

HALLOWEEN HAPPENINGS SUBSCRIBERS – FIND YOUR COPY OF INSPIRE WITH TODAY'S NEWSPAPER Patrons and staffers flock to library's new website Local news, A3

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Clothing drive

As part of his Eagle Scout project, Boy Scout Jacob Croop, along with Troop 781, is collecting adult-sized clothing and shoes to give to the PBJ outreach charity at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Plymouth Township.

PBJ outreach distributes clothing and food to the homeless and needy living in Detroit. The drive continues through the month of October. Suggested items for donation include warm-weather clothing for adults, men and women; adult-sized footwear; and hats and gloves. Donors can drop items off at Showroom of Elegance, 6018 N. Canton Center, Canton.

For more information, visit www.pjboutreach.org or e-mail Croop at JCTroop781@ gmail.com.

Online forums

Both the Plymouth and Canton chambers of commerce have provided information from candidates running for the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education.

Answers to questions posed by the Canton Chamber of Commerce can be found at www.

By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials admit there have been some bumps in the road since privatizing their bus drivers before the beginning of the 2011-12 school year.

Administrators insist, though, most of the problems they've encountered since signing a contract with Michigan Educational Transportation Systems are issues that come up every year.

"We haven't missed any routes, we are covering everything," said Phil Freeman, Plymouth-Canton's assistant superintendent for facilities and operations. "Do we have some things to fix? Absolutely. But honestly, a lot of the problems we're hearing this year happen every year."

School busing hits bumps in the road

However, parents, particularly those of special-needs children, have been increasingly frustrated with delays, time changes and other problems that have occurred since the start of school.

Maureen Beeler said her daughter, Alex, suffered three time changes and was even taken to the wrong school once, all in the first week.

"In the beginning I was all for, 'Let's see if this works ... I understand the budget constraints and what has to happen," Beeler, a Plymouth resident whose

Please see BUSING, A4



Plymouth-Canton officials said busing issues that cropped up at the start of the school year are being addressed.

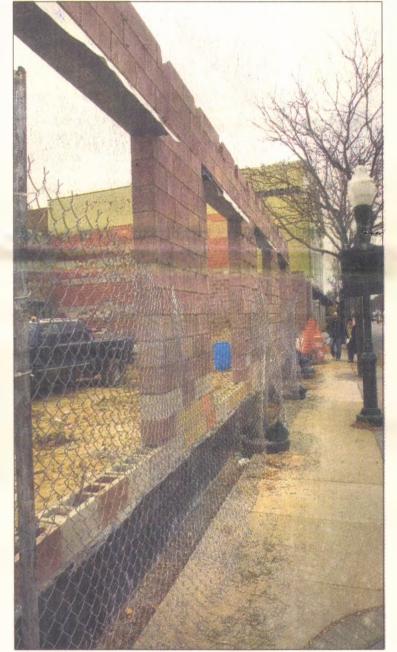
789 Building taking shape

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

More than a year after it was proposed as a substantially larger complex, the 789 Building is taking shape at the corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Main Street in downtown Plymouth.

Two masonry walls have been completed and workers on Wednesday morning were setting the foundation for the building and its elevator shaft.

Ed Dombrowski, one of the developers of the project, said he expects masonry and framing work to be finished before the coldest weather sets in. "Moving right along," said Dombrowski during a brief interview at the site.



City to open Old Village fire station

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth's new partnership with the city of Northville will mean the reopening of an Old Village fire station that's been mothballed for more than 20 years.

The two-bay station at North Holbrook and Spring Street, which hasn't been used by a firefighting or ambulance crew since 1990, will serve as the city's secondary station once the North ville Fire Department begins providing firefighting and emergency medical service in Plymouth in January. Plymouth officials decided to partner with Northville, and leave the Plymouth **Community Fire Department**, which now serves Plymouth and Plymouth Township, as a costsaving measure. The Old Village station will house two fire trucks that Plymouth is getting back from the PCFD: a pumper and an aerial, or ladder, truck, Northville Fire Chief James Allen said. As the pumper will be a backup, and the aerial truck won't be needed on most fire runs, firefighters won't necessarily be responding from the Old Village station during typical fire runs, and no ambulance will be stationed there, Allen said. The Old Village station needs

cantonchamber.com/ pccsquestions.php.

Answers to questions posed by the **Plymouth Commu**nity Chamber of Commerce can be found at www.plymouthmich. org/chamber/2011school-board-candidates-on-line-forum. html. The Plymouth chamber offered candidates the chance to do two-minute videos, but only four candidates took them up on the offer.

For more information, call the Canton chamber at (734) 453-4040 or the Plymouth chamber at (734) 453-1540. Dombrowski and co-developer Omar Hamdan plan a twostory building with a first-floor food court and a second floor designed to accommodate a restaurant with terrace seating. They are marketing the building for restaurant and office or retail use; while the secondfloor space will be flexible, Dombrowski said, the first floor will be built as a food court with five different booths and a common seating area.

Dombrowski said restaurateurs, from chains and independents, have shown an interest in space at the building, along with potential office tenants. Retailers have also shown an interest but so far are "just talkers," he said.

A completion date remains uncertain, but Dombrowski expects a spring 2012 build-

Please see 789, A5

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Construction has begun at the site of the long-closed Amoco gas station at the corner of Main Street and Ann Arbor Trail. a 14-foot addition on the back to

Please see STATION, A2

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Plymouth railroad crossing work extended



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Both the Mill Street and Holbrook grade crossings are being rebuilt. Not just cars are inconvenienced by the closure. This train stopped at Mill to make sure that the rails were safe before it proceeded.

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

Two railroad crossings in Plymouth's Old Village neighborhood remained closed this week as railroad owner CSX Corp. continued crossing upgrade work.

The resurfacing of the double crossings at North Mill and North Holbrook began Oct. 12 and was continuing Wednesday morning. Large chunks of asphalt, torn up from the crossings, remained piled up on Mill just south of the tracks.

CSX spokeswoman Carla Groleau said

the crossings are expected to reopen to street traffic Thursday morning (Oct. 20).

The crossings were originally to reopen Oct. 14, but Groleau said the resurfacing involved more work than was originally anticipated. She also said it was too early to put a price tag on the upgrades.

The railroad crossing at Starkweather has remained open during the project.

CSX has more than 1,200 miles of track in Michigan and nearly 1,650 crossings.

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



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LOCAL NEWS

AROUND PLYMOUTH

"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

CANDIDATE OPEN HOUSE

A2

(P)

Date/Time: Thursday, Oct. 20, 7-8:30 p.m.

Location: Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth

Details: Rattle With Us TEA Party is hosting a free open house for the Plymouth-Canton School Board candidates. All the candidates have been invited- the public can come and meet them in person and ask questions.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Date/Time: Thursday, Oct. 20, 5-9 p.m.

Location: VFW Post 6695, Lilley Road just north of Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth

Details: The VFW Post 6695 hosts a spaghetti dinner to benefit Sue Willum, who handles duties for the CRUZ'N 528 car shows sponsored by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528 and VFW 6695. The dinner benefits Willum, who suffered a stroke last month. Chapter officials said the outlook was originally bleak for Willum, but that doctors are now hopeful for a full recovery. Cost for the all-you-can-eat dinner is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children.

HEISE HOURS Date/Time: Friday, Oct. 21,

7:30-9 a.m. Location: Plymouth Panera, 400 S. Main

Details: State Rep. Kurt Heise is sponsoring coffee hours to give residents a convenient opportunity to meet with him locally. No appointment is necessary. Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office.

Contact: Residents are invited to call toll free 1-855-REPKURT or e-mail kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

DAISY WALL RAFFLES

Date/Time: Every Tuesday through Nov. 15, 6-7 p.m. Location: Plymouth Roc, 1020 W. Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth

Details: The PPN will be holding 50/50 raffles to raise funds for the Daisy Wall. Tickets are \$1 each, the more tickets we sell, the bigger the jackpot. Ticket buyers don't need to be present to win.

DAR MEETS

Date/Time: Monday, Oct.

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Details: The Daughters of the American Revolution conduct an evening meeting featuring the program, "Thermographic Health," with quest speaker Adarsa Antares, a certified thermographic technician. Please



Slice and serve

Detroit Red Wings Nicklas Lidstrom and Valtteri Filppula were on hand Monday to make some pizza at the Little Caesars pizzeria on Sheldon Road. The players were taking part in the team's 'Hockeytown Thanks' initiative.

bring new or gently used children's books for our preschool literacy project.

COLLEGE PLANNING

Date/Time: Oct. 27 and Dec. 1, both at 7 p.m. Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Details: The Friends of the Plymouth District Library will sponsor a free two-part program for high school students and parents who are approaching college decisions.

John Boshoven, Counselor for Continuing Education at Ann Arbor's Community High Academy in West Bloomfield will share years of experience in this field. The programs include: Finding the College that Fits, Thursday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m., and Paying for the College that Fits, Thursday, Dec. 1 at 7 p.m.

programs by calling the library, (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

School and the Frankel Jewish

Contact: Register for these



STATION

Continued from page A1

accommodate the aerial truck, plus a new roof, City Manager Paul Sincock said. The city has budgeted up to \$50,000 for the project, and is seeking bids for it.

Officials hope to have the work completed and the Old Village station opened by Jan. 1, but say that's not as crucial as getting Plymouth's main fire station, next to City Hall, up and running in time for the merger.

That complex is undergoing a \$260,000 expansion that will enable it to house both the Plymouth Police Department and the Northville Fire Department trucks and gear that are assigned to Plymouth. Those trucks include a new pumper truck, a mini-pumper and an ambulance recently donated to the city by Huron Valley Ambulance.

Allen told the Plymouth City Commission on Monday that the planning for his department's expanded coverage area is progressing well.

"It's going to be a good department," he said.

Later, Allen said there are currently 45 trained firefighters on his roster, and 13 people enrolled in Northville firefighter training classes in anticipation of the expanded department. In addition, several others, including retired firefighters from other local departments,

have applied, he said.

Allen's goal is to have 25 to 30 firefighters assigned to Northville and 25 to 30 assigned to Plymouth. Some of the veteran Northville firefighters, he said, will be reassigned to Plymouth under the expanded department.

Northville firefighters work on a part-time, on-call basis; Allen is the department's only fulltime firefighter. Northville will bill the city, on a per-incident basis, for its services.

City officials expect to save \$400,000 or more a year with the arrangement; Plymouth contributed around \$1 million a year, in recent years, to the PCFD during that partnership, which began in the mid-1990s.

In addition, Plymouth has a formal agreement with HVA, a nonprofit company, to provide emergency medical service in the city. HVA uses trained paramedics; Northville firefighters are not required to have the same level of medical training

Plymouth is getting the aerial truck and an older pumper truck back from Plymouth Township, Sincock said, because it contributed that equipment when the city and the township formed the PCFD in the 1990s. In addition, he said, the city will be getting a cash payment, based on other equipment it contributed to the joint department, that's expected to be around \$80,000.

Plymouth's startup costs for its partnership with the Northville Fire Department, including new trucks, the fire station expansion and training costs, were estimated at between \$1.4 and \$1.6 million, Sincock said. City documents show the money committed to startup expenses, either pending or already spend, totals just over \$1.5 million.

Sincock said the Old Village station was last used as a fire station in 1990, when HVA based an ambulance crew there.

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online at hometownlife.com

Library patrons, staffers flock to new website

LOCAL NEWS

By Julie Brown Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth District Library patrons may have noticed a new look to the library's website, www.plymouthlibrary. org, lately. Library staffers have worked long and hard to make the site better than ever.

"Sept. 12 at 5 o'clock in the morning," Kathy Petlewski, electronic resources librarian, said of the new site's launch. without hesitation. As webmaster, she and colleagues had planned the changes for some 18 months.

The new site includes links to community resources along with such information as local government officials. There's much that



Kathy Petlewski shows off the Plymouth District Library's new website.

was also on the older site, such as staff picks of books and programming information, but the format is different.

Librarians can now use the Joomla software to determine when to start and end publishing specific information online.

It's become easier for some dozen library staffers to contribute content to the site.

One of the librarians, Sue Patterson, writes a book blog while colleague Evan Smale writes on the DVD and Blu-ray collection. "So there's a greater variety of voices," Petlewski said.

There was staff training to help and Petlewski's pleased with the buyin from co-workers. Public reaction hasn't been strong, "which can be good because they're probably finding what they need," she said.

Pat Thomas, library director, served on the committee for the new website. "I like it, I real-ly like it," said Thomas, who added that she appreciates finding what she needs. "I just think it looks great.' "We've been learn-

ing new things all our lives. I think I hold my own," Thomas said with a smile. She recalled some time ago when the site was previously redone, patrons had more questions and difficulty with finding what they wanted.

Thomas believes computer-savvy patrons are now accustomed to the changes. She likes the **Read Watch Listen-type** icons on the left side of the home page.

The library staffers encourage patrons to use the site and make suggestions. "We welcome patron comments and any way we can make it easier to use," Petlewski said.

Library statistics show a good number of hits to the icons Thomas likes. Events presented by the library are on the calendar through December, Petlewski said.

"It was learning a new way of creating web pages," Petlewski said. Joomla is open source software, or free, and all who use it needed some basic understanding.

"Ultimately, I think it's supposed to take less maintenance," she said, although she said it's too early to say for sure. The Plymouth librarians got training help from technical staffers at the Northville and Royal Oak libraries, which was appreciated.

> icbrown@hometownlife.com (313) 222-6755

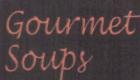


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LOCAL NEWS

BUSING

Continued from page A1

daughter has cerebral palsy, told school board members at their last meeting. "It took me a month to decide to come up here because I was so upset."

A long commute

Michael Marshall of Plymouth, whose daughter is bused to the Stuckey Center in Redford, said his daughter had to spend nearly three hours a day commuting.

"Since the beginning of the year, the company has been late or hasn't showed at all," Marshall told board members, pointing out his daughter gets picked up at 6:05 for a 7:30 a.m. start time. "I'm not understanding why children that are special services have to spend that much time on the bus."

The problem, according to administrators, is that Plymouth-Canton was forced to subcontract the bus routes for their special-education students to Trinity Transportation — when METS couldn't provide enough drivers to start the school year.

The district eliminated some 125 driver positions, and METS had agreed to take as many of those as who wanted to sign up. The problem, according to Jeremy Hughes, Plymouth-Canton's interim superintendent, is that only about 90 of those drivers went to METS.

That left the district unable to cover all of its 123 routes, including special education routes. Since Plymouth-Canton's contract with METS contained a provision that allowed the district to subcontract if necessary, the decision was made to hire Trinity to handle the special-education routes.

Cost issues

That decision comes at an additional cost of about \$100 a day over what the district is paying METS. Special ed routes were subcontracted, Hughes said, because the state partially reimburses for those routes. "We get reimbursed for a good portion of that," Hughes said. "That's why we put Trinity on those routes."

That's disappointing to parents because of the rapport they say developed over years between the special-needs students and the drivers who transported them.

"We've had wonderful bus drivers, wonderful aides," Beeler said. "They had experience and compassion, and they understood what Alex and I go through every day."

Other problems have occurred, administrators said, because METS had trouble coming up with enough drivers to cover everything. While Ed Dollin, director of operations for METS, didn't return a call seeking comment, Freeman said hiring drivers "has been very difficult for a couple of reasons."

"Other schools have privatized, so we're all going after the same pool of drivers," Freeman said. "Secondly, we've had districts around us who haven't privatized, so we've lost drivers to other districts still in the state retirement system."

Plan developed

District officials met with METS last week, Freeman said, and METS is working to hire enough drivers to take over all the routes, including the special education routes.

"Is this something we could have seen happening? Sure," Freeman said. "It typically takes some time to make a transition to privatization. The decision was made at the start of July and we started at beginning of the year (in September)."

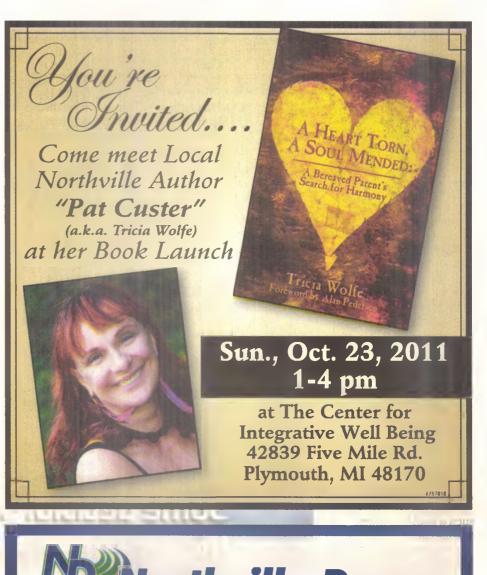
Kimberly Whiteside, one of the former Plymouth-Canton drivers who returned with METS, said the issue wouldn't have come up in the first place if the district had been "willing to work with" drivers.

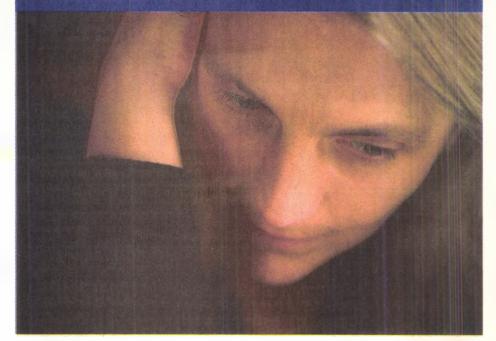
"More than 50 percent of us came back to the district because we love our children and we like what we do," Whiteside told board members. "We were willing to take the cuts, but you weren't willing to work with us. I don't think it would be the same if you had worked with us."

Freeman said a lot of the issues that arose changes in routes and times, unfamiliarity with the drivers — have already been addressed. He said METS has developed a plan that will allow METS to take over all of the routes by Dec. 1. He said the plan is for METS to take over three additional routes per week so that by Dec. 1 "all of the drivers are METS."

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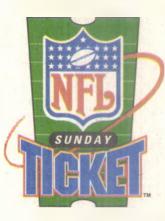
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LOCAL NEWS





BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Nathan Smith and Dave Rates measure for the footings of an elevator in the new building.

789

Continued from page A1

ing opening. The weather will impact construction, he said, but workers are expected to be at the site through the winter, tackling indoor tasks

The 789 Building named for its Ann Arbor Trail address — was originally proposed as a three-story building with a below-grade first floor. But some from the public and the Plymouth Planning Commission questioned the design, and some people who own or manage neighboring downtown businesses said they feared the building, and its use, would overtax what they said is already scarce downtown parking. No on-site parking is planned.

Dombrowski and Hamdan scaled back the plans, putting the first floor at ground level and later eliminating the third floor. The plans were discussed at a series of Planning Commission meetings.

The revised plans required 16 parking spaces at the site, but the developers won City Commission approval, on a 5-2 vote, for a "payment in lieu of parking" of \$160,000, or \$10,000 per space, which must be paid over four years. It was the first time

such a deal had been intend under a recen city ordinance that allows the parking waiver.

Dombrowski said he's

Canton family wages dual battle with cancer

By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

Pat and Joanne Savage were already reeling from the pressure of Joanne's upcoming surgery to treat pseudomyxoma peritonei, the abdominal cancer she'd already beaten back once before she found out about its return in April.

Then, a week after Labor Day, Pat Savage went to the emergency room with a fever that caused doctors to do a CAT scan of his torso. It was the culmination of a week of diabetic episodes and a four-day stay in the hospital that ended with devastating results.

At age 50, Pat Savage had Stage 4 esophageal cancer.

"I was obviously devastated," said Savage, a Canton resident and youth baseball coach with three young sons. "The first doctor told me I should go home and be with my children for a couple of months, and then arrange for hospice care."

Pat took part of the doctor's advice: He went home to be with Joanne and their three children - 14-year-old Colin, 11year-old Jack and 7-yearold Nolan. And the family decided one thing for sure.

While it might become necessary in the long run, the hospice care was going to have to wait. "I decided to go a dif-

ferent route," Pat said.

"I saw an oncologist who said, 'If you want to fight this, we can fight it.' I'm not going down that easy."

Two-front battle

Pat's ordeal began with a diabetic episode around Labor Day. He lost 25 pounds and, on Labor Day, wasn't speaking to anyone. His family got him to the hospital, where he stayed for four days until being discharged without a diagnosis — "They couldn't find anything wrong neurologically," he said — the following Friday.

Two days later, he was in the emergency room with a fever. When doctors ordered the CAT scans, more than a dozen tumors were found.

Meanwhile, 46-yearold Joanne faced surgery of her own. She was first diagnosed with cancer four years ago, and had surgery to remove it then. She was told it would likely come back, and it did. Doctors decided to try a kind of chemotherapy --- called HIPEC during which the peritoneal cavity is bathed in chemotherapeutic solution.

The problem, according to Joanne, was that no facilities in Michigan were set up to perform the treatment. She said she found a doctor at St. John Hospital in Grosse Pointe who was willing to essentially rent the equipment to do the treatment. She had the surgery



Family and friends will hold a fundraiser to help the Savage family of Canton - (clockwise from left) Pat, Joanne, Colin, Jack and Nolan — as Pat and Joanne battle different kinds of cancer.

two weeks ago and came home Tuesday. "They got it all, and I'm

said.

thankful for that," she

Support system But now the family has to deal with not only her recovery, but her husband's illness as well. They haven't had to do it alone, because Pat has seven brothers and sisters (with additional help coming from wives and husbands). The fifth of eight children, Pat has been able to count on his support system. "At 50 and 46, these aren't

the things you expect to deal with," said Tim Savage, the "baby" of the family (with his twin brother Mike) at 43. "We're taking turns helping. We're trying to make sure the kids' lives are as normal as we can make them.

HELPING HAND

What: Spaghetti dinner fundraiser to benefit the Savage family of Canton

When: 4-8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22

Where: VFW Hall, 1426 Mill in Plymouth Cost: \$10 for adults and children 12 and older; \$5 for

children 11 and under Other ways: Those unable to attend but who want

to help can go to www.PatSavageSupportFund.org to make an online donation, and any Chase Bank branch will accept donations to the Pat Savage Support Fund.

"It's been a challenge, but there are plenty of us," he added. "It's been crazy."

While the family has strived to make life as normal as possible for the boys, the impact of their parents' medical conditions isn't lost on their sons. Colin, a freshman at Salem High School, said the news has been "tough."

"I found out my dad's going to die way earlier than we hoped, and my mom was in the hospital," Colin said. "I had to be the adult. It's tough."

Unfortunately, the family has to face it all without medical insurance, and the bills are piling up. Pat, who works for Andrew Tree Service of Canton, which services Canton, Plymouth, Livonia and surrounding areas, said he spent some \$1,800 in one short period on prescriptions alone. With his chemotherapy and the cost of Joanne's surgery, they're struggling.

Helping hands

That's why the family has organized a fundraiser Saturday at the VFW Hall in Plymouth. They're getting a lot of help with that, too. Palermo's has donated food for 100 people, Leo's Coney Island is donating salads and Benito's Pizza has stepped up to help.

"I have tremendous thanks for everyone who has helped," Pat Savage said. "The outpouring of help has been incredible. It has been absolutely brilliant."

Pat has already had one round of chemotherapy, with another scheduled next week. He lost 55 pounds off his 175-pound frame during the ordeal, but has already gained some 20 of that back. He knows ultimately the treatment won't save his life, but he's grateful for the time it's buying him.

'We know it's palliative, not curative," Pat said. "I know what the future holds. But at the same time, I've got these guys, and my wife, so I'm going to fight to stick around as long as I can."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com (313) 222-8899



ready to put the controversy over the building behind him.

"It's done and in the past," he said. "I'll forget about it."

Dombrowski said he has more than 30 years' experience in residential construction.

He said he's not certain how much will be spent on the construction of the 789 Building. "Whatever it is, it is," he said.

mjachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405





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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, October 20, 2011

Schools?

What are the three biggest

issues facing Plymouth-Canton

We need to resolve the fiscal

situation in our district so we can go about the business of

working on providing the best

education possible to our kids.

To accomplish this, the Board

needs to show real leadership

in a way it's not doing now.

The board must always be on

guard to ensure that our kids

deficit as quickly as possible,

or the quality and delivery of

the education service will be

and employees are safe.

ful future

compromised.

PCCS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Fourteen candidates seek four open seats in the Nov. **8 Plymouth-Canton Board** of Education Election. We preview their views today, Sunday and Thursday, Oct. 27.

Name: Matt Dame Hometown: Canton Family: Wife, Barbara, three



Michigan Occupation: Corporate and Broadcast Video Producer and Commercial Web Developer. **Community Involvement:** Soccer coach for 5 years; volunteer, Canton Community TV; Knights of Columbus.

Name: Michael Redman Hometown: Canton Township

Family: Wife, two children Education: M.S.B.A; Quality



Currently active in various community and personal activities, which are not directly involved but provide various levels of involvement with education,

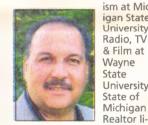
Name: Mike Maloney Hometown: Plymouth Family: Wife, Gail; son, Jake



in Electrical Engineering, U-M; MBA, U-M Occupation: Business Owner Community involve-

Plymouth-Canton School Board, 1995-1955, elected treasurer and president; Plym outh Canton Jr. Basketball, 25 years as coach and board member, president 1980-1981

Name: Mike Andro Hometown: Canton Family: Wife, Cindy; sons Matt and Justin Education: studied Journal-



ism at Michigan State University, Radio, TV & Film at Wavne State Unive

The budget. If we do not get the budget in order everything else falls apart. We cannot continue to spend more than we receive in funding. Safe and secure schools, m the school zone a comfortable and safe environment for students, teachers and everyone involved. Being open to all options that will improve the educational experience.

I'd like to propose better

funding opportunities from

the state, and acquiring grant

money from local, state, and

national foundations in the corporate and nonprofit

world. Our budgets can be

more strategic in spending

responsibility practices. I

and implement better fiscal

would be sure to address is

maintaining the quality of

Unpredictable and declining

revenue, requiring strategic

re-budgeting, cost-cutting, sharing services with outside

entities, exploiting all op-

portunities of the ISD, new

of community involvement;

a (not-necessarily accurate)

partnerships and higher levels

perception that public schools

are failing our youth; a tar-nished image, both internally

and externally, which affects

engage our community, and

our ability to attract talent,

also affects our costs.

education.

There has been a great deal of dissension on the school board over the last year or so. What will you do to heal the division?

What quality will you bring to the board that will help the district going forward?

The current board came within one vote of closing an elementary school this year. Does the district need to take a look at its facility usage, and how would you go about it?

One of the biggest decisions to face the new board will be the selection of a new superintendent. What qualities do you think the board should be looking for?

A new board is going to learn from the current board's mistakes. Every opinion is important and should be heard. We need to tap into a professional's point of view in most every point of business the board discusses in order to make an educated decision that will move the district forward.

I am a business owner who is accustomed to dealing with various personalities. I have to listen closely to the customer to help them develop the best digital marketing materials possible. This is an important skillset for a board member. This skillset, along with having an open mind when delving into various topics of concern, makes me an ideal board candidate.

Absolutely, particularly in tough financial times. It doesn't make fiscal sense to keep a building open that has 50-percent occupancy when there is ample room for those students in other schools, especially when the population projections show that there will not be the student base to support a particular school to remain open.

It's important to find a quali-fied Superintendent who is experienced in a large district setting. He also has to have a track record of success: strong communication skills; be able to support his/her theories and approaches with substantiated fact; and be a leader.

Be the constructive, team building individual that I am. Keep in mind a measured amount of tension can be constructive, build stronger teams and lead the way to positive solutions.

The educational focus, augmented with the professional business experience of quality and operations, building and leading teams, as well as being a constructive team member.

Yes. With analysis of current state, coupled with the projected growth, ebb and tide of the school population throughout the PCCS District, and reformulation of school boundaries. We need to maximize our current resource investments, to level and optimize the studentto-teacher ratio.

In addition to being a quali-fied, professional individual, he or she must work constructively and be willing to keep an open mind to successfully address the constant challenge of reduced funds, and assist in development of revenue generating opera-tions to move the PCCS District forward. I'll be looking for an energetic, personable individual with a can-do attitude.

Fixing the structural deficit / avoiding an Emergency Financial Manager / Keeping local control; Remaining focused on academics and small class sizes in spite of budget pressures; Keeping kids safe, especially at the high schools.

The board has moved away from meaningful debate and dialog among themselves, let alone the public. Cliques have formed, and it's obvious that current board members are having (potentially illegal) policy discussions away from the board table. When I was on the board, all discussions were held in public, and the board frequently provided dialog opportunities for em-ployees and parents to help explore alternatives in difficult circumstances

I will bring many qualities, including financial acumen and technical knowledge. Most important is my experience. By January 2012, the district will have only a few months to fix the deficit and avoid a state takeover. My prior experience as board president is the most important quality of all.

In the context of the \$26m deficit projected for next year, facility closures are one potential savings, and must be examined carefully. It doesn't seem equitable to me that one elementary school has 350 students while others have over 700. If the alternative is the layoff of an additional 10 teachers, it would be irresponsible for a school board not to consider it.

The new superintendent must be a good communicator, and create employee en-thusiasm and high morale. He or she also needs to be able to look critically at the district relative to competition from private schools and charters opening in our area. The new superintendent will also need to be willing to challenge the status quo and relentlessly drive for excellence.

Yes we do need to look at facility usage and capacity. Farmington and Wayne-Westland went through a emo-

The Board should look for the usual academic experience, history of success and leadership capabilities. The nard sh ld key on fir a person with vision, imagina-tion, creativity and the ability to lead the Plymouth-Canton Schools on a journey into a new age of educational excellence

Act like an adult. Be a responsible citizen who is there for the benefit of the students and no other reason. Work-

Patience, the ability to listen, investigation and problem

To provide the school district and its staff with the tools necessary to enable a success for all of its students. To do this, the Board must immediately develop plans to reduce and eliminate the current

cense, State of Michigan Mortgage license Occupation: National Sales Executive for Invesp **Community Involvement:** current vice president, Royal Point Homeowners Associa tion, Canton Township Leisure Services Board member, youth soccer & hockey coach, Cub Scout dad, Canton High School soccer volunteer.

Name: Abdul Muhiuddin Hometown: Canton Family: Parents Atiya and Muhammad Muniruddin; three siblings. Education: Plymouth-Salem

High Class of 2003; UM-Dearborn Bach



ment in progress, expected in 2013 at UM-Dearborn.

Occupation: Associate **Development Officer at the** Institute for Social Policy and Understanding.

Community Involvement: In Canton, I have been involved with the Canton Historical Society, presenting at meetings, and in the Brookside Village Homeowners Association.

Name: Stephanie Goecke Hometown: Plymouth Township

Family: Husband, two children

Education: Juris Doctor, Magna Cum Laude, Michigan State; bachelor's in human



ment, Oakland University Occupation: Attorney Community involvement:

Trustee, Educational Excel lence Foundation; P-CCS housing committee; algebra tutor; Math Counts Volunteer, Central Middle School; Creator, Silver Foxes Reading Corp.

and administration are essential to getting things done. We do not always have to agree, but we need to work as an cohesive unit.

with th

be the best, thick skin, faith, ability to communicate and the courage to make tough decisions.

schools, but the results were very beneficial to the districts. Canton must look at all efficiencies of space and make intelligent decisions that will benefit the district as a whole.

Hopefully there will be no voting blocks on the Board after this election. I have always acted on principle and will seek information on each issue to the best of my knowledge from the public and from sources provided to the Board. We must look at each issue as individuals and not as a block to push issues through

A fresh perspective with a unique cultural context and professional background rooted in fundraising strategy. l believe in order to move forward, we need Board members who are fiscally responsible and able to help instill the best practices.

Closing down one of the schools in the third largest district in the state would place too many families in harder situations. With an increase in population from the last census, this shows that P-CCS is growing. We should look into the facility usage of all of our schools to properly assess their proficiency

A civic minded leader with a sense of running a business; the district should look into increasing revenue and rebuilding the reserve.

There will always be different opinions; however, members must treat each other with respect and be willing to consider other points of view. would perform my duties in a way that is transparent and above reproach, and will not act unilaterally. I strive to respect every person and opinion, and I have a skill for listening, envisioning consequences, and finding common around

I have the necessary education, my academic credentials are strong and relevant and include a heavy concentration in accounting and business. I have a deeper and longerstanding involvement in this district than any of the other non-board candidates. I work hard, play well with others, and I tend to see the "big picture."

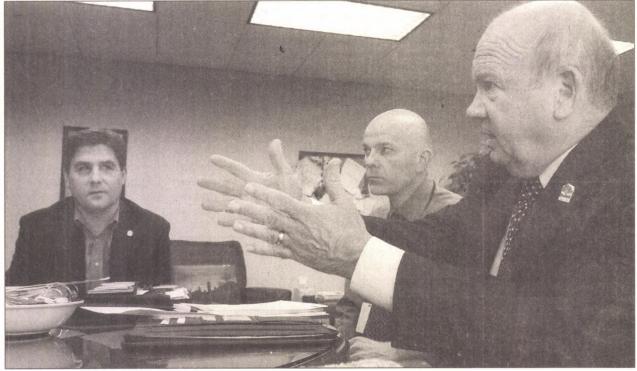
We should always be looking at facility usage. The cost savings of closing a school must bed balanced against the likely additional transportation costs, impact on class sizes, predictions of future requirements, and a myriad of other relevant considerations. many of which are speculative.

In general I believe we need a superintendent with a back ground in both management and education, and a history which includes examples of creative problem solving, They must be able to communicate a vision for both the present and in the long-term. My dream superintendent would also have the ability to inspire - both employees and the larger community.

Come back to Sunday's **Observer for more** candidate views

A7.(P) THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2011 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PUBLIC SAFETY



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck (from left) and Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas listen as Supervisor Phil LaJoy talks about the need to improve the I-275/Ford Road interchange.

Senate comes to Canton for Ford Road public hearing

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

In what Canton officials hope could become a crucial turning point as they battle for federal dollars to improve the I-275/ Ford Road interchange, the state Senate Transportation Committee has agreed to a public hearing to help gauge the need for the long-sought project.

Saying traffic snarls along Ford Road threaten motorist safety and could choke the bustling corridor's economic vitality, township Supervisor Phil LaJoy and state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, confirmed the hearing is set for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1, inside the ballroom of Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, west of Canton Center.

LaJoy and Canton Municipal Services Direc-

Gaining support Local leaders hope to

gain much-needed support from the Michigan Department of Transportation as they seek \$20.3 million in third-round federal grant dollars from TIGER, or Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery. Federal highway officials have twice snubbed the project.

The project involves adding two new ramps, or slips, allowing drivers from the southbound I-275 exit ramp to access northbound and southbound Haggerty Road without using Ford Road. The slips would provide alternate routes for motorists driving home and ease traffic along Ford for drivers headed to shopping areas.

Moreover, the project includes adding a north-

hope the Senate Transportation Committee, chaired by Tom Casperson, R-Escanaba, can be convinced of the need and help push it forward.

Consider why: • Local officials say the project would create some 200 construction jobs, with an additional economic uptick as workers spend money in area restaurants and other businesses.

• LaJoy said Canton and Westland share only two I-275 interchanges, compared to eight interchanges for five communities to the north — Livonia, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Northville and Northville Township. However, LaJoy said Canton and Westland have a combined population similar to that of the other communities, in the 170,000 range.

Canton had an 18.1percent spike in popula-

tion in the last U.S. Cen-

90,173 residents. Colbeck

traffic woes could threaten the ability of people to

shop the traffic-snarled

"There is a huge eco-

nomic quotient to what

we're talking about," he

• Faas said a region-

al study based on a six-

year period ending in

2010 found there had been 2,411 traffic acci-

dents between Canton Center Road and the

ley Road.

То

Northbound

Haggerty Rd.

Westland line. Of those,

815 occurred along the busy stretch east of Lil-

Faas said the accident

statistics reflected only

Ford Road strip.

said.

said he is worried that

continued growth and

sus, which reported

those compiled by Michigan State Police. He estimated that twice as many crashes likely occurred, though many at lower speeds simply didn't get reported.

• Studies have indicated that 50,000 to 55,000 vehicles each day travel Ford Road near Haggerty — a number local officials say is even higher during weekend shopping hours. Officials say traffic volume has escalated as the township's population has grown.

Barring any glitches, he said the road work would take one year to 18 months to complete after construction crews begin the job.

Police report spate of vehicle burglaries

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

Thefts from three vehicles parked in south-central Plymouth Township were reported to police on Monday.

All three incidents took place late Sunday or early Monday on properties on or near Sheldon Road just north of Joy Road, according to Plymouth Township Police Department reports. Two vehicles had been left unlocked; in the third case, a window had been left partially open, police said.

On Oakview, east of Sheldon, tools, a navigation device and a pair of sunglasses were among the things reported stolen from a Nissan Armada.

The sport-utility vehicle was parked in the driveway of a house at the time, and a passenger-side window had been left partway open, police said.

On Albert Drive, west of Sheldon, a hardhat, coveralls and a duffel bag were among the things reported stolen from a sport-utility vehicle parked in the driveway of a house. The Chevrolet Equinox had been left unlocked, police said.

On Sheldon just north of Joy, a framing gun and a tool belt were reported stolen from a Jeep Grand Cherokee parked in the driveway of a house. The Grand Cherokee had been left unlocked, police said.

In a fourth recent vehicle burglary in the township, a cellular telephone and a navigation device were reported stolen Oct. 12 from a Dodge Charger parked outside a house on Richard Drive, south of North Territorial and just east of Napier.

The car had likely been left unlocked, police said. The complainant told police he thought the burglary had occurred early on Oct. 10.

Thefts continue

Thefts of outdoor home decorations continued last week on Eastside Drive, east of Mill Street and south of Ann Arbor Trail, in the township.

On Oct. 13, a 50-pound concrete statue of an angel holding a book was reported stolen from outside one house on Eastside, along with several paving bricks. The theft occurred between about 1:30 a.m. and 7 a.m. that day, the complainant told police.

Also on Oct. 13, an iron pagoda was reported stolen from the backyard deck of a nearby house. The theft occurred the night before or early that day, the complainant told police.

Similar thefts, from outside three different houses in the same area of Eastside, had been reported on Oct. 7.

Vandalism

Someone used a pumpkin to smash the windshield of a car parked on the township's west side last week.

The 1998 Mercury Marquis was parked on the street at Weston and Chandler, east of Napier and north of Powell Road, when the vandalism was discovered about 7:30 a.m. Oct. 14.

tor Tim Faas plan to roll out an array of Ford Road traffic studies and accident statistics to document what they call a dire need to reshape the troubled interchange. Local leaders hope to pack the hearing with a strong show of bipartisan support from residents and local and state government officials representing Canton and communities such as Westland, Plymouth, Northville, Livonia and the townships of Plymouth, Northville and Van Buren.

"It's a regional issue," Colbeck said, and though residents may choose not to speak during the hearing, "just by showing up they can indicate their support and help us get this (project) across the finish line." bound service drive on the east side of I-275 from the Cherry Hill Road area, giving motorists access to Ford or allowing them to continue north and merge onto the interstate. LaJoy said Westland, especially, would benefit.

Despite a nine-year push to reshape the interchange, LaJoy said the project has largely gone unnoticed by state officials, though it has won support from Wayne County and the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, among other local government entities.

Convincing argument

LaJoy and Faas, who have lobbied from Lansing to Washington, D.C.,

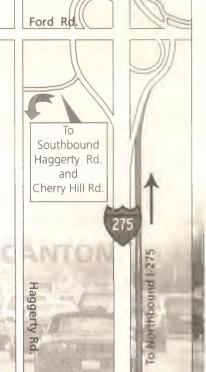
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Cherry Hill Rd.

LOCAL NEWS



The cast of "Fools," which includes several local actors, takes to the Barefoot Productions stage starting Friday, Oct. 21.

Barefoot opens sixth season with 'Fools'

Barefoot Productions will open its sixth season with the smash hit comedy "Fools" by Neil Simon. "Fools" opens Friday, Oct. 21, and runs for six performances over two weekends closing on Sunday, Oct. 30.

"Fools" is a light-hearted romantic comedy set in the small village of Kulyenchikov, Ukraine (Russian Territory) during the late 19th century. The story follows the adventure of an ambitious young schoolteacher, who arrives in the quaint village to begin his career as the new school master.

His first pupil is the fair and lovely young Sophia Zubritsky, daughter of the local Doctor. Leon (played by Tim Majzlik of Detroit) is immediately lovestruck when he meets Sophia (Megan Huszti of Livonia) and therefore is eager to begin his teachings. He soon finds that this may be harder than it looks for the fair young maiden, Sophia, is "unintelligent."

Leon soon discovers that Sophia takes after her Pappa (Brian Cahalan, Flat Rock) and Mamma (Bobbie Judd, Plymouth) and the entire town of Kulyenchikov. Turns out, all who inhabit Kulyenchikov have been under a 200-year-old curse of stupidity, placed on the town by an ancestor of the evil Count Gregor (Sean Randolf, Canton) and can only be broken if Sophia marries the Count or is taught something — anything — by Leon

"Fools" then becomes a comic race against time for if Leon fails to teach Sophia within 24 hours of his arrival, Leon will become an 'idiot' too.

"Fools" is directed by

Craig A. Hane, the company's artistic director who also directed another Simon play, "The Good Doctor," in 2009.

The cast is also made up of the villagers of the town: Betty Berryman, Dan McKane and Dee Morrison of Canton, Gary Turnquist of Plymouth and Anne Cahalan of Detroit.

"Fools" plays Oct. 21, 22, 28 and 29 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 23 and 30 at 2 p.m. Performances are at the Barefoot Productions Theater, 240 N. Main Street, Plymouth. (Walker/Buzenberg Building).

Reservations can be made by calling the Barefoot Productions Box Office at (734) 560-1493 or go to their website at www.justgobarefoot.com to purchase tickets through their link. Tickets are \$16 general and \$14 for students and seniors.

Pols praise effort behind successful chili festival

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

Positive reviews are still coming in for Plymouth's 16th annual Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff, which took place Oct. 9 at Kellogg Park, The Gathering and several adjacent downtown streets.

Blessed with summerlike weather and 90 varieties of chili, the festival saw what organizers said was its highest attendance ever an estimated 20,000 total visitors. The top cooks in the International Chili Society-sanctioned portion of the event, in red chili, green chili and salsa, will go on to the ICS world championship next October.

Speaking at Monday's Plymouth City Commission meeting, Mayor Dan Dwyer praised city workers for their efforts in planning for and cleaning up after the festival, which is run by a nonprofit to benefit local charities.

"Nobody can throw

a fair, a city fair, better than (City Manager) Paul Sincock and the city staff," Dwyer said.

Commissioner John Barrett echoed Dwyer's remarks, adding the festival was a joint effort between the city and the nonprofit Great Lakes Chili Inc. and its volunteers. "They really handled it quite well," Barrett said.

Body shop work

Two public safety vehicles, intended to become part of the Northville Fire Department's fleet when it expands its coverage area to include the city of Plymouth beginning in January, are earmarked for body work, paint jobs and repairs

Spending for the work was approved Monday by two 5-0 City Commission votes; two members, Gerald Sabatini and Michael Wright, were absent.

An aerial truck given to the Plymouth Community Fire Department when it was formed in the mid-1990s is being returned to the city and will be used in the NFD fleet. The truck has rust, a hydraulic leak and nonworking pressure gauges, city officials said.

The commission approved spending \$20,000 on repairs and new paint, plus a contingency of up to \$5,000 if any further problems are found. That compares to the cost of a new truck of between \$850,000 and \$1 million, officials said.

The aerial truck is at Apollo Fire Equipment in Romeo, the only facility in the area that works on that type of truck, officials said.

In addition, commissioners approved spending of up to \$9,000 for rust repair and new paint on an ambulance that was donated to the city by Huron Valley Ambulance. That work will be done by Hawker & Son in Ypsilanti.

The 2005 Ford F-350model has a new engine and a new transmission, and a similar new ambulance would cost up to \$150,000, officials said.



Paula (left) and Monica Nowell each picked a red-colored 2.5L 2012 Beetle.

A8 (CP)

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Local residents take delivery on VW Beetles from Oprah

By Karen Smith Observer Staff Writer

Two Livonia residents were each presented Thursday with a free 2012 Beetle, their gifts from Oprah Winfrey for being on her "Ultimate Favorite Things" episode that aired last Nov. 17.

Monica and Paula and Nowell, who are motherin-law and daughter-inlaw and both teachers at Stevenson High School in Livonia, received the keys to their new cars from Ralph Thayer Volkswagen in Livonia. The Nowells were

The Nowells were invited to be on Winfrey's show after Monica Nowell nominated Paula as her hero.

Paula's 14-month-old daughter, Maria, has Down syndrome, a genetic disorder that causes lifelong mental retardation, developmental delays and other problems. Monica said she wanted to raise awareness of Down syndrome, the health problems that come with it, which most people don't know about, and the need for research. She said she thought Winfrey's show would be the best platform in which to get her message out because her show reached so many people.

"I wrote from the heart," she said. "I just wanted to get the word about babies and children with Down's. I just said Paula and all the parents are heroes for going through so much."

Monica said October is Down Syndrome Awareness Month, but few people realize it.

Paula Nowell said Maria has already had five surgeries, including cataract and open heart surgery. The open heart surgery took place two days after they appeared on Winfrey's show.

"The Down's syndrome is one thing," she said, but the health problems are another.

Paula Nowell, 34, said it was a surprise when Maria was born with Down syndrome. She had tested negative for the disorder during her pregnancy, she had two previously healthy children and she didn't fit the typical age bracket for the disorder. She knew something was wrong almost right away. "I went to breast feed her and she turned blue," Paula said. She was rushed from St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia to C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Monica is a special education teacher so she meets a lot of parents of children with special needs. She thinks Paula is doing a wonderful job raising Maria.

"She's making sure Maria gets all the therapy she needs and the doctor care, and there's a lot of doctor care."

Paula, who teaches math at Stevenson, has continued to work despite the challenges of raising a special-needs child and caring for two other children ages 3 and 5. "Work for me is kind of my downtime," she said. "This is my sense of normal."

Monica said they weren't asked to be guests in the show so they didn't get a chance to talk about Down syndrome. But they were invited to sit in the audience with the other heros and longtime fans being honored on Winfrey's show that day. In addition to cars, they were gifted with Apple iPads, earrings and Coach purses.

Monica said the timing of the show was meant to be. "I was so happy that Paula could have that excitement and that thrill because the next day she was preparing for the open-heart surgery."

> ksmith@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2098

Trudell Quartet to appear at Elks

The Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780 in Plymouth Township will host the Johnny Trudell Quartet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25, as part of its Jazz @ The Elks series.

Trudell, a trumpet and flugelhorn player, is a longtime favorite in the Detroit area. He'll bring bass player Ray Tini, drummer Bill Cairo and keyboard player Chuck Shermetero to the Elks, which is at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, between Haggerty and Lilley. The cost is a \$5 donation at the door.



SUBSCRIBE



Herbicide linked to tree damage

By Julie Brown Observer Staff Writer

Bert Cregg, associate professor of horticulture and forestry at Michigan State University, is getting a lot of calls about the herbicide Imprelis.

He's hearing from lawyers, landscapers, homeowners and the press about the DuPont herbicide which damaged trees and was pulled from the market at the Environmental Protection Agency's demand.

Cregg, also an Extension specialist with a Ph.D. in forestry, said it's unsure if trees will live.

"It really depends on the extent of the damage," Cregg said. Some have dead branch tips and curling at the top: "Those trees in all likelihood will recover. You see the whole spectrum," with other trees dead or nearly so.

It's primarily white pine and Norway spruce impacted, accounting for some 80-plus percent of the trees. Cregg said blue spruce and other conifers are also included, with some cottonwood, maple and locust trees damaged.

The problem stretches across the Upper Midwest into the U.S. Northeast, and even DuPont's golf course in Delaware was impacted, Cregg said.

Landscapers began to use Imprelis in the spring and damage to trees showed up quickly. A Northville Township resident had e-mailed about Imprelis, but did not indicate specific damage or respond to e-mail inquiries. Her phone number could not be obtained.

Mark Baldwin, owner of Baldwin Landscape Group of Plymouth, said of Imprelis, "We don't use it. It's relatively new and we did not switch to it this year.'

'It's been removed from the market," Baldwin said. Norway spruce

and white pine have "been the two most noticeable species it's affected. The damage has been noticeable. I'm fortunate we didn't use it."

It hasn't killed that many trees yet, Baldwin said, but has damage. "It'll be interesting to see what happens to them. I don't think anybody knows what really will happen" to the trees. "It's all basically uncharted territory.

"Once tissue dies on a tree, it's dead forever," he said. "What is left and viable might go through this, depending on how much damage there is."

Baldwin has been in the business 24 years with his company, and 30 overall as an industry pro. He doesn't recall anything on this scale.

"These were applied as broad leaf weed control. Nothing on this scale. Again, who knows? Some trees may recover. It's just kind of a wait and see." Baldwin said.

Cregg said Imprelis was used mainly on cool season grasses. "I think that's why we had more issues here. There are certainly going to be some legal issues.'

Landscapers carry insurance for liability, Cregg said, but the issue of a defective product makes those claims different. "They really are caught between a rock and a hard place," the MSU expert said of landscapers. "Their customers aren't happy.'

Some landscapers have been replacing trees and hoping to be reimbursed later, but that's difficult with larger trees. "Of course, they have sentimental value," Cregg said. "There's still a lot of damage to their goodwill and integrity," he added of landscapers.

"The 64-buck question is what went wrong?" Products are normally tested before being put on the market, Cregg said. "I think more likely

they didn't know."

He's seen issues in the past where application was an issue or there was drifting of a product to neighboring property, but not a large scale application like Imprelis

Cregg said testing tends to focus on toxicology and effect on mammals, birds and other wildlife, less so on trees and other plants.

To care for the tree while it's recovering, MSU Extension recommends that homeowners irrigate trees during warm, dry weather, but avoid waterlogging. DuPont has issued a statement (http:// www.agry.purdue.edu/ turf/tips/2011/images/07052011_Infosheet_ Treesunderstress.pdf) advising against fertilizing affected trees for at least one year.

If homeowners suspect Imprelis injuries, they should contact their lawn care companies to determine if and when the product was applied.

For additional information on suspected Imprelis damage, visit the Michigan State University Extension News for Ag website. Creggs' research is supported by AgBioResearch at MSU

Cregg said in early September he's less optimistic about tree recovery than he was in the earlier summer while writing that information. The midsummer hot spell was hard on trees: "It just compounded the stress. It's hard to say exactly how it would have gone," he said.

DuPont marketed the product heavily to landscapers as environmentally friendly, Cregg added. "Certainly, nobody foresaw this issue."

Theater groups celebrate 'It Can't Happen Here'

Debbie

Lannen.

"We will

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script.

Lewis

Sinclair

revised

On Oct. 24th around the country, theater groups are presenting "It Can't Happen Here" written by Sinclair Lewis. The readings are to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the work and to commemorate the Federal Theatre Project.

LOCAL NEWS

Spotlight Still Got It Players, along with their parent group, Spotlight Players, and professional actors from metro Detroit are proud to be a part of this historic national event.

They will be performing the reading on the main stage at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton Oct. 24 at 7 p.m. "The Federal Theater Project was so important in it's time," said director

Teacher signs her children's book Sunday

By Ken Abramczyk **Observer Staff Writer**

A Livonia school teacher has written a children's book about a boy who believes his teacher is a Martian.

Livonia Public Schools teacher Colleen Murray Fisher will be signing her award-winning book, Miss Martin is a Martian, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday at the Barnes and Noble **Bookstore at Haggerty** and Six Mile in Northville.

Fisher, who teaches fourth grade at Hayes Elementary School in Westland, said she tried to write the book from her own experiences as a teacher, but focused on a kid's perspective that teachers and parents seem to have eyes in the back of their heads.

"I elaborated on that and that power was Martian power," Fisher said.

The boy figures his teacher is a Martian because she can figure out what he is up to with his shenanigans, like sneaking off to the bathroom and soaping up his hair for some mischief. He can't figure out why she knows, but she quickly figures it out because his hair is wet.

Convinced she is a Martian, he makes it his mission to stop her before she takes over the planet. After undertaking a thorough investigation, complete with scientific tests of his theory and a detailed journal, he realizes the "truth" and along the way discovers just how amazing her "teacher powers" really are.

Fisher learned of a writing contest sponsored by Mackinac Island Press. The winner would get his or her story published in a book. But Fisher didn't have a lot of time. It would tors, writers and backstage staffs who made it possible as well as Harry Hopkins of the WPA which gave them all a chance to work and survive in the toughest of times," she said.

(CP)

A9

Canton officials point out the Lafayette Theatre in Detroit was one of the original theaters to present the play in 1936. More than 25 million people, many of whom had never before seen a live performance, enjoyed some 12,000 of its productions.

Tickets are \$5 cash at the door. The box office opens at 6 p.m. The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. For more information, call (734) 394-5460.

need to be postmarked the day after she returned from a family vacation in August 2009.

"I wrote it on a 10-hour trip to North Carolina," Fisher said. "It had to be turned in on the day back from the North Carolina trip..We came back, and I typed it on the computer the same day."

The story is geared toward children ages 6-9, as the boy in the book is a second-grader.

Parents and children will enjoy the book, Fisher said. "The boy is writing in a journal format." Fisher said. "The overall message is the strong relationship and bond between teacher and student. It's fun and humorous for both students and teachers how teachers can see through walls and read minds.'

kabramcz@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2591

248-465-5300



Lewis

the play in 1938."

Theater goers can cele-

brate the Federal Theatre

Project and the 75th anni-

versary of the opening

by revisiting the clas-

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of It Can't Happen Here

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and all the actors, direc-

"It is our chance to hon-

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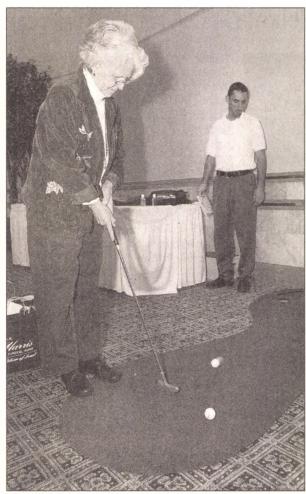
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A10 (CP)

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, October 20, 2011



Diane Bogie putts for a prize during Senior Celebration Day. Derek Sova, staffer for state Rep. John Walsh, keeps an eye on her swing.

Joyce Pillsbury of Walled Lake is one of nearly 400 seniors at the celebration.

Senior Celebration Day a success

LOCAL NEWS

It's hard to tell what attendees like best about the annual Western Wayne County Senior Celebration Day organized by state Rep. John Walsh and Senior Citizen Achievement Needs, a local nonprofit organization for seniors.

"Bingo's always popular, I have to say. They love the vendor fair, and they also really enjoy the hot lunch," said Valerie Knol, a legislative aide to Walsh. And, "a lot of people come just to hear that band (the Mike Wolverton Band)," which plays swing, big band and polka music.

"We had a couple of them even dancing to it."

The 17th annual event, held Friday at Laurel Manor Banquet & Conference Center in Livonia, drew about 365 seniors, slightly more than last year. A lot were regulars who attend each year, but there were some new faces as well.

The purpose of the event is to thank seniors for their many contributions over the years in helping to build Livonia. "It want want are derful."

"It went wonderful," Knol said, crediting her boss, Walsh, for the event's success.

For \$5 each, attendees received a hot dinner of salad, bread, pasta and dessert; a free flu shot; preventative health screenings for bone density, blood pressure and the like; raffle and bingo prizes and goodies from vendors.

Knol said the price of admission is a bargain. "Even if you only want to go to the lunch, where can you get a hot lunch like that for \$5?"

No tax dollars are used to put on the event. Instead, vendors purchase sponsorships and local businesses and officials donate prizes like gift certificates to grocery stores, pharmacies and restaurants.

After expenses are

paid and seed money is set aside for the following year, any proceeds are donated to the Livonia Senior Center. This year, \$2,000 will be donated, Knol said.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

HELA MILLING

online at hometownlife.com

The event is a great way for vendors to support seniors, she said, and the money goes back into the community. "It's a win-win."

By Karen Smith

Retiree's book garners renewed interest

By Sue Buck Observer Staff Writer

A 2004 book by Garden City Hospital Guild volunteer Betty Walton has generated renewed interest.

That's because othrs recently learned that Walton, who has volunteered at the Garden Cafe for two days a week the past year, has had a rich and full life. For 18 years, she was a sorority house mother. Her book is called, "They Called Me 'The W,' — "I Was 'Mom' to 2000 Plus Sorority Girls" has attracted interest among hospital employees, too. Even now, the young-atheart Walton, who won't reveal her age, said that she became bored and decided to seek volunteer work after "tetirement." She spent 20 years in advertising on the board of directors and also at the former Bendix Aero-

The book

Walton talked about her experience with the Delta Delta Delta sorority in Ann Arbor, which is at the University of Michigan, and other sororities like Delta Zeta which is off campus and Collegiate Sororisis, which is no longer in existence, both also formerly in Ann Arbor. Through the years, house mothers became known as directors. The widowed and retired Walton sought the job as a house mother because she wanted to stay active. "I lived with 62 girls at a time, per year," Wal-ton said. "The girls were all different and they changed through the years." She recorded many anecdotes about the collegiate Greek world. She didn't always like the rules, which she considered too lenient. They allowed the girls to have male visitors until 2 a.m. in their rooms and until 4 a.m. on weekends. She began writing her remembrances because she couldn't sleep with the noise and "boys running around the house" at night. "It became a book," she said. "That's campus. That's a different world." The book also includes notes from the girls to Walton and vice versa.



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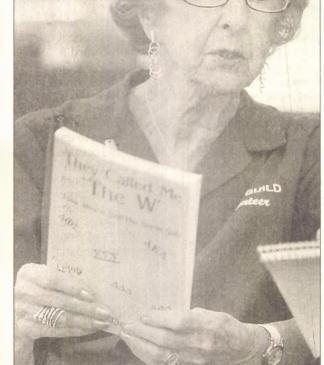
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space during the 1960s as a secretary.

"I was typing material about the very first vehicle that they sent to the moon," she said. "It was all secret. It collected material and sent information back."

Walton, a Westland resident since 2004, added that she thinks it is sad that NASA is suspending research now.



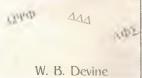
Betty Walton, an energetic author and grandmother who volunteers at Garden City Hospital, keeps young with her work and by enjoying ballroom dancing.

They didn't always agree yet, they expressed their appreciation.

"Their notes are really nice," Walton said. When a girl became sick, Walton took her to the health center. Family life

Some wondered when Walton took her job as house mother if she could adapt to all girls because she raised two boys.

Walton spoke lovingly about her job, especial-



Betty Walton disguised her identity somewhat when she used her maiden name. The "W" stands for Walton, he current last name.

ly enjoying the time the girls took to chat with her.

Some girls were challenges but Walton didn't regret the 18 years she worked as a house mother.

Walton is widowed with two grown sons, John and Jim and has grandchildren. Her husband, John, and both sons served in the U.S. Marine Corps.

She was born in the Upper Peninsula. After living in California and Tennessee, she moved to the Lower Peninsula in 1950.

She is selling her book personally and can be contacted at (734) 578-5509.

> sbuck@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2249

Ficano, Patterson to speak at joint chamber luncheon

The leaders of Wayne and Oakland counties will share the stage for a joint business luncheon Tuesday, Nov. 15, involving the Livonia and Greater Farmington Area chambers of commerce.

Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano and Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson will discuss political and business issues that affect their respective counties and the metro Detroit region. "The Big Two" will also answer audience questions during the program that will run from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Livonia's St. Mary's Cultural Center on Merriman Road between Six Mile and Seven Mile roads. The event is presented

by Lis, McEvilly & Associates CPA and Financial Planners, NYX Inc., Bosch, Botsford Hospital, and Paulson Audio and Video.

"This is another great networking and informational opportunity for the members in both chambers," said Livonia Chamber President Dan West. "These combined events give our members unique opportunities to hear from influential people while networking with new people."

The Greater Farmington Area Chamber of **Commerce serves both** Farmington and Farmington Hills, while the Livonia Chamber of Commerce has served its community since 1950. The two chambers, which serve two of Michigan's 10 largest cities, have a combined membership of nearly 1,400 members and have conducted several joint networking events over the past three years.

The neighboring organizations combined to welcome more than 650 people for a luncheon featuring Gov. Rick Snyder in March.

Tickets are \$30 per chamber member and \$45 for non-members. Admission for the luncheon can be reserved, with payment, by contacting either chamber. Those interested in attending are encouraged to call their respective chamber. The Farmington Area Chamber can be reached by calling (248) 919-6917 or sending an e-mail to Amanda McCracken at Amanda@ gfachamber.com.

The Livonia Chamber can be reached by calling (734) 427-2122 or sending an e-mail to Laura Sweeney at Sweeney@livonia. org.

Celebrate International Credit Union Day Experience the Credit Union Difference



Explaining why we celebrate International Credit Union Day is important

International Credit Union Day (ICU Day) is designed to create awareness and celebrate the ways credit unions improve the lives of their members around the world.

There are more than 49,000 credit unions in the world serving nearly 184 million people in 97 countries.

This year's theme, "Credit Unions Build a Better World." celebrates the important economic and social contributions credit unions make to their communities worldwide. It also aligns cooperatively owned and controlled credit unions with the greater cooperative business sector and the United Nations as they launch the International Year of Cooperatives 2012 later this year.

Here are some points that make credit unions unique.

Equal Ownership – Credit unions are democratically controlled and memberowned and operated. Each member has equal ownership and one vote regardless of how much money he or she has in savings. Not For Profit – Credit unions are not-forprofit financial cooperatives that provide a safe, convenient place for members to save money and access loans and other financial services at reasonable rates.

Social Purpose: People Helping People – Credit unions exist to serve their members, not to make a profit. Every member counts, including those of modest means. This "people-first" philosophy impels credit unions and their employees to get involved in their community and support worthwhile causes.

Volunteer Leadership – Each credit union is governed by a volunteer board of directors elected by and from the credit union's membership.

Financial Education for Members – Credit unions place particular importance on educational opportunities for their members and the public to help everyone become better educated consumers of financial services.

On October 20, 2011, credit union members around the world will celebrate International Credit Union Day, an event to commemorate the credit union movement's impact and achievements.

Credit unions are not-for-profit financial cooperatives that provide an effective and viable alternative to for-profit financial institutions for more than 184 million members in 97 countries worldwide. They exist to serve their members, providing a safe place to save money and access affordable loans.

Since 1948, International Credit Union Day has been celebrated annually on the third Thursday of October. Each year, the international event affords the opportunity to remember credit unions' proud history and promote aware-

This is the story of an idea. A simple idea: that people could pool their money and make loans to each other. It's the credit union idea, and it evolved from the cooperative activities of early 19th century Europe.

The first of these cooperatives was an 1844marketing cooperative organized by a group of workers in Rochdale, England. That same year in Germany, Victor Aime Huber began developing and publicizing some of the early European cooperative theories. The idea of credit societies was a part of this effort.

credit Societies are considered the birth of Credit Unions. Moved by the crop failure and famine that had devasmen for its support. He remained committed to that concept until 1864, when he organized a new credit union for farmers along the principles of cooperative interdependence, a community-first mentality and a volunteer management structure that are still fundamental today.

The credit societies in Germany, and similar institutions founded by Luigi Luzzatti in Italy, were the forerunners of the large cooperative "banks" which abound in Europe today.

Over the years, credit unions spread to communities around the world. In the early 1900s Alphonse and Dorimene Desjardins started a credit union (caisse populaire) in Levis, Quebec. Shortly thereafter, Alphonse, along with Americans Edward A. Filene and Roy F. Bergengren, helped establish credit unions in the United States. for ongoing credit union success. Hence, The First Credit Union Day.

International Credit Union Day salutes a

history of community ownership and support

On January 17, 1927, the Credit Union League of Massachusetts celebrated the first official holiday for credit union members and workers. They selected January 17 because it was the birthday of America's "Apostle of Thrift," Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790), who early credit union founders believed symbolized "the life and teaching embodied in the spirit and purpose of credit unions.'

Ironically, rapid growth within the North American credit union movement meant that people were either too busy to celebrate or too new to the movement to recognize the significance of the celebration. After a brief trial period, Credit Union Day quietly disappeared. The celebration received a Second

Chance. In 1948, the U.S. Credit Union National Association (CUNA) decided to initiate a new national Credit Union Day celebration. CUNA and CUNA Mutual Insurance Society set aside the third Thursday of October as the national day of observance. By then, many more of America's credit union leaders believed there was a need for an occasion that would bring people together to reflect upon credit union history and achievements and to promote the credit union idea across the country.

Credit unions, state credit union leagues in the United States and many of the informal credit union chapters in each state were encouraged to celebrate the new holiday in some way. It was to be a time for raising funds for movement causes and to pay homage to the men and women who had dedicated their lives to credit union development.

During the 1950s, CUNA's World Extension Department provided technical assistance and philosophical guidance for credit union development worldwide. So many countries had established credit union movements by 1964 that CUNA formally expanded its mission and launched CUNA International.

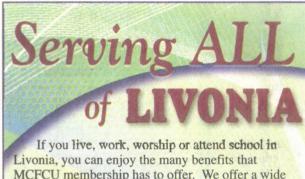
New movements joined the credit union family each year, and an increasing number of people were interested in celebrating their uniqueness and unity with a special holiday that could be enjoyed by everyoneregardless of religion, political beliefs, cultural differences or language.

ness of and support for the credit union difference. This year's theme, "Credit Unions Build a Better World," celebrates the important economic and social contributions credit unions make to their communities worldwide. It also aligns cooperatively owned and controlled credit unions with the greater cooperative business sector and the United Nations, which will launch the **International Year of Cooperatives 2012 lat**er this year.

Credit unions are recognized as a force for positive economic and social change and have provided significant value in both developed and emerging nations. World **Council of Credit** Unions (WOCCU), the international trade association and development agency for credit unions worldwide, and numerous national credit union trade associations and federations around the world sponsor **International Credit** Union Day.

tated Germany in 1846-1847, Hermann Schulze-**Delitzsch and Friedrich** Wilhelm Raiffeisen created the first true credit unions in the mid-19th century. After organizing a cooperatively owned mill and bakery, Schulze-Delitzsch founded the first "people's bank" in 1852 to provide credit to entrepreneurs in the city. Raiffeisen had established a credit society in Flammersfeld, Germany in 1849 that depended on the charity of wealthy

As time passed, a desire emerged to establish an annual occasion to acknowledge both the credit unions' important role in creating opportunity for their members and communities and the achievements of pioneers who laid the foundation Many credit unions and leagues began to distribute publications; banners, slogans and kits, and Credit Union Day became an international celebration.



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A12.(P) THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2011 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

BUSINESS

BRAD KADRICH, EDITOR

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Cupcake Station up for circus honor

Barnum 200SM invites metro Detroiters with a penchant for all things sweet and circus-themed to attend the Barnum 200SM Birthday Cupcake Bash from 10 a.m. to noon, Wednesday, Nov. 9, inside the Wintergarden at Detroit's GM Renaissance Center.

The event puts the icing on top of Barnum 200SM, the biggest birthday bash in circus history, coming Nov. 9-13, to the Palace of Auburn Hills. Barnum 200SM celebrates P.T. Barnum's 200th birthday. Those attending the Birthday Cupcake Bash, prior to the show's opening night, will have a chance to enjoy sweet treats, receive free show vouchers and more.

Highlighting metro area cupcakeries, including Plymouth's Cupcake Station, Detroit's Birthday Cupcake Bash contestants will compete cupcake-to-cupcake to design a creative and innovative Barnum 200SM themed birthday monument using only 200 pre-baked cupcakes.

Their creations will be judged by local media and celebrities, based on original design, attention to detail, taste and connectivity to the circus.

The creations are limited only by participants' imaginations.

The winner will serve as the guest announcer welcoming audiences on opening night, 7:30 p.m.



The winner of the cupcake competition gets to present Ringmaster Johnathan Lee Iverson with the winning design prior to the show.

Wednesday, Nov. 9, for Barnum 200SM. Additionally, the winning pastry chef will have the opportunity to present Ringmaster Johnathan Lee Iverson with the winning design prior to the show.

Participating judges for the BARNUM 200SM Birthday Cupcake Bash include Ringmaster Johnathan Lee Iverson of Barnum 200SM; Ashlee Baracy, Local 4 Traffic, WDIV; Joe Hakim, co-founder, TheHungry-Dudes.com; Annette Janik, Detroit community

manager, Yelp.com; Chef Tom Keshishian, host of Dining in the D (PBS).

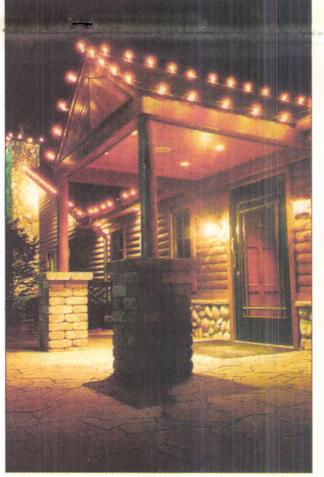
Barnum 200SM takes place Nov. 9-13. Tickets start at \$13 with a limited number of VIP floor seats also available starting at \$35. All seats are reserved and available at www.Ringling.com, Ticketmaster or the Palace of Auburn Hills box office.

For more information or to connect with participating cupcake bakeries or judges, contact Stephanie Casola at (313) 567-5048 or casola@franco.com.

PLYMOUTH CHAMBER CHAT

Gala auction

Tickets how on sale for the November Chamber Gala Auction featuring Dick Purtan as the emcee



PLYMOUTH BUSINESS BRIEFS

Business News

From the desk of the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority

 Bagel Fragel is expected to begin renovations for its new restaurant. Look for it to open in the former Jeff Zak Catering space within a couple of months.

· Zin Wine Bar & Restaurant (formerly Grape Expectations) along with Kecskes, Gadd & Silver and Core Sport Pilates Studio are hosting a fundraiser on Tuesday, Oct. 25, benefiting the Haiti Orphan Rescue Program. There will be door prizes, silent auction items, entertainment and food from Plymouth's newest restaurant.

The event will take place from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Zin Wine Bar located at 555 Forest Ave. A donation of \$20 can be made at the door.

 The DDA Board gave its approval to Robert Kolo, owner of the new Panache 447 restaurant on Forest to establish valet parking for a 90-day trial period. The board voted in favor of allocating the use of six parking spaces in front of the restaurant for valet service, which would allow valets to transfer the cars to the Westchester Square parking lot leased from owner Dennis Pennington on Thursday through Sunday.

The plan is to park customers in a separate lot, leaving more parking available on Forest. Final details will be established. The request now goes to the City Commission, which must give its approval at a future meeting.

Pink cupcakes

The Cupcake Station is creating specially-decorated cupcakes to support Breast Cancer Awareness. For the whole month of October, the store will bake chocolate and vanilla cupcakes frosted with pink or white buttercream and topped with a pink breast cancer awareness ribbon.

The Cupcake Station will donate \$1 for each Breast Cancer Awareness cupcake sold. All Cupcake Station locations will join in this effort and all proceeds will go to help local Breast Cancer Foundations.

The Cupcake Station is located at 318 S. Main, across from Kellogg Park.

Better Made benefit

Better Made Snack Foods will donate partial proceeds for the sale of specially marked bags of delicious Better Made Snack Products to the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute as part of the October Breast Cancer Awareness Program. The funds will be used to do further research to find a cure for breast cancer

"The Better Made Snack Foods Breast Cancer Awareness Program was a huge success in 2010 and we are glad to be a part of it this year, as well," said Mike Esseltine, vice president of sales for Better Made Snack Foods. "The support we receive from the major chains and independent stores throughout Michigan allowing us to place pink displays to support this event is tremendous. It is a great feeling to see everyone put a big effort into such a worthwhile cause allowing us to make a donation in the fight against cancer. The spirit and heart of many people throughout this great state always shows up in the results of this program."

For more information, please visit www.bettermadesnackfoods.com. You may also follow Better Made on Facebook and Twitter. Michigan Made - Better Made.



The Cupcake Station will donate \$1 for each Breast Cancer Awareness cupcake sold in October. SUN Noon-9 pm

Join Our New Short Season Mixed League and

GET a

Tickets are \$75 and include Purta

dinner, dancing and auctions all wrapped

up in one **GROOVY-FUNKY** eve-

ning. Those who buy tickets by Oct. 15 will receive \$10 worth of raffle auction tickets per guest to use at the event.

To order tickets call the chamber at (734) 453-1540.

After Hours

The Plymouth Community and Northville **Chambers of Commerce** will hold a joint After Hours Oct. 26 at one of the area's most popular restaurants, Karl's Cabin.

This will give members from both Chambers the opportunity to meet each other in a relaxed setting, enjoying delicious food along with a cash bar. These joint events with neighboring Chambers are always great opportunities to network with people who are right in our backyard.

There is no fee to attend this event; RSVP by Oct. 24 to teri@plymlouthchamber.org or call (734) 453-1540. Karl's Cabin is located at 6005 Gotfredson.

Drop-in theater

The Plymouth Community Arts Council is offering theater classes for kids and adults through Dec. 12. Theat-

The Plymouth Community and Northville Chambers of Commerce will hold a joint After Hours Oct. 26 at Karl's Cabin, 6005 Gotfredson.

rical Movement and the Art of Improv (schoolage thru adult); Learn to Love Auditions (schoolage thru adult) and Introduction to Acting Techniques and Methods (age 10 thru adult). Classes are \$15 for members and \$18 for non-members.

For more information call (734) 416-4278 or visit www.plymoutharts.com/ drop-in-theatre-classes.

Wicked **Halloween Run**

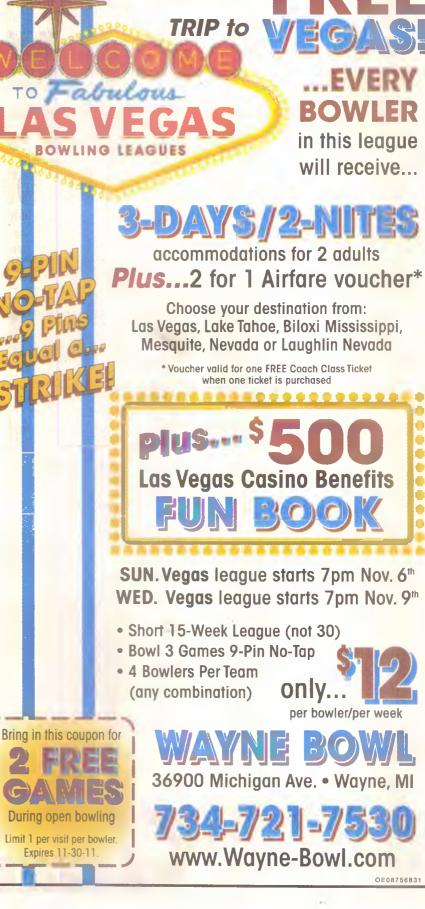
Elite Sports Marketing is holding a Halloween run Oct. 30. There will be a 10K run, 5K run/walk and a "Monster Mile." All events start in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth beginning at 8:15 a.m. All participants receive a T-shirt. After the run there will be entertainment, food and a costume contest.

To register, go to www. wickedhalloweenrun. com. For questions, email awhitehead2009@ gmail.com.

Shocktober series

The Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth is hosting the Shocktober Classic Series of movies, featuring:

• Oct. 20, "Bride of Frankenstein," 7 p.m. • Oct. 27, "Abbott & Costello Meet the Killer," 7 and 9 p.m.



Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

Franchise can work, but proceed with caution

By Rick Bloom Guest Columnist

ver the last few weeks a number of people have asked my opinion about franchises so I thought it would make an interesting column. Many people who find themselves without a job are looking at franchises as an opportunity to work again. Franchises do provide opportunities for many people. However, not all franchises are alike. It's sort of like mutual funds - there are good mutual funds and there are bad mutual funds. The same



Rick Bloom

The first issue is deciding whether a franchise is for you. Remember, what you are purchasing with a franchise is a business that comes with its own methodology, rules and regulations as to how it is run. Just because

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you purchase a franchise doesn't mean you can do whatever you want with that business. Some franchises have stricter rules than others, however, they all have rules. Therefore, if you are very entrepreneurial and like to tinker with a business, you may find that a franchise is not for you. On the other hand, if you're an individual who likes the idea of everything in place, a franchise is something that you may wish to consider.

Before you get involved with a franchise it is important to understand the fees involved. Some people are

under the misunderstanding that once you purchase the franchise there are no other fees but that is not the case. Just about every franchise has some sort of ongoing fee structure. In addition, there may be separate advertising charges that you are responsible for as the franchisee. Understanding all the fees involved in purchasing and operating franchise is important.

I always recommend to anyone who's purchasing a franchise is that they talk to other franchisees. You'd be amazed at how much information you can find. A franchisee is the pur-

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chaser while the franchisor is the company establishing the franchise. Talking to others will give you a good idea as to how the franchisor runs things. A good franchisor makes it easier to be successful.

I cannot stress enough how important it is to research a franchise inside and out before you invest your money. Franchises may be easy to buy but they also can be somewhat difficult to sell. Do your homework before you invest your hard-earned money.

It also makes sense to have an accountant review the financial information.

Not all franchises are profitable and it's important that someone with an expert eye review the numbers. In addition, I strongly recommend having an attorney review the legal documents. When you enter into a franchise there are lots of obligations you are assuming and it's important to know those up front. It's also important that you know your rights.

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

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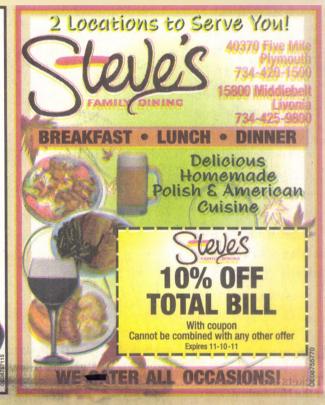
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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, October 20, 2011



PAGE A14.(P) THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2011 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

OPINION

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

OUR VIEWS

Go pink Beating breast cancer is everyone's fight

If you've been wearing pink this month, then you probably know that this is Breast Cancer Awareness month, a local, state, national and international effort to increase public knowledge about the importance of early detection of breast cancer and to encourage women to get screened for this deadly disease.

Although October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, breast cancer does not confine itself to a 31-day period: It is a relentless, daily reality for millions of women and their families. According to the National Cancer Institute, there are more than 194,000 new cases and 40,000 deaths per year in the U.S. In addition, there are currently more than 2.5 million women alive who have had

Breast cancer is the third *most commonly* diagnosed cancer cancer in Michigan in Michigan and is the most frequently diagnosed cancer among Michigan women. It's estimated there will be 1,320 deaths due to breast cancer and 7,890 new cases diagnosed this year.

a history of breast cancer. Breast cancer is the third most com-

The first Breast **Cancer Awareness** observance took place in October 1985 and 26 years later, the message is still the same: The best way for a woman to reduce the risk of

dying from breast cancer is early detection, through regular self-examinations and scheduling annual mammograms after the age of 40.

Breast cancer is the second most common cancer in women after skin cancer. It is

COMMUNITY VOICE

Do you sympathize with the Occupy Wall Street protesters?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



"I'm going tonight (to a Detroit organizing meeting). ... I think the financial institutions and the big banks have gotten us into this economic rest of the world." mess, and they've gotten away scot free." **Terry VanLoon** Plymouth



"Not very much. Like somebody pointed out, the fact that they're Americans puts them in the top 5 percent of the

Katie Wyant Westland



"I can respect them for doing that, at least." Joe Kowal Plymouth

why sometimes (people) think Wall Street's been a bit greedy." **Bhavin Patel** Canton Township

"Yeah. I used to work

on Wall Street, so I know

LETTERS

Jobs an icon

My heart goes out to the family of Steve Jobs, his friends and colleagues. He was an American icon and one of the greatest visionaries of our time. His passing is such a great loss for our country.

I did not know him personally but I shared something in common with him ----- pancreatic cancer. I lost my grandmother, Helen Jagielski, and as a volunteer with the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network I have now become a member of a community dedicated to fighting this terrible disease

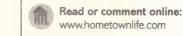
Mr. Jobs' passing occurred just a few days before our Detroit affiliate's third annual PurpleStride walk at the Detroit Zoo. Nearly 4,000 walkers were in attendance to honor those who have lost their battle with the disease, including Mr. Jobs, and to support those who continue to fight it

Although Mr. Jobs battled a rare form of pancreatic cancer (pancreatic neuroendocrine tumor) his passing, if due to the disease, serves as a harsh reminder of the relentlessness of this deadly cancer and the lack of pre-screening methods and effective treatment options available. We must take action to ensure scientific progress is made to give pancreatic cancer patients a fighting chance. We need our members of Congress to co-sponsor and pass the Pancreatic Cancer Research & Education Act (S. 362/H.R. 733) so that we will have the necessary funding to make true progress against this disease. To learn more about this important legislation and how you can make a difference, visit www.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content Submit letters via the following for-

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com.



mats

Deadline: Letters must be received by 10 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

knowitfightitendit.org.

I hope all those inspired by Jobs will honor his memory by joining the fight against pancreatic cancer. Together we can know, fight and end this deadly disease Christina Jagielski

Plymouth

as a volunteer in the schools and her work on reducing the amount of students in a classroom have proven her commitment.

I can only hope that the M&M candidates are fine citizens dedicated to providing an excellent education to our students. However, resorting to dirty politics and besmirching the character of others because you want to win an election is not the kind of behavior I would like leading my school district.

> **Tia Barbero** Canton

Three letters too many

During the recent debt ceiling debate I called Rep. Thaddeus McCotter's office to urge the congressman to work with the president and find compromise and avoid a financial crisis.

As we all know, a crisis was avoided but the situation should never have gone as far as it did.

Recently in response to my calls to

monly diagnosed and is the most frequently diagnosed cancer among Michigan women. It's estimated there will be 1,320 deaths due to breast cancer and 7,890 new cases diagnosed this year.

the second-leading cause of cancer death in women after lung cancer, and is the leading cause of cancer death among women ages 35 to 54.

About one in every eight women will develop the disease in her lifetime and while the disease is about 100 times more common among women, some men do contract it. According to the American Cancer Society, an estimated 1,910 new cases of invasive breast cancer were expected to be diagnosed among men in the United States in 2010.

Every woman is at risk of developing breast cancer, so early detection is the key to survival. While early screening for breast cancer can reduce deaths by more than 20 percent, only 56 percent of Michigan women age 40 and older report experiencing appropriately timed breast cancer screening.

Likewise, mammography is a woman's best defense against breast cancer because finding it in early stages not only increase survival rates, it is less costly to treat than cancers that have progressed to a later stage and possibly spread to other areas of the body.

Despite billions of dollars spent on research over the last two decades, increased mammography screening and a plethora of pink products meant to increase "awareness," there hasn't been a significant reduction in the number of women dying from breast cancer. In 1991, 119 women died from breast cancer every day in the United States. Twenty years later, that number is 110 women every day.

Last year, the National Breast Cancer Coalition set Jan. 1, 2020, as the day to end breast cancer. While much of that will come from research, we can do our share to help eradicate the disease. We encourage women to take control of their own breast health by practicing regular self-breast examinations, getting mammograms as recommended, scheduling regular visits with their physician for breast care, following any prescribed treatment and learning as much as they can about breast cancer and breast health.

Wear pink and stay in the pink. Let's work together to end breast cancer once and for all.



Brad Kadrich, **Community Editor** Susan Rosiek, **Executive** Editor

Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

Dirty politics

Imagine my surprise when I went out this morning and found my "Sheila Paton for School Board" sign missing.

I am not surprised, though, since I have read campaign literature for the M&M Candidates which suggests that Sheila Paton (and other MEAendorsed candidates) lacks integrity, fiscal responsibility and does not have a commitment to providing quality teachers and education.

That is just wrong. I have known Sheila for many years and have found her to be a dedicated, intelligent, resourceful person committed to excellence in education. Her years

McCotter's office, I received a reply in letter form, actually three letters. One letter addressed to Chuck Tindall, one addressed to Charles Tindall and one addressed to Chuck Pindall, all addressed the same day, all stating the same thing and all received on the same day.

This not the first time this has happened. It shouldn't take a genius to see these are probably all the same person and with a little checking the duplications could be avoided. This is a prefect example of the wasteful spending our president speaks of and asks that we eliminate.

> **Chuck Tindall** Novi

GUEST COLUMN

Seniors can get preventive services at no cost thanks to Medicare changes

By Mary Ablan Guest Columnist

ore than many in our state, Michigan's seniors are struggling to make ends meet these days. Many face tough decisions such as whether to buy groceries or pay the electric bill. Even those doing well



Mary Ablan

know they have to pinch every penny in this uncertain economy.

Too often, health care is where seniors end up cutting corners to save money. As executive director of

Agencies on Aging Association, I know that the costs of health insurance and prescription medications are of constant concern to our senior citizens.

I also know how important it is to take care of our health as we get older, and especially to catch problems before they get serious or worsen. Many of us are in

and out of the doctor's office precisely because we took our health for granted when we were younger. And we all know people who would be alive today if they'd gone to a doctor sooner or managed their condition better.

The good news is that under the Affordable Care Act, Medicare beneficiaries now have better access to services that can make that happen. They no longer have to pay any co-payments or deductibles for basic services such as annual checkups and cancer screenings.

The not-so-good news is that only one in six Medicare participants is taking advantage of these life-saving services. We need to spread the word that they no longer have to pay co-pays or deductibles for preventative services such as:

 annual wellness visits, including a review of medical history and prescriptions;

 screenings for prostate. breast and cervical cancer;

mammograms;

 screenings for cardiovascular issues and diabetes:

counseling to quit smoking;

and

• flu, pneumonia and hepatitis B shots.

Combined with the prescription drug savings that the Affordable Care Act is providing, these Medicare changes are significantly cutting health care costs for Michigan's seniors. They're making it possible for more people in Michigan to be healthy and active workers, grandparents, volunteers and members of our communities. They're even saving lives.

I encourage you to make sure that the Medicare participants in your family know about the free preventative services available to them. These benefits and more are outlined in "Your Guide to Medicare's Preventive Services," a 26-page handbook that is available at some local locations or online at the Michigan Medicare/ Medicaid Assistance Program's website, www.mmapinc.org.

Mary Ablan is Michigan's executive director of the Area Agencies on Aging Association.

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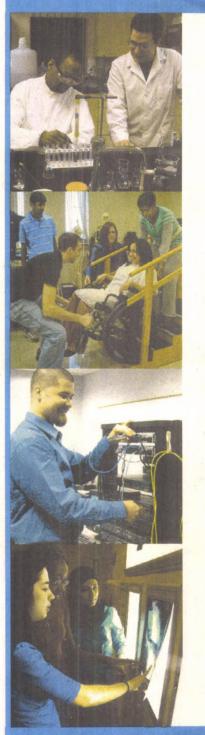
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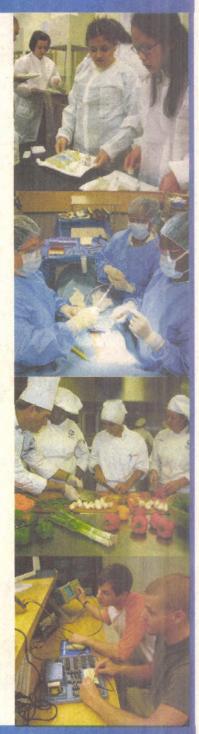
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INSIDE: RENZI TOURNEY REMEMBERS GREAT COACH, MOM, B3

SECTION B.(CP) THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2011 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR

tasmith1@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2106

GIRLS GOLF Plymouth 3rd in D1

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth did not win the Division 1 girls golf championship.

But the Wildcats accomplished every lofty goal short of that in a brilliant season capped by a third-place finish at the 2011 MHSAA Lower Peninsula Division 1 girls golf finals at Grand Valley State University's The Meadows.

And as a bonus, junior Kelsey Murphy's 74-84-158 scorecard for the finals was good for third place overall.

"At the beginning of the year, we set our team goals and reached every goal," Plymouth head coach Chris Moore said. "Division champs, conference champs, regional champs and Top 5 in the state."

The Wildcats — 10-0 in the KLAA South Division — trailed champion Grosse Pointe South (692) and Rochester Hills Stoney Creek (713). Plymouth's two-day tally of 732 took place despite harrowing weather conditions

"On Saturday, winds were blowing 35 to 40 (miles per hour) with gusts of over 55 mph," Moore noted. "The conditions were far from ideal. However, the girls showed a lot of perseverance."

Murphy did not let the wind keep her from finishing her season strong.

"Kelsey's experience in playing in poor conditions at tournaments throughout her golfing career gave her an advantage against most of the field," Moore emphasized. "She made some great decisions on the course which kept her in the hunt for the individual title."

Murphy came within five strokes of earning co-medalist honors. The top finisher was Gabby Yurik of Stoney Creek, with a 78-75-153. In second place was East Kentwood's Sarah White (75-82-157)

Other Plymouth finishers included Sarah Thompson (88-89-177), Sydney Murphy (95-96-191), Danielle Allen (97-109-206). Kayla Whatley (101 on Friday) and Lindsay Dean (121 on Saturday) also competed.

Canton's Maggie Deloy (left) bumps the ball while teammate Erica den Boer (No. 13) stands ready. Both sparked the Chiefs to the **KLAA** Kensington Conference volleyball championship over Novi.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton spikes Novi for title

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

The KLAA Kensington Conference girls volleyball title was won and lost several times by both teams Tuesday night at Canton High

School Finally it was the host Chiefs to prevail at the end of an exhilarating five-set match against Novi.

CONFERENCE FINAL

ry in Game 4, and clinched the title with a rousing 23-21 win in the fifth game --- one that didn't seem like it would ever end.

The Chiefs were up 14-9 needing just one more point to seal the deal. But the Wildcats wouldn't quit and came back to tie the game 15-15 behind the serving of senior outside hitter Katie Enright. Each team had subsequent chances to clinch the victory, but the job wasn't finished until Canton senior outside hitter Alaina Turner smoked a sizzling serve into the back row that the Wildcats could not handle for an ace.

"We knew this was going to be the first of three times we could possibly see them, at districts and possibly the (KLAA) tournament," Canton head coach Mary Kryska said. "So we knew we had to go in there, play smart, play hard."

All-out effort

The KLAA South Division champion Chiefs (33-7) won their first conference title since 1979, but it didn't look good after the Wildcats won Game 3 by a 25-13 count to take a 2-1 lead in games.

"Half of my team and most of my starters are seniors, so they put their heart out on the court," Kryska said. "Except for the one game

tsmith@hometownlife.com | (734) 718-5306

Canton trailed 2-1 before rallying for a 25-21 victo-

Please see SPIKERS, B3

Novi ousts Rocks

Salem's season came to an end Monday night, as the Rocks fell 3-1 to highpowered Novi in a Division 1 boys soccer district opener.

ł

The Rocks (8-9-4) got off to a good start. A throw-in by junior forward Chris Dierker was flicked on by senior defender Austin Covert to the far post, where sophomore midfielder Brady Cole chipped the ball into the Wildcats goal.

But host Novi (15-3-0) answered when Aaron Ouinley found the back of the Salem goal before the end of the first half.

In the second half, Novi



CHRIS JACKETT

Novi's Aaron Quinley (left) and Salem senior forward Jake Pascarella (No. 2) battle for the ball during Monday's district quarterfinal.

scored twice off counter attacks to take a lead for good.

"Although we played very well and were dangerous in the attack, we could not get the allimportant second goal," Salem head coach Ed McCarthy said. "(Senior forward) Jake Pascarella and (senior midfielder) Chris Ensor played very well in the loss. Novi is the most dangerous offensive team we have

played this year."

Novi moves on to face Plymouth on Wednesday for the chance to advance to the district final (1 p.m. Saturday at

Novi). PCA 11, HURON VALLEY 0: It was no contest Monday as host Plymouth Christian Academy scored all 11 goals during the first half to beat Westland Huron Valley Lutheran in a Division 4 district opener.

Dan Ross scored four goals and Ryan Machonga added two for the victorious Eagles.

Canton breezes to 2-1 win

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

Swirling wind and chilly temperatures provided an added challenge to Canton and Ann Arbor Skyline during Monday afternoon's Division 1 boys soccer district quarterfinal.

Because the conditions made it tougher to pass and control the ball, the game turned into one of trying to not make any glaring mistakes.

For the most part, the host Chiefs followed that script, scoring two goals in the second half for a 2-1 victory over the Eagles at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's varsity turf field.

"It was a little bit of a temperature shock to all of the boys because it was kind of a flat game in the beginning," said Canton head coach George Tomasso, about the 40something temps when the contest began. "As the



JOHN KEMSKI

Canton junior forward Daniel Ovesea (No. 9) controls the ball while Ann Arbor Skyline's Jeff Robbins (No. 7), Eric Brody-Moore (No. 10) and other Eagles play catch up.

game went on I thought both teams adapted well to create some sort of energy.

"I think when we broke through on the first goal it sparked both teams and both teams (played) well. The last 15 minutes it was

Please see SOCCER, B4

'As the game went on I thought both teams adapted well to create some sort of energy.' **GEORGE TOMASSO**, **CANTON COACH**

Making her move in the 500meter freestyle race on Tuesday night is Canton's Claire Green.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chiefs splash way to big win

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

In a showdown of campus and KLAA South Division rivals. Canton's varsity girls swimming and diving team earned a 102-84 victory over Plymouth

on Tuesday night. "This was an overall team effort," Canton head coach Ed Weber said. "I'm very proud of the way the girls prepared for their races.

"We still have divisions, conferences and states before the season is complete. But this was a nice win.'

Canton improved to 4-2 overall and 4-0 in the KLAA South while Plymouth dropped to 5-2 and 4-1.

The Chiefs captured all individual races with the Wildcats man-

aging to win just the 200- and 400-meter freestyle relays.

Each winning two events for Canton were Delaney Adams (200 IM, 2:16.25; 100 butterfly, 1:02.77); Destinee Barmore-Hicks (50 freestyle, 25.73; 100 free, 56.06); and Claire Green (200 free, 2:02.35; 500 free,

Please see SWIM, B4

LOCAL SPORTS

Sarnia rally stings Whalers in OT

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

B2

(CP)

The Plymouth Whalers are happy to have rugged forward Jamie Devane back with the Ontario Hockey League club. Now if he could just stick around for all 60 minutes.

Devane, a 6-5, 220pounder just returned from Toronto of the American Hockey League, scored just 18 seconds into Saturday night's game against Sarnia at Compuware Arena.

But Devane was kicked out of the game after a skirmish in the second period. That left a gaping hole for the Whalers — especially against the Sting's high-flying power play — and Plymouth let a late lead slip away, before losing 5-4 in overtime.

Plymouth, playing in the team's fourth annual "Pink Out! For Breast Cancer Awareness" game, led all night until left wing Reid Boucher scored with 1:11 left in the third to make it 4-4.

Then just 1:21 into OT, defenseman Anthony DeAngelo scored his first-ever OHL goal to give Sarnia the victory. "We took too many

dumb penalties, and there were some questionable calls," Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci said. "But we took some dumb penalties and you got to stay out of the box against their power play."

Some of Vellucci's frustration stemmed from the sequence that led to Devane's ejection, at the 13:17 mark of the second period and Plymouth leading 3-1.

Devane and Sarnia's Craig Hottot seemed to go at it near the Sting net. But Devane wound up with an instigator minor, a fighting major and game misconduct while Hottot merely collected a roughing minor.

"I thought it was a horrible call," Vellucci said. "The other guy punched him in the head three times and Jamie fought him and then they said he didn't have a fight. We'll have to figure out what that is all about."

Sting buzzes

In the third period, which began with Plym-



Plymouth Whalers forward J.T. Miller (No. 12) scores against Sarnia goalie and Canton native Brandon Hope late in the second period Saturday night on 'Pink Out! For Breast Cancer Awareness Night' at Compuware Arena.

outh leading 4-2, Sarnia outshot the Whalers 14-4 and kept the pressure on goaltender Scott Wedgewood (46 saves).

The Whalers hung on for a while. But hulking winger Brett Ritchie tipped a shot taken by right wing Nail Yakupov past Wedgewood to make it 4-3 with 5:53 remaining.

Then Boucher, stationed near the Plymouth goal crease, chipped in the rebound of a point shot by defenseman Alex Basso to send the game into overtime.

On the winner, Ritchie brought the puck down the left half-wall and sent a shot toward the Plymouth goal. But the puck hit a leg and bounced over to DeAngelo for the tap-in.

"A couple broken plays there," Wedgewood said. "But we have to bear down at the end of the game when you're playing with the lead.

"Still a young season, we've got time. Guys will learn, we'll grow as a team and we'll get better."

Plymouth (4-4-2-0) got off to a rousing start and Devane was in the middle of things.

Before nearly 2,500 Compuware fans were in their seats, Devane knocked in the rebound of a slapshot from Alex Aleardi (Farmington Hills) past Sting goalie and Canton native Brandon Hope.

Bonus bid

Another Hope rebound led to Plymouth's second marker, by center Mitchell Heard with 13:20 to go in the first.

"Plymouth comes out hard, it's their building and they're trying to set the tempo," said Hope, who stopped 25 of 29 shots before giving way to Brandon Maxwell for the third. "I just got to control those rebounds a little bit better."

Hope settled down, however, and kept his team from falling behind 3-0 with just under five minutes remaining in the first.

Aleardi broke in up the middle of the ice, cut in on Hope and tried to slip a backhander inside the left post. Hope's fully extended right pad denied Aleardi of his fifth goal of the season.

Yet even though a decent shot was taken,

officials ruled a penalty shot.

Aleardi thus had another chance, this time cutting wide to his right. But Hope stayed with the forward and stopped the stuff attempt at the right post with his left leg this time.

The two-goal cushion stayed until 10:51 left in the second when Yakupov tallied a power play marker. Sarnia went 2for-6 on the power play.

Plymouth took a 3-1 lead with 9:03 remaining. Heard, skating down the right wing, slipped a nifty pass over to center J.T. Miller above the left circle.

Miller one-timed a shot high over Hope's trapper for his first of two goals in the middle stanza.

Sarnia (7-1-0-1) scored again on the power play at 16:51 when Basso rocketed a shot from the left circle under the crossbar.

The Whalers answered with 45 seconds to go. Miller batted a rebound past Hope after Sarnia failed to clear the zone.

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Annapolis

Churchill

Pioneer

Central

Canton

77-29

6-8

YOUTH FOOTBALL



ED WRIGHT PHOTO

It's a bird, it's a plane, it's...Plymouth-Canton Steelers freshman football player Carson Miller flying through the air for additional yardage during his team's 20-13 victory over Dearborn Heights Saturday afternoon.

Steelers stymie 'Skins on homecoming

The Plymouth-Canton Steelers' varsity, junior varsity and freshmen squads continued their outstanding seasons Saturday by sweeping the powerful Dearborn Heights Redskins on homecoming at Central Middle School in downtown Plymouth. Scott Gregor. Defensively, the Steelers were paced by Luke Davis and Lou Baechler. The dramatic win sets up an Oct. 30 showdown with the unbeaten Canton Lions. The freshmen Steelers posted an impressive 20-13 win over the Redskins. Ben Bennett, Charlie Shreve and Carson Miller all found paydirt for the winners while the defense was led by the linebacking corps of Jake Cain, Bennett and Ben Wright; and defensive backs Logan Walkley, Mason Hackney and Shreve. The junior-freshmen Steelers dominated the Redford Rangers led by strong performances from Aidan Garbarino, Nate Cain, Luke Janack, Garrett Geyer, Adam Nicholas, Nolan Mathew and Spencer Vos. The Steelers scored five touchdowns while yielding just two first downs.

Area netters finish strong at Division 1 state tournament

By Brad Emons Observer Staff Writer

Clarenceville (3-5) at Annapolis (3-5), 7 p.m.

Churchill (5-3) at Stevenson (2-6), 7 p.m.

Franklin (4-4) at A.A. Pioneer (6-2), 7 p.m.

Salem (3-5) at Canton (6-2), 7:30 p.m.

Last week

Overall

John Glenn (4-4) at W.L. Central (5-3), 7 p.m.

Livonian Michael Trupiano brought home a state title at No. 3 singles in Saturday's MHSAA Lower Peninsula Boys Tennis Finals held at the Midland Community Tennis Center.

The junior from Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, seeded second, defeated top seed Kevin Mei of Ann Arbor Huron for the title, 6-1, 6-3.

Clarenceville

Churchill

Pioneer

Central

Canton

71-35

8-6

Clarenceville

Churchill

Pioneer

Central

Canton

11-3

85-21

Trupiano reached the championship final with a 6-0, 3-6, 6-1 semifinal victory over third seed Tyler Zdanowski of Ann Arbor Pioneer, following wins over Dan Dykens of Hol-



land West Ottawa, 6-0, 6-4, and Ben Greenman of Tra-

Annapolis

Churchill

Pioneer

Central

Canton

89-17

7-7

verse City West, 6-2, 6-2. Livonia Franklin senior Stephen Payne reached the quarterfinals at No. 1 singles before falling to eventual runnerup Andrew Cahn of West Bloomfield, 6-2, 7-6 (7-1 tiebreaker).

Cahn, the second seed, lost in the finals to Tyler Gardiner of Northville, 6-3, 5-7, 7-5, after defeating Livonian Michael Dube of CC in the semifinals, 6-2, 6-3.

Payne, who has over 100 career victories, captured his first two matches on Friday defeating Justin Betrus of Port Huron Northern, 6-3, 6-4, and Alex Swanson of Grand Blanc, 6-2, 6-2.

Dube, the third seed, advanced to the semifinals with victories over Jack Petersen of Ann Arbor Huron, 6-1, 6-3, and Richard Zhang of Troy Athens, 6-1, 6-1.

Huron captured the team title with 30 points, while Birmingham Brother Rice and CC took second and third with 26 and 24, respectively. Novi and Northville followed with 20 and 13.

bemons@hometownlife.com



The varsity improved to 7-0 with a defense-dominated 8-6 triumph over the Redskins.

The Steelers' junior-varsity also upped its record to 7-0 by posting a thrilling, come-from-behind 37-35 victory over the Redskins.

Trailing at one point, 22-0, the Steelers scored the winning TD with less than a minute to play. Sparking the comeback was quarterback Ryan Young, who ran in two scores and connected with Jacob Miller on a touchdown pass for a third. The Steelers' offensive lined was powered by Vincent VanDerRoest and

JV Lions score big

The Canton Lions Junior Varsity football improved their record to 6-0 with last weekend's 33-0 victory over the Ypsilanti Lincoln Railsplitters.

The Lions dominated from the onset scoring on their first three plays from scrimmage on the offensive side of the ball. First came a 32yard touchdown pass from **Evan Voyles to Victor** Abraham. The Lions kept the TD parade going after that, with Colton Wieloch throwing a 20-yard scoring strike to Joey Glunt, Miles Davenport registering a 48-yard TD run, Alan Farmer running it in from the 22 and Noah Brown finding the end zone on a 38-yard quarterback keeper.

Making the offense click was strong blocking from Radwan Al-mahayni, Ryan Cassidy, Chris Campbell, Tariq Woody, Julian Gocaj,



Mason Lamarand (No. 14) of the Canton Junior Varsity Lions rises high for an inception while Canon Misenko (No. 45) is there to help if needed on the play.

Jack Underwood, Zack Long, Nick Krone and Tyler Hernandez.

Defensively, the Lions shut out was led by Mason Lamarand (interception), Canon Misenko, Ryan Blas, Brad Tyszkiewicz, Wesley Askew, Kyle Amick, Kyrece Smith and Rubin Williams. LOCAL SPORTS

Renzi tourney keeps her memory alive

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

By all accounts, Kim Renzi was a shining star as a wife, mom, friend and — albeit ever so briefly freshman volleyball coach at Plymouth High School.

On Saturday at Plymouth, her spirit lit the gymnasium during the third annual Kim Renzi Memorial Tournament.

Visibly moved by the latest round of community goodwill was her widower, Todd Renzi of Canton. "She is here, I can feel it."

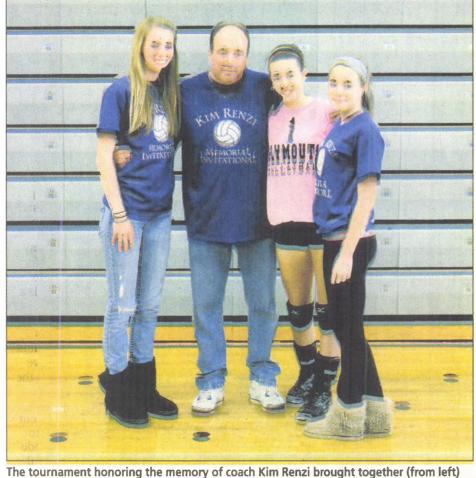
Also on hand were their daughters, 14-year-old Marina and Adeline, 12

"It's been great," said Renzi, whose eyes were rimmed in red from emotion. "The girls are playing great volleyball. All the parents and schools are doing great.

"I tell you what, I've been blessed with a lot of good friends and family but this community is incredible. I don't know what I would have done without the support of the Plymouth-Canton community, the whole school system and the parents involved. It's been terrific."

The "girls" he spoke about were the members of seven junior varsity teams and one freshman team who competed in the tournament.

There were two teams from Canton (including a freshman team), plus entries from Salem, Plymouth (including Marina Renzi, the first family member to play in the tournament), Livonia Franklin, Livonia Churchill, Westland John Glenn and Birmingham Seaholm.



a player from her 2008 Plymouth freshman volleyball team (Rachael Hille) and surviving family members Todd, Marina and Adeline Renzi.

Marina's team lost in the semifinals to Seaholm by identical 26-24 scores. The Maples then lost to the Canton 'A' team in the finals (the 'A' team being the JV squad).

The day was special for another reason - most of the players from Kim Renzi's only team (the 2008 Plymouth freshman squad) --- were reunited and spoke on the court following the conclusion of pool play.

Among those to speak was Taylor Pastor, who with her voice cracking told spectators about losing a parent herself.

"It's so hard to live without a parent," Pastor said. "And I just want to say she's watching down on you girls (Marina, Adeline). She's so proud of you."

Lasting impact

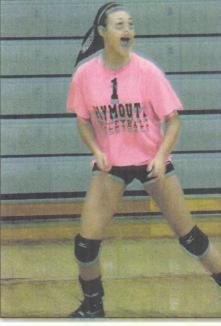
Before the reunion ceremony, Plymouth senior Rachael Hille talked about how special it was to have known and played for Kim Renzi.

"Being a freshman, coming into high school, it was a little scary," Hille stressed. "But she was always there for us, she helped us so much.

"Even though we only had her (as coach) for a little time, she made such an impact on every one of our lives.' Hille said Kim had a

way of calming players' nerves before games, simply by positive reinforcement and the art of visualization.

"She would always have us visualize before the game — visualize a good pass, visualize a good hit," Hille continued. "She'd say 'You girls can do this.' She always gave us that strength we needed. Even though she was becoming weaker, she always was



Marina Renzi, of Plymouth's junior varsity volleyball team, shouts encouragement to teammates during Saturday's Kim Renzi Memorial Invitational.

(CP)

B3

the rock for us." Saturday's was the

third memorial invite in Kim's honor, but it was the fourth overall. The first tournament came while the coach was battling the melanoma that took her life in the spring of 2009.

Hille also remembered that first Renzi tournament.

"Probably the best experience was, even though she was getting pretty sick, it was the first Renzi tournament," Hille said. "She got to come back and sit on the bench with us.

"And she was coaching us for one last time, to tell us to continue to be strong."

Then with a smile, Hille said "it's just awesome that we've kept doing this every single year. Not only for the girls, but to keep her memory alive because she was such a big part of this program still to this day."

Paying homage

Plymouth varsity coach Sarah Marody cited the

way the campus teams bonded together for the Renzi tournament, even cheering for each other

against non-Park rivals. "Around the gym all day you could see and hear the girls laughing and having a good time," Marody said. "But as Kim's former players recalled stories and memories, there wasn't a dry eye in the place."

There also was a 50/50 raffle and silent auction, along with the sale of tournament T-shirts and baked goods. All proceeds will go toward college scholarships for Marina and Adeline.

"They just love the sport, it's a way for them to pay homage to their mother," Todd Renzi said. "Especially with Marina playing today. She is so determined, and so excited.

"It (volleyball) definitely has been a big help to get them through this."

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SPIKERS

Continued from page B1

that we brutally lost we

tage. Kryska said it wasn't Enright's serving that led to the long surges, but rather a bad habit of mistakes becoming contabig contributions, with **Turner leading with 23** kills, along with three blocks and 17 digs.

Also strong up front was senior outside hitter Kristen Muir, who chipped in with 18 kills and 18 digs.

Other seniors to keep

the team afloat included

setter Lauren Martin (52

assists), right-side hitter

Maggie Deloy (27 digs,

seven kills), setter Jack-

right-side hitter Jordan

Tubaro (five kills, three

ie Waite (nine assists) and

blocks).

The Chiefs were boosted by the efforts of junior libero Becca Middleton (20 digs) and outside hitter Erica den Boer (33 digs, 19 kills).

put it all out there. "Front row, back row, I'm very pleased with how she played.' The coach said her team did a good job of mixing up the attack with an array of tips, changeof-pace shots and power shots --- although Turner, Muir and denBoer hammered the ball with regularity. "As you play better and better teams, hitting away you're not going to get a kill every sin-

gle time," she said. "They have great defense, they have great blockers. So we have to mix it up, especially against really good teams like Novi." Canton could very well have another test against the Wildcats at Saturday's association tournament. The Chiefs also are in the Novi-hosted districts, which begin on Nov. 1.

played well the whole time

"So even if that would have went one way or the other, I still would have been happy with how my team played."

Meanwhile, Novi head coach Ginette Parsley, whose Central Division champion Wildcats fell to 34-5-1, said her team will need to forget about the loss especially with Saturday's association tournament at Lakeland High School around the corner.

"We didn't hit the ball at all," said the dejected Parsley, who thought there wasn't the kind of consistency that the Wildcats have shown all season

One player who was consistent, and who gave the Chiefs fits, was Enright. She sent on a sixpoint serving streak in Game 2 to break a 15-15 tie and propel the Wildcats to a 25-19 win (which evened the match at 1-1; Canton won 25-20 in the opener).

Then in the third set, Enright poured it on with 12 service points in a row. That turned a Canton lead into a 19-9 Novi advan-

gious throughout the lineup at times.

That the Chiefs were able to rebound to polish off the final two games "comes with maturity, that comes with senior leadership, that comes with having a better mental game this year," Kryska noted.

Canton's seniors made

Variety helps

Kryska praised den Boer's performance as

one of the night's best. "Today, she put it all out there," Kryska said. "She knew this was a once in a lifetime chance right now to get conference and she

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ton senior outside hitter Alaina Turner (No. 3).

Showing her vertical leap to spike the ball Tuesday is Can-

Salem spikers down Rockets

Salem's season took a turn for the better with Tuesday's victory over Westland John Glenn in a KLAA girls volleyball crossover match.

The Rocks (4-8 overall, 4-7 in the KLAA Central Division) defeated the Rockets in four sets (25-13, 15-25, 25-16, 25-15).

According to Salem head coach Amanda Nies, the serving of Quinn Fillinger was a big factor.

"We started off close in the first game and were tied at 10-10 (and) from then on we went on a big

run with Quinn Fillinger serving," Nies said. "We served them short and that seemed to be their weakness in game one. Quinn ended the night with a total of four aces."

After the Game 2 loss, the Rocks rebounded thanks to some assertive offense from Brooke Berberet (16 kills) and Erika Hatcher (12 kills), among others.

"We had great outside attacking nights from **Brooke Berberet and** Erika Hatcher," Nies noted. "Erika did an outstanding job tonight with

her consistency. We have been working on her approach and different attack styles and she put it all together tonight. It was great to watch."

Defensively Katie Vincent ran the show with 17 digs while Katie Heitmeyer had eight digs along with two aces.

Other players helping the cause were Kara Hewett (five kills, two blocks), Kelly Whalen (five kills, three blocks) and Nancy Krutty (10 assists). Fillinger ended up with 25 assists to lead Salem in that category.

B4 (CP)

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, October 20, 2011

LOCAL SPORTS

'Cats 1st at Gabriel Richard

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

Turning the page from the Wayne County Invitational, Plymouth's varsity boys cross country team showed more consistency while capturing Saturday's Gabriel Richard Invitational in Division 1 at Hudson Mills Metropark.

Earning a secondplace trophy in Division 4 of the Gabriel Richard invite was Plymouth Christian Academy.

According to Plymouth head coach Jon Mikosz, the first-place finish of 52 points (edging Ann Arbor Pioneer, 55) helped take the sting out of the sixth-place finish at the Wayne County meet.

"The guys are starting to run more consistently and are bouncing back after a bad showing at Wayne County last week," Mikosz said. "We beat Churchill and now winning this invite shows that we are getting back on track.

"Pioneer is a good team and a team we will have to beat again if we want to go to the state meet this year."

SWIM

Continued from page B1

Collecting single wins

were Emily Lang (1-

meter diving, 149.65

Hannah Jenkins (100

breaststroke, 1:12.40).

The tandem of Orr.

Adams, Jenkins and

Barmore-Hicks took

first with a time of

The Chiefs also won

in the 200 medley relay.

points), Caitlin Orr (100

backstroke, 1:03.64) and

5:23.52).

For the Wildcats, senior Derek Gielarowski finished second with a time of 16:37.5 — not far off the pace of overall medalist Sam Taneilian of Clarkston (16:27.6).

Also finishing for Plymouth were senior Jimmy Maciag (12th, 17:16), sophomore Liam Cardenas (13th, 17:18), sophomore Zane Berlanga (14th, 17:18), senior Nick Eiben (30th, 18:02) and senior Garrett Neumann (31st, 18:07).

Eagles soar

As for PCA, the Eagles tallied 72 points for second spot behind Lutheran Westland's 67.

Head coach Jennifer Lemieux said it was the team's first trophy in a number of years, with four runners medaling in the top-20.

Those were Trevor Baloga (12th, 19:44), Jimmy Parks (13th, 19:52), Ethan Levack (16th, 19:55) and Ian Rose (17th, 19:59).

She also cited the performances of Jacob Nichols (33rd, 21:10), Steven Zomermaand (39th, 21:41) and Nathan Harold (48th, 22:54). In the women's division, Terra Crown was fifth and Megan McHugh 26th.

Rocks solid

Salem's varsity boys cross country team placed fourth out of seven teams at Friday's River Rat Open with 80 points.

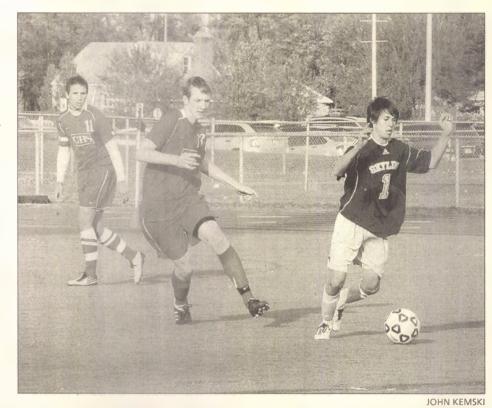
According to Rocks head coach Steve Aspinall, it was a good tuneup for Thursday's KLAA championship meet with 15 of 27 runners earning personal or season's bests.

"Our only objective at this meet was to run evenly paced and our results showed that we did," Aspinall noted.

Steve McEvilly finished strong to move up from 50th place at the one-mile marker to fifth overall.

Also moving up with a strong finish were Riley Doxtader (13th), Jeremy Drouillard (25th) and Donovan Drouillard (27th).

Also earning medals were freshman Lewis Campbell, junior Alex Creekmore, sophomore Evan Bruyere and freshman Noah Engerer.



Canton senior defender Conner Hicks (No. 13) closes in on Ann Arbor Skyline's Casey MacDonald (No. 1) during Monday's boys soccer district opener. In the background for the Chiefs is senior defender Connor Furgason (No. 11).

SOCCER

Continued from page B1

a good game to watch." Canton, now 16-1-1 (not including the Balconi Invitational), advanced to Wednesday's semifinal against either Ann Arbor Huron or Northville. The final will be 1 p.m. Saturday at Novi High School. After a scoreless first half that did not feature many good scoring opportunities, the Chiefs

ture many good scoring opportunities, the Chiefs started cranking up the offense early in the second half.

Tic-tac-toe

Canton finally broke through with 22:26 remaining with senior cocaptains Mitch Posuniak and Connor Furgason bookending the scoring play.

Posuniak threw the ball in from near the right corner, and it was flicked on by senior midfielder Nate Bergeson, stationed inside the box. The ball bounded over in front of the Skyline goal and Furgason drilled it inside the left post for the first tally of the game. "We practice that play

a lot," Furgason said. "Mitch throws it in to Nathan Bergeson and he tries to flick it on to me and luckily it got there to the center of the goal and I finished it."

The Eagles (10-5-5) turned up the pressure in a bid to even things up.

A Canton turnover gave Skyline an opportunity with about 18 minutes to go, but the Eagles were unable to work the ball past the last line of defenders.

Skyline senior Jeff Robbins did put a hard shot on the Canton goal with 15 minutes remaining. His line-drive direct kick from 30 yards out curved toward the left post, but Chiefs senior goalkeeper Steven Murphy dove to his right to snag it.

The Eagles were called for offsides to negate a Robbins goal with 12 minutes to play.

Canton then made it 2-0

with 3:41 left. A nifty feed up the middle by junior forward Daniel Ovesea got it started.

Posuniak fielded the pass and sprinted in before ripping a low shot past Skyline senior Erik Lundberg, who came out of his goal to challenge.

That turned out to be the actual winning goal because the Eagles finally scored with 1:36 remaining.

Junior Peter Bakker got on the end of Robbins' corner kick and nudged the ball past Murphy.

"Ann Arbor Skyline did a great job to create their chances, and if the whistle went the other. way it could have easily been a 2-2 game," Tomasso said. "I give a lot of credit to (head coach) Chris Morgan and their scouting program. They're well on their way."

Skyline is in its fourth season, having opened as a high school in 2008-09.

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1:58.15. Plymouth emerged victorious in the 200 free relay with the quartet of Stephanie Matsui, Emily Wein-



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Plymouth's Stephanie Matsui keeps up the pace in the 500-yard freestyle race during Tuesday's dual meet against Canton.



100 butterfly: 1. Adams (C), 1:02.77; 2. Erickson (P), 1:05.00; 3. Plencner (P), 1:05.23. 100 freestyle: 1. Barmore-

er, Carolyn Stoddard and Emily Toro finishing in 1:45.33. The Wildcats also won in the 400 free relay. Teaming up to win in 3:51.17 were Matsui, Linda Erickson, Weiner and Toro.

Following are meet results:

CANTON 102 PLYMOUTH 84 Oct. 20 at PCEP

200-yard medley relay: 1. Canton (Caitlin Orr, Delaney Adams, Hannah Jenkins, Destinee Barmore-Hicks), 1:58.15; 2. Plymouth (Alexa Earls, Linda Erickson, Lydia Plencner, Lexi Ethier), 1:59.76; 3. Canton (Mackenzie Dugas, Abby Madison, Rachel Barszcz, Faith Goodwin), 2:06.22.

200 freestyle: 1. Claire Green (C), 2:02.35; 2. Stephanie Matsui (P), 2:03.39; Working toward a firstplace finish in the 100-yard breaststroke Tuesday is Canton's Hannah Jenkins.

3. Madeline Madison (C), 2:04.57.

200 individual medley: 1. Adams (C), 2:16.25; 2. Emily Toro (P), 2:16.40; 3. Jenkins (C), 2:19.34. 50 freestyle: 1. Barmore-Hicks (C), 25.73; 2. Emily Weiner (P), 26.82; 3. Ethier (P), 27.20.

1-meter diving: 1. Emily Lang (C), 149.65 points; 2. Megan McKeehan (P), 147.15; 3. Melissa Green (C), 140.00. Hicks (C), 56.06; 2. Weiner (P), 57.73; 3. Ethier (P), 59.27 500 freestyle: 1. Green (C), 5:23.52; 2. M. Madison (C), 5:32.84; 3. Carolyn Stoddard (P), 5:35.59. 200 freestyle relay: 1.

Plymouth (Matsui, Weiner, Stoddard, Toro), 1:45.33; 2. Canton (Jenkins, M. Madison, Adams, Barmore-Hicks), 1:45.46; 3: Plymouth (Lydia Matson, Lauren Wischer, Caylin Waters, Casey Wing), 1:52.62.

100 backstroke: 1. Orr (C), 1:03.64; 2. Erickson (P), 1:07.15; 3. Dugas (C), 1:07.60. 100 breaststroke: 1. Jenkins (C), 1:12.40; 2. Toro (P), 1:14.05; 3. A. Madison (C), 1:18.21.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Matsui, Erickson, Weiner, Toro), 3:51.17; 2. Canton (Orr, Green, A. Madison, M. Madison), 3:57.51; 3. Plymouth (Ethier, Plencner, Stoddard, Earls), 4:02.50.



South champs

The Canton varsity boys cross country team celebrates after winning the KLAA South Division championship on Oct. 11 at Cass Benton Park in Northville.





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Ocelots slip by Ancilla

Tom Nevill's unassisted goal – his 14th of the season – enabled the Schoolcraft College men's soccer team to remain unbeaten with a 1-0 victory Sunday over Ancilla College of Indiana.

Nevill's game-winning goal came in the 61st minute as the Ocelots, ranked No. 1 in the latest NJCAA Division I coaches poll, improved to 18-0 overall, 14-0 in Region XII and 8-0 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

Schoolcraft outshot Ancilla 11-1, as Alex Howe made 10 saves in a losing cause.

The Ocelots' Tom Duquette needed only one save to preserve the shutout.

The loss dropped Ancilla to 7-6-1 overall and 2-4-1 in the MCCAA.

On Saturday, Schoolcraft earned a 3-0 win over Muskegon Community College thanks to goals by Nevill (from Ryan Lemaster) in the

MEN'S SOCCER

43rd minute; Juan Garcia (from Anthony Lourenco) in the 63rd; and Gino Pasquali (from Nate Motta) in the 81st.

Schoolcraft goalkeeper Scott Shewfelt made one save in the win, while Muskegon (9-7-1, 4-3-1) got four saves from Tyler Lane. CORNERSTONE 1, MU 0: Isaac Grotenhuis notched his ninth goal of the season in the 88th minute to give Cornerstone University (9-5, 3-0) the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference victory Saturday over host Madonna University (5-7-2, 1-2-1) in a match played at Livonia Stevenson High School. Junior goalkeeper Adrian Motta (Livonia Churchill) made five stops for MU in suffering his fifth loss of the season.

Kyle Breckan made just one for the Golden Knights in a physical match that featured the two sides whistled for 37 fouls and four yellow cards handed out.

"Cayle (Lackten), Franco (Giorgi) and Derek (Rosiek) all played well today," said MU coach Eric Scott said. "Give credit to Cornerstone, they created and took their chance well." RELIGION

Rosary rally draws Catholics for prayer

A crowd of 206 individuals braved a strong, cold wind Saturday, Oct., 15, to pray the Rosary at Madonna University.

The Rosary Rally was organized by Livonia resident Ron Danowski, with help from Paul Daniel and the Knights of Columbus at St.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A crowd withstands cold, damp weather to pray with rosary beads in the parking lot at Madonna University.

Send calendar items to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@ hometownlife.com. Or mail items to Dargay, Observer, 615 Lafayette, Level 2, Detroit, MI 48226.

Oct. 20-26

BOOK SALE

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Oct. 21-22 Location: St. Matthew's United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia Details: Used books and boutique Contact: (734) 718-5040

CLOTHING

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22 Location: 41920 Joy Road, between Lilley and Haggerty, Canton

Details: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank will give free clothing and shoes to

RELIGION CALENDAR

PUMPKIN PATCH

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.Oct. 17-22, noon-6 p.m. Oct. 23, 10 a.m.-dark, Oct. 24-29 and noondark, Oct. 30

Location: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia Details: The church is partnering with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans to raise money for N.O.A.H. Project that helps the homeless in Detroit Contact: (734) 464-0211

SEMINAR

Time/Date: 2 p.m., Oct. 23 Location: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Details: Paul L. Maier, author, historian and fifth vice president of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, will present "How We Got the Bible." The seminar considers the vast assemblage of documents forming the 66 books of the Bible. Topics include "The World's Most Important Book," "Can We Be Confident in the Bible?" "Silencing the Old Testament Critics," "Did the Church Make Jesus Divine?" and "The High Price of an English Bible." Admission is free **Contact** (734) 522-6830; www. christoursavior.org

Oct. 27-Nov. 2

BLOOD DRIVE

Time/Date: 1-7 p.m. Oct. 28 Location: Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills Details: Call the American Red Cross to make an appointment Contact: (800) 733-2767

COAT EXCHANGE

Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Oct. 29 **Location:** St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile one block west of Inkster Paged in Liverpie

Road, in Livonia Details: The coat exchange will take place during the Fall Fun Festival. Participants who need a coat can take one. Coat donations will be accepted in the church office during business hours Contact: (734) 422-1470 FALL FESTIVAL Time/Date: 1-4 p.m., Oct. 29 Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: Family-oriented event with games, face painting, henna tattoos, bouncies, bake sale, and free cider and doughnuts. Participants may wear their costumes. Rain or shine **Contact:** Pastor R. Wright at (313) 682-7491

FUN FEST, BARBECUE

Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 29

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile one block west of Inkster Road, in Livonia

Details: Fall Fun Festival for children through 6th grade. There will be games, treats, fall activities and more. Church members will be in the parking lot to pass out treats as the children "Trunk or Treat" from car to car. The church encourages youngsters wear costumes for the event. Parents or guardians must accompany all children. Colette Parish in Livonia. Danowski created his first Rosary Rally in 2008.

"The weather was a challenge," Daniel said in an e-mail, "but we did our parts and we're all better for it."

The event was part of a nationwide campaign, Public Square Rosary Crusade, that aims to use public prayer to "save America," according to the America Needs Fatima website. In cities across the country, rally containg, like

ly captains, like Danowski, reg- A we istered their for ea events on the touch America Needs Fatima website and gathered the faithful to pray for peace and a solution to the country's problems.

The organization listed more than 7,000 rallies planned for Oct. 15. Locally, other ral-



A worshipper recites a prayer for each bead on the rosary she touches.

lies were organized in Plymouth and Farmington Hills.

Daniel said the Livonia group plans to participate in the campaign next year.



1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oeobits@hometownlife.com Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

PACE, CRAIG J.

Passed away in Toledo, Ohio on Sunday. October 16, 2011 at the age of 45. Beloved son of Nancy (Jim) Magyar and the late Dennis Pace. Stepson of Wanda Pace. Dear father of Sidnee. Brother of Mark (Deborah) Pace, Danny Pace and Tony Magyar. Nephew of Carol (William) Burger, Joe Barham and Martha (Lewis) Geiers. Also leaves behind his former wife Gina and numerous cousins. Beloved friend of Kenny and Faye McFarland. Visitation will be held on Friday from noon until the time of the Memorial services at Ipm at the Schrader Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth TATALE, RANDALL J.

Age 74, passed away October 11, 2011. A private family service was held. Arrangements entrusted to Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon. www.phillipsfuneral.com

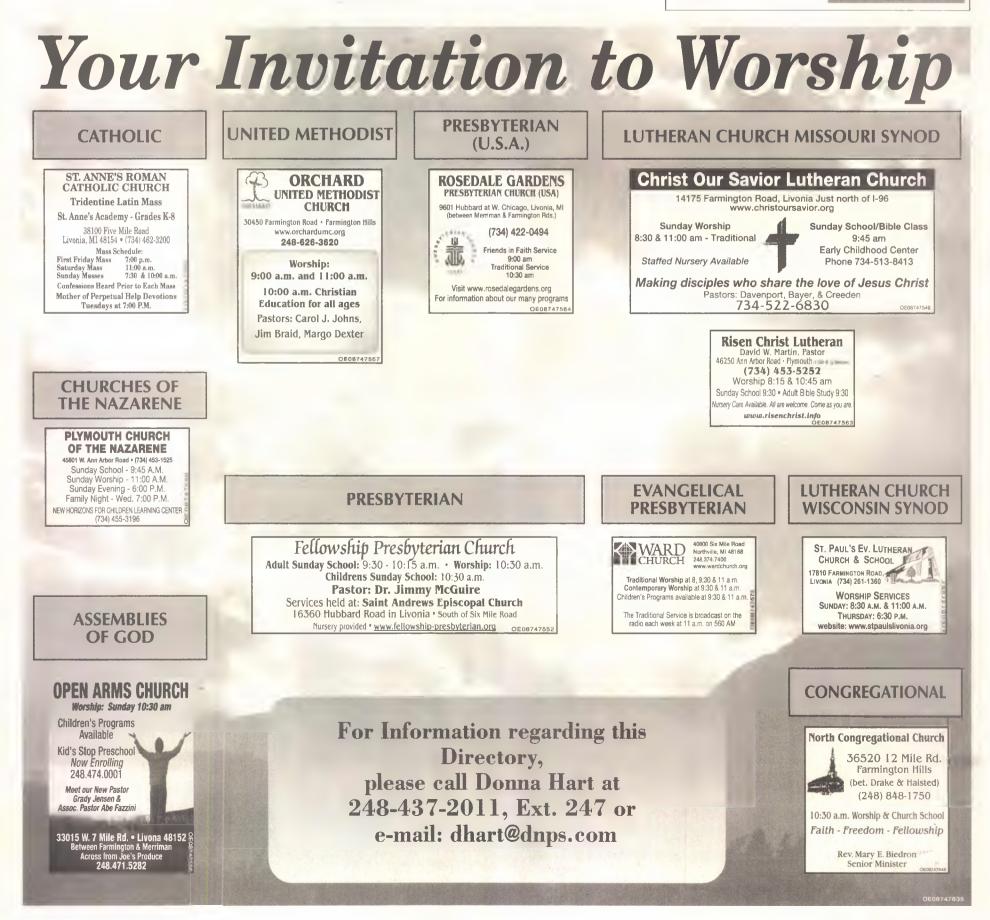


(*) **B5**

anyone in need **Contact:** (734) 927-6686 or (734) 404-2480

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B6.(*) THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2011 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

ENTERTAINMENT

Reading celebrates historic theater project

By Sharon Dargay O&E staff writer

Debbie Lannen and her cast of local actors will recreate a little bit of history Monday on the Village Theater stage in Canton.

They'll be among at least 21 groups nationwide to stage a reading of the Sinclair Lewis-John C. Moffitt play, It Can't Happen Here, honoring both the 75th anniversary of the Federal Theatre Project and its production of the drama.

"How I found out about it was through Facebook. I saw an event posting for a national reading and thought, what is that?" said Lannen, director.

The reading project was initiated by a performer named Darryl Henriques and cosponsored by two California-based theaters. The nationwide staged reading takes a cue from the original production which debuted Oct. 27, 1936 in 22 theaters in 18 cities, including Detroit.

The play, based on the book by Lewis, tells the fictional story of conservative politician, Berzelius Windrip, who promises to restore prosperity to the country during a time of unrest in America. After wining election to the presidency, he becomes a dictator, establishing his own militia, and outlawing free speech and a free press.

"I said, we have to do this. The play sounds cool. And the Lafayette Theatre in Detroit was one of the original



Lewis



This poster announced the debut of Sinclair Lewis' "It Can't Happen Here," 75 years ago at the Lafayette Theatre in Detroit.

theaters to present the play."

Actors from Spotlight Players, it's senior troupe — Still Got It Players — and other venues, including Meadow Brook Theatre and Oakland Community College, will read the original 1936 script. Lewis revised it in 1938.

Creative license

In researching the history of the play, Lannen discovered that troupes around the country put their own stamp on the work when it was originally performed. Jewish productions pointed toward what was happening in Europe at the time. Hispanic and African American shows focused on white dictatorship and minorities.

> 'They spun it their own way," Lan-nen said, adding that the Canton production "has no spin whatsoever."

"It's whatever anyone thinks of it.'

Lannen developed a brief PowerPoint presentation about the Federal Theatre Project that she'll show before the reading

"I've gone to the Library of **Congress Web** site and pulled up a lot of information on the Federal Theatre Project,' she said. "A lot of people have no idea it existed."

Employing millions

It was a part of the Works Progress Administration (WPA), that employed millions of Americans in public works projects, such as bridge and street construction, from 1935-43. The WPA also put



Hallie Flanagan administered the National Theater in the mid-1930s under the Federal Theater Project, a part of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) that put millions of Americans back to work after the Great Depression.

unemployed theater workers, circus performers, cabaret and vaudeville acts back to work through its Federal Theatre Project, which ran from 1935-39. The Project staged hundreds of theater productions, including classics and new works. Troupes toured shows and mounted them in cities across the country. "So much came from

this Project and no one knows about it. When you look at Facebook vou see these (staged reading) groups are all over the country. That's pretty exciting. That people will be talking about it and bringing to light what the National Theatre Project was is amazing."

Lannen also expects It Can't Happen Here will resonate with contemporary audiences nationwide.

"It's going to be one of those that people walk out of the theater talking about.'

The staged reading will start at 7 p.m., Monday, Oct. 24, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road. Admission is \$5. The box office opens an hour before the show; (734) 394-5300.







Crombez

Capeneka

Livonia youths add opera to acting resumes

Three young actors from Livonia are performing in *Carmina Burana and The Medium*, which runs through Oct. 23 at the Detroit Opera House.

Alex Capeneka, 14, Emily Crombez, 15, and Chailyn Bryce, 11, are among 45 young performers who are members of Michigan Opera Theatre's Youth Chorus (MOTCC). The group will perform in two main stage operas and one all-youth opera this season, as well as other events including the Detroit Christmas Tree Lighting and A Winter Fantasy.

Alex is in his third season with MOTCC. He has performed in MOT productions of La Boheme, Tosca, Cincinnati Ballets' The Nutcracker, and The Magic Flute. He has also been in the MOTCC productions of The Pied Piper of Hamlin and The Maker of Illusions. Alex admits that the late night rehearsals and many performances can be exhausting, but says the reward is performing "front of a full audience each night with amazing adult singers."

Alex is a freshman in the Creative and Performing Arts program at Churchill High School. He plans to continue his studies in theatre in college This is Emily's second year with MOTCC. Last year she was in the MOT productions of La **Boheme and The Magic** Flute, as well as the youth production of Maker of Illusions. Emily got her start in theatre at Livonia's Rising Stars Youth Theatre and more recently, starred as Mulan in **Emerson Middle School's** production of Mulan Jr. Emily's long list of performing arts accomplishments include several shows with The Stage Door and Actor's Community Theatre in Wayne, **Emerson Middle School** choir, Franklin High School's marching band,



Bryce

and Livonia Youth Choir. She also plays piano and cello.

Emily and Alex recently sang *The Star Spangled Banner*, along with four other choristers, at a Detroit Tigers game. Emily said her experi-

ence with MOTCC has been "unbelievable." "I've had so many

opportunities that have come up in different places because of MOTCC, including TV shows, the national anthem, and the Random Act of Culture flash mob at Comerica Park. You get to really experience the different types of things you can do as a musical artist."

This is Chailyn's first year in MOTCC, but he is no stranger to the stage. He has danced for seven years and been in several productions with Livonia's Motor City Youth Theatre, including Motown Broadway, Macbeth, and A Midsummer Night's Dream. After seeing Maker of Illusions last spring, he knew he wanted to audition. "The best parts of being in this opera (Carmina Burana) are working with the awesome professional singers, getting cool costumes, and seeing the Cirque du Soleil performers," Chailyn said.

Art

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: through Oct. 22; gallery hours are 1-5 p.m. Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "Outside In," an all-media landscape exhibit juried by plein air painter, Heiner Hertling

Coming up: An Antiques and Fine Arts Appraisal clinic with Robert DuMouchelle of DuMouchelle Art Galleries, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday, Nov. 18. The registration fee is \$10 per item with a limit of 3 items per guest. Walk-ins without prior registration will be admitted on the day of the event if time allows. Guests may bring items such as antiques, collectibles, family memorabilia, furniture and artwork. Large or fragile items should be submitted by photograph. Coins, stamps, and jewelry will not be appraised at this event. Register in person, 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday or call Northville Art House Contact: (248) 344-0497

PLYMOUTH COMMU-NITY ARTS COUNCIL

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Thursday in October Location: 744 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth Details: Works by photo journalist Douglas Elbinger Contact: (734) 416-4278

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday through Oct. 26

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton Details: Works from the

19th Annual Canton Fine Arts Exhibition

Contact: (734) 394-5308 VISUAL ARTS ASSOCIA-

TION OF LIVONIA

Location: New Five Village Shopping Center, 37653 5 Mile, Livonia Details: Artisans and crafters

are needed for the second annual VAAL Holiday Shoppe; accepting applications now

Contact: (734) 424 1566

Comedy

Go Comedy! Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays



GET OUT!

Three Men and a Tenor adds a touch of zany to musical performances. The group will perform Oct. 28-29 in Farmington Hills.

the organization's Plymouth

office, 44567 Pinetree Drive

Contact: (734) 261-0555,

www.kickerscomplex.com

MARK RIDLEY'S COM-

Time/Date: Bobby Collins,

Oct. 20-22; Tim Gaither, Oct.

27-29; Michael Loftus, Nov.

3-5; Robb Little, Nov. 10-12;

Kathleen Madigan, Nov. 17-

Alex Ortiz, Nov. 30-Dec. 3

Location: 269 E. Fourth,

Contact: (248) 542-9900,

www.comedycastle.com

Royal Oak

Dance

19; Dave Landau, Nov. 25-26;

EDY CASTLE

Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale

Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays

Contact: (248) 327-0575; gocomedy.net

JD'S HOUSE OF COM-EDY

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

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

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

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

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB OF LIVONIA

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

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia Details: Mike Kosta, Oct. 19-22; Tom Simmons, Nov. 2-5; Tim Kidd, Nov. 9-12; Chris Barnes, Nov. 16-19; J. Chris Newberg, Nov. 23, 25-26

Special benefit: Bob Phillips, Dominic Jones, CoCo and Bobby McGee perform in a fundraiser for FirstStep, western and downriver Wayne County's project on domestic and sexual violence, 5:30 p.m. Oct. 22. Tickets are \$20. Advance tickets are available at

MOON DUSTERS

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 p.m. every Saturday; dance lessons 7-8 p.m.

(*) **B7**

Location: Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Singles and couples dance to music of the '30s, '40s and '50s; free refreshments. Dance lessons cost \$6; dance and lessons are \$11; dance only is \$7 for guests, \$6.50 for associates and \$6 for Moon Dusters members Contact: Joe Castrodale, club president, (248) 968-5197

Family

BAKERS KEYBOARD

Time/Dates: 2-5 p.m. Sundays

Details: Jazz for Kids

Program Location: 20510 Livernois Ave., Detroit

Contact: (313) 345-6300, www.bakerskeyboardlounge.com

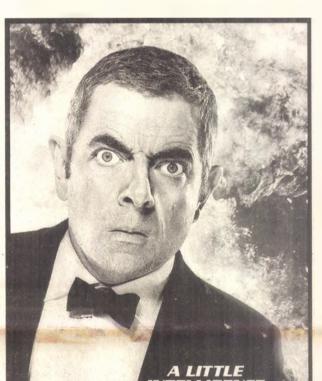
DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Time/Dates: 2 p.m. Sundays

Details: Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission **Location:** 5200 Woodward,

Detroit

Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org



He also had a blast singing *O Fortuna* for the flash mob at the Tiger's game.

Carmina Burana and The Medium is at 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Oct. 21-22 and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 23. Tickets range from \$51-\$111. Visit www.michiganopera. org or call (313) 961-3500









SHARON DARGAY, EDITOR SDARGAY@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM (313) 222-8883 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



From upper left: Chicken Pastelitos, Devil's Dip, Great Balls of Fire and Curry Chicken Stars





Curry Chicken Stars

1 can (4.25 ounces) Underwood Chicken Spread

- k cup sliced almonds
- ¼ cup red bell pepper, sliced
- 2 tablespoons green onion, chopped
- 1 tablespoon Polaner Fancy Fruit Apricot Spread

¼ teaspoon curry powder

1 can (8 ounces) frozen crescent dinner rolls

Preheat oven to 350°F. In a small bowl, combine all ingredients except crescent rolls. Unroll crescent roll dough, fold in half and then roll into a 10-inch square. Cut into 16 (2¹/₂-inch) squares. Make 1-inch cuts diagonally from the corners of each square.

Place one heaping teaspoon of filling into the center of each square. To form stars, fold in every other dough tip toward center. Insert a wooden toothpick into the center of each star to hold dough. Bake on greased baking sheet for 10 to 12 minutes.

Serve savory treats to adult gouls and goblins

his Halloween, don't let the kids have all the fun — scare up your own good time with a Halloween party for grown up guys and ghouls.

Set the mood with a theme for your party, then carry it out with invitations, decorations, food and fun.

Phantasmic Party Themes

• Upscale Gothic — Think stylish haunted mansion, dripping with vintage looking black and white decor. Create an eerily elegant centerpiece by spray painting interesting branches black and securing them in an old silver vase or pitcher so they look like a tree in a planter. Then hang cut-out ravens and owls from the branches.

• Monster Mash — Go old-school by celebrating the old monster movies from days gone by. Have Dracula and werewolf movies playing on the TV, or project them onto a wall or a sheet in the back yard. Use fake cobwebs and mummy gauze to dress tables and chairs, and freeze plastic body parts into ice cubes for some truly chilling drinks.

• A Haunted Twist — You can put a good fright into just about any fun theme. How about a haunted luau? Or a haunted hoedown, carnival or cruise? Start with the usual decor, then give it a good scare with fake blood, grossed-out goodies and weird little touches.

Frightful Fun

• Have guests bring their own carved jack-o-lanterns to enter in a contest. They can be carved any way guests like, or you can specify that carvings should be related to your theme. Let everyone vote, then give the winners a fun prize.

 Good old-fashioned costume contests don't ever go out of style. In addition to Best Costume awards, give out prizes for Best Undead Bride or Most Likely to End Up in a Bad Horror Movie.

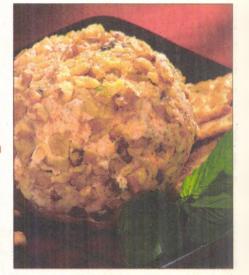
Devilishly Good Dining

Keep party food simple to make and easy to eat. These recipes are alarmingly easy and will have your guests howling for more. You can scare up more recipes at www.underwoodspreads.com.

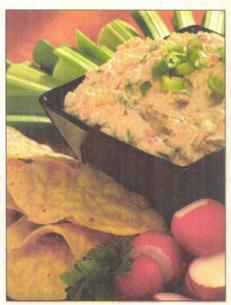
Cast a Good Spell

Help others in your community by hosting a food drive as part of your Halloween party. Invite guests to bring canned food, as well as non-perishable dry grocery items. Collect donations in a party-themed receptacle, then donate them to a local food bank. Find a food bank near you at www.FeedingAmerica.org.

Curry chicken stars



Great Balls of Fire Cheeseball



Devil's Dip

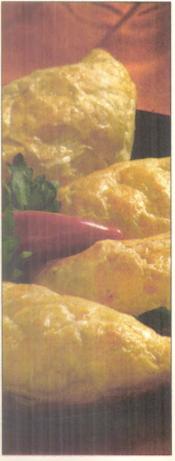
Devil's Dip

8 ounces cream cheese, softened 1 can (4.25 ounces) Underwood Deviled Ham Spread

1 cup green onions, chopped ¼ cup pimiento, finely chopped

1 teaspoon Trappey's Red Devil Hot Sauce In a small bowl, mix cream

cheese, ham spread, green onions, pimientos and hot pepper sauce. Chill, covered for about 30 minutes. Serve with crackers, chips or vegetables.



Chicken Pastelitos

Great Balls of Fire

1 cup (4 ounces) cheddar cheese, shredded

- 3 ounces cream cheese, softened 1 can (4.25 ounces) Underwood Dev-
- iled Ham Spread 2 tablespoons green onions, finely chopped

3 tablespoons green chili peppers, chopped

% cup walnuts, chopped

In small bowl, combine cheddar cheese, cream cheese, ham spread, onions and chilies; mix well. Shape mixture into a ball. Roll in chopped nuts. Wrap in plastic wrap; refrigerate 2 hours. Let stand at room temperature 30 minutes to soften slightly before serving

Serve with crackers.

Chicken Pastelitos

1 tablespoon olive oil

1 chopped onion

½ green bell pepper, chopped

1 celery stalk, chopped

2 cans (4.25 ounces each) Underwood Chicken Spread

2 tablespoons raisins

2 tablespoons B&G

Spanish-style Salad Olives, drained and chopped

1 tablespoon tomato paste 1 teaspoon Trappey's Red Devil Cayenne Pepper Sauce

¼ teaspoon oregano, dried leaves 2 tablespoons bread crumbs, if necessary

1 package (14 ounces) frozen white or yellow dough for turnover pastries, thawed

1 egg, beaten

Preheat oven to 400°F. Line large baking sheet with nonstick foil.

In large skillet over medium heat, in hot oil, cook onion, pepper and celery, covered for 10 minutes or until tender but not brown.

Stir in chicken spread, raisins, olives, tomato paste, pepper sauce and oregano. Stir in bread crumbs to thicken filling.

On lightly floured surface, with floured rolling pin, roll 1 dough round into 6-inch circle. Spoon ¹/₄ cup filling on one side of circle. Brush egg along edge of circle; fold dough over to cover filling. Seal edges of turnover with fork; brush with egg. Place turnover on prepared baking sheet. Repeat, using remaining filling and dough rounds. Cut small slit in top of each turnover.

Bake 15 minutes or until golden brown and puffed. Cool slightly, serve warm.

— Courtesy Family Features

REAL ESTATE B9.(*) THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2011 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Local professional a 'Good Neighbors' finalist

An area businessman is among 10 nationwide honored as part of the National Association of Realtors annual Good Neighbors effort.

Vito A. Pampalona, broker, Vito Anthony Homes, of Rochester was among the 10 finalists for the Realtor Magazine effort. In November five winners will be selected from among the 10 finalists and will receive travel expenses to the 2011 Realtors Conference & Expo in Anaheim, Calif. Winners will also receive national media exposure for their

community cause and a \$10,000 grant for their charity. In addition, five honorable mentions will receive a \$2,500 grant.

The winners will be announced in the November/ December issue of REALTOR Magazine

As a Vietnam veteran, Pam-

41342 Southwind Dr

palona wanted to help wounded soldiers. Since 2003, he has frequently visited Walter Reed Army Medical Center and has adopted the nickname "Uncle Vito." Pampalona created a book, video, audio library and snack pantry for patients and their families at Walter Reed. He also provides new clothes for patients to wear instead of hospital gowns and holds an annual Christmas party with generous gifts for patients, families and staff. Since 2003 he has raised or donated \$500,000 to benefit wounded veterans.

Pampalona is also national chair of the Yellow Ribbon Fund Ambassador program, which helps welcome injured soldiers home.

Realtor Magazine's Good Neighbor Awards program is sponsored by Lowe's and HouseLogic. In addition to

the grant awards, each of the Good Neighbor Award winners will receive a \$2,000 Lowe's gift card, and each of the honorable mentions will receive a \$1,000 Lowe's gift card.

Nominees were judged on their personal contribution of time, as well as financial and material contributions, to benefit their cause. To be eligible, nominees must be NAR members in good standing.

"Realtors play a meaningful role in building communities across the country," said NAR President Ron Phipps, broker-president of Phipps Realty in Warwick, R.I. "The Good Neighbor Awards highlight Realtors who are volunteering their time to answer a need in their community. We're proud to help them grow their efforts so they can serve even more people.'

Vito Pampalona

Tomorrow Fund.

Award recipient himself,

Phipps was recognized in

2001 for his work with the

\$502,000

\$129,000

\$65,000

\$15,000

\$79,000 \$23,000

\$14,000

\$70,000

\$45,000 \$43,000

\$17,000

\$89,000

\$29,000

\$37,000

\$12,000

\$57,000

\$32,000

\$60,000

\$35,000 \$65,000

\$90,000

\$60,000

\$<u>89,000</u> \$35,000 \$30,000

\$30,000

A past Good Neighbor

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area reside estate closings recorded of July 11-16, 2011, at t County Register of Deed Listed below are cities, a and sales prices.	the week he Wayne Is office.	2945 Stanton St 508 Sylvan Dr 1623 Thistle Ct Garden City 6746 Burnly St 6939 Burnly St 187 Cardwell St 6566 Deering St 32337 Doppelly St	\$228,000 \$387,000 \$180,000 \$53,000 \$82,000 \$80,000 \$35,000 \$40,000	38556 Orangelawn St 31222 Pickford Ave 18568 Westbrook Dr 15337 Williams St NORTHVILLE 18350 Blue Heron Dr W 19550 Clement Rd 15773 Johnson Creek Dr 15821 Johnson Creek Dr		46767 Southview Ln REDFORD 14089 Breakfast Dr 15802 Centralia 19600 Garfield 16529 Macarthur 18616 Macarthur 19157 Norborne 14423 Seminole
CANTON 40471 Bay Harbor Ln 2232 Brookhaven Rd 6622 Brookshire Dr 42658 Colling Dr 41625 Copper Creek Dr 41625 Copper Creek Dr 4182 Elizabeth Ave 50099 Grant St 45999 Graystone Ln 44331 Harsdale Dr 42205 Hartford Ct 1756 Hendrie	\$70,000 \$122,000 \$167,000 \$160,000 \$100,000 \$260,000 \$75,000 \$271,000 \$177,000 \$162,000 \$165,000 \$280,000	32337 Donnelly St 28730 Florence St 6531 Gilman St LIVONIA 9545 Arcola St 9082 Beatrice St 15938 Blue Skies Dr 34075 Burton Ln 14178 Cranston St 8991 Danzig St 36708 Dardanella St 9541 Deering St 37490 Eagle Dr 20090 Edgewood Ave 16333 Farmington Rd	\$40,000 \$80,000 \$80,000 \$65,000 \$215,000 \$176,000 \$112,000 \$68,000 \$190,000 \$69,000 \$235,000 \$310,000 \$140,000	15821 Johnson Creek Dr 16169 Johnson Creek Dr 47723 Pine Creek Ct 49114 Rainbow Ln S 17944 Ridgeview Dr 15851 Robinwood Dr 16593 Sherwood Ln 17871 Stonebrook Dr 17048 Yellowstone Dr PLYMOUTH 305 Arthur St 8822 Colony Farms Dr 12755 Haverhill Dr 48287 Hilltop Dr E 41416 Ivywood Ln	\$129,000 \$145,000 \$320,000 \$615,000 \$227,000 \$345,000 \$710,000 \$98,000 \$395,000 \$325,000 \$325,000 \$345,000 \$345,000	14423 Seminole 9552 Sioux 9007 Wormer WESTLAND 2124 Alanson St 7500 August Ave 30773 Birchwood St 35055 Fairchild St 35844 Farragut St 31005 Fernwood St 32363 Glen St 30448 Grandview Ave 32046 Hazelwood St 33684 Hazelwood St 33684 Hazelwood St
45457 Indian Creek Dr	\$227,000	11200 Haller St	\$100,000	303 Maple St	\$210,000	8171 Perrin Ave
48960 Kennesaw Ct	\$350,000	20271 Hugh St	\$80,000	11743 N Canton Center F		176 S Crown St
42455 Lilley Pointe Dr 45170 Middlebury Ln	\$33,000 \$276,000	11780 Hunters Park Ct	\$50,000	204 N Harvey St	\$173,000	460 S Hubbard St
47688 Pembroke Dr	\$77,000	19323 Ingram St	\$114,000	40546 Newport Dr	\$60,000	37110 Vista Dr
1150 S Ridge Rd	\$235,000	18510 Irving St	\$57,000	390 Pacific St	\$164,000	2133 Wilmer St
201 Scarlett Dr		15582 Levan Rd	\$190,000	701 Pacific St	\$178,000	
	\$247,000	9164 Marie St	\$104,000	354 Pinewood Dr	\$50,000	
41342 Southwind Dr	\$47.000	22022 0.11. 64	+05 000	44959 B	***	

weighs easement **By Robert Meisner** Q: Can an easement be created by operation on the **Doctrine of Acquiescence?**

A: Again, you have asked a good legal question, but the legal Doctrine of Acquiescence typically applies to the resolution of boundary disputes.

Guest Columnist



In a recent case, the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled that the easement had been created by

both the **Doctrines** of Acquiescence and Prescriptive Easement, but the Michigan Supreme Court vacated the Michigan Court of Appeals decision and indicated that the similarity between the creation of an easement and the location of the boundary line makes the application of the Doctrine of Acquiescence to easements awkward and so the Michigan Supreme Court's decision that the Doctrine does not actually does not apply was a clarification of the law. O: In our situation. one

of the joint owners failed to sign the express grant for conveyance of an easement. Is that fatal to our claim for an easement?

A: In a recent Michigan Court of Appeals case, the court held that the

JULIE BROWN, EDITOR JCBROWN@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM (313) 222-6755 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Court

in on

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

41063 Russett Ln

\$117,000

\$95,000

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of July 5-8, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices

\$47,000

33023 Oakley St

BEVERLY HILLS 31286 Churchill Dr \$336,000 17904 Kinross Ave \$160,000 16010 Lauderdale Ave \$150,000 32075 Spruce Ln \$370,000 BIRMINGHAM 751 Ann St \$160,000 410 Bennaville Ave \$130,000 436 Bonnie Brier St \$310,000 115 E Lincoln St \$190,000 1694 E Melton Rd \$86,000 \$338,000 643 Emmons Ave 1027 Forest Ave \$150,000 363 George St \$272,000 2314 Manchester Rd \$157,000 1927 Maryland Blvd \$360.000 1492 W Lincoln St \$465,000 564 Wallace St \$515,000 **BLOOMFIELD HILLS** 699 Bennington Dr \$485,000 1570 Forest Ln \$240,000 4733 Hedgewood Dr \$390,000 2353 Mulberry Sq # 77 \$50,000

\$131,000 591 S Spinningwheel Ln 822 Shady Hollow Cir \$280,000 6971 Valley Spring Dr BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP \$410,000 \$150,000 1366 Bramblebush Run 5731 Burnham Rd \$178,000 4401 Charing Way \$167,000 4421 Dorian Dr \$224,000 1904 Eagle Pointe \$161,000 \$724,000 2950 Eastways Rd 7176 Lindenmere Dr \$330,000 \$449,000 3900 Mystic Valley Dr 133 N Cranbrook Cross Rd \$495,000 435 N Glengarry Rd \$410,000 5231 Provincial Dr \$289,000 189 S Glengarry Rd \$240,000 971 S Reading Rd \$188,000 3421 W Maple Rd \$295,000 4043 W Maple Rd \$75,000 6266 Worlington Rd COMMERCE TOWNSHIP \$215,000 8952 Cynthia Ct \$176,000 \$265,000 \$255,000 3133 Estate View Ct 9442 Park Ln 2466 Yasmin Dr \$253,000 FARMINGTON 23965 Farmington Rd \$167,000 32070 Grand River Ave Unit 7 \$41,000 FARMINGTON HILLS 22240 Abington Dr \$250,000 36888 Ashover Dr \$225,000 23201 Canfield Ave \$175,000

21108 Collingham Ave \$85.000 27690 E Echo Vly Unit 228 \$33,000 27672 E Echo Vly Unit 230 \$41,000 22110 Harsdale Dr \$267,000 21992 Lancrest Ct \$140,000 29401 Laurel Dr \$80,000 28914 List St \$22,000 28775 Lorikay St \$125,000 37680 Mckenzie Ct \$220,000 32373 Nestlewood St \$185,000 36204 Old Homestead Dr \$204,000 22246 Ontaga St \$87,000 21355 Parklane St \$148,000 33993 Rhonswood St \$68,000 28610 Rollcrest Rd \$87.000 30015 Stockton Ave \$95,000 29090 Summerwood Rd \$240,000 33816 Yorkridge St \$231,000 FRANKLIN \$295,000 26440 Drummond Ct 30096 Pondsview Dr \$325,000 MILFORD 30782 Artesian Dr \$165,000 619 Mill St \$190,000 \$315,000 3400 Morrow Ln 2825 W Commerce Rd \$100,000 NOVI 43770 Algonquin Dr \$135,000 45120 Bartlett Dr \$84,000 24540 Bashian Dr \$43,000 24652 Cavendish Ave E \$381,000 41636 Charleston Ln \$134,000 21529 Chase Dr \$420,000

41471 Cypress Way \$115.000 47670 Edinborough Ln \$427,000 26430 Fieldstone Dr \$235,000 45565 Freemont \$290,000 24014 Heathergreene \$118,000 \$195,000 40762 Lenox Park Dr 23670 Maude Lea St \$183.000 48791 Pebble Ln \$305,000 24530 Redwing Dr \$220,000 24874 Reeds Pointe Dr \$265,000 41780 Webster Ct \$96,000 SOUTH LYON 58740 Carriage Ln \$40,000 24256 Heatherwood Dr \$155,000 59062 Peters Barn Dr \$66,000 22215 Quail Run Cir \$110.000 22215 Ouail Run Cir Unit 4 \$85,000 25506 Stanley Ln \$40,000 24520 Wedgewood Dr \$30,000 SOUTHFIFI D 17269 Alta Vista Dr \$185,000 27086 Belmont Ln \$85,000 27400 Lexington Pkwy \$36,000 \$17,000 \$30,000 19170 Melrose Ave 25014 Pendleton Dr 16251 Sherfield Pl \$172,000 30000 Westbrook Pkwy \$70,000 WHITE LAKE 9470 Marina Dr \$38,000 9185 Sandison St \$41,000

easement on those facts was invalid under the statute of frauds because it was missing the signature of one of the joint owners. In effect, because the easement is an interest in land, it must be conveyed by a signed writing in order to be valid. In short, when the property in question is held jointly, all owners must sign or the contract is void.

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

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

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Keller Williams Realty will offer a Career Seminar 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, at 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. Learn about the \$50,000 income guarantee and free prelicensing course. For information, contact Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

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1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit Free-Foreclosure-Tour.com.

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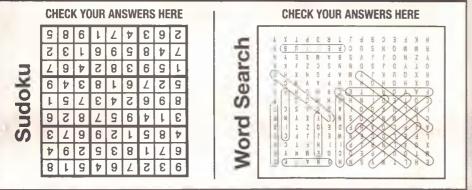


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