



Head Smart

The Plymouth Whalers team with the Brain Injury Association of Michigan in the first "Head Smart Night" at 7:05 p.m. Saturday at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township. While the Whalers are playing the Sudbury Wolves, the activity around the game involves increased education and awareness of BIAMI for fans and the organization's expertise toward head trauma.

BIAMI is a nonprofit group that brings together people with brain injury, their families, friends and concerned professionals to improve the quality of life that people experience after brain injuries.

For every \$12 ticket sold Saturday, \$4 will be donated toward BIAMI's Concussion Awareness and Education programs. For tickets and more information, visit www.plymouthwhalers.com/buytickets.

Public forum

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools hosts a public forum on its facilities study at 6:30 p.m. Monday at Discovery Middle School, 45083 Hanford, in Canton.

The meeting provides an opportunity for residents to ask questions about what schools may close, how other schools might be redistricted and what the district's plans are for the near future.

District officials and a representative from Plante & Moran CRESA, the firm that conducted the study, will be on hand to answer questions.

United Way meets

The Plymouth Community United Way holds its 2012 annual meeting and awards presentation 7:30-9 a.m. Friday, March 2, at Comcast, 41112 Concept Drive, in Plymouth.

The public is welcome. The morning begins with networking and a continental breakfast, followed by the meeting at 8 a.m. The purpose of the meeting is to elect new board members and officers, and includes reports on the organization's 2011 finances and programs.

To RSVP, call Pat VanDusen at (734) 453-6879, ext. 2, by Feb. 24.

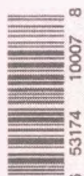
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 Volume 125 • Number 55

Home Delivery:
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Return Address:
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PRICE: \$1 • THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2012 • hometownlife.com

Facing change, PCFD compares with neighbors

By Matt Jachman
 Observer Staff Writer

As the Plymouth Community Fire Department faces certain change — an arbitrator's ruling in a contract dispute, a reorganization called for by Plymouth Township officials and possibly the availability of more tax money to support it — comparisons with departments in Northville Township and Canton Township show a similar cost structure and level of ser-

vice, and a few important distinctions.

But the loss of the city of Plymouth from the department it shared with Plymouth Township for about 15 years puts the department at a disadvantage, leaving an annual revenue gap of nearly \$1 million and taking away between 25 percent and 30 percent of its work load.

Plymouth's department has township offi-

Please see PCFD, A4

COMPARING LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS

	PLYMOUTH TWP.	NORTHVILLE TWP.	CANTON TWP.
POPULATION	27,524	28,497	90,173
COVERAGE AREA	16.6 sq. miles	16.45 sq. miles	36 sq. miles
UNIFORMED PERSONNEL	23	27	62
TOTALS RUNS, 2011	2,639	2,309	6,121
PRIVATE AMBULANCE SERVICE?	Yes	No	No
2011 BUDGET	\$3.98 mill.	\$3.96 mill.	\$11 mill.



Sheila Paton (left), with volunteer Sue Egleston at the Plymouth Cultural Center on election day, spent some \$5,100 on the Board of Education election, most among the 14 active candidates.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cash and carry

Money flowed in 2011 school board race

By Brad Kadrich
 Observer Staff Writer

Money may not buy love, but it came in handy for at least some of the candidates who ran for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education in November.

On the other hand, the second-biggest spender in the November election — Abdul Muhiuddin — finished 10th in the 14-person race, leaving open the question of how much money helped or hurt in the campaign.

One thing is certain, though — cash flowed freely. "Initially, I wondered if I was even going to spend \$1,000," said Sheila Paton, who wound up spending \$5,100. "I had no intention of spending that much. (But) when you start looking at what (campaign) signs cost, and then if you do a mailing ... it all adds up, and it adds up quickly. I didn't know

WHO SPENT WHAT

Here's what campaign finance reports show candidates spent in the November 2011 Plymouth-Canton Board of Education race and where they finished in the 14-candidate field (includes only those who spent enough to have to file a report):

Candidate	Spent	Finish
Sheila Paton	\$5,100	1
Abdul Muhiuddin	\$4,810	10
Mike Andro	\$3,305	6
John Jackson	\$2,528	8
John Barrett	\$2,400	2
Mark Horvath	\$2,300	3
Mike Maloney	\$2,143	4
Matt Dame	\$1,100	7
Stephanie Goecke	\$828	11

what I was getting into."

Money became a big issue in the race when it appeared as though the Republican Party, through the Wayne 11th Congressional District Committee, was spending vaultfuls of it. Down the stretch, three mailings appeared with the traditional "paid for by" mark of the Wayne 11th, including one

that used pictures of President Barack Obama and former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

Warning signs?

The mailings were signs, critics said, the Republicans were getting heavily involved in what is a non-partisan race

Please see MONEY, A2

Detroit looks to hike city's water rate

By Matt Jachman
 Observer Staff Writer

City officials in Plymouth could be looking at an 8.1-percent hike in the wholesale price of water, but say it's too early to tell how any increase could affect residents' quarterly water bills.

The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department announced the proposed 2012-2013 water rates for Plymouth and the more than 100 other communities it serves last week. The wholesale rates are subject to Detroit City Council approval, and Plymouth City Manager Paul Sincock said the rate proposals are sometimes also subject to internal revisions before being presented to the Detroit council.

Once formally passed on to Plymouth, the new rate, plus the rate for sewage disposal and Plymouth's overhead for maintaining its own water system, will be used to calculate a new Plymouth retail rate for the 2012-2013 budget year, which begins Sunday, July 1.

The 8.1-percent wholesale price hike for Plymouth is close to the system-wide average proposed increase of about 7.9 percent. A look at DWSD documents dated Feb. 12 show the proposed rate for Plymouth is actually a blend of a lower per-unit cost for water — Detroit measures the water it sells in units of a thousand cubic feet, which is nearly 7,500 gallons — and a higher fixed monthly charge.

Under the plan, Plymouth's wholesale rate would go from \$11.26 per thousand cubic feet to \$10.36 per thousand. But its fixed monthly charge would go from \$15,299 to \$23,971.

Plymouth measures the water it sells to customers by the gallon, and the current retail water and sewer rate is \$10.36 per thousand gallons.

With the typical Plymouth household using about 18,000 gallons of water every three months, that means a quarterly bill of \$186.48

Please see WATER, A5



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CORRECTION

The Sunday, Feb. 19, story about the Wayne County Family Center should have identified the parent organization as Lutheran Social Services of Michigan. The agency operates the center for the county for Wayne County, providing shelter for homeless families.

MONEY

Continued from page A1

in an effort to get their candidates — former board presidents Mike Maloney and Mark Horvath, along with political newcomers Mike Andro and Matt Dame — onto the board.

According to Bob Kerrigan, owner of Alpha Graphics in Canton, a popular campaign printing destination, 5,000 copies of a fairly standard (5.5- x 8.5-inch) postcard would cost some \$300, or about 60 cents per 100 copies. With a mailing list of some 7,000 voters who cast absentee ballots in the November 2009 election (the usual target for candidate mailings), the three mailers would have cost the Wayne 11th some \$1,000.

While the Wayne 11th isn't required to file its final campaign finance report with the state until mid-April, earlier reports on file show payments to Alpha Graphics totalling about that amount in the weeks leading up to the Nov. 8 election.

And while the final



Maloney

report isn't in and the Wayne 11th treasurer didn't return a call seeking com-

ment, the committee reportedly spent in the \$4,000 to \$7,000 range on the campaign.

Wayne 11th spokesperson Mark Hutchins said he didn't know the actual total, but said a number in that range wouldn't be inordinate.

"We spent most of our money for mailings, basically," Hutchins said. "That's not really a lot of money. It depends on whether we've had a good fundraising year or not, but that's not an exorbitant amount of money."

Others do it

Hutchins downplayed the involvement of the political parties, pointing out the Michigan Education Association has for years spent money backing its candidates. Indeed, the MEA made \$500 contributions to each of the four candidates it backed: Paton, former board President

John Jackson, former Plymouth City Commissioner John Barrett and political newcomer Abdul Muhiuddin.

It was the MEA influence that caused the Wayne 11th to get involved, according to Hutchins.

"In this particular race, we saw a lot of dynamics where the MEA was controlling, and has been controlling, the direction of the school board race," Hutchins said. "We felt that was like the fox guarding the henhouse. We felt it was necessary to get some other voices on the school board to represent other than MEA-backed individuals."

Two of the Wayne 11th's candidates — former presidents Horvath and Maloney — were among the four new members chosen to the board Nov. 8. It marked the first school board campaign for either since the late 1990s. Times have changed in terms of how much money it takes to get elected.

Maloney said he spent "within some spare change" of \$1,000 in his last campaign, when he was beaten by Mark Slavens in 1999. Still, the \$2,100 he spent last year,

he said, isn't all that much money.

"There are two ways of looking at it. You can look at it as a lot of money, or you can say only people who are really serious about it are going to run," Maloney said. "You have to be serious. You have to really want the job."

Tougher time

Critics, though, say people who "really" want the job are going to have a tough time fighting the money if political parties continue to get this involved. Former Plymouth-Canton Trustee Steven Sneiderman fears it will get worse since the state forced districts to shift elections to even-year Novembers to coincide with presidential election years in what Republicans hailed as a cost-saving move.

What it could do, Sneiderman argued, is provide a huge advantage to candidates backed by political parties.

"With elections in even-year Novembers, when there are 75,000 people voting, versus 12,000 in an odd-year election, the dollars spent mean even more," Sneiderman said. "If you can reach even

a fraction of those voters, you can win a seat. It takes money to do that, and the (political) parties are the only ones with that kind of money. So now you've taken what are supposed to be non-partisan seats and made them partisan.

"I just think what happened in this last election, in an odd year, the money spent bought them two seats," he added. "In an even-year (election), that money would have bought them all four seats. I'm convinced of that."

Maloney disagrees, and said spending the money is part of a candidate getting his message out. With the numbers of outlets people have to get information these days, spending money to reach people is a necessary evil.

"If your message doesn't resonate with people, you don't get in," Maloney said. "Nobody likes to spend money. I would rather have gone on vacation. For people who are really committed to try and help the school district, it's worth it. It's very important to me that we address some of the problems in the school district. For me, it's worth it."

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Rubber meets road for mobile tire firm

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Tire repair expert Brian Roddy has driven to Hell and back for his customers.

That's a little outside the typical 25-mile radius of Canton where Roddy drives a rigged-out cube van to replace, balance, rotate or repair tires and wheels. He can even diagnose and fix a faulty tire-pressure monitoring system sensor.

Roddy works for Mobile Tire Company, a company started last June after owner Josh Cohen created a tire shop on wheels for busy customers who need service brought to their home, workplace, school — pretty much anywhere.

"We've done a mom's tires while she was at soccer practice with her kids," Cohen said.

Mobile Tire has taken off faster than a car burning rubber. Roddy works full time, while Cohen — who has another job with a local freight company — markets the business.

Roddy, 29, and Cohen, 38, are proud of their mobile tire shop, tucked in a 14-by-8-foot area equipped with a generator that powers a high-speed tire balancer and a compressor for the tire changer.

"This is my second home," Roddy said.

He had worked for tire companies for a decade before Cohen hired him for Mobile Tire. As for Cohen, his new business seemed a perfect venture.

"I've always loved tin-



Brian Roddy will drive his truck to your car and install new tires.



Mobile Tire owner Josh Cohen said his business makes tire work easy for people who have busy schedules.

king with cars," Cohen said. "I've always been a car guy."

Mobile Tire plans to have a spot at this year's AutoRama, Feb. 24-26 at Cobo Center. Cohen also has marketed his Belleville-based business by forging ties with chambers of commerce in Canton, Plymouth, Ann Arbor and Belleville.

Customers can choose a wide array of tire serv-

es, though a roadside flat isn't among them. A new set of tires from more than 20 brands, listed on the company's website at www.mobiletirecompany.com.

"We'll beat anyone's price," Cohen said. "Our tire machine has no metal — it's rubber and urethane — so if you have a nice set of wheels, you don't have to worry about us damaging it."

Mobile Tire's work comes with a warranty, and Roddy even performs work such as switching out winter and summer tires.

Cohen's wife, Karen, helps with Mobile Tire's paperwork, and Roddy has no competition as the company's only full-time repair guy.

"Brian's our star employee," Cohen said with a smile.

Cohen estimated Mobile Tire has had nearly 300

customers, including vehicle fleets for landscaping, construction and snow-plowing companies. Already, the company is branching out to replace windshield wiper blades.

For a little fun on Facebook, Cohen said if the company gets 229 "likes" by Feb. 29, one winner will get a \$229 prepaid Visa gift card.

Standing outside his cube van, Cohen admits there are differences between his mobile business and a regular tire shop.

"We provide the same service," he said, "without the bad coffee, uncomfortable chairs, three-year-old magazines and TV soap operas."

For more information, call (734) 506-8473 or send an e-mail to sales@mobiletirecompany.com.

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Plymouth officials impressed with new emergency response

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth officials are seeing improved response times in the first 45 days of the city's new firefighting and emergency medical service partnership, while noting a learning curve for emergency dispatchers and technical firefighters.

The city on Jan. 1 began a partnership with the Northville Fire Department, opening an expanded fire station adjacent to a city hall. Northville's system relies on part-time, on-call firefighters, and the plan also meant a greater role for Huron Valley Ambulance in responding to medical emergencies. Plymouth had formerly been a partner, with Plymouth Township, in the Plymouth Community Fire Department.

A report presented at Monday's Plymouth City Commission meeting by City Manager Paul Sincok showed HVA's response time for medical emergencies in the city, through Feb. 13, averaged 5 minutes, 54 seconds. That's a full minute under the average medical emergency response time, under the former system, found in a 2010 study by the International City Managers Association.

In addition, Sincok's

report showed an average response time in Plymouth, to all calls, by the Northville Fire Department of 9.5 minutes, or 9 minutes, 28 seconds. The ICMA study found a 2010 average response by the PCFD — though to fire calls only — of 9 minutes, 36 seconds.

"We're very pleased with the way things are going," Sincok said. "Everything is going in accordance with our plan and we're very happy with the results of the operation."

Sincok said the city is benefitting from a "dedicated and professional group of firefighters, paramedics, dispatchers and police officers." The new arrangement has police officers carrying automated heart defibrillators in their squad cars, and all officers have been trained, or are being trained, as emergency medical first-responders.

Mayor Dan Dwyer said the response times and the number of people the new system can bring to an emergency is impressive.

"We have a service now that's putting two to three times as many people on the scene faster and more efficiently," Dwyer said at Monday's meeting.

Sincok said dispatchers appear to have gotten used to the new system, and that problems have smoothed out in recent weeks.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

PCFD

Continued from page A1

calling for job cuts and changes in the way it operates, and unionized firefighters and the township formally began binding arbitration last week after failing to reach a contract settlement for more than two years.

In addition, voters will decide Tuesday on a plan for a special assessment district that could raise taxes — the rate would be determined by the Board of Trustees on a yearly basis — to support the department.

With little or no public support for the ballot proposal, and several board members saying they would not levy it even if approved by voters, an SAD seems unlikely at this point. But the citizens group that got the measure on the ballot — and that now endorses a “no” vote because of a dispute over its wording — is continuing its fight in court for a narrower SAD proposal.

Comparables

The PCFD operates with 23 uniformed firefighters, including Chief Mark Wendel, and an annual budget of \$4.3 million. Three firefighters were laid off two years ago.



The Plymouth Community Fire Department had more than 3,600 runs in 2011, including this one to the Park Manor apartment complex in the city of Plymouth. Some 2,600 of those runs were in Plymouth Township.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

That compares to 27 uniformed personnel in Northville Township, where the 2011 budget was \$3.96 million, and 62 firefighters in Canton, where the 2011 budget was just under \$11 million.

The PCFD is responsible for a coverage area of 16.6 square miles with a population of 27,524.

Until January, however, the city's participation in the arrangement meant a coverage area of about two more square miles and 9,000 more people.

“We think there should be a right-sizing of the department,” township Supervisor Richard Reaume said last week at a meeting of supporters

and opponents of a reorganization.

Township officials have talked about laying off six or more firefighters, adopting 12-hour shifts and supplementing the department with part-time and paid-on-call firefighters. Talks have also been held with officials in neighboring communities

— including Canton and Northville townships — that explored the possibility of a partnership, but no deals emerged from those discussions.

Firefighters and their supporters in the Citizens Action Group of Plymouth Township argue response times and quality of service will suffer with a smaller department.

While Northville Township's size (16.45 square miles) and population (just over 28,000) are similar to Plymouth Township's, Canton has more than three times the population, at over 90,000, and more than twice the area, at 36 square miles.

There are three PCFD stations, and firefighters work 24-hour shifts. Northville Township has one central station and also has 24-hour shifts; Canton has three stations and 24-hour shifts.

Patient transports

All three departments offer advanced life support during medical emergencies, meaning firefighter-paramedics can administer drugs and perform other procedures for which emergency medical technicians have not been trained.

But in Plymouth Township, most patient trans-

ports to hospitals are done by a private paramedic service, Huron Valley Ambulance, which responds to all medical emergencies. In Northville and Canton Townships, the departments do all of their own transporting when patients are sent to hospitals.

Firefighters' base pay in Plymouth Township ranges from \$38,230 for a first-year firefighter (current firefighters are at the top of the scale, however, at around \$60,000) to \$71,745 for a captain at the top of the scale.

In Canton, the range is \$44,014 for a beginning firefighter to \$75,532 for a top-paid captain (the chief and deputy chief earn more). In Northville Township, firefighters start at \$44,862 and captains are maxed out at \$76,909.

The city of Plymouth left the PCFD as of Jan. 1 and began a partnership for fire and emergency medical service with the city of Northville, which relies on part-time, on-call firefighters. HVA also was given a bigger role in Plymouth in responding to medical emergencies.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
 (313) 222-2405

CRIME WATCH

Shoplifted shoes

A pretend customer shoplifted a pair of shoes from a golfing store in Plymouth Township on Feb. 10.

The incident occurred at Carl's Golfland on Five Mile, which is on the grounds at the Inn at St. John's, where there is also a golf course.

An employee told police the man asked for a specific pair of shoes — ECCO Street Texts — and the employee found him a pair that fit. Shopper asked that the shoes be held for him, and

the employee took a name and phone number, a Plymouth Township Police Department report said.

While the employee took the shoes to the front counter, however, the man slipped into the stockroom, picked out another pair in the same size, and put them on in a dressing room, the report said. He then left the store, leaving the shoes in walked in wearing in the box that had held the shoes he took, the report said.

The incident was captured by an in-store security camera.

Marijuana possession

A Dearborn man was arrested on a marijuana-possession charge in the area of Plymouth Road and Haggerty on the night of Feb. 15 after a patrolling officer noticed the license plate on the car the man was driving had expired.

The officer pulled over the man, who was driving a Honda Accord, and noticed the odor of marijuana upon speaking to him, a police report said. The officer also saw suspected drug paraphernalia in the Accord's glove box when the driver opened it to retrieve his paperwork, police said.

The man admitted to having marijuana in the car, and the officer handcuffed him and retrieved suspected marijuana from two locations, police said.

The Accord was impounded.

Vandalism

A shed at the Plymouth Pointe Luxury Condominiums was vandalized on Feb. 15 or Feb. 16.

Police said a resident of the complex, which is in the area of North Territorial and Ridge, reported finding graffiti on a shed early on the morning of Feb. 16. Police said the marking appeared to be some kind of gang sign.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

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




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

Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear themselves at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

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 Expires 3/31/12

\$60 Office Visit*
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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.

JAZZ NIGHT

Date/Time: Tuesday, Feb. 28, 7-10 p.m.

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

Details: Jazz @ The Elks continues, featuring the Johnny Trudell Quartet with John Trudell on Brass, Bill Cairo on Drums, Ray Tini on Bass, and Chuck Shermatero on Keyboard. A \$10 donation includes a light snack.

Contact: Call (734) 453-1780 or go to PlymouthElks1780.com for more information.

CHICKS 4 CHARITY

Date/Time: Thursday, March 29, 5-8:30 p.m.

Location: Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Join Woman's Life Chapter 827-Chicks 4 Charity at their "Quartermadness" fundraiser to benefit New Hope Center for Grief Support, a non-profit 501c3 bereavement outreach center in Northville. This event will include auctions and lots of fun. Bidders may buy up to three paddles to win great prizes and all donated items will be available to bid on with Quarters.

Contact: For more information on "Quartermadness," contact Tammy Brown, (734) 844-9180.

BENTLEY SALE

Date/Time: Saturday, March 3, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Location: Bentley Elementary School, 1100 S. Sheldon, Canton

Details: Bentley Elementary School hosts its PTO Mom-to-Mom sale, featuring some 50 tables and a big-item room. There's a \$1 entry fee; strollers are welcome after 11 a.m.

Contact: For information, e-mail rcwegrzyn@gmail.com

GRIEF SUPPORT

Date/Time: April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 9; 7-9 p.m.

Location: Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 N Territorial Road, Plymouth.

Details: The "Grieving With Great Hope"

workshop offers a prayerful, practical and personal approach for individuals who are mourning the loss of a loved one. Speakers will include Deacon Bob Irvin, Fr. John Riccardo, as well as John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization. Registration forms are online at www.goodmourningministry.net or call OLG.

Contact: 734-453-0326, olgparish.net

PET-A-PET

Date/Time: Third Saturday of the month, 10 a.m.

Location: Woodhaven Retirement Center in Livonia

Details: PET-A-PET, Inc. is looking for enthusiastic, friendly pets and their owners to visit facilities one hour a month. Pets must be up to date with vaccinations, proof required.

Contact: Laurie Patterson at (734) 953-0438.

EUCHRE CHALLENGE

Date/Time: Saturday, March 10, 6 p.m.

Location: Elks club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth

Details: The Metro Detroit Euchre Tournament is designed as a fun night out for people who like to play the game. Proceeds will support the Canton Chiefs Wrestling Team, a State of Michigan Top 10 Team. Cash awards will be given to the top four players. There will be free door prize drawings, a raffle for more great prizes and a silent auction.

Contact: Pre-register by e-mailing Metro-DetroitEuchre@yahoo.com or call Linda Obrec at (734) 945-6685.

MOM2MOM SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., March 10

Location: Hillside Elementary School, 36801 W. 11 Mile Rd, Farmington Hills.

Details: \$2 early admission, \$1 general admission. About 100 tables of gently used baby, maternity and children's clothing, toys, equipment and furniture. A great opportunity to get items you need and save money off of retail prices. Proceeds of the sale will benefit Hillside Elementary and its students. Now accepting resale table registrations.

Contact: E-mail hillsidemom2mom@gmail.com

Orchestra closes out concert season

The Michigan Philharmonic presents what officials are calling "an explosive" season finale with "Russian Fireworks, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

The performance closes out the Philharmonic's regular season and features the big, bold and brassy, *Symphony No. 5* by Shostakovich.

This work, when premiered in Lenin-grad in 1937, received a standing ovation and applause lasting well over half an hour, according to Philharmonic officials. An interesting note about this piece, they said, is that the music was equally well received by both the Stalinists and the Russian people as each found their voice through this music.

The concert opens with a rousing version of Glinka's, *Russian and Ludmilla Overture* featuring the students from the Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra in a side-by-side performance with the orchestra.

A highlight of the performances will be a world premiere of "Polovtsia - Music to an Imaginary Ballet" by dynamic young composer Michael Gil-



Gilbertson

bertson, performed in tandem with his inspiration for the piece, Borodin's "Polivtsian Dances." Gilbertson, who was trained at Julliard, will be the guest composer at the concert to share in this world premiere of his music.

The concert is sponsored by The Partnership for the Arts & Humanities in Canton and C. Curtis Financial in Plymouth. The Village Theater is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton.

For tickets and information call (734) 451-2112 or online www.michiganphil.org.

Spring Celebration

ARTS & CRAFT SHOW

Saturday, March 3rd
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

\$2.00 Admission
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WATER

Continued from page A1

for water and sewer service, plus a meter fee of \$11.56 for a five-

eighths-inch meter, the most common household meter size.

Detroit's proposed 2012-2013 wholesale water rate for Plymouth Township represents a 14-percent

decrease from the current rate, but that follows an 18-percent hike to the township last summer.

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will present:

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Dr. Patel is a fellowship trained spine surgeon. He was a native of southeastern Michigan prior to his medical training in Ohio. Dr. Patel graduated with honors from

Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine. He then went on to complete his orthopedic surgery residency at Summa Health System in Akron, Ohio. Dr. Patel concluded his training with a combined Orthopedic and Neurosurgical Spine Surgery fellowship at New England Baptist Hospital in Boston.

If you are encountering low back or neck pain, this event is for you.

To register for this FREE event,
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800.543.WELL (9355)

DATE: Thursday, March 8, 2012

TIME: 6-8 p.m.

LOCATION: Oakwood Annapolis Hospital
Conference Room 2
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(Park in the West Lot and
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*A complimentary
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Beware of tax scams

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Every year about this time, the Internal Revenue Service issues its annual dirty dozen ranking of tax scams.

Some of these scams occur most frequently during this time of year as people prepare their tax returns while others occur throughout the year.

Taxpayers don't have to fall for any of these scams. Don't forget that ultimately we are responsible for our own tax return.

Falling for one of the scams can cost money and cause significant stress. The IRS can also assess interest and penalties. Therefore, it behooves us all to protect ourselves.

Identity theft

Identity theft is the number one item on this year's dirty dozen list.

The identity thieves have been filing false tax returns on behalf of their victims. Typically, these false tax returns are seeking refunds in the name of their victims.

The IRS recognizes that this is a huge problem and is taking steps to clamp down on the crooks.

This is the type of tax scam that a taxpayer can do very little about. However, if you have your identity stolen, you need to notify the IRS.

In addition, it is important not to ignore any correspondence from the IRS because it may assist you in dealing with the identity theft.

The second item on the list is what's known

as phishing - when you receive an unsolicited e-mail that looks legitimate and requires some sort of response on your part. Typically, when it comes to tax scams, the e-mail appears to be from the IRS and it asks for sensitive, personal and financial information.

Always remember that the IRS never sends an unsolicited e-mail. If you receive one, you should know it is bogus.

Preparer fraud

Next item on the list was return preparer fraud.

The majority of taxpayers now use professional preparers and the majority of them are competent. However, there are those who are out and out crooks. It is important to deal with a competent tax preparer.

You know something is wrong if the tax preparer has not signed the return or put his/her Tax ID number where indicated. Other signs that you may be dealing with the wrong person is when he/she encourages you to put false information on your return such as inflated expenses, or they charge you a percentage of the refund as part of the preparation fee.

Another scam on the IRS list, and one that I received an e-mail about, is hiding income offshore. The e-mail I received talked about how it is legal to invest money offshore and avoid paying U.S. taxes.

Offshore scam

There are legitimate reasons to place money outside of the United States, however, they are few and far between. For the great majority of taxpayers, offshore investments are not applicable. In addition, it is important to recognize that just because the money is outside the border of the

United States it doesn't mean that taxpayers are not required to report the income.

The e-mail I received said for a small fee they could show me how to avoid U.S. taxes. No doubt this is just another scam.

There are many more scams on the IRS dirty dozen list but space does not allow me to mention them all. However, you can go to the IRS website and read more.

One thing many tax scams have in common is that they tend to promote things that sound too good to be true.

For example, a few years ago one of the popular tax scams dealt with the idea that paying taxes was voluntary and not mandatory.

People were told that by putting certain language down on your tax return, the IRS could not tax you. Of course part of the scam was that you had to pay a certain amount of money in order to get the necessary form and language. Another scam but, unfortunately, too many people fell for it.

Bottom line

The bottom line is if something sounds too good to be true, particularly when it comes to taxes, walk away.

Don't assume that tax scams only occur to the rich because they don't. There are many scams that prey on low-income individuals, senior citizens and others. Tax scams can happen to anyone at any time.

When it comes to taxes, always remain vigilant.

Good luck!

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

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF HEARING ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW

NOTICE OF HEARING given that the Plymouth Township Board of Review will meet on the following dates and times:

Hearings are by appointment, please call 354-3269, between 8 am and 4:30 pm for an appointment.

Tuesday, March 6	9 am - Noon	Organizational Meeting
Monday, March 12	2 pm - 5 pm 6 pm - 9 pm	Hearings by Appointment Hearings by Appointment
Wednesday, March 14	9 am - Noon 2 pm - 5 pm	Hearings by Appointment Hearings by Appointment
Thursday, March 15	9 am - Noon	Hearings by Appointment
Saturday, March 17	9 am - 11 am	First Come - First Served

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed.

All persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. Written protests to the Board of Review must be received by mail or delivered in person to the Assessing office by the close of business on Friday, March 23, 2012 at 4:30 pm.

The Board of Review will be held in the Board Meeting Room of Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Please come prepared as a ten (10) minute time limit before the Board of Review will be strictly adhered to.

Publish: February 16, 19 and 23, 2012

CITY OF PLYMOUTH 2012 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of Plymouth Board of Review will be conducting the 2012 March Board of Review and will convene in the City Commission Conference Room, 201 S Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The regular Board of Review schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, March 6, 2012 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 7, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 8, 2012 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 13, 2012 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Monday, March 19, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. Hearings are by appointments only. COMPLETED 2012 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY, and must be submitted to the Front Office located on the First Floor of City Hall prior to your appointment. The "Deadline" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is Monday, March 19, 2012.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner. Written petitions must be received by Monday, March 19, 2012 by 3:00 p.m. Postmarks are not accepted.

Copies of the notices stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted and published in the local newspaper.

All Board of Review Meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor's Office at (734) 453-1234, ext 253.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk

Publish: February 16, 19 & 23, 2012

Romney opens campaign headquarters in Livonia

By Ken Abramczyk
Observer Staff Writer

The campaign of Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney has opened its Michigan campaign headquarters in Livonia.

Located at 33300 Five Mile, the headquarters was opened during an open house Saturday as the campaign continues to step up its work in Michigan and recruit campaign volunteers in the final days before Tuesday's presidential primary, and, supporters hope, all the way until the November election.

"We just think it was a great place to set up the campaign office," said Amanda Henneberg, regional press secretary for the Romney campaign. "A lot of people who support the candidate live in the area, and it's close to where his staffers are in Michi-

gan. We've already had a bunch of volunteers who have come in and helped with signs and making phone calls."

Henneberg said the decision to open the headquarters was made prior to Romney's speech last week before the Livonia and Farmington chambers of commerce. "We just felt it was a great location because of the proximity to the free-ways, and all the neighboring towns. It's easy to get to them."

State Rep. John Walsh, a Romney supporter, said the headquarters puts Romney in the center of America and the south-eastern Michigan area. "This is kind of middle America," Walsh said. "Livonia voters generally are conservative, but reasonable ones who want to hear the issues and not just emotion."

"His headquarters is close to Washtenaw and

Macomb counties," Walsh said, allowing for easier accessibility for those campaign workers to reach communities there.

Henneberg said the campaign by making phone calls and helping make signs on Saturday. Members of the public who want information on Romney or are interested in volunteering can visit the office as the campaign continues with its grassroots efforts, Henneberg said. Romney was planning more stops this week in between traveling to Arizona for

Wednesday's presidential debate.

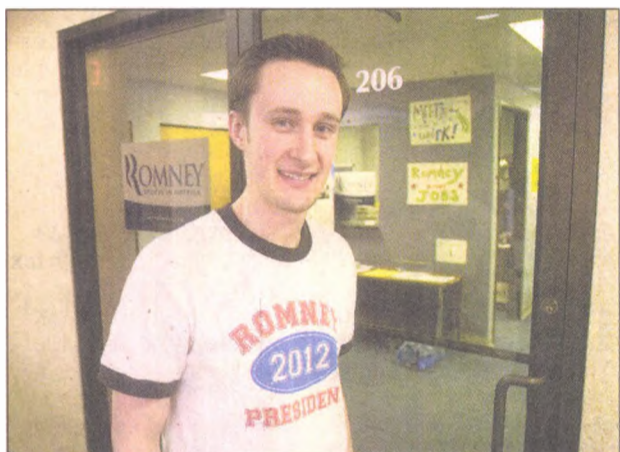
"The Romneys always look forward to being in Michigan and make the case in the final days up to the primary that he's the best to win the presidential election in November," Henneberg said. "With his track record as a businessman, governor and the Olympics, he'll make the case that he is the best to move the economy forward."

kabramcz@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2591 | Twitter: @Ken-Abramcz



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Carter Bundy makes sure the banner is hanging securely. He's a Romney volunteer, from Flushing.



Ross Abraham, of Northville, is a volunteer at the new Romney headquarters in Livonia.

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

Technology Department
1036 S. Haggerty Road
Canton, MI 48188
Telephone: 734-416-2711

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

RFP-USF FORM 470/FY2012 - The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools will accept bids for Internal Connections services for FY2012 of the Universal Services Fund (USF) E-rate Program. Specifications are available from the following web site: triple-r.us/erate/RFP2-PCCSFY12.pdf. You may also obtain a copy of the RFP at the Truesdell Building 1036 S Haggerty Rd, Canton, MI 48188. All questions regarding this RFP should be directed to James Casteel at 734-416-2708. RFP's will be received in the Technology Department until 2:00P.M. on March 1, 2012. The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education reserves the right to reject or decline all bids.

Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Federal Law

It is the policy of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, height, weight, disability, religion or marital status in any of its programs, activities or employment.

Address Inquiries To:
James Casteel, Director of Technology
Truesdell Building
1036 S. Haggerty Road
Canton, MI 48188
734-416-2708
Website: [Http://tech.pccs.k12.mi.us](http://tech.pccs.k12.mi.us)

Interpreter services available upon request to Technology Dept, 734-416-2708

Publish: February 19, 23 & 26, 2012

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

Technology Department
1036 S. Haggerty Road
Canton, MI 48188
Telephone: 734-416-2711

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

RFP-USF FORM 470/FY2012 - The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools will accept bids for telecommunication and Internet Access services for FY2012 of the Universal Services Fund (USF) E-rate Program. Specifications are available from the following web site: triple-r.us/erate/RFP-PCCSFY12.pdf. You may also obtain a copy of the RFP at the Truesdell Building 1036 S Haggerty Rd, Canton, MI 48188. All questions regarding this RFP should be directed to James Casteel at 734-416-2708. RFP's will be received in the Technology Department until 2:00P.M. on February 28, 2012. The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education reserves the right to reject or decline all bids.

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Interpreter services available upon request to Technology Dept, 734-416-2708

Publish: February 19, 23 & 26, 2012

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



Volunteers Judy Hanson of Farmington Hills and Rita Howell of Livonia assemble Braille books.

25th bowl-athon to put more braille books in hands of kids

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

When Debra Bonde took a braille transcription class years ago, she met a woman whose blind daughter owned only two braille books because they were so expensive.

At the time, a Hardy Boys book in braille cost \$100. "I didn't think that was right," she said.

Today, Bonde is director of Seedlings Braille Books for Children in Livonia, a nonprofit that sells braille books for an average of \$10 each.

Seedlings is able to sell its books at a fraction of the cost of most other organizations because of a broad base of support from individuals, philanthropic groups, corporations and private foundations as well as the efforts of 100 volunteers.

Its largest fundraiser of the year, Bowling for Braille Books, will be Saturday, March 24, at Plaza Lanes, 42001 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. The deadline to sign up is March 9.

The 25th annual event is expected to raise more than \$32,000, enough for 3,200 more books.

To celebrate the bowl-athon's silver anniversary, the first 25 bowlers who turn in \$250 or more in pledges will be entered in a drawing to win a Kindle Fire, courtesy of city of Livonia Treasurer Dennis Wright. Those who raise \$100 or more can have a braille book inscribed in their name. The minimum to participate is \$60.

Vicky Opie, who works in community outreach for Seedlings, said the bowl-athon is "a really fun Saturday afternoon" that draws not only Seedlings' core group of benefactors, volunteers and customers, but community members as well. "People tend to bring a friend," she said.

The idea for the bowl-athon came from a long-time bowler and friend of Bonde's, Earnest Sanders of Eastpointe, who continues to emcee the event. "I think the very first one raised about \$3,000, and it was huge," Bonde said, adding it was way more than she expected.

The early years

Back then, Bonde was still running Seedlings out of her basement in



Debra Bonde is the founder of Seedlings Braille Books For Children.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Ann Christenson of Livonia keeps watch over one of the two Braillo printer/embossers.

Detroit.

A "really, really shy" woman, Bonde took the braille transcription class because she wanted to help other people. She thought she could make braille books at home and send them off without having to talk to people on the phone or in person.

But she quickly discovered that the painstaking method she had learned in class — using a slate and stylus by hand — was too labor-intensive to achieve her goal of lowering the cost of braille books and getting them into the hands of children quickly.

"I found I had to go out and make speeches and call people," she said. "So it's been obviously good for me and good for kids along the way."

Bonde started Seedlings

in 1984 after her father, a retired engineer, made her a braille embosser that allowed her to print out multiple copies of books she had transcribed and stored on a computer. He also donated the money for her to purchase a binding machine.

With his help, she was able to produce 221 books in 1985. "If you consider where we came from, that was a lot of books to make in a year," she said.

By 1990, with newer and more advanced equipment, Seedlings was producing 5,000 books per year, which necessitated its move out of Bonde's basement into the Bentley Center in Livonia and eventually to its current location on Farmington Road in Livonia.

Seedlings now produces

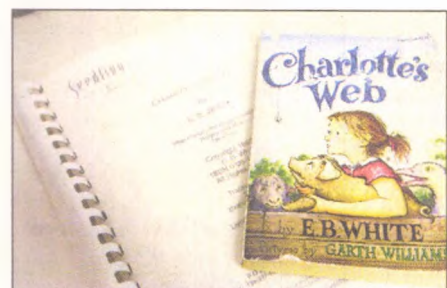
22,000 books a year, which it sends to 75 countries. Its catalog has grown from 12 to 1,200 titles. It employs a staff of eight, all part time except for Bonde.

Seedlings is the only organization that specializes in producing braille books for children. The handful of other braille publishers still charge considerably more. *Charlotte's Web*, for example, costs \$63, the same it did in the 1980s. Seedlings offers it for \$17.50.

Helping others helped her

Seedlings has been a labor of love for Bonde. "I feel really fortunate I have something I like to do," she said. "It's very rewarding."

The nonprofit has helped



Seedlings makes children's literature available to blind children.



Longtime Seedlings volunteer Shirley Brown shows one of the print and braille-style books.

her get through her darkest days, she said. In 2001, the oldest of Bonde's two daughters, Anna, was killed by a drunken driver on St. Patrick's Day. She was 19. "It's true what they say — helping other people helps you," Bonde said.

Seedlings' Book Angel Program was started in Anna's memory. Blind children in the United States and Canada can receive two free braille books per year simply by registering for them.

Katelyn Kelel, 20, of Redford, a sophomore in the James Madison College at Michigan State University, is one of the many people Bonde has helped.

Kelel was able to see colors and large print until about age 5 when her vision deteriorated to its current state. Now all she can see is light.

Kelel wants to be a civil court judge. Most of her textbooks are audio because they cost less. A braille textbook costs \$2,000 to \$3,000.

Promoting braille literacy

But Kelel is glad she had access to inexpensive braille books as a child so she could learn spelling.

grammar and punctuation to help her with writing, something that can't be learned from audio books. "Promoting braille literacy is very important," she said, adding people don't realize how crucial that is to a well-rounded education.

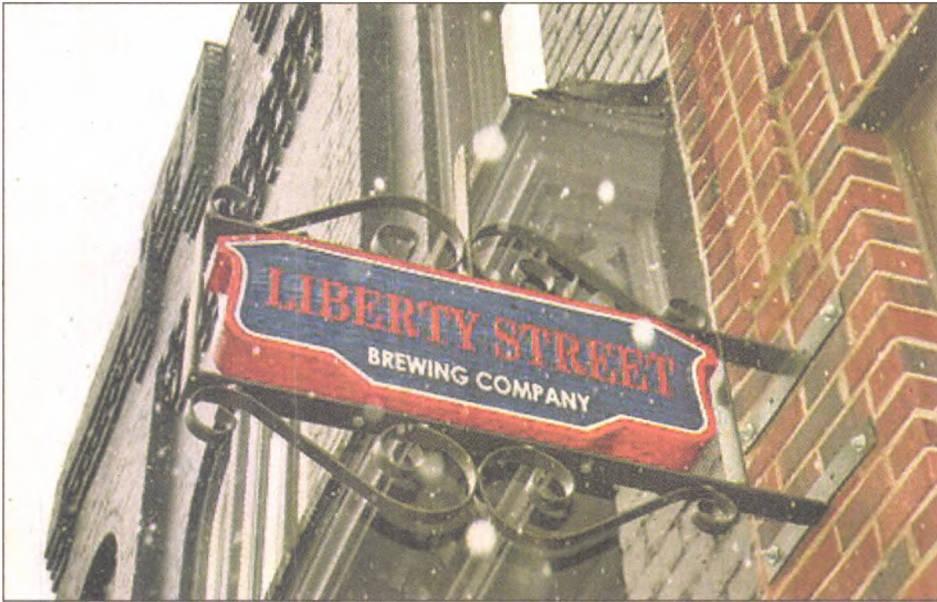
Kelel, who's also done volunteer work for Seedlings including serving on its advisory board, said the organization has helped her to grow personally. "The people at Seedlings work so hard," she said. "They've shown me how dedication, hard work and continued advocacy really make a difference."

Sue Kelel, Katelyn's mother, can't imagine not having had Seedlings in their lives. Not only did the organization supply Katelyn with braille books — she didn't have the option like sighted children of checking out books to read from the library or finding them at school — it provided her with a network of advocates who have become like family, her mother said.

"To me it's priceless what they've done," she said. "It's been a wonderful experience."

ksmith@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2098

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Liberty Street Brewing Co., located at 149 W. Liberty in Plymouth, features tasting rooms at which the public may come and sample its products.

Brewery has a taste for beer

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

Liberty Street: We produce fresh crafted beer in small batches to be enjoyed by patrons to be tasting rooms. We are also licensed for to-go sales of our beer, and currently do so in half gallon 'growlers' (glass jugs), and even sell our beer in kegs. We have recently received our license to produce and sell wine.

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

Liberty Street: Homebrewing is said to be an addictive hobby, and they say the best way to ruin it is to go pro. When you've spent so much time and energy developing recipes that produce some of the most delicious beer you've ever had, and every body that tries them tells you that you should "do it for a living," the addiction turns into an obsession.

Observer: Why did you choose Plymouth?

Liberty Street: We like to say Plymouth picked us, because after site properties in seven other locations fell through, we felt rather dejected. Sitting at the bar just doors from our current location, one of the partners mentions "too bad the martini bar a couple doors down is too small," we ran down and peeked through the windows. The property owner was willing to build an entirely new building to support our brewing operations.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Liberty Street: Our business is very unique, in that we are actually a manufacturing facility - we are quite often mistaken as a bar or restaurant. We produce an alcoholic beverage that is distributed throughout the state of Michigan to

LIBERTY STREET BREWING CO.

Business name and address: Liberty Street Brewing Co., 149 W. Liberty, Plymouth

Your name: Joe Walters

Your hometown: Born and raised in Detroit, currently live in Plymouth

Business opened: Dec. 8, 2008

Your business specialty: We are a microbrewery and winery with tasting rooms at which the public may come and sample our products.

Number of employees: 6 servers, 4 brewery personnel.

Hours of operation: Sunday, noon to midnight; Monday-Thursday, 3 p.m. to midnight; Friday, 3 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Phone and website: (734) 207-9600; www.LibertyStreetBeer.com

bars and restaurants. We just happen to have tasting rooms where you can try them, and they just happen to be fun.

Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

Liberty Street: The U.S. craft beer segment has taken off in the past few years, and Michigan is leading the country in expansion. Since we opened over three years ago, we have grown our brand to be recognized as some of the best beer in the world (we have awards to prove it). This demand for our beer has called for a partnership with a local brewing and packaging facility in Brighton that makes our beer for us and packages it for distribution. The available equipment here will allow us to begin small package distribution of six packs to store shelves in better beer stores throughout the state.

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Liberty Street: We would love to hope that the recent economy has been bad for our business because we opened at the worst possible time - imagine, asking people to give you money during an economic meltdown - it can only get better for us. Of course, we have made it through rath-

er unscathed, so we really hope to have a breakout year with our bottles and work on our expansion this year.

Observer: Any advice for other business owners?

Liberty Street: I am often asked about the easiest way to start up a brewery, I always say "buy one." When a venture of this magnitude is being planned, you will go over things multiple times and still miss a lot, just stick and move - get it done. I tell everyone that "it will take twice as long as you think it will, and don't even think you have enough money". When dealing with government officials, for licensing or inspections, work with them, and don't be defensive - they are there to tell you what you are doing wrong, and you are supposed to make it right.

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

Liberty Street: I had previously eluded to our bottling operation to begin this spring. We are going to release four of our core brands in statewide distribution. We are hopeful for statewide acceptance of our brand and product necessitating our own production facility expansion in Plymouth.

Find your new dream home online

By Jon Gunnells
Guest Columnist

The ease of online shopping has created a society of more well-informed, savvy consumers. Whether you are buying a birthday gift, electronics, or even a house - the Internet is the ideal place to start researching and shopping.

Follow these tips to save time, money and effort in your next home search.

- Sign up for daily listings - Even if you're not ready to hire a real estate agent, you can find one on the internet and have them send you daily e-mails about new listings that meet your search criteria. You can find a real estate agent in your area with ease by using HomeFinder.com

- Research the property - Before you waste time driving all around town for showings, you can find out more facts about the home from real estate sites and Google searches. If your e-mail listing doesn't have necessary info, visit other websites to fill in the gaps. Again, a site like HomeFinder.com will have all sorts of information from square footage to estimated mortgage costs.

- Get more pictures - Real estate agents may try and fool you with pictures of homes that appear more charming



Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

then they actually are. To get a better view, try running a Google image search for the property address.

There's a good chance more photos will appear. And if your house was recently renovated, you might also find what the property looked like before.

- Locate the house on Google Maps - Type any address into Google and it will show you the location on a map. Zoom in close enough and the map will show you the address in relation to railroad tracks, airports, schools, bodies of water, or any other landmark that you may have otherwise overlooked.

- Get a street view - Google Maps also offers street views for many properties in suburban areas. When you have located your property on the map, see if Google has a street view option available. This tool is helpful in identifying what is around your house. A street view can show you how the neighborhood looks, or if you can park on your street. You can rotate the street view angle, to uncover additional details about homes that weren't pro-

vided in the listing. Street view can help you spot things like cracked driveways, or distressed backyards that might change your decision to look at a property.

- Learn about the market - If it is 3 a.m., or you are at work and can't make a phone call, it is easier to research your property online than it is to call your agent. Again, a site like HomeFinder.com has buying and selling resources and can help you calculate mortgages and taxes. The site is also enabled to search through foreclosures, find upcoming open houses and more. You can even locate moving vans if you need.

Between HomeFinder.com and a little creativity on Google, you can use the Internet to cut down on stress and save valuable time during your home search. Most importantly, you can start using HomeFinder.com right away. The site is easy to use and accessible from hometownlife.com.

Jon Gunnells, a Northville Township resident, is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. A 2007 graduate of Michigan State University, he holds a B.A. in journalism. When he's not working, Gunnells enjoys college sports, social media and playing basketball. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnSh0w.

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OUR VIEWS

Battle plan

Academies give schools something to market

The ghost of "Shoeless" Joe Jackson told Kevin Costner in *Field of Dreams*, "If you build it, he will come."

Administrators in Plymouth-Canton hope the same premise will work here. With 2,000 empty seats in the district and increasing competition from private and charter schools, administrators are developing a series of academies with a more-challenging curriculum that studies seem to show parents want.

It's a good idea whose time has come. This fall, PCCS officials plan to offer four academies to freshmen and sophomores, including STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), business, arts and international academies. It's a response to a couple of different stimuli: An EPIC/MRA survey of some 400 people (including parents of students already attending PCCS schools and parents whose children go to other schools) which shows a combined 14 percent think the quality of the education and the strength of the curriculum are key components of the decision where to educate their children.

Plymouth-Canton has long been a destination district for parents who choose their hometowns based on quality of schools, and that's *without* these programs. But with the continuing challenge from charter and private schools, and a declining enrollment picture, it's up to administrators to come up with programs that bring former students back and draw new students into the district.

It's tough to argue against the academies, particularly the international academy. Some 50 percent of respondents said they'd definitely enroll and another 44 percent saying they'd consider it if an International Baccalaureate Academy program was offered. An IB program requires students to earn a high school diploma and an International Baccalaureate (an academically challenging and balanced course of study). The numbers also are high for the other three, including 93 percent for the STEM academy, 77 percent (although only 27 percent were "definite") for the business academy and 75 percent (32 percent "definitely") for the arts academy.

In addition to the academies, the district is going to expand the Talented and Gifted Program. Just how big depends on the number of students who pass the test given to TAG applicants.

There are those who doubt the veracity of the numbers, but EPIC/MRA and the district stand behind them. There are also those who doubt the desire actually exists for these kinds of programs. But already nearly 800 students have applied to the TAG program, a clear indication the need exists.

The survey also asked parents for reasons they might choose not to send their children to Plymouth-Canton schools, and the biggest percentage answers included size of schools (14 percent), class size (12 percent) and a desire for a more religious education (11 percent).

The school size issue reflects a discomfort with the size of the high school park, but with more than 6,000 students in the three high schools, there's not much that can be done about that. And there's nothing the district can do to recapture the 11 percent who want a religious education for their children.

But the Board of Education is determined to keep its class size manageable. The addition of these academies, and the expansion of the TAG program, should expand the curriculum enough to draw students into the district who may not have considered it before.

Of course, the academies aren't the answer for the entire district population. But, as administrators point out, it's not like the current programming is going away. For instance, all 19 of the current Advanced Placement programs will still be offered.

Board members and others have been clamoring for the district to do a better job marketing itself, and these programs give administrators something to market. The curriculum plan likely needs board consensus, if not outright approval. It'll be interesting to see how much board members (and remember, it's a new board) want to trust the professionals.

If they build it, perhaps the students will come. The academies appear to be a good way to test the hypothesis.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Are you planning to vote in the Michigan presidential primary later this month?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



"Good question. ... I used to be a Republican in my voting, but now I'd like to vote for Obama. I think he understands the economy more."

Enrique Mata
Plymouth Township



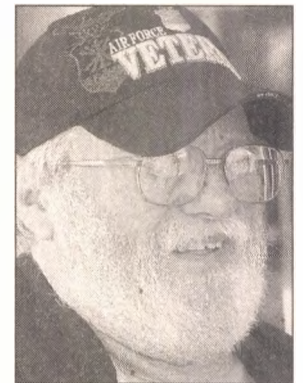
"No. ... It might change in the future."

Samantha Okopski
Canton Township



"No. I don't have a voter registration."

Rochelle Baker
Northville Township



"I haven't considered it either way, to tell you the truth. I'm basically a Democrat, so I'm not convinced I want to change."

Tyrus Quinn
Livonia

LETTERS

Sensing pattern

To Bonnie Austin, Dave and Cathy Mills, John Vraniak, Johnnie Johnson and Daniel P. Smith: Some of your comments in last Thursday's Observer were valid; but many were not.

• To Bonnie: You state that the CAG's petition is fraud. If you were to have taken the time, and have been in Wayne County Circuit Court for the last three months, you would know that the township has been denied on every one of their objections. The CAG has prevailed on all "issues" of whether or not to include tax-exempt properties, the number of signatures obtained, the right of the CAG to file a suit. The township has prevailed on none, and their appeal was denied.

Are you seeing a pattern here?

The township "chose" to interpret the SAD law the way they did, in error (there is Michigan Supreme Court, and Michigan Appeals Court case history proving their invalid interpretation). The township is spending your tax dollars fighting the rights of its residents to petition elected officials. Treasure Edwards recently stated, at a board meeting, that they have spent over \$32,000 in legal fees (plus an unknown amount of mailing costs, lobbyist costs, etc., probably another \$50,000) fighting the rights of his residents to obtain their constitutional rights, for a 1-mill/five-year, ballot proposal.

The township "chose" not to accept the SAFER grant of \$880,000; the township chose not to accept the firefighters' offer of \$350,000-\$700,000 in concessions; the township chose not to accept the firefighters' offer to transport all EMS patients at a net, new township revenue of \$400,000-\$700,000.

Are you seeing a pattern here?

The 2.444 mills statement is an out and right fraud; 2.444 mills would yield a Fire Department budget of \$6,287,000. The township's 2012 Fire Department budget is \$3.025 million; their 2011 budget was \$3.9 million. So how does it get to be \$6.287 million after losing \$950,000 from the City of Plymouth? A 1-mill increase would yield \$1.6 million.

You want to talk about fraud? Are you seeing a pattern here?

• Johnnie, Dave and Cathy, and Daniel: If your primary complaint is the compensation of the firefighters, that's fine. But they have offered \$700,000 in concessions. That's over \$33,000/employee. Has Supervisor Reaume, or the board, reported that to you? No.

You need to ask your elected officials their "true, on-the-record" positions. My guess is they won't give it to you.

The CAG urges a "no" vote on the unlawful ballot language on the Feb. 28 ballot.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:

Web: www.hometownlife.com

Mail: Letters to the Editor, Plymouth Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226

Fax: (313) 223-3318

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.

Deadline: Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

Tom Kelly
Plymouth

The new normal

I support our township firefighters, as well as our police, who protect and care for the citizens of our community. The support and respect is there for these brave people and I would venture to guess that everyone, regardless of what side they're on regarding the special assessment issue, would agree to this.

The special assessment issue is not about support and respect. It is not about being "for" or "against" our firefighters. It is about how the communities around us, and throughout Michigan, are adjusting to the "new normal" that now defines our daily life.

Every day, we hear about firefighters, police, teachers and many other workers being let go, laid off, or moved around because the cities, townships and companies no longer have the funds to keep things going as they were. The "new normal" has brought about changes for many of our citizens who have had to adapt in order to move forward. In many cases, adapting has meant difficulty and disruption, yet this readjustment has to occur to meet the "new normal." It has to occur so we can move forward for the betterment of our community.

As reported in a recent article, "CAG members say a 1-mill special assessment, which would raise around \$1.6 million a year, would be more than enough to offset the loss of revenue formerly provided by Plymouth." The question is: Why do CAG members/firefighters need to "offset the 1.6 million dollar loss" and maintain the status quo when their workload has been reduced by 25-30 percent? I have not yet heard an answer to this question.

Gov. Snyder recently reported he is using the state budget surplus to assist those communities "that incorporate change" and "consolidate services."

This consolidation process, as difficult as it is, is being done by cities and townships in our area and all over Michigan. It is exactly what Plymouth did with the Northville firefighters. It is the wave of the future and an important model for the township to evaluate and incorporate.

Asking township taxpayers to agree to a special assessment to raise money to maintain the status quo does not follow this new model of "incorporate and consolidate." It does not fit into the "new normal." The ability to face change, and move through it, is what will define us in the months and years to come.

Kathy McClain
Plymouth

CAG = SAD

I am voting against the SAD proposal that will appear on the ballot later this month and I urge all Plymouth Township voters to do the same.

I am not against keeping an adequate number of firefighters on the job and paying them a decent wage. I do find lifetime medical benefits for firefighters and spouses to be a little too generous given the perks others have had to give up. I am also not against a small raise in my taxes to keep township residents safer even though that increase immediately benefits only a couple dozen families.

I am against a proposal whose language is not at all similar to what was put to township residents by the CAG late last year. It does not really matter who is responsible for the current SAD language but the result of a yes vote will be the same — unlimited tax increase potential and very little the taxpayers can do about it.

After reading the opinions of Tom Kelly, a CAG member, and Bob Doroshewitz, a township trustee, in last Thursday's Observer, you can see how divisive this will get. The question I have for the CAG is this, if all you really want is a 1-mill, five-year millage put on the ballot why have you not come out against the current proposal? By staying silent on this issue you condone it and lead me to believe that this was part of your plan all along.

If you are willing to make all of us pay this high a price then maybe this was more of a personal agenda group hiding behind a citizens action group mask. Assuming the intent of the CAG was for the benefit of all Township residents you must come out against this SAD proposal and ask residents to vote no. For the benefit of all.

Kevin Gault
Plymouth Township
(Editor's note: The Citizens Action Group has actually come out against the SAD ballot language that will appear on the Feb. 28 ballot.)

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Hundreds of People Cash In at the Treasure Hunters Event Yesterday!

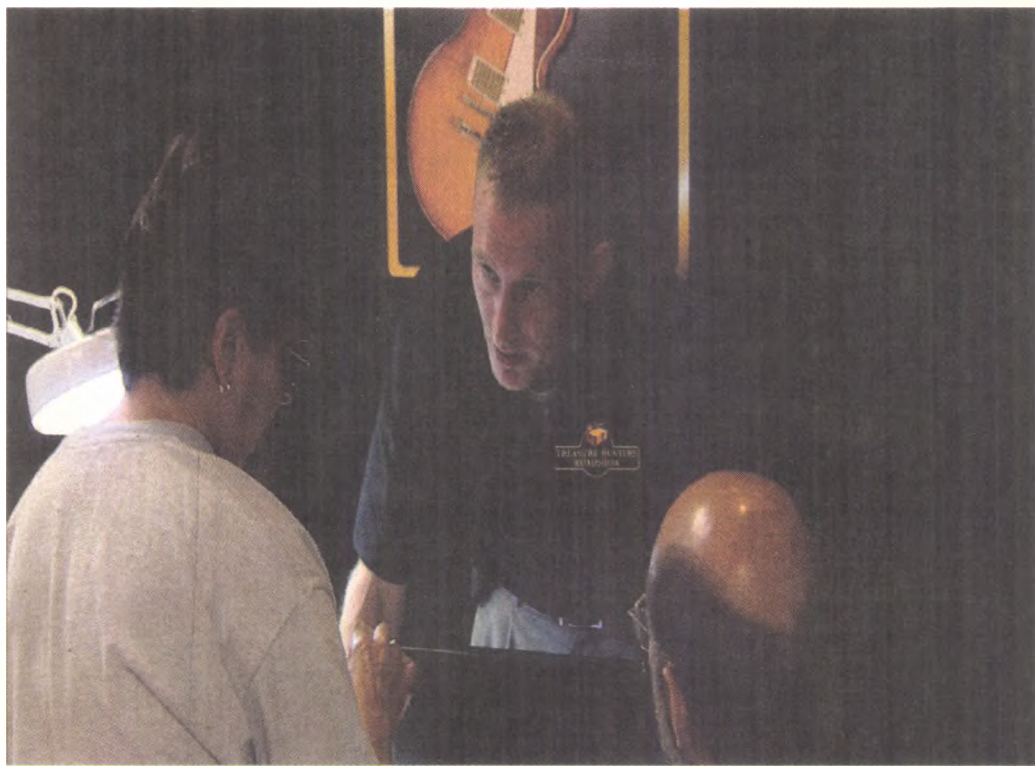
By Jason Delong
THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow
STAFF WRITER

Gold and Silver pour into yesterday's THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow due to highest prices in 40 years.

THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow is not affiliated with or related to the Antiques Roadshow television series, PBS or WGBH

Yesterday at the Holiday Inn, hundreds lined up to cash antiques, collectibles, gold and jewelry in at the THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow. The free event is in Livonia all week buying gold, silver antiques and collectibles. One visitor I spoke with

"It is unbelievable, I brought in some old coins that had been in a little cigar box for years and some old herringbone necklaces and in less than fifteen minutes I left with a check for \$712.37."



Above • A couple waits with anticipation while a THR specialist examines their antiques and gold items. The Treasure Hunters are at the Holiday Inn this week.

yesterday said "It's unbelievable, I brought in some old coins that had been in a little cigar box for years and some old herringbone necklaces and in less than fifteen minutes I left with a check for \$712.37. That stuff has been in my jewelry box and dresser for at least 20 years." Another gentleman brought an old Fender guitar his father bought years ago. "Dad had less than fifty bucks in that guitar." The THR specialist that assisted him, made a few phone calls and a veterinarian in Seattle, Washington bought the guitar for \$5700.00. The seller continued, "I got another \$150.00 for a broken necklace and an old class ring. It's not every day that someone brings six thousand dollars to town with your name on it."

Jeff Parsons, President of THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow commented, "Lots of people have items that they know are valuable but just don't know where to sell them. Old toys, trains, swords, guitars, pocket watches or just about anything old is valuable to collectors. These collectors are willing to pay big money

for those items they are looking for." This week the Treasure Hunter's Event is the place to get connected with those collectors. The process is free and anyone can bring items down to the event. If the Treasure Hunter's specialists find items their collectors are interested in, offers will be made to purchase those items.

About 80% of the guests that attend the show end up selling one or more items at the event. Antiques and collectibles are not the only items the Treasure Hunters are buying. "Gold and silver markets are soaring," says Archie Davis, a Treasure Hunters representative. "Broken jewelry and gold or silver

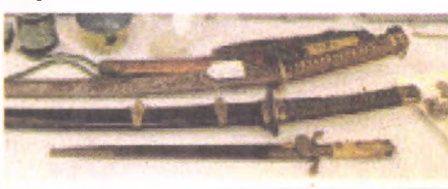
coins add up very quickly. I just finished working with a gentleman that had an old class ring, two bracelets, and handful of silver dollars, ... his check was for over \$650.00. I would say that there were well over 100 people in here yesterday that sold their scrap gold."

"If you go to the event you can cash-in your items for competitive prices. THR's representatives will be available to assess and purchase your items at the Holiday Inn through Saturday in Livonia."

One gentleman holding his check for over \$1250.00 in the lobby of the event yesterday had this comment, "I am so happy I decided to come to the THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow. I saw the newspaper ad for the event and brought in an old German sword I brought back from World War II and some old coins and here is my check. What a great thing for our community. I am heading home now to see what else I have they might be interested in."

The THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow continues today starting at 9am. The event is free and no appointment is needed.

Collectors desire vintage military items, items from both U.S. and foreign origins from the Civil War, World War I, World War II, Spanish-American War, Revolutionary War and Calvary times have great value. Items such as swords, daggers, medals, hardware bayonets, etc.



All sports memorabilia is in high demand including: Pre 1970's baseball cards; autographed baseballs, footballs & basketballs; jerseys; signed photos; etc...



THR Coin and gold specialist Paul Dichraff examines a large presentation of coins, gold and collectibles.



Here is how it works:

- Gather items of interest from your attic, garage, basement, etc There is no limit to the amount of items you can bring
- No appointment necessary
- If interested in selling, we will consult our collector's database to see if a buyer exists; 90% of all items have offers in our database
- The offer is made on the spot on behalf of our collectors making the offer
- If you decide to accept the offer, we will pay you on the spot and ship the item to the collector. The collector pays all shipping and handling charges
- You get 100% of the offer with no hidden fees



The entire process only takes a few minutes

THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow event continues through Saturday in Livonia.

www.treasurehuntersroadshow.com

February 21st - 25th

Tues - Fri: 9AM - 6PM & Saturday: 9AM - 4PM

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THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow represents over 5000 members worldwide who are paying for the following types of items.

- **COINS** - Any and all coins made before 1970. This includes all silver and gold coins, dollars, half dollars, quarters, dimes, nickels and pennies. All conditions wanted!
- **GOLD & SILVER** PRICES AT 40 YEAR HIGH! for platinum, gold and silver during this event. Broken jewelry, dental gold, old coins, pocket watches, Kruggerands, Gold bars Canadian Maple Leafs, etc.
- **JEWELRY** - Gold, Silver, Platinum, diamonds, rubies, sapphires and all types of stones, metals, etc. Rings, bracelets, necklaces, all others including broken jewelry. Early costume jewelry wanted.
- **WATCHES & POCKET WATCHES** - Rolex, Tiffany, Hublot, Omega, Chopard, Cartier, Philippe, Ebel, Waltham, Swatch, Chopard, Elgin, Bunn Special, Railroad, Illinois, Hamilton, all others.
- **TOYS, TRAINS & DOLLS** All types of toys made before 1965 including: Hot Wheels, Tonka, Buddy L, Smith Miller, Nylint, Robots, battery toys, Mickey Mouse, train sets, all gauges, accessories, individual cars, Marklin, American Flyer, Lionel, Hafner, all other trains, Barbie Dolls, GI Joe, Shirley Temple, Characters, German, all makers accepted.
- **MILITARY ITEMS, SWORDS** - Civil War, Revolutionary War, WWI, WWII, etc. Items of interest include swords, badges, clothes, photos, medals, knives, gear and letters. The older the swords, the better. All types wanted.
- **ADVERTISING ITEMS** - Metal and Porcelain signs, gas companies, beer and liquor makers, automobile, implements, etc.



Silver and Gold Coin Prices Up During Poor Economy.

Collectors and Enthusiasts in Livonia with \$200,000 to Purchase Yours! Got Coin? It might be just the time to cash in. This week, through Saturday, the International Collectors Association in conjunction with THR's Treasure Hunters Roadshow will be purchasing all types of silver and gold coins direct from the public. All are welcome and the event is free.



We represent many of the world's top numismatic coin collectors

We have been directly involved in millions of dollars worth of rare cash and coin sales over the past 15 years.

Our private collectors are seeking all types of rare coins and currency.

We have the resources available to pay you top prices for all types of rare coins or entire collections. We can arrange a private discreet meeting with you at your bank or in one of our private suites. Whether you are ready to sell your life long collection or you are settling an estate we are at your service. We are professional, honest and discreet.

From a single item to complete collections, the most sought after types of coins are:

- Any coins dated prior to 1820, especially those dated 1700's
- High Grade Early Coins
- Graded Coins
- Proof Coins
- Gold Coins with C, D, O and CC mint marks
- Rare Dates
- Complete Coin Type sets
- Rare Paper Currency



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- Martin
- Gretsch
- Rickenbacker
- National
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DELI

Boar's Head Everroast Chicken \$6.99 lb. <i>Save \$2.00 lb.</i>	Dietz & Watson No Salt Turkey \$7.99 lb. <i>Save \$4.00 lb.</i>	Joe's Signature Honey Smoked Turkey \$6.99 lb. <i>Save \$1.00 lb.</i>	Hoffmans Hard Salami \$4.99 lb. <i>Save \$2.00 lb.</i> Hoffmans Super Sharp Cheddar Cheese \$5.99 lb. <i>Save \$3.50 lb.</i>
Boar's Head Colby & Colby Jack Cheese \$5.99 lb. <i>Save \$2.50 lb.</i>	Dietz & Watson Swiss Cheese \$6.99 lb. <i>Save \$1.50 lb.</i>	Joe's Signature Roast Beef \$7.99 lb. <i>Save \$2.00 lb.</i>	Dearborn Brown Sugar, Honey & Smokehouse Ham \$5.99 lb. <i>Save \$1.00 lb.</i>

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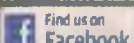
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KLAA HOOPS TOURNAMENT

Rocks stave off collapse

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

A rollicking first half of Salem morphed into a sweat-inducing slide down the stretch of Tuesday's KLAA Kensington Conference boys basketball semifinal against South Lyon.

And it took a game-saving play by senior guard Grant Bettner to enable the host Rocks to survive 59-58 — a finish nobody could have envisioned earlier, when Salem bounced out to a 24-point lead midway during the second half.

"I knew something needed to happen," said Bettner, following the white-knuckle finish.

Bettner (nine points) stole a South Lyon pass in Salem's zone during the final minute — stopping the Lions from possibly tying the game at 57-57. He then took it down the floor for a huge layup, opening up a 59-55 lead.

That proved enough of a cushion when South Lyon's Joe Remstad hit a trey at the horn.

"We had a bunch of turnovers," Bettner said. "They were starting to take control of the game and we needed something to kind of flip the tempo."

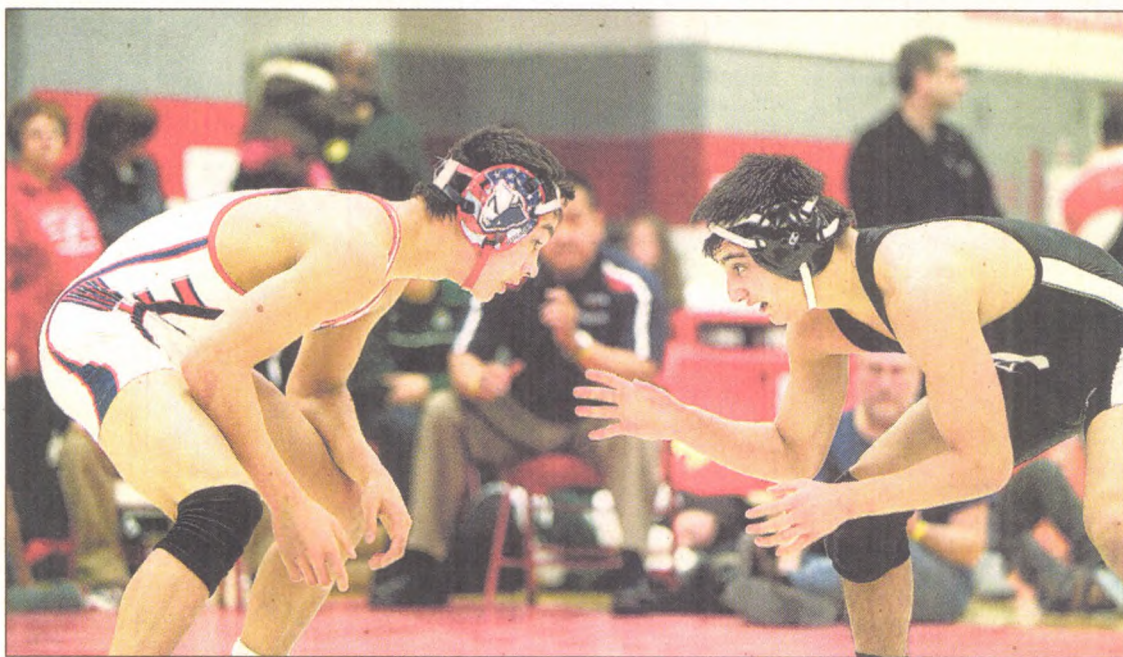
Salem (16-2) will host Northville 7 p.m. Friday in the conference championship match. The Mustangs (12-6) scored at the buzzer Tuesday to upset KLAA South Division champion Westland John Glenn (14-4).

Hanging on

"Sometimes everything seems pretty easy and all of a sudden you start to let up a little bit," Salem head coach Bob Brodie said. "Then you lose your focus, you lose your intensity and drive. And the other team's really cranked up. You become the hunted instead of the

Please see HOOPS, B2

INDIVIDUAL REGIONALS



JOHN KEMSKI

Livonia Franklin's Jordan Atienza (left) and Plymouth's Said Youssef, shown facing each other in the individual state districts, had a 7-4 decision. Youssef won the regional championship at 140 with a 7-4 decision.

Next stop: the Palace

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Eight of 15 wrestlers from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park who made the trip to Saturday's Saline-hosted Division 1 individual regionals had their tickets punched for the state meet by finishing in the top four of their respective weight classes.

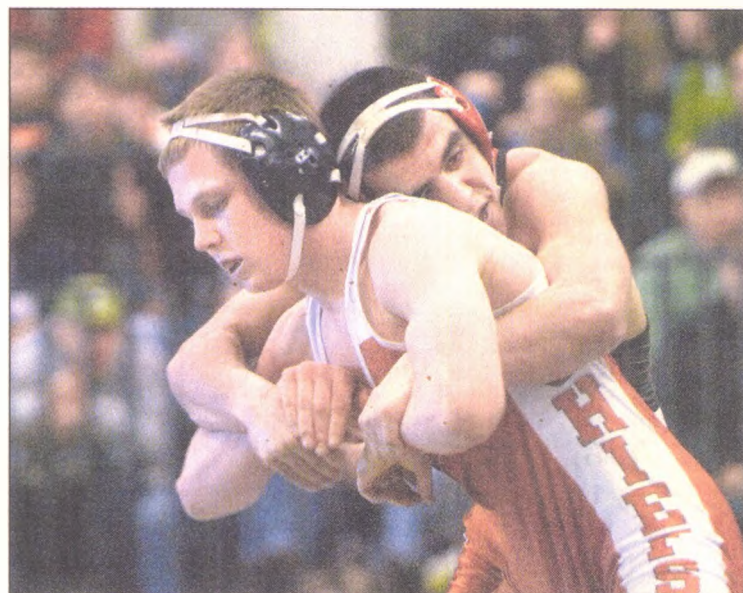
Three each from Canton and Plymouth will compete March 1-3 at the Palace of Auburn Hills in the D1 finals — as will two Salem wrestlers.

Highlighting the day were regional champions by Plymouth's Said Youssef and Canton's Zach Marsh at 140 and 145, respectively.

"We got a whole bunch of firsts today," Plymouth head coach Quinn Guernsey said. "First regional champ at Plymouth (Youssef), most kids going to regionals and states (three), first freshman to be a state qualifier (Brandon Harris at 103)."

Youssef took first at 140 over Livonia Franklin's Jordan Atienza by a 7-4 score.

It was the fifth time the pair faced each other this season, with Youssef winning four times. The duo matched up at



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Shown in this file photo is Canton's Zach Marsh (left), who by virtue of winning a regional championship Saturday at 145 qualified for the Division 1 state meet for a second straight season.

the previous weekend's individual districts, with the same outcome.

"I feel really good about that, first district, too," Youssef said. "It feels good that all the hard work I put in all four years, all the practices (paid off)."

Youssef is returning to the state finals for the second

straight year. Last season, he lost one of the early rounds.

"I got caught up in the excitement," Youssef said. "But now I'm going to go back this year and it will be like, I'm more prepared now."

An early 4-1 lead against Atienza helped set the tone for

Please see WRESTLING, B3

It's D-II for Davon White

Plymouth senior defensive lineman White will be playing Division-II college football at William Penn University — not D-III as was incorrectly stated in an article and accompanying infobox in Sunday's Observer.



White

White is one of six Wildcats who recently signed national letters of intent to play football.

William Penn University is located near Des Moines, Iowa.

Canton cheer eyes regionals

Canton is moving on to the MHSAA Competitive Cheer following a runner-up finish at the recent Division 1 district competition at Southgate.

The host Titans (793.388) captured first followed by additional regional qualifiers Canton (311.900), Saline (308.100) and Livonia Churchill (302.400).

All four are headed Saturday to Lake Orion regional beginning at 11 a.m.

Other area teams included Livonia Stevenson, fifth (296.100); Livonia Franklin, seventh (289.400); Wayne Memorial, ninth (294.000); and Westland John Glenn, 11th (284.100).

In the Division 3 District at Grosse Ile, the host Red Devils (732.2256) placed first followed by Brooklyn Columbia Central (703.3306), Clarenceville (683.3432) and Monroe Jefferson (678.0228).

Livonia Gardner was seventh with 664.840.

Clarenceville moves to the Yale regional beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Three-peat

Lewis sparks Chiefs to another KLAA tournament victory

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Outstanding talent and depth sparked Canton to win the KLAA girls gymnastics meet for the third consecutive season.

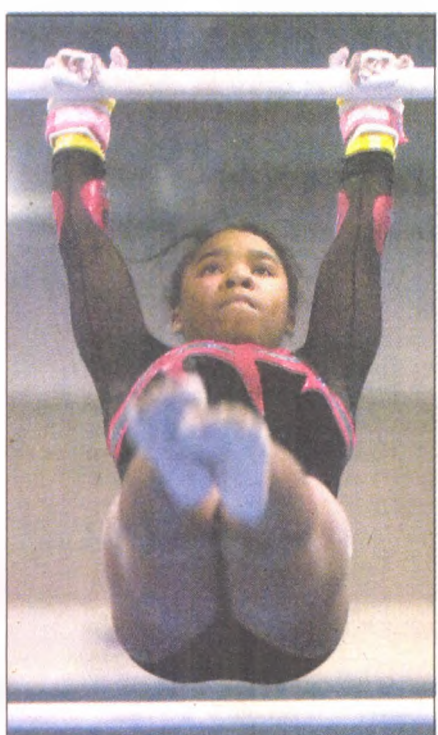
The Chiefs topped the 12-team field Saturday at Euro Stars Gymnastics in Plymouth with 148.625 points. Finishing second was Milford/Lakeland (143.075), followed by third-place

Howell (143.000) and fourth-place Salem (142.075).

Plymouth placed sixth, with 138.500 points.

"I thought it was going to be a little tighter than that," Canton head coach John Cunningham said. "It turned out that the girls came together on floor, we had six

Please see GYM, B2



Canton's Ayana Lewis, shown from earlier this season, set two new school records at Saturday's KLAA girls gymnastics meet.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth bowlers (from left) Matt Bracey, Burhan Yaish and Evan Grimme discuss game strategy with coach Tammy Thompson recently during practice. Grimme has been on the varsity this season, while Bracey and Yaish have divided time between the JV and varsity.

Plymouth JVs make most of opportunity

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Tammy Thompson can breathe a sigh of relief about the future of Plymouth's still-growing bowling program.

Although the coach is losing six members of Plymouth's boys bowling squad to graduation (four from the varsity), she is taking solace knowing the JV-to-varsity pipeline is overflowing with talent and success.

Consider that the 2011-

12 junior varsity Wildcats sport a 13-1 record as the season draws to a close — one of the best marks around of any of the so-called B teams.

Those pesky young Wildcats also captured the Wayne County and Plymouth-Canton-Salem tournaments.

"I'm trying to develop it so we'll still have a strong team," Thompson explained. "We're going to lose six players next year with the boys team. ... It's important to build them

up so they're ready to step up next year."

The JV bowlers are "getting the experience, they're getting playing time. That's better than being up on varsity and not playing at all," she added.

Meshing to form a very successful JV have been seniors Matt Bracey, Joe Langell, Nathan Purcell, sophomores Charlie Anderson and Burhan Yaish and freshman Jor-

Please see BOWLING, B3

Canton girls lax meeting

All girls interested in trying out for the 2012 Canton girls lacrosse team are invited to attend a player/parent meeting from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 1, in the Canton High School Media Center.

This meeting is mandatory for all returning players. Tryouts begin Monday, March 12, from 5-7 p.m. at Discovery Middle School. Canton will field both a varsity and JV team this season. No previous lacrosse experience is required. For more information, contact head coach David Bower, (734) 634-8797, cantongirlslacrosse@pccsmail.net.

WHAC salutes MU's Herring

Madonna University junior guard Shantelle Herring was named Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Women's Basketball Player of the Week (Feb. 13) after leading the Crusaders to a pair of road victories, including an upset of No. 3-ranked Davenport University.

It was the first award Herring's career and marks the first time this season that a Crusader has earned the WHAC honor.

Crusaders march by Saints, 52-48

On Senior Day, the Madonna University men's basketball team rallied from a 12-point first-half deficit Saturday afternoon to beat visiting Aquinas College, 52-48, in a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference season finale.

The Crusaders, who improved to 18-12 overall and 12-6 in the WHAC, also locked up a home playoff berth to face Concordia University (7:30 p.m. Wednesday at home).

Sophomore guard Travis Schuba paced MU with 14 points while sophomore forward Derek Lennen added nine points off of the bench as the Crusaders' bench outscored the Saints' reserves 29-0.

A rebound putback by Eoghann Stephens with 2:05 left gave MU the

MEN'S HOOPS

lead for keeps, 48-48, and three free throws by Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) during the final 13 seconds sealed the victory.

Prior to the game, the Crusaders honored the senior trio of Tyler Coker, Mike Clark and Mitch Cieslak.

"I could not be more proud of the way our team played today," MU coach Noel Emehiser said. "After fighting through a slow start, we battled back and played solid defense. It was a great team win with everyone contributing in one way or another. I'm very happy to send our seniors out with a win and the opportunity to play another game on our home court."

Aquinas (15-5, 11-7), which led 24-21 at halftime, added 22 points, while Joe Powers added 17.

S'CRAFT 92, ALPENA 72: Karl Moore's 26 points and 12 rebounds propelled Schoolcraft College (16-10, 8-7) to an MCAA Eastern Conference victory Saturday night at Alpena Community College (8-17, 3-12).

The Ocelots, who moved into fourth place all alone, also got 15 points from LenDerrick Witcher, while Daniel Hill (Wayne Memorial) and Lydell Mason (Westland John Glenn) added 14 apiece.

Point-guard Mohamed Elhaj chipped in with a season-high 10 points, including a three-quarter court shot to end the first half to give the Ocelots a 40-36 cushion.

Schoolcraft made 26-of-42 free throws on the night, while Alpena hit 13-of-19.

Lauren Jones paced the Lumberjacks with 17 points, while Devon Elder and Jimmy Davis added 15 and 14, respectively. Derek Hearn, Jr. contributed 10.



Salem's Mark McGee (No. 9), shown from earlier this season, is now second in all-time goal scoring for the Rocks. At right is Plymouth's Kyle Bauer (No. 24).

Salem's McGee on record pace

Salem senior center and captain Mark McGee put his name toward the top of the record books with Saturday's three-goal performance against Waterford Kettering.

McGee became the second all-time leading goal scorer in Salem boys hockey history with goals 56-58 of his career. He also is third all-time in career points with 102.

"Mark is a great example of what can be earned

with hard work, both on and off the ice," Rocks head coach Ryan Ossensmayer said.

Two of McGee's goals were of the shorthanded variety.

The Rocks also benefited from a two-goal night from defenseman Michael Manser, while Jake Sealy and Alek Zultowski netted single tallies. Zultowski was back in the lineup after missing four games due to injury.

Goalie George Veresan stopped 10 of 12 Kettering shots for the victory.

"It was a good effort by our players," Ossensmayer said. "And hopefully we can build some momentum from this win heading into our final regular season game on Wednesday and playoffs next Monday."

Salem, along with Canton and Plymouth, will compete at Livonia's Eddie Edgar Arena in the pre-regionals.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS RESULTS

KLAA GYMNASTICS MEET Feb. 18 at Euro Stars in Plymouth

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Canton, 148.625; 2. Milford/Lakeland, 143.075; 3. Howell, 143.000; 4. Salem, 142.075; 5. Brighton, 139.100; 6. Plymouth, 138.500; 7. Livonia Blue, 138.000; 8. Livonia Red, 137.800; 9. Northville, 137.350; 10. Walled Lake Central, 97.725; 11. Walled Lake North/West, 74.550; 12. Pinckney, 36.350.

DIVISION 1
Vault: 1. Daisy Ference (N), 9.55; 2. Ayana Lewis (C), 9.50; 3. Catrina Malysz (ML), 9.40; 4. (tie) Chloe Presley (ML), 9.30; Melissa Green (C), 9.30; 8. Jocelyn Moraw (C), 8.95; 12. Nicole Lasecki (C), 8.40.
Bars: 1. Lewis (C), 9.45; 2. Daisy Ference (N), 9.40; 3. Green (C), 9.275; 4. Presley (ML), 9.25; 5. Amanda Pompilius (H), 8.775; 8. Lasecki (C), 8.70; 9. Moraw (C), 8.675.
Beam: 1. Paige Blythe (H), 9.80; 2. Lewis (C), 9.75; 3. Presley (ML), 9.65; 4. Meridith

Robinson (B), 9.475; 5. Green (C), 9.45; 8. Lasecki (C), 9.10; 10. (tie) Moraw (C), 8.95; Malysz (ML), 8.95.
Floor: 1. Presley (ML), 9.825; 2. Moraw (C), 9.75; 3. Lewis (C), 9.575; 4. Ference (N), 9.55; 5. Lasecki (C), 9.50; 7. Green (C), 9.30.

All-around: 1. Lewis (C), 38.275; 2. Presley (ML), 38.025; 3. Ference (N), 37.500; 4. Green (C), 37.325; 5. Pompilius (H), 36.450; 6. Moraw (C), 36.325; 9. Lasecki (C), 35.700.

DIVISION 2
Vault: 1. Erica Lucas (C), 9.40; 2. (tie) Ashley Hextall (Pinc.), 9.05; Nicole Jacobs (S), 9.05; 4. (tie) Andrea Melotti (S), 8.95; Brooke Allgeyer (S), 8.95; 6. (tie) Reagan Engstrom (Ply.), 8.90; Alex Kitz (LB), 8.90; 9. (tie) Sydney Grenier (LR), 8.80; Maggie McGowan (LR), 8.80; Megan McKeehan (Ply.), 8.80; Haley Olson (LB), 8.80.
Bars: 1. Kitz (LB), 9.40; 2. Shannon Diaz (LR), 8.95; 3. Ade Jepperson (S), 8.875; 4. Brittany Ramirez (S), 8.85; 5. Jacobs (S), 8.70; 6. Melotti

(S), 8.60; 7. Hextall (Pinc.), 8.50; 8. Emily Gucciardo (B), 8.45; 9. (tie) Lucas (C), Molly McSween (Ply.), 8.35.

Beam: 1. Sarah Uhlian (Ply.), 9.55; 2. Diaz (LR), 9.40; 3. Rose Perebola (LR), 9.275; 4. Hextall (Pinc.), 9.20; 5. (tie) Engstrom (Ply.), 9.10; Marisa Decamp (H), 9.10; 7. (tie) Ramirez (S), 9.00; Melotti (S), 9.00; 9. Lucas (C), 8.95; 10. Morgan Soper (S), 8.90.

Floor: 1. Hextall (Pinc.), 9.60; 2. (tie) Amber Talaski (ML), 9.575; Jacobs (S), 9.575; 4. Kitz (LB), 9.55; 5. Jane McCurry (Ply.), 9.325; 6. (tie) Lucas (C), 9.125; Soper (S), 9.125; 8. Engstrom (Ply.), 9.10; 9. (tie) Gucciardo (B), 9.05; Diaz (LR), 9.05.

All-around: 1. Hextall (Pinc.), 36.350; 2. Lucas (C), 35.825; 3. Kitz (LB), 35.800; 4. Jacobs (S), 35.450; 5. Engstrom (Ply.), 35.200; 6. Ramirez (S), 35.075; 7. Talaski (ML), 35.025; 8. Jepperson (S), 34.550; 9. Melotti (S), 34.375; 10. Soper (S), 34.325; 11. Uhlian (Ply.), 34.200; 12. McGowan (LR), 34.125.

GYM

Continued from page B1

nines. It was a situation of which nines do we throw out.

"When you have situations like that you're going to do well."

Four of those six were in Division 1, led by freshman Jocelyn Moraw (second, 9.750) and Ayana Lewis, finishing third with 9.575.

Lewis was brilliant, finishing first in D1 all-around with a Canton-record 38.275. She also set a new mark with her second-place tally of 9.75 on balance beam.

Also faring well in D1 all-around competition for the Chiefs were Moraw (sixth, 36.325), Melissa Green (fourth, 37.325) and Nicole Lasecki (ninth, 35.700).

In Division 2, Erica Lucas won the championship on vault with a 9.40. She finished ahead of Salem's Nicole Jacobs — who tied for second with a 9.05 score.

Lucas was second in the all-around standings (35.825).

Salem and Plymouth did well in the D2 meet,



JOHN KEMSKI

Plymouth's Jane McCurry is shown from earlier this season. She had a solid showing at the conference meet.

with the Wildcats' Sarah Uhlian taking first on balance beam (9.55).

Jacobs also earned a portion of second place on floor with a 9.575 and was fourth in all-around (35.450).

Salem's Ade Jepperson (third on uneven parallel bars, 8.875).

Plymouth's Reagan Engstrom (sixth on vault, 8.90; fifth on beam, 9.10; fifth in all-around, 35.200) and Jane McCurry (fifth on floor, 9.325) were strong for the Wildcats.

Scoring plenty of points for the Rocks were



ANDY RUBENSTEIN

Salem's Nicole Jacobs, shown from earlier this season, had reason to smile thanks to her performance at Saturday's conference meet.

Megan Soper (tied with Lucas for sixth on floor with a 9.125), Andrea Melotti and Brooke Allgeyer (tied for fourth on vault, 8.95) and Brittany Ramirez (fourth on bars, 8.85; sixth in all-around, 35.075).

Meanwhile, Cunningham said the KLAA title is continuing to point his team in the right direction with the D1 regionals on Saturday, March 3, at Plymouth High School.

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HOOPS

Continued from page B1

hunter.

"They were coming after us hard and we were back on our heels. Fortunately, we got a nice steal at the end."

Plagued by turnovers (24, including 16 in the second half) and foul trouble, the Rocks could not sustain their first-half attack — which gave the team leads of 19-5 after one frame and 36-19 at halftime.

Ten Salem players got onto the scoresheet in

that first half, when Brodie said "we were really team-oriented, focused and played hard together."

Still, despite being outplayed in the third by the hungry Lions and their relentless defense, the Rocks managed to carry a 48-34 edge into the fourth.

The third ended well for the home team, with back-to-back buckets by senior guard Tyler Stewart (nine points, six assists) and senior center Josh Peterson (seven points, 14 rebounds) momentarily stopping South Lyon's momentum.

Then came eight minutes that couldn't end soon enough for Salem.

They'll remember

Trailing 56-44 with about three minutes to go, the Lions turned up the energy even more.

They forced a string of Salem turnovers and went on an 11-1 run to make it a 57-55 contest with under a minute to go.

"Their pressure was great," Brodie said. "We made some crazy passes we shouldn't have made."

"We got away with them in the first half, and in the second half we

were still trying to make those long passes. ... We just tried to do too much instead of just taking care of the basketball."

Thankfully for the Rocks, Bettner had a clutch play in his arsenal.

Brodie said the team won't forget coming so close to letting a chance to play for the conference title slip away.

"I just told them every game's a championship game from here on out," he emphasized. "You're playing districts, you're playing conference, you're playing association, every game's important."

GIRLS HOOPS

for the girls to get down on themselves and not come out with a lot of energy and effort after the disappointing loss to Novi last week," Canton head coach Brian Samulski said. "To the girls credit they came out focused, ready, and determined to play."

"I thought we were really good defensively and got great balance scoring."

BRIGHTON 39, PLYMOUTH 38: Courtney Murphy's two free throws with eight seconds remaining Monday lifted the Bulldogs to a KLAA Kensington Conference consolation bracket victory over

Plymouth. The Wildcats (11-8) were up 21-14 at halftime and 33-23 after three frames. But Brighton's fast press in the fourth led to Plymouth's downfall.

Leading the Wildcats with 10 points was Jada Woody, while Kylie Robb and Chyna Williams added nine and seven points, respectively.

Plymouth head coach Bob de Bear said the experience might help the team "respond and learn" when next week's districts roll around.

"We're going to focus on getting some things right for the state tournament," he said. "I feel like we can compete for a district title this year. There are some outstanding teams in our district, but if we play the game the right way, we have just as good of a chance as anybody."

nip the host Chiefs. Canton had fought back to tie the game when Kyle Adams connected on a trey with six seconds left in the fourth.

"Their ability to hit the offensive glass really hurt us tonight," lamented Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy.

"And (so did) our inability to hit open shots."

The Chiefs (13-5) hit only 10 of 29 field-goal tries from two-point range and were out-rebounded by a 34-17 margin.

Canton senior forward Paul Baumgart scored 20 points and pulled down nine rebounds. Chipping in with seven points was freshman guard Greg Williams.

Howell improved to 11-7 with the victory.

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BEANE

MARY "PAT"

Age 79 of Livonia. Beloved wife of the late Robert "Bob". Loving mother of Mary "Sue" Sobocinski, Robert Jr. (Virginia) Beane, and Connie (Rick) Fletcher. Dear grandmother of Sarah and Sheila Sobocinski, Rebecca (Greg) Perdue, and Robert III (Cassandra) Beane, and Ricky Fletcher. Dearest great grandmother of 8. Please call Fred Wood Funeral Home for service times (734)464-8060. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. Please share your memories at fredwoodfuneralhome.com



HOLZHETER, DOROTHY ANN

Dorothy took her final journey on Monday, January 9, 2012 at home in Virginia Beach, VA. She was born in Pennsylvania on July 16, 1926 and lived in Livonia the majority of her life, she was 85 years young. She is reunited with her husband Herbert Holzheter, daughter Laura and son Louis Heller. She is survived by her loving children, Denean Evans, Herbert Holzheter Jr. and son-in-law Jim. She took immense pleasure in, and loved, her grandchildren, Rick, Laurie, Heather, Michael, Ryan and Kim and her great grandchildren, Evan, Ayden, Dillon, Emma and Hailey, along with many nieces and nephews. Mom had many longtime friends who will miss her. She was a great mother, wife, friend and neighbor, and above all, kind to everyone. Mom always thought of others first and did not know a stranger. She was also an avid bowler and card player. Her Celebration of Life open house will be held at her Grandson's home at 34009 Edmonton Ave, Farmington Hills, Michigan on Saturday, February 25, 2012, from 1-6pm.

JONES, JACK

February 19, 2012, age 77 of Livonia. Beloved husband of Maureen. Dear father of Karen (Don) Taulby and John (Kim) Jones. Loving grandpa of Alec Jones. Mr. Jones is survived by 2 brothers and 1 sister. A memorial gathering will be held at Fred Wood Funeral Home 36100 Five Mile Road (E. of Levan) Livonia, Sunday February 26 from 2-4PM. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the American Heart Association. Please share your memories at fredwoodfuneralhome.com

ROBISON, ALBERT R.

Age 83, February 20, 2012. Beloved husband of Bernice. Father of Diana (Greg) Cowling, Al (Dee), Rod (Michele) and the late Richard. Grandfather of Meredith (Shawn) Galdeen, Andrea, AJ (Jen), Ashley, Ryan, Kyle and Tyler. Great grandfather of Melody and Evangelene. Visitation Thursday 3-8pm at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd., Garden City (between Ford Rd. & Cherry Hill). In state Friday 10am until 11am funeral service at Garden City Community Baptist Church, 28237 W. Warren Rd. (Between Inkster Rd. & Middlebelt). www.santeiufuneralhome.com Family suggestions memorials to the Alzheimer's Association.

VILLENEUVE SMOCK, FRANCES

Age 88, of Plymouth, passed away peacefully Feb. 20, 2012. Beloved mother, grandmother, and friend. www.casterlinefuneralhome.com



Volunteers from Farmington First United Methodist Church work on drywall in a home in Moss Point, Miss.

Church team returns to Mississippi site

Eleven volunteers from the Farmington First United Methodist Church spent a week last month helping to rebuild the homes of two families in Moss Point, Miss.

Farmington First has sent six teams to Mississippi since 2007 through the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission program. The work gave volunteers an important lesson in the value of service to others and has drawn appreciation from homeowners and the local community.

The team split into two groups, to work on two homes. In both homes, volunteers spent the week applying drywall mud and sanding it. One group worked on a completely new home. The original home had been inundated by approximately 15 feet of storm surge, causing the roof to collapse and necessitating condemnation of the structure. The second home was subjected to sewage-contaminated flood waters. When earlier volunteers stripped out the interior, they discovered termite damage, so the house had



The Rev. Robert Brenner of Farmington First United Methodist Church works on a house in Mississippi.

to be rebuilt from the inside out.

Moss Point is located several miles inland from the Gulf Coast, which was devastated by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

While Farmington First's teams have worked in the Pascagoula/Moss Point areas over the past six years, they've met volunteers from around the country. On their latest trip, the team met a man from near Bowling Green, Ky., who has volunteered at the nearby VanCleave Methodist Church's camp 23 times since 2005.

Since approximately a month after Hurri-

cane Katrina hit in 2005, about half of the combined memberships of the VanCleave and Mt. Pleasant Methodist churches have welcomed more than 10,000 volunteers, including the Farmington teams, from all over the

country. Volunteers provided meals, bunks and clean bed linen for seven days a week, between 2005 and 2007, and five days a week since then. Before the Mississippi Conference of the Methodist Church constructed Camp Hope at the VanCleave Church in 2007, the church hosted nearly 130 volunteers a week on its own, with women sleeping in the Sunday school rooms and men in a stripped-out house trailer.

A blog, recording the accomplishments of Farmington First United Methodist Church's team, are at <http://farmington-fumc.org/ministries/missions/>.

Let others know...

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JOHNSON, GARY RAY

Age 60 of Bancroft/formerly of Howell passed away on Monday, February 20, 2012 at his home. A funeral service will be held in Livonia on Monday, Family will meet with friends on Friday from 1-8 p.m. at Watkins Brothers Funeral Home, Bancroft Chapel. Gary was born on February 15, 1952 in Detroit, the son of Raymond V. and Marcia A. (Kokones) Johnson. He was a graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School, Class of 1970. Gary was an Iron Worker. He is survived by his fiancée Myrna Wintermote, daughter Stacey (Richard) Griffin, grandchildren, James and Brianna, brother, Darrell D. (Donna) Johnson, step-brother, Nicholas Kokones, mother, Marcia (George) Kokones and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his father Raymond and brother Kevin. Memorials can be made to Bancroft Lions Club or Durand Eagles. Online condolences can be sent to: www.watkinsfuneralhomes.com

Your Invitation to Worship

<p>CATHOLIC</p>	<p>UNITED METHODIST</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</p>
<p>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.m. Saturday Mass 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills www.orchardumc.org 248-626-3620 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</p>	<p>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am Visit www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs CE08790825</p>	<p>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 www.christsaviors.org Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413 Staffed Nursery Available Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, & Creeden 734-522-6830 CE08790712</p>
<p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p>	<p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1925 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</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p>	<p>Risen Christ Lutheran David W. Martin, Pastor 46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (734) 453-5252 Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30 Nursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are. www.risenchrist.net CE08790822</p>
<p>ASSEMBLIES OF GOD</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p>	<p>WARD CHURCH 40000 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48168 248.374.7400 www.wardchurch.org Traditional Worship at 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m. 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 580 AM CE08790820</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</p>
<p>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 33015 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia 48152 Between Farmington & Merriman Across from Joe's Produce 248.471.5282</p>	<p>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 CE08790708</p>	<p>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.stpaulsilivonia.org CE08790827</p>	<p>CONGREGATIONAL</p>
<p>North Congregational Church 36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted) (248) 848-1750 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School Faith - Freedom - Fellowship Rev. Mary E. Biedron Senior Minister CE08790910</p>	<p>For Information regarding this Directory, please call Karen Marzolf at 313-222-2214 or e-mail: kmarzolf@hometownlife.com</p>		

Local expert, collectibles enhance classic movie screening

By Sharon Dargay
 O&E Staff Writer

Which Detroit sports casting legend delivered newspapers to Margaret Mitchell while he was growing up in Atlanta, Ga.?

And why did *Gone with the Wind* make its Detroit debut at both United Artists and Wilson movie theaters?

Kathleen Marcaccio, the "Gone with the Wind Answer Lady," will shed light on local connections to the famous movie and novel before the film's screenings, March 2-4 at the Redford Theater, in Detroit.

She'll be on hand to answer questions afterward and will display some of her *Gone with the Wind* collectibles, books, and ephemera.

"When you look at Margaret Mitchell and her background, at how she came to write the book and how it was published and made into a movie — with ground-breaking technology in the movie industry — how the story has endured and now how it has two authorized sequels, it's all so terribly interesting," said Marcaccio, whose favorite character is Scarlett O'Hara. "There are an awful lot of angles to explore and there are new books being written about it."

The Royal Oak resident has spent the last 22 years collecting as much information as she could about both the film and the book, filling the cabinets full of newspaper clippings and scholarly articles, stocking



Kathleen Marcaccio has one room crammed with "Gone With The Wind" memorabilia, but it's just the tip of the iceberg. It's everywhere.

bookcases with biographies, historical texts and multiple copies of the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, and showing off plates, figurines, accessories, toys

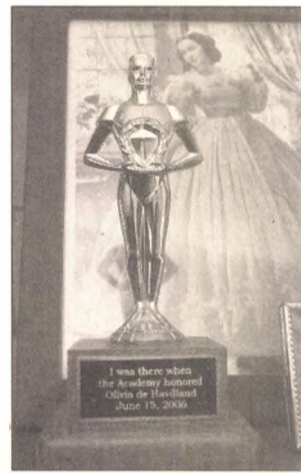
and other collectible items in curio cabinets and on shelves. A room just off the front door in her home is a shrine to all things *Gone with the Wind*.

First edition

"We moved into this house in 1994 and from the very beginning I said, this is the *Gone with the Wind* room," noted Marcaccio, who is married



Statues, ornaments, and snow globes all celebrate "Gone With The Wind."



Kathleen Marcaccio received this Oscar statuette when she attended an Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences event honoring Olivia de Havilland, who played Melanie in the movie, "Gone with the Wind."

and has two grown sons. "We haven't done anything with it. It's the original walls, carpeting. I had some of the furniture added in — the chair and the bookcase — and we kept adding things.

"The book has never been out of print. It's in its 127th printing. Out of

those, I have about 120. I do have a first edition. And then I've got paperbacks and some special editions. I've got books about the movie and Hollywood in the '30s. I've got books about Margaret Mitchell, about the book and its place in publishing history."

She saw the movie in 1969 as a sixth grader, growing up on Detroit's east side and borrowed the book from the library the next day.

"I grew more and more into it as time went on. I started buying books, biographies of all the actors, and of Margaret Mitchell. I started a nice book collection."

Making connections

With a master's degree in library science from Wayne State University, Marcaccio, who is an information services data analyst for Gale, a part of Cengage Learning in Farmington Hills, was adept at researching and combing through data bases for informa-

Please see COLLECT, B7

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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: 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. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-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: Opening sale and reception is 6-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24; public art sale is 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25 and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: Buy art, including an original lithograph by Alexander Calder and a South American painting on copper, at this annual fundraiser, "Art from the Attic." All art was donated to Northville Art House. Opening reception tickets are \$10; public sale is free admission

Contact: (248) 344-0497

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

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



Benjamin Grosvenor performs for the Pro Musica Society of Detroit, March 16 at the Max M. Fisher Music Center.

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 cantonvillage.theater.org

Comedy

COMEDY JAM

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24

Location: Michigan Firehouse Museum, 110 W. Cross, Ypsilanti

Details: Fifth annual jam features Rex Havens in his one-man comedy, "Bidding You A fond I Do" and benefits the museum. Tickets are \$25 for general seating and \$35 for premium seating

Contact: (734) 547-0663

GO COMEDY!

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays through Sundays

Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale

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

Contact: (248) 327-0575; gocomey.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: Coco, through Feb. 25; Glen Wool, Feb. 29-March 3; John DeBoer, March 7-10; Tracy Smith, March 14-17; Horace HB Smith, March 21-24; Dave Landau, March 28-31

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

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: Ted Alexandro, Feb. 23-25; Justin McKinney, March 1-3; Dave Attell, March 8-10; Michael Malone, March 15-17; Tom Papa, March 22-24; Gary Valentine, March 29-31; Jay Black, April 5-7

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

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

Dance

DANCE

Time/Date: Beginner instruction at 12:30 p.m.; dance starts at 1 p.m.

Location: American Legion Hall, 31775 Grand River Ave., Farmington

Details: Farmington Contra Dance; cost is \$10, \$5 for students, with all proceeds benefitting a

charity

Contact: American Legion at (248) 478-9174

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 Dusters members

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

Film

MARQUIS THEATRE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 25

Location: 135 E. Main, Northville

Details: "Bye, Bye, Birdie," tickets \$3

Contact: (248) 349-8110

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24; 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 25-26 and 7 p.m. Thursday, March 1

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "Hugo," \$3

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

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. March 2-3 and 2 p.m. March 4

Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit

Details: "Gone with the Wind," tickets \$4

Coming up: 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. to 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 high life music with classical jazz and funk, a unique sound he called "Afrobeat" The exhibit runs through April 1

Contact: (313) 494-5800

COLLECT

Continued from page B5

tion. She also spent many hours looking at newspaper and magazine articles on microfilm in local libraries.

The book and movie celebrated 50th anniversaries in the mid-1980s, spawning *Gone with the Wind* events across the country and driving movie and book collectible sales.

Marcaccio began making annual visits to Atlanta, Ga., home to several Margaret Mitchell museums, and attending events that would introduce her to movie cast and crew members.

"I started looking at all the credits of the movie and trying to locate addresses. I was successful in getting in touch with some. I sent them questionnaires and they sent them back. Through the years I've had an opportunity to become friends with the remaining cast members."

In the early 1990s the Livonia Historical Society invited her to make a presentation to the group, which led to speaking engagements at other clubs. Marcaccio sometimes also opens her home to collectors and friends.

Her day-long open house last June, in honor of the book's 75th anniversary, drew friends from as far as Pittsburgh, Pa., and Lansing. The event included a show and tell, documentary screening and browsing in the *Gone with the Wind* room.

Movie programs, old magazines, scrapbooks, vintage fabric — including a frame piece of the dress Vivien Leigh wore in a barbecue scene from the movie — covered tables in Marcaccio's living room earlier this week as she tried to decide what she'll take to the theater next weekend.

At least one item — her favorite line from the movie — is a given.

"It's on my car license," she explained. "Fiddle-dee-dee."



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kathleen Marcaccio is an expert on "Gone With The Wind" lore. She'll bring some of her vintage movie ephemera to the Redford Theater for its March 2-4 screenings of the film.



The shelves are filled with different editions of the book that inspired the film..



A corner of the *Gone with the Wind* room at Kathleen Marcaccio's house looks like a shrine to Scarlett O'Hara and Rhett Butler.



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Healthful, hearty, comfort food

During the short days and cold nights of winter, many of us crave comfort foods. Unfortunately, the rich dishes we usually think of tend to be low in nutrition and packed with fat and calories. Well, take heart. It's possible to enjoy satisfying dishes that are tasty, hearty and nutritious.

Dry peas, lentils and chickpeas (garbanzo beans), all part of the legume family, are one way to make comfort foods more healthful. These ingredients pack a nutritional punch while adding flavor to recipes: just one cup of dry peas, lentils or chickpeas gives you more than half the recommended daily dosage of fiber and up to 18 grams of protein. They also contain little to no fat, making them a healthy meat alternative.

Chef Tracy O'Grady, from Willow Restaurant in Arlington, Va., knows how to make the most of these versatile ingredients. "You may already love lentil soup," she says. "But lentils have a wide range of uses, and are a great addition to hearty fare like enchiladas, veggie burgers — even chocolate cake."

And while chickpeas are best known as the key ingredient in hummus, they also appear in rich-tasting foods like Willow's Chickpea Fries.

For more recipes and information from the USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council, visit www.pea-lentil.com.

Willow's Chickpea Fries

Serves: 8 (6 per person)

2½ cups water
1 garlic clove, minced fine
2 cups whole milk
2 teaspoons kosher salt
¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper
¼ teaspoon smoked paprika
3 cups chickpea flour; reserve 1 cup for dusting
1 cup cooked chickpeas, roughly chopped
2 cups Parmesan cheese, finely grated
½ cup extra virgin olive oil
1 gallon canola oil

Place water, garlic, milk, salt, cayenne and paprika in a non-reactive sauce pot and heat until it boils.

Lower heat to gentle simmer and whisk in chickpea flour. Whisk just until smooth and then use a high heat spatula to finish the process. Cook mixture for about 5 minutes, constantly stirring to make sure there is no scorching.

Once flour is nearly cooked, fold in chopped chickpeas, Parmesan cheese and extra virgin olive oil. Stir until well incorporated and hot. This should take about 3 additional minutes.

Place in a plastic wrap lined 10- by 12-inch tray. Cover with plastic wrap and push down so it is even. Chill for at least 2 hours in the refrigerator or until completely chilled.

After well chilled, turn the chickpea mold onto a cutting board. Cut fries 12 times in 1-inch pieces and then cut each strip into 4 pieces, forming 48 pieces.

Heat canola oil in a large stainless steel fry pot to 350°F. Dust fries with remaining chickpea flour and fry in 4 batches until hot and golden brown.

Drain in paper towels to remove excess oil. Serve immediately with Orange Preserved Lemon Dipping Sauce.

Orange Preserved Lemon Dipping Sauce

Makes: About 1 cup

2 oranges, juiced and zested with a microplane zester
2 preserved lemons juiced, the peel minced fine
1 tablespoon red wine vinegar
¼ cup extra virgin olive oil
Kosher salt to taste
If preserved lemons are unavailable, can be substituted with 2 fresh lemons, juiced and zested.



COOKING TIPS

- Dry peas and lentils don't require soaking. Soak dried chickpeas in cold water for 12 hours before cooking (or you can buy pre-cooked, canned chickpeas).
- Spread dry peas and lentils in a single layer on a baking sheet. Check for and discard any debris. Rinse under cold water.
- To cook lentils, use 1 1/2 cups of water to 1 cup of lentils. Bring water to boil and add lentils. Boil for 2 or 3 minutes and reduce heat to a simmer. Cook until tender. Green or brown lentils take approximately 30 minutes and red lentils about 8 to 10 minutes.

Savory Chickpea Pancakes

Makes: 36 2½-inch pancakes

8 ounces chickpea flour (about 2 cups)
2 teaspoons baking powder
2 teaspoons kosher salt
1 teaspoon sugar
1½ cup buttermilk
2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
2 egg yolks, beaten
3 egg whites, whipped to soft peaks
Zest of one lemon; use a microplane zester
Additional butter to cook the pancakes

Mix all dry ingredients together in one bowl.

In a separate bowl, combine buttermilk, melted butter, olive oil and egg yolks.

In third bowl, whip egg whites until soft peaks form.

Fold dry ingredients into buttermilk mixture gently (do not over mix or pancakes will be tough).

Let batter stand for 5 minutes. After 5 minutes, gently fold half of the egg whites into batter, then fold remaining egg whites in.

Heat a non-stick skillet over medium heat until moderately hot. Add in a pinch of butter and spoon a heaping tablespoon batter into pan. Cook each pancake until golden brown; flip; cook for another minute or two and keep warm.

To serve, place two chickpea pancakes on individual plates and spoon ragu (recipe follows) on top.

Chickpea, Shrimp and Caper Ragu

Serves: 6

1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
2 cloves fresh garlic, finely sliced
1 cup cooked chickpeas
2 tablespoons capers
Peel of ½ a preserved lemon
1 teaspoon esepelletto or smoked paprika
½ cup water, plus more if needed
18 peeled and deveined shrimp
Kosher salt, to taste
1 tablespoon unsalted butter

Heat large stainless steel pan until moderately hot.

Add olive oil and sliced garlic. Once garlic starts to soften and just brown, add chickpeas and cook for about 2 minutes.

Add capers, lemon peel, esepelletto/smoked paprika and water. Bring to a boil, then add butter.

Reduce heat and add shrimp; stew gently until just cooked, about 4 minutes. If water evaporates too quickly, add a little more. Season with salt to taste.



Red Lentil Crusted Goat Cheese with Three Lentil Salad and Ruby Red Grapefruit Vinaigrette

Serves: 6

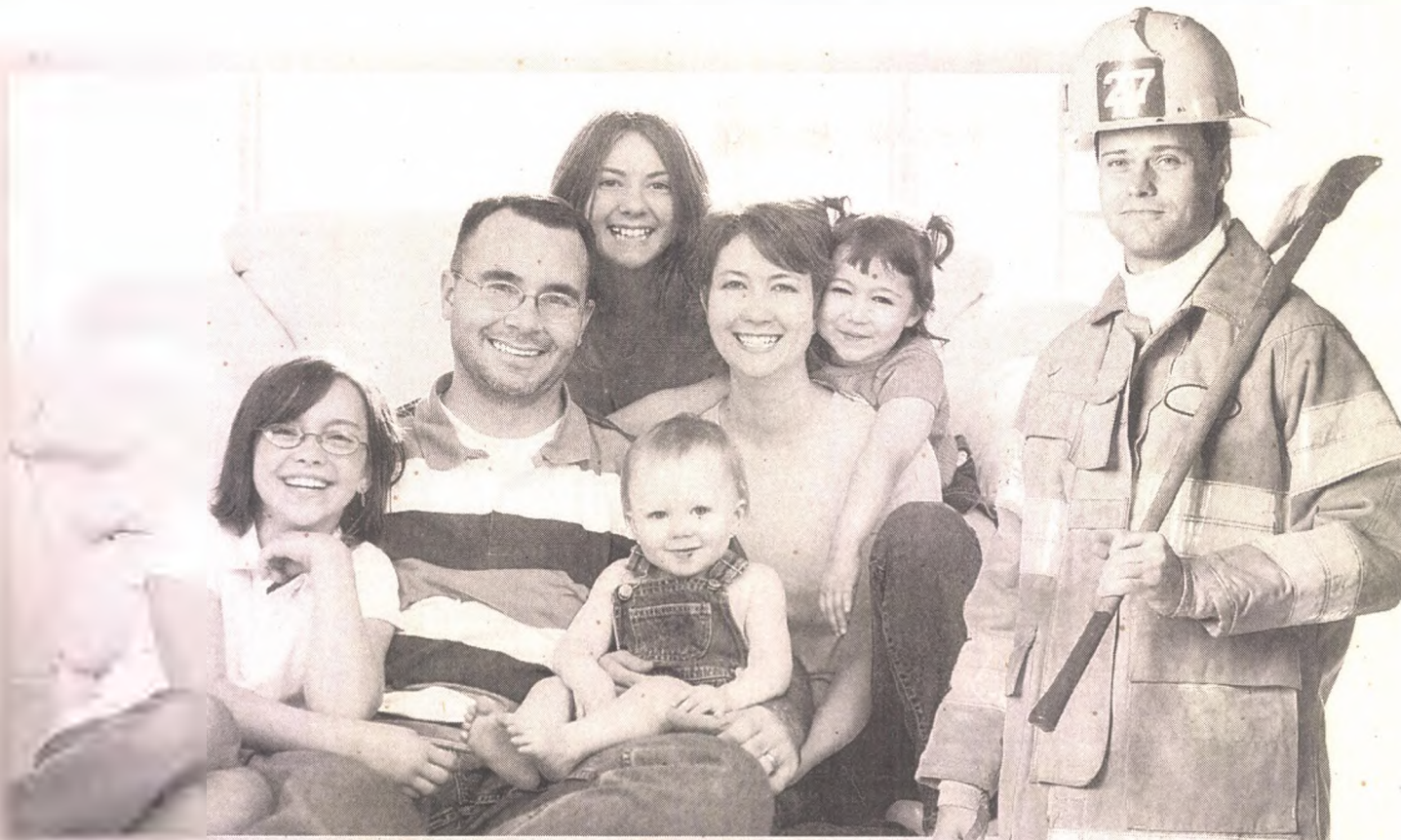
1 cup cooked red lentils, al dente
1 cup brown lentils, cooked
1 cup green lentils, cooked
5 spears Broccolini, cooked and roughly chopped
1 head endive, sliced
½ cup, plus 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
1 tablespoon red wine vinegar
Kosher salt, to taste
Cracked black pepper, to taste
9 ounces goat cheese, sliced into 6 2-inch slices
½ ruby red grapefruit, peeled and seeded and remaining juice squeezed into a bowl
1 lime, juiced

Combine the three varieties of lentils in a glass or Pyrex bowl, reserving ¼ cup of red lentils to crust the goat cheese. Add Broccolini, endive, 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil, red wine vinegar, salt and pepper and mix well. Set aside for ½ hour to 1 hour to allow flavors to meld.

Place remaining red lentils on a shallow tray and roll goat cheese slices in lentils until coated. Place lentil slices into a baking pan.

For vinaigrette, combine, grapefruit juice, lime juice, and ½ cup extra virgin olive oil and whisk until emulsified. Add grapefruit segments; season with salt to taste.

Just before serving, heat goat cheese slices for 3 to 5 minutes in a 350°F oven until warm, but not melting apart. Distribute lentils onto six plates, place goat cheese slices on lentils and drizzle with vinaigrette.



Guard against home heating fires this winter

In 2009, heating equipment was involved in an estimated 58,900 reported U.S. home structure fires, with associated losses of 480 civilian deaths, 1,520 civilian injuries, and \$1.1 billion in direct property damage. These fires accounted for 18 percent of all reported home fires, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

Based on 2005-09 annual averages:

- Heating equipment fires accounted for 18 percent of all reported home fires in 2009 (second behind cooking) and 22 percent of home fire deaths.

- Space heaters, whether portable or stationary, accounted for one-third (32 percent) of home heating fires and four out of five (79 percent) of home heating fire deaths.

- The leading factor contributing to home heating fires (26 percent) was failure to clean, annually creosote from solid-fueled heating equipment, primarily chimneys.

- Heating equipment that can burn too close to heating equipment or placing heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattress, or bedding, was the leading factor contributing to ignition in fatal home heating fires and accounted for more than half (53 percent) of home heating fire deaths.

- Half (49 percent) of all home heating occurred in December, January and

February.

The United States Fire Administration's Winter Residential Building Fires report shows that each winter an estimated 108,400 residential building fires occur in the United States, resulting in 945 deaths, 3,825 injuries, and \$1.7 billion in property loss. Cooking is the leading cause of winter residential building fires at 36 percent followed by heating at 23 percent. Winter residential building fires occur mainly in the early evening hours, peaking from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

"The winter season brings the highest number of home fires, more than at any other time of year," said USFA's Deputy Fire Administrator Glenn Gaines. "Home fires increase in part due to cooking and heating. Winter storms can also interrupt electrical service and cause people to turn to alternative heating sources that contribute to the increased risk of fire during the winter months."

The NFPA and USFA recommend following these safety tips to prevent winter home fires:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period, turn off the stove.

- Space heaters need space; keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from each heater.

- Check electrical cords often and

replace cracked or damaged electrical or extension cords. Do not try to repair them.

- Never use your oven or stovetop to heat your home. They are not designed for this purpose and can be a fire hazard. In addition, carbon monoxide (CO) gas might kill people and pets.

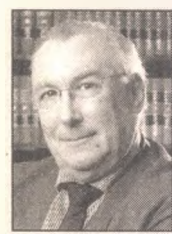
- Avoid using lighted candles. If you must use candles, place them in sturdy candleholders that won't burn.

- If you smoke, use only fire-safe cigarettes and smoke outside.

For more information about the causes of winter fires, winter storm fire safety, and tips that will help prevent the incidence of fire in the home, visit the USFA website at www.usfa.fema.gov/winter and the NFPA website at www.nfpa.org/winter.

Security cameras: Get pro advice

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist



Robert Meisner

Q: We are thinking about installing security cameras in the common areas. What do you think of that idea?

A: You and your association's Board of Directors should review and update your community's security measures at regular intervals. With respect to installing security cameras, you might consider installing them in parking lots and common areas on the property. Like any security measure, there are pros and cons to using security cameras to see suspicious activity before a crime is committed or using footage after the crime is committed to identify perpetrators and aid police in finding them. Before installing and using security cameras to monitor the community association, you should weigh the benefits and downsides to doing so and consult with a security expert as well as your attorney.

Q: I was planning to invest in New Orleans and I am wondering if you have had any experience recently with respect to the business and/or real estate climate?

A: While New Orleans has made a vibrant recovery, there are still remnants of vacant property as a result of Hurricane Katrina and, unfortunately, a very tall building near the Super Dome, which apparently became mold infested and, is totally unoccupied and an eyesore. The St. Charles trolley line proceeds almost to where it used to end and tourism seems to be picking up. The business climate has still not reached the level it was prior to the hurricane. There may be opportunities in terms of revitalization monies, and the Police Department has made strides in terms of taking care of what was a great deal of corruption and crime. You are best advised to consult with a knowledgeable real estate person in the area as well as a real estate attorney before making any business investments or real estate purchases.

Robert M. Meisner is a 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.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded in the week of Nov. 7-11, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

1263 E Crystal Cir \$195,000
1291 E Crystal Cir \$205,000
44618 Forest Trail Dr \$169,000
41546 Haggerty Woods Ct \$131,000
7325 Heron Way \$380,000
39909 Hillary Dr \$114,000
7265 Lyndhurst Dr \$280,000
8180 N Ridge Rd \$400,000
43913 Palisades Dr \$104,000
6004 River Run Ct \$300,000
45310 Rudgate Rd \$150,000
1452 S Lutze Rd \$150,000
42657 Somerset Dr \$145,000
47111 Woodlong Dr \$257,000
LIVONIA
33158 Allen St \$115,000
15161 Auburndale St \$79,000

14406 Blackburn St \$115,000
15056 Blue Skies St \$130,000
15067 Blue Skies St \$132,000
14122 Cardwell St \$88,000
16243 Country Club Dr \$182,000
14154 Denne St \$130,000
14908 Ellen Dr \$113,000
18968 Floral St \$15,000
8982 Fremont St \$62,000
14212 Hubbard St \$135,000
28140 Lyndon St \$138,000
11307 Mayfield St \$120,000
28731 Minton St \$25,000
36902 Munger Ct \$53,000
28143 N Clements Cir \$75,000
33813 Oakdale St \$212,000
17311 Oporto Ave \$110,000
18768 Southampton St \$220,000

31023 W Chicago St \$106,000
14405 Westmore St \$146,000
16771 Yorkshire St \$255,000
NORTHVILLE
45849 Fermanagh Dr \$446,000
18842 Heather Ridge Dr \$518,000
20145 Silver Spring Dr \$52,000
20181 Valley St \$160,000
PLYMOUTH
12937 Andover Dr \$247,000
8811 Briarwood Dr \$102,000
15102 Lakewood Dr \$210,000
9639 McClumpha Rd \$293,000
685 McKinley St \$365,000

261 N Evergreen St \$273,000
305 N Evergreen St \$221,000
11872 Talltree Dr \$238,000
1064 William St \$525,000
REDFORD
8890 Appleton \$55,000
25356 Ivanhoe \$27,000
20566 Negaunee \$12,000
9027 Riverview \$62,000
14834 Seminole \$90,000
WESTLAND
7352 Arcola St \$39,000
7777 Carrousel Blvd \$94,000
31637 Conway Dr \$52,000
7350 Gilman St \$49,000
8561 Haller St \$65,000
8241 N Henry Ruff Rd \$65,000
1801 S John Hix St \$170,000
2152 Wilshire St \$112,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded in the week of Oct. 31 to Nov. 4, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

5568 Fieldston Ct \$318,000
375 N Cranbrook Cross Rd \$487,000
825 N Pemberton Rd \$102,000
1583 Old Chatham Dr \$174,000
COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP
650 Candela \$115,000
1720 Carriage HI \$310,000
1849 Carriage HI \$282,000
4888 Greenview Ct \$200,000
8543 Hummingbird \$230,000
9125 Marilyn Ter \$98,000
5904 Strawberry Cir \$318,000
5928 Strawberry Cir \$334,000
6042 Strawberry Cir \$280,000
2920 Windwood Ct \$300,000
FARMINGTON HILLS
33750 Alta Dr \$180,000
23061 Farmington Rd \$163,000
33928 Grand River Ave \$230,000
FARMINGTON HILLS
25170 Appleton Dr \$160,000
27273 Arden Park Cir \$105,000
29721 Beacontree St \$119,000
27920 Berrywood Ln Unit 40 \$35,000
30184 Briarston St \$125,000
28872 Glenarden St \$163,000
34030 Hillside Ct \$125,000

22377 Inkster Rd \$56,000
33723 Kirby St \$106,000
28026 Statler Ln \$152,000
29880 W 12 Mile Rd \$30,000
22042 W Brandon St \$57,000
36212 W Lyman Rd \$135,000
32022 Wayburn St \$115,000
FRANKLIN
30065 Hickory Ln \$150,000
32259 Scenic Ln \$633,000
MILFORD
720 E Maple Rd \$140,000
912 Queen St \$80,000
1575 S Hickory Ridge Rd \$115,000
1940 Scenic Dr \$365,000
590 Tower Ridge Ct \$235,000
NOVI
21855 Arbor Ln \$180,000
22049 Barclay Dr \$430,000
23053 Brookforest \$198,000
23651 Dunston Rd \$216,000
43029 Emerson Way \$220,000
27113 Maxwell Ct \$195,000
22636 Mondavi Dr \$50,000
23650 N Rockledge \$37,000
24501 Park Ridge Ct \$184,000
22139 Shadybrook Dr \$220,000
1127 South Lake Dr \$55,000

25671 Strath Haven Dr \$215,000
27171 Victoria Rd \$281,000
30224 Viewcrest Ct \$239,000
42762 Wimbledon Way \$280,000
SOUTH LYON
60587 Gary Ct \$240,000
54771 Grenelefe Cir E \$320,000
753 Knollwood Cir \$130,000
SOUTHFIELD
27220 Bradford Ln \$125,000
20880 Duns Scotus St \$62,000
23389 Grayson Dr \$28,000
18556 Hilton Dr \$55,000
24050 Lee Baker Dr \$43,000
18501 Mount Vernon St # 9-5 \$37,000
20100 Secluded Ln \$14,000
27349 Selkirk St \$96,000
30453 Shoreham St \$82,000
28266 Tapert Dr \$80,000
26918 W 12 Mile Rd \$29,000
21280 Wallace Dr \$8,000
29460 Woodhaven Ln \$130,000
WHITE LAKE
8815 Glasgow Dr \$150,000
1971 Kingst St \$101,000
35 N Hulbert St \$178,000
325 Shotwell Ct \$135,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

BIA courses

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present all three courses needed for Certified Aging-in-Place designation by the National Association of Home Builders. Don Pratt, CAPS, CGB, CGR of CECS of Michigan, LLC will be the instructor for all three courses. He will cover the technical, business management and

customer service skills essential for competing in this fast growing segment of residential construction.

CAPS I, Marketing and Communication Strategies for Aging and Accessibility, will be held on Monday, March 12. CAPS II, Design/Build Solutions for Aging and Accessibility, will be held on Tuesday, March 13. Business Management, the third course

required for this designation, will be held on Wednesday, March 14. Each session runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

Registration for each course is \$195 per person for BIA members and \$225 per person for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org.

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