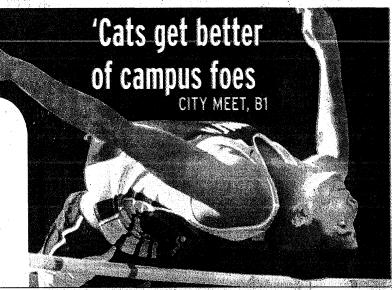


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## **PIPELINE**

### Verve Pipe

Genuine Toy Co., of Plymouth, announced that local pop band favorites The Verve Pipe will be at the downtown Plymouth store for an autograph signing session in advance of their performance at the city's Green Street Fair Saturday, May 1. The band members will be at Genuine Toy Co., 550 Forest Ave., from 1-2 p.m., and will take center stage at Plymouth's Kellogg Park to perform live at 5 p.m. For more information, call Genuine Toy at (734) 414-9500.

### Garage sale

Plymouth residents doing their spring cleaning and wondering what to do with all that junk are getting an opportunity to have that question answered for them.

The City of Plymouth Recreation Department hosts a Community Garage Sale June 12 inside the Plymouth Ice Arena. Residents should start gathering all those items no longer needed, used, or wanted and get an 8-by-4-foot spot inside the Plymouth Cultural Center Ice Arena to sell everything and free up extra space in the house.

Participation in the event costs \$20; the event runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

For more information, contact Lauren at (734) 455-6620, Ext. 309, or register online at www. ci.plymouth.mi.us.

#### Success drive

Eight schools of higher education are working together to present a free event to help adult learners looking to boost their careers or change their career path.

"U Drive Success" takes place 3:30-8 p.m. Wednesday at Schoolcraft College's VisTaTech Center in Livonia. This event provides attendees with free workshops designed to help them learn more about starting their own business, enhance resumes and interviewing skills, the importance of networking and other strategies for job hunting.

At 6 p.m., television news anchor Rhonda Walker from WDIV-TV (Channel 4) will present a keynote address designed to motivate people facing career challenges.

"Individuals who are looking to build and rebuild their careers need information and positive reinforcement," said Conway Jeffress, president of Schoolcraft College. "This event offers both, and we're proud to be part of the team that made it happen."

The doors open at 3:30 p.m. Workshops will take place at 4 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Schoolcraft College is at 18600 Haggerty, north of Six Mile in Livonia. For more information, contact the Livonia Chamber at (734) 427-2122.

## Police layoffs loom; union offers cuts

BY MATT JACHMAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

The possibility of layoffs in the Plymouth Township Police Department loomed again last week, and a police union was preparing to offer concessions in hopes of averting them.

The township Board of Trustees, after a 90-minute closed session Tuesday, voted 5-2 to give Supervisor Richard Reaume the authority to lay off up to seven police officers. Township officials, citing cuts in state aid and declining property

tax collections, which are linked to falling property values, have been seeking concessions from the police unions for months.

The layoff resolution was quickly amended to add the phrase "should they not accept the township's best and final offer.' Reaume wouldn't elaborate on the

township's proposal, saying he didn't want to bargain in the media. He said no firm deadline had been set.

"We've established no deadline yet, but the time clock is ticking," he said Thursday.

The township has been seeking

\$400,000 in concessions from the two Police Officers Association of Michigan locals that represent dispatchers, command officers and sergeants.

Officer Bill Fetner, vice president of the Plymouth Township Police Officers Association, declined to comment, referring questions to the local business agent, Gerald Radovic.

Radovic said the union is planning to meet with township officials Monday to present a plan for concessions that could save \$8,300 a year per employee. With 21 officers and 11 dispatchers in the local, that would

total \$265,600. "We're trying to do the best we can to save these jobs. The employer's always trying to make us look like

the bad guy," Radovic said. Seven layoffs "would devastate the community," he said. "That's onethird of the police department."

The union's proposed concessions, Radovic said, would mean officers and dispatchers would take pay cuts of about 5 percent, plus pay a share of their health insurance premiums

Please see LAYOFFS, A6



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A crew works on the Ann Arbor Trail and Forest Avenue crosswalk.

### Businesses cite downside of streetscape work

BY MATT JACHMAN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Pardon our dust?

Not just yet, some downtown Plymouth business owners say.

The ongoing streetscape upgrade project, which means closed streets and parking spaces in the center of town, has intimidated some customers and kept others away, they say.

"It's a mess. It's loud, it's dirty and scaring people away," said Colleen Cannon, the owner of TranquiliTea, a tea shop on Ann Arbor Trail, where work is taking place just outside. "Right now, it's hard to see the ben-

That may be true now, said Tony Bruscato, operations director of the Downtown Development Authority, which is managing the project. But improvements, when completed, will brighten the look, improve safety and



City Municipal services employees place barriers to keep the public safe during construction.

draw even more people downtown, Bruscato said.

We knew it was going to be tough on some businesses, but it's one of those things that has to be done downtown," he said. The work includes fixing some tripping hazards, he said. "The 1995 streetscape project was

starting to look a little worn. You

always have to keep fresh in order to

year, \$2 million project, involves rebuilding the intersections at Main and Ann Arbor Trail and Ann Arbor Trail and Forest, repaving parts of the streets, repairing and replacing

brick pavers and installing mast arms

for the traffic lights at Main and Ann

The current work, part of a three-

draw those visitors downtown."

Arbor Trail. The work should be wrapped up by mid-May, weather permitting, and

the intersection of Ann Arbor Trail and Forest should reopen in about two weeks if everything goes well, Bruscato said.

"I don't know what it's going to be like," said Sandi McGrew, owner of The Candy Trail, on Ann Arbor Trail. "When it's done and it's beautiful, maybe I'll think, 'Oh, I'm glad they did it."

Please see STREETSCAPE, A6

### **Judge sets** bond for mom in baby's death

BY MATT JACHMAN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After more than a year in jail awaiting trial on murder charges in the death of her newborn girl, a Plymouth Township woman may be close to being released.

Judge Dan Ryan set a \$1 million cash or surety bond for Emily Portellos during a Wayne County Circuit Court hearing Thursday. Portellos was arrested in November

2008 in the death of the infant girl found in Portellos' bedroom the month before.

Ryan also postponed the **Portellos** trial, which had been set

for May, until Thursday, Aug.

Portellos, 30, had been held without bond. The defense, in requesting a bond, had presented documents from the Greek consulate indicating Portellos is not a Greek citizen and cannot get a Greek passport, and Ryan then judged her not likely to flee the country, said Maria Miller, spokeswoman for county Prosecutor

Kym Worthy. The prosecution argued against the bond. Though Portellos has surrendered her U.S. passport, she could flee within the country, argued Lora Weingarden, the assistant prosecutor handling the case.

"On a first-degree murder case, the Constitution and the court rules allow a judge to remand someone," that is, hold a suspect with no bond,

Please see PORTELLOS, A6

APARIMENIS	L4
AUTOMOTIVE	C6
CAREER BUILDER	C1
CROSSWORD PUZZLE	C4
EDUCATION	A4
HEALTH	B11
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OBITUARIES	B10
REAL ESTATE	C2
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## Texting while driving ban draws praise from police

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A ban on text messaging while driving — a measure facing Gov. Jennifer Granholm's signature after passing the House and Senate — has drawn support from Plymouth police officials, residents and a student group seeking to improve safety around the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

The ban could take effect July 1, making texting while driving a primary offense and allowing police officers to pull over drivers for that reason alone.

Offenders could face first-time fines of \$100 and subsequent penalties of \$200. Granholm is expected to sign the bill into law after legislators resolve the issue of adding points to a driver's record.

Plymouth Township Police Chief Tom Tiderington said local police support a ban on texting while driving because of the distractions and subsequent acci-



A ban on texting while driving, expected to be signed into law by Gov. Jennifer Granholm, is drawing praise from local police and other groups.

dents - it causes.

"I don't think anyone can deny it's a distraction, and it's dangerous not only to the driver, but to other drivers on the road," Tiderington said. "There's no question that distracted drivers play a major role in a high percentage of acci-

Canton Public Safety Director Pat Nemecek said laws already are on the

books allowing officers to stop motorists who swerve in and out of lanes, but he said a specific ban on texting while driving would give police one more tool to combat a growing problem on the streets.

On Monday, the Student Congress at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park plans to sponsor an assembly at Salem High School inviting classes from all three high schools to attend and pledge not to text while driving, said Mary Holaly, communications coordinator.

The campaign was inspired by talkshow host Oprah Winfrey's push to make vehicles a no-phone zone, Holaly

Teachers who want to take their classes to the program will have several opportunities because four separate assemblies are planned during the day, Holaly said. During an earlier question posed by

the Observer through its Community Voice feature, all of the respondents said they supported a ban on texting while

driving. And while that's hardly a scientific poll, it nonetheless provided one snapshot of community opinions on the issue.

A poll last September by The New York Times and CBS News found that 90 percent of adults supported a legal ban on texting while driving.

Late last year, a group of Plymouth-Canton high school students appeared divided over the issue during an interview with the Observer. Some admitted they still text while driving, though they said they have tried to do it less, and some said they didn't believe a law banning the practice would make offenders stop.

Amy Paladino, a Canton High School senior, said she had completely stopped sending or reading texts while driving, and she supported a ban. Paladino said she had heard stories of deaths that involved texting while driving.

"I don't want that to be me," she said.

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

## Tree time - church, nursery partner in planting

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

First Presbyterian Church members are in the midst of planning the church's 175th anniversary celebration at their venerable location on Church Street, across from Central Middle School in downtown Plymouth.

On Thursday, they took the first step in that celebration, planting a Royal Red Norway Maple tree they hope will last at least that long.

The tree-planting, made possible with a little help from the folks at Plymouth Nursery, was the first of the anniversary events planned by the church's 17th Anniversary Committee.

With a 1,220-member congregation - some 212 of them who've been there 25 years or more - the committee was looking to do something longstanding as the first of its quarterly anniversary events. With the celebration coming on Earth Day, planting a tree seemed like a natural idea.

"We're happy with the color and with its heartiness." church and committee member Julie Kammeraad said of the maple, chosen after consultation with the experts at Plymouth Nursery. "We're hoping it will last for many years to come."

The new tree could come to symbolize First Presbyterian's changing congregation which, despite its long history, is actually getting a little younger,



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 25, 2010

Plymouth Nursery landscape manager Jim Bradley (in the green shirt) and crew member Kyle Steiner plant a Royal Red Norway Maple, donated by the nursery, as part of First Presbyterian Church's recognition of its 175th anniversary.

according to its senior pastor. Rev. James Skimmins.

"We've got a good number of people who've been here a long time," said Skimmins, who's been there 16 years himself. "But it's becoming a younger congregation."

When committee members decided to plant a tree as its first event, Jerry Smith, for nine years First Presbyterian's musical director, recommended they talk to Jeff Jones, the owner at Plymouth Nursery. Jones had been a student of Smith's when the latter was a teacher at Bentley High School in Livonia, and Jones had kept in touch.

Smith had worked with Jones on other projects, and

figured Jones would be able to help the church buy the right tree. But Jones went a step further than that, donating the tree - "We weren't expecting that; that was very nice," Smith said - and the planting service to the church.

Plymouth Nursery landscape manager Jim Bradley - who planted the three along with crew member Kyle Steiner - was impressed with the church's staying power.

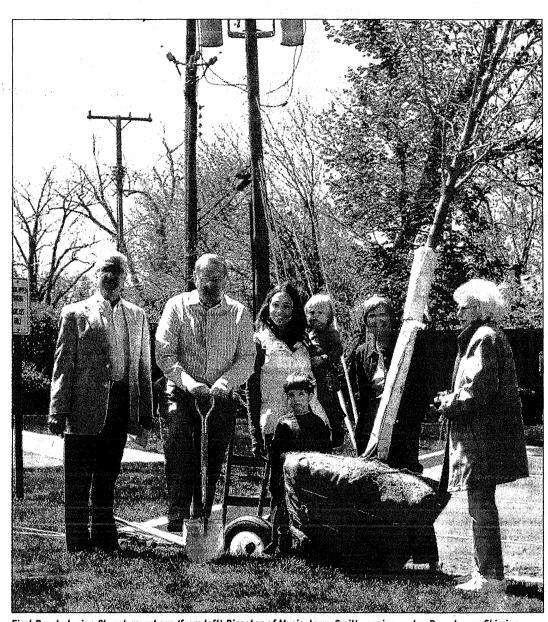
"It's an amazing feat that (First Presbyterian) has been here this amount of time," Bradley said. "(Plymouth Nursery) is a long-established business, too, and we like to contribute to the community."

The church will officially celebrate its 175th birthday with special services July 18. For now, Skimmins is content to use the tree-planting to honor long-time members and the congregation as a whole.

"We celebrate those people in the past who blazed the trail for our success today," Skimmins said, "and we give God thanks for many of our members who creatively and joyfully serve the Lord in this community."

First Presbyterian Church is located at 701 Church in downtown Plymouth. The church offers Sunday services at 9 and 10:30 a.m., as well as an active Sunday School and other youth and teen programs. Find information at www.fpcp.net

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899



First Presbyterian Church members (from left) Director of Music Jerry Smith, senior pastor Rev. James Skimins, Julie Kammeraad (with her children, Oliver and Stuart), Judy Morgan and Sally Dauderman took part in the ceremonial first-shovel ceremony as a tree was planted at the church Thursday.

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## Recent renovations brighten Plymouth Cultural Center

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If you're planning a wedding reception, a birthday party or a civic group luncheon, you might want to give the Plymouth Community Cultural Center a look — or maybe a second look.

Work crews recently completed a \$70,000 renovation of the Plymouth Cultural Center's meeting, reception and fitness rooms and an adjacent hallway area. The lobby of the center, located at 525 Farmer, got some new furniture.

The project replaced pinkish cinder-block walls in the meeting and reception rooms with drywall adorned with decorative trim and painted in a warm taupe. In the fitness room, a mirrored wall and a wood floor were added, and the dance floor in the reception room, which seats 200 people, was expanded.

"It just makes the room a little more elegant," said Michelle VanDenBeurgeury, the Cultural Center's office coordinator, as she showed off the updated reception room on Tuesday. "People come in and they definitely like the way the room looks."

In the hallway, peeling 1980s-style wallpaper was taken out, and the walls trimmed and painted in the same theme as the reception room.

The Cultural Center, which hosts everything from fit-



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Michelle VanDenBeurgeury says that renovations at the Cultural Center are completed, including a more modern color scheme and a newer dance floor.

ness classes to a senior bridge club to high school hockey games, has space available to rent for receptions, graduation and retirement parties, birthday parties, nonprofit and community gatherings, bridal showers and the like. The building has a license for serving alcoholic drinks, which must be purchased through the city.

VanDenBeurgeury is hoping to attract more business with

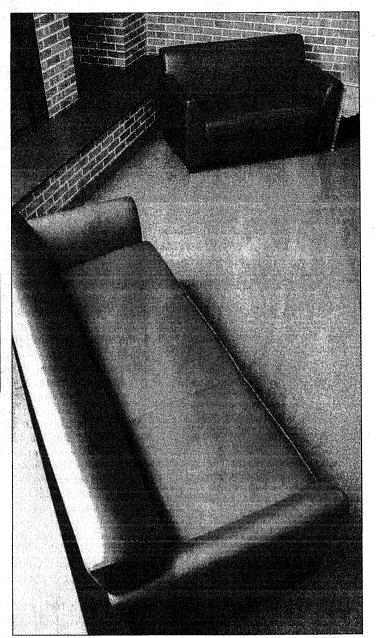
the renovations, which began last fall and were completed in the winter.

So far this spring and summer, four wedding receptions are booked, along with an 80th birthday party and the 55th reunion for Plymouth High School's Class of 1955.

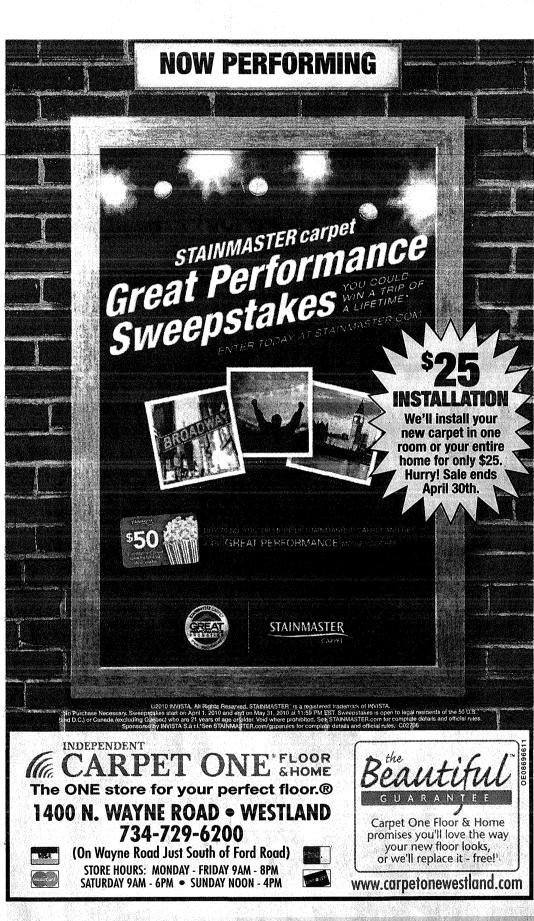
The Cultural Center hosted an April 18 open house to give people a chance to see the renovations and talk to local caterers, florists and the like. VanDenBeurgeury there weren't any bookings, but that the open house, drawing between 50 and 70 people, did attract some interest in the facility.

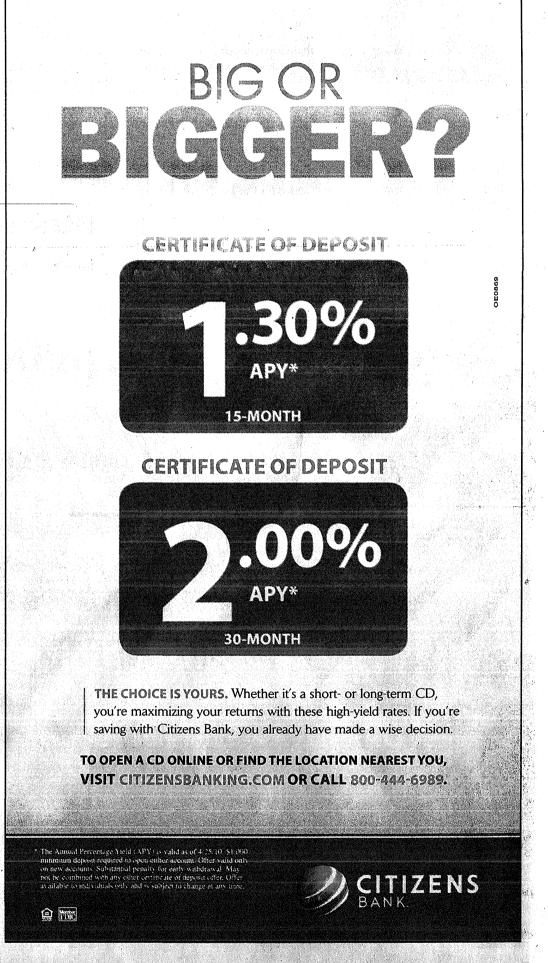
For information about renting space at the Cultural Center, call VanDenBeurgeury at (734) 455-6620, Ext. 304, between 12 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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New furniture dresses up the lobby.







## EDUCATION

## Kohl's 'A-Team' a solid partner with schools



Mitchell King finds that digging a hole in the courtyard gravel isn't easy.



Another Kohl's crew worked at Isbister Elementary. Kennedy Barry, 8, helps clean the school yard. Tara Wells, Angelique Barry, Sherry Tutor, Venita Siler and Cathy McClendon are the grown-ups on the schoolyard cleanup crew.

BY MAGGIE WUNDERLICH CORRESPONDENT

Kohl's A-Teams were at it again, helping spring clean and plant flower gardens at Pioneer Middle School in Plymouth Township.

Pioneer recently attained its Michigan Green School certification and this was a culmination of their going green efforts. Home Depot of Canton partnered with Kohl's and donated plants and materials.

Kohl's A-Team is a national program to support youth-focused nonprofit groups in the same communities as their stores. It consists of five Kohl's associates who volunteer their time, year round, for a minimum of three hours each. Kohl's then matches the volunteers' efforts with \$500 to that nonprofit group. It is part of their overall philanthropic vision to support children's health and education.

As soon as the program began, Kohl's of Canton on Ford Road embraced it, according to Store Manager Lisa Grasso, who said she's "thankful for this opportunity to make a community connection."

"I am very proud to be part of a company where every level of the organization is truly passionate about giving back to the community," Grasso said.

Pioneer's principal, Phil Freeman, was thankful for the help and thought the volunteers were great role models for the students.

We promote community service and when the students see adults volunteering, they can picture themselves continue to volunteer when they are adults," Freeman

To date, Kohl's of Canton on Ford Road has provided hundreds of volunteers and more than \$50,000 in donations to the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. Frank Ruggirello, Jr., Director of Community Relations, credited Grasso for the Kohl's efforts.

"The person responsible for this is Lisa Grasso, who has been a great partner and really deserves the

credit for the success," Ruggirello

In October 2009, the district's Board of Education presented Kohl's the "You Make a Difference Award" as a proclamation of thanks "for outstanding support and generous contributions".

**Board President Steven** Sneideman said, "Kohl's [of Canton on Ford Road] is our partner in education and, without them, there are many programs that wouldn't exist."

"Canton has been very good to us and this is our way to give back," Grasso said. She believes children need good school memories and said, "If [we] help to save a fun fair, ice cream social or field day, then we can save memories." Grasso said she's "extremely

lucky" to have a supportive staff and proud to have 80 percent participation. One of her associates is Adiba Turfe, who is in her ninth year as a Kohl's A-Team volunteer.

Turfe said, "I feel satisfied that I've done something in my own community," Turfe said. "It's just three hours and I feel good about myself that I've done something worthy.'

Stacy King is another Kohl's A-Team volunteer associate. She said, "It's nice to give back and help with the future because there have been so many cuts in the schools. Our store steps up and we all like it. It's fun." Grasso said she applauds her entire staff "for taking time out to make a meaningful difference in children's lives.'

Other Kohl's A-Teams, from coast to coast, participated in similar green events to promote National Volunteer Week and the 40th anniversary of Earth Day.

The Kohl's of Canton on Ford Road also support various other youth-serving nonprofit organizations, including the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Children's Hospital of Detroit and Canton Goodfellows.

For more information about the Kohl's A-Team program, visit www. kohls.com.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

At Pioneer Middle School, Lisa Grasso and 10-year-old daughter Natalia plant a new flowering bush in a school courtyard.



Student Austin King and Home Depot employee Davis Woo plant in a Pioneer Middle School courtyard.



## Independence Village



## School board faces tough call on RESA resolution

Mhen the Livonia Board of Education decided last week not to pass a resolution in favor of the five-year, 1.9-mill school enhancement millage being floated by Wayne RESA, board President Lynda Scheel said this: "If we pass a Band-Aid - and this is for five years - then Lansing is not going to be motivated to make the changes that need to be made to school funding. The state needs to make structural changes on how it funds education."

But Scheel - and others who keep crying, "Make Lansing change the law!" - seem unable to understand one immutable truth: Nothing is going to motivate state Legislators to change the way schools are funded. They either feel districts are bloated and should find more to cut or they seem unwilling to tackle the issue for political reasons.

That truth may have dawned on members of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, who are expected to vote on a similar resolution at Tuesday's board meeting. Vice President Barry Simescu said nearly as much the last time the P-C board addressed the issue.



**Brad Kadrich** 

Speaking of the RESA enhancement millage, the only avenue available to districts like Plymouth-Canton who can't otherwise raise operating funds

- Simescu said, "This is the only game the Legislature will let

us play. To expect the Legislature to change anything in an election year isn't likely. This is the only way to enhance our foundation, so I think we should go for it."

I agree with him on the first part. It's the "we should go for it" part I'm not sure about.

There are things to like about the millage. It would bring some \$6.9 million into the school district, softening the blow expected from more cuts to the state's foundation grant and a looming \$11 million budget deficit next school year. As it stands now, the district would balance the deficit with nearly all of its remaining fund balance.

There seem to be two aspects of the millage that are sticking in people's

craws (wherever that is): First and foremost, who wants a take hike in this economy? Secondly, only \$7 million of some \$11 million raised on the tax bills from Plymouth-Canton taxpayers would stay in this community; the other \$4 million would go to other "donee" districts.

Being a "donor" district — raising more money than what would come back to Plymouth-Canton, bothers school board members, but support for the resolution still seems likely.

"It's a difficult thing, because we have to give so much of the money back," said Trustee Dianne Gonzalez. "But it seems like such a great way to bring money in."

Wayne RESA officials reportedly feel they'll need support from at least two of the county's bigger districts, such as Livonia, Plymouth-Canton and Dearborn, in order to get the millage on the ballot. Livonia has already voted it down; Dearborn Public Schools administrators felt so uncomfortable with the proposal the board won't even vote on it, communications coordinator David Mustonen said.

While voting it down, Livonia

school board members cited input received from constituents in the

"I heard overwhelmingly they don't wish me to support this," Livonia Trustee Patrice Mang said of voters.

Plymouth-Canton trustees are starting to hear that now, in letters to the editor and in other forums. If they aren't hearing it now, they certainly heard it in 2006 and 2007, when bond issues were killed by voters.

Passing the resolution, which could happen as early as Tuesday's board meeting, presents a sticky wicket for Plymouth-Canton trustees, who already face such issues as their diversity plan, whether to renew Superintendent Dr. Craig Fiegel's contract (the 2010-2011 school year is the third and final year of his current pact) and, of course, the potential \$11 million deficit.

You can see where they're stuck between a rock and a hard place, left (in their minds) with nowhere to turn but the voters if they can't budget Lansing (which no one seems able to do). Don't pass the resolution on the millage, and be left to wonder if they're doing everything they can.

Or pass the resolution, watch the millage fail locally but pass countywide and take the blame - and the potential political fallout - for voters being assessed the tax against their will.

It's a public relations nightmare for them, one I'm not sure they should take on. It's entirely possible Wayne RESA will save them the trouble; if they can't get districts representing more than half of the county's students on board, it won't even go on the ballot. Without Dearborn and Livonia, that threshold seems a bit high, even if Plymouth-Canton and its 19,000 students are on board.

I've said my whole career that it's a lot easier on this side of the table. This is one of those votes I'm glad they have to make instead of me. But if I were making it, I'd probably listen to voters who denied the bonds in 2006 and 2007.

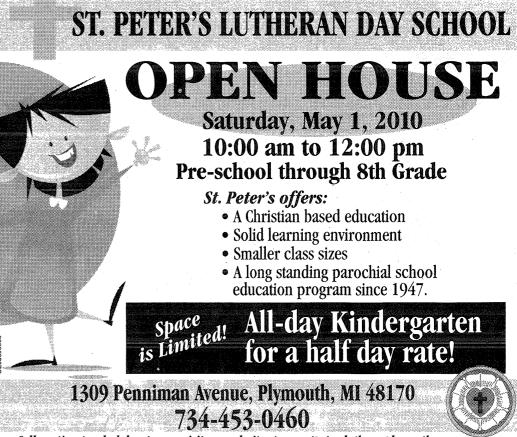
Taxpayers don't want or need higher taxes. Plymouth-Canton board members might do well to heed that call.

**Brad Kadrich** is community editor of the Plymouth and Canton Observers. He can be reached at bkadrich@hometownlife.com or by calling (313) 222-8899.



**Sparty time** 

The world's most famous university mascot, Sparty, high-fives students at Farrand Elementary School in Plymouth Township during a visit last week to deliver a special message about reading. Sparty, who (obviously) represents Michigan State University, visited kids at both Farrand and Allen Elementary schools. The Western Metro Detroit MSU Alumni Club sponsored the visit. The all-school assemblies took about an hour, which included time for the children to visit (and ask questions) with the lovable, muscle-bound mascot.





Weingarden said. "It is very, very unusual to let someone out on a bond on a firstdegree."

Portellos was still in the Wayne County Jail on Friday afternoon. Her attorneys, **Demetra Christos and Gregory** Meihn, both of the firm Foley & Mansfield, did not return phone calls.

Christos and Meihn are new to the case, having replaced Henry Scharg, who abruptly resigned from it last month.

The new attorneys sought more time to prepare, and Weingarden did not object.

"We want her to get a fair trial, too," Weingarden said.

Portellos faces one count each of felony murder, firstdegree murder, second-degree murder and first-degree child

The proceedings have dragged on, in part, because of several hearings, including one in which thendefense attorney Scharg unsuccessfully sought to have evidence ruled inadmissible. That evidence, though not a written or elec-

tronically recorded confession, is described by police as an admission by Portellos to a police detective that she smothered her baby.

Scharg argued that, as she was hospitalized and recovering from surgery when questioned by the detective Oct. 15, 2008, his client was not competent to make such an admission and that the questioning was improper.

Ryan, however, ruled the evidence admissible after listening to several witnesses and arguments from both sides.

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**CONTINUED FROM A1** 

and accept an insurance plan that would mean greater outof-pocket costs.

The pay cuts would be contingent on the township supervisor, clerk and treasurer accepting proportional cuts, Radovic said. "We've taken a 5-percent cut, we expect them to do the same," he said.

Reaume and Treasurer Ron Edwards have agreed to freeze their pay for 2009 and 2010, but Clerk Joe Bridgman has not.

The union's contract expired at the end of 2008, and there have been no raises since 2007, Radovic said.

Any layoffs could also affect the township's six police sergeants, who are in a different bargaining unit, and Reaume said the township was researching contracts to

clarify that. Radovic said command officers would not be laid off, but could be demoted.

Sgt. Steve Rapson, president of the Plymouth **Township Command Officers** Association, said his union has offered to make concessions, but wouldn't detail them. Rapson said he is uncertain how layoffs would affect the sergeants. The union and the township are to meet Thursday, he said.

"We'll find out what happens from there," Rapson said.

Two other bargaining units that represent township employees recently agreed to contract concessions, but the township and the union representing Plymouth Community Fire Department firefighters did not reach an agreement, and three firefighters were laid off in January.

Township department heads and non-union workers have

had their pay frozen and are paying more for health care.

Voting to give Reaume the lavoff authority were Treasurer Ron Edwards and Trustees Steve Mann, Bob Doroshewitz and Mike Kelly, in addition to Reaume. Voting against the measure were Bridgman and Trustee Kay Arnold.

Arnold then sided with the majority in voting to add the language "should they not accept the township's best and final offer" to the layoff resolution.

Bridgman, who is not on the township bargaining team, urged more negotiations and said he didn't think the township had exhausted all avenues.

"We as township officials should be looking to preserve quality of life in the township and expending all options before layoffs," Bridgman said.

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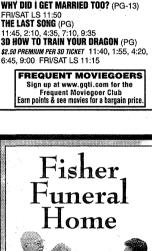
HOWTIMES 4/23 - 4/29 No passes
TITLES AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

THE LOSERS (PG-13) 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:45 FRI/SAT LS 11:55 THE BACK-UP PLAN (PG-13) 12:05, 2:20, 4:40, 7:05, 9:25 FRI/SAT LS 11:45 KICK ASS (R) 11:20, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

PRIVAT LS 12:00

DATE NIGHT (PG-13) 11:10, 1:10, 3:15, 5:30, 7:35, 9:40 FRI/SAT LS 11:40 CLASH OF THE TITAMS (PG-13) 11:05, 1:35, 4:10, 6:50, 9:15 FRI/SAT LS 11:45

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### FROM PAGE A1

But for now, McGrew said, business is off noticeably, following strong March sales she attributed to good weather.

City residents will sometimes tell her they've walked to the store, but as for drivers, "there're people that, if they don't have to come to town right now, they won't," McGrew said.

The doubts expressed by McGrew and Cannon, however, weren't shared everywhere.

"I've had my best day of the year, last week, and I've also had some of the worst days," said Nancy Ball, the owner of Hands On Leather, on Forest, when asked if business has been affected. "I really don't know."

'We've had a couple good weeks," said Patrick Long, the general manager at Compari's on the Park and Fiamma Grille, both on Main Street.

Customers do mention the project, but they're not complaining, Long said. "They just want to know what's going on, not that it's that much of a problem," he said.

Ball said downtown visitors seem more relaxed, walking in the parts of the street that are closed off, and perhaps more optimistic about the economy



Downtown is quiet in mid-afternoon as work on the streetscape project progresses.

in general. Speaking Friday morning, she said she couldn't see any available parking spots on Forest.

Cannon, several hours later, had a different view.

"Today, it's dead, and that's unusual for a Friday," she said.

Cannon said she's noticed less traffic in her store, and that customers who do come in sometimes wonder about the project.

"I guess we really didn't see that it was bad or there was a problem. I didn't see it," she said. McGrew said closing of

some parking spots has hurt her. Unable to find an eighthour parking spot in the deck behind her business one recent morning, she said, she settled for a three-hour spot, didn't

get back to her car in time, and got a \$15 ticket.

"I'm not really happy about that," she said. Bruscato said he under-

stands the frustration of some business owners, but that a lot of the street closures are similar to those made during Plymouth's many downtown festivals, and that regulars have learned how to navigate those. No sidewalk closures are planned, he said.

He urged business people to hang tough.

"If they hang in there with us, when it's done it will bring a lot more visitors to downtown Plymouth," Bruscato said.

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## Zack's stays focused on family atmosphere

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When Steve Stergiou bought the old Vassel's restaurant on Main Street just south of Ann Arbor Road 10 years ago, he was lured in large measure by the location and the family atmo-

sphere the eatery featured. Ten years later, Stergiou is convinced that family atmosphere is the key to the restaurant he renamed Zack's.

'The location attracted us, and the size of the building, said Stergiou, who bought the place with business partner John Moursales. "Mostly it was the atmosphere it had. It felt like a hometown spot."

Stergiou and Moursales had previously owned another restaurant, but had decided to get out of the business for awhile. After about a year-and-a-half away, they started looking for a property they could buy and revamp in their image of what a family eatery should be.

Stergiou, who is from the Dearborn area but who, like many children of his youth, used to hang out in Plymouth

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Zack's server Pam Fisher waits on patron Judy Cox Friday morning. Zack's is celebrating its 10th anniversary.

when Main Street was the popular drag for kids. When he started looking for a business, Plymouth seemed like a natural choice, and Vassel's was available.

The first thing the partners did was revamp the menu. The food at Zack's is home-cooked, with the main dishes - including turkey, roast beef and hams - cooked in-house.

The restaurant offers daily dinner specials, with meals made from scratch, all at reasonable rates.

'We're probably one of the most economical places around," said Stergiou, who lives in Northville but whose children will attend Plymouth-Canton schools when they reach school age. "We're not in it for the profit. We're part of the community. I take pride in the community."

As part of that pride, Zack's often sponsors school-related fund-raisers, hangs posters for school events, contributes

things like gift certificates to raffles, sponsors events, etc.

"This is one of the favorite hang-out places for kids," Stergiou said. "Whatever they need to get the job done, we like to be there.'

Stergiou said Zack's has a new menu coming, hopefully next month, that will feature more healthful selections, including gluten-free items. And, like all restaurants and bars in the state, Zack's will go smokeless when the state's ban on smoking in public places goes into effect May 1.

Like many businesses, Zack's, which employs some 20-25 people and is open 24/7, has been affected by Michigan's struggling economy. But Stergiou said he hasn't yet had to cut anyone's hours, nor has he had to lay people off. He's hoping, like everyone else, the economy turns around.

"I'm hoping to ride it out," Stergiou said. "I'm hoping when the weather gets nice and the kids are out of school, things will improve."

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### Woman ticketed for crashing at Nico's

A Plymouth woman in her 80s was issued a ticket for careless driving Wednesday after the car she was driving crashed into a restaurant on Wing at Deer streets, said Lt. Allen Cox, the city's acting police chief.

The driver, reportedly shaken, was not hurt, Cox said, and no one at the restaurant was hurt.

The accident occurred about 10:30 a.m. at Nico & Vali. Cox said the woman apparently lost control while turning a corner, and the car crashed into the restaurant's patio and then

into the building.

"When I heard it, I was inside at the counter, and it was like a bomb went off," said Paul DePalma, the restaurant owner. The car's airbags deployed; DePalma said the damage was such that he could not tell what kind of car it was.

Cox said the woman could not explain exactly how the accident occurred, adding that she may have overshot the turn. She was examined at the scene by paramedics and given a ride home by Officer Tony Angelosanto.

### Jaycees offer running clinic

Thinking of strapping on the running shoes and hitting the sidewalks for fitness, but don't know how to start? The Plymouth Jaycees are offering a free clinic for beginning runners at Running Fit in Northville Township.

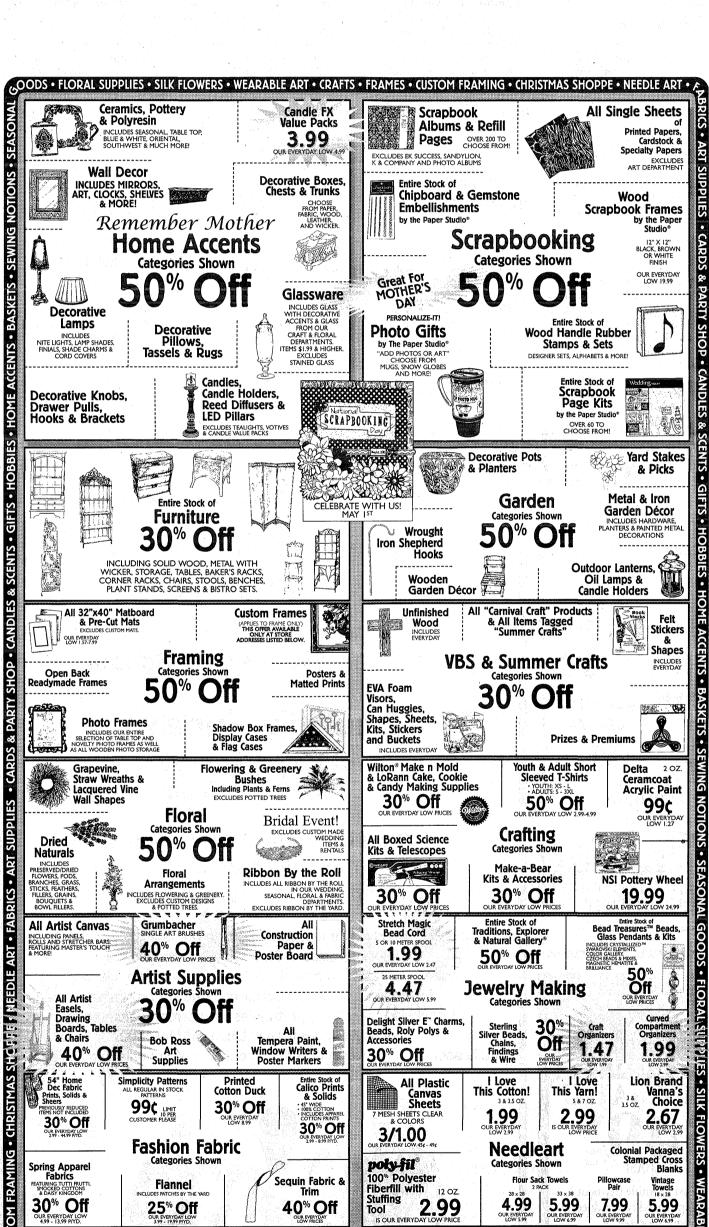
The session, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, will cover picking the right shoes, finding a running form and a comfortable pace, setting running goals, and running safety and injury avoidance.

The hour-long event will

include talks by a Running Fit staffer and by a Jaycees member who is a new runner, followed by an optional run. Those who plan to run should come dressed for a workout. Refreshments will be available.

Space is limited; reserve a spot by e-mailing Liz Deutch at elizabeth.k.deutch@ampf. com, or by calling her at (248) 277-3040, by Monday.

Running Fit is in the shopping plaza at the northwest corner of Haggerty and Six









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

#### Ice cream social

The Plymouth Community Council on Aging hosts a free "ice cream social" with state Rep. Marc Corriveau Monday, April 26, from 2-3 p.m. at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, in Plymouth.

Call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236 to RSVP. All invited to enjoy an ice cream sundae and to listen and voice any concerns or questions you may want to ask.

#### Grief seminar

Harry J. Will Funeral Home sponsors a one-day grief seminar, "From Grief to New Hope," Saturday, May 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The workshop will be conducted by John O'Shaughnessy, who is on the staff and board of directors at New Hope Center for Grief Support. O'Shaughnessy is a published author and speaker in the area of grief.

All adults who are learning to cope after the death of a loved one are encouraged to attend. There is no charge for the seminar which is open to the public and refreshments will be served. Harry J. Will Funeral Home is located at 37000 Six Mile Road, Livonia.

For registration information call New Hope Center for Grief Support at 248-348-0115 or view our website www. newhopecenter.net

#### **Band meetings**

The award-winning Plymouth-Canton Marching Band hosts one more informational meetings for students and parents who are interested in joining the 2010 Marching Band program.

The final meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 19, at 7 p.m. in the Plymouth High School band room, 8400 Beck

in Canton. The meeting is designed for existing eighth-graders, but is open to any high school student. Interested students will spend time with the existing marchers, while parents listen to a presentation by band directors, David Armbruster and Sheldon Frazier and

Dealer"

the Plymouth Canton Music Boosters on how existing 8th graders can become a member of the award-winning marching band for the 2010 summer/ fall season. Future musicians and color guard members are welcome.

For more information, contact Sheldon Frazier, associate director of bands, at (734) 582-5665 or Sheldon.Frazier@ pccsmail.net

#### Run for Hope

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 25, 2010

The fourth annual "Run for Hope," a 5K run/walk at Maybury State Park in Northville, is presented by Northville Roadrunners to benefit New Hope Center for Grief Support Saturday, May

Fitness expert Peter Nielsen will be in attendance. New Hope is a bereavement outreach center located in Northville, and run by Plymouth resident Cathy Clough, with grief support services throughout southeastern Michigan. This fund-raising event will benefit their many services which are provided free of charge to those who are

The 5k Run/Walk is at 9 a.m., with a one-mile Run/ Walk at 8:30 a.m. Pre-register online by May 20 at www. firstgiving.com/newhopecenter. Registration forms and more information are available at www.newhopecenter.net. Registration the day of the event is at 8am. Free T-shirt to all preregistered participants.

Maybury State Park is located at 20145 Beck in Northville. Car fee is \$6. The event will take place rain or shine.

Cost is \$25 for people 16 and over and \$10 for children 10-15. Children under 10 are free. Each entrant can collect donations from sponsors and run for free. See Web site for details; add \$5 for registration after May 20.

For more information, call (248) 348-0115.

#### Memorial Day concert

The BeckRidge Chorale presents "Because of the Brave - a Memorial Day Concert," May 31 at the Village Theatre at Cherry Hill in Canton.

The Chorale has always had a special affinity for patriotic music and this concert will be one you will never



### **Bonus baby**

Acting Plymouth Police Chief Lt. Al Cox (second from right) accepts a \$2,000 check from business owners who organized last week's first Pub & Grub Tax Relief Crawl, which took place on Tax Day April 15. The crawl, which featured five restaurants/bars in the downtown Plymouth area, drew an estimated 1,000 participants. Organizers decided to donate the proceeds to the Plymouth Police Department. Presenting the check (from left) are Kevin Khashan of Sean O'Callaghan's, Vince Spica of the Penn Grill, Tom Ortman of 1999 Tavern, Frank Agostini of E.G. Nick's, Billy Farwell of Penn Grill and Dan Johnson of Ironwood Grill.

forget. Ticket proceeds, after expenses, will be divided evenly between the Memorial Day Committees in Canton, Plymouth and Northville. Tickets are available at www. beckridgechorale.org or at the

#### Petticoat tea

All ages are welcome at the Plymouth Historical Museum's "Petticoats and Petit Fours" Tea, Sunday, May 2 at 2 p.m.

Pam Yockey will conduct a fashion show of vintage young ladies' clothing, following the delectable treats prepared by Sweet Afton Tea Room in Plymouth.

A Victorian-style tea will be served complete with scones, tea sandwiches, and other fare. The tea that will be served is the Museum's new signature blend, "Mary's Blend," a tantalizing cherry and almond black tea in honor of Mary Todd Lincoln. This tea is also now available for purchase in the Museum's gift shop.

Young ladies with tickets are welcome to arrive at the Museum at noon that day to get free hair and nail styling by Pam Free of Freestyle Salon in Plymouth. Martin Caruana, of All Things Purses, will be on hand with a selection of purses for sale from his store.

www.mercedesbenzofnovi.com

And after the "makeover," young ladies will be able to choose from the Museum's stash of fancy clothing to wear during the tea and fashion show. Ticket holders are welcome to tour the Museum

beginning at 1 p.m. that day. You can purchase tickets at the Plymouth Historical Museum or using Paypal on the Museum's Web site at http://www.plymouthhistory. org/Events.html.

For more information, call (734) 455-8940 or e-mail secretary@plymouthhistory. org. The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, one block north of Kellogg Park.

#### Tiger tickets

The Plymouth Historical Museum is selling tickets to the Detroit Tigers vs. Chicago White Sox baseball game at Comerica Park on Monday,

The tickets are in the upper deck. A luxury coach will pick up fans at the Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main Street, Plymouth, 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 to the ballpark and back from the Museum. The tickets are selling quickly. The Museum's hours are 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. There may be someone in the administrative office on Mondays, but call (734) 455-8940 before coming to the Museum on that day. Tickets can also be purchased through PayPal from the Museum's website at http://www.plymouthhistory. org/Events.html.

#### 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

#### 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 juried. Applications will be accept-

ed 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.

#### Mom 2 Mom Sale

The Salvation Army is hosting its second annual Mom 2 Mom Sale on Saturday, May 22. The sale runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and costs just \$1 for admission.

At this time, the Salvation

Army is looking for moms who wish to sell their gently used baby and kids items by renting a table at the sale. The cost is \$20 for an 8 foot table, and \$3 for extra space to bring a rack.

Those interested can print off an application from the Salvation Army's Web site, www.misalplymouth.org, or call Cassie at (734) 453-5464 for more information. The Salvation Army is located at 9451 S. Main Street in Plymouth.

#### **Hospice volunteers**

**Compassionate Care** Hospice is a community-based organization committed to providing excellent hospice care for patients and their families. The group is currently seeking caring and dedicated individuals to provide support by being a friendly visitor to patients in the Western Wayne County area. Training is provided.

For more information, contact Ann Christensen, Volunteer Coordinator, tollfree (888) 983-9050 or e-mail at achristensen@cchnet.net.

#### Prisoner family support

Do you have a family member currently in prison? Do you feel alone? Do you wish you had a support group that you could turn to?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then this support group is for vou. Contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237 or e-mail bonnie@ hope4healing.com for more information. This support group is to provide adult family members with support and a place to talk with others that have experienced similar pain.

Meetings are free and run 6:30-8:30 p.m., the second Monday of every month at Kirk of Our Savior, 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland.

#### Rabbit sponsors

**Great Lakes Rabbit** Sanctuary, the largest rabbit rescue in the United States, is looking for individual sponsors of its 500-plus bunnies.

The sanctuary, located in Willis, near Ypsilanti, is seeking sponsors for \$15 per month. To view rabbits in need of sponsorship and to sign up, visit www.rabbitsanctuary.org. For more information, call

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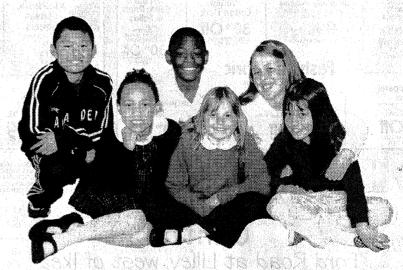
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Pam Slezak finds a book she's interested in at Bookstock, Southeast Michigan's largest used book and media sale. The sale is going on at Laurel

## Get used books at half off at Bookstock today

If you haven't checked out Bookstock, the giant used book and media sale at Laurel Park

Place in Livonia, there's still time. Today is the last day of the weeklong sale. Books will be sold for half price from noon to 6 p.m.

Co-chair Janet Berman said the sale, a fund-raiser for literacy and education programs throughout Oakland County and Detroit, has been going extremely well.

"Last year was our banner year, but this will definitely be the best," she said. She said the sale has drawn record crowds. "Books keep flying out the door."

People are either looking for good deals because of the recession and/or they want to be good stewards and recycle, she said. The sale happened to coincide with Earth Day this year.

Berman didn't have an estimate of what the sale will bring in this year, but it has raised close to \$450,000 over the past seven years. This year, four celebrity authors appeared at the event, including award-winning photojournalist Linda Solomon, who got her start as a freelancer for the Birmingham Eccentric.

Families have made a day out of attending the sale, she said, enjoying the playscape at the mall and shopping the stores.

Berman said new boxes of donated books, DVDs, CDs, books on tape, magazines and records are put out each day. The items collected over the past several months are sorted by category and then set out on tables labeled accordingly.

Laurel Park Place is on Six Mile east of I-275.

## Concert series presents Mozart opera

St. John's Episcopal Church's concert series, "Resounding Art in a Sacred Space", will give opera lovers a chance to enjoy one of Mozart's most famous operas when the church presents "Cosi Fan Tutte" 7 p.m. Saturday, May 1.

The opera, this performance of which will be set in the 1960s, tells the story of two young sisters and their husbands-to-be. The young men, overheard bragging about the faithfulness of their wives-to-be, are challenged to a bet to prove that the women are not truly faithful. The two men pretend to go off to war, but return disguised as handsome strangers who each attempt to seduce the other's fiancé' with the help of the man they bet with and the sisters' chamber maid.

Presenting the performance will be the Primo Passo Ensemble. Primo Passo is Italian for first step. Their mission, according to St. John officials, is to be a first step for the cast in their careers and a first step into opera for the audience member who may not be familiar with this art

The performance, which will last approximately two hours, will be an abridged version of the original story, and the spoken dialogue will be given in English rather than the original



St. John's Episcopal Church's concert series, "Resounding Art in a Sacred Space," presents the Mozart opera, "Cosi Fan Tutte" May 1.

Italian.

The stage director is Dr. Jody Doktor, with musical direction by Dana Sadava, who is working on her degree at the University of Michigan and has been the music director at Comic Opera Guild in Ann Arbor.

Doktor made her operatic directing debut in Florence, Italy and has performed in Italy, the Czech Republic and with the Michigan Opera Theatre as a member of their opera chorus. She is currently working as an Adjunct Professor of Voice at Grand Rapids Community College and

is the Music Director and organist at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Southfield, Michigan.

The cast, whose resumes include the Michigan Opera Theatre, Ohio Light Opera Company, New York Lyric Opera Theatre as well as many other wellknown opera companies, is composed of Elizabeth Mitchell (soprano) in the role of Fiordiligi; Cynthian Brundage (mezzo-soprano) as Dorobella; Jacqueline King (soprano) as Despina; Norman Webber (bass) will appear as Don Alfonso; singing Ferrando will be

Dustin L. Scott (tenor); and John Hummel (baritone) will appear are Guglielmo.

St. John's Episcopal Church is located at 574 S. Sheldon in Plymouth. There will be no charge for this performance, although a free-will offering will be accepted. For more information on this performance visit the church Web site at www.stjohnsplymouth. org, or visit the Web site of soprano Elizabeth Mitchell at www.elizabethmitchellsoprano.com. Telephone inquiries may be made to the church at (734) 453-0190.



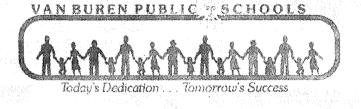
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## Plymouth-Canton's 'Chambrigals' do Carnegie

A magical thing happened last week, and I was fortunate to be part of it.

Through the dedication and determination of the choir directors at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, 46 young people had the opportunity to sing on the most renowned stage in the land, under the direction of a true musical genius of our generation. Although I am weary from long • days and nights of chaperone duty, I must share this experience, so that our community knows what a resource we have in our PCEP faculty and choir program.

The story begins on a cool spring evening in 2009, at the close of a concert sung by PCEP's Madrigals (ladies) and Chamber Choir (men), collectively known as the Festival Singers, at the Cherry Hill Theatre. Jennifer Kopp, PCEP Director of Choirs, paused to make a few announcements to the audience, made up mostly of parents and friends of the "Chambrigals," as the group is known around the Park.

The usual schedule of upcoming concerts was followed by a very special message: Kopp had submitted a disc of the Festival Singers' State Contest performance to an educational concert production firm in New York. And in this blind audition, Festival Singers had been selected to perform at Carnegie Hall. More than this, the concert

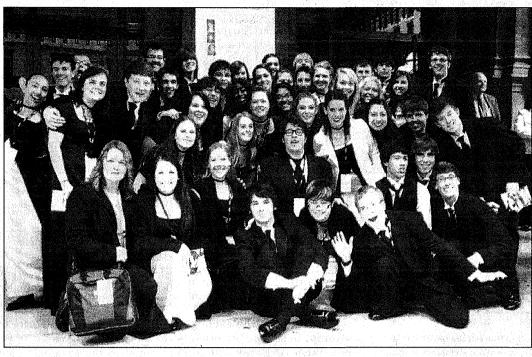
would be conducted by Mr. Eric Whitacre, a composer who is very popular with the PCEP choirs.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 25, 2010

The stage erupted in cheers as Jennifer outlined some of the arrangements yet to be made. Since the trip would be taken in the following school year, graduating seniors were invited to participate (it was their voices on the disc, after all). Costs had yet to be determined, and there would need to be parents willing to make the trip. My wife and I looked at each other and immediately knew we would be going.

Over the next few weeks, a travel company was booked to make arrangements and costs were added up. Fundraising began in earnest, and Kopp began the task of gaining approval from the School Board. There was never any doubt in our minds that the trip would happen, but there were moments when the bureaucracy became cumber-

But no barriers could stand for long, it seemed. Valerie Said joined Kopp as co-director of PCEP Choirs this year. and added her strength to the effort. Finally, we were in the airport, chatting, texting, wishing for more sleep, and boarding a small plane to Newark, N.J. And then, suddenly, we were in midtown Manhattan, a few blocks from Times Square and Central Park, eating lunch at the Carnegie Deli, taking an



Some 46 singers representing the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park choir program got the chance last week to sing on one of the world's most renowned stages: Carnegie Hall in New York.

elevator to the Top of the Rock, and touring the NBC Studios. New York at last!

The following afternoon, the choir had their first rehearsal with Whitacre. Frankly, I was blown away by the man's presence and ability to engage his performers, providing visual analogies to help them understand, deeply, the emotion and dynamic they were to convey in the music. Having sung throughout high school and college myself, I found myself enthralled during the rehearsals at the excellence of the performers and their master.

All of the pieces sung during the concert were written by Whitacre, and provided a broad look at his repertoire. He shared stories about how the pieces were written, sometimes with an intimacy that was overwhelming. He invited the performers to share their insights about the works, and truly listened to their comments. There were a couple of solos to audition, and he allowed any soloist to give it a try, and was gentle and gracious with his choice. He sat down for a half hour and took questions from his adoring fans. We now know that, if he were stranded on a desert island, he would choose to have with him The Beatles Abbey Road, Pink Floyd's The Wall, and the New York Philharmonic's recording of Beethoven's 9th Symphony conducted by Leonard Bernstein.

Between rehearsals were shopping excursions, theatre, and lots of chatting. We saw "The Addams Family" (great musical comedy) and "Billy Elliott" (rough around the edges and tough to follow) as a group, and several small groups fanned out to see other shows as time allowed.

But then came Saturday, with

took her place? It really doesn't matter. It was time, and the place and the people were together. A pitch sounded, the maestros' arms were raised, and the spell that had been cast that cool spring evening a year before played out in the sweetly balanced

Whitacre's charm played over the audience as he introduced each of his selections. The music floated out and filled the Isaac Stern Auditorium with drama and humor and love. All too soon the first act was over and our children were filing off the stage, again to continuous applause.

Following the concert, we walked a few blocks to Providence, a club where DCINY (the concert production group) had set up a reception and dinner for performers and chaperones. Whitacre walked into the room to an immediate crush of fans. He fulfilled a promise made during rehearsal to call on behalf of one of our young men to invite his girl to the prom. Eric laughed, Eric greeted us all, and then he was

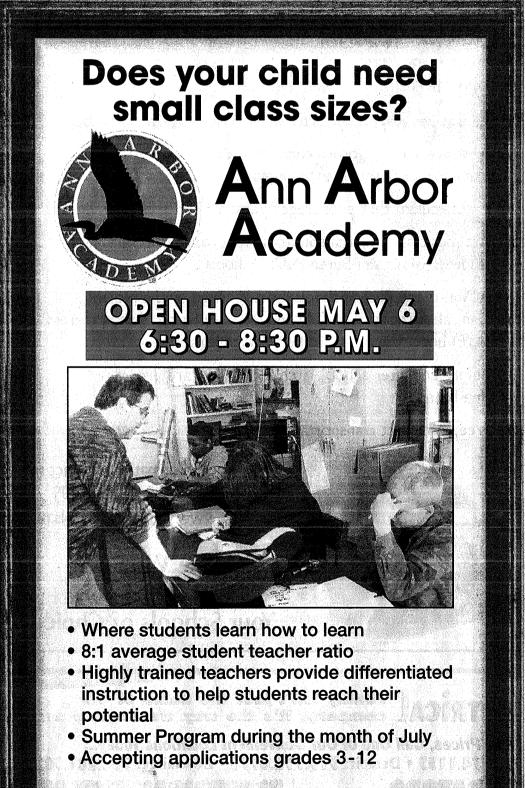
Sunday morning, breakfast at the Stardust Café. Grumbles about soggy French toast, but enjoyed the singing waitrons. Packing up, quick trips for last-minute souvenirs, then one last meet in the hotel lobby to board the bus for Newark airport. By the gate, our group gathered around Claire's laptop to view photos of the week. Back onto that little plane for the quick trip back to Detroit. Final farewells around the baggage claim.

The story is not academic or athletic, but it is worthwhile because it is artistic. It is in balance of these three educational attributes that our community gains strength and grows. This is a story our kids will tell their kids, and maybe a few of them will be in the audience when the story gets told

Allen Eggen is a Canton resident and the father of a choir member who chaperoned the trip to New York.

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dress rehearsal call at 10:15

The line moved out, and the

short walk through the dark-

ness back stage opened onto

had welcomed so many great

The view was grand and

humbling. The few seats in

the hall occupied by chaper-

ones reminded the choristers

that this was just a practice.

Whitacre raised his arms,

and they began to sing and

make final adjustments for the

Then it was 2:30 p.m., and

The risers on stage began to

the hall and two tiers of boxes

fill, and the applause began.

Was it because much of the

audience was made up of the

performer's parents, includ-

from Plymouth and Canton

we were about to hear that

excited the space and caused

such a generous outpouring?

What was the special energy

that caused the hall to stand

minutes until the last soprano

and clap for almost fifteen

Townships to see their children

fulfill a dream? Was it the rep-

utation of the man whose music

ing over 90 who traveled

acoustics of the hall. All was

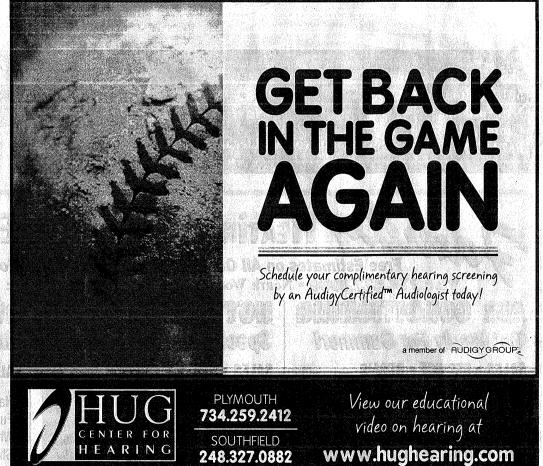
performers.

made ready.

were filled.

the broad, bright platform that

a.m. The line-up room buzzed.



## Disability insurance differs from life, health care policies

Q: Dear Rick: I am single, in my mid-40s and the company that I work for is offering a disability insurance policy. The company had the insurance agent talk



however, I am still a little confused. Do I need disability insurance? Should I use the company plan? Should I purchase it on my own? I do have life insurance.

Rick Bloom A: It is important to understand what disability insurance is and what it is not. Disability insurance is not health care insurance, life insurance or unemployment

insurance. It is insurance that

replaces your income if you are unable to work. It is different than workers compensation, which deals with people who are injured on the job. For disability insurance, it doesn't matter how you are injured — it replaces your income if you are physically or mentally unable to work.

Those who work generally do have some sort of disability insurance through Social Security. However, Social Security is generally not enough to cover every need and it is very difficult to collect. A disability insurance policy is generally easier to collect and you can purchase enough insurance to cover your bills.

Whenever it comes to insur ance, the first issue to look at is whether you need that type of coverage. With disability insurance, ask yourself if you

are unable to work, do you have more than just looking at the enough resources to cover your living expenses? If you do not, after factoring in what potentially you could receive from Social Security, then disability insurance is something that you should consider. On the other hand, if you are unable to work and income would not be a problem, then disability insurance is not for you.

If you need disability insurance, then the issue is whether you use the policy through work or whether you purchase your own policy. My recommendation is to get a bid from an independent insurance agent on a few disability policies so you have something to

The key in receiving bids is to use an agent who has experience with disability insurance. In comparing policies, it's

price, although price is always important. Unfortunately, it's not that easy. What you need to do is to look at the policy's definition of disability. You can be disabled for one policy and not another.

A broad definition of disability is obviously much better. A perfect example where the definition of disability is different is when you look at the definition for Social Security purposes. Disability for Social Security is much narrower than in many disability poli-

You also need to focus on the amount of the benefits and how long they will last. Many policies purchased through an employer have disability policies that only provide coverage for a short period of time. In addition, you also need to

determine what happens with the policy if you leave the company.

Disability insurance is expensive, so always consider ways to reduce the cost of your premiums. One way is to increase the elimination period — the waiting period before you can collect benefits Increasing the elimination period from the standard 90 days to 180 days may substantially reduce the cost of your premiums.

In many situations, I believe disability insurance is more important than life insurance. After all, if no one is financially dependent upon you, you probably don't need life insurance. However, what happens if you cannot work and cannot afford to pay your bills? That is where disability insurance comes in. For a single person

with no financial dependants, disability insurance can be a life saver.

To determine whether you need disability insurance, the question you need to ask yourself is, if you cannot work, who pays you bills? If you answer is I don't know, then it probably is a sign that you need to explore the idea of getting some disability coverage to protect yourself.

One last note, it is important to deal with a specialist when it comes to disability insurance. If you need the name of a qualified agent, e-mail me. Good luck!

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

## **Madonna University holds** 63rd commencement today

Nearly 958 graduates will join the Madonna University alumni ranks during the 63rd commencement ceremony at 1:30 p.m. today at Compuware Arena in Plymouth. Approximately 765 students will receive a bachelor's or

associate degree, with the remainder earning a master's Honorary doctorate degrees

will be bestowed upon C. David Campbell, president of the McGregor Fund, and Lu Hongjun, president of Shanghai Institute of International Finance. The Distinguished Alumna Award will be given to Sr. Marie Ann Stamm, professor of religious studies.

Presiding over the com-



C. David Campbell



Lu Hongjun

mencement ceremony will be Madonna University Provost and Vice President for Academic Administration

Ernest I. Nolan. The invocation will be given by Ann Lampkin, director of the office of diversity and multicultural affairs, with vocals performed by graduate Sara

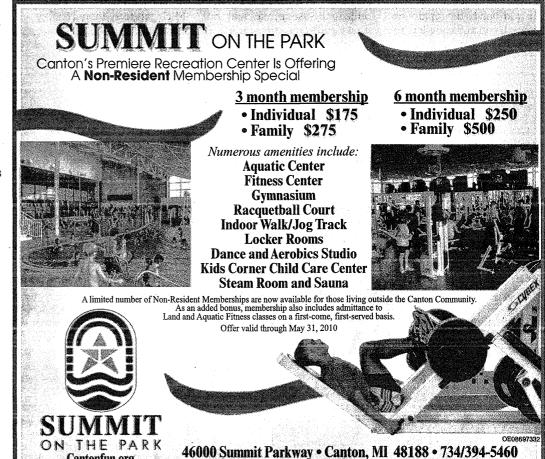


Sister Marie **Ann Stamm** 

The mace bearer will be Charles Derry, coordinator of the broadcast and cinema arts program.

All graduates and their families are invited to attend the Graduation

Mass at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 29, at the Felician Chapel, 36800 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia. Archbishop Allen Vigneron, Archdiocese of Detroit, will serve as the celebrant. A reception hosted by Sister Rose Marie Kujawa will be held in the University Center dining room immediately following the Mass.





### Crews get started on I-275 pathway

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 25, 2010

Crews have started the muchanticipated repair and reconstruction of the I-275 Metro Trail in Wayne and Oakland Counties.

In an effort to facilitate clearing and removal of the existing path, officials have closed the section of the path between Hines Drive and Michigan Ave. Workers from Angelo Iafrate Construction Company will begin the work at Hines Drive and make their way south until the project is complete in the

This work, which includes construction of four new bridges, will upgrade the trail to present-day standards and bring it in line with ADA compliance, according to officials from Friends of the I-275 Pathway. Crews also plan to close portions of the trail between Hines Drive and Meadowbrook Road in the coming weeks in order to perform spot repairs, although they said they don't expect to close the entire section; rather, the path is likely to be shut down in one-mile increments.

In addition to the repairs on the north end and complete re-



Bob Breen of Wade Trim points out aspects of the I-275 pathway upgrade during Tuesday's open house at Canton's Fellows Creek Golf Club.

construction of the middle section, additional work is planned south of Michigan Ave. next year, officials said.

The contractors along with the Michigan Department of Transportation held an open house Tuesday at Fellows Creek Golf Club in Canton to explain the trail upgrades and receive input from the public.

The I-275 Pathway is a 40mile multi-use recreational trail that parallels the freeway in

Oakland, Wayne and Monroe Counties. The trail runs through or near some of the most populated communities in southeast Michigan, including Novi, Farmington Hills, Livonia, Plymouth, Northville Township, Canton Township and Monroe. It links to many non-motorized paths in these communities, and could ultimately serve as a backbone to the entire southeast Michigan recreational trail sys-

### Canton Township man launches campaign for state Senate seat

Patrick Colbeck, an entrepreneur and fiscal conservative from Canton, launched his candidacy for the Michigan Senate, 7th District, with a speech April 15 during the Tax Day Tea

Party event in downtown

Plymouth's Kellogg Park. Colbeck said he is a "strong advocate of our U.S. Constitution and the principles of our

Founding Fathers." He said he believes strongly that the re-awakening of America to the values promoted by men like George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, and Ronald Reagan are the keys to the restoration of our prosperity as a state and as a country.

"As a small business owner and as a management consultant to Fortune 500 com-

panies, I understand how Lansing's red tape and tax policies have pushed jobs out of our state," Colbeck said. "My focus will be to enact legislation that will help Michigan to trade in our current Number One status in unemployment rate for a Number One status in job growth rate. I strongly believe that the only way we will see Michigan make a comeback is by a return to the principles of free enterprise and limited govern-

Colbeck has more than 20 years of engineering and management experience spanning a wide variety of industries including automotive, health care, aerospace, defense, pharmaceuticals, and information technology. During the early years of his career, he designed several systems currently in operation aboard the International Space Station.

Throughout his career, he said, he has demonstrated

his ability to "reduce complex problems into simple, efficient solutions." He has been certified by Microsoft as a **Small Business Specialist** and authored and published the book Information  $Technology\ Roadmap\ for$ Professional Service Firms, which is designed to help small businesses efficiently ease onto the information highway.

Colbeck is aligned with the principles of limited government and fiscal responsibility promoted by the Tea Party movement. He serves as treasurer for the Canton **Charter Academy Board** and is a member of both the Northville and Canton Chambers of Commerce.

Colbeck earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees in aerospace engineering from the University of Michigan and was a graduate of Catholic Central High School. For more information, visit www. FixingMichigan.com





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### **BOLGER-MANGAN MEMORIAL CITY MEET**



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHE

Lining up to run the 100-yard dash during the city meet are girls from Canton, Plymouth and Salem. Canton's Jordan Clark took first

## Salem girls sprint past rivals

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Just like their male counterparts, the females who comprise the Canton, Plymouth and Salem girls track & field teams eagerly await going against each other at the annual Bolger-Mangan memorial city meet.

"The girls have been pumped this whole week for this meet, and for us this is one of our biggest meets even though it's not counting toward our division record or anything," said Canton girls coach Pam Stom, whose team wanted to repeat as city meet champs.

"Most of the girls know each other and are friends in school. But at this meet, the girls really are competitive with one another and want that trophy."

Of course, the rival Wildcats and Rocks also were just as ramped

Please see GIRLS, B2



Salem's Kara Booms takes the baton from teammate Jordyn Moore in the first leg of the 3,200-meter relay, which the Rocks won.

# 'Cats get better of campus foes

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With emotion swirling in the infield and up in the bleachers, athletes from "The Park" again competed for campus bragging rights at Thursday's annual Bolger-Mangan Memorial Track & Field City Meet.

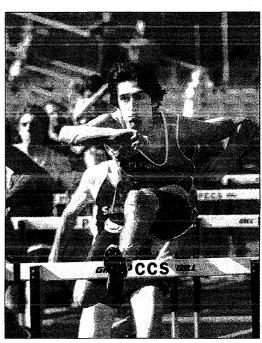
"It's basically the pride of the campus kind of thing," said Canton boys coach Bob Richardson, whose Chiefs finished third at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Junior Varsity Stadium with 41.5 points. "All of the guys see each other at lunch and pass each other in the hallway, it's a pride thing."

The Canton coach said his guys usually perform at their top level "because of all the competition" from the other PCEP teams.

"And there's a lot of emotion out here, you can probably feel it," Richardson said. "Everybody's excited, the fans are excited. ... It's a good thing for our school and our campus because we all share it."

The meet honors former Salem athletes Mark Bolger and Jeff Mangan, with the memorial aspect undoubtedly further spurring teams to excel.

Please see BOYS, B2



With determination written all over his face, Plymouth's Brandon Piligian wins the 110 high hurdles.

### GAME WRAPS

Girls soccer SALEM 5, S. LYON EAST 0: The

Rocks improved to 6-0-0 with Thursday's whitewashing of South Lyon East. Jamie Hunley made three stops to record her third shutout of the year.

third shutout of the year.

Providing offensive spark for
the second time this week was
Emily Lundh. She scored twice
and assisted on another, following up her four-goal outburst
Tuesday against South Lyon.

Also with two goals and a helper was Kristina Klusek. Other offensive contributions included a goal from Mackenzie Rogers, two assists from Tori Quinn and one assist from Lindsey Newton.

SALEM 7, SOUTH LYON 2: Emily

Lundh went on an offensive tear Tuesday, scoring four goals to spark Salem's KLAA Central victory over South Lyon. Kristina Klusek also had a big game, scoring twice.

Brett deBear tallied one goal and an assist for the Rocks. Chipping in with two assists each were Lindsey Newton and Madeleine Vala, with single helpers from Megan McCormack and Taylor Burgoon.

Tabitha Mann stopped five shots for the shutout.

#### Boys golf PLYMOUTH 150, WAYNE 165: On

Wednesday at Woodlands of Van Buren, the Wildcats improved to 2-0 overall with a strong performance led by medalist James Bryans, who tallied 36 strokes for nine holes.

The rest of the Plymouth lineup came in at or under the 40-stroke mark. Ryan Bauer, Kyle Rodes and Ryan Rieckhoff each finished with a score of 38 to round out the varsity scorecard.

Justin Bauer tallied 39, while Josh Heinze registered 40 for the day, although their scores did not impact the final score.

SALEM 155, S. LYON EAST 163: The Rocks prevailed Wednesday at Fox Hills Golf Club against visiting South Lyon East in Salem's opening dual match of the season. Leading the way for the Rocks were Aaron Thompson and Brandon Duprey, each finishing with a round of 38. Brian Patterson trailed with 39, while Eric Duprey shot 40.

### Wildcats prevail thanks to 'Berra moment'

**BY TIM SMITH**OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Look out, Yogi Berra, here comes Mike

Nadratowski.

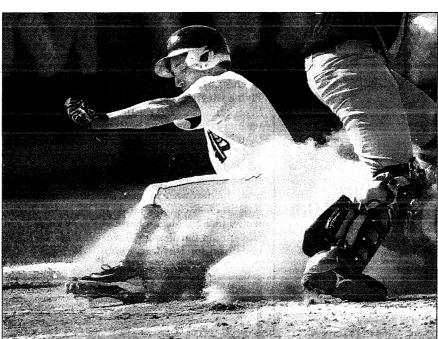
In the fifth inning of Wednesday's KLAA baseball game between host Plymouth and Livonia Churchill, Nadratowski connected on an outside pitch and ripped a three-run homer to left field — breaking a tie and giving the Wildcats a 6-3 lead they would not relinquish. That turned out to be the final score.

"The funny thing is, that ball, by all accounts was five inches off the end of the plate," said Plymouth head coach Bryan Boyd. "They always said Yogi Berra hit bad balls out of the ballpark. Well, apparently Mike Nadratowski does, too. I was impressed."

The blast scored Ben Wohl and courtesy runner Phil Emminger (running for catcher Rich Guglielmi). Both Wohl and Guglielmi reached on infield singles to shortstop.

That roundtripper enabled Plymouth starting pitcher Harrison Michels to earn the victory. He went five innings and gave up two earned runs.

Please see WILDCATS, B4



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPH

Sliding home for a Plymouth run is courtesy runner Phil Emminger, during the Wildcats' Game 1 win Wednesday over Livonia Churchill. Game 2 of the twinbill had to wait until Thursday to be completed.

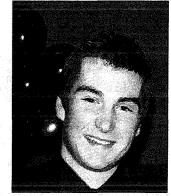


Who: Ryan Renault, senior co-captain of Plymouth boys lacrosse team.

Miscellany: The 18-year-old

Renault is second all-time in lacrosse scoring for Plymouth and is No. 1 in scoring for the school's boys hockey team. Honors include 2nd-team all-state and team MVP in hockey and all-state honorable mention in lacrosse. He holds a 3.1 grade-point average.

Captain's job: "The job of a captain to me is to always be able to stand up for your teammates, both on and off the field. Also performing well under pressure and consistently is important."



RYAN RENAULT

Leadership style: "I am more of a game leader, whenever it's game time I do whatever I can to help my team win – both physically and vocally."

Why him?: "I think I was chosen as a captain because my teammates know that I have their back no matter what, and that I always like to be relaxed."



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## Ann Arbor Huron duo blitzes Rocks

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 25, 2010

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

Salem tried but couldn't get out of a deep, first-half hole Wednesday night against Ann Arbor Huron.

With Henry Upton scoring five goals in the first half as the River Rats built a 7-2 halftime lead, the host Rocks were unable to rally. Huron registered a 13-5 non-conference victory with Upton and Alex Welch (4 goals) doing most of the damage.

"They're a good team," said Salem head coach Eric Hoffman. "We can't put a full game together right now. We're still learning the new system and starting to trust ourselves."

But the good play is sporadic, as demonstrated by the third quarter when junior attackman Dylan Hatcher scored three goals in a 5:20 span to slice the River Rats' lead to 8-5.

Hatcher finished with four of Salem's goals and assisted on the fifth, scored in the second quarter by junior midfielder Connor Berlin.

"Dylan's good," Hoffman said. "When he takes the right shots there's a good chance he's going to score."

But there was no answer for Upton, Welch and other aggressive playmakers for the River Rats, who repeat-

#### **BOYS LACROSSE**

edly worked their way in front of beleaguered Salem goalie Alex Gravlin for prime scoring

"If you get beat and let him get on top of you he's going to have a good shot," Hoffman added. "(Defenders) should be cutting him off and pushing him up field, not letting him run in front of the goal.'

Still, Hoffman liked how the Rocks bounced back in the second half, cutting the Huron lead to 8-5 and nearly getting even closer.

Strong goalkeeping by Lars Urbaniak (who played the second half) stymied the Salem comeback.

The River Rats finally made it 9-5 when Upton scored with 1:36 left in the third and Huron kept the offense coming the rest of the night.

'We hustled, we never gave up," Hoffman said. "That's something I look for in teams. They get behind a few goals and they don't give up, they always try to battle back.'

Also scoring for Huron (4-2) were Michael Lasseline and Kyle Aaronson.

Assisting on one of Hatcher's goals was junior attackman Garret Berg.

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And there were many outstanding performances on a sun-soaked afternoon and early evening. Plymouth won the Bolger-Mangan boys trophy with 81 points while Salem placed second (53.5 points).

"We had a great meet as a team," said Wildcats coach Jon Mikosz. "Our distance guys ran great today and our sprints have been great as they have been all season.

'We are getting great point in the field which we haven't gotten in the past."

Mikosz added that "it always feels good when you can compete and win against teams like Canton and Salem.'

#### **GIVING CREDIT**

Salem boys coach Kyle Metever tipped his cap to the Wildcats, a team that has few if any weaknesses.

"They have good athletes in every single event, which makes them the team to beat in their division and our conference," Meteyer said. "Their season has come together really well; it's a great roster with hard-working coaches. They'll



Clearing 6 feet, 1 inch in the high jump Thursday is Pawan Dhaliwal of the victorious Plymouth boys team.

have a lot of success this year." Metever also said it was tough for the Rocks to bounce back from Tuesday's grueling

dual meet against Novi, won

by the Wildcats 69.5-to-67.5.

"The coaches made a decision to pursue the KLAA division championship as hard as possible," he noted. "And it's

very difficult to perform well at two meets in three days."

That said, he didn't want to take anything away from Plymouth, which featured firsts from Kyle Brindza (discus, 141 feet, 6 inches), Pawan Dhaliwal (high jump, 6-1), Brandon Piligian (110-meter hurdles, 16.0 seconds), distance runners Warren Buzzard (800 run, 2 minutes, 0.2 seconds; 1,600 run, 4:36.6) and Matt Neumann (3,200 run, 10:14.5).

Canton's Richardson said the team's strong points so far this season have been his middle-distance runners and sprinters. One of those, Kevin Buford, was on a roll Thursday with wins in the 100, 200 and 400 dashes. Buford edged Plymouth's William Askew II in the 100 dash (11.6 to 12.0) and nipped another Wildcat (Anthony LeMerise) in the 200 dash by a margin of 23.0 to 23.4 seconds.

The other Canton first-place winner was Nick Alaniva, who took both the long jump (20-10) and pole vault (12-6).

Scott O'Connor (300 hurdles, 41.2) and Ed Merhi (shot put, 50-9.5) were Salem's firstplace finishers, the highlights in what Meteyer called a disappointing showing.

"There's no doubt that we had a down night," he said, "as (almost) across the board our performances were inferior to our marks in our two dual meets this year.

"I hope we can work hard to bounce back and continue our quest to win our division."

#### PREP TRACK & FIELD RESULTS

#### 2010 BOLGER-MANGAN MEMORIAL TRACK & FIELD CITY MEET

Thursday, April 22, at PCEP Junior Varsity Stadium

BOYS MEET STANDINGS: 1. Plymouth, 81 points; 2. Salem, 53.5; 3. Canton, 41.5. **Shot put:** 1. Ed Merhi (S), 50 feet, 9.5 inches; 2. Kyle Brindza (P), 50-0; 3. Ethan Walsh (S), 47-3; 4. Darrell Cohn (P), 43-4; 5 Jordon Birman (P), 41-11.5.

Discus: 1. Brindza (P), 141-6; 2. Walsh (S), 124-2; 3. Keith Choma (P), 122-3; 4. Dana Baltazar (S), 121-0; 5, Merhi (S), 115-07,

High jump: 1. Pawan Dhafiwal (P), 6-1; 2. (tie) Ben Spreitzer (C) and Zach Gaskell (S), 6-0; 4. Jalen Woolridge (P), 5-8; 5. Josh Peterson

Long jump: 1. Nick Alaniva (C), 20-10: 2. Woolridge (P), 20-8.5; 3. Spreitzer (C), 19-10.5; 4. Thomas Crawford (S), 18-6.5; 5. Brenton

Pole vault: 1. Alaniva (C), 12-6; 2. Grant Senkbeil (P), 12-6; 3. Joe Bockstanz (P), 12-6; 4. John Krutty (S), 12-6; 5. Derek Draplin (S),

110-meter hurdles: 1. Brandon Piligian (P), 16.0 seconds; 2. Scott O'Connor (S), 16.7; 3. Spreitzer (C), 16.8: 4. Dion Walker (S), 16.8: 5. Jose Amado (S), 17.62. 300 hurdles: 1. O'Connor (S), 41.2; 2.

Piligian (P), 41.7; 3. Spreitzer (C), 42.4; 4. Amado (S), 43.5; 5. Doug Deykes (P), 43.57. 100 dash: 1. Kevin Buford (C), 11.6; 2.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ed Merhi puts everything he can into a shot put toss of 50 feet, 10.5 inches during Thursday's city meet.

William Askew II (P), 12.0; 3. Alex Ruffin (P),

12.0; 4. Draplin (S), 12.1; 5. Marcus Houston (S), 200: 1, Buford (C), 23.0: 2, Anthony LeMerise (P), 23.4; 3. Askew II (P), 23.6; 4. Kenneth Middlebrooks (S), 23.8; 5. Piligian

400: 1. Buford (C), 50.2; 2. Gaskell (S), 51.1;

3 Kenneth Middlebrooks (S) 53 0: 4 Woolridge (P), 53.2; 5. Jordan Wisniewski (C), 53.94. 800 run: 1. Warren Buzzard (P), 2 minutes,

0.2.1 seconds; 2. Dan Martin (S), 2:04.7; 3. Justin Heck (P), 2:16.1; 4. Max Schmiel (C), 2:07.7; 5. Jimmy Daniels (S), 2:08.56.

Neumann (P), 4:37.5; 3. Martin (S), 4:37.5; 4. Spreitzer (C), 4:38.9; 5. Joe Porcari (P), 3,200: 1. Neumann (P), 10:14.5; 2. Porcari

1,600: 1. Buzzard (P), 4:36.6; 2. Matt

(P) 10:19.2: 3. Steven McEvilly (S), 10:19.5; 4. Derek Gielarowski (P), 10:25.8; 5. Andrew Rabe 400 relay: 1. Plymouth, 44.6; 2. Salem,

45.2; 3. Canton, 46.7; 800 relay: 1. Plymouth, 1.34.6; 2. Canton, 1:35.5; Salem DQ'ed; 1,600 relay: 1. Salem, 3:28.6; 2. Canton, 3:37.2; 3. Plymouth, 3:37.9; 3,200 relay: 1. Plymouth, 8:17.90: 2. Canton. 8:23.78: 3. Salem. 8:46.49

GIRLS MEET STANDINGS: 1. Salem, 66.5; 2. Canton 60; 3. Plymouth, 50.5.

Shot put: 1. Isis Haywood (P), 32 feet, 4.5 inches; 2. Rebekah Hendrian (S), 27-4.5; 3. Sarah Stone (S), 27-0.5; 4. Lydia Plencner (P), 24-10; 5. Jess Bihn (P), 24-04.5. Discus: 1. Haywood (P), 90-10; 2. Hendrian

(S), 84-7; 3. Stone (S), 77-2; 4. Brittany Granowicz (C), 76-2; 5, Bihn (P), 75-05, High jump: 1. Lindsay Lipa (C), 5-4 inches;

2. Tina Bradley (C), 4-8; 3. (tie) Ashley Kretschmer (S) and Taylor Rieckhoff (P), 4-6; 5. Allison Walker (S) 4-06.

Long jump: 1. Kristina Klusek (S), 15-9: 2. Michelle Lu (C), 15-4.5; 3. Becka Knox (P), 14-11; 4. Phalyn Winans (C), 14-9; 5. Adrianna Beltran,

Pole vault: 1. Reagan Engstrom (P), 9-6;

2. Jane McCurry (P), 8-6: 3. Kara Bongiovanni (C), 8-6; 4. Megan Paruta (S), 8-0; 5. Lindsey Russell (P), 8-0.

100-meter hurdles: 1. Paruta (S), 18.76 seconds; 2. Sarah Martin (S), 18.81; 3. Madi Lewis (P), 19.02: 4, Gabby Williams (C), 19.18: 5

Ireana Cook (P), 20.0. 300 hurdles: 1. Jenna Hamed (P), 52.71; 2. Marina Milad (C), 52.77; 3. Carissa Buttermore

**100 dash:** 1. Jordan Clark (C), 12.68; 2. Khyli Ray (S), 13.74; 3. Deja Wright (S), 13.74; 4. Lindsey Russell (P), 13.86; 5. Breanna Frye

(P), 53.30; 4. Williams (C), 53.91; 5. Paruta (S),

200: 1. Clark (C), 25.40; 2. Lewis (P), 26.11; 3. Ray (S), 27.70; 4. Russell (P), 28.06; 5. Lu

(C), 28.54. 400: 1. Clark (C), 1:00.25; 2. Knox (P), 1:02.59; 3. Beth Swanberg (C), 1:03.92; 4. Ade Jepperson (S), 1:05.31; 5. Beltran (S), 1:05.55.

800 run: 1. Jordyn Moore (S), 2 minutes,

32.83 seconds: 2. Katie Grimes (C), 2:36.30; 3. Alex McHugh (S), 2:36,94; 4. Erica Eimers (C), 2:40.20; 5. Kyra Neumann (P), 2:41.74. 1,600: 1. Bianca Kubicki (C), 5:34.19; 2.

Victoria Tripp (S), 5:44.69; 3. Amanda Beyer (S), 5:49.95; 4. Emily Bizon (S), 5:51.61; 5. Paula Green (P), 5:51.64

3,200: 1. Kubicki (C), 11:46.23; 2. Tripp (S), 12:14.49; 3. Nicole Traitses (P), 12:47.10; 4. Green (P), 12:50.96; 5. Kara Booms (S), 13:08.03. 400 relay: 1. Salem, 53.63; 2. Canton,

54.88; 3. Plymouth, 56.59; **800 relay:** 1. Plymouth, 1:48.53; 2. Salem, 1:53.76; 3. Canton, 1:55.20; 1,600 relay: 1. Canton, 4:22.24; 2. Salem, 4:23.97; 3. Plymouth, 4:37.02; 3,200 relay: 1. Salem, 10:13.89; 2. Plymouth, 10:24.04; 3. Canton, 10:25.87.

up for the meet at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Junior Varsity Stadium.

When the sun finally set and the electronic scores were tabulated, it was Salem with the championship — finishing with 66.5 points to edge the runner-up Chiefs (60 points).

Taking third, with 50.5 points, was Plymouth.

#### **TURNING POINT**

"Our girls ran tough," Plymouth girls coach Ricky Styes said. "Early in the meet, we had girls that were beating their best times this season and I could tell that they really

wanted to win this meet." But Salem did enough to grab the hardware, with Kristina Klusek (long jump, 15 feet, 9 inches), Megan Paruta (100-meter hurdles, 18.76 seconds) and Jordyn Moore (800

run, 2 minutes, 32.83 seconds) leading the way with firsts.

Rocks girls coach Dale Maskill said it was important for his team to win the Bolger-Mangan trophy because it would help lead to success the rest of the year.

"This is an important meet because it's a turning point in the season," said Maskill during a short break in the proceedings. "It's a real good morale boost, especially since they're so close with these other runners, to be able to win this meet and hold their chest up and let everybody know Salem knows how to

Meanwhile, Styes agreed that the city meet is a highlight of the regular season.

"The girls get so excited about running against each other that everybody runs faster and harder and surprises happen throughout the meet," Styes said. "Going into this thing we knew it was going to be tight."

Fans of the Wildcats and Chiefs did have plenty of reasons to cheer, too.

For Plymouth, Isis Haywood was a throwing dynamo. She easily took both the shot put and discus events, with throws of 32 feet, 4.5 inches and 90-10, respectively. Reagan Engstrom tallied 9-6 in the pole vault, a foot higher than second-place Jane McCurry (Plymouth) and Kara Bongionvanni (Canton).

Jenna Hamed of the Wildcats edged Canton's Marina Milad in the 300 hurdles, 52.71 to 52.77, for Plymouth's only other firstplace finish in individual events.

Canton individual winners were Lindsay Lipa (high jump, 5-4), Bianca Kubicki (1,600 run, 5:34.19; 3,200 run, 11:46.23) and Jordan Clark, who returned from shin splints to take three sprint events. Clark won the 100 dash (12.68), 200 dash (25.40) and 400 dash (1:00.25).

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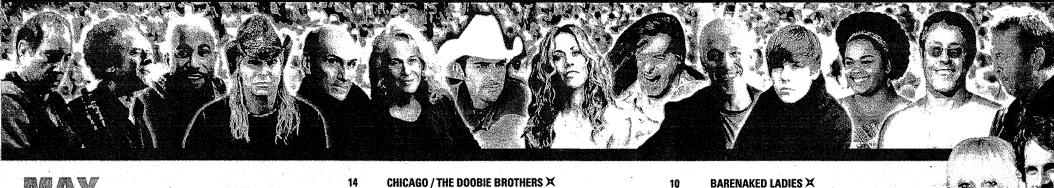


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Going the final two frames for the save was Jackson

Plymouth fell behind 1-0 in the opening inning but tied it up in the home half when Nadratowski's fielder's choice scored Guglielmi, who doubled to left and took third on a wild pitch.

Guglielmi went 3-for-3 (2 doubles, 3 runs) and threw out a would be base-stealer in the top of the fifth.

Churchill took a 3-1 lead in the second. Stephen Foster (2for-3) singled and stole second and Drew Loudon walked. One out later, Nate Belyk doubled to right-center for two

Plymouth got those runs back in the third.

Zach Yokom opened the inning with a double to right and Guglielmi scored him with a two-bagger to the gap in left.

The tying run came in on a single by Matt Priebe. Outstanding defense in cen-

ter by Nadratowski also helped keep the Wildcats in the game. He dashed over to right-center to field a single by Christian Leathley and gun the relay into the infield, preventing a run from scoring.

In the sixth, he slid to snare a sinking liner off the turf.

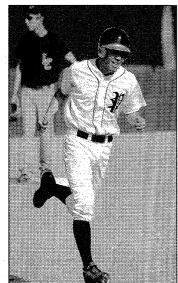
"Mike is our pitcher's best friend the way he plays defense," Boyd said.

According to Churchill head coach Ron Targosz, the game demonstrated a recent disappointing trend for his team.

"I think what hurt us was we gave them some extra outs," Targosz said. "They gave us some extra outs but their hitters took advantage.

"I think we need to start taking advantage of what other teams give us instead of the other way around, because that's what it's been the last couple weeks."

Game 2 of the scheduled



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The smile on the face of Plymouth's Mike Nadratowski says it all. He rounds the bases after hitting a three-run homer against Livonia Churchill, which turned out to be the margin of victory for the Wildcats.

twinbill was suspended until Thursday with the Chargers leading 1-0 in the top of the third. Although it barely rained, umpires stopped the game after lightning was

detected on two occasions. It is a Michigan High School Athletic Association rule that play must be stopped for 30 minutes whenever lightning is

"The thing is we had a halfhour lighting (delay) and we stood out here for the half hour," Targosz said. "... that was the part that was a little irritating, I guess.

"I understand the rule, but by the same token there has to be a little discretion in there if it clears out where you could start before the half hour is up.

#### **RESUMPTION**

Churchill pitcher Ben Matigian, who started Game 2 on Wednesday, picked off where he left off Thursday as the Chargers earned a 4-1 victory for a split of the doubleheader.

With Matt Priebe taking

over from Nadratowski on the mound, the Wildcats gave up three runs in the fourth (two scoring on an error) to build a 4-0 edge.

Plymouth finally got on the board in the fifth when Nadratowski reached on a fielder's choice, stole second and third base and came home on a wild pitch.

The Wildcats tried to rally in the seventh, with Guglielmi (2for-4) and Nadratowski starting the frame with singles. But Matigian then reached back for something extra on his pitches, striking out the next three batters (two watching) to close out the victory.

With the split, Churchill improved to 8-3 overall, 4-2 in the KLAA; Plymouth dropped to 4-5, 1-4.

CANTON 7-11, JOHN GLENN 2-0: In a Wednesday doubleheader between KLAA South baseball teams, the visiting Chiefs were in control. In the opener, pitcher

Andrew Tidwell started and won his fourth decision in a row with offensive help from Seth Tschetter and Joe Galanty (two hits each).

Canton kept it rolling in Game 2, with the beneficiary being winning pitcher Ryan Bazner (3-0).

Tschetter continued his hot hitting, with a pair of doubles. Also with two hits were Cody Blakita and Tidwell.

Canton improved to 10-2 overall with the sweep.

PCA 12, FRANKLIN ROAD 5: Daniel Slater's three-hit performance and two-hit games by Matt Dodson, David Baum and Matt Hagelin paced Plymouth Christian to a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference victory on Tuesday.

Earning the win with 5<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings of work was Jon Slater, with Dodson retiring the final four batters for the save. The Eagles improved to 1-1 in conference play.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

### Power keys Plymouth softball sweep

BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

When Plymouth senior Stacey Klonowski steps up to the plate, she's feeling confident knowing red-hot teammates Amanda Burnard and Marissa Blassic are right behind her in the batting

All three registered key extra-base hits Thursday as the host Wildcats finished a softball doubleheader sweep over Livonia Churchill that actually began Wednesday (action was suspended in the sixth inning of Game 2 due to lightning in the area).

Trailing 1-0, both Klonowski (2-for-3) and Burnard (4-for-4) were on base when Blassic lined a two-run double to the gap in left-center to put Plymouth in front.

Then for good measure, Klonowski and Burnard smacked fence-clearing homers to right and center, respectively, in a three-run seventh as Plymouth finished off a 5-1

"Marissa Blassic came up huge with that double (in the sixth) when Amanda and I were on base," Klonowski said. "It really took the pressure off the rest of us, gave us the ability to calm down at the plate, take a deep breath and look what happened?"

Klonowski swung at a 3-0 count from Churchill pitcher Abby Jewell and ripped a line drive that disappeared behind the fence in right. Teammate Jessica Bondy (safe on an

error) also scored on the blast. "I had a 3-0 count and usually I don't swing on that," said Klonowski, smiling. "But

coach Canfield was like 'If it's there could you please swing the bat today?" Those late runs enabled

freshman pitcher Elaine Gerou to go the distance and pick up the victory, with the lone run coming in the first. In the first game on

Wednesday, sophomore pitcher Lauren Smith went the distance and struck out seven while giving up five hits in an 8-2 win.

Bondy went 3-for-4 while Klonowski (2-for-3) tripled in the tie-breaking run in the third. A double by Burnard (4 RBI) broke the contest open in the fifth.

Senior first baseman Tessa Heldmeyer went 2-for-2 with an RBI.

The unorthodox doubleheader sweep was a positive sign for Canfield, whose team went 3-1 Saturday at the hard-fought Mercy Invite before going nine innings to edge campus rival Salem on Monday.

"I was real proud with the way they came back today,' said Canfield, noting that the Wildcats had been battling some fatigue. "Marissa Blassic just stepped up for us, with a clutch double. She's an experienced ball player and she knows what she needs to do to score runs."

Canfield also praised Klonowski and Burnard for their clutch power late in

Game 2. "I have high expectations of these two players, so it

was in the cards for us today." Plymouth (10-1, 4-0 in the KLAA South) is idle until

#### Canton wins 3 straight

Monday's game at Novi.

A two-run rally in the seventh sparked Canton to a 3-2 victory Monday over Novi and the Chiefs went on from there to outscore Westland John Glenn by a combined 32-0 for a pair of mercy-rule victories later in the week.

Canton's 20-0 victory (3 innings) in the first game of Wednesday's KLAA South doubleheader Wednesday featured a homer and three RBI from junior CarolAnne Sexauer and three hits each from sophomore Alyssa Boucher and junior Lauren Leskovitz.

Boucher pitched the abbreviated shutout, fanning four Rockets.

In Game 2, junior pitcher Amy Dunleavy hurled a fiveinning perfect game as the Chiefs rolled to a 12-0 victory. Dunleavy struck out eight and also helped her own cause out, going 3-for-3 at the plate with a homer and two RBI.

Sexauer (2-for-3) and junior Kaitlyn Matson (homer) also contributed to the offensive fireworks.

On Monday against Novi, Leskovitz' RBI single scored the tie-breaking run in the 3-2 win. Also registering hits in the frame were junior Heidi Lucke, Dunleavy, junior Samantha Partain and

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### **Rolling Reign**

The Plymouth Reign Green '00 Girls soccer team recently finished first in the U10 Boys Division 2 Winter 2 Indoor Soccer session at High Velocity. The team, coached by Bli Sleek, went 7-1, scoring 57 goals and allowing only 15. Congratulations to the Reign! Team members, listed alphabetically, include the following: Kate Cotham, Arianna Finn, Sara Fusco, Carli Hohmann, Alyssa Knight, Jayna Lenders, Gabriella Mazzuca, Breana Pheiffer, Madelyn Rush, Chloe Russo and Julia Salloum.

#### CANTON 8 LIVONIA FRANKLIN 1 April 22 at Canton

No. 1 singles: Angelica Woods (LF) defeated Megan Leung, 6-1, 6-0; No. 2: Taylor Eppler (C) def. Chauna Gibson, 6-0, 6-1; No. 3: Jacklyn Hollingsworth (C) def. Kelsey Sitarski, 6-0, 6-0; No. 4: Sydney Liedel (C) def. Annie McLeod

No. 1 doubles: Brittany Vance-Kayla Davis (C) def. Jennifer Rellinger-Crystal Henderson 6-1, 6-1; No. 2: Catherine Sanctorum-Kesley Mason (C) def. Sarah Noffze-Jackie Horsell, 6 0, 6-3; No. 3: Janani Shanmuga-Kaitlyn Bunyak (C) def. Natallie Mays-Brittany Borregard, 6-1, 6-0; No. 4: Samantha Klott-Hayley Cook (C) def. Jamie Buchanczenko-Kayla Buchanczenko, 6-2, 6-1; No. 5: Neena Baghaie-Lauren Tomei (C) def. Renee Kozakowski-Brianca Russell

Dual match records: Canton, 3-1 overall, 3-1 KLAA South Division; Franklin, 1-5 overall

#### PLYMOUTH 8 WAYNE MEMORIAL 1 April 22 at Plymouth

No. 1 singles: Morgan Greig (WM) defeated Sarah Mitchell, 6-2, 6-0; No. 2: Priya Joshi (P) def. Megan McGregor, 6-2, 6-0; No. 3: Lindsay Stemberger (P) def. Stephanie Tomlin, 6-0, 6-0; No. 4: Kirthi Duraiswamy (P) def. XiYan Wang,

No. 1 doubles: Kayla Griffey-Britta Swanson (P) def. Alicia Evans-Melinda Powers, Calcaterra-Anastasia Demopoulos (P) def. Zoie

Smallwood-Ashlee Szabo, 6-2, 6-1. Dual meet records: Plymouth, 3-1 overall, 3-1 KLAA South Division

No. 1 doubles: Rachel Norman-Ashley Davis (S) def. Andrea Cogo-Sophie Welch, 6-2, 6-3; No. 2: Mallory Rojo-Ashley Walker (S) def. Tabatha Sorgatz-Lauren Burchart, 6-0, Melissa Byers-Katherine Karrick, 6-2, 6-2; No. 4: Sarah Bellaire-Bansari Patel (S) def. Sam

Dual meet records: Salem, 2-2 overall, 2-2

### PLYMOUTH 8

No. 1 singles: Angelica Woods (LF) defeated Sarah Mitchell, 6-0, 6-1; No. 2: Lindsay Stemberger (P) def. Kelsey Sitarski, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Kirthi Duraiswamy (P) def. Annie def. Renee Kozakowski, 6-1, 6-0.

No. 1 doubles: Allison Santori-Lauren Jeong (P) def. Jennifer Rellinger-Crystal Henderson, 6-0, 7-5; No. 2: Kayla Griffey Britta Swanson (P) def. Sarah Noffze-Jackie Horsell, 6-3, 6-2; No. 3: Andrea Haidar-Mariah Tesarz (P) def. Natallie Mays-Brittany Borregard, 6-1, 6-2; No. 4: Annie McKenzie-Iulia Fratila (P) def. Jame Buchanczenko-Kayla Buchanczenko, 6-1, 6-0; **No. 5:** Jahnvi Patel-Mandy Martin (P) def. Zoe Riopell-Kim

Dual meet records: Plymouth, 2-1 overall,

## Defense rises to occasion – again

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After 78 minutes of a scoreless girls soccer game Friday night, there was no way Canton junior goalkeeper Kayla Bridges was going to allow visiting Ann Arbor

Pioneer to score late for a win. Pioneer's Margaret Nemetz rifled a sharp-angle shot from the right side of the box that a leaping Bridges managed to get her hands on.

That stop with about two minutes left preserved the 0-0 scoreless tie between the nonconference opponents.

Canton senior forward Kristi Balewski actually had the last shot of the night, from deep in the right corner with about 30 seconds to go. But the stop by Pioneer goalie Kaitlyn Bedolla was nowhere as difficult as the one Bridges made.

"Yeah it was clutch and I knew I had to make the save,' said Bridges, who took over from starter Sam McPartlin at

#### **GIRLS SOCCER**

halftime to finish the shutout. "The clock was running down and the adrenaline just kicked

"That's what it comes down to, making the save or not." Her coach, George Tomasso, also liked the timely stop.

"She (Nemetz) got a hold of it," Tomasso said. "It was in good placement and Kayla Bridges made an outstanding save to keep the game at zeros."

According to Lumumba Shabazz, head coach of Pioneer (2-1-2 overall), there weren't very many chances to score against a stingy Canton defense — which has only been scored on twice this season. "The whole second half we

played primarily in this half of the field," Shabazz said. "We didn't have a lot of opportunities though, we had a few

"But I thought the goaltender who came in the second

half for Canton (Bridges) was very competent and did a great job and their defense kept it out. Credit to both teams, really."

Tomasso said Canton (4-1-2) is continuing to play solid defense.

"We're definitely a hardworking team, only two goals against on the season so far," Tomasso noted. "I think we'll challenge teams and make it very hard to score on us and in turn hopefully generate some offense the other way."

Among players who he said have the ability to make things happen on offense are Balewski, sophomore forward Ally Krause and senior forward Jessica McClendon.

But with defensive stalwarts such as junior Melanie Pickert and the goalie tandem of Bridges and senior McPartlin, the Chiefs hope they won't need to score a lot to continue their winning ways this spring.

A 2-1 loss to Northville remains the lone blemish on Canton's record so far.

#### **GIRLS TENNIS RESULTS**

6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Annie McKenzie-Iulia Fratila (P) def. Jessica Gush-Lil Reid, 6-0, 6-2; No. 3: Jahnvi Patel-Mariah Tesarz (P) def. Brie Wilson-Lynn Mathew, 6-1, 6-1; No. 4: Mandy Martin-Marlowe Susselman (P) def. Victoria Baker-Destiny Bullock, 6-3, 6-0; No. 5: Alexis

#### SALEM 9 SOUTH LYON O April 22 at Salem

No. 1 singles: Allie Carpenter (S) defeated Jessica Berniss, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Anna Norman (S) def. Megan Penkevich, 6-0, 6-2; No. 3: Morgan Spencer (S) def. Emily Bohn, 6-1, 7-5; No. 4: Kerry MacDonald (S) def. Brittany Johnston, 6-3, 6-1.

Parzuchowski-Heather Dangel, 6-1, 6-0; No. 5: Emily Simmons-Lindsey Spaulding (S) def Eileen Chen-Janelle Matuch, 8-6(5), 7-5; No. 6: Sarah Bellaire-Meghan Barry (S) def. Sami Leonardo-Lauren Frazier, 6-1, 6-1.

KLAA Central Division

#### **LIVONIA FRANKLIN 1** April 20 at Franklin

McLeod, 6-1, 6-0; No. 4: Marlowe Susselman (P)

2-1 KLAA South Division; Franklin, 1-3 overall, 1-2

#### Salem football camps

There are two upcoming camps for football players being hosted by Salem's grid program.

• The Youth Camp is for those in grades 3-8 and will be a skills and fundamental camp. The camp for current 8th graders is June 1-3 from 5-8 p.m.; those now in grades 3-7 have camp June 1-2, also from 5-8 p.m. Fee is \$30 (Tshirt included)

 Salem's Skill Camp is for players who will be in grades 9-12 in the fall. Registration deadline is June 18 and the fee is \$40 (T-shirt provided).

For more information on the camps, contact head coach Kurt Britnell at (734) 416-7741 or e-mail him at football. salemrocks@gmail.com. The Web site is www.football. salemrocks.com.

#### Wildcats baseball clinic

The Plymouth Wildcats Youth Baseball Clinic is set to take place 9:30 a.m. to

3:30 p.m. Saturday, May 1 for youngsters in grades 3-8. Weather permitting, the camp will be outside at the Plymouth High School Baseball Complex. If it is raining, it will be moved to the gym.

CAMPS AND CLINICS

There is only room for 100 campers, so early registration is urged. To do so, contact John Nadratowski of Plymouth Baseball Boosters at (734) 844-3212. The cost to sign up is \$60.

Aspiring young ballplayers will work on age-appropriate skill development in areas such as hitting, pitching, baserunning and fielding. They will receive instruction from 2010 Wildcats coaches and players.

#### Canton girls hoops camp

Canton's state semifinalists will be on hand for the upcoming Canton Girls Basketball Camp, set from June 7-10 at the high school gym. The fee is \$60. For more information on how to sign up for Course No. 156, please call (734) 416-2937.

Head coach Brian Samulski and his staff will work with

prospective future players. Helping out will be team members, who reached the Final Four this season.

#### 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 24.

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

### Whalers' Hayes top OHL humanitarian

The Plymouth Whalers have established a tradition of excellence on the ice in their 20-year history of developing players for the National Hockey League. The organization takes just as much pride in developing their players off the ice.

The Ontario Hockey League announced recently that Plymouth Whalers forward Ryan Hayes has been named the recipient of the league's Dan Snyder Memorial Trophy as OHL Humanitarian of the Year. Hayes is the second member

of the Whalers to receive the Dan Snyder Memorial Trophy, named after the former member of the Owen Sound Platers (1995-99) who won the team's Humanitarian of the Year Award twice before playing in the National Hockey League with the Atlanta Thrashers in 2002-03. Last year, Whalers captain Chris Terry won the award.

"I had a great role model last year working with Chris (Terry) in the community," said Hayes. "It really is a huge honor for me to win this award. It means a lot to be able to give back to the community

as a hockey player. "I remember when I was

younger how much it meant to me to see older guys at appearances, and hopefully the kids we reach out to give back when they get older."

Hayes will be formally presented with the Dan Snyder

Memorial Trophy at the 2009-10 OHL Awards Ceremony set for Wednesday June 9 at the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto. He will also be the OHL's nominee for Humanitarian of the Year at the Canadian Hockey Leauge Annual Awards.

### **ALWAYS GIVING BACK**

Hayes, 20, earned the award with his tireless devotion to the Whalers Community Relations efforts, becoming the Whalers' lead ambassador doing 54 team assigned appearances including school visits and Learn-to-Skate classes, while doing other unscheduled appearances at youth practices.

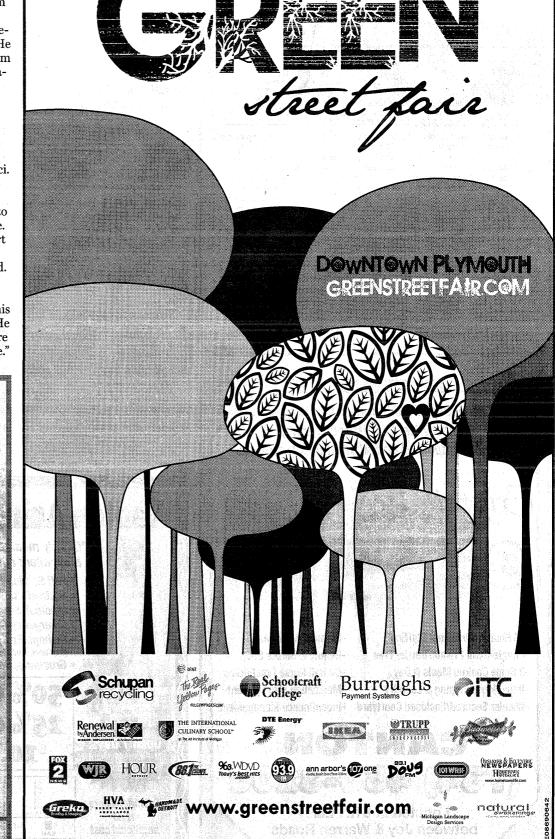
In a demonstration of his relentlessness to give back to the community, Hayes gave up his summer back home in Syracuse, N.Y., last year to give back to kids in Plymouth. In mid-July when he found out that the learn to skate and learn to play classes at Compuware were

going to be cancelled because they didn't have an instructor, Hayes packed up all his stuff and moved back to Plymouth the next day to teach for the rest of the summer.

Hayes was instrumental with Terry in coordinating the Whalers first-ever Pink Out! for Breast Cancer Awareness in October 2008, an event that saw the entire Plymouth team dye their hair pink for the event and raised public awareness towards breast cancer. He once again convinced the team to dye their hair pink this season for the cause.

"As an organization, we couldn't be prouder of Ryan and what he has done in the community," said Plymouth President, General Manager and Head Coach Mike Vellucci. "Although we love developing players for the next level of hockey, it means more to me to see them become great people.

'Ryan requested to be a part of all the appearances and never hesitated to get involved. We actually had to cut back on some of his appearances because he was spending all his free time in the community. He deserves this award and we are proud of the work he has done."





## NEIGHBORS

## **Boxes of fun**

### Creating a cardboard fort takes imagination

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

Students at New Morning School in Plymouth Township thought outside the box this week while transforming simple cardboard containers into a play fort.

Their decorated box creations will form the centerpiece of "Fort Box" in Kellogg Park during the Green Street Fair, Friday-Sunday, April 30-May 2 in downtown Plymouth. Youngsters who visit the park next weekend will get a chance to play inside the assembled fort. The Green Street Fair Cardboard Crew also will be on hand encouraging them to build on the existing structure by using recycled materials.

But the elementary school students at New Morning School needed little prompting as they reshaped cardboard boxes into a travel agency, complete with ledge and customer service window; a hotel for pets and haunted treat shop.

The cardboard architects started the project by brainstorming ideas for structures - everything from airplane terminal to train station - and then went to work in groups of three.

Corinne McCarthy, 10, of Canton, played diplomat when half of her group proposed a haunted house and the other half, a treat store.

"We just made it a haunted treat store," she said, adding that half of the structure is "normal" and half, a bit "darker" with a ghost and plastic flapping door meant to mimic spider webs. A juice box affixed to the wall represents a telephone and an exit sign over the doorway helps treat-seekers find their way out of the spirit-filled cafe.

Across the classroom at the pet hotel, Jessica Kahn, 8, of Novi, lined a closet door with soft fabric and mused about its potential contents.

'We're going to put in their clothing, like bikinis," she said, envisioning pet garments in



Molly Renaud and Rachel Roszman work on a bench for the Passport Travel Agency.

the space. "It's going to be so funny."

Sukanya Kannan, 9, of Novi, pointed out essential hotel fixtures.

'This is the mailbox. And this is one of those kind of dog things, like when you want to take your dog out," she said, revealing the doggy door. "We cut out a little flap.'

#### **PROBLEM-SOLVING**

New Morning School director Elaine Kennedy said middle school students are building a cardboard maze for the fair, the kindergarten is constructing a dragon and preschoolers will donate the castle they created while learning about nursery rhymes.

right along with our program in that we want kids to be open in their thinking," she said, adding that the group process encourages collaborative problem solving.

business world, they will need to be able to do that, to compromise and provide ideas."

Rita Heaven, one of two teachers working with the class, said the project also and learn about the use of recycled materials.

doing it, too," Heaven noted.

**POPULAR ATTRACTION** Mandi Buckland, one of

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will sponsor "Comedy for

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a Cause," 8 p.m. May 17, at

Joey's Comedy Club, 36071,

Zonta International is a

women's service organization

that works to improve the sta-

keeping with the true spirit of

women helping women, there

will be an all female cast of

Tickets are \$15 and a

\$5 food or drink order is

port the club's Women's

cates are available.

required. Proceeds will sup-

Scholarship Fund. Gift certifi-

For more information, call

Sally Randall at (734) 464

7:30 p.m.

3728.

comedians. Seating begins at

tus of women worldwide. In

"The creativity here goes

"When they are adults in the

"They're having a great time

WINNERS ANNOUNCED

fair schedule last year, after giving her daughter, Tuula, now 3, a box for playtime.

"She loved it. I thought,

this would be a great thing to do at the Green Street Fair,"

Other youngsters loved it,

She and other Green Street Fair volunteers are prepar-



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

#### **Arthritis Today**

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY 18829 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48152

#### Phone: (248) 478-7860 FIBROMYALGIA OF THE BACK

The common understanding of Fibromyalgia is that the condition is a syndrome of chronic pain in the joints and muscles. The person with Fibromyalgia experiences pain in the shoulders, elbows, forearms, trochanteric bursa, neck, low back and legs. The pain migrates between these areas, but is present somewhere every day In a variation of Fibromyalgia pain centers mainly in the back. On any day, the pain may

be in the neck area, mid or low back; pain or numbness may radiate down the legs. An MRI of the back from neck to tail bone will reveal no spinal cord compression or pinched nerve. Like Fibromyalgia in general, Fibromyalgia of the back may present as a post traumatic stress disorder, coming on after a fall, a fight, or an auto accident. Patients with Fibromyalgia of the back like individuals with usual Fibromyalgia may experience migraine headaches, jaw pain, and irritable bowel.

However, people with Fibromyalgia of the back do not usually have the same pattern of elbow, shoulder, scapular, trochanteric, knee or foot pain that are features of Fibromyalgia in

Treatment of Fibromyalgia of the back is along the same lines as the usual Fibromyalgia. Medication for the depression, fatigue and sleeplessness that accompanies Fibromyalgia fares little better with Fibromyalgia of the back than Fibromyalgia in general. Epidural blocks often successfully used to treat sciatica or spinal stenosis find no success in Fibromyalgia of the back. The only therapy that helps Fibromyalgia of the back, is the same therapy that helps regular Fibromyalgia, that is exercise done daily, and pursued with

gives students a chance to lead Henry Kramer looks out the door of the Passport Travel Agency.

three Green Street Fair directors, added the box fort to the

Buckland said.

too. Buckland said the fort was "jam packed."

ing additional box structures for the fort so that at least 20

Please see FORT, B7

#### IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Maureen King of Livonia won second prize in a St. Patrick's Day raffle sponsored by Claddagh Irish Pub for Catholic Central Dads' Club.

King won a cash prize and a Hillsdale man took first prize, a trip to Ireland.

Catholic Central Dads' Club raises money annually through the raffle. The proceeds support the band, athletic teams and also buy items for the school.

King, a mother of two recent Catholic Central graduates stated, "I really appreciate all the Dads' Club does for the young men of Catholic Central."

Catholic Central High School in Novi is a private Roman Catholic school for young men.

#### **HONORED**

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International will present Debra Bonde, director and founder of Seedlings Braille Books for Children, with its Distinguished Service Award for the State of Michigan for providing exemplary service to education in Michigan. The presentation is slated for May 1 in Traverse City.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, an honor society that recognizes and supports outstanding women in education, selects an award recipient every year.

Bonde, of Livonia, founded Seedlings Braille Books for Children to increase the availability of quality Braille books for blind children and make them affordable for families. Since its inception in 1984,

Seedlings Braille Books for Children has produced more than 300,000 braille books for children and expects to distribute 25,000 more this year. With the help of generous individuals, foundations and philanthropic groups, Seedlings' founder, Debra Bonde has been bringing the joy of reading to countless blind children worldwide for more than 25 years, helping them to read and succeed.

#### JAZZ IT UP

Catch the Schoolcraft College Jazz Ensemble, Synthesizer Ensemble, and **Jazz Improvisation Combos** from Schoolcraft College in concert 7:30 p.m., Monday, April 26, in the DiPonio Room at VisTaTech, at the college, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Admission is free.







### Remarkable patient

Gary Williams (second from left) of Southfield, a dialysis patient for 35 years, recently was honored with a celebration and a room dedication at Fresenius Medical Care Botsford Park in Livonia. Williams remains active by working full time at Garden City Hospital. In his spare time, he enjoys participating in church activities and traveling to see out-of-state relatives. Others in the photo are Maurie Ferriter, (left) of the National Kidney Foundation; Simon Castellanos, president of Fresenius Medical Care North Division; Dr. Friedrich Port, Dave Carter, group senior vice president of Fresenius Medical Care and Dr. Sidney Baskin.

### Donate funds for surgery, adopt new pet

BY SHARON DARGAY **O&F STAFF WRITER** 

Teri Daniels says some people love animals and some have a passion for

"We have a passion," she said, adding, "We have such compassion for these animals."

Daniels volunteers for **Homeward Bound Animal** Rescue in Canton, a no-kill animal rescue with members who foster cats and dogs — many which come from puppy mills — until they find permanent homes for them.

The organization provides the crates, food, veterinary care and other essentials its volunteers need to foster animals until they are adopted, generally within about a 60-mile radius.

But distance didn't matter when members last week heard about a Houghton Lake pup in need.

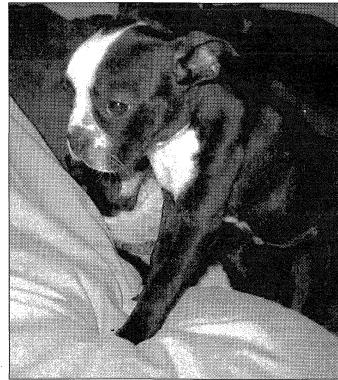
"There's a woman out of Houghton Lake who fosters all kinds of animals. She's been driving — from Houghton Lake to a vet in Southfield — with this puppy named Queeny," Daniels explained. "It is my understanding that Queeny came out of a puppy mill. She has extensive heart problems.'

The 2 1/2-year-old Boston Terrier pup won't survive long without surgery, Daniels said. Homeward Bound has pledged to raise \$2,500 for the operation for the operation at Michigan Veterinary Specialists in Southfield.

Members planned to sell baked goods and craft items and collect returnable bottles at their twice monthly adoption event Saturday, April 17 at Pet Supplies Plus in Canton. They also have distributed collection canisters bearing Queeny's photo. And

248-642-5510

Mothersday@townsendhotel.com



Queeny, a Boston Terrier puppy has a serious heart condition that requires surgery this month. Without it she'll die, say representatives from Homeward Bound Animal Rescue in Canton. The group is collecting donations to pay for the pup's operation.

18th annual spring "Meet

Saturday-Sunday, May 1-2,

at the zoo, located on the

Woodward Ave., in Royal

Hundreds of adoptable

dogs, cats, puppies and kit-

adoption at the largest off-

country. There is no charge

for admission to the event

or for parking. Last year,

the spring Meet Your Best

found homes for 498 ani-

mals. Since its inception in

1993, the event has helped

more than 16,000 animals

Because puppies often

passes" will be given each

adoption event guests who

morning to the first 25

want to adopt a puppy.

One Hundred Townsend Street

Birmingham, MI

www.townsendhotel.com

are in high demand, "puppy

find new, loving families.

Friend at the Zoo event

site adoption event in the

tens will be available for

I-696 service drive and

Your Best Friend at the

Zoo," 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



the organization is accepting donations by mail and through its Web site. Mail donations to Homeward Bound Rescue League, P.O. Box 87591, Canton, MI 48187-3358. Visit its Web site at www.petfinder. com/shelters/MI565.html for contributions through

PayPal. **ADOPT AT ZOO EVENT** The Michigan Humane Society (MHS) and the

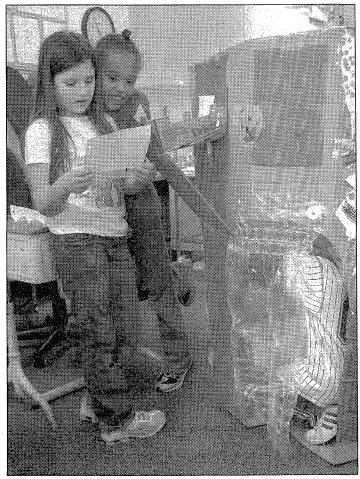
the adoption tents at 9:45 a.m., with the remainder of guests allowed to enter at 10 a.m. The passes prevent a "puppy rush" and ensure that all adopters — and the adoptable animals — will have a wonderful experience. A "get acquainted" area will be available to give guests an opportunity to spend time with an animal before adopting. The participating organi-

zations, in addition to the Michigan Humane Society, include: Adopt-A-Pet, Animal Rescue Connection, Animal Welfare Society, AuSable Valley Animal Shelter, Canine Companions Rescue Center, Closer to Home Animal Advocates (CTHAA), Faerie Tales Cat Rescue, Feline Friends, Greater Hillsdale Humane Society, K-9 Stray Rescue, Last Chance Rescue, Little Traverse Bay Humane Society, Metro Area Animal Adoption Association, Michigan Greyhound Connection, Midwest Small Breed Rescue, Mid-Michigan Cat Rescue, Inc., Oakland **County Animal Care** Center, Precious Animal Welfare Society (P.A.W.S.), REGAP, Roscommon County Animal Shelter, Tigerlily Cat Rescue and WAG Animal Rescue.

will be allowed to enter

Adoption fees and policies are set by each participating group and not by event sponsors. Animals will be adopted only to qualified homes. Adopters must present a driver's license or state ID card. All dogs and cats will have received a medical check-up and age-appropriate vaccinations. For health and safety reasons, guests must leave their current pets at home.

For more information, call the Michigan Humane Society at (866) MHUMANE or visit www. michiganhumane.org.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Annie LaPlante and Kerrigan Carr read messages from the mailbox on the Haunted Treat Store.

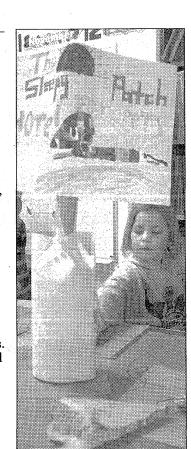
different buildings will be stationed in the park by opening

"You know those subscription cards that fall out of magazines? I can't stand those, but I've been collecting them. I used them as shingles on a 'barn' that was painted red," Buckland said, describing her box creation.

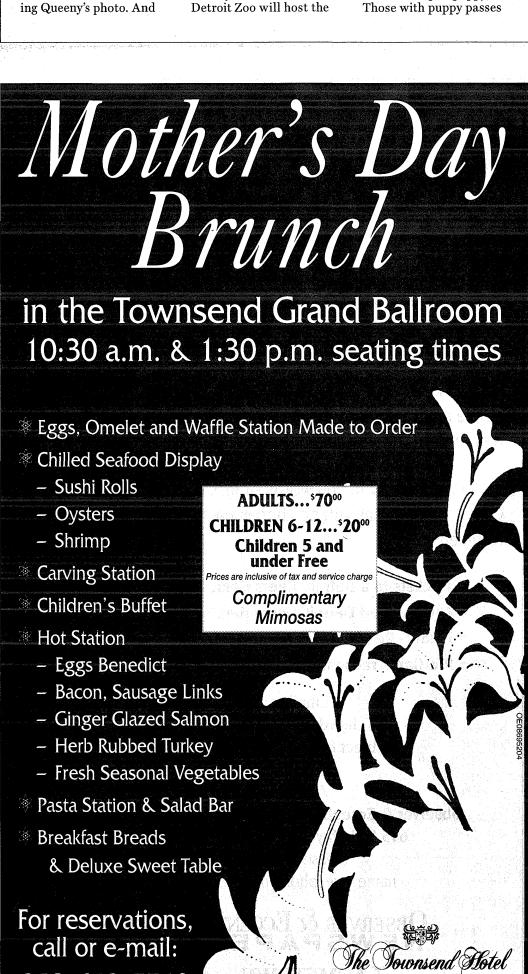
New this year, cardboard trees will be stationed at the fort, ready for decorating. Youngsters will trace their hands and clothes pin the paper images to their branches.

Buckland said the cardboard fort and trees will be recycled when the fair ends "but if someone wants a certain box at the end of the day, they are more than welcome to take it

For more on the Green Street Fair, visit www.greenstreetfair.



Sydney Sweeney places the sign for the Sleepy Patch Hotel For Pets.





#### The Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Newspapers presents the 7th Annual

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 25, 2010

## Senior Ex



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

#### **Prizes**

#### Morning Refreshments

#### Curb-side **Trolley Service**

Call Choya Jordan with your questions at 313-222-2414

#### Workshops & **Demonstrations:**

- Eve Health
- Medicare/Medicaid
- Connecting w/Family & Friends online
- Separating Myths from Truth: The Story of Investing
- Dental Health
- Understanding Medicare, product differences HMO vs. PPO
- Strength Training for Seniors
- The Advantages of Memory Screenings
- Estate Planning and Elder Law
- Home Safety and Universal Design
- Why All Seniors Should Buy Gold
- Conversation & Coffee: Rome

#### FREE PARKING • FREE ADMISSION

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For more information about a subscription please call:

18668872787

#### **REUNION CALENDAR**

Submit your announcement at least two weeks in advance to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.

#### **Andover High School** Class of 1970

Reunion planned 7 p.m. Aug. 14 at the Heathers; contact Cis Sloan Stokas at Quintop@aol.com

#### Dearborn Heights Haston High Class of 1965

45-year reunion, 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. July 24; Contact Pat Beadle-Kopczyk, 3334 Kneeland Circle, Howell, MI 48843. at (517) 552-1182 or e-mail to her at patkopczyk@aol.com

#### **Detroit Cooley High School** Class of 1960

50th Reunion May 1 at Crown Plaza-Metro Airport. Call (248) 625-4598 or (734) 464-1692 for more information.

#### Class of 1962

**Detroit Mackenzie** 

Planning class reunion in 2012. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail the committee at mackenzie1962@gmail.com. Class of 1960

#### 50th reunion will be held Oct. 16 at

The Marriott in Livonia. For more information contact: Tim Yarde at (248) 573-7147 or Russ and Judy (Mackinder) Sarns at (734) 464-7166). **Detroit Pershing** 

#### Class of 1960

50th reunion festivities in September will be held at the Doubletree Guest Suites Fort Shelby in downtown Detroit. Call Sherry Forbush (Sharon Bailey) at (248) 994-0664 or Joan Harrington (Mazev) at (734) 595-7508.

#### **Detroit Western** Classes of 1954, 1955, 1956

Reunion Oct. 1, at Arnoldis Banquet

Center in Riverview. See classmates, have dinner and a great time. For more information contact Miriam (Keppen) Winkler at (313) 383-3444 or Gail (Fugate) Kubek at home at (313) 277-8536 or at work at (313) 561-3565.

#### **Farmington High School** Class of 1970

Planning reunion in 2010. Seeking classmates. Join on Facebook by searching Farmington High School Class of 1970 Reunion. Or e-mail Carla Campbell Lehn at dblehn@aol.com.

#### **Garden City High School** Class of 1960

Mini-reunion luncheons held the second Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. in the banquet room in the Plymouth Denny's on Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275. Call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101 or send e-mail to GCHS.MCMLX@yahoo.com.

#### **Garden City East** Class of 1964

Picnic, Aug. 21, in Garden City Park. For more information e-mail Karen Berry at karber@comcast.net or Teri Friedman at sweet1t2001@yahoo.com

#### **Garden City West** Class of 1970

40th reunion on Saturday, Oct. 9 at Hawthorne Valley Country Club in Westland. Dinner and DJ for \$50 per person. Classmates from 1968-72 also invited. For more information, call Larry Conn at (734) 788-5254.

#### Livonia Stevenson Class of 1975

#### 35th reunion, 6 p.m. Saturday, July

24, at Fellows Creek Golf Club, 2936 Lotz, Canton, includes buffet, cash bar and DJ. Attire is dressy/casual. Cost is \$30 per person through PayPal or by check in advance or \$40 at the door. Send checks to Stevenson Class Reunion, 115 Continental Road, Cornwall, N.Y. 12518. Send PayPal payments to payments@institutionalmarkets. com Send e-mail correspondence to stevensonclassof75@yahoo.com. (845) 534-2228

#### Oak Park High School Class of 1980

30th reunion, July 2-4; for information, e-mail to ophighschool1980@ yahoo.com

#### **Redford Union**

#### Class of 1960

50-year reunion, 5:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 14. For more information contact Mike and Carol (Gerogeff) Pontius (248) 446-9948 or e-mail to mikecarol91500@att. net. Or call Tena (Fear) Keith at ( 248) 437-6827.

#### St. Hyacinth

#### All school The reunion on Sept. 19 will com-

memorate the 20th anniversary of the elementary school's closing. The reunion will begin with a Mass at 11 a.m. and include an open house with snacks and refreshments. Contact the rectory at (313) 922-1507.

#### St. Suzanne

The West Grands Catholic Youth Organization at the Detroit parish school plans a July 10 reunion and is looking for participants. Call Rose at (248) 437-6621 or Sharon at (734) 522-7924

#### Warren Fitzgerald

Class of 1968 6 p.m. to 1 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 9, at DeCarlo's Banquet Center, 10 Mile and Mound, Warren. Buffet dinner and cash bar, Tickets are \$35. Contact Ken Rix at (586) 781-4552, kenrix@ ameritech.net, or Bill Ziemba at (248)

#### 689-6216, billziemba1968@aol.com. **Wayne High**

All classes Reunion banquet, 5-10 p.m., Friday, May 14 at Wayne Tree Manor, Wayne. Call Wanda Boice at (734) 326-7767 or

#### **Westland John Glenn**

www.waynehighalumni.com. Class of 1985 25-Year Reunion, 7 p.m. to 2 a.m.,

Sept. 25 at Doc's Sports Retreat in Livonia. Tickets \$25 per person before Aug. 1. Includes appetizers. Mail payment to JGHS Class of 1985, P.O. Box 871023, Canton, MI 48187 or contact Tracy Dunsmore at tracy1420@wideopenwest.com or (734) 748-8904.

#### **LEARN THE BASICS OF WEDDING PHOTOS**

If you're a photographer looking to increase your income and learn new skills, the Wedding Photography Workshop can assist you in learning the art and business of wedding photography.

The one-day workshop will be held Saturday, May 1, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Longacre House, a popular wedding location at 24705 Farmington Road in Farmington Hills. Weddings are a \$72 billion a year industry, and more and more couples are hiring independent photographers to capture their wedding memories. The average wedding

photographer charges from \$1,500 to \$5,000 per wedding. Professional photographer and videographer Jacob Nothstine will teach the basics of the wedding photography business, including how to get started, working with clients, camera equipment, lighting, and posing. The class will feature a mock wedding where students will have an opportunity to practice taking photographs of the bride and groom. Jacob Nothstine worked as staff pho-

tographer for one of Michigan's premier wedding photography and video companies, where he photographed

a wide range of events from large gatherings at the Detroit Mayor's mansion to small intimate settings. He now offers wedding photography services through his own company; to learn more go to www.jfnphotography.com.

Pre-registration is required. The class fee is \$245; the resident discount fee is \$225 for residents of Farmington Hills and Farmington. Online registration is available at http://recreg. fhgov.com. For more information, call the Cultural Arts Division at (248) 473-1859.



Let's PAWS to applaud extraordinary kids.

Do you know a child or teenager who goes above and beyond to make your community, neighborhood, or family better?

Tell us your story in 500 words or less. One winning essay will be chosen each month to receive:

- 4 tickets to a Detroit Tigers Game
- Autographed Detroit Tigers Item
- 1 Hot & Ready Little Caesars Pizza
- Pre-Game recognition at a Detroit Tigers Game

Email your essay to:

cbjordan@hometownlife.com Subject line: "PAWS FOR APPLAUSE" or mail it to:

Attn: Chova Jordan

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers / Hometown Weeklies 615 W. Lafayette Blvd, Detroit, MI 48226 Please include the child's

name, age, phone number and address. OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS



Contest is open to kids up to 18 years old.



#### **JULY WEDDING PLANNED**

Hayley Weiss and Geoffrey Schmidt are pleased to announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Roxanne Rahhal of Allen Park, and Leon Weiss of Farmington Hills, is a 2000 graduate of North Farmington High School, and a 2009 graduate of Cleveland State University in elementary education. She is the co-owner and creative director of the Creative Movement Center in the

Cleveland area, in Ohio. Her fiancé, son of Norm and Peggy Schmidt of Farmington Hills, is a 1999 graduate of North Farmington High School, and a 2004 graduate of Michigan State University in communications and marketing. He is employed with Quicken Loans.

A July wedding is planned at Pine Knob.



**Baxter-Dupuis** 

#### **AUGUST WEDDING PLANNED**

Erica Shane Baxter and **Timothy Michael Dupuis** announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Scott and Sandy Baxter of Novi, graduated from Novi High School in 2003. She earned a bachelor of arts degree in marketing from Michigan State University in 2007. She currently lives in Novi and is employed as an account manager at CSV Sales Inc.

Her fiance', son of Bob and Diane Dupuis of Farmington Hills, graduated from Farmington High School in 2001 and from Michigan State University with a bachelor of arts degree in finance in 2005. He currently lives in Farmington Hills and is employed as a senior associate at Mercer, a human resource

consulting firm. The couple will be married in August 2010 at the Diamond Center at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.

#### **JUNE WEDDING PLANNED**

Bobbi Marie Eddington and Jeremy Ryan Snell announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of David and Mary Eddington of Brush Creek, Tenn., formerly of Plymouth. Her fiancé is the son of Gary and Gayle Snell of St. Peters,

The couple will marry in a private ceremony in June 2010 at Kanan Yacht Cruises, Navy Pier, Chicago, Ill.



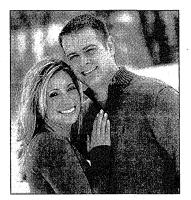
**Eddington-Snell** 

#### OCTOBER WEDDING PLANNED

Ashleigh Doinidis of Northville and Brian Apostolovski of Novi announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Nicholas and Linda Doinidis of Northville, graduated from Northville High School in 2003 and the University of Michigan in 2007. She is completing her master's degree in Secondary education from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.

Her fiancé, son of Menka and Blagunj Apostolovki of Farmington Hills, graduated from Catholic Central High School in 1997 and Michigan State



Doinidis-Apostolovski

University in 2001. He is a consultant for Accenture.

An October 2010 wedding is planned in Plymouth.



Larry and Sandie Baarck of Rochester Hills announce the engagement of their daughter, Natasha, to Ryan Krum, son of Jeffrey and Beth Krum of Redford.

The bride-to-be is a 1999 graduate of Rochester High School and a 2004 graduate of Western Michigan University in elementary education. She teaches kindergarten in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Her fiancé is a 1998 graduate of Redford Thurston High



School. He is a security consultant at Defender Direct in Tampa, Fla.

A July 2010 wedding is planned in Rochester Hills.



#### ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS **MEETING NOTICE** CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN (734) 453-1234

A regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Thursday, May 6, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the

Z 10-04 287 Arthur Non-Use Variance Requested

Side Yard Setback Variance; Detached Garage Zoned: R-1, Single Family Residential Applicant: Laurent Porte

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

> Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator 201 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170, (734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

Publish: April 25, 2010

OE08698057 2X5

#### **GRUCHALA-ROHDE**

Ashley Rose Gruchala and Joseph Healy Rohde along with their families are pleased to announce their engagement.

Ashley, the daughter of Jerome and Sharon Gruchala of Livonia, is a 2004 graduate from Stevenson High School. She received a bachelor of science degree in Nursing from Madonna University and currently is employed as a registered nurse in the emergency department at the University of Michigan.

Her fiancé, son of Mark and Peggy Rohde, of Livonia, is a 2003 graduate from Catholic Central High School. Joseph received bachelor's degrees in art and in biology from Eastern Michigan University. He has a strong passion for animals as



Gruchala-Rohde

well as aquatics and is perusing a career as a zookeeper.

Ashley and Joseph met while in high school and have spent the last seven years together. They plan to wed in October

#### PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPT. 734-354-3232 NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on 4/30/2010, at 10:00 a.m., Mayflower Auto Transport, 1179 Starkweather, Plymouth, MI 48170, a public auction of the following:

1999	Yamaha	J06
1999	Saturn	S1
2001	$\mathbf{Ford}$	Focus
1996	$\mathbf{Dodge}$	Stratus
1995	Volvo	S50

JYA4EBA09YA050648 1G8ZF5287XZ173228 1FAFP34311W351242 1B3EJ56H3TN101605 YV1Ls5511s1259223

Dated: 4/21/2010

Publish: April 25, 2010

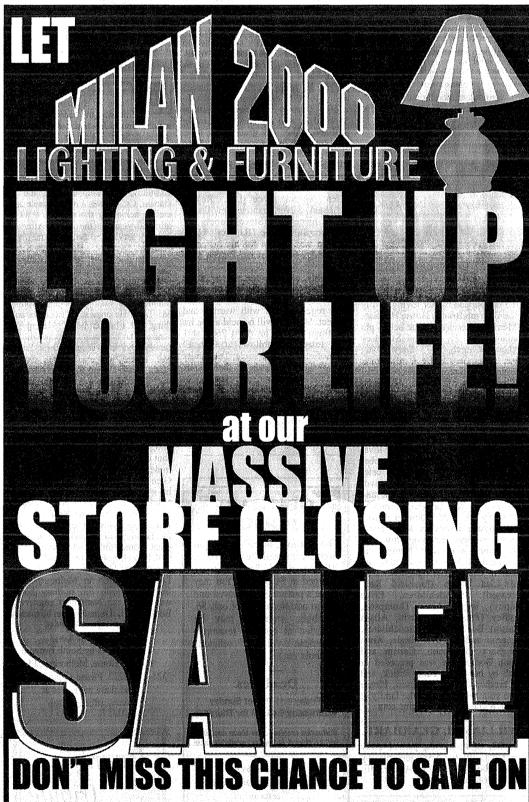
#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF LIENED PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that a closed bid sale will be held on May 20, 2010 at 1:00 PM at 40671 Joy Road Canton Mi 48187 County of Wayne. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE will sell to satisfy the lien on property stored at 40671 Joy Rd Canton MI 48187, by the following persons. The inventories listed below were notated by the tenants at the time of rental. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE makes no representation or warranty that the units contain said inventories. Unit D28, Adorjan furniture/boxes: Unit I22, Burnett, HHG: Unit J21 Carnovsky, HHG: Unit E20 Cebelak, HHG: Unit G05 Foster HHG: Unit E01 Gregory HHG: Unit J15 Haynes Furniture/Boxes: Unit C224 Hodge-Luckey HHG: Unit B18 Jester Furniture/Boxes: Unit C202 Kurzynski Auto Parts: Unit D41 Little HHG: Unit D01 Mackey Furniture/Boxes: Unit G07 Murphy Furniture/Boxes: Unit I43 Pankoff HHG: Unit D04 Parker HHG: Unit D27 Radford Furniture/Boxes: Unit F07 Rentanelli HHG: Unit G03 Ritter HHG: Unit I30 Walls HHG: Unit F24 Walton HHG and Tires: UNIT E40 WASHINGTON Furniture/Boxes

Publish: April 25 and May 2, 2010

#### **Vendors Wanted!** for the Farmington Flea Market Running twice monthly beginning May 1, 2010 At the Historic Winery 31505 Grand River at Orchard Lake Road May Dales: Saturday & Sunday, May I & 2 Saturday & Sunday, May 22 & 23 **ANTIQUES • COLLECTIBLES • JEWELRY** For more information call Joe: 248-739-4877 or Dave: 248-346-0400 or email: fleamarket@caravantradingcompany.com or visit: farmingtonfleamarket.com





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ALL SALES FINAL ~ NO EXCHANGES ~ NO REFUNDS ~ ALL ITEMS SUBJECT TO PRIOR SALE 08-10-00007 SALE HOURS: MON, THURS: 10-8, TUE, FRI, SAT: 10-7, SUN: 12-5, CLOSED WED ©5551201

#### LELA BRAMLETT

Age 87, April 17, 2010. Dear mother of Carolyn Gale Wathen and Shelley Redoutey. Grandmother of Chystal Gale Jeffries and Rachael Lynn Redoutey. Great-grandmother of Everett Jeffries. Sister of the late Ishmael Miller, Beatrice Henderson, Herman Miller, Woodrow Miller, Birgie Saddler, Thurlow Brown and Elza Miller. Aunt of Glenda, Allen J., Larry, Doug, Wendell, Marcella, Jenny Sue, Scott, and Joelle. Private services; arrangements by Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 734-427-3800. Memorials suggested to American Cancer Society.



#### STEPHEN CRAIG BRISKI

Age 45, of Dearborn Heights, passed away on April 20, 2010 at the home of his parents in Garden City, after a brief battle with cancer. Steve was born March 18, 1965 in Detroit, the son of Paul and Gloria (Lassila) Briski. Steve grew up in Detroit and Westland, where he attended the Wayne Westland schools and graduated from Wayne Memorial High School in 1983. Throughout his childhood he loved sports and played on many local baseball teams. For the past several years, Steve has shared his life with his girl friend Crystal Coffey and her son Jacob, living in Dearborn Heights. Steve worked for many years at Color Tile, F. B. Wright and Heartland grocery. Most recently, he was employed by Walmart, where he worked as a stockperson. Steve liked to bowl and play golf, and was passionate about all sports, in particular loving the Detroit Red Wings and the Michigan State Spartans. He also thoroughly enjoyed being a doting uncle to his beloved nieces and nephew, and loved being a dad to Jacob. Steve continually held concern for others, most often before any concern for himself, and he always tried to help those who crossed his path in life wherever he could. He was always a friend to anyone in need. Steve was preceded in death by his grandparents, Wilbert Lassila and Elaine (Lampinen) Lassila Maatta; his grandfather, Anton Briski, Jr.; an aunt, Rose (Lassila) Perala; and most recently, his brother Duane, in 2008. In addition to Crystal and Jacob, Steve is survived by his parents, Paul and Gloria Briski of Garden City; two brothers, David Briski of Garden City and Brian (Gina) Briski of Westland; his grandmother, Lucille Briski of Garden City; three nieces, Jessica Briski of Belding, and Katie & Angelina Briski, both of Westland; a nephew, Brandon Briski of Belding; an aunt, Patricia (Dick) Yates of Lacey, Washington; three uncles, John (Joyce) Lassila of Las Vegas, Anthony (Kay) Briski of Janesville, Wisconsin, and Curt Briski of Pontiac; an uncle-in-law, Peter Perala of Twin Lakes; two great-aunts, Evelyn Kuopus of Hancock and Mary Lou Howard of Jonesville; a sister-in-law, Cheryl Sepanak of Belding; and numerous cousins, friends and co-workers. Following cremation, a memorial service for Steve will be held on Sunday, April 25, 2010 at 7:00PM at the Newburgh Rd., Westland. Family and friends may call at the funeral home

from 5-9:00PM.

To share a memory with the family, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com.

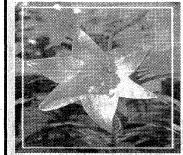


#### ANNA MARIE (PEDERSEN) **FACKNITZ**

Age 87, passed away Friday, April 16, 2010 surrounded by her loving family at the Davison Brian's House Hospice. A Memorial Service will be held 4 pm Sunday, April 25, 2010 at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 5073 Daly Blvd., Flint; Pastor Gary L. Beck officiating. The family will receive visitors from 3 pm until time of service. Memorial contributions may be made to Hope Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills. Anna was born in Detroit, MI on April 13, 1923, the eldest of three children, to Leo and Erna (Nielsen) Pedersen. She married her lifelong love, Winfried "Win" Facknitz on October 3, 1942. They were blessed to celebrate 66 years of marriage and devotion to their Lord, one another and their family. Win preceded Anna in death July 24, 2008. Some of Anna's most joyous moments were spent sharing holidays, traveling with Win, and anything to do with "Nanny" and the little ones. Anna is survived by her children, Christina (Hugh) McMartin and Lisa Minto (husband Rod, grandchildren, Erika deceased); (Kenny) Ingle, Amy Thompson, Bradley (Paula) McMartin, Alissa (Martin) Bocks; great-grandchildren, Cameron and Donovan Ingle, Anna and Sara Thompson, Caitlin and Emma Bocks. She was preceded in death by her sister, June Bolick, and her brother George Pedersen. Please share your thoughts with the family at www.allenfuneralhomeinc.com

#### WILLIAM H. GEARHART

Age 87, of Plymouth, passed away April 18, 2010. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, Farmington, MI.





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MICHAEL R. HALBERT

Age 53, a resident of Northville for 32

years, passed away peacefully at home on April 21, 2010. He was born June

Raymond and Margaret (Wilkie)

Halbert. Mike grew up in Redford Township and graduate from Redford Union High School class of 1974. He

met the love of his life, Barbara J

Schram, when they were 12 years old,

but the relationship did not blossom

until after high school. Mike and Barb

were united in marriage on July 28,

1978. He was an amazing painter with Burton Brothers since 1988; he met

many longtime friends through the

business. He enjoyed hunting and the

outdoors. He loved country music and

was a cowboy at heart. Mike also liked

to travel, watch sports, and most of all

he like spending time with his family

and friends. He was a loving husband,

a devoted son, and a proud father. He

is survived by his beloved wife

Barbara; his daughters, Candice (William) Elwell and Amanda Halbert;

his parents, Raymond and Margaret

Halbert; his siblings, Susan (Matthew)

Stoney and James (Gale) Halbert; his

sister-in-laws, Linda Schram, Gloria

(Pietro) Arciero; his brother-in-law

Waldo (Susan) Schram; and his beagle

grand-dogs Lola and Hunter. He is

also survived my many loving nieces,

nephews, and friends. A funeral mass will be held Wednesday, April 28,

2010 at 11:30am, with visitation from

10:30-11:30am at St. Genevieve

Catholic Church, 29015 Jamison St., Livonia, MI 48154. Rev. Father Howard Vogan will officiate the serv-

ice. Memorial contributions would be

appreciated to St. Genevieve Catholic

Church. Arrangements by Casterline

WILLIAM M. HOWE

passed away Thursday,

April 15, 2010 at his home

Funeral Home, Inc. of Northville.

1956 in Royal Oak, Michigan to

email: oeobits@hometownlife.com

View Passages Online: www.hometownlife.com

OE8659491



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, April 25, 2010

**GEORGE HENRY** GOLDSTONE Age 92, of Bloomfield Hills, MI, died April 22nd at his home. Born June 17, 1917 in Detroit to Dr. Rubee Goldstone and Grace Goldstone, as a child he lived in Watkins Glen, New York while his father was in the Army Medical Corps in World War I in France. Following his father's return, he grew up in Detroit, graduating from Northwestern High School, from the University of Michigan (with a undergraduate degree in English) and then from the University of Michigan Law School in 1940. George proudly served his country for 5 years during World War II as a member of the 3rd Infantry Division, landing and fighting in North Africa in 1942. An Army Captain, he was the division radio communications officer, assigned to the Third Signal Company; he was also called upon to use his legal skills in a later assignment to Fifth Army Headquarters in Italy. George stayed in contact with his army corps throughout his life, attending many reunions across the United States, and was an active member of the Society of the Third Infantry and of Third Infantry Outpost 13. Eager to build a law career after the war was over, he practiced law for 50 years before retiring. George was highly esteemed by his clients and colleagues, established his own practice, and was a 'lawyer's lawyer', known for his integrity, expertise and professional commitment. He maintained his membership in the State Bar Association until his death. As a teenager George became interested in the then-emerging technology of amateur radio, an interest he maintained throughout his life. This knowledge of radio served him well when he was in the service. and as a hobby brought him much pleasure and many friends. He was a lifetime member of the American Radio Relay League, an active member of both the Detroit Amateur Radio Association and the Southeastern Michigan DX Club, and served as editor of both the Detroit Amateur Radio Association Bulletin and the Third Signal Company Newsletter. A dedicated citizen with a strong sense of pride in his local community and country, George generously contributed to his community, volunteering many hours to the Trowbridge Farms Subdivision Association and participating in many community issues within the City of Bloomfield Hills. In 1959 George married Beatrice Shortridge, who survives him. Loving husband, father, and grandfather, he is also survived by his son Joseph (Lane Halley) Goldstone, and daughter Elizabeth (Greg) Hartz and grandchildren Tommy, Christine, and Rebecca Hartz. Also survived by his sister, Ellen Spero, niece Drs. Regine (Michael) Silver, grandnephew Daniel Silver, niece Janis (Steve) Garich, and first cousin George (Barbara) Klein.

George was known for his historical

knowledge of the greater Detroit area,

but also had ties to the Upper

Peninsula, where he had built a cottage

on Lake Michigan. He will be sorely

missed by his family and many friends

who regarded him with warmth and

respect. Services will be held at the Ira

Kaufman Chapel on April 26th, at 1

PM. Internment follows at Beth El

Memorial Park in Livonia. The family

will welcome friends at their home

after the burial, and the evenings of

April 27th and 28th. In lieu of flowers

the family suggests contributions to

the American Heart Association or

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Beaumont Hospice.



enlisted in the U.S. Army at 15 and proudly served in WWII and the war with assignments in Munich, Frankfurt, and Darmstadt, Germany, Ft. Campbell, KY and Ft. Carson, Co. He was a maintenance specialist, achieving the rank of CWO-3 after 20 years in the Army. After his military service, he moved his family to Redford Twp., MI. He was an active member and usher of Our Lady of Loretto Church. Employed again at the Detroit Tank Arsenal Plant in Warren, MI, he was instrumental in writing the maintenance manual for the Abrams M1 Tank. He once said "I can fix anything, but a broken heart". He enjoyed summers at his vacation home with his family and friends at Guthrie Lakes, MI., where he went boating, fishing, made bon fires and rode scooters with his grandchildren. He moved to Melbourne, FL in 2000, and became a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. He rarely missed mass at 4:00 on Saturdays, sitting with his friends in the last pew. Bill loved people, dogs, everything Irish, and in the good old days, a shot of Jim Beam. Bill was predeceased in death by daughter Kristina Peifer of Glen Burnie, MD. His family includes his wife of 61 years Lily; three children, Nijola-Lolly Polenz (Alan), Detroit, MI. William, (Karen) Northville, MI and Shirley Street (Tom) Melbourne. FL. He also had 9 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at 10:30AM at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Melbourne, FL. Internment with full military honors will be at the National Cemetery in

warriorproject.org/ Arrangements by South Brevard Funeral Home, Melbourne, FL 321-724-2222. Please sign guestbook and share memories at www.affuneral.com

Bushnell, FL. Donations can be made to



#### **ROY KARRO**

WWII veteran of the U.S. Air Corps (Bronze Star for work with the 93rd Bombardment Group of the 8th AF in the E. T. O.) Age 91 passed away on April 17, 2010 peacefully at home in Livonia. Retired from Solomon, Smith & Barney in 1999. 1942 University of Iowa graduate and passionate Hawkeye sports fan. Life member of the University of Iowa Alumni Association. University of Iowa Foundation Presidents Club Gold member. A philanthropist, assisting with and contributing to various charities- especially athletic programs, scholarship funds and fund raising for the University of Iowa to which he made contributions for 44 consecutive years. Contributions include the commissioning of the bronze bust of Coach Hayden Frye. The establishment of the Jim Zabel Scholarship Fund for broadcast journalism. The Jniversity of Iowa Athletics Hall of Fame, Roy G. Karro Building. Born August 10, 1918 in New York, NY to Tyyne and Gustay Karro of Finland Roy is preceded in death by his loving parents and his loving wife of 42 years Mae Harrison Karro. He is survived by many beloved cousins: Stanley Karro, Helvi Larson, Leila Judd and all of their children. Roy's godchild Leslie Skowronek. Roy is also survived by his dear companion and caregiver Linda Renich, her sons Ray Page, John Page, and Ric Renich. His many friends in the U.S., Canada and Finland. Great friends Bob and Peggy Mull and family, Don and Marilyn Suchy. Special thanks to the caregivers over these past 7 years. Roy will be missed by his faithful dogs, Baby, Lady and grand-dog Coco. World traveler Roy Karro will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Arrangements by the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, ivonia. Interment Roseland Park Cemetery in Berkley, MI.



(Wittwer) LAMB Age 88, passed away April, 21, 2010,

Michigan after having resided in Hills Bloomfield West and Bloomfield, Michigan since 1961. She was born December 26, 1921 in Fort Wayne, Indiana, the daughter of Otto and Edrye Davis Wittwer. A 1939 graduate of South Side High School, she excelled in music and was a Lettered Athlete in basketball and track. She studied voice at Fort Wayne Bible College and throughout a lifetime gave great pleasure in entertaining others with her wonderfully innate piano skills. A long time member of Bloomfield Baptist Church, she sang in the choir for many years. Eleanor and her husband Daniel B. Lamb also attended and supported Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. They were married for over 60 years. She is survived by her daughters, Patricia L. Lamb, M.D., of Jackson and Adrian, Michigan, Diane Faye Lamb, Boulder, Colorado, and Debra L. Lamb, West Bloomfield, Michigan; grandson Nicholas Lamb Hagelin (Christina), Atlanta, GA. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband who passed in 2002, and brothers Derrall Boyd Wittwer and Donald Otto Wittwer. Visitation will be from 5-8 p.m. on Monday at the Union Lake Chapel of the Elton Black & Son Funeral Home, 1233 Union Lake Rd., White Lake. The funeral service will be 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 27, 2010 at the Bloomfield Hills Baptist Church, 3600 Telegraph Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI. Mrs. Lamb will lie in state at the church from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service. Interment will be in White Chapel Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to church music fund.



**EUGENE (GENE) MERZ** Of Leland, MI (formerly of Birmingham, MI and Sun City Center, FL) passed away peacefully April, 13 at the age of 91. His interests included automobiles and music- especially the Big Band Era. He enjoyed golf, travel, and spending time with family. He and his wife, Dawn, were active in the Presbyterian Church throughout their marriage of 57 years. He was a loving husband and wonderful father. He was preceded in death by his wife, Dawn, and brother, William. He is survived two sons, Steven (Sylvia) of Leland and John (Jan) of Clarkston, four grandchildren, Travis (Angela), Tyler (Kari), Todd, and Kelsey, and great-grandson, Cameron. A memorial service and interment will be at Acacia Park Cemetery, Beverly Hills, MI.

#### FLORENCE "PAT" **PARTRIDGE**

April 20, 2010, age 93. Beloved wife to the late Francis. Dear mother of Stephen, Eric Gordon, Michelle and Barbara. Sister of Alice Nash, Arthur and William Roberts. Grandmother of Eric, Greg, Gavin, Logan, Lori, Jeffrey and Derek. Great-grandmother of Chantel, Alexis, Alana, Jerimiah, Jazzmin, Caitlyn, Brandon, Jordyn, and Dylan. Great-great grandmother of Lillian and Perry. She was a proud volunteer at Annapolis Hospital in Wayne for 40 years. The Family has entrusted care and services to the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, Westland (734) 522-9400.



Died April 16, 2010

Rogers - Helen B. Rogers, 96, of Grandville, formerly of Bloomfield Hills, died April 16 in Grandville, with her family beside her. Services have been held in Northport, MI. Please visit Helen's online guestbook

at www.legacy.com/record-eagle/



Lt. Col. EUSTACE "CHET" RUCINSKI

U.S. Army Ret., age 97, April 17, 2010. Beloved husband of the late Irene for 66 years. Dear father of Jeanette Stump, James Rucinski, M.D. (Nancy), and the late Jack Rucinski (Phyllis). Loving grandfather of Jan-Michael. Andrew, Sherry, George, Bob, Kimberly, and Jamie. Great-grandfather of 10. Family will receive friends Monday 2-8 PM at A. J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 2600 Crooks Road (between Maple and Big Beaver), with Rosary/Scripture Service at 7 PM. Funeral Mass Tuesday 10 AM at St. Alan Catholic Church, 2345 Coolidge Hwy., Troy. Visitation at church begins Tuesday at 9:30 AM. Interment Great Lakes National Cemetery. Memorial Tributes suggested to St. Alan Church Elderly Outreach Program. View obituary and share memories at

www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

#### MARGERY F. "MUFFY" STECKER

Age 93 of Grand Rapids, formerly of Sarasota, FL and Birmingham, MI, passed away Wednesday, April 21, 2010. She was preceded in death by her twin sister, Marion Fife Jackson. She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Walter G. Stecker; children, Walter III (Kris) Stecker, Ross (Nancy) Stecker, Rick (fiancé Paula Stecker, Marion (Dan) Gauthier; brother, Ross (Ginny) Fife; grandchildren, Lauren, Walter IV, Christian, William, Brittany, Chad Stecker and Shawn Gauthier; several nieces and nephews. During her early years, she modeled in New York, Paris and London, sailed with her twin around the world and served in the Army's Women's Ambulance Corps in World War II, also participating in USO shows in California. With a great passion for the arts, she engaged in acting onstage and in Hollywood films shortly afterward, and continued to love dabbling in drawing and composing witty rhymes, music and stories throughout her life. A devoted wife, mother and friend with a vibrant energy and positive joy, her quick sense of humor kept our lives full with fun, laughter and an endearing playfulness. Muffy will be forever remembered for her lifelong, embracing love for all (including all God's creatures), her wide open arms always ready for a warm hug and kiss, and her endless, deep generosity. Funeral services will be Friday, May 7 at 1:00 PM at First Congregational Church of Ada, 6330 Ada Dr. SE, Rev. Gary Burdick, officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan, 989 Spaulding SE, Ada, MI 49301 or the Humane Society of Kent County, 3077 Wilson NW, Grand Rapids, Mi 49534. O'Brien-Eggebeen – Gerst

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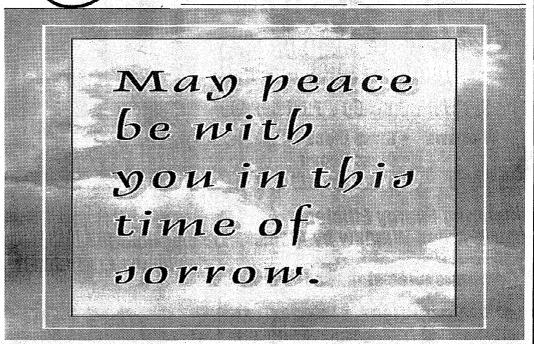
DONALD K. TROTTER

Age 48 of Howell, died suddenly Friday, April 16, 2010. He was born September 27, 1961 in Livonia, the son of Donald and Irene (Lux) Trotter. Beloved husband of Melissa Ann (Shortridge) Trotter; dear father of Brett Trotter and Samantha Trotter of Ortonville and Hayden Trotter of Grand Blanc; step-children, Dustin Piesko, Hunter Piesko and Baylei O'Doherty, all of Howell. Also survived by his mother, Irene Panyard of Livonia and sister, Kathy Trotter of Dearborn and his cat, Stanley. He was preceded in death by his father. Donald was a member of Glaziers Local #357 of Detroit. He enjoyed collecting and restoring cars and was a member of Livingston County Street Knights. Visitation for Donald will be Thursday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. with services Friday 11 a.m. at MacDonald's Funeral Home, Howell (517-546-2800). Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association. Please visit the family's online guestbook at www.macdonaldsfuneralhome.com



#### KENNETH WILSON Born on December 7, 1937 in

Pineville, Kentucky to Ethel Harriet Wilder Wilson and Mark Wilson. He passed away peacefully at home on April 21, 2010. He grew up in Fonde, Kentucky and moved to Michigan in 1951. He graduated from Clarenceville High School and received an Associate Degree in Business from Washtenaw Community McGloughlin Company and Rapistan Corporation and retired from Motor Wheel Corporation in 1996. On June 15, 1969 he was ordained as an elder in the Primitive Baptist Church. He served the Monroe Primitive Baptist Church as pastor from January of 1982 until his death. He leaves to mourn his passing Diane Elizabeth Wilson, his beloved wife of 49 years; his children Randall Wilson (Nancy), Deanna Wilson, Bethann Thomason, Paul Wilson (Kelly), Leah Nilsson (Peter) and Jonathan Wilson (Bernadette); fourteen grandchildren and ten greatgrandchildren; his brothers Layford Wilson and Alvin Wilson, his sister Neetcie Buell and brother-in-law George Beard, as well as a host of relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents Mark and Ethel Wilson, brother Arnold Wilson, sisters Juanita Jones and Marie Beard and son-in-law Larry Thomason. A Funeral Service was held Saturday, April 24th at Good Shepherd Primitive Baptist Church, Farmington Hills. www.thayer-rock.com



## Walks planned to boost hearing, mental health

The Michigan affiliate of the Hearing Loss Association of America plans the 4th annual Southeast MichiganWalk4Hearing, with registration starting at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 15, near the east boat dock at Kensington Metro Park, in Milford.

The 5k walk will begin at 10 a.m. A \$10 donation is suggested but not mandatory for walkers who are not raising funds. Individuals who do raise or donate money are not required to walk.

The walk is designed to increase awareness of hearing loss and funds to support the

Hearing Loss Association of America's programs.

The event will include light refreshments, door prizes, entertainment and information about hearing loss and the Hearing Loss Association of America. Participants may walk as individuals, join an existing team or form a team of their own with friends, coworkers, and/or family members. Walk tee shirts with the logo are given to walkers who raise \$100 or more.

Walk proceeds will be used to support programs of the Hearing Loss Association of America, the Michigan affili-

ate, and local chapters all of which provide information, education, advocacy, and support. The organization aims to open the world of communication to hard of hearing people. Services offered include local chapter meetings, newsletters, Web sites, a national magazine, a state conference, a national expo, representation on government, nongovernmental, and business panels, contributions to legislative and regulatory efforts, and a team of hearing technology resource specialists available to give free

For more information or

presentations.

to offer support, visit www. Walk4Hearing.org or contact Audrey Pleasant, apleasant@ hearingloss-m.org or (313) 562-

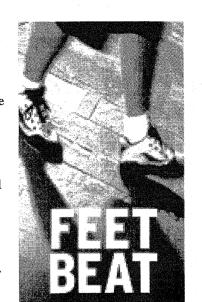
#### MIND OVER MATTER

Mind Over Matter, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting mental health awareness and suicide prevention, will contribute a portion of proceeds from its annual run/walk for mental health to earthquake survivors. The rest will benefit mental health research and suicide prevention efforts in Michigan.

The MOM 5K Charity

Run/Walk starts at 10 a.m., Saturday, May 1 in Starr Jaycee Park, located on 13 Mile, between Main and Crooks in Royal Oak.

Participants can register online through April 27. The fee is \$25 for 18 and under and \$30 for over age 18. They also can register at packet pick-up from 5-9 p.m. Friday or from 8-9:30 a.m. on race morning. Fees are an additional \$10 if registering Friday or Saturday. For more information, visit www.MindOverMatterRace.



### Get ready for smoke-free Michigan May 1

Beginning May 1, all worksites, except casino gaming floors, cigar bars and tobacco specialty shops in Michigan will be smoke-free.

The American Heart Association encourages smokers who are ready to quit - just in time for the new law to take effect — to prepare for their last cigarette and the cravings that come with quit-

"Smokers have a higher risk of developing coronary heart disease, heart attack and stroke," states James Guigelaar, MD, Internal Medicine at Bay Regional Medical Center and an **American Heart Association** volunteer. "Quitting smoking is one of the best things a smoker can do to improve his or her overall health and add years to his or her life.

The American Heart

**TLC Holistic Wellness** 

Association suggests that smokers choose a date within the next seven days to quit. Signing a no-smoking contract in front of supportive witnesses can keep the quitter on track, as they gradually cut down on the number of cigarettes they smoke each day.

Other tips:

 Choose a method. Go "cold turkey," and stop smoking all at once on "quit" day; reduce the number of cigarettes you smoke each day until you stop smoking completely; or smoke only a part of each cigarette. Two days before your quit day, you should smoke no more than a quarter of each ciga-

• Decide whether you will need medicine. Nicotine replacement or non-nicotine replacement medicines can help. Medicines are most helpful when they're used correctly

Gilda's Club Metro Detroit offers

**MEDICAL DATEBOOK** 

and combined with a behavior-modification program. Call your doctor's office to discuss which medicine is best for you, and to get instructions about how to use it.

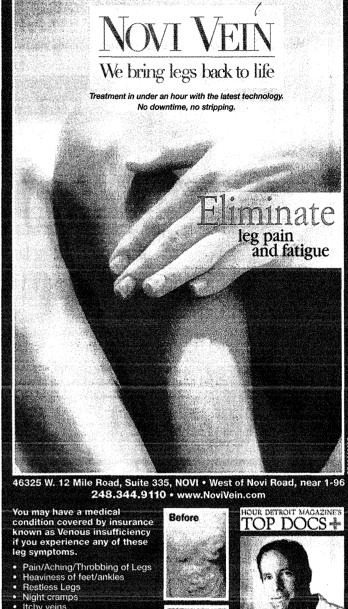
• Plan for the day you quit. Have low-fat foods at your fingertips. Mark your success with a favorite activity, and get rid of every cigarette, match, lighter, ashtray and butt from your house, office and car.

 Stop smoking on your designated quit day. Congratulate yourself for taking a huge step toward better health. As soon as you quit, your blood circulation increases, your blood pressure and heart rate quickly improve and the carbon monoxide and oxygen levels in

your blood soon return to normal. Within a few days of quitting, your breathing becomes easier and your senses of smell and taste improve.

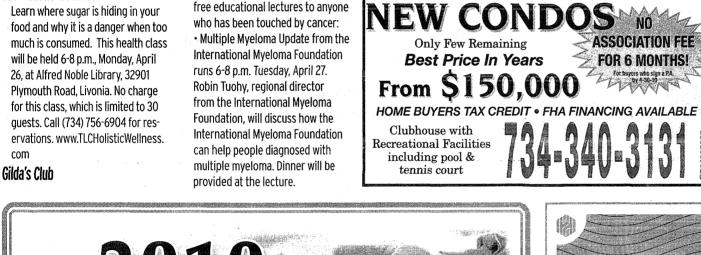
Your urges to smoke should decrease daily after you quit smoking. Get a calendar and every day mark the number of days since you've had a cigarette. As the days pass, you'll see how much time you have invested in quitting — one more reason to stay away from cigarettes.

Get more personalized help if you need it. Quitting smoking is never easy. If you have trouble, ask your doctor, nurse or rehab center staff about more intensive programs to help you. www. americanheart.org



Jeffrey H. Miller, MD

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Free information, speakers and resources to help those caring for an older adult or a person with a disability

Wednesday, April 21, 2010 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Redford Community Center 12121 Hemingway Redford, 48239

Saturday, April 24, 2010 12:00 pm -3:30 pm

River Rouge High School 1460 Coolidge Hwy River Rouge, 48218

Monday, May 3, 2010 12:00 pm - 3:30 pm Flat Rock Community Center 1 Maguire St. Flat Rock, 48134

Monday, May 10, 2010 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm Summit on the Park 46000 Summit Pkwy

Canton, 48188

**Topics include:** 

- Legal and Financial **Issues**
- Elder Abuse
- Financial Exploitation
- Handling Stress
- Home Health Care
- Hospice
- In-Home Help
- Medicaid/Medicare
- Senior Housing/ Assisted Living/ **Nursing Homes**
- Respite & Adult Day Services
- Prescription Assistance
- Support Groups for Caregivers
- VA Benefits

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- FDIC insured



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\*Annual percentage yield (APY) is accurate as of date of publication. Rates vary by market; rates listed are available in the Detroit area. See banking office for complete details. 1.49% rate (1.50% APY) referenced in any of the following lies is iguaranteed for at least 90 days from the date of account opening them may change at any time as the Huntington Permier Plus Money Market Account (HPPMMA) is a variable rate account. Different rates apply to different balance tiers. But a considerable and subject to change without notice even prior to the first 90 days. Initial minimum opening deposit required is \$20,000.00 and must be new money to Huntington. The interest rate for balances \$0.01-\$13,939.93 is 0.00% (0.00% APY); the interest rate for the following balance tiers. \$20,000.00 to \$93,939.93,939.93 and \$100,000.00 to \$2,000,000.93 is currently 1.49% rate (1.50% APY); and will apply for at least 90 days. This is our current standard rate for HPPMMA opened March 30, 2010 or later. Belances \$20,000.00 to \$93,939.93,939.93,939.93 93 do not qualify for the 1.49% rate (1.50% APY); current standard rate for that balance tier is 0.70% (0.70% APY) and subject to change at any time. When your balance falls into a particular rate tier, your entire balance will earn the applicable rate in effect for that tier, i.e., if your balance reaches \$2,000,001.000 or more, your entire balance will earn that lower rate. Balances below \$20,000.00 are subject to a \$20,00 per month maintenance fee, Interest is compounded and paid monthly, full for one account with a \$1,500.00 balance which must have a common owner/signer in the same name(s) as the HPPMMA Depending on your type of checking account is not maintained, the HPPMMA will be converted to our Huntington Premier Money not be interest-bearing which will improve the overall return of your total funds on deposit. If checking account is not maintained, the HPPMMA will be converted to our Huntington Premier Money not be interest-bearing which will be supported to our Huntington Pr



# SALES EVE

Swap Your GM, Chrysler or Import for a quality, fuel efficient Ford! Only Ford offers 24 month leasing!





Buy

OR



Lease current A/Z plan customers

22 city / 31 highway MPG

- 2.5L Duratec I-4 Engine 6-Speed Automatic Transmission 6-Way Power Driver's Seat • AM/FM Stereo/Single CD-Player with MP3 Capability and 6 Speakers
  - SIRIUS Satellite Radio with 6-Month Subscription • Single Exhaust with Dual Chrome Tips
    - 17" Design Wheels with Silver Paint

#### **2010 EDGE SE FWD**



Buy

OR



\$2,805 Due at Signing

Lease

#### 18 city / 25 highway MPG<sup>3</sup>

- 3.5L Duratec V6 Engine 6-Speed Automatic Transmission
- Cloth-Trimmed Seats Single-Zone Manual Air-Conditioning • AM/FM Stereo/Single CD-Player with MP3 Capability
- Dual Chrome Exhaust Tips Quad-Beam Halogen Headlamps
  - 17" Painted Aluminum Wheels

#### **2010 FOCUS SE FWD**

Down





Lease \$1,973 Due at Signing

#### 24 city / 34 highway MPG<sup>3</sup>

- 2.0L Duratec I-4 Engine 4-Speed Automatic Transmission • MyKey (Allows parents to limit speed and audio volume to encourage teens to drive safer and improve fuel efficiency) • SIRIUS Satellite Radio with 6-Month Subscription
  - AM/FM Stereo/Single CD-Player with 4 Speakers 15" Alloy Wheels • Personal Safety System

#### **2010 ESCAPE XLT FWD**



Buy

OR

289<sub>per mor</sub> \$1,592 Down Paymont

Lease \$289<sub>per, month</sub> \$2,284 Due at Signing

#### 21 city / 28 highway MPG<sup>3</sup>

- 2.5L Duratec I-4 Engine 6-Speed Automatic Transmission • MyKey (Allows parents to limit speed and audio volume to encourage teens to drive safer and improve fuel efficiency)
  - Advance Trac with Roll Stability Control (RSC)
  - AM/FM Stereo/Single CD-Player with MP3 Capability and 4 Speakers
    - EasyFuel Capless Fueling System • 16" Cast-Aluminum Wheels

#### **2010 MUSTANG SE COUPE**



Buy

For 72 months for current A/Z plan customers1 \$1,631 Down Payment

18 city / 26 highway MPG<sup>3</sup>

• 4.0-liter SOHC V6 engine • 210 Horsepower • 5-speed Automatic • Advance Trac® Electronic Stability Control System • AM/FM/CD/MP3 with Audio Input Jack • Personal Safety System

#### **2010 TRANSIT** CONNECT



\$1,000 **Customer Cash!** 

> Palate and Mark 11, 2010 Wat CO. C. - Str. Co.

www.dimmerchille Massa mobile

#### 22 city / 25 highway MPG<sup>3</sup>

- 2.0L Duratec® DOHC I-4 4-Speed automatic transmission with overdrive • 5 Star Crash Test Rating • Customized Cargo Configurations • Dual sliding doors • Front & Side Airbags
  - 135 cu. Feet of Cargo Space Cargo Payload Capacities of up to 1,600 lbs.
    - Low Side and Rear Load Height Seating for up to Five







### Southeast Michigan Ford Dealers

ThinkFordFirst.com

(1) Not all customers will qualify for 7.99% APR Ford Credit Financing, \$17.53 per month per \$1,000 financed for 72 months at APR of 7.99% on the 2010 Fusion SE and 2010 Focus SE; 1.9% APR Ford Credit Financing \$14.71 per month on the 2010 Edge SE and Escape SE; 5.9% APR Ford Credit financing \$16.53 per month on the 2010 Mustang SE coupe. (2) Includes acquisition fee, waived security deposit, and excludes title, taxes and license fees. Some payments higher, some lower. Not all lessees will qualify. Residency restrictions apply. Special lease rates are for eligible A/Z Plan lessees. Payments include \$500 Renewal Bonus Cash for current RCL/RCO customers on the 2010 Focus SE; \$750 on the 2010 Edge SE, Fusion SE and Escape XLT. You must currently lease a Ford product and finance through Ford Credit. (3) MPG estimate based on 2010 Fusion SE 2.5L I-4 Engine with 6-speed automatic 22 city/31 highway, 2010 Edge SE FWD 3.5L V-6 Duratec with 6-speed automatic at city/25 highway and 2010 Transit Connect 2.0L Duratec DOHC I-4 engine with 22 city/25 highway. (4) Driving while distracted can result in loss of vehicle control. Only use mobile phones and other devices, even with voice commands, when it is safe to do so. (5) Transit Connect 0% financing for 36 months plus \$1,000 retail bonus customer cash. Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit limited-term financing. Take delivery out of dealer stock by 5/3/10 for the 2010 Edge lease offer and the 2010 Transit Connect, 6/1/10 for all other offers. Residency restrictions apply.