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LOCAL NEWS, A2

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To enter, go to our website, Hometownlife.com, and click on the Valentine's Contest link, which is located on our Don't Miss module on the right-hand side of the site.

Damans award

The Plymouth Community Arts Council will recognize a Plymouth-Canton school district senior who has displayed "outstanding abilities in visual arts and plans to continue his/her education in this field" with its annual Damaris Fine Arts Award.

Students' artwork will be judged on its originality, creativity and use of material. Artwork will be professionally juried. This award is open to all students who are entered in the P-CCS Annual Art Show.

Applications will be accepted May 2-7, with the art to be juried May 8-10. The \$1,000 award will be announced May 10.

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Crossword Puzzle B10

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School board cuts off comment

By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education limited the public comments section of its regular meeting Tuesday to 45 minutes, cutting off the opportunity to speak for as many as 20 residents, and apparently violating the state's Open Meetings Act in the process.

Board Vice President Adrienne Davis announced the decision to limit public comment at the outset of the board meetLanguage won't stop meeting from airing on cable television, A3.

ing, prompting several protests among the crowd assembled for the meeting.

Board policy dictates residents who wish to address the board need to fill out a comment card prior to the meeting. Davis noted she'd received 35 such cards prior to Tuesday's meeting, most of them wishing to voice an opinion on one side or the other of the ongoing book-banning issue.

'We respect your rights, and

we want to hear from you," Davis told the crowd in announcing the decision. "(But) this is the business meeting of the Board of Education. If we aren't given time to do our business in adequate time, it will impact the students."

Violates act

But attorney Jennifer Dukarski of the Michigan Press Association's legal hotline, said the decision violates Section 15.263, Section 5 of the OMA. She also drew on a Michigan attorney

general's opinion from 1978 to point out the violation, which carries a penalty of up to a \$500

"That opinion does an excellent job of setting a clear path for speech by public citizens," Dukarski said. "People have the right to be heard. ... It looks like the school board shut down (public) comment in a manner that appears to go against the principle of the Open Meetings Act." District officials said Davis fol-

Please see BOARD, A3



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth resident Tajana Raukar, of Ice Dreams in Plymouth, works on the base of the Statue of Liberty on opening day of the 30th annual Plymouth Ice Festival.

Organizers hail ice fest features

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

New features, large crowds, a boost in revenue and a milestone year added up to a successful 2012 Plymouth Ice Festival.

The 30th annual festival brought thousands of people over the weekend to downtown Plymouth, where more than 100 ice sculptures were on display, vendors sold refreshments and visitors sampled winter sports and posed with "interactive" sculptures. People watched master carvers at work in Kellogg Park during a Friday deep freeze and lined up five and six deep Saturday afternoon, in warmer weather, to see college-level carvers compete.

"It was great. We raised more money than we have in the past few years," said Steve Alexandrowski, an ice festival committee member. "The crowds were big and I think the coolest thing was we had was the interactive sculptures."

Alexandrowski was referring to sculptures that had

PLYMOUTH



Local ice artist Ted Wakar of Canton works his magic on a sculpture during last weekend's 30th annual Plymouth Ice Festival.

visitors standing in line for photo opportunities, including a dinosaur and a polar bear for children to climb on, a Channel 2 news anchor desk, an "ice throne" and, fittingly, a life-sized eskimo sculpture.

"I think in this more interactive path, people love it," Alexandrowski said. There were a couple of photo op-type sculptures last year, he said, but more this year.

Sponsors step up

Anticipated revenue is also up, Alexandrowski said, and should top \$100,000 when receipts are totaled, enough to pay the bills and set the stage for next year. That compares to totals, in recent years, of between \$70,000 and \$80,000. The festival is completely funded by sponsorships and donations.

Please see ICE FEST, A4

Chamber: 'Step on accelerator'

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce officially kicked off 2012 with a call to action Wednesday morning.

Chamber President Wes Graff told chamber members that with the local economy improving, it's time to "step on the accelerator" and get involved with chamber events that improve the community and offer networking opportunities.

"Things are getting better, things are getting a lot better," Graff told about 150 people during the State of the Chamber breakfast, held at The Inn at St. John's. "We're starting to get some traction, and that's great."

Plymouth and Plymouth Township's strengths, Graff suggested, include an involved business community and a "progressive" outlook.

"We are a great family community. People are impressed when they come to our city," and the community has done well to maintain its character and charm, he said. "But we're progressive. We're moving forward."

Graff pointed to some of the opportunities chamber members have for volunteering: for the annual chamber golf outing and the chamber auction, its two biggest fundraisers; for its education committee, or as a chamber ambassador; or to help stage the Concours d'Elegance, an exhibition of classic and collectible automobiles that made its local debut at The Inn at St. John's last

"There's no better way to network than to get involved in an event or activity," he said.

Concours d'Elegance of America executive director James McCarter praised the community's response to its first Concours, which had held been at Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester Hills for decades. Chamber volunteers staffed a Concours field office, the Rotary and Kiwanis clubs handled parking and security and the Downtown Development Authority was instrumental in providing a shuttle service for Concours visitors, he said.

"The way that this community stepped up, it still amazes us," McCarter said. The success of the Concours at The Inn at St. John's

Please see CHAMBER, A5



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Regular customers return the kindness of ailing waitress

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

Dozens of people packed Plymouth Township's Big Boy restaurant Monday evening to support a veteran waitress there in her battle with an aggressive form of cancer.

About \$3,000 was raised for Bonnie Oster of Plymouth, a waitress at the Ann Arbor Road Big Boy for more than 30 years, for medical and living expenses, said restaurant manager Mike Elewa. The money came from donations, receipts from a gift-basket raffle and 25 percent of Monday evening's dinner revenue from those attending the fundraiser.

"It's more, a lot more than I expected," said Elewa, speaking of turnout for the event, on Monday.

Oster, who was preparing for another round of chemotherapy this week, hasn't been able to work for about a month and has been ill with complications.

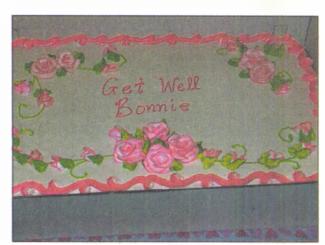
Elewa had been collecting donations for Oster in a canister on the front counter — \$1,000 already went to Oster last week through her daughter Cathi — but credits Brenda Guenther, a longtime regular customer, with planning and organizing the fundraiser.

Guenther, of Plymouth Township, said she's known Oster for 25 years.

"She's so caring and so interested in other people, and she had the ability to make a bad situation good," said Guenther, who was acting as hostess Monday, seating people who said there were there



Alexis Guenther, 7, sister Catrina, 10, and their cousin, Shannon Clark, 8, draw a ticket for a gift basket Monday during a fundraiser for Bonnie Oster, a longtime waitress at the Big Boy on Ann Arbor Road who is suffering from cancer.



Friends of waitress Bonnie Oster of Plymouth displayed this cake at a fundraiser for her Monday at the Big Boy on Plymouth Road.

for Bonnie. If a child was crabby or acted up in the restaurant, for example, Oster had the right touch to fix the situation.

Guenther dined at the Big Boy with her family regularly when her children were young, after Sunday Mass, for

example, and now sometimes goes there with her grandchildren.

She got family members to help her with planning and carrying out Monday's event: son John, granddaughters Catrina, 10, and Alexis, 7, and daughter-in-law Sha-



Brenda Guenther, shown with granddaughter Shannon Clark, 8, came up with the idea for Monday's fundraiser for Big Boy waitress Bonnie Oster, who is battling cancer. Guenther is a regular at the restaurant and says she has known Oster for about 25 years.

ron Atma, of White Lake Township.

"One of the best things was being able to get my kids involved," said John Guenther. "We used it as a little teaching moment."

Oster worked 50-plus hours a week at Big Boy, plus for 17 years has helped care for an adult son, Craig Oster, who suffers from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS, a disabling neurological disorder.

She has a lot of fans at the Big Boy.

"Certainly, for someone who had her own challenges, she was upbeat," John Guenther said.

"Very caring, very loving," said waitress Julie Gill of her co-worker.

Brenda Guenther shied away from taking credit for the fundraiser, saying she had merely planted the idea. "People will really rise to the occasion," she said.

Oster would be pleased, she said.

"I think she would be so impressed with the number of people who came out here," she said.

Local man dies in snowmobile crash near Grayling

Bv Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

A Northville Township man was dead at the scene of a Sunday morning snowmobile accident in Crawford County in Michigan's northern Lower Peninsula.

Gregory Ronald Nagy, 45, had been traveling west at high speed on a logging road in Beaver Creek Township, near Grayling, when he rounded a corner and the snowmobile collided with an oncoming pickup truck, according to a press release from Crawford County Sher-

iff Kirk Wakefield.

The accident occurred just before noon. The driver of the pickup was not injured.

While the crash remains under investigation, the press release said, excessive speed is thought to have been the major factor. Alcohol is not believed to have played a role.

Crawford County deputies, medical personnel, the Beaver Creek Fire Department and Department of Natural Resources officers responded to the crash.

mjachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405

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

Date/Time: Tuesday, Jan 31, 7 p.m.

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main in Plym-

Details: The Friends of Plymouth Township will be hosting a public forum to provide information in opposition to the creation of the Plymouth Township Fire Department SAD (Special Assessment District) which will be on the Feb. 28 election ballot. Members of the public and elected officials

Contact: For additional information visit www.friendsofplymouthtownship.com.

JAZZ CONCERT

Date/Time: Tuesday, Jan. 31, 7-10 p.m.

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge 1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth

Details: The Plymouth Elks welcome back the Terry Lower Trio with vocalist Edye Evans-Hyde. Joining Terry and Edye will be Jim Ryan on drums and Ray Tini on bass. The \$10 donation at the door includes hors d'oeuvres.

Contact: Call (734) 453-1780 or e-mail plymouthelks1780@ vahoo.com

PLAYWRITING WORKSHOP

Date/Time: Monday, Feb. 13, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Location: Cherry Hill Schoolhouse, 50440 Cherry Hill in

Details: Aspiring playwrights are encouraged to attend TLC Productions upcoming Playwriting Workshop, where participants will learn the necessary skills needed to take a play from page to the stage. Workshop attendees will also see how to develop ideas into a detailed and evolved plot; create a fine-tuned script; and find out what it takes to submit a script for production and festival consideration, in addition to available theatrical resources and how to advance their efforts. Pre-registration by email is required

Contact: For more information about TLC Productions' Playwriting Workshop, visit http://tlcprod.wordpress.com.



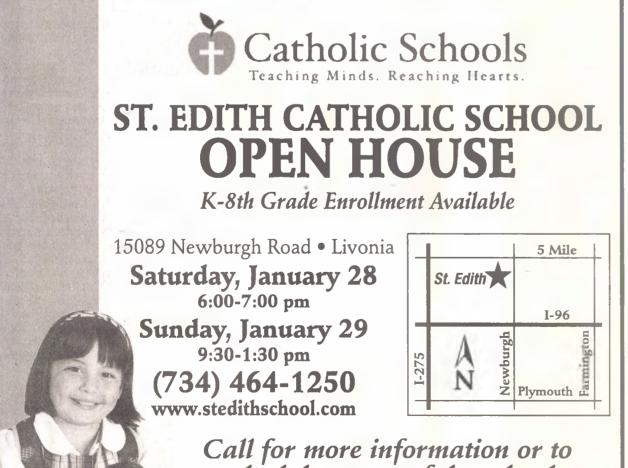


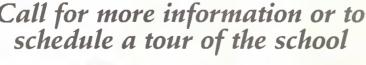
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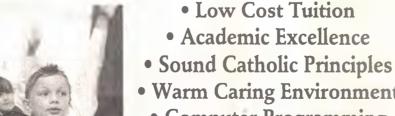
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BOARD

Continued from page A1

lowed established district policy.

"(Any violation) was not done knowingly," said Frank Ruggirello, the district's director of community relations. "We have a policy that says the board can limit public comment, and obviously that policy will have to be updated. We will work on that policy to make sure it's in line with the Open Meetings Act."

At the meeting, Davis suggested there were other ways for residents to express their opinions, including talking to the district's community relations staff, using the district's suggestion box and e-mailing officials. She also suggested the possibility of conducting public forums for issues of great

interest, such as the current book-banning issue.

"(Perhaps) we need to have a citizens forum," Davis said. "We represent you and we want to work with you."

That didn't sit well with audience members, the majority of whom were left without a chance to speak Tuesday. Tim Roraback of Plymouth, who had planned to speak out against banning books, brought the attorney general's opinion to the attention of the board.

The legal issue aside, Roraback called the decision unfair.

"It's ironic they're censoring people who are there to talk about banning books," Roraback said. "To stifle speech ... it's not exactly the American way."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com (313) 222-8899

Language won't stop meeting from airing



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sharon Lollio of Plymouth (from left, at a campaign event a few years ago) read excerpts from the Toni Morrison book, 'Beloved,' at Tuesday's board of education meeting. By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth-Canton
Schools officials will air
the video of Tuesday's
Board of Education meeting despite the language
used by a resident speaking about the use of Toni
Morrison's Pulitzer Prizewinning "Beloved" in
the district's Advanced
Placement English program.

Sharon Lollio of Plymouth, during her three-minute speech during the public comments portion of the board meeting agenda, repeatedly used the "F" word while quoting passages from the book, which has come under fire recently for the sexually explicit content in some passages of the book.

A review committee last week approved the book for continued use in the AP English curriculum. A similar review is pending for Graham Swift's 1983 novel,

"Waterland."

Some parents were still upset over the committee's decision Tuesday, and Lollio used her time to read the passages. When board vice president Adrienne Davis asked her to stop using obscene language in a public forum, Lollio said simply, "No, I will not."

Residents who couldn't attend the meeting and want to see it on television, and those who regularly watch on cable, will get an unedited version of the meeting, complete with the language.

"FCC regulations talk about obscenity," said Frank Ruggirello, the district's director of community relations. "(Lollio) was clearly reading a passage from a prize-winning book."

The school board meetings run locally on Comcast Cable Channel 19 and on WOW Channel 18.

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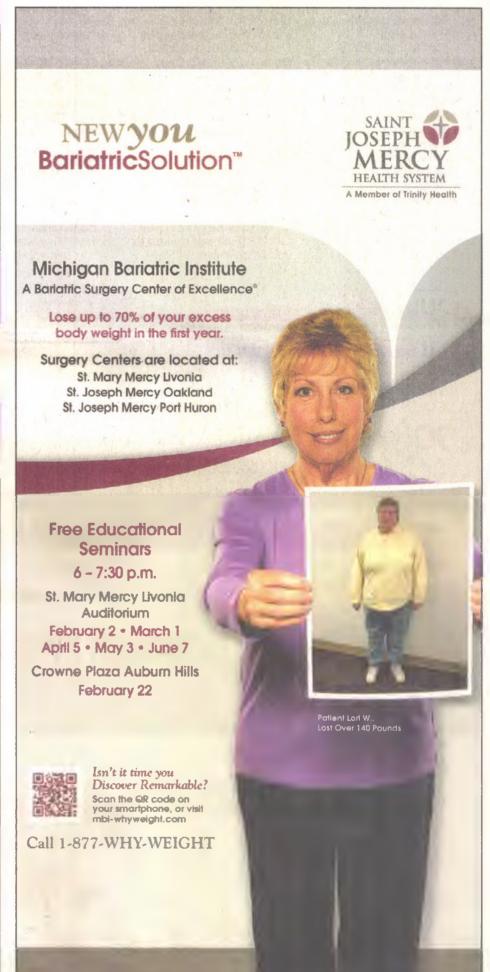
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brennan McNulty of Waterford, a carver for Oakland Community College, took part in the college carving competition during last weekend's 30th annual Plymouth Ice Festival.

ICE FEST

Continued from page A1

Chief organizer Sam Walton said he was grateful to everyone who helped make the festival a success, even in difficult economic times.

"It was a testament to the community that, in this day and age, we still have the largest free ice show in the country," Walton said.

"I think Sam has got the program down, and we look forward to the 2013 Ice Festival." Alexandrowski said.

On Saturday afternoon, David and Elaine Martin of Windsor were enjoying their first trip to the festival in about 10 years.

"I can't believe the crowds. You can hardly move," David Martin said after watching the collegiate carvers, who worked within a fenced-off area of the park while onlookers jockeyed for the best vantage point.

Competition sculptures included a giant bee (Martin's favorite), a delicate, robotic-looking insect, a fish and a tumbling human figure.

"I love the artistic part of it," said Elaine Martin, herself an artist and a retired department-store decorator. "I just find it fascinating."

"I think it's amazing what they can do with the ice," said first-time festival-goer Denise Davidson of South Lyon.

Walton estimated more than 100,000 people visited the festival over a four-day period (the show officially began Friday, but Walton included Thursday, Jan. 19, visits). Saturday's crowd matched, or possibly exceeded, the Saturday attendance he's seen in past years, he said.

'A whole new festival'

Rob Parent, a partner in the Sun & Snow shop in Plymouth, was thrilled with the public's embrace of the Winter Fun Zone in Kellogg Park, which was co-sponsored by McDonald's. With a snowmaking machine, ice shavings trucked in from the city's ice arena and three inches of snow Friday night, the area was perfect for the miniature cross country skiing course Saturday and Sunday, Parent

"It was crazy. There were 50 people in line at all times," he said. The skiing also was another photo opportunity for people who brought young ones to the festival, and Parent said the majority of participants he spoke with had never before tried winter sports.

Sun & Snow also hosted members of the Plymouth Whalers for photo ops Friday

Both Alexandrowski and Parent suggested that aspects of the festival that involve

visitor participation — like the skiing and the sculptures people can climb on — are catching on big.

"I think this was an introduction, kind of, to a whole new festival." Parent said.

Walton said other facets of the festival, things that have been introduced or modified in recent years, received good feedback on the festival's Facebook and Twitter accounts, including the Hot Spot warming area at The Gathering, a wider variety of food options and the "dueling chainsaws" speed-carving event.

Other features included a free performance by the Shawn Riley Band on Friday night, the lighting of the "fire and ice" torches Friday and Saturday nights and a petting zoo and pony rides for chil-

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

CRIME WATCH

Basement break-in

A house in Plymouth Township was broken into through its basement on Jan. 18, but an interior door had been secured and nothing was immediately reported to have been stolen.

The break-in occurred on Hunter's Park Drive in the area of Beck and North Territorial roads, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report. Officers responded to an alarm there late on the morning of

They found pry marks on the door to a walk-out basement, the report said, and searched the house, finding no one inside. The owners told police the door had not been previously damaged.

The deadbolt lock had been removed — police found it nearby from the exterior door and a piece of the door had been broken off. The piece of the door was found in a nearby bush, police said.

Tire slashed

A rear tire on a Pontiac Grand Prix was apparently slashed Jan. 18 as the car sat outside a business on General Court, in the area of Ann Arbor Road and Lilley.

The victim, an employee at the business, discovered the tire was flat as she drove home that afternoon, a police report said. At a local tire store, she found it appeared to have been cut on purpose, the report

Tailgate stolen

The tailgate on a 2001 Ford Ranger was reported stolen in the township on Saturday.

The victim told police the truck was parked at Automotive Components Holdings, the former Ford Motor Co. plant on Sheldon Road, when the theft occurred between early Friday afternoon and about 1 a.m. Saturday. The victim was at work in the plant during that time, police said.

Bicycle thefts

Two bicycles were reported stolen Saturday from outside an apartment complex on Newport Drive, in the area of Joy Road and Haggerty.

The bikes were chained to a post near a carport at the complex, police said, and it appeared the chains had been cut. The thefts had occurred some time since Jan. 7.

- By Matt Jachman

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- Richard Connema, critic for Talkin' Broadway



"It was an extraordinary experience... the level of

skill, but also the power of the archetypes and the narratives were startling. And of course it was exquisitely beautiful."

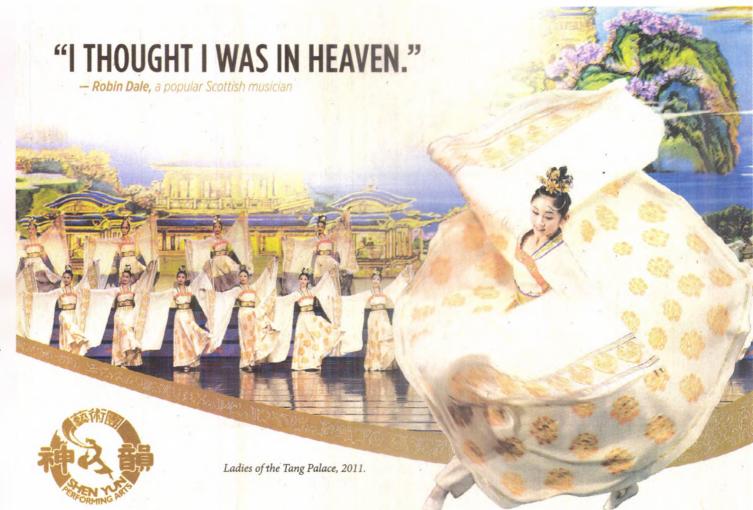
- Cate Blanchett, Academy Award-winning Actress



"It's absolutely beautiful, it was so inspiring, I think I

may have found some new ideas for the next Avatar. It was a very unique performance."

- Oscar-Winner Robert Stromberg, Production Designer for Avatar and Alice in Wonderland



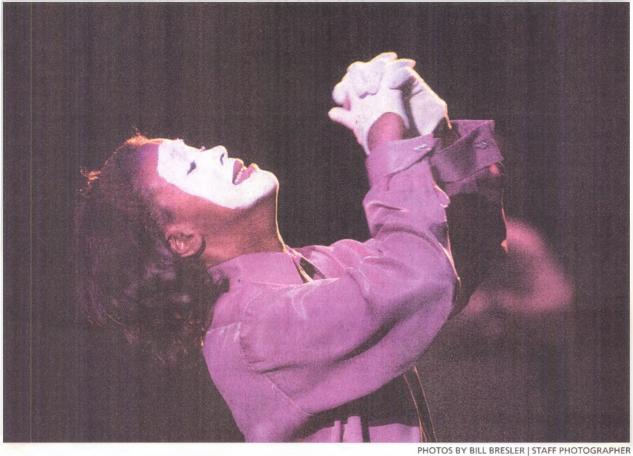
"A great job bringing together the history of Chinese culture. The sound effects, the visual effects, the special effects—it's just amazing."

--- Amerigo Fabbri, Dean, Yale University

"A beautiful show—fantastic! If you ever get a chance to see it, you should." — Joy Behar, Co-host of ABC's The View

Shen Yun Performing Arts is touring the leading venues in over 20 countries on 5 continents, including the Lincoln Center in New York and the Kennedy Center in Washington DC.

LOCAL NEWS



Jackie Bailey of the New Hope Baptist Church Symbols of Silence.

CHAMBER

Continued from page A1

was the talk among enthusiasts at the next such event, at Pebble Beach, Calif., a few weeks later, he said.

Among other chamber announcements Graff made Wednesday were:

 Plans to develop a mobile chamber "app," or application, for smart phones. Graff said it will link users to local events, which is the most-visited part of the chamber's website.

• Plans to have about 20 used guitars — in keeping with the chamber's Plymouth Rocks marketing campaign — decorated by artists and displayed in the chamber offices and at various places around the community for the next year. Graff said he is looking both for guitars for the project and for businesses that

might want to sponsor a guitar.

"They're going to end up as pieces of art," he

said.
Longtime chamber
member Terry Laginess, whose Laginess
Insurance Agency is on
Main Street, said he was
impressed with Wednesday's presentation. Laginess was the chamber

board chairman in 1995.

"I've found it to be such a dynamic chamber that it's silly not to be involved in it," he said.

New member J.R. Muldoon, a chiropractor at Achieving Health Chiropractic Clinic, also said he liked the presentation. It was Muldoon's first chamber event, and he came away saying he'll volunteer later in the year, either for the golf outing or the Concours

mjachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405

Crowd enjoys international festival

A large, enthusiastic crowd gathered Saturday at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill and celebrated diverse customs and traditions in Canton's annual International Festival.

The festival celebrates the diversity of the local community through song and dance from various cultural groups. Featured dance performances represented various cultures and countries, including India, Tahiti, Hawaii, New Zealand, Ireland, China, the Middle East, and the United States.

The crowd enjoyed choral performances by the New Century Chinese School and the Plymouth Canton Chinese Learning Center. In addition the New Century Chinese School presented a Pipa solo by Mr. Tian along with featured Chinese dancers.

Featured artists included the New Hope Church's Praise Dancers, Mimes of Ministry, Women's Liturgical Group and Steppers of



Yuchent Tian has taught traditional stringed instruments like this Pipa, at the college level, for over 17 years.

Soul, as well as Monica Prasad on the Sitar. Rounding out the lineup were performances by The O'Hare School of Traditional Irish Dance; Triple Threat Dance Theater Company; Troupe Ta'amullat; and the Hoaloha Hula Dance Company.

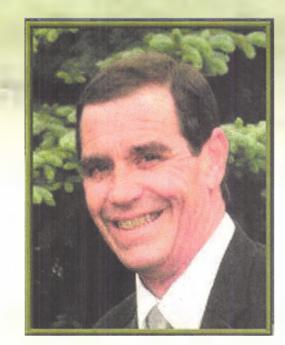


"Grand de pas Classique," by Valen Yangouyian. She dances with the Triple Threat Dance Company.





In Memorian



The passing of Charlie Wolfe gives us all pause to reflect on the good times we shared, and the kind of man he truly was. Growing up, Charlie was one of Plymouth's most successful and versatile athletes, whose tenacity and will to win were second to none. This local sports hero excelled in all of his athletic pursuits, but his favorites were football and basketball. He lettered in both sports in all three years of high school. He consistently led his teammates to victory and emerged as a true leader – a characteristic that he would carry forward with him later in life.

Upon his graduation from Plymouth High School in 1971, Charlie attended Central Michigan University and eventually started his own successful business. Charlie's greatest joys were his children, Katie, Scott and Abbey, and his granddaughters, Aubrey and Hannah. To those of us who knew him, he was a decent, honest and spiritual man. He was always compassionate and respectful to those around him, and he epitomized the meaning of the word friendship. He had a passion for life and lived it intensely. He was loved and will be missed.

Official: Video leaker 'out to hurt' someone

By Brad Kadrich **Observer Staff Writer**

Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara said Tuesday he isn't sure about the motives of whomever leaked a squad car dashboard camera video of a traffic stop involving the Canton Democrat last April.

But he's pretty confident it's political.

"I don't know why else anyone would leak the video," McNamara said. "I don't know who did it, but the only reason would be to make someone look bad, since I didn't break any laws.'

The video turned up on a local television station Monday eve-



McNamara

months after it was made. It was taken from the dashboard camera of a Canton Police Department squad car in April 2011. It

ning, nearly 10

shows McNamara being given a field sobriety test and having a Breathalyzer administered. He blew 0.07 on the Breathalyzer, just below the legal limit for being considered driving under the influence.

Police officials said McNamara was stopped for not using his signal to indicate a lane change. He was stopped near

Geddes and Canton Center. After administering the breath test, the officers who stopped him decided to give him a ride home in his own car, while following with the police car.

"That's one of the options," Canton Public Safety Director Pat Nemecek said. "We're not crazy about the ride home, but you've got a veteran officer making a discretionary decision, and we stand by that decision."

McNamara said he was treated during the incident "like any other citizen," an assessment Nemecek said was accurate.

"The thing is, the officer didn't even know who (McNamara) was," Nemecek said.

"(McNamara) asked him at one point if (the officer) knew who he was, and the officer said no. At that point the decision had already been made (to drive him home)."

McNamara apologized for cutting the margin so thin.

"I understand that's really close ... I waited a long time (before driving) and I thought it would be lower," McNamara said. "I apologize for any embarrassment this has caused my community or my family."

Embarrassment was exactly the desired effect, said Wayne County Assistant Executive Alan Helmkamp, a Democrat and friend of McNamara. According to Helmkamp,

someone from the county staff requested a copy of the tape from Canton police under the Freedom of Information Act. When it came into the county offices, Helmkamp said he made a copy to review and "so I could advise (McNamara) what was in the hands of his (political) opposition."

It's unclear who made the initial FOIA request, and Nemecek said he didn't know. A FOIA request from the Canton Observer is pending.

"Whomever made the copies which are now being widely distributed (to the media) is obviously out to hurt somebody, maybe all of us," Helmkamp said.



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Police seek help finding credit union thief

Canton Police are asking for help identifying a suspect in the Jan. 18 robbery of the Credit Union Service Center on Sheldon Road.

According to police, the suspect walked into the center around 5:45 p.m., handed the teller a note, implied that he had a weapon, and left with an undisclosed amount of cash.

The suspect is described as a black male, 5-feet-8 or 5-feet-9, around 180 pounds, medium build with a goatee and mustache. Witnesses said he was wearing a black hoodie jacket with the Nike logo; his hood was up, with dark glasses, black gloves, blue undershirt and blue jeans.

Police are asking anyone with information on the identity of the suspect to contact the Can-



Canton Police are looking for this suspect, caught on surveillance video during the robbery of the Credit Union Service Center on Sheldon Road.

ton Police Department at (734) 394-5400. Crime Stoppers will also take anonymous tips at 1-800-SPEAK UP, or tip-

sters can go online to www.1800speakup.org. Crime Stoppers will pay up to \$1,000 for a tip that leads an arrest.



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McCotter: Obama picks winners and losers

By Ken Abramczyk
Observer Staff Writer

President Barack
Obama's State of the
Union address Tuesday
night highlighted the
auto industry's recovery,
pushed for further development of clean energy
and called on Congress to
work together.

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus
McCotter, R-Livonia, criticized Obama, saying
Wednesday morning that
the president's address
showed that Obama
believes the economy "is
a zero sum game."

"He believes that the Washington elites dictate who should get someone else's money," McCotter said. "He has a tax-and-spend agenda that is out-



McCotter

dated for the 21st century." McCotter said the U.S. government could learn

from what is happening in Michigan in creating a smaller, less costly government. "You're seeing the numbers in Michigan in developing a probusiness economy and it's working," he said.

Obama referenced the 2009 government bailout of General Motors and Chrysler, and declared that the American auto industry "was back."

"General Motors is on top as the No. 1 automaker," Obama said. He pointed out that the auto industry had added 160,000 jobs.

McCotter agreed that the auto companies were making progress, and also pointed out that the bailout had bipartisan support, including President George W. Bush and the Michigan congressional delegation. He also believes the companies and employees are the ones who have moved the companies forward.

"All the credit goes to the people who had to put up with the restructuring," McCotter said. "The great irony is he supported the 'restructuring down' for them to make the companies more viable, which is completely opposite of what he wants to do with federal government. He wants to make it more expensive."

McCotter said the president "picks winners and losers" with tax breaks toward alternative energy companies like Solyndra. "We need a broadbased tax and regulatory system," he said.

McCotter was asked about the president's call for the parties to work together. He said that the president does a disservice in calling the differences between the parties "personality differences."

"He hasn't changed his position at all," McCotter said. "He wants the LBJ policies, the Great Society programs of the '60s, which didn't work, and I want the policies of Ronald Reagan. I just believe he's wrong."

U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Michigan, said in a prepared statement that transforming the economy to create new jobs and improving economic security for middle-class families was the most important issue in Michigan.

"I was very glad to hear President Obama focus on these priorities," Stabenow said. She was pleased that Obama embraced the idea of a trade enforcement unit to help crack down on countries that violate trade laws. Stabenow wrote a bill to create a trade enforcement unit years ago. She hoped the idea would become a reality this year.

"American manufacturing is growing again thanks to new innovations and technology breakthroughs — with Michigan businesses and entrepreneurs leading the nation in clean energy patents and advanced battery research and production," Stabenow said. "I have been focused on promoting Michigan's strengths like agriculture, advanced batteries, clean energy and other 21st century manufacturing, and the more the public and private sectors work together to make things and grow things, the stronger Michigan's future will be."

Film encourages patron texting

People generally bristle at the sight of someone whipping out their cell phone in a movie theatre auditorium. If you're attending the Laugh Out Loud Short Film Fest, screening at theatres next week, you'll be asked to do just that.

"Our film is a compilation of 17 short comedies," says Joe Edick, Director of the Laugh Out Loud Short Film Fest. "While it's typically a distraction and regarded as rude behavior, our audiences will be using their cell phones during the end credits to vote for their favorite short comedy."

It's an unusual spin to the typical film festival product. Most festivals are held in a single location and show film over the course of several days - requiring a huge time commitment and expense. "We've strung together 17 short comedies from six different countries," said Edick. "The time commitment is just under two hours and it's screening at traditional movie theatres – not makeshift venues that are often found on the traditional film festival circuit."

Filmmakers submit their work to festivals around the world hoping to gain notoriety that leads into a feature film career.

"Every filmmaker dreams of having their work seen at theatres across the country on the same screens as the big budget Hollywood blockbusters," said Edick. "We're simply helping them get in front of traditional theatre audiences a little quicker."

Two awards will be given to filmmakers by the Laugh Out Loud Short

Film Fest. An award for Best Short Comedy is being judged by six industry film-booking professionals from the motion picture industry. Audiences attending the LOL Short Film Fest will ultimately determine the Audience Choice Award.

"At the end of the film, information appears onscreen telling movie-goers how to text-vote for their favorite short," Edick said. "Vote totals from each city will be added together to determine the winner. The text voting is going to be fun for the audience and definitely won't be a distraction."

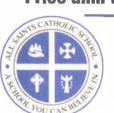
The 2012 Laugh Out Loud Short Film Fest opens Friday at select theatres throughout the country and will complete its theatrical run by March 29.

For more information, call (231) 799-1133.

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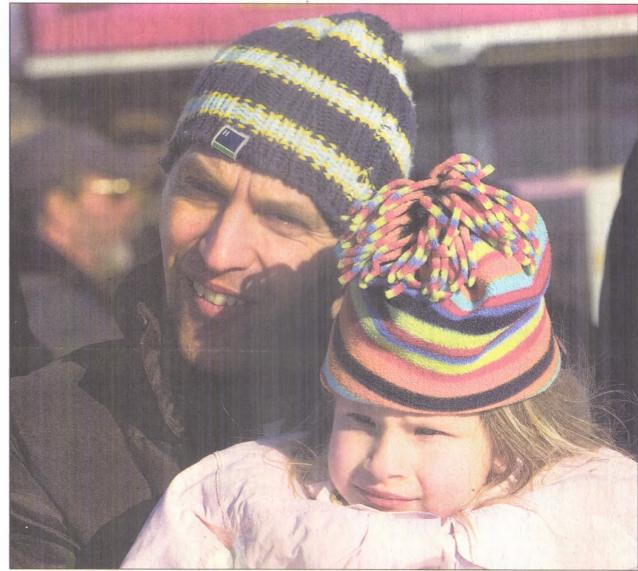
Fees for additional occupants or services may be applicable. Prices, incentives and dining room mail bonus valid at Lyon Township

Festival puts fun on ice

Mother Nature cooperated by providing good weather, and the carvers and the crowds did the rest as the 30th annual Plymouth Ice Festival closed last weekend

Thousands of people crowded the streets of downtown Plymouth for the milestone event, taking advantage of decent temperatures to see the dozens of sculptures crafted by professional and college carvers. People came from all over the state, and even out-

People came from all over the state, and even outside of Michigan's borders (there was reportedly one travel bus from Fort Wayne, Ind.), to view the event.

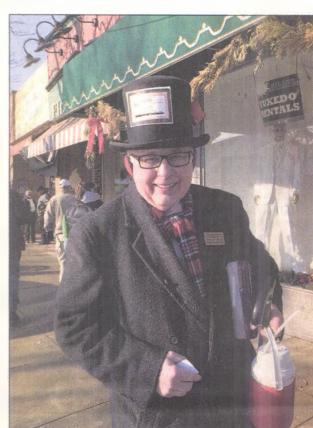


PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Randy Cline and daughter Cristina watch carvers on Saturday afternoon. They are from Birmingham.



A sunny day and tolerable temperatures bring out the crowds on Saturday afternoon.



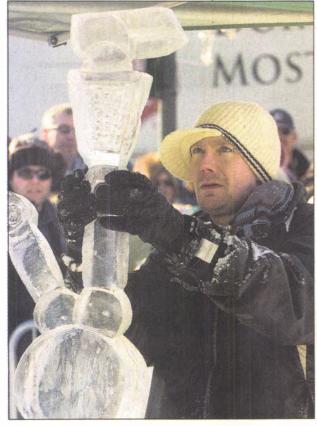
George Harvell welcomes visitors to Plymouth.



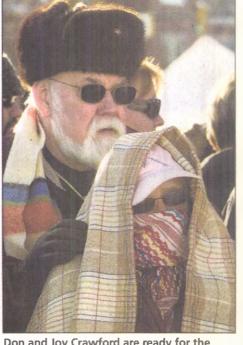
Sculptor Jim Bur hones his sculpture.



Ice judge Jeff Petercsak examines the works of ice.



Ice carver Aaron Whitten sizes up his sculpture.



Don and Joy Crawford are ready for the chilly walk around Kellogg Park.



It's made of ice, but looks like it could fly away.

Don't just forget about U.S. savings bonds

By Rick Bloom **Guest Columnist**

recently sat down with a woman whose husband had just passed away. As is all too common, their financial affairs were all over the place and it was hard to know what their assets and liabilities were. After reviewing tax returns and a variety of statements, I was able to get a good idea of the family's financial situation.

As I was going through the contents of their safety deposit box, I discovered a substantial amount of U.S. savings bonds. In looking at the bonds, there were two problems that, unfortunately, are very common. The first problem was that the bonds did not have any beneficiaries. The problem is that while you are not required to have a beneficiary, the widow is forced to go through a probate



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

er you can. I believe the more you keep judges, courts and lawyers out of family affairs, the better

probate

whenev-

things are. The other problem was the fact that the bonds had matured and were no longer paying interest. On average, the bonds had matured more than 10 years ago so, for the last decade, they paid no interest. The result is that the family had lost thousands of dollars in interest. Unfortunately, this is a situation that occurs all too frequently. Many people buy U.S. savings bonds, put them in a drawer or safety deposit box, and then forget about them. This is OK as long as the bonds have not matured. The problem is, once they mature, you no longer receive interest. In other words, you're giving the government an interest-free loan.

LOCAL NEWS

I know some people don't cash out their U.S. savings bonds because they don't want to have to pay the taxes. U.S. savings bonds are subject to income tax once they are liquidated. The strategy of not cashing the bonds in because you don't want to pay taxes is one that makes no sense whatsoever. After all, it's not like you can avoid the tax. Even if you do not cash the bonds out and you pass away, when your beneficiaries cash the bonds, they will have to pay the income taxes. In addition, there is also a littleknown rule that says that if you have not cashed out

your U.S. savings bonds before maturity, taxes are then due in the year the bond matures. Therefore, if the Internal Revenue Service decided to aggressively enforce this provision, it could result in many taxpayers having to pay not only the taxes, but interest and penalties as well. To my knowledge, the IRS does not have plans to aggressively enforce this provision, but who knows what it may do in the future?

The bottom line is if you are holding on to matured U.S. savings bonds, cash them, pay the taxes and move on

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

Recovery of stolen autos up in 2011, H.E.A.T. reports

Since its inception in 1985, Livonia-based Help Eliminate Auto Thefts (H.E.A.T.) has been working in partnership with citizens and law enforcement to keep Michigan communities safe from the dangers and expense associated with auto theft-related crimes.

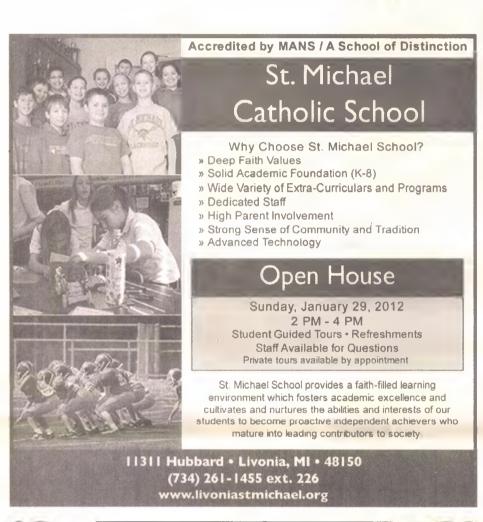
To date across its 26year-history, H.E.A.T. has managed more than 9,100 anonymous tip calls and website submissions, which have led to the recovery of more than 4,400 vehicles valued at over \$54 million. As a result, more than 3,500 suspects have been arrested and more than 2,200 tipsters have been awarded some \$3.7 million for their information.

In 2011, H.E.A.T. saw an increase over its

2010 statistics across nearly every category. Additionally, the number of tips paid, the amount of tips awarded and the value of property recovered all saw increases over both 2010 and 2009 figures.

From Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2011, H.E.A.T. managed 338 tip calls, which led to the recovery of 97 vehicles (up from 77 in 2010) valued at over \$1.6 million (up from approximately \$90,000 in 2010 and \$89,000 in 2009). Seventy-seven suspects were arrested and 55 anonymous tipsters received rewards valued at nearly \$117,000 (a nearly 30 percent increase from

last year). The organization recently unveiled a revamped website at www.1800242HEAT.









Community gathers to remember Kent Morton

By Sue Mason Observer Staff Writer

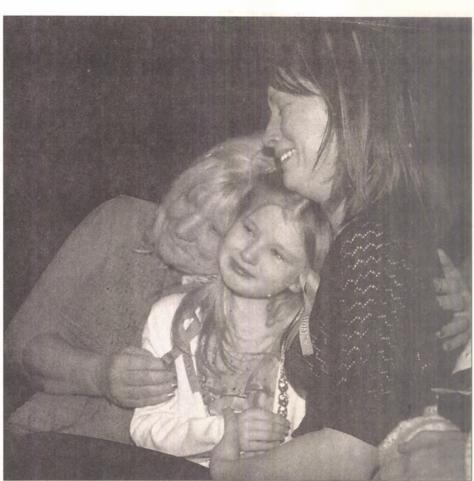
Fawn Salvatore knows there was a smile on her son Kent Morton's face Sunday afternoon when a community came together Sunday afternoon to remember him as a great father, a great son and a great friend.

"Kent would have loved to see everyone come out for his daughter," Salvatore said. "I know he was looking down and I know he was smiling.'

An estimated 1,500 people filled the chapel and visiting rooms at the John Santieu and Son Funeral Home in Garden City for the memorial service held to remember Kent Morton who died Jan. 11 after a fall from the Ambassador Bridge where he had been working. He survived the 150foot fall into the Detroit River and even managed to swim briefly before being carried off by the current. He was last seen near the Bob-Lo docks south of the bridge. His body has not been recovered.

"He was so caring," said his aunt Lisa Zube who passed out memorial folders to people waiting to enter the crowded chapel. "He would do anything for anybody. He was very family oriented."

Zube wore an orange Garden City Cougars sweatshirt, and many of those standing in line



Fawn Salvatore, Makayla Morton and Kristi Waltsgott hug each other during the memorial.

also wore orange, Kent Morton's favorite color. Even funeral director John Santieu hung up his suit coat to put on a long-. sleeved orange jacket and Pastor Earl Duncan wore an orange Detroit Tigers T-shirt under his sports coat.

Poster boards filled with photos of a smiling Kent Morton were set up in the chapel, and his number 11 orange

and white softball shirts and softball were on display. Orange ribbons with his initials and the word Hope on them were available as well as a card with a message from his daughter Makayla:

To Daddy, I miss you and I love you! You are the best Dad any little girl could ask for."

In talking about his brother, a tearful Shane Morton recounted what happened when he told his niece Makayla her father wasn't coming

"She said, 'My daddy's surrounded by angels and they have white wings, my daddy is an angel and he has orange wings," he said. "He leaves some huge shoes. He was an amazing man, an amazing

Pastors Earl and Jordan

MORTON BENEFITS

Time/Date: 2-6 p.m. Sunday, March 4 Location: Albert's on the Alley, 5651 Middlebelt, north of Ford Road, Garden City

Details: The Friends of Fawn Salvatore are holding a buffet with food and a raffle. Kids are more than welcome. Tickets are \$20 per person and are available by pre-sale only. No tickets will be sold at the door the day of the event. Tickets will be sold from 4-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 31, in front of IMC during the Read-In at the Memorial Elementary 1-2 Campus, at the corner of Brandt and Marquette. They also will be available in the school office at Memorial from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday, starting next week through Feb. 29.

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25

Location: Westland Bowl, 5940 N. Wayne Road, north of Ford Road, Westland

Details: Tickets cost \$20 per person for three games, shoes and pizza. Check-in is at 8 p.m.

Contact: Mike Lesperance at (734) 536-6066 or Will Hamilton at (734) 716-3329

Duncan of Morning Star Church officiated the memorial which included readings from Scriptures and messages from friends.

Kent would want you to laugh, he would want you to rejoice," said Pastor Jacob Duncan who read several remembrances, many of which have been posted on a In Memory of Kent Morton Facebook page.

One friend recalled when he and Kent Morton had strung fishing line through the Commons of Garden City High School the last day of their senior year.

"We saw the principal coming and we ran and hide," the message read. "The bell rang and people came running to get out of school. Some fell and some got caught in our web, including the principal."

Many of the messages also attested to Kent Morton's love of his daughter.

'The only one thing I can say is he was in love with his daughter Makay-

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la," one message stated. "I know this to be true, Kent was a great dad,' another stated.

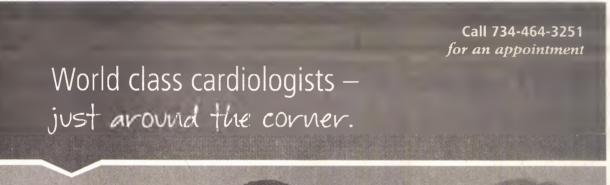
Makayla and her cousin Summer Morton stood on chairs to reach the microphone and sang the chapters of the New Testament, which she had learned in the Pioneers Club at Morning Star Church. They then performed a Garden City Stars cheer and stood by Shane Morton as he spoke to the crowd about his brother.

"All of you tell me you're sorry, but I don't feel sorry for me," Shane Morton said. "I feel sorry those who lost a friend. I feel sorry for those who lost a great family member. I feel sorry for my mom who lost her son way too soon."

"Kent is gone, we're going to miss that smile. We'll never forget you, we love you, Kent."

Pastor Earl Duncan said he respected men like Kent Morton. In an age of deadbeat dads, he was doing what he was doing for his daughter, he said.

'I respect these kind of men who love these kids and do everything for them," he said. "Kent worked hard. He was a loving dad, a loving son. He made people laugh. I thank Fawn for giving us Kent. I'm sure his brothers and sisters thank you. His life was a gift to us all. Because of his acceptance of Jesus, I know where he is at."





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

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Publish: January 26 & 29, 2012

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Plymouth's The Inn at St. John's has been awarded the prestigious Four Diamond rating by the Automobile Association of America.

AAA honors Inn at St. John's

The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth, Mich. has been awarded the prestigious Four Diamond rating by the Automobile Association of America. AAA Diamond Ratings help travelers select hotels that meet their expectations. These ratings represent an assessment of the overall quality, the range of a facility and the level of hospitality offered by a property.

AAA Diamond ratings specify that Four Diamond-awarded establishments are "upscale in all areas. Accommodations are progressively more refined and stylish. The physical attri-

butes reflect an obvious enhanced level of quality throughout. The fundamental hallmarks at this level include an extensive array of amenities combined with a high degree of hospitality, service, and attention to detail." With this designation, The Inn at St. John's becomes one of only 14 hotels in Michigan and the only hotel in Detroit's western suburbs to hold the Four Diamond rating.

"This award is truly testament to our staff, their hard work and commitment to excellent service," said Paul Wegert, General Manager. "The

secret is out on what our many repeat customers already know ... The Inn at St. John's takes service and quality to heart every single day. We've worked hard to earn this designation and it shows.

The Inn at St. John's features more than 48,000 square feet of distinctive conference space, 118 upscale guest rooms and suites and 27 holes of resort-style golf as well as 5ive Restaurant, serving eclectic American cuisine. As of 2011, The Inn at St. John's is host of the prestigious Concours d'Elegance of America event, formerly held at Meadowbrook.

PLYMOUTH BUSINESS BRIEFS

New president

Plymouth resident Darwin Watts, the president and principal of Saline-based American Aqua, Inc., has been appointed president of the Water Quality Association (WQA; www.wqa.org).

WQA is a not-for-profit international trade association with headquarters in Lisle, Ill. It represents more than 2,500 members in the residential, commercial, and industrial water treatment industry worldwide. As WOA president,

> Watts now leads the organization as it provides public information about water treatment issues while educating, training, and certifying water treatment professionals to better serve their customers.

Watts Watts has worked in the water treatment

industry for over 30 years. His experience encompasses professional, executive management, and business ownership roles. Watts is a Certified Water Specialist V (CWSV), recognizing his attainment of one of the industry's highest levels of technical certification. He previously served on the WQA board of directors and board of governors.

Watts is also the president and principal of SEAS Capital Partners, LLC, a private equity firm focusing on the water treatment industry. SEAS Capital helps clients with transition plans. It advises on company management and improvement, provides entry and exit acquisition assistance. and offers equity ownership positions in selected water treatment companies.

Bank professional

Bank of Ann Arbor announced the hiring of Sandra Taggie as Vice President and Trust Officer, where she will serve clients in both the Plymouth and Ann

Arbor offices.



Taggie

Taggie has more than 30 years of experience in the personal trust and investment area. She was most recently, and from 1989 to 2011, employed by Comerica Bank-Ann Arbor Region, primarily in personal trust administra-

tion. Prior to that, she worked at First of America Bank and Ann Arbor Bank & Trust Company, handling all aspects of

trust administration and trust portfolio management.

"We're pleased to have a seasoned and highly experienced trust and investment management professional introducing these services to our clients and prospective clients in our Plymouth office," said Tim Marshall, President and CEO of Bank of Ann Arbor. "Sandy has provided an exceptionally high level of customer service for many years to a long list of satisfied clients throughout southeast Michigan. Her knowledge in the trust administration area has allowed her to work closely with financial consultants, insurance consultants, financial planners, and tax specialists in creating long lasting trust solutions for her clients."

Taggie is a graduate of National Graduate Trust School at Northwestern University and attended Eastern Michigan University. She has served as a member of the University Of Michigan Museum Of Art Friends Board and Alzheimer's Association Board.

Taggie and her husband reside in the Plymouth-Canton area.

Health VP

Michael Mark has joined Health Management Systems of America as Executive Vice President of Sales and Product Development.

Mark will be responsible for conceptualizing and implementing market strategy, achieving marketing targets, and managing and directing the execution of sales plans and initiatives.

Mark, a resident of Plymouth, has a wealth of consulting experience in the managed care industry at the C+ level. He holds a BBA degree in Finance and Administration from University of Detroit Mercy.

He was previously Chairman and Chief Executive Officer at The Mark Group, LLC, and has served as Senior Vice President of Healthcare at Science Applications International Corporation, Senior Vice President at Computer Science Corporation, President and CEO of Health Plus of Michigan and President and CEO of The Blue Care Network.

"We are pleased to have Michael Mark join our team at Health Management Systems of America," said J. William Sumner, President and CEO. "His proven track record of profitable success in the managed care industry will bring our clients and our company outstanding opportunities for growth and development."

PLYMOUTH CHAMBER CHAT

Speed networking

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts a "Speed Networking" event Feb. 9.

The event, which chamber officials are hailing as a sort of "speed-dating for businesses," takes place 8 a.m. at the Red Olive Restaurant, 1059 Ann Arbor Road, in Plymouth. Members will have the opportunity to meet approximately 20-25 businesses in one hour. This structured networking event will allow you to meet most of the people in the room and within two minutes learn about each

The purpose is to meet potential customers or develop new referral partners. It is quick, efficient and a very productive way to start your work day. The event will start with everyone having the opportunity to enjoy coffee, juice and a continental breakfast.

To respect the participants' time, chamber officials are urging people to arrive at 8 a.m. and be ready to start at 8:15 a.m. The cost to attend will be \$10 to cover the continental breakfast and beverages.

To sign up for the event, call (734) 453-1540 or e-mail teri@plymouthmich.org.

Arts fundraiser

Fresh off a fall fundraiser that raised more than twice what it raised in 2010, the Canton Partnership for the Arts and Humanities will hold another great event this spring. This year they are turning to a local favorite to raise both funds and exposure for the arts in Canton and surrounding communities.

Steve King and the Dittilies will play their brand of rock favorites for a "Rock-n-Roll Valentine's," a Feb. 10 concert at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton. The event begins with a 7 p.m. reception followed by the 8 p.m. concert. Tickets are \$30 per person. Vis-

it the theater website for your tickets today at: www.cantonvillagetheater.org.

Round-table talk

The Chamber's Government Affairs Committee invites members to join them for a round table discussion with the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. The event takes place 8-9 a.m. Feb. 8 at the chamber office (850 W. Ann Arbor Trail). A member of the Michigan's chamber's lobbying team will be holding a conference call to brief attendees on what to expect in Lansing this upcoming year and the Michigan Chamber's 2012 legislative priorities. There will also be time for questions.

To RSVP for the round table, contact the chamber at teri@plymouthmich.org or call (734) 453-1540.

Footbridge project

A new footbridge will be installed sometime this spring in the Plymouth Township Park and will provide parkgoers with a walkway across Tonquish Creek that can be used by walkers, joggers and bicyclists who frequent the park. The bridge will be made of aluminum, which is a good material to be able to withstand weather conditions and continual use at the well visited park.

Book drop

Genuine Toy Co. is a drop-off location for "Operation 25,000 Books", a book collection drive from Metro Parent Magazine. Children's books or books related to parenting are being collected for the drive that runs through September 2012. All the books collected will be donated to Detroit Parent Network, a non-profit organization with the goal of making Detroit a better place to raise and educate children. Please stop by with your book donation to help support this worthy cause.

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Plus! Our Poker Room is Better Than Ever! Start playing at 10am! Tournaments every night at 7pm.

Poker Room Proceeds Benefit Fowlerville Band Boosters #M71173, January 26-29, 2012

FREE Parking & Admission
At the corner of Seven Mile and Sheldon in Northville. For Clubhouse Dinner Reservations call:

(248) 349-1000





Grand opening



Chiropractic Doctor Cheryl Luther has opened Sport and Spine Performance Institute at 1365 S. Main in Plymouth. Sport and Spine is a progressive clinic and uses a biomechanical and physiological approach dedicated to the care and health of their patients, naturally without drugs or surgery. Pictured is Luther, her staff, patients, family and members of the Chamber's Ambassador's committee.

OUR VIEWS

lce success

Annual festival carves out another nice niche

If the crowds and the enthusiasm for last weekend's Plymouth Ice Festival were any indication — and with apologies to Mark Twain — rumors of the event's demise may have been greatly exaggerated.

The milestone 30th annual event was replete with dynamic sculptures, an energetic crowd, talented carvers and plenty to do, in case viewing all that art just wasn't enough.

One of the more popular activities was the cross country skiing provided by downtown Plymouth's Sun & Snow Sports. Almost an afterthought as an activity at last year's festival, the Fun Zone was an extremely popular place to be, for skiers of all ages but particularly for youngsters. The line was still long as the festival wrapped up around 5 p.m. Sunday.

The petting farm was a popular attraction, and the festival was also charitable, with the Plymouth Salvation Army collecting clothes for the needy.

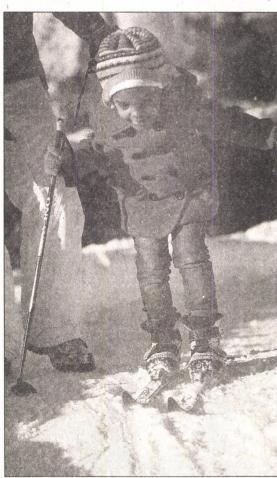
But mostly, the festival was — as it always has been — about the ice, and the extraordinary work of the carvers producing the sculptures. Professional carvers such as Plymouth's Tajana Rakaur, Canton's Ted Wakar and Ohio's Aaron Costic do brilliant work, and so do the college carvers who hail from a number of schools, including Henry Ford Community College, which won the team college carving competition Sunday.

Mother Nature cooperated, providing temperatures in the teens as the festival opened Friday, but had warmed up just enough to make the carving good and the atmosphere even better the rest of the weekend

Rumors that the 30th festival could be the last picked up a little steam last month, when festival organizers still hadn't paid the bill for last year's festival, nor obtained the permit for this year's, until the weeks leading up to this year's event. City officials said that's not all that unusual, although they are considering new guidelines about allowing permits for city events. City commissioners have called for stronger community support and it's too soon after this year's event to know much about money. For now, the focus should be on the success of this year's event.

And apparently it's still successful, if the legions of fans drawn to Plymouth from all over the state — and some even from outside Michigan's boundaries — is truly an indication. Those folks don't care about the potential funding issues; they care about the art. The fans have come to expect a quality show.

And, for the 30th year, that's exactly what they got.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Five-year-old Reagan Warren of Farmington Hills tries cross country skiing, an activity sponsored by Sun & Snow Sports of Plymouth.

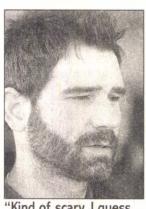
OBSERVER A CAMETY COMPANY

Brad Kadrich, Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor **Grace Perry,**Director of
Advertising

COMMUNITY VOICE

What are your thoughts on the unusually mild winter we've had so far?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



"Kind of scary, I guess, with all the talk about global warming. ... We're into snowboarding, and it's (difficult) when there's no snow."

Todd Sayyae Livonia



"It's really weird. It's awkward."

Ashley Sayyae Livonia



"It's great. Thank God for global warming." Phil Iretor

Phil Ireton
Plymouth Township



"I'm enjoying it. We haven't had to shovel snow."

David Yelonek Plymouth

LETTERS

Fire facts

I am really disappointed that the Plymouth Township firefighters refused to take concessions, causing the city of Plymouth to join forces with Northville at a saving of over \$400,000 a year.

Because of this, the township needs to reduce our fire budget by one-fourth, not add to it. All other township employees took concessions to help in these economic hard times. To add insult to injury, the firefighters went to court and forced a special assessment district election on the taxpayers. This is more complicated than a simple 1-mill tax increase.

1) Public Act 312 forces Michigan into compulsory binding arbitration with firefighters unions. The act allows an unelected arbitrator to determine contracts, obligating taxpayer dollars. The result is elected officials are taken out of the process and costs can skyrocket. Arbitrators often give favorable rulings to unions.

2) Public Act 345 allows for millages to pay for the retirement benefits of firefighters. After initial voter approval, millage rates increase automatically to pay for retirement benefits. The township could offload liability from its personnel budget directly to the taxpayers.

taxpayers.

3) If a special assessment district is approved by the voters, it affects the entire township. It is possible the firefighters could demand even higher wages and the millage could be increased to as high as 10 mills for capital improvements and unlimited wages and benefits. Voters would lose their right to vote on future taxes; it would be determined by the

board of trustees or an arbitrator. 4) In this tough economic time, many of the people in this community have lost our jobs, our homes and our businesses. We have made sacrifices and our lives and dreams have been torn apart. Seniors are helping our unemployed children and grandchildren. Most of us do not have retirement and unlimited medical programs, we must pay these expenses out of our own pockets. We do not have the resources to extend unlimited benefits to all government employees while we make sacrifices at home. I am against a special assessment district tax that will effect all future generations in the township.

Duane Zantop
Plymouth

No on SAD

Painful economic times have required the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees to make difficult budgetary decisions. All township employees, with the exception of our firefighters, have sacrificed a total of \$1.8 million in wage and benefit concessions.

In addition, the city of Plymouth has terminated its joint fire and emergency medical services participation due to the refusal of the township firefighters union to discuss meaningful cost savings.

This has created \$1 million in lost revenue and 30-percent workload reduction.

Passage of the Special Assessment District (SAD) Feb. 28 would increase our property taxes for fire equipment and operations. This tax increase has NO cap and is for an indefinite period of time.

Allow our township board to operate the fire department within the budget demanded of these economic times. Declining tax rolls and the loss of our partnership with the city of Plymouth require a "no" vote on SAD Feb. 28.

Pam Kosteva Plymouth

Best wishes

The holidays are often a time of joy and good tidings as friends and family get together to share the spirit of the season. This past holiday was indeed a welcome break from the hustle and bustle of my first year as a Michigan state senator.

I found that it was very easy to get distracted from what is truly important in life as I ran from meeting to meeting or switched from phone call to phone call. In order to keep me focused throughout the year on what is really important in this hectic environment, I posted a plaque with the following reminder in the entrance of my office: "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable -- if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things." (Phil. 4:8)"

I am happy to say that Christine at the Veterinary Emergency Service in Plymouth was all of the above for my wife and I on the night of Dec. 23. Our 16-year-old dog and family friend of 15 years, Rastro, passed away before our very eyes in front of the Christmas tree. With heavy hearts, we brought the lifeless body of Rastro into the lobby of the veterinary office. Christine welcomed us into a side room where she checked his vital signs and confirmed that he was indeed

As we stood there in grief, she gave us each a hug. She then proceeded to tell us not to worry about a thing. She would take care of everything from that point forward. In the midst of overwhelming grief, we experienced overwhelming warmth and kindness from a complete stranger.

So as we begin 2012, I encourage all of us to not only "focus on whatever is true, whatever is noble", but also to tell someone about it. There are so many people in our community like Christine that go about the day providing joy and comfort in ways that are above and beyond the call of duty. Too often we focus on the bad and the ugly.

I encourage us all to shed a little bit of light on the good in people that we come across each day. Best wishes to your readers for a wonderful new year!

> Patrick Colbeck state senator

Slippery slope

As someone who grew up in Plymouth, attending school K-12 and taught at P-CEP during three decades, I am concerned removal of scholarly texts *Beloved* and *Waterland* from AP courses are an attack on the rigor of advanced studies.

Tactics used, based on reading of small excerpts which are characterized as "pornography," could easily be applied to outlaw even the Bible. Not only are AP students having books yanked out of their hands, due process of board policy is still not being followed for *Waterland*. This book is treated as guilty until proven innocent—the American way?

This is the proverbial "slippery slope." My point being that one can conjure fear and create divisiveness about a great many things: prize-winning college texts written by Nobel scholars, best-selling holy books, etc. If I am afraid that my son/daughter in AP chemistry might choose to make an incendiary device. in AP biology might discover how to inflict pain on an animal, in AP history may admire excerpts from Mein Kampf, in AP physics develop curiosity about atomic devices, in AP computing might create a damaging virus, in AP French might encounter writings of the Marguis de Sade, or in reading Genesis 19:30-36 might be inspired to behave as Lot's daughters — then is the problem with the complex nature of the studies and the world we live in or is the problem with the fear we have encouraged within ourselves and the distrust we have in our own upbringing of our children?

And if it is the latter, isn't that a private matter for a family to deal with, instead of foisting private fears on the majority of us who want our children to learn from the top scholars and texts?

My further concern is for the superintendent to more diligently follow rules in clear view of school children who are also asked to follow rules. I am also disheartened that board member Maloney was quoted calling the process of selecting these two books a "failure." The committees reviewing the texts had not even met and a board member has found "failure." Can't there be a genuine coming together of board and administration to support rigor of studies and the highly qualified staff at P-CEP in their selection of materials? One parent's fear or a board member's careless comment should not trump due process, scholarly texts and professional staff.

Embarrassing the school district and dumbing down of the curriculum do not serve community interests.

Jerry Thompson
Plymouth

Attorney general: More police, tougher sentences needed

By Ken Abramczyk **Observer Staff Writer**

State Attorney General Bill Schuette has called for putting 1,000 new police officers on patrol and keeping violent repeat offenders who have committed four felonies off the streets with a minimum 25year sentence.

Schuette announced the public safety initiative on Wednesday and was joined by Linda Nehasil, widow of murdered Livonia Police Officer Larry Nehasil; Detroit Chief of Police Ralph Godbee, former Livonia Police Chief Robert Stevenson, county prosecutors, and representatives from the Police Officers Association of Michigan and the Fraternal Order of

"With four of the top 10 most violent cities in America, Michigan will never fully flourish unless our governments can fulfill their basic task: protecting public safety," said Schuette in a prepared statement. "When families and job creators live in fear, no student can learn, no company will create a job, and no family can walk the streets of their own neighborhood in peace. It is time to put more cops on the beat and remove our most violent repeat offenders from our neighborhood streets."

Targeting repeat felons

Schuette also proposed legislation known as VO-4, which targets the worst repeat violent offenders by establishing a minimum prison sentence of at least 25 years for criminals convicted of a serious violent crime after already being convicted of any three felonies.

Schuette referenced the cases of four convicted murder-



FILE PHOTO

State Attorney General Bill Schuette proposed legislation requiring minimum 25-year sentences for the worst repeat violent offenders.

ers with lengthy felony records who would have been behind bars had the VO-4 sentencing provision been in place at the time of their fourth felony conviction. Schuette highlighted the case of Terry Bowling, 49, who was convicted of second-degree murder and other crimes for his role in a home invasion in which Livonia Police Officer Larry Nehasil was killed in the line of duty last year. Nehasil died in an exchange of gunfire with Terry Bowling's brother, David Bowling, while working surveillance on the two suspects during a

burglary in Walled Lake. Prior to facing the second-

than the

sum total

of a single

test given

on a sin-

gle day."

He pulled

together a

degree murder charge, Terry Bowling had six felony convictions and nine misdemeanors. Under Schuette's proposal, Bowling would have faced a possible minimum of 25 years in prison after his fourth conviction for armed robbery in 1999, which occurred more than 10 years before the death of Officer Nehasil. Stevenson, now executive

director of the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, said Schuette visited the Nehasil family at the funeral home to offer condolences to them after Larry was killed. Stevenson said Schuette started looking at the law after that visit.

"Bowling was one of four felons that had gone out and committed murder," Stevenson said. "Had the law been in effect, he and the others would not have been out on the street. All of them would have been in jail."

Some felons can't be rehabilitated, Stevenson said.

"There just comes a time you say, 'We've done what we can for you,' and we need to protect us from them," Stevenson said.

Costs need to be studied

Stevenson said details still need to be worked out, including how the state will pay for additional police officers.

N. HAGGERTY RD. ON FEBRUARY 7, 2012

Stevenson said there are 3,200 fewer officers in Michigan since Sept. 11, 2001. Communities have been forced to cut officers because of declining property values at a time when four of the top 10 most violent cities in the country are located in Michigan.

When crime hits these larger cities, it also impacts nearby communities, Stevenson said. "Detroit crime is Livonia crime, which is Walled Lake's crime," Stevenson said. "It's time to reduce those numbers by putting 1,000 officers on the streets."

kabramcz@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2591

Watkins one of finalists for Florida job

Tom Watkins, a Northville resident and former Michigan schools superintendent was selected Jan. 18 as one of four finalist to be interviewed to lead the nation's 11th largest school district -Palm Beach County, Fla.

Watkins served as Michigan's state superintendent of schools from 2001-2005 and was the president and CEO of the Economic Council of Palm Beach County, 1996-

Watkins also took on the extra duty of serving on the Detroit School Board simultaneously with his term of state superintendent. He oversaw Michigan's implementation of No Child left Behind and tossed out a statewide accreditation system developed by his predecessor that was solely based on Michigan's standardized test.

Watkins said at the time, "Our schools, teachers and, most importantly, our students, are more



Watson

coalition of educators, business leaders and other stakeholders and developed a new accreditation system that looked at not only test scores but other indicators of stu-

dent success. Watkins wrote a book, "They Help Us Paint Rainbows" that the business community underwrote that he distributed to recognize the many great teachers across our

Bill Cecil, Michigan's 2003-04 Teacher of the Year, praised Watkins for his focus on helping lift up teaching and learning. Cecil wrote in a reference letter for Watkins: "What impressed me most about Tom as an educational leader

was his ability to remain dedicated, committed and focused on the right things — teaching, learning and children.

Dr. Jeremy Hughes who served as Watkins chief academic officer and is now superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Schools, wrote in his reference letter: "Tom is the most creative, innovative, and child-centered educator I have ever known." Hughes went on to say Watkins is "a visionary" who thinks ahead of the crowd, sighting Watkins' 2004 report "Structural Problems Facing Michigan Schools in the 21st Century," that foreshadowed what is playing out in every school district in

Michigan today. Watkins, an international education and business consultant, said he is able to walk in multiple communities and is equally comfortable in the corporate board room and in our state's toughest neighborhoods.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED USE OF THE 2012 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS **FEBRUARY 7, 2012**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM WILL BE HELD BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE MEETING ROOM OF THE TOWNSHIP HALL WHICH IS LOCATED AT 9955

THE PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE TO AFFORD THE PUBLIC THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLACE BEFORE THE BOARD ANY PROPOSED USE OF THE 2012 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS.

PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS FROM THE WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM ARE THAT THE ESTIMATED 2012 FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR THE TOWNSHIP WILL BE APPROXIMATELY \$76,440. WAYNE COUNTY REQUIRES FOR 2012 THAT OUR REQUEST FOR PUBLIC SERVICE PROJECTS NOT EXCEED 15 % OF THE TOTAL ALLOCATION. BASED ON THAT SPECIAL REQUIREMENT THE PROJECTS ARE PROPOSED AS

ESTIMATED 2012 ALLOCATION BASED ON 15% PUBLIC SERVICE CAP

		Allocation	
PUBLIC SERVICES	\$11,604		
Senior Services		\$3,960	
Council on Aging			\$1,736
Senior Alliance	3		\$2,224
Senior Transportation		\$7,644	
Senior Transportation			\$7,644
ADMINISTRATION	\$7,644		
Administration			\$7,644
BRICK & MORTAR	\$57,192		
Multi – Year ADA Township Improvements* PY 2011 and 2012	-		\$57,192
TOTAL ALLOCATION	\$76,440		

*This multi-year project was approved by the Board of Trustees on 3/8/11.

IF WAYNE COUNTY DETERMINES AFTER ALL APPLICATIONS ARE RECEIVED THAT ADDITIONAL FUNDS SHALL BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC SERVICE PROJECTS THE PROPOSED ALLOCATIONS SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:

		Allocation	
PUBLIC SERVICES	\$37,456		
Senior Services		\$9,937	
Council on Aging	3		\$7,713
Senior Alliance	;		\$2,224
Senior Transportation		\$26,754	
Senior Transportation			\$26,754
ADMINISTRATION	\$7,644		
Administration	1		\$7,644
BRICK & MORTAR	\$31,340		
Multi – Year ADA Township Improvements ^a PY 2011 and 2012			\$31,340
TOTAL ALLOCATION	\$76,440	<u> </u>	

*This multi-year project was approved by the Board of Trustees on 3/8/11.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH UPON COMPLETION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING, WILL DETERMINE THE USE OF THE 2012 FUNDS.

ANY WRITTEN COMMENTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED USE OF THE 2012 FUNDS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO SUSAN VIGNOE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT COORDINATOR, CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH 9955 N. HAGGERTY RD, PLYMOUTH, MI, 48170 AND MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2012.

Joe Bridgman, MMC

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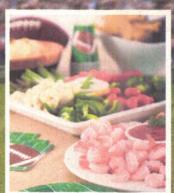
Publish: January 26, 2012

Township Clerk



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Boar's Head Save lb. \$4.00 lb.

Boar's Head Baby Swiss Cheese

Boar's Head Save \$3.00 lb.

Dietz & Watson Buffalo Chicken

lb. \$3.50 lb.

Dietz & Watson Garlic Cheddar Cheese



Save

Joe's Signature Rotisserie Chicken

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Joe's Signature Corned Beef

\$2.00 lb.

Old Tyme Provolone Cheese

1b. \$2.00 lb.

Hoffman's Salami

\$2.00 lb.

Next time you need fresh flowers for any occasion call or email Carolynn Russo. You can reach her at Joe's most Monday's, Wednesday's, Thursday's and Friday's from 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. or email her at crflorist1@aol.com anytime.

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Annual invite to be hotly contested

OBSERVERLAND PREVIEW

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

There was little suspense during last year's 20th annual Observerland Invitational Wrestling Tournament after Novi-Detroit Catholic Central walked away with the title for the third straight year by scoring a record 336.5 points.

And apparently the nine-time champion Shamrocks, ranked No. 1 in Division 1 and 10th nationally, have bigger fish to fry this weekend as they'll be sending their 'A' or Blue varsity team to Lakeland, Ohio, for a four-team super dual tournament to face host St. Edwards, ranked No. 2 nationally, along with Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary and St. Johns, ranked No. 1 in Division 2.

The 21st Observerland features 16 area teams and starts with first-round action beginning at 9 a.m. this Saturday at Livonia Churchill.

No Canton Although CC will still



Plymouth's Said Youssef (right), shown from earlier this season, is one of the Wildcats who could be a medal contender at the Observerland invite.

be dangerous, this year's tourney should feature a more balanced field for the team crown.

Among the teams vying to unseat CC are last year's runner-up Farmington, third-place finisher Belleville, North Farmington, Farmington Harrison, Plymouth, Salem, Garden City, Redford Union, Lutheran High Westland, West-

land John Glenn, Wayne Memorial, Northville, Livonia Franklin, Livonia Stevenson and the host Chargers.

"I would think (Westland) John Glenn would

be the favorite," said Franklin coach Dave Chiola, whose formidable squad is returning to Observerland after

Please see TOURNEY, B2

Salem girls cagers win Another big scor

Another big scoring night from Bri Berberet and Breanne Beaver's solid all-around performance lifted host Salem to a 41-32 varsity girls basketball victory Tuesday over Brighton.

Berberet followed up Friday's 24-point night against South Lyon with a 19-point effort against the Bulldogs.

Helping the cause with 12 points and 11 rebounds was Beaver, who Salem head coach Fred Thomann said "had a really nice rebounding game (and) did a great job."

The KLAA crossover teams played a tight game until the fourth, which began with Salem leading just 29-28.

Salem took control in the final quarter, with Beaver connecting on two field goals, Berberet hitting all four of her foul shots and Kelly Whalen and Katie Latack also

making two free throws.
"It was a great win
for us," said Thomann,
whose team visits Northville at 7 p.m. Friday.

PCA drops MIAC tilt

The Plymouth Christian Academy boys basketball team lost 77-50 Tuesday to host Southfield Christian in a Michigan Independent Athletics Conference Blue Division matchup.

Struggles from the free-throw line (22-of-39) and 26 turnovers were costly for PCA (4-6), despite senior center Eric Jipping scoring 29 points and registering 14 rebounds.

Drew Ibach had five points and 15 rebounds.

The Eagles will host Allen Park Inter-City Baptist at 8:30 p.m. Friday in the second half of a homecoming doubleheader. The opener (7:15 p.m.) pits PCA and Inter-City Baptist girls varsity.

Eagles soar from start By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer Defensive heat out the night, sparked by 19 steals and a 38-17 edge in the rebounding department. having the success we're having right now." Scoring 18 points and tallving five rebounds

scorched visiting Southfield Christian as Plymouth Christian Academy cruised from the opening tip Tuesday night in a Michigan Independent Athletics Conference-Blue Division girls basketball matchup.

The host Eagles jumped out to a 22-3 lead and went on to a 68-42 victory that never was in doubt.

"We just wanted to start off with pressure, get a couple turnovers early and get the ball in the basket," PCA head coach Carol Gerulis said. "I thought we did a good job with that."

Plymouth Christian (7-4 overall, 5-1 in the MIAC Blue) never had its lead shrink to fewer than 14 points through-

Leading PCA with 18 points and 11 rebounds was sophomore center Jennifer Malcolm, with junior guard Karen Windle chipping in with 13 points and six steals.

In on the fun

The coach emptied the bench, with nine players making the scoresheet.

PCA's balanced attack also featured eight points from sophomore forward Rachel Smith, seven points, eight assists and seven steals from sophomore forward Emily Gerulis and seven points from sophomore guard Martha Mullett.

"My kids just play hard defense," coach Gerulis said. "They really get after it defensively and I think that's why we're Scoring 18 points and tallying five rebounds for Southfield Christian (4-10, 2-4) was sophomore guard Charity Godbold.

"Charity Godbold works hard. She can score, is very-creative on offense and she's an asset to our team," head coach Seena Allen said. "We have a lot of seniors that graduated last year, so she is leading the team as a whole."

Contributing 12 points for the visiting Eagles was senior forward Emily Thrasher, with sophomore Kelley Brooks adding nine.

The PCA lead was 22-8 after the first quarter and 40-25 at halftime, with Southfield Christian's hot shooting from

Please see HOOPS, B3

Plymouth Christian Academy sophomore center Jennifer Malcolm (No. 25), shown from earlier this season, paced the Eagles Tuesday night with 18 points and 11 rebounds.

Penguins ice pesky Wild

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

After the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins defeated defending Division 1 champion Grosse Pointe

HOCKEY South on Jan. 17,

Jan. 17, PCS head coach Mary Beth Johnson expected some kind of letdown by her team the next time out.

That was Saturday night against the Walled Lake Wild, who like the Penguins are a D2 team in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League.

But the Penguins still managed to earn a 5-3 victory at Suburban Ice-Farmington Hills.

Sparking PCS (6-2 overall, 5-0 in D2) was forward Nicole Natelborg, who scored three times and assisted on the other two (scored by linemate Jackie Lough, who also had two helpers).

"We definitely had that (hangover after a big win) going on," Johnson said. "We weren't sure



LORETTA O'FLYNN

Vying for a loose puck Saturday are Cortny McAdoo (right) of the PCS Penguins and Sidney Smith (No. 11) of Walled Lake.

how the girls were going to come out tonight after beating Grosse Pointe South.

"They (Wild) definitely matched us shift for shift in the first two periods and we needed to get our lines together and refocused for the third period."

Scoring all three goals for Walled Lake was defenseman Meryll Mill-

"She (Miller) is a good player," Johnson said. "I know she's played with some of the travel girls on our team.

"The girls know her, she knows our girls. I think it was a battle to see who could put the most pucks in the net."

Tough in clutch

Earning the win in goal for the Penguins was sophomore Becky Lough, who made several clutch saves after Miller tied

Please see ICERS, B3

Canton tops at Huron Valley

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

> **By Tim Smith** Observer Staff Writer

If Saturday's Huron Valley Invitational is any indication, there could be two gymnastics teams from the Park in contention for postseason success.

Last year's state runner-up, Canton, won the 19-team invite at Milford with a score of 143.85. That edged second-place Farmington (142.95) and third-place Salem (141.725).

Teams topping the 140point mark are considered solid bets to reach the state meet.

The Chiefs followed that up Tuesday, defeating Livonia Red by a score of 137.275-127.40.

"The state meet, there are four regions, they take top three teams," Canton head coach John Cunningham said. "If there's a fourth-place

team scoring 140 or better, and that's the best score of any of the other fourth-place teams, that team also goes."

Canton looks to be in that mix, and Cunningham tipped his cap to the Rocks.

"Salem broke 140 earlier," he said. "They've got a good team, a nice team."

Canton took the top spot despite several key gymnasts dealing with nagging injuries. Jocelyn Moraw missed the event with a hand injury, while Division 1 standouts Melissa Green and Ayana Lewis (defending D2 vault state champion) were hampered by back injuries.

"Without Jocelyn, I thought we could probably be third or fourth, because Farmington was there and a couple other good teams," Cunningham said. "I was really proud of these guys.

Please see INVITE, B2

Pereira lifts Blazer icers

Livonia Ladywood moved closer to the .500 mark with a pair of Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League victories over the weekend at Plymouth's Arctic Edge as Hannah Pereira scored a total of eight goals. On Saturday, the Blaz-

ers improved to 7-8 overall and 7-8 in the league with a 9-1 triumph over Beverly Hills-Detrort Country Day as Pereira scored four goals to raise her season total to 20.

The Blazers, who outshot Country Day 34-12, also got goals from Brittany Galvin, Erin Cronyn, Rana Freij, Katie Folk and Virginia Matherly.

Galvin also added two assists, while Jackie Kristofik, Lane Kolpacke, Rachel Fradette and Freij had one each.

Kelsey Thomas scored for the Yellowjackets in the third period to spoil Ladywood goaltender Sarah Koch's shutout bid.

Dana Mosa-Basha Cox came up with 23 saves for Country Day.

On Friday, Pereira scored four times in a 5-1 triumph over Northville (5-8, 4-7).

Freij added the other goal, while Erin Doyle, Matherly, Fradette, Folk, Freij and Galvin also drew assists.

Koch stopped 17-of-18 shots with Chloe Page's first-period goal the only one getting through.

TOURNEY

Continued from page B1

a one-year hiatus along with Glenn. "CC is bringing their 'B' team, but I think they will still have enough talent to be considered one of the teams to beat.

"I'm sorry Canton won't be there because they have some great individuals. I would think Wayne and Northville will be in the mix also. I have not seen or heard anything from the Farmington schools, but I know they always have some good kids."

Plymouth gears up

Plymouth head coach Quinn Guernsey is optimistic that his Wildcats "could be fielding (our) strongest team of the season and will be looking to compete for the team championship along with having a number of individuals with the ability to place high in the tournament."

He listed Brandon Harris, Mohammed Youssef, Trey Berry, Chase Kallil, Jon Conn, Hussein Youssef and Said Youssef as "expected medalists for the Wildcats. Many other upper weights for Plymouth will be trying to get onto the podium as well."

Guernsey likes the

MAT EXTRAVAGANZA

What: 21st annual **Observerland Wrestling** Tournament.

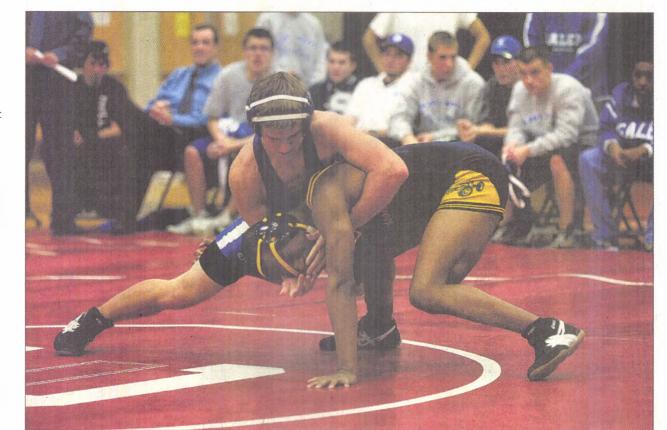
When: Saturday, Jan. 28 (first-round matches start at 9 a.m.; with finals at approximately 5 p.m.) Where: Livonia Churchill H.S., 8900 Newburgh Road (between Joy Road and Ann Arbor Trail).

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

Participating schools: Livonia Churchill, Franklin, Stevenson, Farmington, Farmington Harrison, North Farmington, Garden City, Redford Union, Plymouth, Salem, Lutheran High Westland, Westland John Glenn, Wayne Memorial, Belleville, Northville, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central. Past champions: Catholic Central (1993, '96, '99, 2000, '02, '03, '09, '10, '11); Franklin (2005, '06, '07); Stevenson (1994, '95, '97); Canton (2001, '08); Churchill and John Glenn (2004); Salem (1998), Farmington

chances of his team at Observerland because it did so well at the recent Wayne County Championships (fourth place) despite only having 10 wrestlers. This time

(1992).



Salem's Riley Doxtader (left) will be looking to make some noise at Saturday's Observerland invite. Doxtader is shown from earlier this season.

around, Plymouth will bring a bigger roster to the mats.

CC still strong

Last year CC placed 11 of 14 in the finals and came away with nine individual champions.

The 2011-12 Shamrocks, coming off an upset 27-24 dual loss to Lowell on Saturday at Holt, will still bring a talented squad led by T.J.

Hagan (125 pounds) and Mike Babicz (145 or 152). Both ranked among the top 10 in their respective weight classes in Division 1 by MichiganGrappler.com.

Despite the absence of a majority of CC's top-flight wrestlers, Observerland will be filled with a slew of outstanding individuals.

"Observerland has an outstanding tradition

of great wrestling over the years," Glenn coach Bill Polk said. "I'm glad we are back after a year leave. Although CC has been separate from the pack in recent years, usually the title goes to the team that is the healthiest at this point of

"It's a great showcase of the area wrestlers to show they are ready for The Palace (of Auburn

the season.

Hills). Usually the wrestlers that step up and make the finals are state qualifiers of ever state placers at some point. I'm looking forward to a great weekend."

All-day admission is \$5. Family and youth discounts are available. The finals are scheduled to start around 5:30 p.m.

> bemons@hometownlife.com (313) 222-6851

PREP BOWLING RESULTS

7th annual WAYNE COUNTY **BOWLING INVITATIONAL** Jan. 19 at Super Bowl BOYS RESULTS

Championship final: Taylor Kennedy defeated Wayne Memorial, 211-175, 224-171. Semifinals: Kennedy def. Plymouth, 244-203, 197-184; Wayne def. Westland John Glenn, 229-203, 180-202, 206-

Quarterfinals: Kennedy def. Canton, 190-179, 145-191, 221-218; Wayne def. Salem, 202-181, 207-213, 246-204; Plymouth def. Romulus, 197-195, 200-194; John Glenn def. Belleville, 199-183, 196-162.

Team qualifying scores: 1. Plymouth, 4,069 (3 match games; 2 Baker games); 2. John Glenn, 3,978; 3. Wayne, 3,934; 4. Canton, 3,876; 5. Kennedy, 3,854; 6. Salem, 3,848; 7. Belleville, 3,762;

8. Romulus, 3,671. Individual nold (Wayne), 300-277-171-748. AREA TEAM SCORING

Wayne: 1. Elliot Arnold, 300-277-171-748; 21. Kody Wojewski. 179-204-235-618: 23. Shane Rambaldo, 266-185-160-611; 34. Zack Huffman, 169-225-196-590; 36. Mike Mikulec, 171-197-212-

John Glenn: 4. Jordan Hornes, 248-216-238-702; 18. Tommy Ruark, 216-204-212-632; 60. Thomas Brusseau, 207-257-464; 62. Mitch Dean, 247-213-460; 65. Daniel Ammons, 194-237-431; 99. Steve White, 181;

GIRLS RESULTS Girls championship final: Flat Rock def. Taylor Kennedy,

193-188, 182-213, 245-160. Semifinals: Kennedy def. Plymouth, 185-161, 183-193, 200-147; Flat Rock def. Southgate Anderson, 177-172, 215-153. Quarterfinals: Flat Rock def. Salem, 175-161, 185-138; Kennedy def. Livonia Ladywood, 200-1378, 203-144; Plymouth def. Westland John Glenn, 141-217, 202-167, 160-149; Southgate def.

Northville, 147-170, 235-143, 172-172 (104-97 tiebreaker). Team qualifying scores: 1. Kennedy, 3,548 (3 match games; 2 Baker games); 2. Flat Rock, 3,407; 3. Southgate, 3,215; 4. John Glenn, 3,070; 5. Plymouth, 3,062; 6. Northville, 3,056; 7. Salem, 2,971; 8. Ladywood, 2,826. Individual winner: Samantha

AREA TEAM SCORING John Glenn: 15. Jessica Pate, 189-171-190-550; 20. Caity Lenard, 191-178-160-529; 60. ers. 158-215/ Olivia Cabildo, 169-139-308; 88. Bre Riblett, 209; 96. Sara

Cwik (Kennedy), 212-226-205-

Aulidge, 135. Ladywood: 22. Veronica Estigoy, 160-193-171-524; 23. Sabine Hutter, 182-138-200-520; 24. Amy Lewandowski, 206-142-167-515; 85. Sarah Knapp, 129-102-231: 95. Victoria Aina. 142: 105. Sarah Czarnomski, 116: 114. Kailyn Delonis, 95.

Wayne: 19. Lorissa Willet, 160-190-181-531; 31. Tiffany Markham, 118-179-205-502; 41. Kira Leach, 154-153-144-451; 63. Tiffany Ozog, 144-90-133-351; 86. Alyssa Roberts, 119-98-217.

BOYS DUAL RESULTS WESTLAND GLENN 28.5

PLYMOUTH 1.5 Jan. 23 at Town 'N Country John Glenn scorers: Jordan

Hornes, 265-204-469; Steven White, 218-247-465; Thomas Brusseau, 225-226-451; Mitch Dean, 233; Mark Kassab, 218; Tommy Ruark, 214; Daniel Ammons, 207. **Team totals:** 1,140-1,119-2,257 (14.5 points); **Baker** games: 236-265-501.

Plymouth scorers: Rob Korstjen, 205-236-441; Evan Grimme, 199-234-433; Eric Thompson, 213-192-405; Ryan Riva, 233; Brandon Congdon, 153; split score, 209-181-190. Team totals: 979-1,076-2,055 (1.5 points); Baker games: 153-202-355 (0 points).

John Glenn's dual match record: 11-0 overall, 8-0 KLAA Central Division.

GIRLS DUAL RESULTS PLYMOUTH 16 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 15 Jan. 23 at Town 'N Country Webb, 256-216-462; Emily Fraser, 202-172-374; Serena Oliver, 156; Tiffany Patterson, 146; Lauryn Vincent, 122; Megan Brewer, 110; split scores, 114-120-234. Team totals: 874-746-1,604 (9 points) Baker games: 138-242-

380 (6 points). John Glenn scorers: Olivia Cabildo, 212-179-391; Yvette Ayers, 207-140-247; Bre Riblett, 171-137-308; Caity Lenard, 138; Sara Aulidge, 134; split score, 134. **Team totals:** 878-724-1,602 (11 points); Baker games: 167-187-354 (4 points).

John Glenn's dual match record: 7-4 overall, 6-2 KLAA Central Division.

Canton's varsity girls gymnastics team celebrates with their first-place trophy after winalley Invitation

Continued from page B1

Melissa was hurting, Ayana was hurting and a couple of the other girls."

Green still went 36.25 in D1 all-around, good for fourth place.

And Lewis tied for third on balance beam with a 9.15 and took second-place honors on vault (9.45) and uneven parallel bars (9.6).

Lewis sets record

The latter earned Lewis a new Canton school record, breaking the mark set in 1995 by Katie Gillis (9.55), which Lewis tied in 2010-11.

"She (Lewis) had her name on the record board," Cunningham said. "But when you break a record that's been around for 17 years, you know it's a really

good performance." Other Chiefs to place were in the D2 category. Those included Nicole Lasecki and Marina Milad on beam and Erica Lucas, who placed first on vault (9.55) and eighth in allaround scoring.

Salem had several top point-getters in D2. Those included Ade Jepperson (second on bars), Brittany Ramirez (fourth on bars, fifth on vault and ninth in all-around), Andrea Merlotti (third on vault) and Morgan Soper (fourth on vault, fifth in all-around).

Plymouth also had individual highlights, with Sarah Uhlian tying Lasecki on D2 beam with a mark of 9.1 and Katie Salanga taking 11th in allaround.

Huron Valley Invitational Saturday, Jan. 21 at Milford

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Canton, 143.85; 2. Farmington, 142.95; 3. Salem, 141.725; 4. Huron Valley (Milford-Lakeland), 141.425.

D1 Beam: 1. Taylor Spitz (F), 9.55; 3. Ayana Lewis (C), 9.15; 6. Melissa Green (C), 8.85. **D1 Bars:** 1. Chloe Presley (HV), 9.625; 2. Lewis (C), 9.60; 6. Green (C), 8.9. D1 Vault: 1. Catrina Malysz (HV), 9.5; 2. Lewis (C), 9.45; 3. Green (C), 9.3. D1 Floor: 1. Presley (HV),

9.625; 5. Green (C), 9.20. D1 All-Around: 1. Presley (HV), 37.30; 4. Green (C), 36.25. **D2 Beam:** 1. Meredith Jonik (F), 9.35; 6. (tie) Nicole Lasecki (C) and Sarah Uhlian (Plymouth), 9.1; 9. Marina Milad

(C), 9.0D2 Bars: 1. Alex Kitz (Liv. Blue), 9.2; 2. (tie) Ade Jepperson (5) and Amanda Lumley (F), 9.1; 4. Brittany Ramirez

D2 Vault: 1. Erica Lucas (C), 9.55; 3. Andrea Merlotti (S), 9.15; 4. Morgan Soper (S), 9.05; 5. Brittany Ramirez (S), 9.0. D2 All-Around: 1. Jonik (F) 36.475; 5. Soper (S), 35.575; 8. Lucas (C), 35.1; 9. Ramirez (S), 34.925; 11. Katie Salanga (Plymouth), 33.825. (*Canton school record)

> **GIRLS DUAL RESULTS CANTON 137.275** LIVONIA RED 127.40 Jan. 24 at Canton **INDIVIDUAL RESULTS**

Vault: 1. Erica Lucas (C), 9.625; 2. Pia Simon (C), 8.75; 3. Mallory Dorton (Red), 8.5; 4. Sydney Grenier (Red), 8.3; 5. Marina Milad (Red), 8.25.

Uneven bars: 1. Shannon Diaz (Red), 8.55; 2. Nicole Lasecki (C), 8.325; 3. Lucas (C), 7.65; 4. Simon (C), 7.625; 5. (tie) Milad (C) and Melissa Green (C), 7.6

each. Balance beam: 1. Green (C), 9.5; 2. Diaz (Red), 8.925; 3. Marina Milad (C), 8.9; 4. Lucas (C), 8.625; 5. Lasecki (C), 8.3. Floor exercise: 1. (tie) Lasecki (C) and Green (C), 9.2 each; 3. Lucas (C), 9.0; 4. Milad (C), 8.6; 5. Shannon Kozlowski (C), 8.55. All-around: 1. Erin Lucas (C), 34.9; 2. Lasecki (C), 34.05; 3. Milad (C), 33.35; 4. Simon (C),

30.225; 5. Prebola (Red), 29.925. Dual meet record: Canton, 6-0

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Wildcats baseball clinics set

Baseball fundamentals are on tap for youngsters looking to improve their skills, at the forthcoming Plymouth Wildcats Youth Baseball Clinic.

Participants in grades 1-8 will receive ageappropriate instruction from 2012 Plymouth varsity baseball coaches and players. Stations will include hitting, pitching, infield, outfield, catching and radar gun readings.

Sessions, in the Plymouth High School gymnasium, will take place: 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday March 17 (for those in grades 1-4); Saturday March 31 (for those in grades 5-8).

The pre-registration cost, which includes snack, is \$20. The fee is \$25 the day of the clinic. Pre-registration is urged, as the camp is limited to

Go to www.baseball. plymouthwildcats.com for more information.

Salem to host baseball clinics

Youngsters will have their chance to again learn all about baseball from Salem's varsity players and coaching staff.

The annual Salem Varsity Baseball Clinic will take place Saturdays March 24 and 31 in the high school gym.

For a fee of \$28, kids will get three hours of instruction, focusing on pitching, hitting and all phases of fielding, along with a T-shirt.

Each player should bring a baseball glove and hat to one of the following sessions, space permitting:

Session 1: Saturday, March 24, 9 a.m. to noon, ages 11-14; 14; Session 2: Saturday, March 24, 1-4 p.m., ages 7-10; Session 3: Saturday, March 31, 9 a.m. to noon, ages 7-10; Session 4: Saturday, March 31, 1-4 p.m., ages

Space is limited to 75 participants per session, so early registration is encouraged.

For more information, call Mary Theisen at (734) 354-9181 or e-mail salemrocksbaseball@ gmail.com.

Play GCYBSA ball

Registrations are now under way for the Greater Canton Youth Baseball Softball Association's baseball and softball programs.

The GCYBSA offers progressively developmental recreational baseball and softball programs for players age 4-18 from Plymouth and Canton. GCYBSA is also is home to a Competitive League and travel programs (Boys Cardinals,

Girls Pride Fast Pitch). For more information, go to www.gcybsa.com or contact Coralee Ott at (734), 394-5358, via e-mail at cott@canton-mi.org.

MU baseball

Terry Foster of WXYT-FM (97.1) and The Detroit News will be the featured speaker as the Madonna University baseball team will stage its annual 1st Pitch banquet beginning at 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Italian American Club in Livonia.

Tickets, which are taxdeductible, are \$60 each or \$110 per pair. Youth tickets are \$30 (12 and under).

Table sponsorships are also available and reservations must be received by Jan. 20.

Raffle items are also needed as donations. For more information, call Bill Hardin at (734) 560-0820 or e-mail bjhwolves@aol.com.

BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING RESULTS

DUAL MEET RESULTS SALEM 137 PLYMOUTH 49 Jan. 24 at Salem

200-yard medley relay: 1. Salem (Jeremy Wellman, Turner Solterman, Jason Zhang, Matthew Pairitz), 1:46.23; 2. Salem (Patrick Casey, Calvin Kahler, Danny Lynch, Kenny McManimon), 1:53.88; 3. Plymouth (Nick Weber, Todd Maslyk, Ryan Heinze, Alex Johnson), 1:59.81. 200 freestyle: 1, Jerry Bai (S), 2:05.11; 2. Brian Kuang (S), 2:05.88; 3. Jason Basanese (S) 2:07.59; 4. Mike Pool (P), 2:10.97; Andrew Harris (P), 2:22.70. 200 individual medley: 1. Solterman (S), 2:13.90; 2. Heinze

(P), 2:26.33; 3. Patrick Huls (S),

2:29.12; 4. Gregory Payne (S),

2:30.86; 5. Alex Wilson (P).

50 free: 1. J. Zhang (S), 22.94; 2. J. Wellman (S), 24.82; 3. Maslyk (P), 25.76; 4. Alex Smith (S), 26.04; 5. Ben Yang (P), 26.32. 1-meter diving: 1. Nick Griwicki (5), 219.10 points; 2. Charlie Dillon (S), 216.35; 3. Connor McManus (P), 166.35; 4. William Harrington (P), 141.00;

. Casey (S), 117.50. 100 butterfly: 1. Adam Liakos (P). 58.12: 2. Bai (S), 58.96; 3. Lynch (S), 1:04.60; 4. Huls (S), 1:06.43; 5. Gunnar Savalox (P),

1:23.20. 100 free: 1. Pairitz (S), 53.80; 2. William Long (S), 54.52; 3. Basanese (S), 56.08; 4. Weber (P), 58.50; 5. Johnson (P), 1:03.62. 500 free: 1. J. Wellman (S), 5:35.69; 2. Kuang (S), 5:37.27; 3.

Alex Wilson (P), 6:02.73; 4. Payne

(S), 6:02.74; 5. Pool (P), 6:05.30. 200 freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Basanese, McManimon, Pairitz, Bai), 1:38,46; 2, Salem (Lynch, Smith, Huls, Long), 1:41.85; 3. Plymouth (Weber, Cameron Earls, Wilson, Maslyk), 1:42.39. 100 backstroke: 1. J. Zhang (S), 57.29; 2. Yang (P), 1:02.16; 3. Liakos (P), 1:03.75; 4. Casey (S),

100 breaststroke: 1. Solterman (S), 1:07.35; 2. Kahler (S), 1:13.65; 3. Pietron (S), 1:14.79; 4. Maslyk (P), 1:15.05; 5. Earls (P),

1:05.71; 5. Brenden Wellman (S),

1:08.19.

400 free relay: 1. Salem (Bai, Pairitz, J. Wellman, J. Zhang), 3:34.89; 2. Plymouth (Liakos) Yang, Heinze, Pool), 3:48.72; 3.

Salem (Lynch, Basanese, Huls, Smith), 3:49.74.

Whalers blitz Soo, 8-0



LORETTA O'FLYNN

was blocked by Carrier.

But Natelborg jammed

Walled Lake cage to give

The pesky Wild cut the

lead in half at 8:38. Mill-

er skated up the middle

Becky Lough. Assisting

were Kayleigh Walker

and Jaclyn Jasgur.

and slipped the puck past

Miller tied the contest

at 3:25 of the second with

a power-play tally. Her

rising shot from the left

wing banked in off the

near-side post, making

it a 2-2 game. Earning

Maynard.

assists on the goal were

Ryann Brier and Jordan

The Penguins regained

the lead (3-2) when Jack-

ie Lough scored at 5:27

from Tucker and Natel-

borg. A short backhand-

er glanced in off Carrier.

But Miller once again

answered (from Brier

her blue-line slap shot

got past the screened

PCS goalie.

and Emma Crone) when

That would be all that

the Wild would muster

for the rest of the night.

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the rebound into the

PCS a 2-0 edge.

Snapping a shot past a Walled Lake defenseman Saturday night is PCS Penguins forward Nicole Natelborg (No. 7), who scored three goals in the contest at Suburban Ice - Farmington Hills. In goal for the Wild is Sam Carrier.

ICERS

Continued from page B1

the game 3-3 midway through the second.

Just over a minute later. Miller made a bid for her fourth goal with a low, hard shot from the right circle. The PCS netminder, however, thrust out her right pad, getting a toe on the puck.

She also kicked out a subsequent scoring bid by Shannon Gillis.

Those stops helped stem the tide until Jackie Lough could snap the tie with just 12.2 seconds to play in the period.

Forward Mariah Tucker (two assists) took a shot that Wild goaltender Sam Carrier got in front of. But Jackie Lough, stationed near the left post, chipped the rebound home to give PCS a 4-3 lead. Also assisting was Natelborg.

"I'm glad we got that one goal at the end of the second period to at least be up going into the third," Johnson said. "And Becky definitely came up with a few big

saves to keep us in the game."

The Penguins took a 5-3 advantage just 10 seconds into the third, when Natelborg skated in from the blue line and beat Carrier high to the stick side.

"We always just play together and we're always working hard trying to get the goals in the net," Natelborg said about her line's high productivity

Johnson also lauded the efforts of her second line, including Cortny McAdoo, Jenna Carter and Elizabeth O'Donahue.

"Both lines are definitely producing," the coach said.

Early offense

It only took PCS 1:34 to get on the board Saturday night.

Natelborg fielded a pass by defenseman Alexis O'Flynn (two assists), skated between the circles and roofed the puck over Carrier's blocker.

Then with 11:22 left, O'Flynn's wrister from just above the left circle

The Plymouth Whalers came out shooting - and scoring - Satur-

By Tim Smith

Observer Staff Writer

day night at Compuware Arena against Sault Ste. Marie. Netting four first-peri-

od goals and another four in the middle stanza, the Whalers routed the Greyhounds 8-0 before 3,008 fans. Scoring two goals each were forwards Rickard Rakell and J.T. Miller, both players drafted in the first round of the 2011 NHL Entry Draft.

Despite the lopsided final score, Plymouth goalie Scott Wedgewood still had to play a strong game for the shutout. He stopped all 34 shots he faced, including a 20-shot barrage in the third.

The Whalers, first in the Ontario Hockey League West Division with a record of 31-12-2-1, got on the board at 2:38 of the first when forward Alex Aleardi of Farmington Hills tallied his 26th of the year from linemates Andy Bathgate and Mitchell Dempsey.

Before the period was over, Rakell, Miller and Bathgate sent pucks past Soo starting netminder Matt Murray.

Miller's second and 15th of the season came on the power play at 4:38 of the second, with Stefan Noesen (two assists) and captain Beau Schmitz (Howell) assist-

Defenseman Schmitz then continued the rout with another power-play goal just 44 seconds later, with Miller setting it

At 10:02, also with the extra man, Rakell made it a 7-0 game. He scored his 22nd goal of the year on assists by defenseman Dario Trutmann and Curtis Crombeen (three

assists). Noesen then added an even-strength tally at 13:35 (his 20th), from Crombeen and wing-

er Garrett Meurs (two

assists). After the second period, the Greyhounds pulled Murray, who stopped 29 of the 37 shots sent his way, Plymouth did not score in the third against backup Jack Campbell (six saves).

The Greyhounds (last in the West Division) dropped to 19-24-2-2 for the season.

Plymouth is on the road this week, with games Thursday and Friday at Barrie and Sudbury, respectively.

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Make it 10 for Salem boys

Salem's varsity boys basketball team rolled to a 62-52 victory Friday night at South Lyon, improving to 10-1 overall and 4-1 in the KLAA Central Division.

The Rocks won the physical varsity boys basketball game with contributions from a number of players, which has been the team's recipe for success all season.

Chris Dierker led the way with 11 points and 14 rebounds while Cameron Werner and Tyler Stewart each registered 10 points.

Helping the cause with nine points was Austin

The race for first place

in the MCCAA's East-

ern Conference tight-

ened considerably Satur-

day afternoon as the vis-

iting Schoolcraft College

women's basketball team

Macomb Community Col-

knocked off first-place

lege, 60-55, in overtime.

lied from a 41-33 defi-

cit with 10:34 left in the

game to improve to 14-4

overall and 5-2 in the con-

Macomb's Domonique

Mahone scored on layup

with 40 seconds remain-

ing to give the Monarchs

craft's Domonique Jones

a 52-50 lead. But a steal

and layup by School-

tied the game at 52-all

with 15 seconds to play

Schoolcraft then scored

and forced OT.

The Lady Ocelots ral-

With the loss, the Lions dropped to 6-4 overall and 3-2 in the KLAA Central.

Salem opens the second round of division play with a game 7 p.m. Friday at home against Northville.

LUTH. WESTLAND 72, MA-COMB CHRISTIAN 22: Four players scored in double figures Tuesday as host Lutheran High Westland (6-4, 5-2) rolled to a Michigan Inde pendent Athletic Conference win over Warren Macomb Christian (0-9, 0-7).

The Warriors led 17-7 after one quarter and 38-12 at halftime before going on a 22-8 third-period run.

A.J. Seltz paced the winners with 13 points, while Matt Sylvester and Jake Fairbairn added 12 apiece. Nick Andrzejewski chipped in

Romero Hardy led the Crusaders with 14 points. Lutheran Westland made 8of-10 free throws, while Macomb Christian hit 10-of-15 **GREENHILLS 81, HVL 24:** Andrew Khouri's 24 points led Ann Arbor Greenhills (5-5, 4-3) to a MIAC Red Division

Andrew Gitlin and Reed Wilborn each added 10 points for the Gryphons, who led 57-16 at halftime while shooting 65 percent from the floor, including 9-of-21 from three-

triumph Tuesday at Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (2-7,

point range. "We didn't want to play defense," HVL coach Jim Ott said. "We came out lazy and they came out unbelievable. They ended up shooting 60 percent for the game.

Schoolcraft won despite

shooting only 31.9 per-

cent from the floor (22-

Russell's game-high 25 points

carried Indiana Tech (11-11,

3-7) to a Wolverine-Hoosier

Athletic Conference victory

donna University (7-12, 4-6)

at the Schaefer Center in Fort

MU couldn't recover from a

Ulyssia Richmond added 18

points, while Brittnay Jones

rebounds for the victorious

Kaylee McGrath (Livonia

Stevenson) and Michelle

contributed 13 points and 14

Lindsey each tallied 14 points

(38.9 percent) and committed

Becca Wojcinski came off the

SPORTS

ROUNDUP

bench to add 10 points and eight rebounds for MU.

for the Crusaders, who shot only 21-of-54 from the floor

Saturday over visiting Ma-

Wavne.

Warriors.

19 turnovers.

42-28 deficit.

of-69) and being out-

rebounded (54-36)

INDIANA TECH 79. MADONNA 58: Simone

Lady Ocelots close in on 1st

WOMEN'S HOOPS

the first five points of the

extra session to lead 57-

52 with 3:00 remaining

before Macomb closed

to within 57-55 with 1:05

But Diamond Tolliver

nailed 3-of-4 free throws

down the stretch to seal

Shanequa Braggs led

Beemon and Amber Sam-

mons chipped in with 11

Mahone had 14 points

Monarchs, who slipped to

10-7 overall and 6-1 in the

Precious Allen con-

Brianne Woycehoski

grabbed 12 boards.

tributed 10 points, while

and 14 rebounds for the

Schoolcraft with 13

points, while Ashley

and 10, respectively.

the victory.

conference.

HOOPS

Continued from page B1

beyond the arc (five treys) the main reason for the game being relatively close.

A string of buckets by PCA's Smith, Malcolm, Gerulis and Windle in the opening minutes of the third quarter widened the gap to 48-25.

Getting a taste

It was 52-31 entering the fourth, which began with junior center Allison Smith (six points) making the first three PCA baskets of the quarter - a nifty layup, putback and jumper from the top of the key.

One of the loudest cheers of the night came in the final minutes, when senior guard Kristin Lindberg sank a jumper from the right corner for her only points of the game.

"We wanted to get them a chance to get on the floor and make some baskets," Gerulis said, noting that several reserves saw extended playing time to take advantage of the huge margin. "That really makes them feel good" and helps get them ready when opportunities arise later this season.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth Christian's Emily Gerulis (No. 10), shown from a game earlier this season, was among top contributors in Tuesday's victory over Southfield Christian.

CHANDLER PARK 51, PCA 49: On Saturday at Chandler Park, the Eagles got off to a quick start (16-7 after the first), but could not sustain things the rest of the way. Karen Windle led PCA with 22 points, and chipped in eight rebounds and three

Helping the cause with nine points was junior guard Jenna Abraham, while Emily Gerulis tallied seven points, 10 boards and five assists. Malaysia Johnson led Chandler Park (8-0) with 16 points.

> tsmith@hometownlife.com (734) 469-4128

Rockin'

Rockettes

The Salem JV Rockettes

recently finished first in

the Junior Varsity Hip

Hop division at Univer-

sal Dance Association's

Dance Challenge. The

event too place Jan. 8 at

Royal Oak High School.

team at the competition

with their proud coaches.

This photo shows the

Southern Michigan

top Indiana Tech

Travis Schuba's shot hit nothing but twine Saturday as the sophomore guard made 6-of-10 threepointers on his way to a game-high 22 points as host Madonna University knocked off 15th-ranked Indiana Tech for the second time this season, 73-

The Crusaders, who improved to 12-10 overall and 6-4 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, shot 51 percent from the floor (25-of-49) and 78.9 percent from the foul stripe.

Eoghann Stephens added 17 points, while point-guard Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) chipped in with 11 points and 10 assists.

Indiana Tech (15-5, 5-5) got 15 points from Jeff

Hoskins. Jordan Hickman added 14, while Brice Miles con-

tributed 10. Tech, which trailed 36-31 at halftime, also got gamehigh 10 rebounds from Rodney Bartholomew. MACOMB CC 82,

SCHOOLCRAFT 80: In an MCCAA Eastern Conference game Saturday, host Macomb Community College (13-5, 4-3) rallied from a 19-point second-half deficit to stun Schoolcraft College (11-7, 3-4). Patrick Ferrell's rebound tip-in with only five seconds remaining proved to be the game-winner.

Ferrell finished with a team-high 18 points and four blocks. Ashton Curd added 17 points.

Schoolcraft led 40-33 at

halftime and 74-55 with 10 minutes to go before Macomb stormed back to tie the game at 78-all with 1:43 left. Karl Moore and LenDerrick Witcher each tallied 21 points for the Ocelots, who made only 13-of-24 free throws.

Daniel Hill (Wayne Memorial) added 11 points, 13 rebounds and four assists. Point-guard Mohamed Elhaj finished with six assists and four steals, while Reshard Anders had eight points and seven rebounds.

Moore also grabbed 10

rebounds in the loss.

(bring your own).

For more information, e-mail Franklin coach Matt Fournier at mfournie2@livoniapublicschools.org; or call (734) 968-0499.

Crusaders again

Baseball camp

The sixth annual Future Stars baseball camp will be from 9-11:30 a.m. (Session 1) and 12:15-2:45 p.m. (Session 2) on Saturday, Feb. 11 at Franklin High School, 31000 Joy Road, Livonia.

Session 1 consists of hitting, base running skills, and infield work, along with taking the extra base, hitting for average, and proper infield approach.

Session 2 consists of pitching and defense, pitch location, catching drills, and outfield approach.

Lunch will be from 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

The cost is \$30 per session or \$50 for both (includes T-shirt).

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. If including a photo, it must be in jpg format, attached to

Jan. 26-31

FINANCIAL RECOVERY

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Jan. 31 **Location:** Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, near 12 Mile and Farmington Road, in Farmington Hills

Details: Dave Ramsey's "The Great Recovery" is a 13-week, bible-based program that teaches you to eliminate debt and leave a lasting legacy.

Contact: Register at www. daveramsey.com or call (248) 553-3380

BURMAN, JOSEPH R.

Korean Conflict. Beloved hus-

band of Jeanette. Dear father of

Lynn Dowell and Joseph D. Burman. Grandfather of Joseph

C. (Melana) Burman, Madeline Burman and David M. Burman. Brother of Shirley Burman,

Loretta Allen, Nancy McGue and

David Burman. Services were

held Wednesday. Contributions

suggested to St. John's Musical

Ministry, The Michigan Humane

Society or charity of your choice.

DOYLE, DIANE

MARIE

Online condolences:

obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

DZIESZKOWSKI,

CYNTHIA ANN

of Wixom, Jan. 11, 2012; age 58.

KIOUSIS, ATHINOULA

Arrangements by Funerals (248) 227-1954.

January 22, 2012.

Age 60, November 4, 1951-

January 22, 2012, age 80.

Served with the United

States Army during the

MEMORY CHALLENGES

Time/Date: 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28

Location: First Baptist Church of Detroit, 21100 Southfield Road, just north of Eight Mile, in Southfield

Details: Dr. Annette Carron, from Palliative Care in Farmington Hills, will speak about memory loss, dementia, signs of Alzheimer's, and methods to delay memory loss. This is a free program open to the public and light refreshments will be served

Contact: (248) 569-2972 or firstbaptist@fbc-detroit.org

OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 9:30-1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29

Location: St. Edith Catholic School, 15089 Newburgh at Five Mile, Livonia

Details: K-8th grade enroll-

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

HALE, AGNES 'BABE'

Age 88, January 22, 2012.

Beloved wife of the late Donald.

Dear mother of Barbara (Craig)

Duncan, Sandy (the late Mike) Ellinger and the late Thomas

(Sharon). Grandmother of two.

Great-grandmother of two. Memorial visitation Friday,

January 27th, 2pm-4pm at the

John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral

Home, 1139 Inkster Rd., Garden

City (between Ford Road and Cherry Hill).

Family suggests memorials to

American Heart Association or

www.santeiufuneralhome.com

MARICH, EVA MARIE

of Westland, Jan. 11, 2012; age

87. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (248) 227-1954.

the charity of your choice.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

ment available Contact: (734) 464-1250 or visit www.stedithschool.org

OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29

Location: St. Michael the Archangel School, 11311 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Student-led tours, meet the staff, share refreshments and conversation with other parents and students. St. Michael's offers half or full-day kindergarten, latchkey programming, and an extended curriculum that includes computer science, art, music, and Spanish

Contact: (734) 261-1455, ext. 226; www.livoniastmichael.

PRAYER OPEN HOUSE Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Friday,

View Online

STOUGH, CHERIE

ANN

of Arizona, formerly Harrison Twp., Jan. 4, 2012; age 29.

SimpleFuneralsInMichigan.com

ZAHARA, IRENE

Age 90, passed peacefully on

Monday, January 23, 2012 at St. Mary's Hospital in Livonia, Michigan. Irene was born in

Detroit, MI in 1922, lifelong res-

ident of Livonia since 1951. She

retired from the City of Livonia

Clerk's office in 1989. She is pre-ceded in death by her beloved hus-

band, the late Michael T. Zahara.

Survived by her children Sharon

Zahara-Flack, Michael Zahara

(Denise Missale), Robert Zahara, Loreen Zahara. Grandchildren

Ryan Flack (Jennifer Armbruster).

Michael Zahara, Steven Zahara

and Alexann Zahara. Great-grand-daughter Madyson Flack Visitation Thursday 2-9 p.m

Rosary at 7 p.m. at Harry J Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Visitation Friday

10:15a.m. at St. Genevieve

Catholic Church, 29015 Jamison,

Livonia, until Mass at 11a.m.

Tribute donations can be made to

the St. Jude Children's research

Hospital: www.stjude.org/tributes

Jan. 27

Location: Harvest Bible Church, 6420 N. Newburgh, Westland

Details: Anyone who needs prayer may stop by to pray individually or with a volunteer prayer partner

Contact: (734) 895-3280

February

BETHANY

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11

Location: Elks Lodge, 31117 Plymouth Road, Livonia Detail: Stilettoes Dance, "Detroit Still Doo Wops," with music from 8 p.m.-midnight. Cost is \$20 and includes beer

and pop Contact: Chooch at (734) 697-7270

CENTENNIAL CELEBRA-

Time/Date: Dinner, 6 p.m. Feb. 18; Eucharist, 10 a.m.

Location: St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: The dinner, held at the Summit in Canton, will include, a video presentation, music, gift drawings, and a ticket for a chance to win a centennial quilt and more. The ticket costs \$40 per person. Bishop Wendell Gibbs will attend the worship service on Feb. 19. The service will include special music and banners created by members of the parish. A celebration reception will follow the

Contact: (734) 453-0190

DEBT FREE

Time/Date: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, beginning Feb. 1 **Location:** Farmington Hills Church of God, 25717 Power, Farmington Hills

Details: Financial Peace University — Imagine Yourself Debt Free, is a 13-week, video-based study featuring Dave Ramsey, that teaches how to build wealth, get out of debt and gain financial freedom. You may attend the first class for free. Childcare is

Contact: (248) 477-9144 or visit www.FHChurchofGod. org or www.DaveRamsey. com

GLAZER INSTITUTE LEC-TURES

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., Feb. 10 Location: Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph, Bloomfield

Details: Rabbi Daniel B. Syme will talk about "Com-



Heather Irish, founder of The MINDS Program, a nonprofit organization that educates teenagers about mental illnesses and suicide prevention, will talk about bullying and depression Feb. 10 at Temple Beth El.

pression and Suicide Among Youth People - A Religious Imperative." Heather Irish, founder and director of The MINDS Program, a nonprofit organization that educates teenagers about mental illnesses and suicide prevention, will continue the discussion at 10:45 a.m. after a brief intermission. Admission is free

Contact: (248) 851-1100, ext. 3149

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7-8:45 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7

Location: Faith Covenant Church, 35415 W. 14 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: "From Grief to New Hope," presented by Cathy Clough, director of New Hope Center for Grief Support, runs eight weeks. Each session will begin with a talk, followed by small group participation led by trained facilitators. Each person will be placed in a group with others who have had similar

Contact: (248) 661-9191; www.4fcc.org

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Feb. 29 and March 7, 14 and 21 Location: St. Michael's Catholic Parish, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: Grieving with Great

support series will offer a prayerful and practical approach for individuals who are mourning the loss of a loved one. Presenters will include The Rev. Bill Tindall as well John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry. Register by calling the church of visiting Good Mourning Ministry's Web site.

Contact: (734) 261-1455; www.goodmourningministry.

KIDS OF THE KINGDOM

Time/Date: 6:30-7:45 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 8 **Location:** South Redford Christian Church, 26505 W. Chicago Road, Redford

Details: The church's weekly children's program will present a Valentine's Day party. Children ages 3 years-5th grade may attend. The children will play games, worship, eat a sweet snack, and learn about God's love.

Contact: (313) 937-2050 **SPAGHETTI DINNER**

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m. Feb. 10 Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City Details: Includes silent auction. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$3.50 for children, 4-11, and free for children 3 and under. Tickets available at door. Contact: (734) 427-3660

TO THUE ILIUFIE OF of Ecorse, Jan. 13, 2012; age 93 Arrangements by Simple pating Bullying, Cruelty, De-Hope, a four-week grief YOUR LOVIED ONE Arrangements Simple Funerals (248) 227-1954. Your Invitation to Worship

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH **Tridentine Latin Mass**

St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200

Mass Schedule: First Friday Mass 7:00 p.r. Saturday Mass 11:00 a Sunday Masses 7:30 & 11:00 a.m. 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

OPEN ARMS CHURCH Worship: Sunday 10:30 am

Children's Programs Available Kid's Stop Preschool Now Enrolling 248.474.0001

Meet our New Pastor Grady Jensen & Assoc. Pastor Abe Fazzini

UNITED METHODIST

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ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST

30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills 248-626-3620

CHURCH

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

OE08760820

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church
Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire

Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church

16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia · South of Six Mile Road

Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494

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

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

For Information

regarding this Directory,

please call Karen Marzolf

at 313-222-2214 or e-mail:

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 www.christoursavior.org

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



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

Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, & Creeden 734-522-6830

Risen Christ Lutheran David W. Martin, Pastor 46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth II Mile W of Sheldon (734) 453-5252 Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30 lursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are. www.risenchrist.info

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

WARD 40000 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48168 248.374.7400 Contemporary Worship at 9:30 & 11 a.m. Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m.

The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

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

SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulslivonia.org

CONGREGATIONAL

North Congregational Church



Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted) (248) 848-1750

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

Rev Mary E Biedron Senior Minister

kmarzolf@hometownlife.com

ENTERTAINMENT

Dance fundraiser mixes Irish show with Italian dinner

By Sharon Dargay O&E Staff Writer

Ten students from the O'Hare School of Irish Dancing in Plymouth earned high marks as they kicked, stepped and jumped their way through regional and national dance competitions last year. Each earned the right to compete as a soloist in the World Irish Dancing Championship, set for April in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

The group is gearing up for the trip, but needs help with funding.

"As far as the cost of the competition, I would estimate that the cost is about \$1,500 per dancer, plus the cost of their parent's ticket," said Tina Doyle, whose daughter, Eileen, is among the 10 world hopefuls.

"We (the Doyles) just bought tickets and fortunately they were under 900 each, plus there's the hotel cost, which we haven't booked yet. That's expensive because it's in downtown Belfast. You've got to take the bus from Dublin to Belfast. That's not a huge expense, but its \$50 to \$100.

"With all the travel, you can't just go the day before the competition and dance the next day. You're there for a few days."

She and other parents hope an upcoming fundraiser — the Rhythm of Belfast - will raise enough money to help each dancer defray trip expenses by at least \$500. The event, a combina-

seem to levitate during rehearsal. tion dance show and dinner, starts at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3 at Genitti's Holein-the-wall! in Northville. Tickets are \$40 per per-

son, available by sending a check to Jenny Newell at 830 Claremont, Dearborn, MI 48124. Include address and phone number for delivery. For more information, call Maureen Oatman at (248) 214-8647 or e-mail her at mcoatman@ earthlink.net or call Jenny Newell at (313) 268-1121 or e-mail her at snewell1@

sbcglobal.net. A dance show by the Ireland-bound students and others from O'Hare School

Dancers from the O'Hare School of Irish Dance in Plymouth

of Irish Dance, will follow the family-style Italian dinner.

"Irish dancing with Italian dinner — it sounds like a good time," Doyle said. The event will include a cash bar and raffles.

Students will demonstrate some of the dances they'll perform in Northern Ireland. Another group will show Ceili dancing, which is similar to American square dancing. Dolowy family members from Plymouth will perform Irish music. "We're trying to give a taste of all facets of Irish dance," Doyle said.



Ireland-bound dancers from Tim O'Hare Irish School of Dance in Plymouth rehearse together. They'll compete in the World Irish Dancing Championships in April.



These dancers from the O'Hare School of Irish Dance in Plymouth have qualified to compete in the World Irish Dancing Championships in Belfast, Northern Ireland. They are Elizabeth Muise, (back row, left), Alena Woellecke, Breandan Oatman, Ashling Magolan, and Tara Kristock. Therese Muise (left), Hannah Newell and Eileen Doyle are in the middle row and in front are Margaret Muise (left) and Alicia Wang.

Tim O'Hare, who founded the Plymouth school in 1979, won the junior world title in 1976 and the senior men's world championship in 1977. He also owns Irish dance schools in Chicago, Ill., and Akron, Ohio. Two students from Akron and one from Chicago also qualified for the world championship. Ages range

from 11-21 among qualifying students at the three locations.

O'Hare said students that qualify for world competition are serious about their dance and often take several classes a week, as well as private instruction.

"They are the kids that really want it. They're the ones dancing at the grocery store...their feet are going under the dinner table," he said.

They'll face tough competition overseas.

"Irish-dancing is becoming popular worldwide, but still, the strongest dancers are from Ireland."

Irish dancing demands good posture, a sense of rhythm, balance and technical ability.

"Irish dancing is a great family activity," O'Hare said. "A lot of moms do it for exercise and there are parents I taught (as children) that now have their own kids.'

O'Hare's 10 world championship qualifiers from the Plymouth school are Alicia Wang, Northville; Margaret Muise, Superior Township; Hannah Newell, Dearborn; Ashling Magolan, Brighton; Therese Muise, Superior Township; Breandan Oatman, West Bloomfield; Eileen Doyle, Sharon Township; Eilzabeth Muise, Superior Township; Alena Woellecke, Northville; and Tara Kristock, Novi.







Local theater troupe teaches writing workshop

Aspiring playwrights can learn how to turn ideas into a finished script at a workshop taught by TLC Productions, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 13, at the Cherry Hill Schoolhouse, 50440 Cherry Hill Road, Canton.

"Goal #1 is to provide a place for training/exposure to playwriting and to foster a community of local playwrights," said Christopher Tremblay, a TLC Productions member and workshop instructor. "Goal #2 is to inspire local authors to submit their works to festivals, primarily our 2013 One Acts Festival, which is planned for January 2013."

Tremblay, Linda Pohl and Tim Chanko, all TLC members, are experienced playwrights who organize the biennial festival. Tremblay started writing murder mystery scripts with a friend in 1996 and penned eight of them by 2001. Pohl came up with a original idea for a one-act play and showed the script with Chanko. He wrote songs for the piece and Tremblay read the script while it was still in development. The trio formed TLC Productions and Pohl's script became Behind the Curtain, a one-act musical the group produced in 2007.

They also wrote and produced a one-act musical called FONTS! A Type of Musical. Their play, In the Dark took an honorable mention at the Fenton One Acts Festival in June 2011. Three other plays they've penned are Priced to Sell, Playing Games and The Flight to Liberty.

"We have ideas for about five other scripts we could be working on now — as time allows,:" Tremblay said.

He, Pohl and Chanko will teach workshop attendees how to develop ideas into a detailed plot, fine-tune a script and what to expect when submitting a play for production and festival consideration. Participants also learn about other theatrical resources. Tremblay said the workshop is suited for

age 15 and up.
Participants must pre-register by Jan. 31
by e-mailing to tlcproductions@wowway.
com. The workshop fee is \$25 per person.

It's due in cash or check at the workshop.
For more information about TLC Productions' Playwriting Workshop, visit http://tlcprod.wordpress.com.

— Sharon Dargay

Art

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Time/Dates: 2 p.m. Sundays
Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit

Details: Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission Exhibits: Rembrandt and the Face of Jesus exhibit runs through Feb. 12 and includes 64 works. Tickets are \$16 for adults; \$8 for youth, 6-17. Other exhibits include Detroit Revealed: Photographs 2000-2010, an exhibit of 50 photos through April 8; Gift of a Lifetime: The James Pearson Duffy Collection of drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs through March 18

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

FARMINGTON HILLS CITY GALLERY Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mon-

day-Friday, through Feb. 24
Location: Costick Center, 28600 W. 11
Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: The work of Patrice Erickson, all original oils, is on exhibit. Erickson is inspired by nature and strives for landscapes that are rich in color

Contact: (248) 473-1856 NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Feb. 18, with an artist reception, 6-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville **Details:** "6th Annual Member Exhibition," includes work by more than 70 artists; free admission **Contact:** (248) 344-0497

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25-May 20

Location: University of Michigan Museum of Art, 525 S. State, Ann Arbor

Details: "Fluxus and the Essential Questions of Life," includes more than 100 works by major artists, such as Yoko Ono, Nam June Paik and George Maciunas; admission is free

Contact: (734) 764-0395

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday through Feb. 24

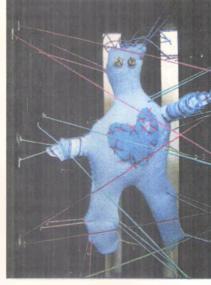
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton **Details:** "Lest We Forget: Legends of Detroit Gospel," celebrates the history of Gospel music in Detroit

Contact: (734) 394-5300 or visit cantonvillagetheater.org.

Comedy

GO COMEDY!

GET OUT!



"Monster," by Leann Meixner, and art by other members of Northville Art House, are on display through Feb. 18.

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays

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 COMEDY

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

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

Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday **Contact:** (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com

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: Paul Hooper, through Jan. 28; Andy Hendrickson, Feb. 1-4; Basile, Feb. 8-11; Mikey Mason, Feb. 15-16; Rich Guzzi, Feb. 17-19; Coco, Feb. 22-25; Glen Wool, Feb. 29-March 3

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

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: Frances Dilorinzo, Jan. 26-28, Keith Alberstadt, Feb. 2-4; Tim Nutt, Feb. 9-11; Rocky Laporte, Feb. 16-18; Ted Alexandro, Feb. 23-25

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

Dance

DANCE MONTH

Time/Date: Jan. 26-Feb. 18 **Location:** Berman Center for the Performing Arts, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Dorfman Legacy Project, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 26 and 10 a.m., Friday, Jan. 27; Dorfman Repertory program, 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28; "Michigan Five: University Showcase," 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 4; Allure Dance Company, dance for children, 3-12, 1-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5; Eisenhower Dance Ensemble, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11; Ballet Folklorico de Antioquia, 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 18. Ticket prices are \$15 for Jewish Community Center (JCC) members and \$20 for non-members for the Michigan Five showcase; \$20 for JCC members and \$25 for non-members for the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble; and \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members for all other programs. Call the box office for student and workshop prices Contact: (248) 661-1900; www.theberman.

MOON DUSTERS

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

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 Dust-

Contact: Joe Castrodale, club president, (248) 968-5197

Film

MARQUIS THEATRE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 4 Location: 135 E. Main, Northville Details: "Goldfinger;" tickets \$3 Coming up: "Anatomy of a Murder," Feb. 11; "It's a Mad, Mad, Mad World," Feb. 18, "Bye, Bye, Birdie," Feb. 25 Contact: (248) 349-8110

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27 and Thursday, Feb. 2, and 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 28-29 Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "The Muppets," \$3

Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

Please see GET OUT!, B7

Donate Blood... Save a Life

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www.commiawn.com

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Farmers Insurance, Tom Groom 410 North Lafayette South Lyon (248) 437-5309 www.farmersagents.com/tgroom

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Drs. Jeffery & Stephanie Jaghab, D.D.S. 416 South Main Street (Northville Rd.) Northville (248) 349-2750 www.jaghab.com

Kelly & Kelly 422 E. Main Northville, MI 48167 (248) 348-0496 www.kellykellylaw.com

Larson Jewelry 43155 Main St. Suite 304 Novi, MI 48375 (248) 347-4653

Leikin, Ingber & Winters, PC 3000 Town Center, Suite 2390 Southfield, MI 48075 (248) 353-1070

McNabb Carpet 31250 Milford Rd. Milford Township, MI 48381 (248) 437-8146 www.demcnabb.com The Medical Team 17197 N. Laurel Park Dr. Livonia, MI 48152 (734) 779-9700 1-800-382-5940 www.medicalteam.com

Milford Family Practice 1265 N. Milford Rd. Milford, MI 48381 (248) 685-3600

Milford Pharmacy 1191 Milford Rd. Milford, MI 48381 (248) 685-8363

Northville Collision 700 Doheny Dr. Northville (248) 349-1090 www.northvillecollision.com

Northville Physical Rehab 215 E. Main St., Sulte B Northville, MI 48167 (248) 349-9339 northvillept@gmail.com

Northville Watch and Clock 132 West Dunlap Northville, MI 48167 www.northvilleclock.com

Novi Family Dental Center 43410 West Ten Mile Rd. Novi, MI 48375 www.novidental.com

OmniCare Health Plan 1333 Gratiot; Suite 400 Detroit MI 48207 1-866-316-3784 www.omnicarehealthplan.com

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Professional Blood Collecting"
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(313) 382-3857
www.phlebotomyeducation.org

Plymouth Jewelry 620 Starkweather St. Plymouth Mi 48170 (734) 453-1860 www.plymouthjewelry.com

Richard W. Paul & Associates 39555 Orchard Hill Place Novi, MI 48375 (248) 305-9911 www.rwpaul.com

South Lyon Cycle 209 S. Lafayette South Lyon MI 48178 (248) 437-0500 www.southlyoncycle.com

Tom Holzer Ford 422 E. Main Northville, MI 48167 (248) 474-1234 www.HolzerFord.com

Vision Plus 22371 Pontiac Trail South Lyon MI 48178 (248) 437-7600 www.drkontry.com

Woodhaven Retirement Community 29667 Wentworth St. Livonia, MI 48154 (734) 261-9000 www.woodhaven-retirement.com



GET OUT

Continued from page B6

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Feb. 3 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 4 Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit

Details: "Charade," tickets \$4

Coming up: "The Apartment," 8 p.m. Feb. 17 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 18; "Gone With The Wind" 8 p.m. March 2-3 and 2 p.m. March 4, includes an appearance by "the Gone With The Wind answer lady," Kathleen Marcaccio

Contact: (313) 537-2560

Museums

CHARLES H. WRIGHT

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday

Location: 315 E. Warren Road, Detroit

Details: Regular museum admission is \$8 for adults, 13-61; and \$5 for youth, 3-12, and seniors, 62 and over. Members and children 2 and under are admitted free. "Moving to His Own Beat" celebrates the life and music of Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, who fused traditional African highlife music with classical jazz and funk, a unique sound he called "Afrobeat" The exhibit runs through April 1

Contact: (313) 494-5800



Moving to His Own Beat, an exhibit at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History celebrates the life of Fela Anikulapo-Kuti.

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday and Friday-Sunday; current exhibit runs through June 17 Location: 155 S. Main,

Plymouth **Details:** "Ration Stamps & Bombers, WWII at Home" is the current exhibit. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2

for students, 6-17 Contact: (734) 455-8940

U-M KELSEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Time/Date: The museum is open 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., Tuesday-Friday, and 1-4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday

32777 W. Warren • Garden City

Just East of Venoy

www.amanteaa.com

734-421-1510.

Location: 434 S. State, Ann

Details: Part II of the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology's special exhibition - "Karanis Revealed: Discovering the Past and Present of a Michigan Excavation in Egypt" - will run Friday, Jan. 27-Sunday, May 6. This special exhibition explores the story of the site's excavation, which was initiated by the University of Michigan in the 1920s and 1930s. Part II follows the changes that took place in Karanis with the beginning of the Roman occupation of Egypt and then later with the advent of Christianity. The displays - all but a few will be new - include collections

of Roman glass, tax rolls on papyrus, and the leather breastplate of a Roman soldier. Admission is free, but donations are accepted. Contact: www.lsa.umich. edu/kelsey; (734) 764-9304

Music

THE ARK

Time/Date: The 35th Annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival, Jan. 27-28; Take a Chance Tuesday with Peyton Tochterman, Jan. 31; Open Stage, Feb. 1; Frontier Ruckus, Feb. 2: Chervl Wheeler, Feb. 3; Yiddishe Cup, Feb. 4; The Global Jazz Project, Feb. 7; Girlyman & Edie Carey, Feb. 8; William Fitzsimmons & Denison Witner, Feb. 9; Newfound Road, Feb. 10; Student Songwriter Series: The Ark at UMMA, Feb. 10; Mustard's Retreat, Feb. 11; My Folky Valentine, Feb. 12; Miss Tess and the Bon Ton Parade, Feb. 13; Solas, Feb. 14; JT Nero & Allison Russell, Feb. 15; Jill Sobule, Feb. 16; The RFD Boys, Feb. 17; Kate Clinton, Feb. 19 Location: 316 South Main,

Ann Arbor Contact: (734) 763-8587;

www.theark.org **BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY**

Time/Date: 7-9:30 p.m. the third Saturday of the month Location: JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: The show includes open mic performances and a featured performer Admis-

Cast members rehearse a dance for "Grease." Forever After Productions will stage the show Jan. 27-Feb. 5 in

sion is \$5. Annual memberships are \$25 for individuals and \$50 for families. Members may attend monthly concerts free of charge.

Contact: Mike Mullen at (248) 719-3464 or e-mail to mjmmullen@yahoo.com

CD RELEASE CONCERT Time/Date: 1:30 P.M. Sunday,

Jan. 29 Location: Penn Theatre, 760 Penniman, Plymouth Details: Motor City Troubadours release "Rustbelt Rhapsodies;" adult admission is \$5; free for children 12 and under

Contact: info@motorcitytroubadours.com or visit motorcitytroubadours.com

MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

Time/Date: 2 p.m. Feb. 12; pre-concert talk at 1:15 p.m. Location: First United Methodist Church, 45201 North Territorial Road, Plymouth

Rice & Vegetables

Valid for Valentines Day only (Tues., Feb. 14th). Dine in or Carry Out.

Order Your Party Platter for the Big Game

Available with chicken and side dishes.

Call or Order Online: www.rockysrotisserie.com

Details: "Sunday with Schubert" featuring Michigan Phil principal clarinetist Lisa Raschiatore performing the Copland Clarinet Concerto. Other works include Schubert Symphony No. 5 and Amalia Concerto for 12. Tickets are \$22 general, \$18 senior and \$10, student Contact: (734) 451-2112;

www.michiganphil.org **JAZZ AT THE ELKS**

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. last Tuesday of the month

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres. Terry Lower Quartet with Terry on keyboard, Ray Tini on bass, Jim Ryan on drums and Edve Evans-Hyde on vocals will perform Jan. 31

Contact: (734) 453-1780 or e-mail to plymouthelks1780@



Livonia

43.615.1330

Su 9 pm-12 am; Mo-Th 11 pm - 2 am

mington at 7 Mile

Global trend:

Create innovative food, spice combinations

When it comes to food, people around the world are more alike than different, according to a report released by McCormick & Company, Inc. The McCormick "Flavor Forecast 2012" pinpoints common trends and flavors driving culinary innovation around the world.

A team of McCormick chefs, sensory scientists, trend trackers, marketing experts and food technologists in Asia, Australia, Europe, Africa, Latin America and North America created this first global version of Flavor Forecast, which McCormick has released annually since 2000.

"While developing the Flavor forecast 2012, our global team was excited to find so many similarities in the trends inspiring diverse cultures to cook, eat and innovate," state Chef Kevan Vetter for McCormick United

The report highlights six culinary trends brought to life through 12 regional flavor combinations and taste experiences:

• Honoring roots — Give traditional ingredients and techniques a fresh perspective with such flavor combinations as Korean pepper paste, sesame, Asian pear and garlic; and cumin with sofrito.

• Quest for the ultimate — Pair lemon thyme, limoncello, lemon peel and meyer lemon for the ultimate lemon flavor and bring dill with mint, melon and cucumber together for the ultimate refresher.

• Veggies in vogue — Honey and harissa combine to let eggplant shine with sweet heat; pair red curry and pancetta with squash for a hint of Thai.

 Simplicity shines — Cooks are highlighting quality ingredients with unpretentious preparations. Try combining ginger with coconut or vanilla with butter and let a simple dish shine.

• Flavorful swaps — Balancing an appetite for bold flavor with a hunger for good health is key to achieving wellness goals. Pair a better-for-you beverage, such as red tea, with cinnamon and plum or grapefruit and red

• No boundaries — Culinary trailblazers cook outside the lines by discovering, reinventing and even playing with food. Combining blueberry with cardamom and corn masa takes dishes from everyday to extraordinary. Sweet soy with tamarind and black pepper gives food an Asian flair.

Here's a selection of recipes that use some of the 12 regional flavor combinations. For more recipes, visit www.FlavorForecast.com

Vanilla-Butter Shrimp Rolls

Prep Time: 15 minutes Cook Time: 10 minutes Makes 8 servings

8 New England-style hot dog rolls (top spilt) or regular hot dog rolls, split

3.tablespoons butter, softened, divided

1 tablespoon olive oil

1 tablespoon finely chopped shallots

1 teaspoon finely chopped garlic

1 pound large shrimp, peeled, deveined and

cut in half ¼ teaspoon paprika

¼ teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper

2 tablespoons dry sherry or white wine

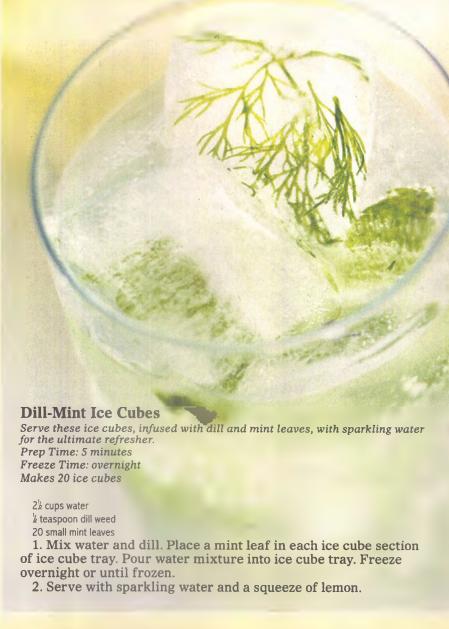
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract ¼ cup mayonnaise

1 to 2 cups small salad greens, such as mache, baby spinach or baby arugula

1. Lightly brush rolls with 2 tablespoons of the butter. Heat large skillet on medium heat. Place rolls, buttered-side down, in skillet. Toast 2 to 3 minutes per side or until golden brown. Remove from

2. Heat oil and remaining 1 tablespoon butter in same skillet on medium heat. Add shallots and garlic; cook and stir 1 minute or until fragrant. Add shrimp, paprika, salt and pepper; cook and stir 3 to 4 minutes or just until shrimp turn pink. Stir in sherry and vanilla; cook until heated through.

3. Spread mayonnaise on each roll. Place baby greens in rolls. Spoon shrimp mixture into each roll. Drizzle shrimp with remaining sauce. Serve immediately.



Eggplant & Goat Cheese Torte with Honey-Harissa Sauce

Prep Time: 45 minutes Cook Time: 20 minutes Refrigerate Time: 1 hour Makes 4 servings

1 large eggplant, sliced length-

wise into 12 to 16 slices

2 tablespoons olive oil ¼ teaspoon salt

¼ teaspoon ground black pepper

1 small red bell pepper, roasted, peeled and quartered

2 ounces goat cheese (chévre) 1 small yellow bell pepper,

roasted, peeled and quartered

2 tablespoons honey Honey-Harissa Sauce

1 large red bell pepper, roasted,

peeled and seeded 3 tablespoons olive oil

1 tablespoon honey

ground ½ teaspoon ground coriander

½ teaspoon minced garlic

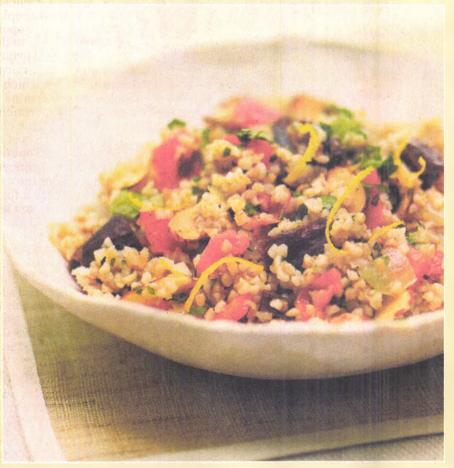
½ teaspoon salt ¼ teaspoon crushed red pepper

1. For the Honey-Harissa Sauce, place all ingredients in blender or food processor; cover. Blend or process on high speed until almost smooth. Set

2. Brush eggplant slices with oil. Season lightly with salt and pepper. Place eggplant slices in single layer on baking pan. Roast in preheated 350°F oven 15 to 20 minutes or until just tender.

3. Line four (6 ounce) ramekins with plastic wrap. Place 1 slice of eggplant lengthwise along bottom of each ramekin. Line the sides of the ramekin with slices of eggplant, draping 1 inch of each end of the eggplant slice over top of ramekin. Place red bell pepper slices on top of eggplant in bottom of ramekin. Top with a thin layer of goat cheese. Repeat with a layer of eggplant, placing slices crosswise to first layer of eggplant, yellow bell pepper slices and goat cheese. Fold excess eggplant over to enclose the torte. Cover ramekins in plastic wrap.

4. Refrigerate 1 hour or overnight. Invert each ramekin onto serving plate and carefully remove ramekin. Brush tortes with honey. Serve with Honey-Harissa Sauce.



Almond & Date Bulgur Salad with Sofrito

Prep Time: 20 minutes Cook Time: 20 minutes Makes 4 servings

1 cup bulgur (cracked wheat)

1 teaspoon grated orange peel

& cup orange juice & teaspoon ground cumin or roasted ground cumin

& teaspoon McCormick Gourmet Sicilian Sea Salt 2 tablespoons olive oil

¿ cup chopped plum tomatoes

& cup chopped green bell pepper

cup chopped red bell pepper

& cup chopped onion 2 teaspoons minced garlic

cup pitted dates, quartered, divided

4 cup sliced almonds, toasted, divided 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro, divided

1. Bring 6 cups water to boil in medium saucepan. Meanwhile, heat large skillet on medium heat. Add dry bulgur; cook and stir 2 to 3 minutes or until fragrant. Add toasted bulgur to boiling water. Cook on medium heat 10-12 minutes or until tender. Drain and rinse under cold water. Place bulgur in large bowl. Mix orange peel, juice, cumin and sea salt in small bowl. Pour over bulgur; toss to coat well. Set aside.

2. Heat oil in large skillet on medium-high heat. Add tomatoes, bell peppers, onion and garlic; cook and stir 2-3 minutes or until tender-crisp. Add vegetables, and ½ each of the dates, almonds and cilantro to the bulgur mixture; toss to coat well.

3. Serve warm or refrigerate until ready to serve. Garnish with remaining dates, almonds and cilantro.

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Local Realtors optimistic for 2012

By Julie Brown O&E Staff Writer

Realtor Bob Bake's been in the business for 45 years, so he has a good sense of how things are going.

Bake, with Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel of Plymouth, agreed the market's looking

up.
"Very definitely, we are," he said, adding he speaks for Northville, Plymouth and Canton. "There's a significant uptick in activity, especially for homes that are in move-in conditions in appealing areas."

Fixer-upper homes are less appealing, Bake said, but the supply of homes is more lim-

"There's a definite scarcity factor," he said. "We're very, very busy."

Bake agreed buying a home remains a good investment despite market upheaval of recent years. "In my judgment it is (a good investment), especially if you're going to be living in your home five years or more. It's a great time to buy.

Interest rates for mortgages are low, he added.

Realtor Bart Patterson, a 15-year industry veteran, also sees signs for optimism.

"Always. There's plenty of buyers out there," said Pat-terson, vice president and general manager for RE/ MAX Classic, with offices in Canton, Farmington Hills corporate headquarters, Novi and Milford. "It's a pretty competitive market still. If it's a nice house and is priced competitively, it's selling pretty well. Buyers are doing well.

"Mortgage rates are historic lows. You can't beat that," Patterson added.

Patterson acknowledged the housing market has struggled in recent years.

"It has been struggle." Some buyers were forced to sell for financial reasons.

Others can move because of



Local Realtors are pleased to see an uptick in business in early 2012.

their circumstances, Patter-

"We saw a little bit of an increase in the (average) sale price last year." If that continues, "that would be good for the economy. We've got to get to that leveling out place.'

Patterson agreed the jobs element is a key piece, and that some renters could buy for the first time.

"Everybody stayed focused," he said of those in his field, adding some homes are still being sold as short

Existing-home sales rose again in November and remain above a year ago, according to the National Association of Realtors. Also released recently were periodic benchmark revisions with downward adjustments to sales and inventory data since 2007, led by a decline in for-sale-by-owners.

Although rebenchmarking resulted in lower adjustments to several years of home sales data, the month-to-month characterization of market conditions did not change. There are no changes to home prices or month's supply.

The latest monthly data shows total existing-home sales, which are completed transactions that include single-family, townhomes, condominiums and co-ops, increased 4.0 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.42 million in November from 4.25 million in October, and are 12.2 percent above the 3.94 million-unit pace in November 2010.

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, said more people are taking advantage of the buyer's market. "Sales reached the highest mark in 10 months and are 34 percent above the cyclical low point in mid-2010 — a genuine sustained sales recovery appears to be developing," he said. "We've seen healthy gains in

contract activity, so it looks like more people are realizing the great opportunity that exists in today's market for buyers with long-term plans."

According to Freddie Mac, the national average commitment rate for a 30-year, conventional, fixed-rate mortgage fell to a record low 3.99 percent in November from 4.07 percent in October; the rate was 4.30 percent in November 2010; records date back to 1971

NAR President Moe Veissi, broker-owner of Veissi & Associates Inc., in Miami, said housing affordability conditions have set a new record high. "With record low mortgage interest rates and bargain home prices, NAR's housing affordability index shows that a median-income family can easily afford a medianpriced home," he said.

The NAR website contributed to this report.

Weigh animal issue with care

Q: We have a community that is trapping cats and turning them over to the Humane Society which is putting them up for adoption or euthanizing them. We now have an animal rights activist owner who has gotten every single animal rights group and a local paper involved with this issue and is trying to get the board to change their position on this issue. It is the animal rights position that you need to trap the cats, neuter them and then release them since this will prevent reproduction and will allegedly lead to the extinction of that colony of cats within the association. What do we

A: I know of one association that was actually sued by an animal rights activist to



Robert Meisner

prevent it from capturing the feral cats and turning them over to the shelter where they were either adopted or euthanized. The plaintiff in that case

sought a permanent injunction

requiring what was referred to as TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release). There are, however, organizations that will either neuter the cats or keep them or put them up for adoption and the TNR advocates are familiar with these organizations. In that particular matter the case was settled by the Association agreeing not to trap the cats for 30 days to allow the Plaintiff to arrange to trap them and then ship them off to a facility for TNR and housing, and then to resume trapping placement in the shelter after 30 days. Obviously, you can offer to have the cats turned over to the various animal rights groups that are complaining so long as they do not end up back at the Association. This is a delicate legal question and/or political issue that requires much consideration by the board and counsel.

Q: I am a board member, and am concerned about the fact that our collection lawyer for our condominium seems to have every collection account on a computer with access to the management company and, perhaps, others. Isn't that an invasion

of privacy? A: It is hard to determine exactly what type of system your collection attorney has established, but the attorney/client privilege could be waived or otherwise jeopardized if proprietary information in the hands of the attorney is disclosed to third parties who are not protected by the attorney client privilege, namely are not the client or authorized representatives of the client to receive this information within the protections of the attorney/privilege. The technological age may prove to some to be beneficial in terms of record keeping and the like but it also opens up additional pitfalls to the long established legal principals embodied in the attorney/ client privilege which could well undermine the association's operations, and impede, indeed, the collection process. You are best advised to have a second opinion provided to you concerning the propriety of the computer access information procedures that you have

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.

outlined.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the area residential week of Oct. 11-14, 2011, at the

Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, ad dresses, and sales prices.
CANTON

office. Listed below ar dresses, and sales pric	
CANTON 50492 Amberley Blvd	\$540,000
41345 Ford Rd	\$375,000
2236 Hendrie	\$250,000
7247 Kingsbridge Ct	\$150,000

4063 Pond Run

44575 Savery Dr	\$46,000
41850 Woodbridge Dr	\$137,000
SARDEN CITY	
32248 Florence St	\$36,000
31927 Hennepin St	\$52,000
32751 Maplewood St	\$55,000
32219 Rosslyn Ave	\$80,000
30036 Rush St	\$77,000
IVONIA	
36262 Barkley St	\$150,000
9586 Deering St	\$92,000

JIJE/ HEIMEDING	\$32,000
32751 Maplewood St	\$55,000
32219 Rosslyn Ave	\$80,000
30036 Rush St	\$77,000
IVONIA	
36262 Barkley St	\$150,000
9586 Deering St	\$92,000
11840 Farmington Rd	\$78,000
38517 Mason St	\$130,000
9970 Oporto St	\$95,000
30064 Richland St	\$75,000

14599 Ronnie Ln 29056 Roycroft St 14139 Susanna St NORTHVILLE 20268 Longwood Ct 16001 Morningside 46423 Pinehurst Cir 725 Randolph St 317 Yerkes St PLYMOUTH	\$123,000 \$61,000 \$129,000 \$110,000 \$117,000 \$640,000 \$58,000 \$170,000
39519 Birchwood Dr 262 N Holbrook St 624 S Harvey St REDFORD 19653 Brady	\$159,000 \$119,000 \$110,000 \$54,000

18679 Delaware Ave	\$32,000
9159 Dixie	\$50,000
18690 Gaylord	\$39,000
9655 Hemingway	\$35,000
24904 N Sylbert Dr	\$69,000
WESTLAND	
33731 Blackfoot St	\$49,000
31628 Conway Dr	\$85,000
38592 Florence St	\$55,000
7780 Louise Ct	\$38,000
36449 Newberry Estates	Dr
\$	172,000
36515 Newberry Estates	Dr

\$160,000 \$75,000 35588 Pheasant Ln 39227 Randolph Ct \$85,000

\$20 000

39510 Country In

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 3-7, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS 16910 Lauderdale Ave 30354 Lincolnshire E 31054 Pickwick Ln BIRMINGHAM	\$148,000 \$340,000 \$215,000
1540 Bowers St	\$124,000
1192 Cole St	\$430,000
1809 Holland St	\$149,000
369 Kimberly St	\$392,000
1021 Smith Ave	\$129,000

BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
617 Wilshire Dr	\$195,000
4725 Dover Rd	\$268,000
718 E Long Lake Rd	\$260,000
1377 Pembroke Dr	\$900,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
3425 Berkshire Dr	\$396,000
1054 Clear Point Ct	\$290,000
6522 Donegan Ct	\$250,000
5373 Echo Rd	\$235,000
474 Fox Hills Dr N	\$25,000
1180 Hill Line Trl	\$420,000
6465 Maple Hills Dr	\$135,000
945 Satterlee Rd	\$460,000
3647 Shallow Brook Dr	\$235,000
4147 Stoneleigh Rd	\$420,000
1101 Timberlake Dr	\$530,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	+
1760 Birchton St	\$45,000
4735 White Tail Ct	\$179,000

FARMINGTON HILLS 22743 Clear Lake Dr 31711 Dohany Dr 35575 Forestville St 29261 Glen Oaks Blvd E 36650 Howard Rd 29508 Juneau Ln 29308 Regents Pointe 28895 Rockledge Dr FRANKLIN	\$1: \$1: \$1: \$1: \$1: \$1: \$1: \$1:	00, 80, 89, 70, 15,	00 00 00 00 00	000000
26651 Captains Ln 25075 Franklin Park Dr MILFORD	\$6° \$3°			
3045 Hillside Dr 983 Manderly Dr 852 Manor Dr NOVI	\$1: \$2 \$		00	0
22120 Brockshire St 47334 Butler Ln 28314 Carlton Way Dr	\$4; \$2; \$1;	42,	00	0

40698 Lenox Park Dr 24777 Reeds Pointe Dr 41451 Reindeer Dr SOUTH LYON 124 Brookwood Ct 25607 Buckingham Ct 698 Center Rdg 57538 Hidden Timbers Dr \$245, 1053 Saddle Dr \$230,00 \$7538 Hidden Timbers Dr \$245,	00
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COLITICIELD	00
SOUTHFIELD	
19481 Cherry Hill St \$124,00	00
23408 Grayson Dr \$30,00	
20200 Lacrosse Ave \$95,00	
25131 Ridge Cliff Dr \$143,00	
30230 Woodgate Dr \$135,00	
WHITE LAKE	
8520 Jamestown Dr \$25,00	00
979 Round Lake Rd \$85,00	
8990 Twin Lakes Dr \$190,00	
4 1 4 1 4 1	

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Contest finalist

Jewish Family Service's Project Build! program, based in West Bloomfield has been selected as a finalist for Aprons in Action, The Home Depot Foundation's Facebook voting program, and now has the opportunity to win a \$25,000 gift card from The Home Depot. Voting began Jan. 2 and runs through Jan. 31 at www.facebook.com/homedepotfoundation. The organization with the most votes will win the \$25,000 prize, and be in the running for the grand prize of \$250,000 at the end of the yearlong program. The runnerup organizations from each month will receive \$5,000 in The Home Depot gift

During the Aprons in Action Contest, which began in April 2011, 11 monthly winners will be selected. In March to help one of those 11 winners win the \$250,000 grand prize. The organization that receives the second and third most votes will receive \$150,000 and \$100,000 from The Home Depot, respectively.

2012, Facebook fans will have the chance

In the January round of the competi-

tion, Jewish Family Service is competing against three other nonprofit organizations from across the country including Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America, Pilot Club of Denham Springs, and VFW Post 4127.

"Being selected for the Aprons in Action Program is an honor, and we are so thankful for the recognition," said Perry Ohren, CEO of Jewish Family Service. "If we win the \$25,000 Home Depot gift card, we will be able to provide home repairs and modifications for many low-income and physically challenged individuals in our community over the next year."

Working together, Jewish Family Service's Project Build!, The Home Depot Foundation and the local The Home Depot Commerce Township store recently teamed up to complete an extensive home repair. It took seven days over a period of three weeks to replace rotted flooring, paint all of the walls, replace the lighting and oven, and repair the gutters outside. In the end, JFS's Project Build! and The Home Depot turned the client's house into

Aprons in Action is on Facebook at www. facebook.com/homedepot or www.facebook.com/homedepotfoundation.

The final percentages of votes for each nonprofit will be posted on The Home Depot and The Home Depot Foundation's Facebook pages on Feb. 1 at 9 a.m. ET. For more information and to view the program rules, visit The Home Depot on Facebook or go to www.homedepotfoundation.org.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No

Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Free Foreclosure Tours

Free Foreclosure Tours are 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 FreeForeclosureTour.

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Exp. 1/31/12 EHO



CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- Cost
- 4 Perimeter 8 "Wool" on clay
- sheep
- 12 Mantra chants
- 13 Amount carried
- 14 Budget item
- 15 Small shelters
- (2 wds.) 17 Othello's

- betrayer
- 18 Blame 19 Rocky
- Mountain tree 20 Out of debt
- 23 Frazier foe 24 Plant anchor
- 25 Emulate The Rock or Hulk Hogan
- 29 Starfish part 30 Spelunkers' finds
- 32 Kennel sound 33 Curious maid-
- 35 Drury Lane
- 50 Opposite of post-51 Beak
- 52 D'Urberville girl 53 High explosive

composer

37 Couch potato's

36 Mdse bars

device

39 "Soapdish"

42 Eat no food

43 Cargo area

leave (2 wds.)

48 Fully qualified

44 Desires to

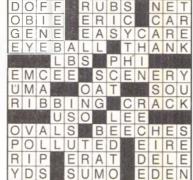
49 Adams or Brickell

actor

DOWN

- Popinjay
- 2 Low-fat meat3 Clairvoyance
- Helen, in Spanish 5 Cruller cousin
- 6 Hoods' weap-

Answer to Previous Puzzle RUBS



7-15 @ 2011, Dist. by Univ. Uclick for UFS

- 7 Bradley and McBain
- 8 Turning point
- 9 Mound 10 He wrote "Picnic"
- 21 song
 - (cheaply) 22 Sketch 23 Is, for them 25 Harpers Ferry
 - 26 Greenhorn 27 Clump of fluff 28 Pentathlon

11 Egyptian sun

god 16 Shovel or rake

19 Tavern brews

20 On the double

- event 30 Manage okay 31 Rocket trajec-
- 34 "Crocodile —'
 35 Tsp. and oz.
- 37 Sari sporters
- 38 Basso Simon
- 39 Mongol ruler 40 Wolf, to Pedro
- 41 Troubles 42 Slowly vanish
- 44 Soggy 45 out
- (withdraw)
- 46 40-cup brew-47 New Year in

Fun By The

Like puzzles? Then you'll love

sudoku. This

mind-bending

puzzle will have

you hooked from

the moment you

square off, so

sharpen your

your sudoku

pencil and put

savvy to the test!

Numbers

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6

8

9

6

8

3

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Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	4	0.25	3.375	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	4.125	0	3.375	0	А
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	4	0	3.375	0	J/A/V/F
First State Bank	(800) 372-2205	4.25	0	3.625	0	J/V/F
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Here's How It Works:

4

9

6

1

7

8

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

3

7

7

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4

9

Level: Beginner

Word Search — Winter Day

S В 0 C D S В G S G L Z Н

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ΚU

W

Frostbite

Gloves

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S N

Drift

Fireplace

Frigid

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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Blizzard

Bundle

Chilly

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8 3 1 2 4 7 9 6 8

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Snow

Snowflake

Temperature

S R Z J

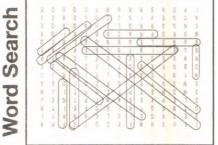
Mittens

Parka

Scarf

L

C Q



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amoker, down-to-earth, kind, sweet, loves
amtokuse, pisys, nice dinners, beaches, nenitques, pisys, nice dinners, beaches, nehure, outdoor activilies, seeks a caring and
honest man, 43-44, WS, for serious LTR.
Please no games. 1273/1228

SERIOUS REPLIES ONLY

STATEMENT STATES

SERIOUS REPLIES ONLY

Attractive SBF, 40, NR. 5. 4", 1860a, clinical
benepies! likes running, long wells, conparts, staying fit, releasing while wetching

movies, cooking, nature. Seeking an honnet guy, 35-50. NR. financially secure, for
twendanip and enjoy the aimple pleasures in
ties. Serious replies only, please no gemes.

1734-2004

INDEPENDENT LADY INDEPENDENT LADY
SBF, 38, smoler, cury, kind, loving, honset, seeks WM, 39-50, with kids, amoker, to enjoy trips, concerts, descing for friendship, pos-

SEEKING A GENTLEMAN
77, 5° 2", very kind, everage build, N/S,
us a nice, horsest BM, 60-70, N/S, for
sidelip, companionathip, possible LTR,
erious replies only, 17341861
SEEKE BERGAL

as replies only. 27:341881
BEEKS RESPONSIBILE MAN
BEF, 40, N/B, 5°°, 140lbs, vary stful, honset man, 38-50, N/B, to enjoy
ge, bowling, shoot pool, jazz concerts,
crutiess, gcappé plays, fine foods concerts
orders and more. Pleases no germes or
orders and more.

SEEKS MAN WITH MORALS F, 82, NRS, 6°S", thick, shoulder length helf, to walke on the country side, seeks kind, ing BM, 48-60, NRS, for friendehlp, travel, ing out, advantures, bowling, dencing, selble LTR, 25/340942

2339125

MACOMS COUNTY LADY ing for a ball gentleman, 80-75, for a LTR, lileas cards, dirling out, movies, travel, isse, I am a SWF, 50s, 52", brown hair, n oyes, leave a message and I will re-

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LONELY WIDOW SWF, 81, amokar, owns my own home, has a small dog, seeks an honest man, 58-85, amoker, to share good times, "Mandahlp, leading to possible LTR. 27340813

issering to positions LTH, 273-00/13

SWF, 62, 6'-4", average build, NS, likes garpossible LTR, 273-41701

27962317

PEOPLE-PERSON
DWF, 65, 5°2", 107lbs, two grown sons and
one granddaughter, looking for 3WM, 55-68,
N/3, who is family-oriented, easy to comnunicate with, and fur to be with. I love
concerts, dining out, taking walks. \$27334842

concerts, dining out, taking wells. \$733854
FORMER FILIGHT ATTENDANT
Recently widowed tormer flight etbendent
ISO a meaningful relationship with a Jewenth
men who is meners. I'm 63, 1005bs, and look
itle I'm in my 40s. I'm fun, spiritisus, youthful
and hops to heer from you soon! \$7237888

and rups to near from you soon! 27:37888
PRETTY ENTREPREUNER
WF. 64, loving, giving, fan to with, looking for southeast. Any sincers WM, 60-66, who's smbitious, successful, spiritual and seed. \$2585274

tionate, passionate SM, 30-40, for friendship, possible LTR, 27:33796

BLONDE WIDOW

B

EC340127

LONELY AND LOVELY WIDOW

SWF, 88, N/S, sense of humor, loves the outdoors, old cars, gardening, sests WM, 65-73,
N/S, with similar interests, for possible LTR.

NO GAMES PLEASE
SEF, 5'4", 126 hs. average build, retired chef, amoles, littee action movies, seeks honest
BM, 25-49, smoker, for friendship, possible
LTR. \$7339714

PEOPLE-PERSON DWF, 65, 5'2", 107lbs, two grow

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LOST: 2 dogs. Dolly. Maltipod & Jet, black Yorkie mix from Canton Home Depot. Reward offered. 734-721-0145

about



all here!

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