVISION 2

Samantha Kohl, Sr., Farm. United Amanda Lumley, Soph., Farm. United Avana Lewis, Soph., Canton Mallory Hudak, Sr., Canton Brooke Granowicz, Jr. Canton Alex Kitz, Jr., Livonia Blue Amy Bell, Sr., Farm, United CO-COACHES OF THE YEAR

HONORABLE MENTION Salem: Nicole Jacobs, Ade Jepperson; Canton: Kali Pierce, Brittany Granowicz: Plymouth: Reagan Engstrom: Livonia Blue: Cassie Morford, Katie Bridges; Livonia Red: Katina St. Pierre; Farmington United: Lena Schneewind; Harrison: Stephanie Sanders.

Jeff Dwyer, Farm. United

John Cunningham, Canton

that Fideler became the school's third all-time state champion when she scored a 9.65 on balance beam at the state meet in Rockford.

Fideler also scored 9s on all four events there to bring home medals as well as All-American honors (in all events and all-around).

"She beat the girl that had the highest all-around score ever in state meet competition," said Cunningham, referring to how Fideler defeated Grand Ledge's Alexis Byington on beam. "... In order to do that at state meet, you have to be totally solid, focused. ... (it was an) absolutely solid routine, it was beautiful."

Robyn Piwowar, Jr., Canton: Another outstanding, versatile gymnast for the Chiefs was Piwowar, the team's co-captain and Most Valuable Gymnast.

"Robyn Piwowar was a true team leader whose captainship and consistent high scores made the team as good as it could be," Cunningham

The junior's consistency and performance earned her Elite All-American awards not to mention an armful of medals.

She was second all-around at regionals and won four medals from the D1 state meet including a thirdplace 9.6 on vault.

Also outstanding was Piwowar's 9.565 average on floor exercise.

Emily Quint, Sr., Livonia Blue: The senior placed 10th in the All-Around at the state finals with a



Alex Kitz Livonia Blue



Farm. United

score of 36.725, including a seventh on vault (9.45) and ninth on floor exercise (9.2).

Quint was the regional allaround champion (37.00) thanks to firsts on vault (9.425), beam (9.75) and floor exercise (9.575).

"Emily is an outstanding leader and gymnast," Livonia Blue coach Lisa Fierk said. "She was MHSAA Senior Gymnast of the Year. Emily has always shown great drive and sportsmanship throughout her time as a high school gymnast. She was in the gym always trying to improve her skills and her routines. My best memory of this season is when she got a 9.75 on beam at regionals.'

Kyoko Yamamoto, Jr., Farm. United: Yamamoto earned allstate recognition on bars, taking eighth place (9.175) in the Division 1 meet. She was a state qualifier in the all-around, finishing in 14th place with a 36.35 total. At the regional, Yamamoto was third overall (36.275). She also was third on beam, fourth on bars, fifth on floor and sixth on vault.

"Bars is her best event," Dwyer said. "She didn't hit her best routine like she did the day before (in the team meet), but she showed in the standings she is all-state.

"I look at how close she was in other events. She's a good allarounder and has one more year. I think she's going to push herself to get what it takes (into her routines) to get her scores up a little higher in other events."

Dwyer added: "She might look terrible for a week in practice but, when it comes time for a meet, she just turns it up a notch."

Katie Kretzschmar, Fr., Livonia Red: The ninth-grader placed eighth in the all-around at the regional (35.675) including thirds on both vault (9.2) and floor exercise (9.175). Kretzschmar also was seventh

all-around at the Kensington Conference meet including a fourth on floor. The state qualifier also added a sixth in the Canton Invitational on beam (9.225). "Kate is an extremely hard

worker," Livonia Red coach Kelly Grodzicki said. "She possess a very



Jeff Dwyer Farmington coach

as a freshman she has stepped up

"Katie shows grace in her gymnastics as well as discipline. It has been a privilege coaching Katie this season. She continues to master skills and achieve new ones. During practice and meets Katie demoning routines. She balances school and gymnastics very well earning herself exceptional grades."

DIVISION 2

Samantha Kohl, Sr., Farm. United: Kohl capped her high school career by being crowned state champion on bars (9.3) and beam (9.45). She was the state runner-up in the all-around (37.375) and also was all-state on floor and vault, finishing fifth (9.35) and eighth (9.275), respectively. At the Athens regional, Kohl was second on bars, third on floor, fourth on vault and fifth on beam, earning second place in the all-around (36.7). She was All-OAA in the all-around, too.

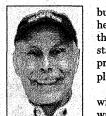
Kohl was ill with a fever in the days before the regional, but she willed her way through that meet,

"She's pretty tough but I could tell it was getting to her in the warm-ups," he said. "We had a talk; I told her: 'It's probably going to be the hardest day of your life, but you have to do everything you can. You can beat this sickness today, too.'

"I was just so impressed with what she did by placing second in the all-around. It was the most impressive meet she's shown me during her career, to do what she did under those conditions."

United: Lumley is the Division 2 state champion on floor exercise, winning that event with a 9.6 score. She was fourth in the regional (9.1) and also qualified for state on vault. Lumley was All-OAA in both events and is an all-around gymnast.

Dwyer said. "She doesn't look like she would be as powerful as she is,



John Cunningham Canton coach

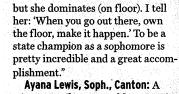
positive personality, and is friendly to teammates. Coming to the team and showed everyone what she was capable of.

strates concentration and focus dur-

according to coach Jeff Dwyer.

Amanda Lumley, Soph., Farm.

"She's a great dancer," coach Jeff



wiry, versatile young athlete, Lewis was the Chiefs' rookie of the year. The sophomore captured championships at the KLAA conference

meet and state regionals and took fourth in all-around at the state finals - medaling in all categories. Lewis earned All-American honors in all events and with two sea-

sons remaining in her prep career, she could become one of the best in school history by the time she's Mallory Hudak, Sr., Canton: The

senior co-captain was an important member of the Final Four Canton Hudak won balance beam

and took second on floor exercise at the regionals, then went on to medal on the latter event at the state meet.

Her efforts garnered All-American honors on three events and all-around.

Brooke Granowicz, Jr., Canton: The junior came back to gymnastics after an extended absence and "made an amazing rebound" with a fifth place showing at the state regional and ninth place at the state final on balance beam, noted Cunningham.

Granowicz, elected one of Canton's captains for next season, averaged 8.985 on beam to earn All-American status.

Alex Kitz, Jr., Livonia Blue: The junior earned All-State honors on the uneven bars with a fifth (8.95) at the state finals. She was 15th all-around at the

state meet after placing third at the regional (34.975). Kitz contributed a second at the regional on the uneven bars (8.9) as

well as a sixth on vault (8.75).

"Alex is a good gymnast with great ability to be even better next season," Fierk said. "Alex made it to states in the all around as a sophomore. She shows great pride and drive when doing gymnastics. She is one that wants to improve her skills and make her routines harder and better to get higher scores for her team. She is someone that Livonia Blue is lucky to have for another two years."

Amy Bell, Sr., Farm. United: Bell ended her senior season and prep career by achieving all-state status on the balance beam at the Division

2 state meet, taking 10th place with a 9.0 score. She was another all-around competitor who provide Farmington United with quality

At the state meet, "She got the 9.0 and we were waiting for final places," Dwyer said. "They announced her in 10th place, but she didn't hear it. I said: 'Amy, you just got all-state!'

"The tears started to flow. It was just an awesome way to end her career. Some girls get overshadowed because we have such a strong team. I'm glad she ended her season getting the recognition she deserves."

CO-COACHES OF THE YEAR Jeff Dwyer, Farm. United: Dwyer guided Farmington United to a runner-up finish in the state meet. His gymnasts achieved their best score of the season (149.1) to finish a close second behind Grand Ledge

(150.225).Farmington United was third last year and second in 2008. It won the Oakland Activities Association championship again and was unde-

feated in dual meets. "That was the highlight of the whole season, when you can take home a trophy," Dwyer said the state meet. "Our goal at the beginning of the season was to be No. 1

"It's an honor to take home a state runner-up trophy. There is no third-place trophy. That's why it was tough to place third at the state meet, because you go home with

nothing. "That was an empty feeling last year, but I think that drove a lot of the girls, too."

John Cunningham, Canton: Cunningham presided over Canton's 26th All-American Team, which the veteran coach (his Canton career began in 1979) said was its second Elite team achievement.

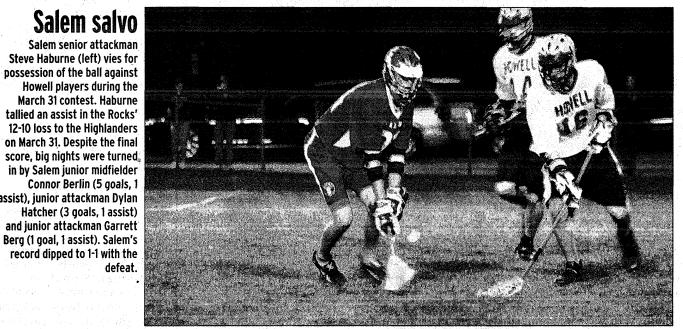
Canton won the KLAA conference championship and regional championship for the second time in history and also captured 19 medals at regionals, 15 at states and a state champion in Fideler.

During the regular season, the Chiefs finished 3-1 in division meets but followed up with a 5-0 mark in conference meets to one-up Northville.

"Our season goal was to be a top-three team," Cunningham said. 'We didn't realize how satisfying it would be to take fourth in the state and show what an exceptional team effort with focus and consistency could achieve. ... It was a very good

Salem salvo

Salem senior attackman Steve Haburne (left) vies for possession of the ball against Howell players during the March 31 contest. Haburne tallied an assist in the Rocks' 12-10 loss to the Highlanders on March 31. Despite the final score, big nights were turned. in by Salem junior midfielder Connor Berlin (5 goals, 1 assist), junior attackman Dylan Hatcher (3 goals, 1 assist)



The event will raise awareness for Detroit's uninsured and the importance of primary care for all. It will benefit The Robert R. Frank Student Run Free Clinic and the Wayne State University School of Medicine Chapter of the

Race day registration begins at 10 a.m. Food and music will be

provided after the race. The cost is \$20. For more information, e-mail springcheckup5K@gmail.com; or to download a registration form at www.springcheckup5K.

Football combine

A pair of football combines for high school players will be from 4:30-6 p.m. (linemen) and from 6-7:30 p.m. (combine training) for eight sessions beginning Sunday, April 18, at the Auburn Hills Sports Dome.

To register, visit www.coachjacksonspeed.com; or for more information, call Jaime Jackson at (248) 535-7404.

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Observer & Eccentric

*Trust in Advertising — a global consumer report conducted by the Nielsen Company. Online survey of 26,486 Internet users in 47 markets from Europe, Asia Pacific, the Americans and the Middle East performed Apri 16 – May 1, 2007.



Spectacular again Saturday night for the Whalers was netminder Matt Hackett, who stopped 51 of 55 Windsor shots.

into the second period, blocking a Hall rocket from between the circles.

That fired up Plymouth and Jenks moved into the Windsor end and let a seemingly harmless wrist shot go from the right circle that trickled past Grubauer at the 2:52 mark. Defenseman Leo Jenner and McRae drew assists.

But the Spitfires answered just 55 seconds later to make it 2-2. Wellwood was allowed to circle behind the Plymouth goal and move out into the slot, firing a wrist shot past Hackett.

Hall then broke the tie with 13:32 left. Standing to the right of Hackett, he beautifully redirected a pass from Ryan Ellis into the cage and then turned toward fans behind the goal with his arms raised almost defiantly in triumph.

Windsor took a 4-2 edge with about 15 minutes remaining on Mitchell's one-timer from

the right circle. Setting him up was Hall, who eluded Plymouth's defense in front of Hackett before finding Mitchell.

Soon thereafter, Grubauer's glove save kept Seguin off the scoresheet. But at 9:51 McRae spun around near the right wall and sent a shot toward the Windsor net that Jenks deflected in.

That was all the offense the Whalers could muster, however. A last-minute empty netter by Henrique finished the night's scoring.

According to Jenner, the barrage of shots from the likes of Hall, Mitchell and Timmins provided plenty of challenges for the Whalers

'They definitely have a lot of speed and skill up on their first couple lines there," Jenner said. "As a defenseman you just try to keep your game simple and shut those guys down. But Windsor they've got those guys and they're

Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci was unavailable for comment following the game.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

to make solid contact in the No. 2 slot in the order as well as chip in as a relief pitcher.

JUNIOR JOLTERS

Senior Josh Johnston undoubtedly will be integral to any team success, batting leadoff and playing the all-important center field.

"Josh has great range in the outfield," said the coach, adding that Johnston "is the team's best bunter and is a terror on the basepaths."

The Eagles also have several juniors who will regularly be penciled into the lineup.

Jon Slater, who led PCA in homers last year, will play first base and bat cleanup and also contribute at pitcher. Slater brings much more than the ability to clear fences, however.

"No matter how bad of a throw comes to first, it doesn't get by him," Bottorff said. "His fast ball is touching 80 (mph) and he's developing a nice cut-

Juniors Matt Dodson and Matt Hagelin will be PCA's double-play combo with Dodson at shortstop and Hagelin at second base.

Dodson, who can pitch, brings plenty of power and will bat in the middle of the lineup.

"The thing I really like about Matt (Dodson) is that when he leaves the batters box on a hit, he is always thinking extra bases," Bottorff said.

Hagelin "has sneaky power and has greatly improved his bunting."

FIRST BASE FILL-IN

Yet another junior starter is outfielder Austin Smith, who can fill in at first base (his original position) when Slater pitches.

"Austin has an explosive swing," said the coach, noting that he shifted Smith to the outfield in order to get his bat. into the mix.

Sophomore Nate Bortz and freshman Matt Read will see plenty of action in the outfield. while reserves include junior Blake Ringger and freshmen Earl Carr, Drew Cobb and Trevor Gogola.

Despite fitting in nicely in the MIAC Red, Bottorff said the Eagles "have a very challenging schedule" ahead of

PCA will play in tournaments at Lutheran Westland, Grosse Pointe University-Liggett and Xenia (Ohio) Christian along with facing Cass Tech and traditional rivals Lake Orion Baptist and Allen Park Inter-City Baptist.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

After that, Canton will square off against Plymouth-Canton Educational Park rival Salem on Monday, April 12.

Leading the charge is senior left-handed starter Kevin Delapaz, who was 10-0 with a 1.29 earned run average last season. Bowling Green-bound Delapaz rightfully earned all-conference and all-region honors last season. When not pitching, he will play outfield.

the bat last season (.315 average) and should continue doing so.

Another senior pitcher who will start on the bump is Andrew Tidwell, a sidearmer who was Canton's closer last year. Tidwell also plays third base.

Delapaz and Tidwell aren't the only key returnees. The Chiefs' attack will feature senior infielder and all-KLAA selection Cody Blakita (440), senior first baseman Joe Galanty and junior catcher Seth Tschetter, starting his third season as the top varsity backstop.

According to Blomshield, the Canton coaching staff is "looking the heavy-hitting Galanty.

Two up-and-comers include junior shortstop Chris Perkovich and sophomore Ryan Bazner, who can pitch or play the infield.

Among other seniors looking to help the Chiefs keep winning will be Alex Dixon (P), Ben Staley (OF-P) and outfielder Carter Staffeld.

Rounding out the roster include juniors Garrett Bryden (OF), Angelo Lanava (OF), Bernable Salinas (2B), Art Chavez (DH-P), Sean Harte (P), Jason Lynch (OF-C), Mark Main (OF-P), Rocky Willette (IF-OF) and freshman outfielder-pitcher Mike Stafford.



Champion Comets

The Comets, of the Plymouth Canton Junior Basketball League 5th/6th grade girls, have won the league championship. After losing a close opening game, the team finished the remainder of the season without a loss. They won all three tournament games, stealing the championship game by a nail-biter score of 32-30 over the previously unbeaten Storm. The team members (listed alphabetically) are: Amelia Brave, Alexa Ebeling, Bridget Furlong, Kristin Maksimovic, Shelby Petersen, Kara Rocheleau, Abby Schmidt, Emily Tanski, and Leah Tardiff. The girls were coached by Dale Ebeling, with assistants Marty Petersen and Bill Brave.

GOLF PREVIEW

Canton wants more

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Last spring, Canton's varsity boys golf team had a very successful regular season. The Chiefs won the KLAA South Division with a 10-0 record, but placed fourth at Class A regionals and did not qualify for the state meet.

While Chiefs' head coach Tom Alles wouldn't mind another winning season, he wants more — namely leading his team to the 2010 state meet at Michigan State University's Forest Akers Golf Course.

According to Alles, fourth-year players and co-captains Zach Conrad and Brendan Muir will likely help steer the team on course toward at least another strong mark in the division.

"Other seniors who should contribute are Travis Hall and Kyle Korte who returns to the team after two years on the baseball team," Alles said. "Junior Frank Parzynski and sophomore Josh Maxam should see more varsity action this season.'

Canton will be geared up to get into the swing when the KLAA season opens up next week.

First up, the Chiefs will host Westland John Glenn at 3 p.m. Wednesday. Then Canton visits Wayne Memorial's home course, the Woodlands, for a 3 p.m. Thursday matchup.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Canton football camps

It's not too soon to begin planning for Canton Chiefs summer football camps.

• First up is the Skills Camp slated for players entering grades 7-9 in 2010-11. That camp will take place 5-7:30 p.m. Monday, June 14 through Thursday, June 17. The fee to sign up for the camp is \$45, with that money due by May 24. Contact Richard Mui at (248) 229-2738 for more information.

• The following week will be the Wing T 3/4 Camp, for players entering grades 10-12 next year. The camp begins with a session from 2-5 p.m. Monday, June 21. Then there will be sessions 5-8 p.m. from Tuesday, June 22 through Thursday, June

Camp fee is \$30, also due by May 24. Please contact head football coach Tim Baechler, (734) 455-7691 or via email at tim.baechler@ pccsmail.net. • The third and

final offering is the

Fundamental Camp, for kids entering grades 3-6. The program runs from 9 a.m. to 12 noon Monday, June 28 through Thursday, July 1. The fee is \$75 with money due by June 4. Please contact Enza Lanava at (313) 300-1173 or elanava@wowway.com.

All prospective campers and their families might want to check out www.cantonchiefsfootball.com for further information.

Thunderbirds fastpitch

Thunderbirds Fastpitch Softball is looking for a few more enthusiastic and committed young women who love to play softball.

The organization is comprised of travel teams with players ranging in age from 8 to 19 on 10U through 18U teams. For more information, please contact Ray Barnes (Pres.) at 734-417-1421, or Humaira Afzal (V. Pres.) at thunderbirdsfastpitch@comcast.net.



For more about golf in Michigan www.TeeltUpMichigan.com

To advertise in this directory, call Jim Sabatella at 313-223-3246

Strictly Business



Spring expo

Plymouth Nursery hosts its annual Spring Expo Weekend Saturday and Sunday, April 24-25, featuring Janet Macunovich, author, educator, professional gardener and co-founder, director, and senior instructor at the Michigan School of Gardening, speaks Saturday, April 24, 1 p.m. Nicholas Staddon, Director of New Plant Introduction for Monrovia, is on the schedule Saturday, April 24, at 1 and 3 p.m. And Nancy Szerlag, master gardener and freelance writer whose column appears in Homestyle. She speaks 3 p.m. Sunday, April 25. The two-day event also features vendor experts to answer questions and provide demonstrations, door prizes throughout the day, music and food from local restaurants, face painting for the kids and the Humane Society adoption center. There's also the giveaway of the \$1,000 grand prize makeover. Plymouth Nursery is located at 9900 Plymouth-Ann Arbor Road (just past Gotfredson) in Plymouth. For more information, call (734) 453-5500.

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

Placement center focuses on stronger families

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

Nannies & Tutors: College Nannies & Tutors is the nation's largest resource for nanny and tutoring services. We build stronger families by providing role models that lead to happy children and successful students through private nanny and tutor placements, hourly childcare and company sponsored work-life balance employee benefit programs. Whether a family needs the care, love and support that comes from a College Nanny, or the educational one-on-one attention from a College Tutor, the Ann Arbor Area Placement Center is committed to helping build stronger families. Observer: How did you first decide

to open your business? Nannies & Tutors: In 2009, I was evaluating and considering franchises that would complement my human resources background. I was presented with the concept of College Nannies & Tutors, with the mission of Building Stronger Families by providing Role Model nannies and tutors leading to happy children and successful students by Kendra Kerr, Entrepreneur Source.



Ragland-Keys

did you choose Plymouth? Nannies

& Tutors: My territory includes the Plymouth area and I am happy to

provide nanny and tutoring role models for families in the community.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Nannies & Tutors: We are unique based on matching talents and experiences to your specific needs through our "Complete Family Approach" and "Complete Student Approach" Models leading to a path of stronger families and successful students.

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

Nannies & Tutors: Running a small business requires wearing multiple hats throughout the day and evening.

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Nannies & Tutors: We opened in a down economy and believe our business is needed in our community. Observer: Any advice for other

COLLEGE NANNIES & TUTORS

- Business Name: College Nannies & Tutors
- Address: 3913 Jackson Road,
- Suite 9, Ann Arbor, MI 48103
- Your name and title: Sharon Ragland-Keys, Owner & Managing Director
- E-mail: sragland_keys@collegenannies.com
- Hometown: Ann Arbor.
- 2009
- How long at this location: February 2010
- Number of Employees: 10
- Business specialty: Education & Child Care Services
- Business Phone and/or Web site: (734) 761.8393; www.collegenannies.com; www.collegetutors.com

business owners?

Nannies & Tutors: Continue to follow your dreams of business ownership; our economy will rebound in the near future.

Observer: What's in store for the

future of your business? Nannies & Tutors: Continue to provide a customized approach to meet family individual needs.

CHAMBER CHAT

Reform timeline With the passage of the

health care reform legislation, there are many questions businesses and people have on how the changes could effect them. Go to www.cnn.com/2010/ POLITICS/03/23/health.care. timeline to find a CNN article that provides a timeline for implementation of the new reforms.

On April 28, the chamber will have a panel of local health care experts discuss the future of healthcare at our Good Morning Plymouth Community Breakfast.

Will you pay more or less for health care coverage? What will the quality of care be in the future? Will you need to change your insurance plan?

To help answer these questions, the Chamber has assembled a group of experts to discuss their views on the new health care legislation and the effect it will have on businesses and individuals. This panel features experts from each sector of healthcare:

• Provider: Tina Grant, director of State Advocacy, Trinity Health Systems, St. Mary Mercy Hospital and St. Joseph Hospital - Aside from providing the view of our largest local healthcare provider, she also is on the frontlines regarding public policy issues.

• Insurer: A representative from Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Michigan's largest health insurance provider with 65 percent market share, will provide their company's prospective.

• Benefit Consultant: Elaine Coffman, principal, Practice Leader, McGraw Wentworth - Michigan's leading employee group benefit consulting and brokerage company who solely focus on group benefits for mid-sized public and private



Wes Graff

organizations. This knowledgeable panel of experts will provide their insights and then take questions from our audience. Make sure you

or a member of your staff who is in charge of health benefits attends this breakfast to see what is "On the Healthcare Horizon."

Since seating for this breakfast is limited to 90 people, please RSVP as soon as possible to teri@plymouthmich. org or call (734) 453-1540. The breakfast will be from 7:30-9 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn and the cost is \$12. Cancellations must be received 48 hours prior to the event, since the Chamber is liable for all meals. The Hilton Garden Inn is located at 14600 Sheldon, just north of the Sheldon exit off of M-14.

Hazardous Waste Day

Plymouth and Plymouth Township residents can take their hazardous waste to Compuware Sports Arena, 14900 Beck Rd., from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on April 24. For a list of acceptable items, go to http://www. plymouthtwp.org/Community/ SpecialEvents/HHWDay2.

See the Tigers

The Plymouth Historical Museum is selling tickets to the Detroit Tigers vs. Chicago White Sox baseball game at Comerica Park on Monday, May 17. The tickets are in the upper deck. A luxury coach will pick up fans at the Plymouth Historical Museum at 5 p.m., with a 5:15 p.m. departure for the ballpark. The game starts at 7:05 p.m. The

coach will leave for Plymouth shortly after the game ends.

The \$44 ticket price includes one upper deck seat and a round-trip luxury coach ride from the museum to the ballpark. Tickets can be purchased at the Museum (155 S. Main Street) or by using PayPal at http://www.plymouthhistory. org/Events.html

Fourth Tuesdays

New Liberty Bank at 1333 W. Ann Arbor Road hosts casual information coffees on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 7:30-9 a.m. Join them for free coffee, donuts and their panel of experts who will be on hand to answer banking and financial questions. Registration is not necessary, just stop by.

New member directory

The chamber's new Membership Directory and Area Profile just arrived at the Chamber office. The directory is a high quality, full-color publication that serves as a first class, quality of life piece for the community and as our printed membership directory. Members are listed alphabetically and by business category.

The new guide incorporates our Plymouth Rocks community marketing campaign into the design and has the same appearance as our web site, street map and social networking sites. We are excited to now have another excellent marketing tool to promote this community as a great place to live, work and visit.

Directories will be mailed to all members during the first full week of April.

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

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Board CEO

Sommers Schwartz, P.C., announced its board of directors, including Joseph Bourgon of Plymouth. Bourgon was elected to serve

as the Chief Operating Officer. Bourgon is

> partner in the business

finance, real

estate and

commercial



loan transactions practice group at Sommers Schwartz, P.C. with widespread knowledge in advising borrowers.

Sommers Schwartz, P.C. is a full-service plaintiff law firm located in Southfield, at 2000 Town Center, Suite 900 – 9th floor. For more information, call (248) 355-0300 or log onto www.sommerspc.com

Food drive

Downtown Plymouth is undergoing a Streetscape Project to improve the downtown Plymouth community. In conjunction with this, the **Downtown Development**

Authority wants to support underprivileged families within the Plymouth community. In an effort to do so, the DDA is partnering with the Plymouth Community United Way to collect food and supplies to donate to the Salvation Army Plymouth Corps. Looking for downtown

Plymouth businesses to participate, the DDA is encouraging downtown businesses to accept donations April 17 to May 17 of non-perishable items. This will afford donors the opportunity to walk the streets of Plymouth and explore downtown establishments. The DDA will provide a donation box that each owner is free to decorate.

Businesses interested in participating can contact the

Small-biz partners

Through a new partnership with the 14-campus Davenport University, members of the Small Business Association of Michigan and their employees (along with dependents) have the opportunity to further their education at a reduced rate. The SBAM/Davenport

program offers 25 percent off tuition and waiving of the \$25 application fee.

For more information, go to www.sbam.org/davenport.

Davenport offers associates, bachelor's and master's degrees in business, technol-

ogy and health programs - areas essential to Michigan's new economy. The university also offers a number of certificates to add to current credentials or prepare for certification exams. Campuses are conveniently located across Michigan and courses can be completed on campus or online.

Home sweepstakes

Century 21 Real Estate LLC, the franchisor of the world's largest residential real estate sales organization, announced the "\$8,000 List Your Home Sweepstakes." Through June 30, every eligible home seller who lists their home with a CENTURY 21 agent will be automatically entered for a chance to win \$8,000. To connect with your local CENTURY 21 Agent or to view sweepstakes rules and details, visit century21.com/sweepstakes.

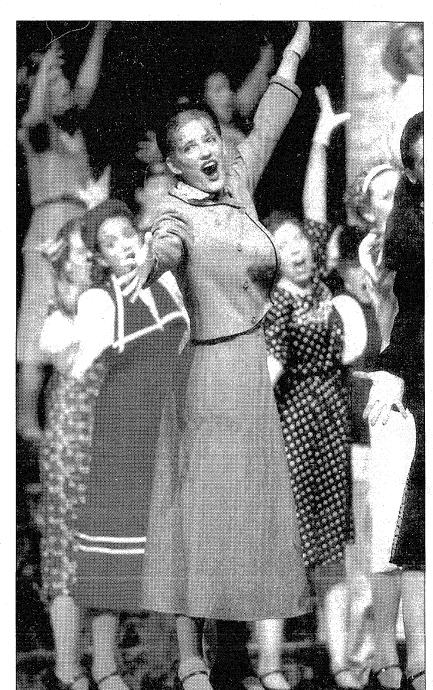


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ENTERTAINMENT



Interactive show benefits scholarship, honors former student

BY SHARON DARGAY

O&E STAFF WRITER

Anna Bonde would have loved playing to a full

"Anna was the best of us," said Scott Cramton,

a graduate of Churchill's Creative and Performing

Arts (CAPA) program with Anna and founder of

the Murder Mystery Company. "She was first off

Cramton's theater company, along with other

dinner show to raise funds for the scholarship that

The show, which combines improvisation, cos-

tumed murder mystery characters and audience interaction, will start at 7:30 p.m. in the cafete-

ria at Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh,

Livonia. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for senior

computer loaded with programs used for email,

internet, web surfing etc. Great for students, grandparents, small business or anyone

but call now and claim up to two for \$179 each through this special, program. Phone lines open

One Time Public Offer

These Windows powered PCs are limited to the first 225 Callers, These sell for up to \$600 in stores.

CAPA graduates, will stage the murder mystery

was established in Anna's memory after she was

killed by a drunken driver in 2001.

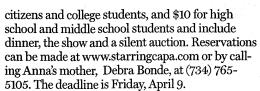
far and away the most talented person I've ever

met. She was a dear friend to so many people."

house with former Livonia Churchill High School

classmates at the 1st Annual Murder Mystery

Dinner, Friday, April 16 at their alma mater.



CAPA GRAD

Anna, who graduated in 1999, had been a member of CAPA and performed in numerous musicals and plays while at Churchill. She was a friend of Cramton, who runs the Murder Mystery Company in Grand Rapids, and of Justin Issa and Adam Mack, who work with its Chicago, Ill., troupe.

"They wanted to bring one of the shows here and do it in her honor," said Bonde, who met Issa and Mack for lunch a few months ago to talk about the concept. "They told me about their idea and I was thrilled and touched that they would do that. I didn't think they were still so touched by her death.

"One of the biggest fears parents have is that their child will be forgotten. They never got a chance to make their mark. It would be easy for

Cost-Effective

these kids to go on with their lives. The fact they remember her and loved her so much just blows me awav.'

Bonde said many volunteers, including parents of current students, have donated food for the event or solicited businesses for food and auction

More than 200 tickets have been sold, with approximately 400 individuals expected to attend the event.

BIG PRODUCTION

Cramton, whose Murder Mystery Company troupes dot the map from California to Ohio, says the Churchill event will be his "most lavish show."

Typically, the performances use one to five actors, depending on the size of the audience. The show at Churchill will include about 30 actors.

"So many actors will make it an extravagant and amazing piece this time," Cramton noted. "Not all of them will be on stage in a traditional manner. Some will be interacting with the audi-

"Our claim to fame is that we interact more with the audience than most shows do." Cramton

Every show is customized and audience members feel like a part of the show. Some are given a costume and invited to play a character. Everyone works together to solve the murder mystery.

Cramton extends an "open invitation" to CAPA grads to work with his company.

"All of the CAPA kids are just fantastic. The training you get in CAPA is heads and tails above any other training I've ever received," he said. Bonde said the Murder Mystery Company also

plans to involve some current students in the Churchill show. "They've already done some workshops with

them. I thought that was a nice way to give back,"

The Anna Bonde Memorial Scholarship has given \$20,000 to CAPA seniors since it was established in 2002.

SCENES WOULD MAKE EVEN

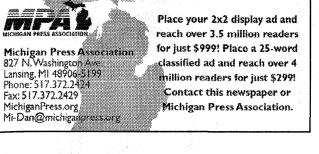
AVATAR' JEALOUS." People

FUNNY AND TOUCHING

To learn more about the Murder Mystery Company, visit www.grimprov.com

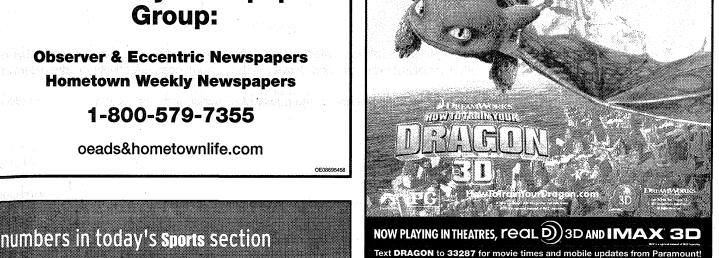






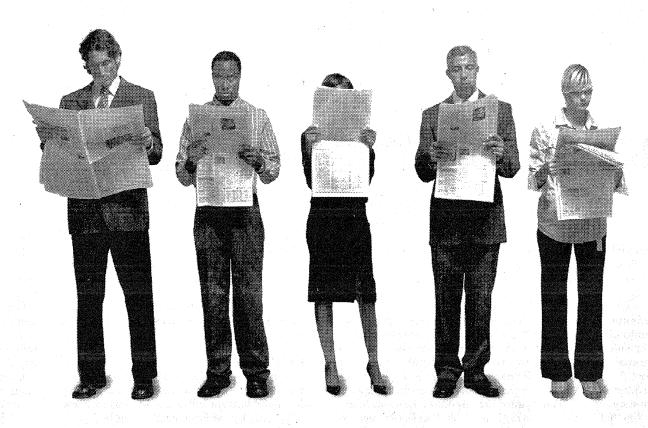
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larger investment in journalism than any other medium. Most of the information you already read from "aggregators" and other media originated with newspapers. No amount of effort from local bloggers, non-profit news entities or TV news sources could match the depth and breadth of newspaperproduced content.

This is not a portrait of a dying industry. It's illustrative of transformation. Newspapers are reinventing themselves to focus on serving distinct audiences with a variety of products, and delivering those audiences effectively to advertisers across media channels.

For more on the power of newspaper media, visit newspapermedia.com.



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Costic Center

Time/Date: Thursday-Saturday, April 22-24 **Location**: 28600 West 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: The Annual Festival of the Arts celebrates "Hats Off to the Arts" with displays, events, and activities for all ages. The celebration incorporates a special exhibit featuring the unique, artistic hats of Mr. Song Millinery, in Southfield. Luke Song designed Aretha Franklin's famous presidential inauguration hat. The special exhibit runs April 15beginning on April 15-May 9, with a meet-the-artist reception 6-8 p.m., April 16. Admission is free

Contact: (248) 473-1870

Lotus Arts Gallery Time/Date: Through April

Location: 995 West Ann Arbor Trail, downtown Plymouth

Details: Colored Pencil Society of Detroit exhibit; 6-8 p.m., April 10, meet the artists; light hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served **Contact**: (888) 889-4ART (toll free) or (734)453-5400

Northville Art House

Time/Date: Through April 24

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville Details: "Mudville USA," an installation by Eric Mesko

Coming up: Doll making class taught by Charlie Patricolo, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., April 24-25. The two-day class costs \$100, along with a \$10 kit fee. Registration is available now

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

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

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, Open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Rodney Laney, through April 10, Mark Sweeney, April 14-17;

Andres Fernandez, April 21-24

Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

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

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle Time/Date: Steve McGrew, April 8-10 Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

Housing Commission office.

Publish: April 4 and 8, 2010

Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

CONCERTS

The Ark

Time/Date: Patty Larkin, April 8; Mason Jennings, April 9; Mr. B's Piano Celebration with Bob Seeley, April 11; Chic Gamine, April 13; King Sunny

NOTICE The Wayne Housing Commission has completed revisions to its 2010 Admissions and Continued Occupancy Plan (ACOP) and its Lease Agreement. The ACOP and Lease Agreement are available

for review at the Wayne Housing Commission office located at 4001 S Wayne Rd., Wayne, MI 48184. The Commission's hours of operation are 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday. In

addition a public hearing will be held, to give interested parties the

opportunity to comment on the revisions of the ACOP and Lease

Agreement on Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. at the Wayne

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email: roofing@eriemetalroofs.com

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Ade & His African Beats, April 14; Brian Vander Ark, April 15; The Hot Club of Cowtown, April 16; Hoots and Hellmouth, April 17; The Belleville Outfit, April 18; E.C. Scott, April 20; Martin Sexton, April 21; BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet, April 23; Nervous But Excited & Joshua Davis, April 24; The Infamous Stringdusters, April 25; Chris Pureka, April 26; Matt Jones, April 27; Eliza Gilkyson, April 28; Jonatha Brooke, April 29; Down the Line, April 30

Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org

Detroit Institute of Arts

Time/Date: Friday Night Live concerts, 7 and 8:30 p.m.

Location: 5200 Woodward Ave Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

Henry Ford Estate

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., April 14

Location: On the campus of University of Michigan-Dearborn, 4901

Evergreen, Dearborn

Details: Violinist Gabriel Bolkosky and pianist Michele Cooker perform at Fair Lane Music Guild's final concert of the season. Enjoy dessert while listening to Bolcom's "Third Sonata" as well as works by Beethoven and Franck. Tickets are \$15 per person, \$14 for senior citizens and \$9 for students

Contact: (313) 593-5330, or www.umd.umich.edu/fair_lane_music_guild

JWH Center for the Arts

Time/Date: 6:15-6:45 p.m., open mic sign up; performances, 7 p.m. Location: 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: BaseLine Folk Society open mic is for acoustic, folk and traditional musicians. Admission is \$5. BaseLine Folk Society open mic runs every third Saturday of the month through May

Contact: Mike Mullen, founder, mimmullen@yahoo.com

Magic Bag

Time/Dates: Mackinac Island's Last Waltz, April 10; Deadstring Brothers CD release, April 16; The Mega 80's, April 17 and 24; The 30th Anniversary Tour, An Evening with The Church, April 18; The Hard Lessons, April 23; Greensky Bluegrass, April 30

Location: 22920 Woodward, Ferndale

Contact: (248) 544-3030, www. themagicbag.com

Oakland Community College Time/Date: 8 p.m., April 9

Location: Smith Theatre at the Orchard Ridge campus, located just south of I-696 on Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills

Details: Ginka Gerova-Ortega presents "Flute Spectrums," a program of jazz, world music, narration, and classics, with Jint Zhant, Zhichen Zhao dancers, pianists Raffaella Medoro and Scott Gwinnell, Miles Brown on bass, Sean Dobbins on percussion. Mark Stone on vibes and steel drums and The Oakland Jazz Quartet: admission is \$14 **Contact**: (248) 522-3666

Orchestra Hall

Time/Date: 8 p.m., April 19 Location: At Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit

Details: Comedian Steve Martin plays banjo with the Steep Canyon Rangers; tickets \$25-90 Contact: (313) 576-5111

Seligman Performing Arts Center

Time/Date: 8 p.m., April 10 Location: 22305 West 13 Mile, on the campus of Detroit Country Day Detroit.

School, Beverly Hills Details: Richard Goode on piano;

repertoire includes Bach, Haydn and Schumann. Tickets range from \$43-75; students pay \$25

Steve Martin performs bluegrass

music, April 19 at Orchestra Hall in

Contact: (248) 855-6070

Trinity House Theater

Time/Date: Kitty Donohoe, April 9; Great Lakes Songwriting Contest Show, April 10; Trinity House Theatre Benefit Concert with Josh White, Jr., Jan Krist, Dave Boutette, April 16: Empty Chair Night with Joel Palmer. Annie and Rod Capps, Allison Downey and John Latini, April 23; Tracy Kash Thomas with Luke Sayers, April 24; Keri Noble, April 28; Bill Isles, April 30

Location: 38840 West Six Mile, Livonia Contact: (734) 464-6302, www.trinityhouse.org

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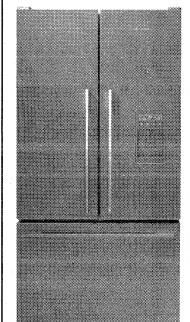
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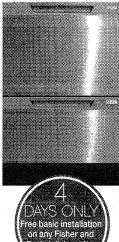


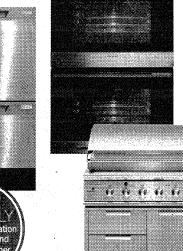
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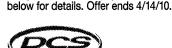




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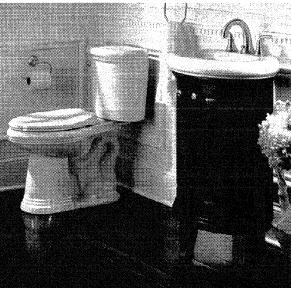


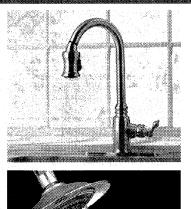
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An exciting new monthly series of personal stories and testimonies to answer the questions: what attracts people to the Catholic faith, what holds them there, what brings them back?

Series continues Wednesday, April 14th at 7 PM with Archdiocesan Coordinator of Evangelization, author, speaker, and orthodox Episcopalian convert, Paco Gavrilides. No charge, no reservations, no pressure. All are welcome.

St. Michael the Archangel School

11441 Hubbard Rd.

(South of Plymouth Rd.) Livonia
734-261-1455 • www.livoniastmichael.org

Mission at Redford parish aims to spark faith renewal

O&E STAFF WRITER

The parishioners at Our Lady of Loretto in Redford hope to "spark the holy spirit within" and "set their faith on fire" with a renewal mission beginning Sunday, April 18.

They'll listen to a message from former Pentecostal minister, now a Roman Catholic deacon, Alex Jones.

And they're extending an invitation to the public to join them for any or all of the three-day revival.

"It's going to be different for us, but different can be good," said Jim Feldt, a member of the church's evangelization committee. "Let's be honest," the Catholic Church has a somewhat stale reputation. It's not a Bible-thumping

The mission is free and open to the public. It runs Sunday-Tuesday, April 18-20, at the church, located at 17116 Olympia, Redford. The church's contemporary ensemble will perform each night. Food and fellowship will follow the presentations. Call (313) 534-9000.

church. To get someone with this man's fire ... I want to see something through his eyes."

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 8, 2010

Jones, of Farmington Hills, a former teacher in Detroit Public Schools, led Zion Congregational Church of God in Christ, the state's second oldest Pentecostal church, from 1975-1982. He was senior minister at an Evangelical/ Charismatic church for the next 18 years. While preparing for a Bible study one day, he began reading about church history, including writings by

the Apostolic Fathers, disciples and martyrs of the 1st and 2nd century Christian church. His discoveries drew him and his wife, Donna, to the Catholic Church. They and 54 members of his Evangelical congregation began the conversion process two years later and were confirmed at an Easter Vigil service in 2001.

Jones subsequently was ordained a deacon, became the evangelization coordinator for the Archdiocese of Detroit - a position from which he has

retired - and earned a master's degree in pastoral studies. The author of No Price Too High: A Pentecostal Preacher Becomes Catholic, Jones serves St. Suzanne parish in Detroit and speaks on a variety of topics at missions, conferences and workshops throughout the country.

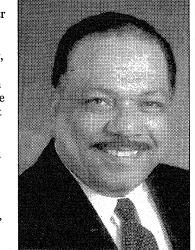
LIGHTING A FIRE

"He's a man with a story and that draws you in. What's nice about this talk is that it's not just about that," said Feldt, adding that Jones will touch briefly on his own life before moving on to a broader topic.

"His talk appeals to all denominations. It's not a recruitment to the Catholic Church. It's about renewing your faith, setting your faith Loretto's evangelization committee, formed less than a year ago, needs before it can begin its work.

"If you believe in something, you want to share that with someone else. If you believe in Jesus you want to tell someone else. With that simple concept we formed the evangelization committee," Feldt explained. "There's no book that tells you here's how to do it. We're feeling our way around. Before we evangelize our faith needs to be on fire. We thought this would be a great way to start."

The mission is free and open to the public. It runs Sunday-Tuesday, April 18-20, at the church, located at 17116 Olympia, Redford. The church's contemporary ensemble will perform each



Jones

night. Food and fellowship will follow the presentations. Call (313) 534-9000.

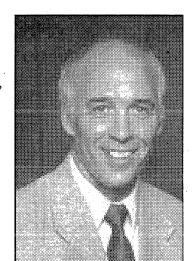
Speaker shares conversion story at Livonia church

St. Michael the Archangel Church's new series, "Why Be Catholic," which opened to a standing-room-only crowd of more than 300 individuals in January, continues Wednesday, April 14 with Paco Gavrildes, author, speaker and retreat master.

Gavrildes, who serves as the archdiocesan coordinator of **Evangelization and Catholic** Men's Ministry, will speak at 7 p.m., in the school cafeteria, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, in Livonia.

The orthodox Episcopalian convert will share the story of his conversion to Catholicism. He describes his conversion as "discovering I wasn't standing on solid ground anymore and realizing a whole new world was opening up to me."

Gavrildes served as an international missionary for more than 20 years, is director of the annual Archdiocese of Detroit Men's Conferences, and gives regular marriage retreats with his wife, Inez. He also edited a series of faith-based workbooks and has made many guest appearances on Catholic



Gavrildes

radio.

There is no charge for his presentation and no reservations are required. A children's ministry is available through prior arrangement with www.childrensministry@ livoniastmichael.org.

For more information call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 207, or visit the parish Web site at www.livoniastmichael.org.

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.

APRIL 8-14

Congregation Beth Ahm

Time/Date: 1:30 p.m., Sunday, April 11 Location: 5075 West Maple, West Bloomfield Details: Dr. Amy Brode will talk about the overactive bladder and incontinence, at a program sponsored by the congregation's Sisterhood; free admission and open to the public

Coming up: The Sisterhood starts a weekly Mah Jongg group, 12:30-3 p.m., Tuesday, April 13. Cost is \$1 per person; participants should bring current Mah Jongg card. Also a free weekly DVD series continues at 1 p.m. Wednesday; topics for April 14 are "Rome Arrives in Jerusalem" and "Parting with the Temple," drop-ins welcome and no reservations needed

Contact: (248) 851-6880 or www.cbahm.org for Brode's program; Gail Ellenbogen at (248) 626-4123 or e-mail gellenbo@yahoo.com for Mah Jongg; Nancy Kaplan at (248) 737-1931 for DVD series The Corners

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, April 9 Location: 2075 Walnut Lake Road, just west of Inkster Road, West Bloomfield

fessor in the Intellectual Heritage Department at Temple University, leads a workshop about the interface between Kabbalah and the Enneagram. He'll explain how to use it for personal growth and working with clients in the helping professions. Cost is \$100

RELIGION CALENDAR

Contact: RSVP to Michael Abramsky at (248) 644-

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 6-7 p.m., April 11, 18, 25 Location: 9601 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: Ballroom dancing lessons, followed by a practice session, with music, A dance party will be held 7-9:30 p.m., April 25. Light refreshments will be served. Cost is \$6 for each lesson and \$6 for the dance. Attend the class and dance for \$10. Pay at the door in Fellowship Hall. The proceeds from the March classes will go to the Cancer Relay for Life; April's proceeds will go to the Capital Improvement

Contact: (734) 751-1957 or (734) 422-0494

APRIL 15-21

Birmingham Temple Time/Date: 8 p.m., Saturday, April 17

Location: 28611 West 12 Mile, Farmington Hills **Details:** Vivace Music Series features pianist Ralph Votapek performing works by Copland, Schubert, Ravel and Albeniz. Afterglow and refreshments follow the concert; tickets are \$20 for members and seniors, \$23 non-members. Student and group rates available

Contact: Joyce Cheresh at (248) 788-0338 or Ann Sipher at (248) 661-1348

Congregation Beth Ahm

Time/Date: 10:30-11:30 a.m., April 17

Location: 5075 West Maple, West Bloomfield **Details:** Shabbat Club for kids provides a morning of parasha play, games, interactive learning and

Contact: RSVP to Amy Newman at relschool@ cbahm.org or (248) 851-8820

The Corners

Shabbat fun

Time/Date: 5 p.m., Saturday, April 17 Location: 2075 Walnut Lake Road, just west of Inkster, in West Bloomfield

Details: Enjoy a "Moment of Shabbat" with your 2- through 6-year-olds and celebrate Shabbat with songs, stories, arts and crafts and a special Havdalah service, sponsored by Temple Shir Shalom; no charge

Contact: (248) 406-4255

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Saturday, April 17 **Location**: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington Road and Newburgh, Livonia

Details: "Spring Fling" dance designed for adults with developmental disabilities, special needs, and their caretakers includes music, fun, and friendship. Snacks and beverages will be served

Contact: RSVP no later than April 9 to Judy Cook at (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to judy@emmanuellivonia.org

Leon's

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., April 17

Location: 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's) in Garden City

Details: Bethany Suburban West monthly breakfast meeting, all separated, divorced and singles may attend

Contact: Kathy at (734) 513-9479

Please see CALENDAR, NEXT PG.

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St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church St. Genevieve School - PreK-8 29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220 (East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)

St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church 32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616 tween Merriman & Farmington Roads)

MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a, Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a

MASS: Tues. 7 p, Wed., Thurs. 9 a, Sat. 4 p, Sun 11a

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

5801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-15 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196 OE086878

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Farmington Hills 23225 Gill Rd. 248-474-0584 SATURDAY WORSHIP • 5:30 PM

Sunday Worship & Sunday School 9:00 AM TRADITIONAL/CHORAL SERVICE 10:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL - ALL AGES

11:15 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE NURSERY AVAILABLE BILL & LAUREN KIRSH-CARR, PASTORS

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Worship: '9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter

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

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church

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

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

734-522-6830

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional



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

Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Senior Pastor: Rev. Dean Davenport Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

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THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.

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CONGREGATIONAL

North Congregational Church 36520 12 Mile Rd. **Farmington Hills**

(bet. Drake & Halsted) (248) 848-1750 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School

Faith - Freedom-Fellowship Ministers Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron

St. Aidan Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., Thursday,

Location: 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: David J. Conrad, M.A., Theology is the presenter at a program called "The Church: Its Essential Qualities and Purpose" **Contact**: RSVP by noon the day of the event to (734) 425-5950 St. Theodore Catholic Church Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to noon,

Sunday, April 18 Location: 8200 N. Wayne Road,

Westland Details: All you can eat pancake and French toast breakfast also

includes ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, tea, coffee, milk and juice. It's sponsored by St. Theodore Men's Club. Cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, age

Contact: (734) 425-4421

APRIL 22-28

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, April 23 and 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday,

Location: 28000 New Market, just north of 12 Mile, east of Farmington Road in Farmington Hills

Details: The Woman's League of the church sponsors a rummage and bake sale. In addition to clothing and homemade baked goods, the sale will feature small appliances, furniture, books, bedding, linens, toys, jewelry and much more. \$3 and \$5 bag sale on Saturday Contact: Lucille Ehlers at (248) 553

2889

April 29-May 5 **Antioch Lutheran Church**

Time/Date: Rummage sale 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, April 30, and 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, May 1 Location: 33360 West 13 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: The church also is collecting items for the sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 5-9 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, April 26-28 Contact: Judy Glass at (248) 476-

Congregation B'nai Moshe Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., May 2 Location: 6800 Drake, West

Bloomfield Details: "Torah, Technology and the Future of Israel," will explore the relationship of Torah values to the applications of modern technology. There will be a panel presentation with Steven Bekhor. on "Israel's Nuclear Horizon," Ellen P. Rosenberg, on "Water Resources and Conservation in Israel," and Steven H. Schwartz with "Torah Values and the Environment. The B'nai Moshe Choir will perform and there will be a question and answer period followed by a social hour with refreshments. Admission is

Contact: RSVP to (248) 788-0600 St. Aidan

Time/Date: 6-9 p.m., Thursday, April 29

Location: 17500 Farmington Road,

Livonia **Details**: The Rev. Norm Dickson and

Dr. Mary Healy will be the guest speakers at the Endow groups at the church. The session, a reflection on Women of Peace and Love, is aimed at women and girls, age 16 and over. A light dinner will be included. A free will offering will be accepted

Contact: RSVP to the parish office by April 25 at (734) 425-5950

ONGOING

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, hash browns, 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

Career workshops St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

Time/Date: First and third Mondays Location: 30900 Six Mile, Livonia **Details:** Workshops are designed to help people in employment transition build a network and use their resources to find that next good job. Workshop leaders are available to work one-on-one with anyone looking for work.

Contact: (734) 422-6038 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, (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. 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,

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 **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

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. 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

Contact: (734) 427-3660 **Nardin Park United Methodist** Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday Location: 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests

Contact: (248) 476-8860 St. Edith Church Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through the back of the church Details: Music, singing, prayer Contact: Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at

(734) 464-8906 St. Michael's Church of Livonia Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. third

Wednesday Location: Corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads, Livonia **Details**: Parish prayer and **Eucharistic Adoration. Benediction** service follows Contact: (734) 261-1455

Sinales First Presbyterian Church Time/Date: Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening,

8-9 p.m. program Location: 200 E. Main St., Northville **Details:** Single Place Ministry meets; cost is \$5

Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org **Ward Evangelical Presbyterian**

Church Time/Date: 11:30 a.m., Sunday Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville **Details:** Single Point Ministries, for ages 30 and older, offers fellowship and related topics. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation Contact: (248) 374-5920

Song Circle **Congregation Beth Ahm** Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m.,

every Shabbat Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Sing zemirot (traditional Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in transliteration as well as the original Hebrew.

Contact: (248) 737-1931 or e-mail nancyellen879@att.net.

Support **Detroit World Outreach** Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; room 202

Details: Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems, drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling

Contact: (313) 255-2222, Ext. 244 **Farmington Hills Baptist Church** Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August Location: 28301 Middlebelt, between

12 Mile and 13 Mile **Details:** Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group Contact: (248) 433-1011

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m., second and fourth Thursday Location: 2055 Merriman, Garden

Merriman Road Baptist Church

City **Details:** Metro Fibro-Myalgia support

group meets; no dues, but donations are accepted Contact: www.metrofibrogroup. com; or call Lucy with questions at

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

(734) 462-1768

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday morning

Location: 16360 Hubbard, Livonia **Details**: A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) ... is available. There are no requirements, this a service the church wants the community to be aware of and use if needed. Donations of nonperishable items also accepted for the cupboard.

Contact: (734) 421-8451. St. John's Episcopal Church Time/Date: 10 a.m., the first and third Friday

Location: 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth Details: St. John's Support Group for the Caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients or patients with other forms of dementia meets. Respite care is provided. The group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association

Contact: Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426

Thomas a' Becket Church Time/Date: Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m.; support group meeting starts at 7 p.m., Thursday **Location**: 555 S. Lilley, Canton **Details:** Take Off Pounds Sensibly encourages members to lose weight

and keep it off Contact: Margaret at (734) 838-0322

Unity of Livonia

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday Location: 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads, Livonia **Details:** Overeaters Anonymous

Contact: (313) 387-9797. www.oa.org **Ward Evangelical Presbyterian**

Time/Date: 6 p.m. dinner (optional); 7 p.m., praise and worship; 8 p.m. small group discussion; 9 p.m. Solid

Rock Cafe (optional coffee and desserts)

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville **Details**: Celebrate Recovery helps men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hang-ups (addictive and compulsive behaviors); child care is free

Contact: For child care call (248) 374-7400. Visit www.celebraterecovery.com and www.wardchurch. org/celebrate

Thrift store St. James Presbyterian Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.,

Saturday Location: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford Contact: (313) 534-7730 Way of Life Christian Church Time/Date: 2-3:30 p.m., third

Saturday from October through May Location: 9401 General Drive, Lilley Executive Plaza, Suite 100, Plymouth **Details**: Women's fellowship is designed for women with a question to know God more in their lives Contact: (734) 637-7618

WORSHIP

Adat Shalom Synagogue Time/Date: 6 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m., Saturday, 7:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., Sunday and 6 p.m., week days

Location: 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills Contact: (248) 851-5100 **Christ Our Savior Lutheran**

Church Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services; 9:45 a.m. Sunday school and youth and adult Bible classes Location: 14175 Farmington Road, just north of I-96, Livonia Contact: (734) 522-6830



KSENIA BZDEL

91, of Farmington Hills away April 1, 2010. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, Farmington, MI

BETTY JEAN MARIE GERICH

Age 78. March 31, 2010. Beloved wife of the late John Gerich. Loving mother of Michael Gerich and Susan (Ray) Rogal. Grandmother of Michael. Heather, Caroline, Lauren, and Rachel. Great-grandmother of Mikayla and Mikenzie. Will also be missed by a long list of loving family members and friends. Visitation was held on Monday at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia. Funeral Service was Tuesday, at Grace Lutheran Church. Interment Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia. Memorial contributions may be made to Grace Lutheran Church in Betty's honor.



JOHN K. MARIKIS

March 31, 2010 age 82. Beloved husband of the late Eleni. Loving father of Sandy (Curt) Hamilton, Bessie (Kevin) Bone, and Dina (Robert) DeMerell. Dearest grandfather of eight. Survived by his siblings Dimitri, Christoforos, Paraskevi and George. Memorials to church or Alzheimer's



ELSIE E. OSMAK (HENDRICKSON)

Age 90, passed away April 2, 2010. Survived by husband Anton (Tony), daughter Beverly (Brian) Barna and brother Melvin Hendrickson. Also survived by Pete, Paul, Irene (late Joe) Osmak and many nieces, nephews and cousins. Preceded in death by her parents and brothers Hugo, Elden and Gordon.

> May You $oldsymbol{F}$ inid Comfort in Family Friends



DARWIN B. SCHLESING

husband of Dorothy Headrick Schlesing, died Friday, April 2, 2010 at Self Regional Medical Center. Born in St. Louis, MO, he was the son of the late George and Louise Schlesing. Surviving is his wife, Dorothy; a daughter, Nancy Stock and her husband, Mark; a son, Bill Schlesing and his wife, Michelle; two sisters, Audrey Johanson and her husband, Sam, and Doris Hartman and her husband, Bill; a brother, Orville Schlesing and his wife, Betty Lou; loving sister-in-law, Marie Headrick; grandchildren, Erin Schlesing, Elyse Schlesing, Janet Stock and Elliot Stock. A memorial service will be held at 11a.m. Friday at Wesley Commons, Asbury Hall, with the Rev. Carol Peppers-Wray officiating. It is respectfully requested that flowers be omitted and memorials be made to the American Cancer Society, PO Box 1741, Greenwood, SC 29648 or to the American Diabetes Association, Greenville-Spartanburg NC-SC

Office, 16-A Brozzini Court, Greenville, SC 29615. Harley Funeral Home and Crematory, Greenwood, SC, is in charge of arrangements. Messages may be sent to the family by visiting www.harleyfuneralhome.com



TOM E. SCROGGS, JR. "The Troll"

Age 51, April 4, 2010, of Livonia. Beloved husband of Victoria. Loving father of Joseph and Anthony. Dear son of Wilma. Brother of Virginia (Tom) Chambers, Cheryl (Paul) Wydendorf, Tammie, Robin (Jim) Roberts, and Fred. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Visitation Thursday from 2-9pm at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Please sign Tom's online guestbook at www.rggrharris.com.

Age 98, passed away Thursday, April 1, 2010 in the comfort and presence of his family. Larry was born and grew up in Sanilac County, Michigan; later moving to Detroit to work as a welder and raise his family. The son of Alonzo and Annie Setter, he married the late Alberta Hepfinger on September 3, 1935. He is survived by his loving daughters Marie (Bill) LaVonne (Doug), and Cindy (Mark) his brother Charles Setter of Brown City, nine grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. Larry enjoyed life. travel and the company of his friends and loved ones. His life included a long history with the Lola Valley Masonic Lodge 583 as a Lifetime Member and Master Mason where he served as Worshipful Master in 1970. He was also named Lola Valley Lodge Mason of the Year. Larry was also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Later in life, Larry married the late Lillian Lannom. He also was a long time companion to the late Bessie Barber. Visitation will be Friday, April 9 from 1-9pm at Fisher Funeral Home (24501 5 Mile, Redford Twp). Larry will be honored by the Lola Valley Masonic Lodge 583 F.&A.M. and Kindness Chapter 523 O.E.S. on the evening of Friday, April 9. Funeral proceedings and a celebration of his life are scheduled for Saturday, April 10 at 11am at Fisher Funeral Interment at Grandlawn Home. Cemetery, Detroit, MI. has requested that all donations be directed to the Lola Valley Lodge 583 F.&A.M. or the charity of your choice.

LAWRENCE AVON SETTER

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: Flags, religious American symbols, etc.)

Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday dnesday 9:45 AM for Thursday Obituaries received after these deadline will be placed in the next available issue e-mail your obit to

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VegFest

Feed yourself inside and out with fresh ingredients

LUSH cosmetics, known for its skin care products made of fresh fruits and vegetables, will be among more than 60 exhibitors at VegMichigan's "VegFest," an event that teaches about foods and other products that are plant-based and animal-free.

The annual celebration runs 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, April 18, at Ferndale High School, 881 Pinecrest, south of Nine Mile,

west of Woodward, in Ferndale. Admission is \$10 at the door for adults, \$5 for students and free for children under 6 and VegMichigan members.

VegFest is part of the worldwide Great American Meatout, now in its 26th year. Festivities take place each spring across America and in two dozen other countries, encouraging people to "go meatless" for a day and explore a healthier, environmentally friendly, plant-based

VegFest visitors can taste vegetarian and vegan foods from more than two dozen restaurants and stores, including Four Oatmeal and bananas are just for the Moore Foods of Westland and Krishna Catering & Restaurant of Garden City, win door prizes, browse exhibits, and hear

guest speakers, including Rory Freedman, author of Skinny Bitch, and John Salley, former NBA champion and television personality. Other presenters throughout the day will include Dr. Joel Kahn, medical director of cardiac rehabilitation at Beaumont Hospital; diabetes specialist Caroline Trapp; environmentalist Troy Farwell, director of Upland Hills Ecological Awareness Center; raw foods educator and Schoolcraft College graduate Andrea McNinch, founder of Regeneration Raw; and VegMichigan president Harry Pianko.

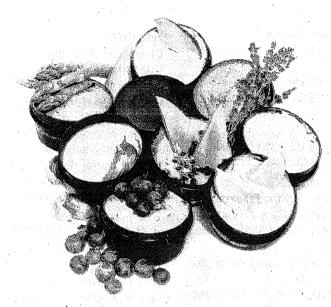
face mask.

Exhibitors run the gamut, from an organic farm to health professionals to animal sanctuary and rescue groups. Local representatives include The Treehouse for Earth's Children health food store in Farmington, Puppy Mill Awarenss of Northville and LUSH, with stores in Novi, Troy and Sterling Heights.

LUSH sells skin care, bath, cosmetics and fragrance products that are 100 percent vegetarian. No animal testing is done on LUSH products or ingredients and 65 percent are preservative-

Product creator Helen Ambrosen is responsible for the company's innovative range of products made of fresh organic produce. They're created daily and stored in refrigerators at LUSH shops

Ambrosen also created a few simple how-to's for whipping up a face mask, hair shine treatment and sea salt body scrub, all with ingredients that are likely to be on hand:



LUSH cosmetics uses fruits and vegetables in many of its cosmetics.

FACE MASK

2 medium, nicely ripe bananas (peeled) 2 tablespoons of runny honey 1 fairly ripe peach (stoned and skinned)

2 generous tablespoons of ground almonds

Fine ground oatmeal

Blend the bananas, honey, and peach together to make rich mucilage. Bananas are excellent skin softeners and have potent moisturizing properties. Peaches are a good fruit choice for young skins as they cleanse and help remove excess sebum without stripping the skin. Honey is excellent for all skins, especially if you are prone to breakout, as it helps keep spots at bay and reduces redness. (A good tip if you do have spots is to dab honey straight onto it.)

Add the ground almonds and mix together — the almonds are to help polish the skin and remove dead surface cells.

Add enough oatmeal to make a paste that can be spread onto the face and neck. Apply gently to face and neck area, being careful not to drag the skin. Leave for 10-15 minutes and remove gently with warm water.

SEA SALT BODY SCRUB

2 tablespoons of fine sea salt

Olive oil or Brazil nut oil

Take 2 tablespoons of fine sea salt and mix to a paste with a heavy oil such as olive oil or even better, Brazil nut oil. This is deeply nourishing for the skin.

Wet the skin and apply to the backs of arms, legs and anywhere where the skin is rough. Don't use on the décolleté area. Rinse off the skin.

HAIR SHINE TREATMENT

1 tablespoon of apple juice

2 tablespoons of lemon juice

Take 1 tablespoon of apple juice and mix with two tablespoons of lemon juice for a quick hair shine treatment. After shampooing and conditioning, apply to the ends of the hair, leave for a minute and then rinse. This should give a nice shine.

Sharon Dargay

CITY BITES

Shots for Breast Cancer

Livonia - You can be a part of history Sunday, April 18, as Claddagh Irish Pub attempts to break the world record for the most shots of Irish whiskey downed in succession.

Audra Borger, sales manager, likens the process to a line of

We're scheduled to start at 8:45 p.m., but we're asking people to get there by 7:30 p.m. and we're lining everyone up at 8 p.m. We'll line people up like a Christmas shopping line.

At the appointed time, the individual at the start of the line will down a shot of Jameson Irish Whiskey, followed by the next person in line until every shot is gone.

We figure it will take 15 minutes to get through the entire pub," she said. "There will be some coordination involved between pubs as well."

The action will start at 6:30 p.m. at one of Claddagh's 14 other locations in the Midwest, travelling from pub to pub as participants at each site down their drinks in hopefully seamless succession. The Livonia location, followed by the Claddagh pub in Lansing, will bring the "largest shot slam" to a close.

Claddagh hopes to register at least 150 participants in advance at its Livonia location. The cost is \$7 and the first 150 registrants will receive a commemorative shot class.

All proceeds from the Livonia pub will benefit Shades of Pink, a nonprofit organization that funds client programs that financially help women with breast cancer.

"It's something that is touching us close to home," said Borger, noting that the manager of Claddagh in Lansing is undergoing treatment for breast cancer. "And it's a Guinness World Record attempt, too. It's really cool."

To participate, call the Livonia pub at (734) 542-8141. It's located at 17800 Haggerty; www.claddaghirishpubs.com.

Slice for Life

Greek or House salad.

Tri county - All nine Buddy's Pizza locations will participate in the 34th annual "Slice for Life Event" Monday, April 19, with proceeds benefiting the Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

With the purchase of an event ticket patrons may either dinein and enjoy all-you-can-eat two-topping pizzas and salad or carry-out a four-square two-topping pizza or an Individual sized Antipasto,

Tickets cost \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$6 for children from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and \$15 for adults and seniors, and \$6 for children from 4-10 p.m. A team from 2clowns.com will visit Buddy's dine-in locations throughout the day and all participants may register to win one eight-square Buddy's pizza every month for a year.

Buy tickets from the Capuchins in advance by calling (313) 579-2100, ext. 170, or at the door on April Local Buddy's Pizza locations

are 33605 Plymouth Road, between Farmington and Stark Roads, in Livonia and 31646 Northwestern Highway, Middlebelt, in Farmington Hills. Buddy's also has restaurants in Auburn Hills, Dearborn, Detroit and Warren, as well as carryout only sites in Royal Oak and Bloomfield.

- Sharon Dargay

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THURSDAY, April 8, 2010

hometownlife.com

Julie Brown, editor. (313) 222-6755. jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Gardeners eager to tackle the great outdoors

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

Cold winds can still blow in April, but thinking about gardens, and doing gardening, can start.

"Now's the time to put down crabgrass preventer," said Tim Parker, general manager of Plymouth Nursery. You can rake and then fertilize your lawn with a pre-emergent product that stops weeds from germinating.

Pinckney resident Parker also recommends raking debris. "Generally it's better to do that in the fall," he said, although not all people do and additional debris can accumulate. You can also prune shrubs in April.

He recommends fertilizing then mulching with a bark product. If mulch is 3-4 inches think, it's not only nice to look at but also limits weed growth.

People are flocking to Plymouth Nursery to buy pansies. "Pansies are hardy even with a frost," he said. Pansies look good in porch pots or window boxes now, and you can add your annuals in May when temperatures reside.

"You've got to have stuff that's tough," he said of pansies and others. There's a Spring Magic trademark

These are the area residential real estate clos-

ings recorded the week of Dec. 21-25, 2009, at

the Oakland County Register of Deeds office.

Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales

Bloomfield Township

21557 Meadow Ln

155 Catalpa Di

328 George St

609 Yarboro Dr

2750 Bridle Rd

555 Kendry 2590 Kent Ridge Ct

4144 Meadow Way

1539 Rirmingham Blyd

154 E Hickory Grove Rd



product including plants like pansies, columbine and more that stand up to chilly spring weather.

"Sometimes people do get anxious on sunny days" now, he said, and want to plant annuals too early. "People are so starved for them."

The light pruning now, mulching and fertilizing are a good start, he said: "It definitely gives you a great start to get into Mother's Day.

Nurseries now have a good selection of trees and shrubs, Parker said, and it's a good time of year to plant them.

Clarkston

Commerce Township

1948 Pine Ridge Ln 6060 Worlington Rd

8635 Deerwood Rd

5100 Drayton Rd

8715 Aquaview St

\$260,000

\$167,000

\$60,000

\$500,000

\$180,000

9370 Lake Ridge Dr

If you want to do a major landscaping project, you can start drawing designs and getting estimates as early as January or February.

It's tough when landscapers at Plymouth Nursery get a call in late May about an approaching party and landscaping wanted, he said. Things are well booked up by then.

Plymouth Nursery, 9900 Plymouth-Ann Arbor Road, west of Plymouth, will hold an open house Saturday and Sunday, April 24-25, during business hours. At 1 p.m. Saturday, April 24,

Master Gardener Janet Macunovich will speak. Master Gardener Nancy Szerlag will speak 3 p.m. Sunday, April 25. At 1 and 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 24, Monrovia Growers' Nicholas Staddon will participate. For details, call (734) 453-5500.

Mark Baldwin of Baldwin Landscape Group in Plymouth agreed light raking's good for lawns now. "It just helps start it growing, gets some air in it," the Plymouth Township resident said.

It's still too early for annuals, Baldwin said, which can go in in midto late May.

Warm, sunny days, they get cabin fever," he said of those who itch to plant annuals too early. Nurseries are opening now and it's a good time to look to see what you'd like.

'By the time Mother's Day hits it's in full swing," Baldwin said.

He recommends those hiring a landscaper check for insurance coverage and references. He agreed gardening is a great stress-reliever.

"Oh, sure, it's therapeutic," Baldwin said. "They love to get out and work in the soil. It's a time of renewal after the wintertime. It's all starting all over again. You're in a better mood when the weather's nice."

Тгоу

\$345,000

21395 Potomac St

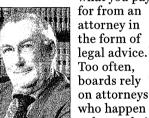
5063 Cardinal Dr

\$145,000

Pick your lawyer with care

Q: Our management company is impressed with a lawyer who gives her free legal advice and is encouraging us to hire that lawyer. I am a practicing attorney and have some questions about it, but I am just wondering what your experience has been in the case of community associations.

A: As I am sure you can appreciate as an experienced attorney, you generally get what you pay



Robert Meisner

boards rely on attorneys who happen to be on their board or who live in their

for from an

attorney in

the form of

Too often,

community for legal advice and while it may be offered in good spirit, generally it is a bad idea because if the advice is not good or well thought out, the association is left with a potential claim against an attorney who resides in or who is otherwise involved in the operation of the association. As with any other professional, you should retain someone who is not affiliated with the community n you can possibly avoid it and retain an attorney to give you a legal opinion for which he or she is prepared to do the necessary research and analysis as a chargeable event. In the last analysis, it is the board who will be deemed responsible for getting poor or no legal advice and it isn't worth the risk as your insurance adviser will tell you.

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

\$260,000

\$130,000 \$385,000

\$99,000

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Dec. 14-18, 2009, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales

	Canton	
46061 Ashton Ct		\$50,000
46193 Ashton Ct		\$50,000
968 Ashton Woods Dr		\$210,000
43109 Barchester Rd		\$140,000
1252 Brookline St		\$146,000
1500 Centennial Ct		\$340,000
8446 Chatham Dr		\$412,000
1520 Emerald Pines Dr		\$175,000
8353 Forrest Dr		\$130,000
48210 Gyde Rd	to switch his man	\$240,000

8031 Eldor	a Blvd				\$219,000	
1530 Sable	031 Eldora Blvd 530 Sable St Davisburg 913 Creekwood Trl Farmington Hills 1514 Colwell St 2125 Hearthstone Rd 0040 Lochmoor St 1509 Orchard Lake Rd 6198 Valhalla Dr 7653 W Echo Vly Lake Orion			\$60,000		
		Davisl	ourg			
9913 Creel	kwood Trl		•	\$	365,000	
		Farmingt	on Hills			
21514 Colv	ell St				\$79,000	
32125 Hea	rthstone F	td .			\$171,000	
30040 Loc	hmoor St				\$55,000	
21509 Orci	hard Lake	Rd			\$80,000	
26198 Vall		310,000				
27653 W E	cho VIv				\$47,000	
		Lake 0	rion			
	1.					
				unnigen samm	*****	0.0000
				HUI	MES S	3
				HU	MED 4	N
39605 Pet	ers Dr				\$128,000	

		NO	IVI			
	23801 Hickory Grove	Ln			\$235,000	
	22174 Pondview				\$50,000	
	41649 Sieepy Hollow	Dr			\$125,000	
	23515 Stonehenge Bl			•	\$50,000	
			Township		****	
	4923 Lexington Ct				\$270,000	
	.,	0xf	ord		42.0,000	
	1881 Loch Lomond Ct				\$250,000	
		Rochest	er Hills		*20,0,000	
	1670 Bretton Dr N				\$179,000	6
	3440 Vardon Dr				\$220,000	
	1925 W Avon Rd				\$117,000	
		South	Lvon		**********	
	244 Cuyahoga Ct				\$275,000	
	Southfield				*=,	
	29592 Fairfax St				\$19,000	
	17628 Gateway Cir				\$99,000	
10070700						0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000
n	WAVNE					
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Northville

20800 E Chigwidden St

	5243 Collington Dr		\$375,000
	3605 Fernleigh Dr		\$181,000
	2646 Lockslev Ct		\$230,000
	399 Starr Dr		\$117,000
	5500 Whitfield Dr		\$320,000
	3300 militaria bi	Walled Lake	\$320,000
	1100 Andover Cir	Walled Lake	\$158.000
	115 Arvida St		\$258,000
	1890 Big Trail Rd		\$90,000
	22106 Chesapeake Cir		\$70,000
	1436 Crimson Way		\$74,000
	2507 Little Trail Ŕd		\$120,000
	1749 McCoy St		\$118,000
	1627 Nottingham Ct		\$170,000
	Total Hottingham of	Waterford	\$110,000
	4098 Edmore Rd	Wateriora	\$135,000
	7231 Garvin		\$74,000
	4465 Kempf St		\$95,000
	1110 Myrtle Ave		\$21,000
68888			***************************************

0L

	Canton	
46061 Ashton Ct	Caliton	\$50,000
46193 Ashton Ct		\$50,000
968 Ashton Woods Dr		\$210,000
43109 Barchester Rd		\$140,000
1252 Brookline St		\$146,000
1500 Centennial Ct		\$340,000
8446 Chatham Dr		\$412,000
1520 Emerald Pines Dr		\$175,000
8353 Forrest Dr		\$130,000
48210 Gyde Rd	to with the first	\$240,000

770031 61613 01	\$120,000
3853 Ravensfield Dr	\$131,000
628 Thistle Ct	\$180,000
47589 Vistas Circle Dr N	\$218,000
42238 Wickfield Ct	\$135,000
Garden City	
960 Cardwell St	\$76,000
33542 Florence St	\$83,000
Livonia	700,000
4984 Bassett St	\$180,000
34025 Carl Dr	\$175,000
1432 Deering St	\$109,000
36732 Dowling St	\$142,000
30201 Five Mile Rd	\$100,000
4658 Flamingo St	\$150,000
9449 Hardy St	\$142,000
9614 Hardy St	\$130,000
31257 Hillbrook St	\$200,000
37718 Jamison St	\$143.000
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9034 Lionel St		\$129,000		ı
18775 Norwich Rd		\$120,000	15575 Dixie	
14508 Richfield St		\$117,000	16880 Kinloch	
14285 Stonehouse Ave		\$164,000	8914 Mercedes	
14708 Susanna St		\$110,000	11353 Rockland	
18208 University Park [)r	\$58,000	10018 Royal Grand	
	Northville		9592 Sioux	
44628 Broadmoor Cir N	1734	\$353,000	20469 Wakenden	
44806 Broadmoor Cir S		\$270,000	15500 Woodbine	
41131 Exeter Ct		\$268,000		V
19707 Hayes Ct		\$50,000	8651 August Ave	
16030 Jupiter Hills Dr		\$590,000	33786 Chief Ln	
42508 Lake Success Dr		\$55,000	2212 Emerson St	
384 N Rogers St		\$283,000	33334 Hunter Ave	
41973 Waterwheel Rd		\$282,000	7547 Maple Dr	
	Plymouth		7345 Mohawk St	
41683 Greenbriar Ln		\$160,000	34436 Nancy St	
8850 S Main St		\$118,000	35865 Schley St	
8894 Woodlore South D	ŗ.	\$376,000	31064 Stephen Ave	

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0	16880 Kinloch	\$65,000
0	8914 Mercedes	\$25,000
0	11353 Rockland	\$76,000
0	10018 Royal Grand	\$63,000
	9592 Sioux	\$77,000
0	20469 Wakenden	\$52,000
0	15500 Woodbine	\$9,000
0	Westland	
0	8651 August Ave	\$115,000
0	33786 Chief Ln	\$95,000
0	2212 Emerson St	\$41,000
0	33334 Hunter Ave	\$105,000
0	7547 Maple Dr	\$165,000
	7345 Mohawk St	\$109,000
0	34436 Nancy St	\$99,000
0	35865 Schley St	\$30,000
0	31064 Stephen Ave	\$105,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Housing Market

Century 21 Hartford will host a free workshop on "Today's Housing Market" 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 10, at the Farmington Hills Library Branch on 12 Mile. This is for those thinking of buying or selling a home. The instructor is Debbie Horner, who has 20 years experience in real estate and housing. RSVP to (248) 320-5744. Walk-ins will also be taken.

Investors

"Flipping Is Back in Style" (flipping is buying a house, fixing it up and reselling it in a short time).

Learn about "flipping" from local investors, sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland, on Thursday, April 8, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, 29310 John R, north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742. (www.REIAofOakland. com). This is a new location for association meetings.

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. Wednesdays. To reserve a spot, contact Steve Leibhan, Keller Williams Realty International, at (248) 893-2500, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills 48331.

Career Seminar

Keller-Williams will hold a Career Seminar 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 15, at 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. Call (734) 459-4700 to reserve a free seat.

Seminar includes: cost vs. income potential, available training, company profit share, commission structures.

RE/MAX kudos

RE/MAX of Southeastern Michigan held a celebration at the Detroit Marriott Troy on Feb. 16 to celebrate the achievements of its top 10 individuals and top 10 teams from across the Detroit metro area for 2009.

The top three individual agents were Jeahad "Joe" Kadaf of RE/MAX Leading Edge in Dearborn Heights, Mohamed "Mike" Ayoub from RE/ MAX Team 2000 in Dearborn and Paul Endres of RE/MAX Properties in Allen

Park. The top agents completed over 3,000 transactions.

The top performing teams were led by Marshall Mandell of RE/MAX Classic in Farmington Hills, Anthony Raffin of RE/MAX Associates in St Clair Shores and Mary A. Gladchun of RE/MAX On The Trail in Plymouth. Their teams completed over 1,300 transactions in 2009.

Jeanette Schneider, Regional director and VP of RE/MAX Detroit Metro, said: "We could not be more proud of the many accomplishments RE/MAX sales associates achieved in 2009. RE/ MAX agents have proven their ability to adapt to any market conditions and continue to produce outstanding results. Our agents experience and knowledge helped provide consumers with valuable service and support throughout the buying or selling process.

"With short sales, foreclosure and other challenges facing consumers today, we are happy to have so many RE/MAX agents pursuing additional training to give them the expertise needed to assist consumers with distressed properties. The strength of our network has always been our sales associates and broker/owners and their dedication to providing exceptional service is what has allowed RE/MAX to be the leader in the real estate industry. We congratulate all of our agents on their success."

Top 10 individuals are: 1. Jeahad "Joe" Kadaf, RE/MAX Leading Edge; 2. Mohamed "Mike" Ayoub, RE/MAX Team 2000;

3. Paul Endres, RE/MAX Properties; 4. Albert Hakim, RE/MAX Associates; 5. Hussein Farhat, RE/MAX Team 2000; 6. Beata Synowiec, RE/MAX Classic; 7. Marcus Edwards, RE/MAX Alliance; 8. Mark Beydoun, RE/MAX Team 2000; 9. Robert Shaffer. RE/ MAX Acclaim; 10. Robert Coburn, RE/ MAX Partners.

The top 10 teams are: 1. Marshall Mandell, RE/MAX Classic; 2. Anthony Raffin, RE/MAX Associates; 3. Mary A. Gladchun, RE/MAX On The Trail; 4. Noel Bittinger, RE/MAX Classic; 5. Peter Mirk, RE/MAX in The Hills; 6. Chuck Cacchione, RE/MAX Metropolitan; 7. Lee Wilbanks, RE/ MAX Alliance; 8. Cheryl Harris, RE/MAX Leading Edge; 9. Anthony Dabaldo, RE/MAX Eagle Realty; 10, Raymond Zemens, RE/MAX Acclaim.

Q: Regarding the term "condotels" or "condo-hotels" l have seen. Can you give me what is generally meant by it?

A: The general idea is that the individual hotel rooms are all separate condominium units sold to investors who place them into a rental pool (potentially raising SEC issues) for a significant portion of the year. You own your own condominium unit-hotel room and can occupy it for a limited number of days each year, but for the most part, it is rented out as a hotel room by the hotel operator. Obviously, the economics of the cost and profit sharing will vary from project to project. In one case that I am aware of, the developer leased back each of the rooms at a fixed return and took the occupancy risk. You are best advised to consult with an experienced condominium lawyer before making any type of investment in a hotel condo which, at best, is risky business.

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.

(*)



CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Space 4 Pretend to be
- 8 Burrowing animal
- 12 The thing's
- 13 Make
- for it
- 14 Simila
- 15 Youngster
- 16 Sought votes
- 18 Disney site
- 20 Hubbub (hyph.)
- 21 Alt.
- 22 Fork over 23 Teen outcast
- 27 Textile colorer 29 Chess piece
- 30 Quibble 31 Three-toed
- sloth 32 Magna — laude
- 33 Your choice
- 35 Raised the
- stakes

- 37 News channel 38 Agent's take
- 1 Derisive remark

DOWN

2 Sitting on 3 Mind 4 Treaty

39 Kind of market

40 Car grill cover

42 "The Mammoth

41 Geometry

symbol

Hunters'

heroine

44 Clean a slate

47 Hoops feats

(2 wds.)

51 Starry vista

53 Zooms

55 Mgr.

half

52 Mesa dweller

on runners

54 High note

56 Jekyll's other

57 Startled cries

- 5 Mouths,
- in zoology
- 6 Vacation plus

Answer to Previous Puzzle



6-20 © 2009 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

- 7 Diplomat
- 8 Concrete work 9 Gives the go-
- ahead 10 Speak falsely
- 11 Terminate

- - 27 Apply a mudpack 28 Egad! 29 Really bad

17 — hoc

committee

19 Extra work,

22 Ms. Shriver

25 Country yokel

26 Hockey feint

briefly

24 Such as

briefly

- coffee 30 Blyth or
- Landers 32 Made of clay
- 33 Santa winds 36 Mr. Kettle
- 37 Grouchy
- 38 Huge flop 40 Turn pink
- 41 Corp. concern
- 43 Fabric qty. 44 To be, to Brutus
- 45 Twist
- 46 Looks closely 47 Hen or mare
- 48 Deli salmon 49 Zoo animal
- 50 Tease

Fun By The

Like puzzles?

sudoku. This

mind-bendina

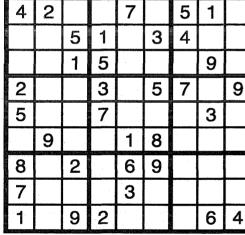
Then you'll love

nuzzle will have

you hooked from

the moment you square off, so sharpen your

Numbers



pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

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

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

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SHOOTING TENNIS WRESTLING

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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By Dale Buss

American consumers returned to showrooms in force during March, driving overall sales to their best levels since last summer's peak around Cash for Clunkers. Automakers sold a total of 1.07 million vehicles in the United States last month, the highest absolute number of sales since the federal government's massive buyback of late-model used cars sent sales skyrocketing last August. Last month's number also was 25 percent ahead of March, 2009.

Even Toyota sales recovered strongly with an attractive incentive program after two long months during which the brand's reputation was badly battered. Sales for General Motors and Ford brands also increased smartly in March compared with a year ago, and so did results for most foreign-owned brands.

Of course, Toyota greased the skids tremendously as March began by offering the most extensive program of sales incentives ever promoted to American consumers by the company. Publicity surrounding its safety recalls in January and February had robbed Toyota's brands of tens of thousands of sales, and company executives launched the aggressive incentive program to attempt to precipitate an immediate reversal of that trend.

It worked. Toyota's US sales increased by 41 percent compared with a year earlier and by 87 percent over sales in February. "Consumers responded to the industry offers in March and came out in droves," said Don Esmond, senior vice president of Tovota Motor Sales USA. "Our incentives clearly had an impact.'

Jessica Caldwell, senior industry analyst for Edmunds.com, agreed. "People were lured by the money thrown out on the hood," she said. "It shows that [incentives] remain a big driver and also that people were waiting for a reason to buy Toyota. They saw the opportunity and thought they might be once-in-a-lifetime kinds of deals, and jumped on them.

March results "showed that people were not as unwilling to buy a Toyota now as we'd heard in the media. Some people thought it might be years before Toyota could recover" from the recall mess, "but these sales numbers are encouraging, so maybe it won't be years. Recovery for Toyota may be

Yet while Toyota executives clearly were relieved that their big



The RAV4 compact SUV has become a hot seller again for Toyota.

Camry is Toyota's stalwart sedan model, and the new incentive program has helped bring buyers back to it.

customers back into their showrooms in March, the company's s ambitious program did little to change the industry's overall level of incentive spending.

The industry didn't spike wildly" in incentive spending "as many people had thought it would," Caldwell said. The main reason was that, while General Motors, Ford and other automakers did more marketing and advertising around incentives in March in order to keep up with Toyota, the actual levels of incentive spending by Toyota's rivals didn't markedly increase.

"The major incentive programs by GM and Ford already had been in place for months prior" to March, Caldwell explained. "It was interesting what was happening in marketing communications versus what was happening in reality."

In fact, GM discounted any impact that Toyota's incentives

may have had on increasing showroom traffic across the industry. And its executives boasted that GM's average incentive spending dipped below the industry average for the first time on record. Other databases on incentive spending called that conclusion into question, but it was clear that the company has kept as much of a lid as possible on incentive spending.

That in itself was remarkable for the industry leader that more than once over the last several years had managed to jump-start America's automotive market with major new, and expensive, incentive programs.

"We did not give in to market pressure to pile on incentives" that tend to degrade brands, said Susan Docherty, GM's vice president of North American marketing. "It's important to manage our supplyand-demand and to keep improving the overall value for customers."



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