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ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE B7



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STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

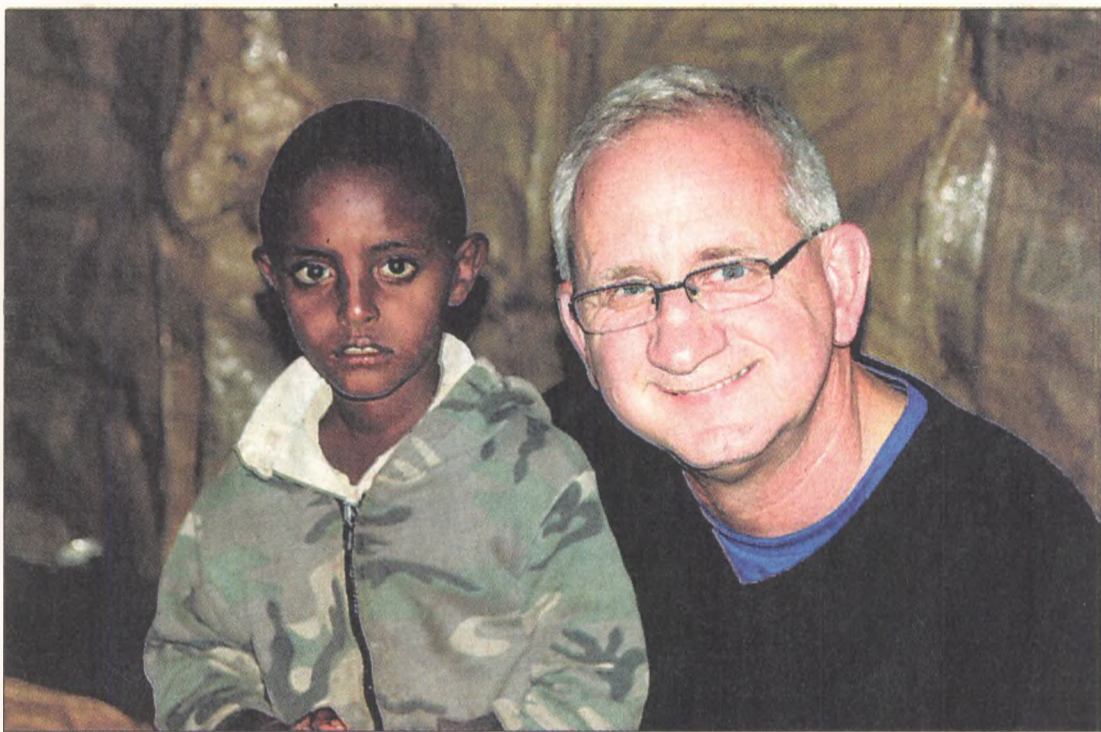
Majs. Dan and Jolene Hull head to Indianapolis, Ind., after being reassigned by the Salvation Army.

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Army changes

The Plymouth Salvation Army Corps will be under new management next month. Dan and Jolene Hull, who have been the corps officers since June 2009, have been reassigned to the Salvation Army's Divisional headquarters in Indianapolis, Ind. Dan Hull will serve as the divisional secretary for business, while Jolene Hull will be the Women's Ministries, Community Care Ministries and Moral and Ethical secretary. The move is effective June 27. Replacing them will be Maj. Keith and Collette Bailey. The Baileys, both Michigan natives, are currently at the Salvation Army Corps in Owosso.



Kevin Ruark of Plymouth, here during a trip to Woliso, Ethiopia in 2011, runs the Charis Foundation, which runs a variety of children's, health and nutritional ministries.

Werth leaves township race

By **Matt Jachman**
Observer Staff Writer

John Werth, the public safety director in Northville Township, has left the race for Plymouth Township supervisor.

Werth formally withdrew his candidacy on Tuesday, said township Clerk Joe Bridgman. He had filed petition signatures to run as a Republican more than a month ago.



Werth

Werth did not return calls Tuesday or Wednesday, but in an e-mail obtained by the *Observer*, he cited concern that his candidacy would violate the federal Hatch Act, which prohibits unelected state and municipal employees who oversee federal monies from running for office.

An attorney from the U.S. Office of Special Counsel told him "the potential violation stems from my duties in connection with federally funded activities in overtime programs and my supervision of officers who are paid with federal grants," wrote Werth, who began his career with Northville Township in 1985 as a police officer.

Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume said Werth's candidacy would have put Northville Township at risk of having to return recent federal grant monies. "Unless he wants to resign or retire," he cannot run for partisan office, Reaume said.

Complaint at ready

But Reaume said he had not been planning to file a Hatch Act complaint against Werth. Treasurer Ron Edwards, however, said he was ready

Please see **WERTH, A4**

Farmers market

The Canton Farmers Market begins its regular season Sunday, May 13, with new market hours from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The market kicks off its sixth season at Preservation Park, located at 500 N. Ridge, and will be open every Sunday, rain or shine, through Oct. 14. Several exciting events are lined up for opening day, including Chef Paul returning to cook up recipes featuring seasonal produce from the market. Look for him near the back porch of the Bartlett-Travis House from 10:30 a.m. to noon. To find more information about Canton's growing Farmers Market, visit Cantonfun.org under the community events tab, or contact the market manager Tina Lloyd at (734) 394-5375.

Food drive

The National Letter Carrier food drive to help needy families in the local community takes place Saturday. Postal carriers from The donations benefit the Plymouth Salvation Army's food pantry.

Parental support

Church group spends vacation time helping orphans

By **Brad Kadrich**
Observer Staff Writer

In the beginning, Greg Schupra of Canton was just looking for a way to get involved in something that mattered, something that helped other people, particularly children. With connections to a charitable foundation and his church in Plymouth, Schupra and his family found just the right thing. Now, working with the Charis Foundation of Plymouth and Trinity Presbyterian Church near Plymouth, and partnering with a Colorado Springs-based organization called World Orphans, Schupra is making a huge difference halfway around the world. Schupra, vice president and group manager with Comerica Charitable Services Group, and his family will make their third trip this summer to Kenya and Ethiopia, continuing an effort to provide homes



Janni Ruark of Plymouth, on a trip to Ethiopia in 2011, runs the Charis Foundation with her husband, Kevin.

and schools for orphans in both countries. "It's something I've been called to do by God and I feel that that's a high responsibility," said Schupra, who has

worked for Comerica for 13 years. "I think it's clear God wants us to take care of widows and orphans. When you have that opportunity, it's an awesome calling and responsibility. It gives me great self-satisfaction to know I'm doing something God wants me to do and I'm pleasing Him."

For children

Schupra's friends, Kevin and Janni Ruark, run the Plymouth-based Charis Foundation. Schupra's wife, Ellie, is outreach director for Trinity Presbyterian. Ruark's Charis Foundation, founded in 1996, is exclusively involved in children's ministries. While the foundation has health and nutritional programs, orphan rescue is a big piece of the operation for Kevin and Janni Ruark, who met in West Africa when both were in their early 20s.

Please see **ORPHANS, A10**

Plymouth water bills to go up this summer

By **Matt Jachman**
Observer Staff Writer

The typical residential water bill in the city of Plymouth will top the \$200 mark later this year. A water and sewer rate hike of just over 3 percent was unanimously approved by the Plymouth City Commission on Monday. The increase, which takes effect in July, addresses planned increases by Detroit, which sells water to the city, and Wayne County, which charges for sewage disposal, as well as the cost of running Plymouth's water system and

ongoing infrastructure upgrades, officials said. The increase will bring Plymouth's combined water and sewer rate to \$10.71 per thousand gallons of water used. With the typical residential customer using about 18,000 gallons per every three months, that will mean a water and sewer charge of \$192.78 per quarter. A meter fee of \$11.56 for a five-eighths-inch meter, a standard residential meter size, will bring the total quarterly bill to \$204.34. Meter fees were not raised. Plymouth's nonresiden-

tial water customers are billed on a monthly basis. According to a memo from Mark Christiansen, Plymouth's finance director, the expected increases from Detroit and Wayne County, which also take effect in July, total just over \$118,000 on an annual basis. That equates to an increase of 19 cents per thousand gallons for water and 16 cents per thousand gallons for sewer service, based on current usage, Christiansen said. Christiansen pointed out that both Detroit and

Please see **WATER, A6**



An extra special game

Sporting pink socks, shoelaces and head bands on Breast Cancer Awareness Night Monday are Salem and Plymouth girls soccer players such as the Rocks' Kylie Knight (No. 22) and the Wildcats' Megan Peplinski (No. 21). For more on the game, turn to page B1.

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COMMUNITY FINANCIAL

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Showcase offers networking opportunity

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

A major Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce event will combine business with pleasure — and food, of course — at the Inn at St. John's next week.

The chamber's 23rd annual Plymouth Showcase and Taste of Plymouth, which will bring together nearly 100 businesses, takes place 5-7:30 p.m. Monday at the Inn.

It's a chance to network with chamber members, see what local businesses have to offer and sample food and drink from 21 area restaurants, confectioners, markets and other food providers.

"It's a great event. We have 800-plus people in attendance," said Chris Mayer, a Bank of Ann Arbor vice president and manager of the Plymouth Township branch. "That's a great event to get exposure, that's for sure."

Bank of Ann Arbor is a longtime Showcase participant, and Mayer is one of the chamber's ambassadors, who organized the event this year.

New this year, said chamber president Wes Graff, are a food competition among many of the Taste of Plymouth participants, and a walking bingo game with prizes that include gift certificates to local businesses. The food competition — entries will be

judged by a panel in the best starter, best entree and best dessert categories — replaces the chefs cookoff at past Showcase events, Graff said. The competition is sponsored by the food distributor Sysco, and the walking bingo by Bank of Ann Arbor.

Graff said 96 businesses will have a booth at the Showcase, including new participants Music Plus, and Awesome Tae Kwon Do. Among the 21

Taste of Plymouth participants will be Bagel Fragel, Grand Traverse Pie Co., Panache 447, the Zin Wine Bar and Happy's Pizza.

In addition, the chamber will be awarding \$1,000 higher education scholarships to five local high school seniors, and about 20 service clubs and community groups, from the Plymouth Goodfellows to veterans groups to area Rotary clubs, will be honor-

ing their volunteers of the year.

The event's major sponsors are Community Financial Credit Union and Hines Park Lincoln Mercury.

Tickets to Plymouth Showcase and Taste of Plymouth are \$10 each and will be available at the door. The Inn at St. John's is on Five Mile just east of Sheldon.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2405

Mother's Day big for business

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Diners can't usually get into Plymouth Crossing on Sundays, because the restaurant is closed.

That won't be the case Sunday, when the eatery — like restaurants all over town — opens its door to the annual Mother's Day crowd.

"It's the only Sunday we're open all year, really," said Ginny Thomas, co-owner of Plymouth Crossing. "I think all restaurants are pretty popular that day."

In addition to brunch specials, Plymouth

Crossing (340 N. Main in Plymouth) will be giving away a \$50 Plymouth Crossing gift certificate, as well as gift certificates for facial treatments and other goodies.

Thomas said reservations can still be made (call (734) 455-3700) but she expects tables to fill quickly.

"We're expecting more than a couple of hundred people," Thomas said.

Meanwhile, the Mother's Day holiday has other businesses hopping. Local florists, restaurants, salons and spas rank it among their busiest days of the year

as customers open their wallets and their hearts to pamper that special woman.

"Mother's Day is the busiest flower holiday of the year," said Lori Morrison, who owns Ribar Floral on Main Street in Plymouth. "Valentine's Day is a single holiday, but you get flowers sent on Thursday, Friday, Saturday ... some shops even deliver on Sunday for Mother's Day."

"Everyone has a mom or a grandmother, or someone they consider in that role," she added. Morrison said roses are still a traditional favorite, along with combination pots, geraniums and hanging baskets.

"Anything pink and white is popular," she said. "The majority is cut flowers and vases."

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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.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Date/Time: Friday, May 11, doors open at 6:15 p.m.

Location: The "Barn" at Colony Farms, on Colony Farm Drive (south off Ann Arbor Road between Beck and Ridge) in Plymouth Township. Signs will be posted.

Details: The Plymouth-Canton branch, American Association of University Women, will offer a "Trivia Night." Games begin at 7 p.m. with doors opening 6:15 p.m. Participants will put knowledge of facts and factoids to good use with proceeds to benefit AAUW's scholarship fund. Tickets are \$20 per person or \$100 per team of five.

Contact: For tickets, call (734) 453-5009 or e-mail aauw_plymouthcanton@yahoo.com. Reservations are required.

FIELD FUN FAIR

Date/Time: Friday, May 11, 5:30-9 p.m.

Location: Field Elementary School, 1000 S. Haggerty in Canton.

Details: Field Elementary hosts its ninth annual Fun Fair; public is welcome. Food and concessions available. Raffle tickets for \$3 - prizes include: \$1000 Visa Gift Card, iPad (\$500 value) and Kindle Fire (\$200 value). Raffle tickets available to purchase the evening of the event - drawing to be held at 8:45 p.m.



Outbound honors

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education Tuesday honored Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Principal Bill Zolkowski for his contributions to the district and the park leadership. Zolkowski, who came to the park three years ago as the first park principal, has announced he'll retire following this school year. Celebrating the honor with Zolkowski (center) are Canton High School Associate Principal Carrie Lawler, Plymouth High School Associate Principal Cheri Steckel, Director of Secondary Education Erin MacGregor and Salem Associate Principal Nancy Laws.

Need not be present to win. Ticket drops for opportunities to win themed baskets donated and assembled by each classroom. Tickets are \$1 each or 12 for \$10. Family Events including: cake walk, pop ring toss, face painting, temporary tattoos, nail painting, cash cube, carnival-type games, hospital room, and more. Each child who plays games will win a prize. Wristbands: \$10 at the door or food/game tickets 4 for \$1. All proceeds to benefit Field Elementary's students... including educational needs (books, classroom equipment, subscriptions, etc), large grade-level purchases such as docu-cameras and playground equipment.

NEW HOPE DINNER

Date/Time: Friday, May 18, 6 p.m.

Location: Italian American Banquet Center in Livonia

Details: New Hope Center for Grief Support hosts a

Spring Appreciation Dinner to honor Executive Director Cathy Clough for her dedication and service to the success and history of New Hope Center. Hors d'oeuvres are at 6 p.m., dinner's at 7 p.m., live music from 9-11 p.m. The event features strolling musician trio and live and silent auctions. Celebrity emcee is WDIV traffic reporter Ashlee Baracy.

Contact: New Hope Office at 248-348-0115 or register at www.NewHopeCenter.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.



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Fair draws hundreds of job-seekers

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Sisters Julie Mraulak of Adrian (June) and Lisa Clark of Brownstown (October) are preparing for graduation from the Michigan Institute of Aviation and Technology, and they were at MIAT's

career fair Tuesday looking for one thing: Jobs.

They weren't alone. Though final attendance figures weren't available yet, MIAT officials figured some 800-1,000 job-seekers strolled through the fair visiting more than 80 firms, schools

and even branches of the military looking for work.

"We've been waiting for this," Mraulak said of the career fair. "It's a great opportunity, with all the things you're exposed to. It's a great opportunity to network. We're looking for a chance to move forward (after graduation)."

Aiming to recruit hundreds of workers, national and local companies, representing the aviation, energy, automotive, technical, transportation, manufacturing and government fields, among others, were on hand Tuesday.

"It's all different types of companies," Amy

Kienast, MIAT's national director of business relations, said. "It really runs the gamut from flight attendants to engineers to accountants to mechanics to dispatchers."

Kienast estimated that 70 percent of the companies are looking to fill positions, though some educational and resource organizations also are set to attend.

Eric Smith of GE Wind said his company was at the fair looking to hire perhaps a half-dozen wind turbine technicians. He said the career fair was a good place to look because MIAT "turns out a lot of quality applicants."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Job-seekers fill applications at Tuesday's career fair at the Michigan Institute of Aviation and Technology in Canton.

"We come back here because of our relationship with MIAT and the program they run," Smith said. "We like what they're doing. We're invested in MIAT, and MIAT is invested in us."

Though she didn't have complete attendance figures, Kienast was ready to call the fair a success

based on feedback she was getting from job-seekers and vendors.

"A lot of vendors have said that people are serious, that they really want to talk about jobs," Kienast said. "It's a good match."

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WERTH

Continued from page A1

to file such a complaint.

Werth's e-mail said he looked into a potential Hatch Act violation after being asked about it by the *Observer*, which had been made aware of the issue by Edwards.

"The fact that anyone would approach the media first with information relating to the Hatch Act is highly suggestive of reprisal and retaliation," Werth wrote.

"It is certainly not in my practice to skirt the law and operate in a questionable area," he added three paragraphs later.

Edwards responded by saying he spoke with Werth about the Hatch Act in December.

"I informed him five months ago about the Hatch Act and he said it didn't apply to him. There's no retaliation," Edwards said. "The Hatch Act has been known for years. It's all

over the newspapers."

Edwards and Werth have clashed in recent months over the management of the Plymouth Community Fire Department, from which six firefighters were laid off in March.

In a conversation last month, Werth said he was confident his candidacy did not violate the Hatch Act.

"I've got good counsel and am in compliance with the Hatch Act," he said at the time.

Werth's move leaves no one as yet to challenge Reaume, who is seeking a third term as supervisor. But Reaume expects a challenger will emerge.

"I think there'll be individuals running for all the seats," he said. The current terms of Reaume, Edwards, Bridgman and the township's four part-time trustees expire on Tuesday, Nov. 20.

Election lineup

So far, Reaume, Bridgman and Edwards have filed petitions seeking re-

election to their respective offices. Trustee Mike Kelly has also filed for re-election, and Charles Curmi, a former board member, and residents Art Butler and Andrew Justice have also filed for trustee spots, Bridgman said.

Trustee Bob Doroshewitz has announced his intention to seek re-election, and Trustee Steve Mann, a former township supervisor and police officer, has said he will not seek re-election. Trustee Kay Arnold, a 20-year board member, has not announced her decision.

All candidates in the township race as of Tuesday were Republicans.

Next Tuesday is the deadline for hopefuls to file for candidacy in the partisan process. Would-be candidates need to turn in to Bridgman's office petition signatures from a minimum of 50, and a maximum of 100, people registered to vote in the township.

Candidates must also file an affidavit of iden-

tity. They can file petitions for multiple offices, but must leave all but one race by the withdrawal deadline or all their township candidacies will be considered invalid. The deadline for people to drop out of the race without having their names appear on the ballot is 4 p.m. Friday, May 18.

The partisan primary is Tuesday, Aug. 7.

Office-seekers can also skip the party primary process and run for township office as independents. Like party candidates, independents can get petitions at Bridgman's office; signatures from at least 150, and no more than 300, registered township voters are required.

The filing deadline for independents to get on the November ballot is Thursday, July 19, and the withdrawal deadline is Monday, July 23.

The general election is Tuesday, Nov. 6.

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Garage fire in Plymouth destroys two new cars

By Brad Kadrich
and Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writers

A fire in the area of Mill north of Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth destroyed a garage and the two brand-new Ford Mustangs inside on Saturday, and firefighters plus damaged two adjacent houses, city officials said. No one was hurt.

The fire was reported on Garling Street around 2:15 p.m. Saturday, and firefighters arrived about four minutes later to find black smoke billowing from the garage and flames showing on the outside, according to a press release from the city.

Firefighters began an immediate attack of the fire while propane tanks in the garage were exploding, officials said. The fire was reported to be under control at 2:47 p.m.

But the roof had collapsed, badly damaging the 2012 Mustangs kept inside.

"Everything was a total loss in the garage," said Northville Fire Department Capt. Brad Westfall. Plymouth firefighting and emergency medical services are provided through an agreement with the city of Northville's fire department.

Westfall said the cause of the fire remains undetermined, and will be further investigated by the property owner's insurer.

The cause is "possibly accidental" but "we don't believe it was electrical," Westfall said. The garage, built within the past year, was not wired for electricity, he said. Power was provided via an extension cord that fire officials don't believe was to blame for the blaze. The fire appeared to have



Firefighter Nick Johns pours water onto the Garling Street garage fire Saturday.

PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF PLYMOUTH

started in a front corner of the garage, away from the two Mustangs, Westfall said.

There was some smoke and heat damage to the houses on either side of the garage, and firefighters rescued a dog from one of the houses. But Northville Chief Jim Allen said neither house was so badly damaged as to be uninhabitable.

City officials said some 30 firefighters were on scene with two fire engines, one aerial ladder truck and one fire rescue vehicle. Huron Valley Ambulance was also on scene with two units. Plymouth police, Department of Municipal Services workers and DTE Energy line crews were also on the scene.

CRIME WATCH

Bike theft

A Detroit man reported being assaulted for his mountain bicycle as he rode it in Plymouth Township on Saturday.

The man, who was not hurt, told police he was heading north on Northville Road near Five Mile around 2 p.m. Saturday and stopped near a gas station when two men in a pickup truck stopped next to him, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report.

The men got out of the truck and pushed him off his bike, he said, and took it. One rode off on the bike and the other drove away in the pickup, he said.

The victim told police the robbery happened so fast he didn't get a good look at the robbers' faces, nor at the pickup. He could not say in what direction the pickup left, police said.

Marijuana arrest

A Garden City woman was arrested on a marijuana-possession charge on Hines Drive Monday night.

The woman was a passenger in a Ford Thunderbird that a patrolling officer had spotted parked and unoccupied near Gunsolly and Hines, a police report said. When two women returned to the car and drove off, the officer stopped the driver; police say it was after park hours and the area is known for drug activity.

The officer reported smelling marijuana upon speaking to the occupants of the Thunderbird, and a search turned up a gram of suspected marijuana in a purse on the passenger seat, police said. The passenger admitted the suspected marijuana was hers, police said.

The woman at first told police she had a medical marijuana card, then later admitted she did not, police said. The driver was released.

Shoplifting

A man stole a bottle of over-the-counter "male enhancement" pills from the CVS drug store on Ann Arbor Road near Ridge on the afternoon of May 1, police said.

Alerted to the shoplifting by a pharmacy technician, the store manager confronted the man outside but he denied taking anything, police said. He drove off in a black sport-utility vehicle that, through a license plate, police tracked to a man in Troy.

By Matt Jachman

Fire Runs

The Plymouth Community Fire Department responded to the following runs during the period May 2-8:

- Tuesday, May 8 — Rescue runs on Five Mile, on North, on Brownell, on Ann Arbor Road, on Ann Arbor Trail, on Morgan, on Wendover, on Northville Road, on Haggerty, on Mayflower and on Oakview.
- Monday, May 7 — Rescue runs on Halyard, on Port, on Northville Road, on Lilley, on Canton Center and on Schoolcraft.
- Sunday, May 6 — Rescue runs on Northville Road, on Amhurst, on Plymouth Ridge, on Six Mile and on southbound I-275 under Five Mile.
- Saturday, May 5 — Rescue runs on Northville Road, at Haggerty and Schoolcraft and on Chester.
- Friday, May 4 — Rescue runs on Albert, on Northville Road, on General Drive, on Filmore, on Five Mile, on Heritage and on Oakview.
- Thursday, May 3 — Rescue runs on Ann Arbor Road, on Meadow Hill, on southbound I-275 at M-14, on Napier, on Hill-top and on Newporte.
- Wednesday, May 2 — Rescue runs on Sheldon, on Plymouth Road, on Marlowe, on Haggerty, on Beechwood Court and on Sycamore.

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Sat. 10-5

WATER

Continued from page A1

Wayne County have been shifting to a greater reliance on fixed charges, rather than on usage-based charges, when billing communities in the Detroit water system. For example, he said, Detroit's water rate for Plymouth is actually going down, but fixed charges are increasing for an estimated net increase of more than \$63,000 a year.

Detroit is planning to cut Plymouth Township's wholesale water rate this summer after an increase of about 18 percent last year. Township officials have not formalized a new rate structure for township water customers, but say a decrease is likely.

Detroit officials cut the township's wholesale rate, and agreed to a lower hike last year after proposing a 40-percent increase, after township officials improved the water delivery system and launched a public awareness campaign that stressed the importance of avoiding large-volume water use during times of peak demand.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2405

Township resident saw a century of change

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

During a life that spanned several generations, Marguerite Evans witnessed events that helped define the 20th Century: two world wars, the Great Depression, the atomic age, the era of personal computers and more.

She saw Livonia, where she was born, and much of the Plymouth area, where she lived most of her life, go from farm fields to freeways and subdivisions, and saw Detroit, where she liked to spend time shopping and socializing as a young woman, come into boom times and then hard times.

Through it all, she maintained a love of family and a sense of decorum, relatives say, and provided a link to a time very different from our own.

Mrs. Evans, who lived in Plymouth Township, died May 3 of heart failure at age 102. A memorial service was Monday.

'Always a teacher'

"She was a very loving mother, very dotting, a very compassionate mother, and always a teacher," said her daughter, Susan



FILE PHOTO

Marguerite Evans waves to the crowd at a 2010 Plymouth High School girls basketball game, during which she was recognized as her 100th birthday approached. A 1928 Plymouth graduate, she had played basketball, and remained a basketball fan her entire life. Behind her are daughter Susan Evans, coach Ted Sturdivant and athletic director Sue Heinzman. Mrs. Evans died May 3 at 102.

Evans, with whom she lived. Patience and compassion were her chief lessons, Evans said.

"She was a very warm and loving woman, and she's really going to be missed by everybody," said a nephew, David Melow of Dexter.

Approaching the century mark two years ago, Mrs. Evans said her longevity was due to "just clean living" and good genes. Her sisters had lived into their 90s, and her brother into his 80s.

"I never thought much about it," she said of her long life. "Life just comes along ... and all of a sudden you realize what you have or don't have."

Mrs. Evans was born Marguerite Melow in 1910 to Otto and Anna Melow, farmers in what was then Livonia Township. She had two older sisters, Elsie and Dorothy; a brother, Don, David Melow's father, was born two years later.

Otto Melow died when Marguerite was 4, and the family moved to Farmer Street in Plymouth, to a house that stayed in the family until 1986. Anna Melow sewed and took in boarders to earn a living.

Marguerite attended Plymouth High School, where she played on the girls basketball team and graduated in 1928. She worked at Blunk's, a Plymouth department store, where she met Leslie Evans, who became an engineer at Ford Motor Co. They married in 1939.

Close family

Mrs. Evans stayed close to her siblings and their families, relatives said. Many lived near each other, and Susan Evans and David Melow recalled regular picnics with the

extended family, including trips to Hines Park for breakfast. Mrs. Evans loved the outdoors and traveling up north and to Canada, her daughter said.

"We all basically grew up together," David Melow said. "Families back then seemed to be a lot closer, a lot closer knit than they are now."

In 1957, Leslie and Marguerite Evans moved with young Susan to a house Leslie had built himself on a former farm in Plymouth Township. David Melow, then a teenager, helped his uncle with the project. "I painted all the wood siding over there when they were building the house," he said.

It's the same house where Susan Evans and her husband, Steve Lyons, now live, and Mrs. Evans lived there, too, for much of the rest of her life.

Susan Evans said her mother would sometimes reminisce about decades past.

"She would tell stories about being on the farm ... stories of high school, stories of she and my dad in their younger years," she said.

She liked to read the newspaper, solve crossword puzzles and word

searches, and embroider and knit, and was an avid Detroit Pistons fan. "She always made sure she watched them," her daughter said.

David Melow said that when he was a boy, his aunt would check to make sure her younger visitors were wearing T-shirts under their shirts, and when they had children of their own, she would inspect them, too.

"You always had to wear a T-shirt, and I'm not exactly sure why," he said. "She was quite a lady. She had a lot of class."

In addition to her daughter, son-in-law and nephew David Melow, Mrs. Evans is survived by nephews Karl Melow, Michael Britcher and Keith Evans; a niece, Marlene Britcher; and many grand and great-grand nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Michigan Humane Society or Angela Hospice.

Mrs. Evans' remains were to be cremated. Arrangements were handled by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2405

Livonia Public Schools
Opens Renowned Academically Talented Program to Out-of-District Students

Seventeen seats are open to students entering 1st or 2nd grade in fall 2012.

Six seats are open to students entering 3rd or 4th grade in fall of 2012.

Limited Registration window: May 11 - May 25, 2012

Livonia Public Schools is opening its Alternative Classrooms for the Academically Talented (ACAT) program to Limited Schools of Choice for the 2012-2013 school year. This program is geared toward academically talented students looking for a specialized learning experience.

Registration will be open from May 11 - May 25, 2012 at Webster Elementary, 32401 Pembroke, Livonia 48152 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. All candidates MUST meet the ACAT selection testing criteria.

For complete information on the application process, visit www.livoniapublicschools.org or contact Webster School at 734-744-2795.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT PURSUANT TO STATE LAW 257.252, THE FOLLOWING VEHICLE(S) BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE AT MAYFLOWER AUTO TRANSPORT, 1179 STARKWEATHER RD, PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN 48170 ON THE DATE AND TIME LISTED BELOW:

Monday, May 21st, 2012 at 7:00 PM

VEHICLE(S):

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1995	PONTIAC	GRAND AM	4D	1G2NE55D7SC738352	11-7634
2012	FORD	FOCUS	4D	1FAHP3F21CL266791	12-907

INQUIRIES REGARDING THESE VEHICLES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO OFFICER FOX, CITY OF PLYMOUTH POLICE DEPARTMENT, AT 734-453-1234 x538.

LINDA J. LANGMESSER
City Clerk

Publish: May 10, 2012

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Sheriff's golf outing to aid local youth, seniors

The 22nd annual golf outing to benefit the Wayne County Sheriff Youth and Senior Education Fund will be held Tuesday, June 12, at the Warren Valley Golf Course in Dearborn Heights.

Tee-offs are scheduled at 7:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. with registration at 6:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. respectively. The event also includes lunch and dinner, an auction, prizes and trophies. Cost is \$250 per golfer, \$1,000 for a foursome or \$100 for dinner only.

Since its inception in 1991, the fund has delivered hundreds of thousands of dollars in services for local charitable causes, reaching the greatest level of giving under the leadership of Sheriff Benny N. Napoleon, who serves as president of the volunteer board of directors. The mission of the 501 (c) (3) fund is to enhance the quality of life for youth and senior citizens through educational and safety programs.

The annual golf outing is the only fundraiser for the Youth and Senior Fund. With no salaries or administrative overhead, virtually all money is distributed to area programs. The programs and services include summer camps for youth, free first-aid kits, drug awareness education and File of Life, a medical and emergency information for seniors.

It also provides handgun safety education (Trigger Lock program), a Youth Safety Fair, senior emergency cell phones, safety brochures and window locks.

The fund also donates to local community and charitable organizations that support youths and seniors.

To reserve a tee-off time or make a donation, contact wcsysf@gmail.com or call (313) 319-4033. Checks, payable to the Wayne County Sheriff Youth & Senior Education Fund, can be sent to 4747 Woodward, Detroit, Mi. 48201.

More information can be obtained at www.SheriffConnect.com.

GOP's 11th Congressional Committee holds annual Lincoln Reagan Dinner

With the political season in high gear, the Wayne 11th Congressional District Republican Committee is bringing the Republican message to the community at its annual Lincoln Reagan Dinner.

The dinner will be held at the Italian American Banquet Center, 39200 W. Five Mile, Livonia, on Thursday, May 24. The evening's special guest and featured speaker will be Gov. Tim Pawlenty, former presidential candidate and Minnesota governor.

"We can't only rely on party loyalist for our support," said Joe Xuereb, Chairman of the Wayne 11th CDRC. "We need to bring our mes-



Pawlenty

sage to the average citizen and enlist their support to our efforts to bring common sense leadership to this country."

The doors open at 5:30 p.m. for a private VIP Photo reception with the former Pawlenty. A cocktail hour with cash bar for general attendees will be at 6 p.m. and the dinner program begins at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$70 per person, if payment received by May 17 and \$75 per person after May 17. A table of 10 is \$650 (deadline May 17). Tickets for the VIP Photo

Reception with Pawlenty are \$150 per person. Inquiries can be handled by e-mailing info@wayne11th.com and checking their website at www.wayne11th.com.

The event is open to the general public with ticket purchase.

During his two terms as governor of Minnesota, Pawlenty used innovative and conservative leadership to balance the state's budget, cut spending, reform health care and improve schools without raising taxes. Under his leadership, Minnesota had nation-leading health care, the highest school test scores and a leading economy.

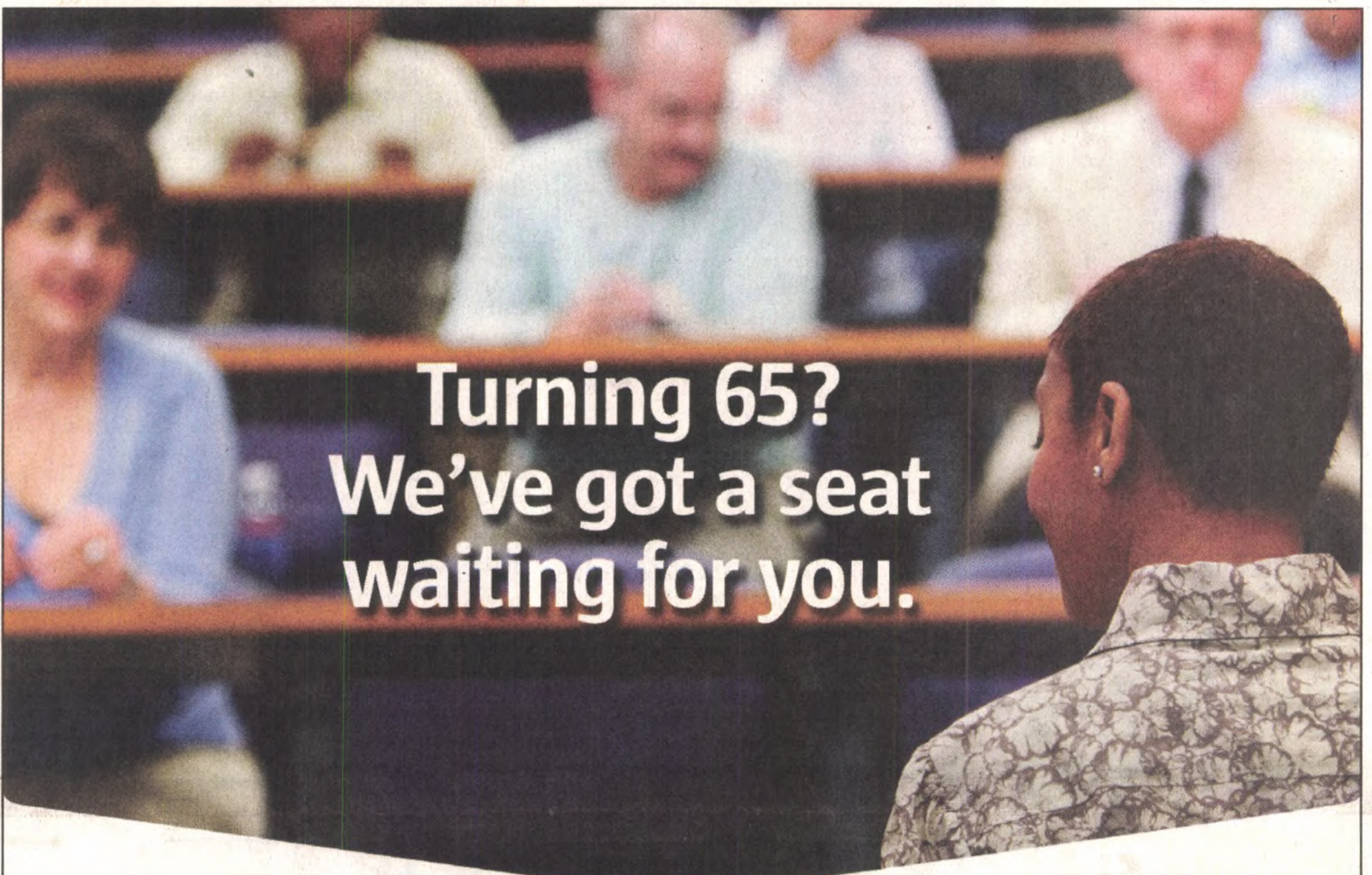
The Wayne 11th CDRC

is reaching out to the community through various channels, such as online social networking (Facebook); the Wayne 11th CDRC website at www.Wayne11th.com; recruiting, training and engaging more than 800 precinct delegates; and hosting "awareness" forums throughout the district that informs the general public of the issues and mobilizes their support.

"The Republican candidates seeking elective office this year, starting with our presumptive Presidential nominee, Mitt Romney, offer hope for real change, from lowering taxes, to reforming government, to fostering more

investment and jobs growth in our economy. That's real change that Michigan and this country needs now," Xuereb said.

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, serves the 11th Congressional District. The Wayne 11th Congressional District Republican Committee covers the communities of Belleville, Canton Township, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Livonia, Northville, Northville Township, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Redford Township, Van Buren Township, Wayne and Westland. It's focus is primarily on the state and local election efforts.



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*Based on Medicare's 2011 and 2012 Overall Plan Star Ratings. See full results at www.medicare.gov. Plan Star Ratings are assessed each year and may change from one year to the next. Health Alliance Plan is a health plan with a Medicare contract. Alliance Medicare Rx (pdp) is a stand-alone Prescription Drug Plan with a Medicare contract.

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Cox says Ficano must go for 'good of the county'

Wayne County Commission Vice Chair Protem Laura Cox, R-Livonia, is calling for Executive Robert Ficano to immediately resign his position for the "good of the county."

On May 17, Cox will submit a resolution at the formal meeting of the County Commission. The resolution appeals to Ficano "to put the interest of Wayne County and its citizens above his overriding personal interest and management deficiencies; and petition him to immediately vacate the office ..."

"As the Ficano administration is being del-



Cox

uded with indictments, allegations of mismanagement, fraud, malfeasance, misfeasance, improper payouts and payoffs and various other scandals," said Cox, "the whole of Wayne County has become paralyzed by the misadventures of the appointees of Mr. Ficano."

"Mr. Ficano's nauseating position of 'plausible deniability' by alleging he is com-

pletely unaware of any wrongdoing of his minions, makes a mockery of the government and the people he was elected to serve," Cox said.

She said the sense of urgency is heightened by the possibility that the county's ongoing and ballooning budget deficit could require the appointment of an emergency manager.

"The Ficano scandal, and the flight of top administration appointees, makes it increasingly difficult to resolve these pressing fiscal issues," she said.

Cox is asking her commission colleagues to support her resolution.

Salvation Army celebrates DMG Week

The Salvation Army of Metro Detroit is partnering with Huntington Bank for its seventh annual Doing the Most Good Week, scheduled for Saturday through Friday, May 12-20.

The annual campaign is designed to encourage do-gooders of any age to do something positive for their community. Individuals and groups are asked to demonstrate through actions, donations and tweets how they Do the Most Good in their communities.

"We are proud to present The Salvation Army's Doing the Most Good Week," said Mike Fezzy, president of Huntington National Bank, East Michigan Region. "This week of Doing the Most Good is a wonderful demonstration of how business and community come together to make a significant impact."

DMG Week is unique to Metro Detroit, and coincides yearly with the annual National Salvation Army Week, as designated by President Dwight Eisenhower in 1954.

"Doing the Most Good Week is a time for people to make a stronger commitment to helping others. If we all do one good deed, it turns into millions of good deeds and brightens the days of many," said Major Mark Anderson, general secretary and metro Detroit area commander for The Salvation

Army Eastern Michigan Division. "More important, even the smallest gesture can make a big impact in our community."

The Salvation Army is also encouraging supporters to "share" the most good. Visit www.salmich.org to tell The Salvation Army how you pledge to do good. Social media savvy supporters can tell The Salvation Army who's Doing the Most Good@ on Twitter using the hashtag #Good-Mich. Users can also share their positive stories on The Salvation Army Facebook page (www.facebook.com/salmich.org).

The Salvation Army and other organizations will be hosting additional activities in celebration of DMG Week to encourage the community to get involved:

- Monday, May 14, a Doing the Most Good Week collection drive kicks off at all 32 metro Detroit Salvation Army Family Thrift Stores and runs through Saturday, May 19. Individuals and families are encouraged to Do the Most Good@ by cleaning out their closets and donating gently used clothing, furniture and electronics to help those in need.

- Thursday, May 17, metro Detroiters are encouraged to send prayer requests to The Salvation Army for a Day of Prayer. Prayer requests can be submitted to @SalMich

on Twitter, www.facebook.com/salmich.org or www.salmich.org. All requests will be given to Salvation Army officers and/or church members for prayers to be offered. At 11 a.m., balloons will be released outside of The Salvation Army Eastern Michigan Divisional Headquarters in Southfield signifying prayers being sent to God.

Friday, May 18, individuals and groups are encouraged to volunteer at or make a donation to a local homeless shelter for Do the Most Good for the Homeless Day when the Salvation Army will dedicate its new Drop-In Center at Christ Church Detroit on Jefferson Avenue.

Individuals also can make a contribution by calling 877-SAL-MICH, visiting www.salmich.org or sending a check to The Salvation Army at 16130 Northland Drive, Southfield, MI 48075 - just \$10 can help feed someone for an entire month. Or text 'GOODMICH' to 80888 to make a \$10 donation.

"The Salvation Army has chosen the phrase 'Doing the Most Good@' because it is our promise to do the most good with your contributions of money, time and resources. Remember, 85 cents of every dollar donated is directly allocated to services that assist people in need," Major Anderson said.

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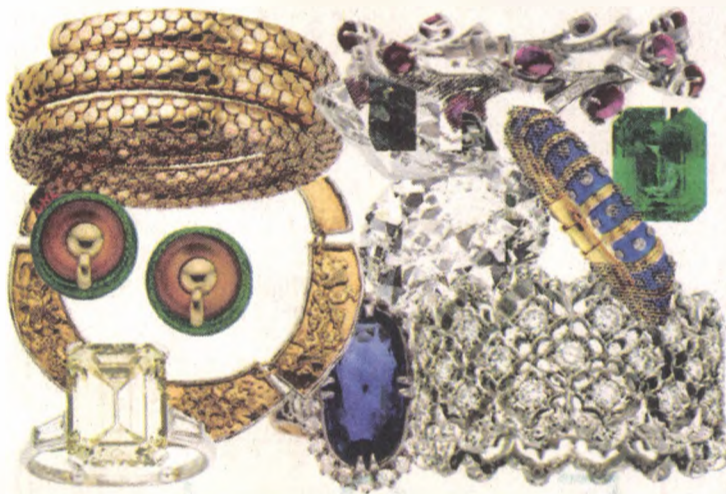
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Buying Show Comes to Town

BY DAVID FEHER
STAFF WRITER

You've probably noticed more and more signs saying, "We Buy Gold" around town. With the high price of gold at over \$1,600 per ounce, a lot of businesses have started buying gold and silver. If you have gold, where do you sell to get the best price? Well, this week you can cut out the middle man and sell your gold where those "We Buy Gold" businesses sell theirs.

This week, the Ohio Valley Gold & Silver Refinery (yes, I said refinery) will host a 5 day event allowing the public to sell directly to them. This is the place all gold and silver ends up—at a refinery. The precious metals are then melted and the impurities are removed. Gold and silver bars are



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formed and then sold to industrial businesses, jewelry manufacturers, investment houses, countries and the like. During this event, the general public will be allowed to sell their gold and silver directly to the refinery. This means more money in your pocket. The spokesperson for the refinery said that they will be purchasing all types of gold jewelry—both white and yellow. They will

also be buying dental gold, gold bullion, gold coins and all other items made of gold. 10k, 12k, 14k, 18k and 22k jewelry is wanted in any condition. Silver jewelry, silver coins and silver bars, silver rounds and silver bullion will also be purchased during this event. Other items they are interested in are things marked *Sterling* and .925.

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WALKING LIBERTY HALF	KENNEDY HALF	FRANKLIN HALF	TRADE DOLLAR	MORGAN DOLLAR
PEACE DOLLAR	\$10 LIBERTY HEAD EAGLE	\$10 INDIAN EAGLE	\$20 LIBERTY HEAD DOUBLE EAGLE	\$20 ST. GAUDENS DOUBLE EAGLE

ORPHANS

Continued from page A1

"We both were working at a hospital compound there," Ruark said. "It's been a part of our life since we first met."

The two couples — and their families — started working together about three years ago.

"We felt passionate about the mounting orphan rescue problem, especially in east and South Africa due to the AIDS epidemic," Ruark said. "It seemed a natural combination of missions. Depending on which study you look at, the orphan population is the fifth-largest people group there is. Children are the most vulnerable. If we can help alleviate that pain and suffering, it's a worthwhile give-back to the community. That's a great motivation for us."

Between them, they hooked up with World Orphans and are now partnering with Fountain of Life Church in Nairobi, Kenya, and Kele Heywet in Woliso, Ethiopia.

Both churches have established orphan homes. The Kenya home serves 48 boys ranging in age from 2 years to 21 years old. The Ethiopia home has 20 children (10 boys, 10 girls).

Family plan

All of the homes have "house parents" responsible for the orphans.

"In essence, they're trying to create a family environment, to whatever degree possible," Schupra said. "The goal is to prevent orphans. In Woliso, that's another 150-200 children they're helping in the community. The orphan home is the last resort for care to make sure they have somebody."

As part of the effort, Schupra helps provide home-based care to ensure families have food, HIV medicine, training and more, with the goal of helping to keep children from being orphaned. In addition, he helps run leadership seminars for community and church leaders, as well as summer day camps for the children.

It has become a family plan for the Schupras. Daughters Sara and David Van Winkle and Brook and Josh Cole have all been instrumental in the effort.

And everyone is working toward the same goal — not only short-term success but a means to thrive in the long term. Over the next five years, Schupra said, Trinity Presbyterian and the Charis Foundation hope to work with people in both countries to develop businesses that will be able to sustain the orphan care.

In Nairobi, there's already a safari company going, with Schupra working with leaders to build the business so that some of the profits support the boys at the home.

In Ethiopia, Schupra said, "we're just in the exploration stages in developing an elementary school."

"Education in Ethiopia is a high priority," Schupra said. "They want to provide more education for the people in their communities. By having a school, they can help the orphans, and they can help members of the community in bringing the community up."

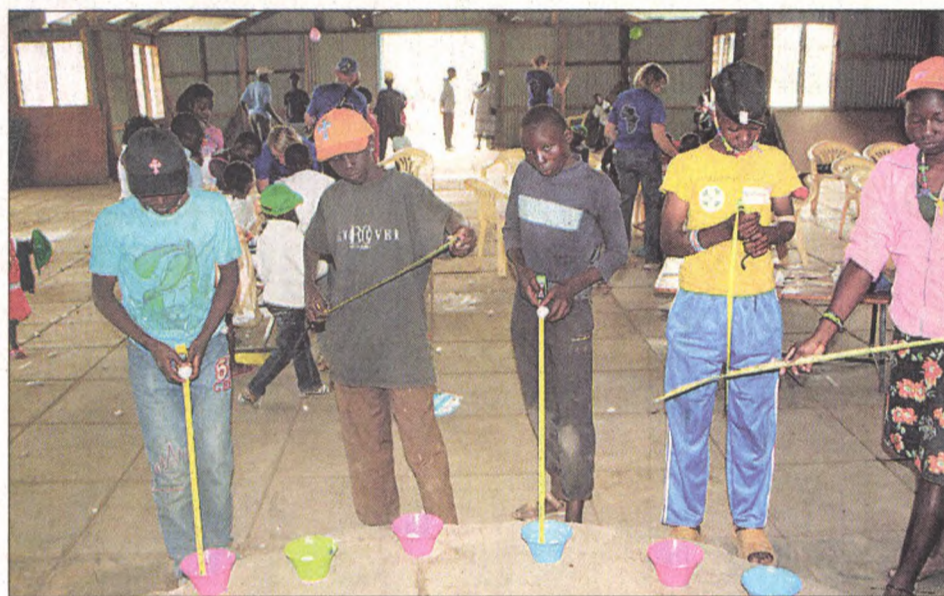
New business

According to Ruark, the business end of the work has been where Schupra has had the biggest impact.

"Greg has been a great influence on that part of our mission," said Ruark, who works with home health agencies in several states. "With his background at the bank he brings a tremendous wealth of information to our organization, and tremendous network connections to help these guys get on their feet, do some



The children at the kids' camp in Woliso got a kick out of this parachute during the World Orphans trip in August 2009.



Kids playing Minute to Win It games at Fountain of Life Kenya in 2011.



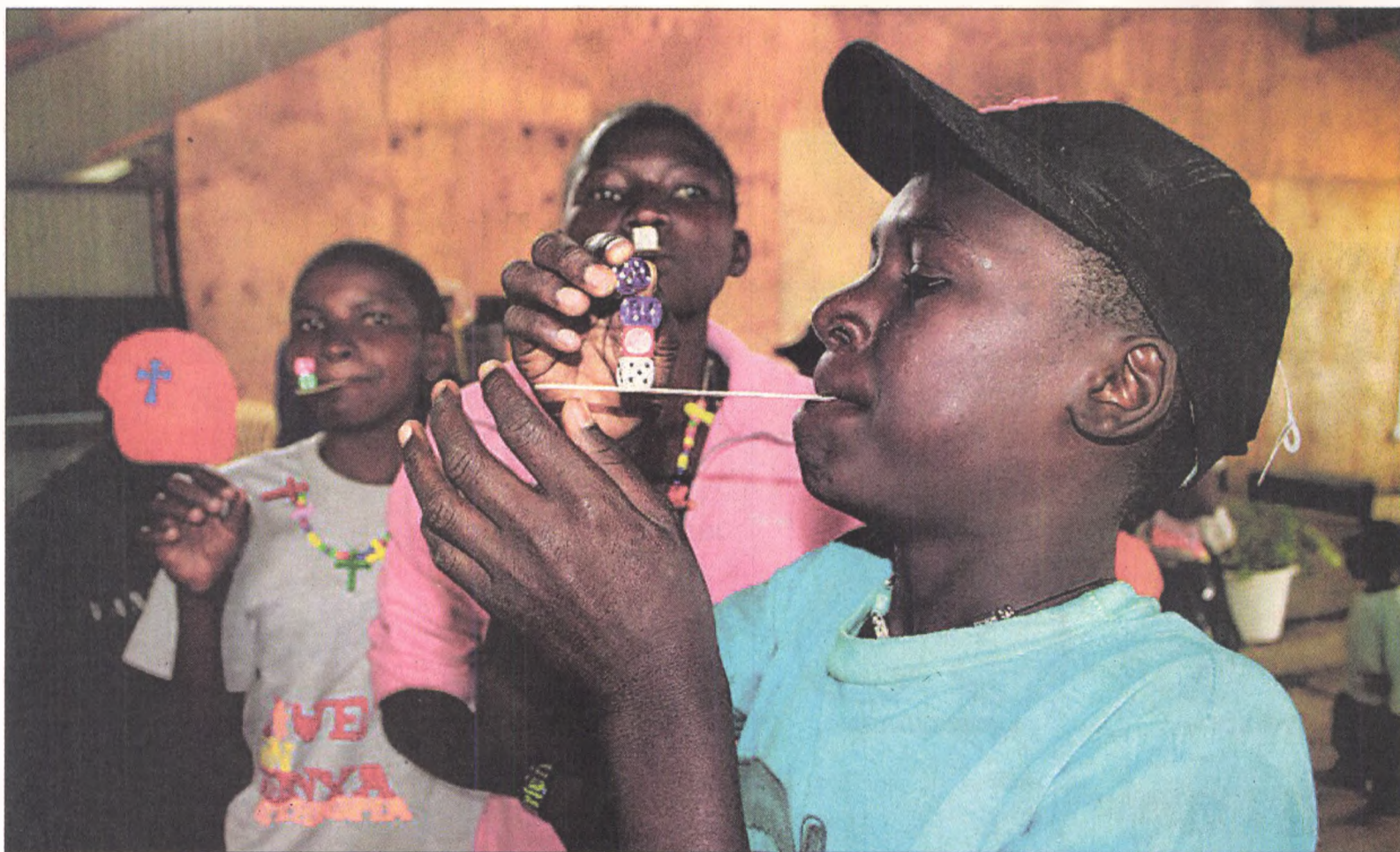
One of the chores for the boys at Fountain of Life in Kenya was making dinner.



Dave and Sara VanWinkle have helped turn the World Orphans effort into a family affair. Sara is the daughter of Greg and Ellie Schupra.



Brooke Cole drew smiles with this gift during the World Orphans trip in August 2009. She's the daughter of Greg and Ellie Schupra of Canton.



At kids camp in Kenya, playing 'Minute to Win It' — and loving it.

education with teaching them how finance works, as well as business plans and finance plans for running a successful small business."

This trip may be the last for Trinity Presbyterian, Charis and the Schupras, at least for awhile. But it doesn't mean their

involvement in the program — "World Orphans has already identified another church program," Schupra said — will end. Mostly, though, it'll be electronic.

"With technology today, our friends and my wife and I are in touch with these people through Sky-

pe and e-mail on a regular basis," Schupra said. "It's pretty amazing that halfway around the world you can work with people trying to build a school, or run a safari company, and try to build it."

And they won't be alone. In one of the more amazing aspects of the

effort to help these kids, Schupra said he's run into countless Americans during his travels who are doing something to help.

"There are Americans and American churches and others all over the country who are actively working with Third World countries," Sch-

upra said. "At first I thought this was a unique thing. It is unique for me, but it's not unique. It's amazing to me to see all the people in America who are involved around the world."

County grant funds upgrades at Family Center

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

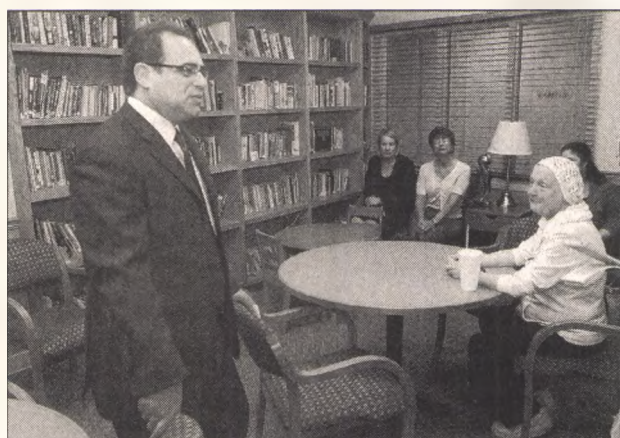
A year after she moved out of the Wayne County Family Center, Jody Hurick stopped in for visit and was impressed by how many improvements had been made to the facility.

That's before \$400,000 in upcoming improvements being funded through Wayne County Community Development Block grant money.

Located on Michigan Avenue in Westland, the center is slated to receive new windows and screens, bathroom and laundry room renovations, upgrades to lighting, air conditioning, heating systems and a new playscape.

While Hurick and her son David, 8, were visiting, they got a chance to meet some other guests touring the facility — Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and members of his staff.

"This shelter is unique, it's the only one is western



Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano came to tour the Wayne County Family Center accompanied by Jill Ferrari Wayne County Edge Director of Community Development and Joan Siavrakas, Wayne County Senior Citizen and Family Center Liaison. Jody Hurick (far right), who stayed at the center for a few months last year, was also visiting.

Wayne County that accepts families," said Ficano. "The safety net for this portion of the county is important. We stress economic development, but it's also a Wayne County function to help people in the shadow of life who are homeless."

With the current economic conditions, Ficano said the face of homelessness has changed.

"It used to be adult males living under the freeway overpass," said Ficano. "Now there are more and more families being economically challenged."

Operated by Lutheran Social Services of Michigan, the family center provides housing for 24 families. Clients can stay up to two years but the average stay is six or seven months.

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CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT PURSUANT TO STATE LAW 257.252, THE FOLLOWING VEHICLE(S) WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE AT FAMILY TOWING, 30711 INDUSTRIAL RD, LIVONIA, MI 48150 ON THE DATE AND TIME LISTED BELOW:

Monday May 21st, 2012 at 8:00 PM

VEHICLE(S):

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	STYLE	VIN	CASE #
1994	CADILLAC	STS	4D	1G6KY529XRU822730	12-808

INQUIRIES REGARDING THESE VEHICLES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO OFFICER FOX, CITY OF PLYMOUTH POLICE DEPARTMENT, AT 734 453-1234 x538.

LINDA J. LANGMESSER
City Clerk

Publish: May 10, 2012

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Eco-friendly fair draws crowd to Plymouth

The fifth annual Green Street Fair brought thousands of people to Plymouth last weekend.

The fair, Friday, Saturday and Sunday in Kellogg Park and on surrounding downtown streets, featured vendors offering products made with the environment in mind, information on issues ranging from recycling to vegetarianism to the use of hemp as a fiber, companies touting fuel-saving cars and energy efficient construction, and hands-on art projects for children. There were rain barrels, natural-fiber clothing, soaps and foods with organic ingredients for sale and opportunities to recycle and donate old clothing. There was also free live entertainment, a petting zoo for children, and a display of



Three-year-old Elliot Vanderveev spins a duck made of recycled plastic jar lids and built by kids.

raptors — birds of prey such as owls and a bald eagle — from the Leslie Science & Nature Center in Ann Arbor.

"I think it's a great fair this year," Plymouth City Commissioner Ed Hingelberg said Friday as he headed to his Cass Community Social Services' booth, where doormats made of recycled tires are sold. Hingelberg is an administrator at the Detroit-based social services agency.

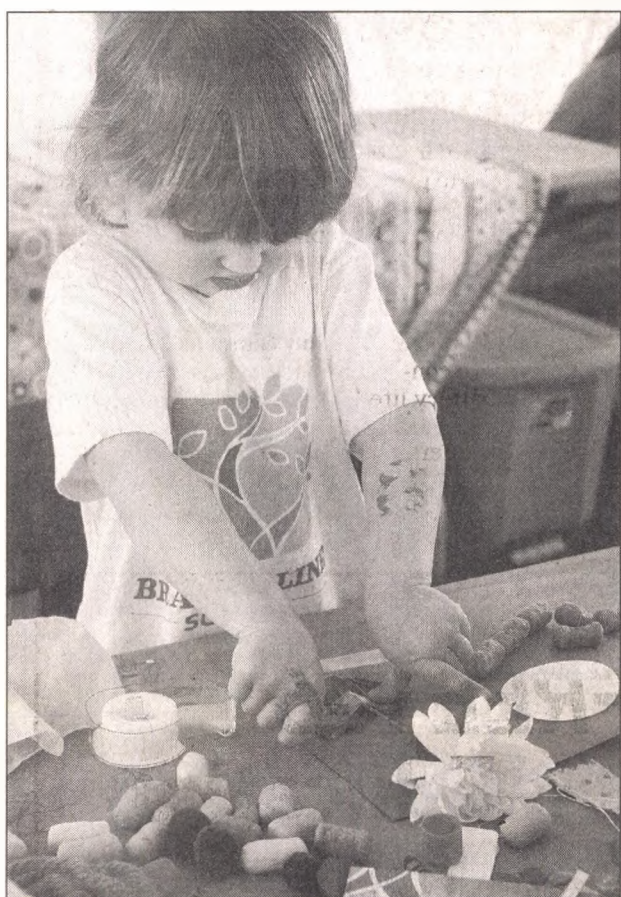


PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

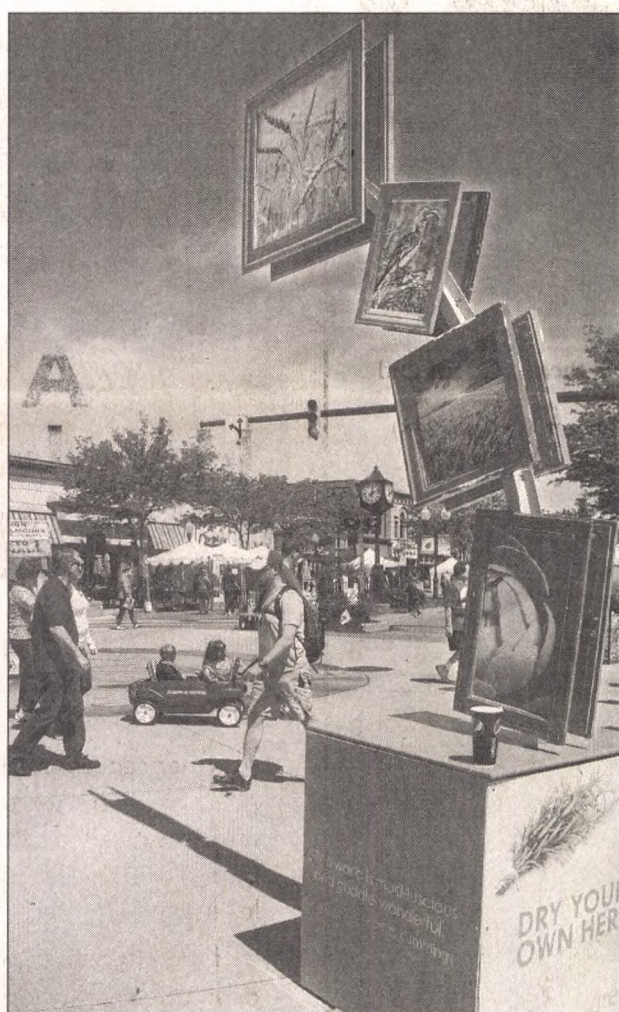
There was a pretty good crowd for the Green Street Fair around noon Sunday.



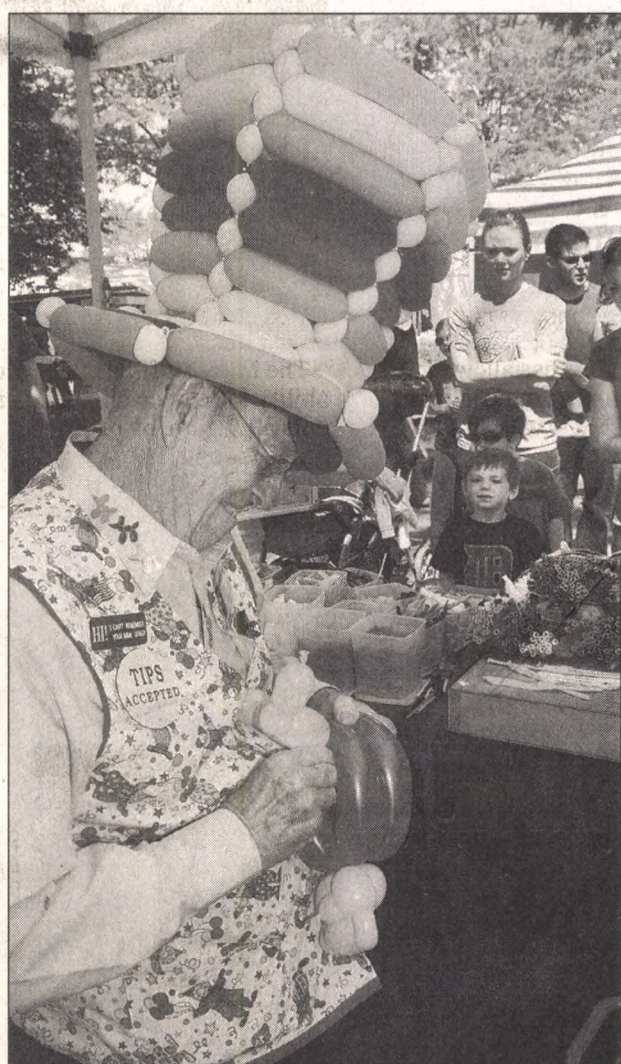
Sandy Kristen offers samples of Meijer natural cheese puffs.



Tate Kolongowski works on her contribution to Fort Box.



The Green Street Fair drew a strong crowd to downtown Plymouth over the weekend.



Jack 'The Balloon Man' Mittig entertains the kiddies.

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PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP ADVERTISEMENT

Sealed proposals will be received for the construction of the **2012 SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM** by Plymouth Charter Township, Michigan as Owner, until 10:00 A.M. Official Local Time, on Wednesday, May 16, 2012 at the office of the Clerk, Plymouth Charter Township, 9955 North Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, at which time they will be publicly opened and read.

Major Estimated Quantities are:

- 4" Concrete Sidewalk 26,500 SF
- 6" Concrete Sidewalk or Driveway Approach 3,100 SF
- 8" Concrete Sidewalk or Driveway Approach 450 SF

Copies of plans and specifications may be obtained at the Office of the Clerk, Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, MI 48170 on or after April 18, 2012. Bid documents may be mailed for a charge of \$10.00.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a Certified Check in the amount of 5% of the bid, payable to the Owner, as security for acceptance of the contract. A bid bond in the Michigan Standard Form issued by an approved surety company may be furnished in lieu of a Certified Check.

No bidder may withdraw his proposal within 60 days after the date set for the opening thereof.

The right is reserved by the Owner to reject any or all proposals, either in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities therein.

PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP
Plymouth, MI

Signed: Joe Bridgman, Clerk
Plymouth Charter Township

Publish: April 19, 2012

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, May 22, 2012

Request from Guardian Automotive Products, Inc. to Amend Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate Number 2007-474

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: That a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 22, 2012, during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider the request from Guardian Automotive Products, Inc. to extend for an additional five (5) years, Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate Number 2007-474. P.A. 94 of 1996 allows an applicant who was granted less than the 12 year maximum by the local municipality to request, during the last year of the abatement granted, additional abated years up to the maximum of 12 years. The facility is located at 40985 Concept Drive, Metro Plymouth Business Park, Plymouth Township, County of Wayne, Michigan.

The request is on file in the Township Clerk's Office where it is available for public perusal during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Any Township resident or member of any taxing authority within the Township of Plymouth shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments directed to the Clerk and received prior to the meeting will be considered. Following the public hearing the Board of Trustees may consider the request.

The public hearing, commencing at 7:00 p.m., will be held in the Town Hall at the Charter Township of Plymouth Municipal Offices, 9955 N Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, May 22, 2012 during the regularly scheduled Board of Trustee meeting. Telephone number 734 354-3224.

Joe Bridgman, MMC
Township Clerk

Publish: May 10, 2012



MPG CEO and account director Meghan Giersdorf has moved her marketing business to downtown Plymouth.

Marketing company makes its move

Starting a business isn't easy, but for Meghan Giersdorf the dream was always been there.

Giersdorf left her job at an elite advertising agency in 2007 and decided to build MPG Consulting Enterprises from the ground up. MPG is a full service marketing and event planning company that specializes in servicing businesses at all levels.

Expansion of the company's client list has allowed the MPG offices to move to a new location at 882 N. Holbrook, Suite 5, in downtown Plymouth. "We are hoping to continue expanding by taking in a few more new clients," Giersdorf said. "Our team has grown over the past months, and this has allowed us to bump up the number of clients we can serve, while continually maintaining the strengths MPG was built upon."

By preparing a new website for launch and



Brian Titus serves as account supervisor and Sarah Belanger is creative coordinator for MPG Consulting Enterprises in downtown Plymouth.

designing new promotional benefits for clients, Giersdorf said, MPG is re-inventing themselves into the dream she set out to manifest.

The MPG staff has the ability to service clients a la carte, by offering to plan a company's grand opening, promotional blitz, or strategizing opportunities to build partnerships with other

like-minded businesses. With web design, graphic design, and a fine-tuned eye for conceptualizing a client's overall brand, MPG can deliver all these benefits and more.

Contact MPG at (248) 345-4550, or at info@mpgenterprises.com anytime. For more information go to www.mpgenterprises.com.

Meet the very first 'extended-life' smartphone

By Jon Gunnells
Guest Columnist

One of the biggest drawbacks about popular smartphones is the best models never seem to keep their battery life when you need it. Even the function the devices were made for (phone calls) drain the life out of the sophisticated batteries in many of the best smartphones.

The new Droid Razr Maxx — the first extended battery life smartphone — aims to change the annoying dying battery trend. The thin, light smartphone is an advanced take on the Razr flip phones that many cell phone users owned before the smartphone craze.

Tests by Motorola manufacturers have shown the Razr Maxx can offer two times as much talking time per battery as the iPhone. It also offers users more power to watch videos and listen to music than the best multimedia phones the HTC Rezound and Samsung Galazy Nexus.

Of course, to the average user, it doesn't matter that the Maxx allows you to listen to 23 percent more music than the iPhone. What matters is what each phone can offer in terms of battery life for a full day or weekend of calls, texting, web browsing and more.

I tested the Maxx in April courtesy of Verizon Wireless to see if it could



Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

live up to Motorola's "unlimited power" claims. Whether I was texting, making calls through my car's bluetooth system or compulsively tweeting, the battery life never seemed to go down. I even tested out how long the phone would stay powered up under limited use (about five-10 minutes per day.)

Under those circumstances, the phone stayed charged for nearly a week — an impressive performance considering the small size of the phone and battery and the poor level of battery performance for other smartphones.

It also had solid processing speeds and connectivity through Verizon's 4G Network — better than I usually receive on the AT&T network. For example, the Maxx pulled in a steady signal inside a local casino, meanwhile during the same weekend, my iPhone failed to get even one bar while I was eating at a local Mongolian BBQ.

I would recommend the Maxx to any beginning or moderate cell phone user who is more concerned about battery life and connectivity than a large screen or internal phone assistant (Siri). To

the advanced smartphone user — like the person with a Galaxy Touch or Droid Bionic — the Maxx left a bit to be desired.

First, and this is quite nitpicky, the apps look like they were developed using 8-bit technology much like that of an original Nintendo. This was odd to me, because start up graphics and background graphics on the Maxx were impressive.

I also came away upset by the camera as the pictures were pretty mediocre for an 8mp device.

One last quirk thing that I found using the Maxx is the way the social media application linked all of my tweets and Facebook updates together — a format I never liked. There may be a way to separate the threads, but I was never able to figure it out.

Of course, with any phone there are little things that take getting used to, so take my high-standards for smartphones with a grain of salt. And if you are in the market for a new phone, you can check out all the features in person at a local Verizon store. They probably won't let you stay all week to test the battery — but with this phone, it's something you will never have to worry about.

Jon Gunnells is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnSh0w.

PLYMOUTH CHAMBER CHAT

Farmer's market

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce brings the annual Farmers Market back to downtown Plymouth, starting Saturday, May 12.

The market will continue to be held 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Saturday through Oct. 27 in The Gathering across from Kellogg Park and the street in front of the park. The Farmer's Market will be closed on Saturday, July 9, during Art in the Park, and Saturday, Sept. 10, during the Plymouth Community Fall Festival.

This year's market will again feature a variety of fresh produce, vegetable, herb and flowering plants, fresh and dried flowers, eggs, meats, baked goods, popcorn, cherry products, salsa and BBQ sauces, pastas and sauces, honey, jams and jellies and more. There will also be a great variety of handmade and recycled items including candles, soaps, lotions, hand-painted furniture & frames, jewelry, birdhouses and garden & holiday deco and more.

For more information, call the chamber, (734) 453-1540.

Showcase Plymouth

Attend Showcase on May 14 to Make New Business Connections. With Showcase and Taste of Plymouth having reached the maximum of 95 exhibitors, chamber officials expect the May 14 event to be a



Grand opening

The folks at Panache 447 recently cut the ribbon on their downtown restaurant, located at 447 Forest Ave. Their aim is to provide a unique dining and social experience. Pictured cutting the ribbon is the General Manager, Scott Sadoff, along with their staff and Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors. Reservations can be placed by calling (734) 386-8447.

great business networking opportunity.

Attendees are guaranteed the opportunity to meet at least the 95 exhibitors at the different booths throughout the event, and to be able to learn about their companies and get information to follow up with them later.

Members will be given a special Plymouth Rocks green guitar name badge when checking in to make it easy for members to

find other members at the event. This event is attended by 600-800 people each year from the community.

The event will be at the Inn at St. John's from 5-7:30 p.m. St. John's is located at the corner of Five Mile and Sheldon roads.

The \$10 admission fee gives ticket-holders the opportunity to enjoy cuisine from 20 restaurants and make many business contacts at the event.

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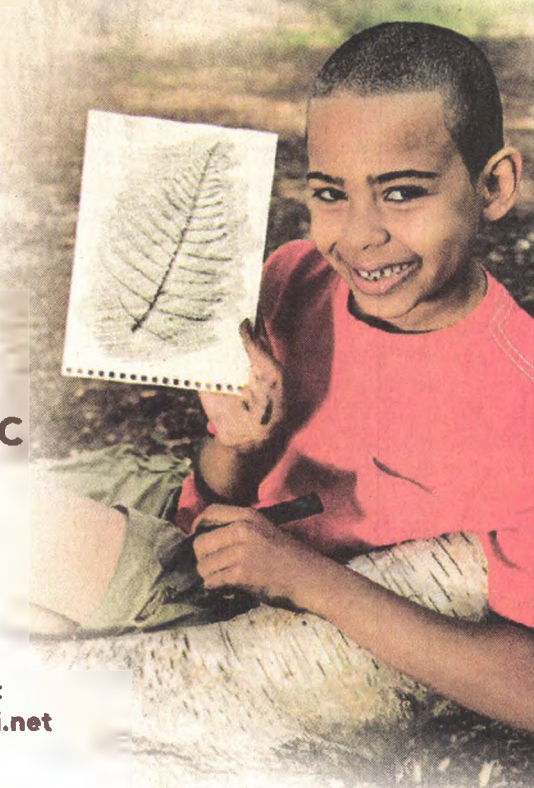


Tuesday • 6pm
May 15, 2012

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OUR VIEWS

Academic All-Stars!

These top students represent bright future

On Sunday (Mother's Day), the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* will publish in print and online (www.hometownlife.com) a special section profiling the 2012 Academic All-Stars team and 52 other students who received honorable mention.

This year's team of 27 represents the most accomplished students from public, private and parochial schools in western Wayne and Oakland counties.

The top six members of the team posted perfect high school academic records, along with perfect ACT and/or SAT scores.

These students are future scientists, engineers, teachers, physicians and political leaders. They are smart and they are caring. They have contributed to their schools and their communities. They have studied and excelled in the classroom. They are well-rounded young men and women who participate in music, arts, sports and volunteer activities. They are thankful for the many excellent teachers that have guided and inspired them over the years. In Sunday's section, students write about the teachers who influenced them, challenged them and instilled in them a love for learning.

Members of the 2012 All-Star Team are **David Bender** of Seaholm High School, **Siddhartha Jena** of the International Academy in Bloomfield Hills, **Steven Marion** of Canton High School, **Scott Su** of Salem High School, **Anita Sublibhavi** of the International Academy, **Debra Van Egeren** of Detroit County Day, **Victor Sun** of Andover High School, **Peter Su** of Salem High, **Todd Maslyk** of Plymouth High School, **Andrew Sun** of Detroit Country Day, **Rachel Pernick** of Berkley High School, **Zachary Prebay** of Andover High School, **Emily Southern** of Canton High School, **Stephen McShane** and **Jessica Turner**, both of Groves High School, **Erik Burbulla** of the Roeper School, **Marlene Heberling** of Lahser High School, **Brett Jia** of Plymouth High School, **Daye Kim** of North Farmington High School, **Katherine Lobaza** of Seaholm High School, **Imran Nahin** of Lahser High School, **Molly Pantelic** of Roeper and **Shruthi Subramaniam** of North Farmington High School.

Also named to the 2012 team are: **Kathryn Jarvis** of Churchill High School, **Jeremy Kozler** of Stevenson High School, **Larissa Sambel** of Cranbrook Kingswood and **Lillian McGill** of Harrison High School.

Local runners-up — they, too, are outstanding examples of academic achievement, as you will see by their profiles — include **Kristin Malcom** and **Lindsey Davidson** of Plymouth Christian Academy.

The 2012 team is the 27th consecutive year the *O&E* has honored and celebrated academic excellence in our readership area in this special way.

As part of our mission, the *O&E* is dedicated to "enhancing the lives of our readers and nurturing the communities we serve." What better way to do so than by showing our readers what's right and good about education in our communities.

This year's section is made possible by the *Observer & Eccentric* in cooperation with our longtime partner Madonna University, based in Livonia, which is committed to teaching, scholarship and service.

Also partnering for the second year is Children's Hospital of Michigan, a member of the Detroit Medical Center.

New to the all-star program this year is a \$500 scholarship to be awarded to one member of the all-star team by Parkside Credit Union of Livonia. The scholarship will be awarded based on the results of an essay competition. The winner will be announced at the awards breakfast later this month.

Don't miss the 2012 Academic All-Stars special section in Sunday's print editions and help us celebrate these outstanding graduates, their families and their dedicated teachers.

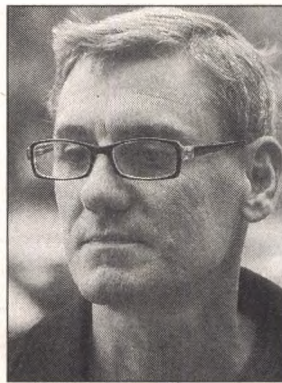
COMMUNITY VOICE

Where's a good place to take mom for Mother's Day?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



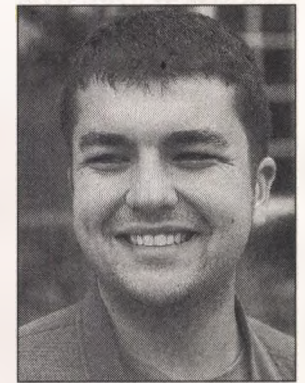
"Take her to your house for a great brunch."
Carla Barrett
Plymouth



"I think E.G. Nick's is a good place."
Jon Sherman
Metamora



"The brewery (Liberty Street Brewing Co.) is pretty good in terms of drinks."
Aaron Yule
Redford Township



"Compari's. ... It's expensive, but worth it, I guess."
Michael Awad
Plymouth

LETTERS

Oppose the assault

I am writing to express my opposition to Senate Bill 1040. During the reign of our current governor and state lawmakers, there has been an all-out assault on teachers and school employees.

They have passed law after law attacking us. These laws have led to cutting wages and benefits, increasing out-of-pocket health care costs, limiting collective bargaining, taxing pensions, removing "reasonable and just cause" as the standard for discharge, and creating an evaluation system where teachers are forced to compete instead of collaborate.

This assault now continues with SB1040, legislation that greatly increases the out-of-pocket costs that current employees are already contributing toward their retirement. Additionally, SB1040 eliminates health coverage for future employees, and doubles current retirees contribution toward health care, drastically increasing costs for people living on a fixed income.

Last year, our lawmakers voted to eliminate the lifetime health care benefits they would receive for only six years of service. However, they included an exemption that protected the benefits of those who had already served six years.

At that time, Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville, R-Monroe, said that the state needs to keep the promises it made. "We don't want to go in and retroactively take away something people have already earned," he said at the time.

SB1040 does just that. It breaks promises made to current employees and active retirees. It also discourages the best and brightest from ever entering the profession. Please urge your lawmakers to vote NO on SB1040.

Bill Lembesis
East Middle School teacher
Canton

College a big help

I was delighted to read the *Observer's* recent coverage of the 50th anniversary of School-

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.

craft College. I am sure many alumni of the school have many cheerful memories of their experiences.

I recall moving into the community 45 years ago, when the college was only five years old, it was known as "Haggerty High" by those who felt the curriculum and standards were below expectations.

But I want to share a personal anecdote of how Schoolcraft helped me. It was in the summer of 1995 when I approached a counselor at the tender age of 59 and a few years from retirement. I had accumulated credits from Wayne State University during the mid-1950s and that I wasn't considering a career change or upgrading my work skills to seek a work-place promotion. I wanted an associate degree only for personal enrichment.

The counselor was professional and direct, helping me select courses for the six semesters that would meet the school's requirements to have a distribution of courses in math, science, community, business and social sciences. Taking one night course a term, I graduated with academic honors at the tender age of 62. I was most appreciative of the school's transfer fair held during my last semester where I learned that the University of Michigan-Dearborn had

a bachelor of general studies degree program which suited perfectly my academic background and interests. I used my associate degree to enroll at the Dearborn school and graduate with a bachelor's degree and master's degree within the next seven years.

I also enjoyed the segment of the newspaper's anniversary coverage that had one of my colleagues, Tim Richard, write of the college's beginnings and the growth over the decades.

Leonard Poger
Westland

Second-hand danger

I find it extremely hard to believe that there are people who think that increasing worker exposure to secondhand smoke is a good thing for Michigan.

Those who are seeking to undo our popular smokefree workplace law (74 percent approval rating) seem focused on taking us back decades to the days when we didn't know the terrible consequences of exposure to secondhand smoke. And, they apparently have no conscience knowing that what they are proposing will put thousands of bar and restaurant workers at risk.

There is plenty of documentation to support why the law is so important. Air studies have been conducted to measure workplace safety. Samples from workers have been taken to measure exposure to dangerous chemicals in secondhand smoke.

Economic trends have been studied. In every instance, the outcomes of these studies point to one thing—the law is working as intended. Air quality improved. Levels of contaminants in workers bodies decreased. Even the economic numbers showed the hospitality industry grew by 6 percent in the first year after the law went into effect.

Unfortunately, opponents would have you believe otherwise. I don't buy their argument. The law is good for Michigan.

Elizabeth Paruch
American Cancer Society
Cancer Action Network
Volunteer Advocacy chair

OUR VIEWS

Mothers are and do many things

Sunday is Mother's Day, a day set aside to celebrate motherhood and to show appreciation of time to mothers and mother figures. It's a day when people send cards or gifts or make a special visit to that woman who has played an important role in their lives.

Mother's Day may not be a federal holiday like Memorial Day or Labor Day, but it is an important day nonetheless. Call her woman, mother, mom, mommy, momma or by some other name, that

special person has loved us in whatever we have done. She has been understanding and giving and provided guidance, putting the needs of her family above all else.

Mothers are our alarm clock, there to make sure we get to school on time. She's our room service, making sure rooms are clean and laundry is done. She's our gourmet chef, providing sumptuous meals and the obligatory reminder to eat what you take.

Mothers show their chil-

dren the right path to follow and, if they veer off, she is there to help them find their way back. She cares about what her children become and provides the encouragement for them to achieve their life's goals.

It is with a sense of deepest gratitude we wish all mothers a happy Mother's Day. May you enjoy the honor, love and respect you so rightly deserve today and every day. You are the glue that holds us together. And for that we are thankful.

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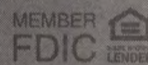
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TOP 9 REASONS NOT TO SETTLE FOR AT&T U-VERSE



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The most live sports	YES	NO
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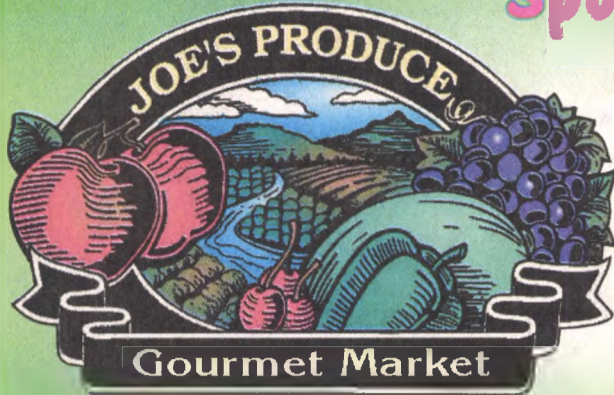


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42ND OBSERVERLAND RELAYS

Park teams can't catch CC

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

Stretched to close to seven hours by several compelling races and a couple nagging technical glitches, Saturday night's 42nd annual Observerland Relays slowly evolved into the Observerland Marathon.

But the wait was well worth it for defending champion Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, which endured a close-to-one-hour delay to outlast runner-up Farmington and third-place Salem to win the coveted first-place hardware at Livonia Churchill High School.

The Shamrocks registered 80 points to out-distance the Falcons (64) and Rocks (63).

Livonia Stevenson (52 points) and the host Chargers (48) rounded out the top-five spots.

Led by double-winner Mark Becker (discus and shot put), CC scored well in the field events.

The Shamrocks were also bolstered by a first-place showing in the 440-meter shuttle hurdle relay; a second-place finish in the 1,600-meter relay; and thirds in the distance medley relay and 3,200 relay.

"We had to shuffle some kids around because we had a few kids hurting and we were missing (Jon) Malone, but the kids we had came through," said CC head coach Tony Magni. "Our distance kids did well and, obviously, our performances in the shot and discus helped. One of the nicest things about this group is that we're young. We only have five seniors."

Magni praised the effort of multi-faceted Jack Malinowski, who scored in three events.

"Jack was definitely one of our highest performers," Magni said.

The 1,600 relay was capped by a bizarre and exciting finish when Malinowski out-leaned



Canton's Colby Braxton (left) takes the baton from Zach Smilo during the 2-by-8 relay.



Salem's Joe Amado is all business competing in the 110-meter high hurdles.

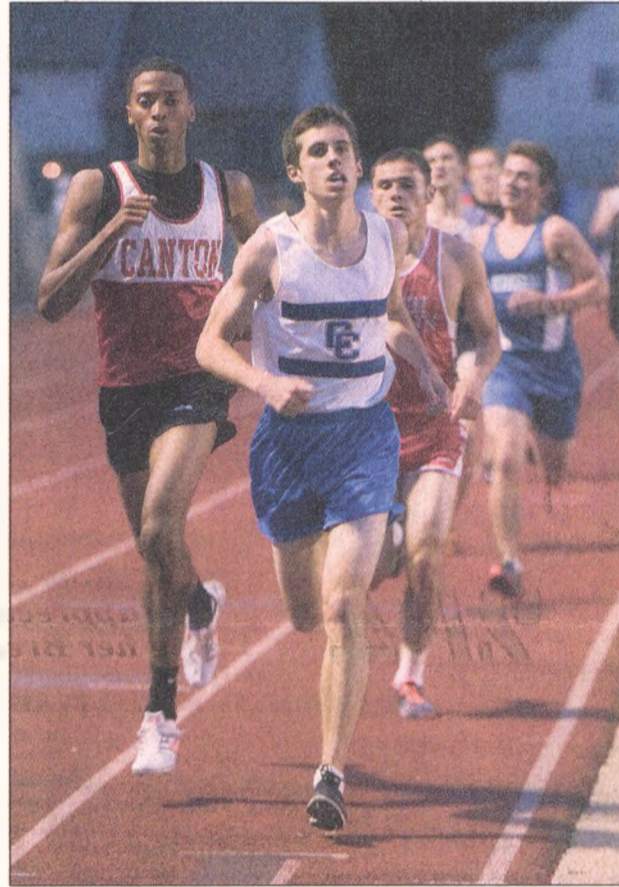
Plymouth's Lucas Bunting at the wire in the event's second — and supposedly faster — heat. However, Salem won the race when its foursome of Chase Minshaw, Colin McCormack, Jose Amado and Thomas Crawford posted the swiftest time — 3:32.34 — in the earlier heat.

It was "Fast Times At

Churchill High" for Livonia Clarenceville senior sprinter Kassius Kelly, who won the 100-meter dash in a meet record 10.52 seconds. The previous standard was 10.6, set by Redford Bishop Borgess's Fred Owens in 1984.

Kelly also anchored the

Please see RELAYS, B3



Canton's Miles Felton (left) puts the heat on Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's Nicholas Lanzetta during the individual mile run Saturday at Livonia Churchill. Felton wound up winning the event.

PCA breaking records

Plymouth Christian Academy's varsity track and field team boasts some record-breaking athletes this season.

Senior Eric Jipping broke the PCA record in the shot put at the recent Airport Relays with a throw of 42 feet, 2 inches.

At the MIAC Jam-boree on May 1, the Eagles eclipsed school marks in the boys 1,600-meter relay, girls 300 hurdles and girls 3,200-meter relay (breaking its own record for the fourth time this year).

Jipping is excelling after deciding to come out for the team to wrap up his high school career, said coach Jennifer Lemieux.

Golf for football

They'll be teeing off Saturday, June 2, at the 11th annual golf outing hosted by the Plymouth Wildcats Football Booster Club.

The event is slated for the Pheasant Run Golf Club.

Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. June 2 with a 2 p.m. shotgun start. Included in the \$85 registration fee is one hour on the driving and putting range, 18 holes of golf with cart, a BBQ dinner and prizes.

Go to www.football.plymouthwildcats.com for a registration form or contact Joe Deeg at jddeeg29@gmail.com.

MU baseball 10 honored

Senior pitcher Jeremy Gooding (Livonia) and senior outfielder Dan Harder both earned first-team baseball honors in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

Gooding, a three-time All-WHAC pick from Dearborn Divine Child High, went 7-5 with a 1.58 ERA in 81 innings. The junior right-hander is the school's all-time wins and strikeout leader.

Harder, who hails from Brighton, batted a team-best .383 with 36 RBI and 22 stolen bases.

Earning All-WHAC honorable mention honors are junior pitcher Matthew Cook, junior first baseman Brad Lineberry (Plymouth) and junior outfielder Steve Pelletier (Farmington Harrison).

Pelletier was also named to the WHAC's Champions of Character team for the second straight season as the MU student-athlete who best displays the NIAA's Five Core Values.

Pelletier, Harder and catcher Donny Holland were also named to the WHAC Gold Glove Team presented by Rawlings.

In addition, seven Crusaders were named to the Academic All-WHAC team.

Those carrying a 3.25 grade point average or higher included Tyler Cotter (Livonia Churchill), Garrett Reban (Plymouth), Tyler Schofield, Erik Wright (Canton), Cook, Holland, Lineberry and Pelletier.

Lineberry and Pelletier were also named to the Capital One Academic All-District team by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) and will be placed on the national ballot.



Salem's Sarah Martin (No. 12) races after Plymouth speedster Madi Lewis (No. 14) during Monday night girls soccer action at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. Players wore pink socks, headbands and shoelaces as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Night.

'Cats reboot in 2nd half

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

After a scoreless first half Monday, Plymouth varsity girls soccer coach Jeff Neschich urged his team to turn up the offensive heat against Salem.

The Wildcats responded with a goal just 1:04 into the second half and went on to earn a 3-1 win over the Rocks on "Breast Cancer Awareness Night" at Plym-

outh-Canton Educational Park.

"We made a couple adjustments, because they were sitting a lot of people back," Neschich said following the game. "So we tried to get more people on the attack."

"I thought we played a good first half, we just didn't capitalize on our opportunities that we did have."

One of the all-around standouts for Plymouth (8-1-3) was sophomore

midfielder Alyssa Dillon. She scored the first goal, assisted on the second and was all over the pitch helping the defense and setting up the offense.

Cranking it up

Dillon was one of the players Neschich gave the green light to in the second half of the KLAA crossover.

"She's been a key

Please see SOCCER, B2

STRIKE OUT PROSTATE CANCER

Baseball teams join prostate cancer fight

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

All-out rivals turn into partners for a good cause on Saturday, at the third annual "Strike Out Prostate Cancer Day" at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

The baseball "rivals" are Salem and Plymouth, as the Rocks and Wildcats will play varsity, junior varsity and freshman games beginning 11 a.m. Saturday. The varsity teams are slated to begin at 2 p.m.

Co-sponsoring the event are the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association, Prostate Cancer Foundation, Major League Baseball and Detroit Tigers.

Over the past two years, close to \$4,000 has been donated from the Salem event to the "campaign to strike out this highly common cancer in American men," noted event spokeswoman Anne Driscoll of Salem Baseball Boosters in an e-mail to the *Observer*. "The contributions raised are used to fund important research by the Prostate Cancer Foundation

for treatments and to help find a cure for prostate cancer."

Driscoll continued that Salem baseball coach Dale Rumberger "continually emphasizes to all the baseball players the importance of community awareness and giving back. He introduced the team to this great event."

Also helping the cause are the Plymouth Wildcats.

"Cancer is something that has affected the lives of just about everybody," Wildcats head coach Bryan Boyd said. "This is a great cause and we are happy to be involved with it."

According to Driscoll's e-mail, players have been pounding the pavement selling tickets for prizes that will be raffled off to help meet the event fundraising goal of \$2,000.

"Also, as in previous years, all players will be given a light blue wristband (provided by the Prostate Cancer Foundation)," she said. "Players, by wearing these wristbands during the game are helping to raise

Please see EVENT, B4

Rocks, 'Cats team up

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

On the field, the Salem and Plymouth varsity girls soccer teams get after each other as hard as they can in quest of victory.

But when there is an important cause to support, they don't mind putting their rivalry aside.

Such was the case with Monday's "Breast Cancer Awareness Night" at the Park's varsity soccer field.

Event host Salem enlisted Plymouth's help as far as making and posting flyers and publicizing the game, won 3-1 by the Wildcats. Proceeds from ticket sales and concessions are being donated to the National Breast Cancer Foundation.

Players on both teams were on point in the fashion department, too. Plymouth players wore pink socks, Salem players donned pink shoelaces and there were plenty of pink headbands.

And according to Salem senior co-captain Kate Lynn Krause, the Rocks got together Sunday for a cake baking/decorating contest, with the sweet results raffled off at Monday's contest.

"We had wanted to do it



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Olivia Kaye (No. 8) works her way down the pitch Monday, with Plymouth's Jillian Aguirre in pursuit. Players donned pink as part of 'Breast Cancer Awareness Night.'

last year but it kind of got too close on time so we couldn't really organize it," Krause said. "This year we made it a really big point to support it because we're a girls soccer team and we wanted to make sure we brought more awareness to it, we wanted to try to get more fans here, something to support a great cause.

"We even had a team bonding day (Sunday). We made the cakes as a team to raffle off today. So we really made it a whole team effort. It was a lot of fun."

Plymouth sophomore

Alyssa Dillon, one of the goal scorers Monday, added that the Wildcats were happy to help the Rocks.

"It's really cool that I get to share (the night) with other people from the Park, ... supporting breast cancer awareness," Dillon noted.

Salem head coach Joe Nora said the joint effort is another example of the spirit of community service that permeates Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Another is this Saturday, at the "Strike Out Prostate Cancer" event involving the Salem and Plymouth baseball teams (see related article).

"It was an awesome effort by both teams to come together for a great cause," Nora said. "I know we raised some money, and that's what we wanted to do.

"Yeah, you have a game and a winner and a loser. But I think we're all winners today to support this cause because everyone knows someone who's fighting the disease. It was beautiful to see two teams come out and compete and put that foremost in their thoughts."

tsmith@hometownlife.com
(734) 469-4128

SOCCER

Continued from page B1

player in our back line for us," Neschich said. "But in a game like tonight where they weren't putting a lot of pressure on our back line, to move her into a spot where she could get more involved in the attack was good for the team."

On Dillon's goal, which came on the end of a corner kick, a point-blank shot by sophomore midfielder Maria Farmer was blocked along the goal line. But the rebound went right to Dillon, who chipped the ball into the net.

With 29 minutes left, Dillon's smart play led to another Plymouth goal. She spun around to control the ball and keep it in the Salem box and sent a crossing feed over to senior midfielder Stephanie Dillon.

The subsequent 8-yard blast hit the twine behind Salem goalkeeper Ali Eggenberger.

"I knew we were going to get one eventually," Alyssa Dillon said. "We were flowing, but we just needed one goal to get us started and I think that's what we needed to do."

Salem head coach Joe Nora said his team played an "A-plus" first half, limiting the Wildcats from getting too many dangerous chances. But the early goal after intermission slowed the Rocks down for a while.

"Their first goal going in, everyone's head went down a little bit and we needed to be tougher in that respect," said Nora, whose team dropped to 4-5-1 overall. "But towards the end of the game, I thought we got it back."

First, however, the Wildcats went up 3-0. With about 27 minutes to play in the contest, Plymouth junior forward Madi Lewis accelerated — as usual — to get to a 50/50 ball at the top of the 18-yard box.

Lewis then sent the ball toward Salem's goal, but it deflected off a leg and ultimately bounced over Eggenberger's head into the wide-open cage.



Salem's Josie Jakary (No. 16) and Plymouth's Emily Burkman (No. 20) converge on the ball during Monday night's contest.

Salem picked things up over the final 20 minutes and spent more time in Plymouth's end of the field.

The Rocks finally cashed in to avert a shut-out when senior midfielder Emily Lundh scored from junior forward Emma Tardiff.

Getting the play started with a nice transitional play was sophomore midfielder Taylor Jaaska, just called up from the junior varsity.

"She (Jaaska) did what we were doing all first half and stopped doing in the second half, which was get it from one side," Nora said. "She was composed, got her head up ... hit Emma right in the head and she flicked it to Emily and it was a good finish. It was a play where we were looking to combine."

Lundh indeed finished, with an 18-yard boot across the grain that sailed inside the far left post behind Plymouth sophomore goalkeeper Kylie Robb.

Nora said the Rocks played well for stretches of the contest, but now need to do so from start to finish.

"If we could sustain an 80-minute effort we will get more chances like that," Nora said. "They just took it to us (early in the second half) and before we know it it's two-nil."

SALEM 1, STEVENSON 0: Turning the page from Monday's loss to Plymouth, the Rocks edged Livonia Stevenson Tuesday on a goal by Emily Lundh. After a scoreless first half, Nancy Krutty swung the ball

up to the middle to Lundh, who hit a rocket shot to the far upper corner from 25 yards out.

The goalkeeping of sophomore Ali Mann (six saves in her first varsity start) and solid defense from Olivia Kaye, Katie Binsfeld and Kylie Knight helped that lead stand up.

It was a complete team effort, Salem head coach Joe Nora said.

"A big character win for us," Nora said. "We bounced back from a poor showing in the second half last night and played a full 80 minutes."

"Our mids were very strong winning 50/50s all over the field and they connected well with the forwards."

Salem improved to 5-5-1 overall and 3-3-0 in the KLAACentral Division.

CANTON 3, CHURCHILL 1: On Tuesday at Livonia Churchill, the Chiefs scored three goals in the final 25 minutes to post a KLAACentral Division victory.

Scoring twice for the Chiefs was Ally Krause, with one goal off a header and the other following a nifty move to beat the defense. She sent a low shot inside the far post for her second tally.

The other Canton goal was netted by Erica Lucas, with about four minutes to play, providing some insurance.

Chiefs head coach Jeannine Reddy said her team got off to a sluggish start, but picked it up following intermission with improved intensity and ball movement.

The victory upped Canton's record to 7-1-3 overall and 6-1-0 in the KLAACentral Division. Thursday's division matchup against Plymouth (7 p.m.). Churchill dropped to 3-4-4 and 3-2-2.

PLYMOUTH 8, JOHN GLENN 0: Eight first-half goals gave the Wildcats (6-1-3, 5-0-1) a mercy-rule victory last Thursday over visiting Westland John Glenn (1-8-2, 1-4-1). Scoring two goals each for Plymouth were Amanda Lopez, Abby Livingston and Madi Lewis, with Stephanie Dillon and Maria Farmer also scoring.

Goalie Kylie Robb posted her eighth shutout of the season.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
(734) 469-4128



JOHN KEMSKI

Senior Night for Chiefs

The Canton varsity boys lacrosse team celebrated Senior Night on Monday night at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. In the back row (from left) are seniors Justin Bekker, Nick Dunlee, Michael Olah, Daniel Blanchard, Lucas Carpenter and Zach McArdle. In the front row are seniors Christian Munch, Brandon Schlieger and Ryan Schwinke. Not pictured is senior Jason Bohl. Carpenter, Schlieger and Schwinke are co-captains. Canton lost 13-6 to South Lyon.

Eagles back in flight

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Collectively exhaling following last Thursday's tough loss, the Plymouth Christian Academy varsity girls soccer team made the team on its scheduled pay.

The Eagles merced Birmingham Roeper 8-0 Tuesday, with seven players scoring goals.

"We had a rough game last Thursday," said PCA head coach Abby Lorion, referring to a 3-2 loss to University Liggett. "But the girls came out today showing everyone that they can overcome a let-down and step up to the plate and play like the great team they are."

"They were able to possess the ball the entire game and brush up on techniques and plays we have been working on in practice."

It was a rough ride for the Roughriders as a result.

Abby Lemerise got the ball rolling on an assist from Emily Gerulis.

The onslaught continued with Katelynn Barkell netting PCA's second and third goals, the latter unassisted.

Next up on the scoresheet were Joy Bauslaugh (from Martha Mullett), Emily Gerulis (unassisted), Jenna Abraham (from Mullett), Jessica Rich (on a penalty kick) and Kend-

all Groenewoud, with an unassisted marker.

Groenewoud's goal, which invoked the eight-goal mercy rule, came about four minutes into the second half.

"I was very proud that the girls came out and played hard," Lorion continued. "I told them to forget what happened last week and to come out and play their game."

"Don't focus on what happened, but instead overcome their loss last week and come out playing hard and physical. That's exactly what they did."

PCA improved to 7-3-1 overall with the victory.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
(734) 469-4128

Wildcats nip tough foes at Holiday Inn Express invite

Overcoming rain and tough opponents, Plymouth won the Holiday Inn Express Invitational on April 30 at Orchard Lake Country Club with a total of 305 strokes.

The Wildcats edged Birmingham Brother Rice and Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, who finished with 307 and 311 strokes, respectively.

Taking second overall was Ryan Rieckhoff, with a 72 score. Each registering 77s were Josh Heinze and Kyle Rodes with Chris Kozler (79) and John Tatti (81) rounding out the card.

"The boys did a great job of playing through the rain which showed a lot of perseverance," Plymouth head coach Chris Moore said. "Ryan Rieckhoff had a great day putting. He had a stretch on the front nine where he made four birdies in five holes."

"This was a big win for our team. We know we can compete with some of the best teams in the state."

PCEP matchup

Plymouth followed that up on May 1 with a 150-153 win over Canton at Fox Hills.

Medalist with a 35 was Plymouth's Josh Heinze. Also eclipsing the 40-stroke mark for the Wildcats were Rodes (37), Kozler (39), Rieckhoff (39) and Craig Whatley (39).

Canton's top golfer was Donnie Trosper, with a score of 37.

But several other Chiefs also had solid outings, including Josh Maxam (38), Tyler McMan (39), Brent Perry (39) and Alex Champagne (39).

Plymouth improved to 3-0 in the KLAACentral Division with Canton dropping to 4-1.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Runners complete a leg in the 4x800 meter relay during Saturday night's Observerland Relays held at Livonia Churchill.

RELAYS

Continued from page B1

Trojans' first-place 400 relay team that included Jalen Bryant, Mike Demmons and Sam Brown.

"In the first race — the prelims — I kind of got off to a slow start and had to catch everybody," Kelly said. "But in the final, I anticipated the gun and I got off good. It was my best time ever."

Felton, Amado prevail

Despite battling an injury, Canton senior Miles Felton ran away from field down the stretch to capture the 1,600-meter run. Felton, an All-State cross country runner, is unbeaten in the event this spring.

"I was super nervous before the race because I was coming off a calf

strain this week and I hadn't practiced in a few days," said Felton. "It was basically a mental battle tonight because I knew I'd be going up against the best milers in the area. I haven't been beaten in the mile yet this year, so I wanted to keep my string going.

"The kid from CC ran a good race, but he started to die a little at the end and I knew I had enough in me."

Salem's Amado won the night's third individual event — the 110-meter hurdles — when he nipped Livonia Franklin's Tom Brokaw by 16-hundredths-of-a-second.

Rock sophomore Steven Homrich was enjoying a huge night — he finished third in the 100 after anchoring the Rocks' winning 800 relay contingent — before suffering an injury during the stretch



Plymouth senior Derek Gielarowski competes in the distance medley relay.

run of the 400 relay.

"If someone would have told me before the season that we'd be one of the top teams at Observerland, I'd would have thought they were joking," said Salem coach Kyle Meteyer. "We have come on really strong in the sprints and the field

events, and we didn't really know early on what we had in the distance events because we had some guys coming off injuries.

"Joe Amado was our MVP tonight. He earned three gold medals, which is a very good night."

Farmington's brilliant effort was highlighted by a championship performances from Paolo Guarano, Nimantha Herath, Drew Lindman and Shawn-Michael Fields in the 3,200 relay; and Fields, Lindman, Andrew Brown and Herath in the 6,400 relay.

Stevenson's contingent of Anthony Wilson, Adam Wheeler, Nick Podulka and Zaid Shareef edged Farmington Harrison's Chris Massey, Josh Scott, Dorian Fields and Ken Russ in the 1,200 sprint medley.

"I thought the entire

OBSERVERLAND RELAYS

42ND ANNUAL OBSERVERLAND BOYS TRACK & FIELD RELAYS
May 5 at Livonia Churchill
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Novi Detroit Catholic Central, 80 points; 2. Farmington, 64; 3. Salem, 63; 4. Livonia Stevenson, 52; 5. Livonia Churchill, 48; 6. Livonia Franklin, 46; 7. Canton, 37; 8. Livonia Clarenceville, 32; 9. Plymouth, 27; 10. Farmington Hills Harrison, 23; 11. Northville, 8; 12. Westland John Glenn, 7; 13. Redford Union, 5; 14. Redford Thurston, 2; 15. Garden City, 1; 16. Wayne Memorial, 0.

FINAL RELAY RESULTS
Shot put: 1. Catholic Central (Mark Becker, 51 feet); David Houle, 49-1; Dylan Roney, 47-2; 147-3 (total); 2. Farmington, 142-5.25; 3. Churchill, 130-6.5; 4. Franklin, 126-3.5; 5. Clarenceville, 124-3; 6. RU, 123-0.25.
Discus: 1. Catholic Central (Becker, 151-3; Roney, 132-10; Houle, 127-10), 411-11 (total); 2. Farmington, 391-11; 3. Churchill, 361; 4. Stevenson, 358-9; 5. Clarenceville, 335-9; 6. Garden City, 326-10.
High jump: 1. Canton (Matt Schacht, 6-1; Jamal Dixon, 6-1; Akil Wade, 5-11), 18-1 (total); Catholic Central, 17-6; 3. Salem, 16-9; 4. RU, 16-9; 5. Harrison, 16-7; 6. Plymouth, 16-1.
Long jump: 1. Salem (Drake Jordan, 19-11; Chris Dierker, 19-2.5; Jose Amado, 18-8), 57-9.5 (total); 2. Stevenson, 56-11; 3. Farmington, 56-10.5; 4. Catholic Central, 56-4.5; 5. Clarenceville, 55-4; 6. Franklin, 55-1.

Pole vault: 1. Churchill (Alex Rytarsky, 12-6; Jacob Hage, 12-0; Stephen Fedak, 10-6), 35-0; 2. Canton, 33-0; 3. Franklin, 30-0; 4. Plymouth, 29-6; 5. Salem, 27-0.
400-meter: 1. Clarenceville (Jalen Bryant, Mike Demmons, Sam Brown, Kassius Kelly), 44.51; 2. Franklin, 45.21; 3. Farmington, 45.22; 4. Churchill, 45.23; 5. Harrison, 45.39; 6. Salem, 45.68.
800: 1. Salem (Jordan, I'Van Rhodes, Thomas Crawford, Steven Homrich), 1:31.08; 2. Franklin, 1:31.88; 3. Stevenson, 1:32.35; 4. Harrison, 1:32.5; 5. Farmington, 1:32.97; 6. Northville, 1:35.23.
1,600: 1. Salem (Chase

Minshaw, Colin McCormack, Amado, Crawford), 3:32.34; 2. Catholic Central, 3:32.44; 3. Plymouth, 3:32.45; 4. Stevenson, 3:33.26; 5. Churchill, 3:41.95; 6. Canton, 3:42.29.

3,200: 1. Farmington (Paolo Guarano, Nimantha Herath, Drew Lindman, Shawn-Michael Fields), 8:19.93; 2. Stevenson, 8:27.86; 3. Catholic Central, 8:29.93; 4. Churchill, 8:31.11; 5. Plymouth, 8:43.05; 5. Salem, 8:47.4; 6. Franklin, 8:48.24.
6,400: 1. Farmington (Fields, Lindman, Andrew Brown, Herath), 18:43.40; 2. Stevenson, 19:01.34; 3. Catholic Central, 19:03.38; 4. Churchill, 19:04.11; 5. Franklin, 19:24.84; 6. Salem, 19:35.53.

Sprint medley: 1. Stevenson (Tony Wilson, Adam Wheeler, Nick Podulka, Zaid Shareef), 2:29.64; 2. Harrison, 2:30.56; 3. Salem, 2:43.03; 4. Farmington, 2:34.06; 5. Clarenceville, 2:35.29; 6. Canton, 2:35.77.
Distance medley: 1. Plymouth (Andy Dalton, Lucas Bunting, Max Rogowski, Derek Gielarowski), 10:40.88; 2. Northville, 11:04.88; 3. Catholic Central, 11:13.28; 4. Churchill, 11:41.31; 5. Stevenson, 11:45.17; 6. Canton, 11:48.16.
Shuttle hurdle: 1. Catholic Central (Evan Moran, Yassal, Joshua Gandy, Malinowski, 1:04.27; 2. Harrison, 1:05.31; 3. Churchill, 1:05.51; 4. Farmington, 1:05.94; 5. Canton, 1:08.06; 6. Franklin, 1:09.32.

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS
100 dash: 1. Kelly (C'ville), 10.52 (meet record); 2. Alex Perelli, (LF), 10.95; 3. Homrich (Salem), 11.02; 4. Colby Morris (Canton), 11.08; 5. Eric Wilson (RT), 11.09; 6. Jason Flournoy (WJG), 11.1.
1,600: 1. Miles Felton (Canton), 4:32.85; 2. Nicholas Lanzetta (CC), 4:34.96; 3. Ruben Maya (WJG), 4:37.33; 4. Dalton (P), 4:39.65; 5. Alec Jones (C'ville), 4:41.81; 6. Steve McEvelly (Salem), 4:41.82.
110 hurdles: 1. Amado (Salem), 14.64; 2. Tom Brokaw (LF), 14.8; 3. Josh Craven (Farm.), 15.5; 4. Gandy (C'ville), 15.58; 5. Ma Sambou Jatta (C'ville), 15.63; 6. Kenzel Jefferson (LC), 15.75.

team performed really well tonight," said Farmington coach Chip Bridges. "Our distance runners especially came out strong and ran well. It's been a long time — if

ever — that we've won the four-by-16 and the four-by-eight. Our throwers were terrific as well."

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BOYS TRACK & FIELD RESULTS

DUAL MEET RESULTS LIVONIA FRANKLIN 70 CANTON 67

May 8 at Canton
Shot put: 1. Adam Clay (LF), 48 feet; 2. Tony Vella (LF), 40-0; 3. Stephen Schacht (C), 38-9.
Discus: 1. Dev Sandhu (C), 117-9; 2. Vella (LF), 97-5; 3. Matt Halim (C), 96-8.
High jump: 1. Jamal Dixon (C), 5-11; 2. Akil Wade (C), 5-6; 3. Matt Schacht (C), 5-6.
Long jump: 1. Brett Gutowski (LF), 20-2.5; 2. Dixon (C), 19-7.5; 3. Jordan Bickham (LF), 19-1.
Pole vault: 1. Jimmy Bagazinski (LF), 12-0.5; 2. Mitch Nickert (C), 11-6; 3. Kyle Zander (C), 11-0.
110-meter hurdles: 1. Tom Brokaw (LF), 15.3; 2. Mitch Pepper (C), 16.8; 3. James Hildreth (C), 18.3.
300 hurdles: 1. Andrew Crechiolo (LF), 43.3; 2. Shean Krolicki (C), 44.3; 3. Brokaw

(LF), 44.6.
100 dash: 1. Ryan Jones (C), 10.8; 2. Alex Perelli (LF), 10.9; 3. Danny Duncan (LF), 11.2.
200: 1. Perelli (LF), 22.9; 2. Colby Morris (C), 23.0; 3. Jones (C), 23.4.
400: 1. M. Schacht (C), 52.0; 2. Gutowski (LF), 53.4; 3. Bickham (LF), 53.7.
800: 1. Miles Felton (C), 2:09.2; 2. Jackson Lytle (C), 2:10.3; 3. Koponen (LF), 2:13.6.
1,600: 1. Felton (C), 4:30.2; 2. Keenan Jones (LF), 4:46.9; 3. Ross Cecil (LF), 4:47.4.
3,200: 1. Felton (C), 10:25.1; 2. Jones (LF), 10:31.0; 3. Cecil (LF), 10:34.0.
400 relay: 1. Canton, 43.8; 2. Franklin, 44.3; **800 relay:** 1. Franklin (Andrew McCaughey, Gutowski, Perelli, Crechiolo), 1:33.1; 2. Canton, 1:34.1; **1,600 relay:** 1. Franklin (Crechiolo, McCaughey, Bickham, Gutowski), 3:32.3; 2. Canton, 3:39.7; **3,200 relay:** 1. Franklin (Ko-

penen, Crechiolo, Cecil, Jones), 8:39.8; 2. Canton, 8:45.1.
Dual meet records: Franklin, 4-1 overall, 4-1 KLAA South Division (clinch co-title); Canton, 4-1 overall, 4-1 KLAA South (clinch co-title).

PLYMOUTH 83 WESTLAND GLENN 36 May 8 at John Glenn

Shot put: 1. Orr (WJG), 120-0; 2. Ogden (WJG), 109.5; **high jump:** 1. Nathan Harris (P), 5-10; 2. Micah Orr (WJG), 5-6; 3. Thomas Carter (WJG), 5-3; **long jump:** 1. Carter (WJG), 18-0; 3. Airren Watkins (WJG), 16-9.5; **pole vault:** 1. Teasdale (P), 11-6; 2. Jewell Jones (WJG), 10-6; 3. Quinn Dupraw (WJG), 9-6; **110-meter hurdles:** 1. Edgerton (P), 15.59; 2. Miltin Rickett (WJG), 16.58; 3. Kalyn Massenburg (WJG), 18.77; **300 hurdles:** 1. Edgerton

(P), 44.13; 3. Massenburg (WJG) 46.36; **100 dash:** 1. Alex Rogers (P), 11.1; 2. Jaron Flournoy (WJG), 11.18; 3. Marcus Beeman (WJG), 11.65; **200:** 1. William Askew II (P), 23.34; 2. Beeman (WJG), 24.0; 3. Karl Fletcher (WJG), 24.59; **400:** 1. Lucas Bunting (P), 51.49; 2. Michael Sollars (WJG), 53.23; **800:** 1. Max Rogowski (P), 2:04.46; 3. Jones (WJG), 2:06.2; **1,600:** 1. Rogowski (P), 4:35.54; 3. Ruben Maya (WJG), 4:40.94; **3,200:** 1. Dalton (P), 10:26.68; **400 relay:** 1. Plymouth, 46.44; 2. John Glenn, disqualified; **800 relay:** 1. Plymouth, 1:39.44; 2. John Glenn, disqualified; **1,600 relay:** 1. Plymouth, 3:35.08; 2. John Glenn, 3:42.39; **3,200 relay:** 1. Plymouth, 8:40.83; 2. John Glenn, 8:51.9.
Dual meet records: Plymouth, 3-2 overall, 3-2 KLAA South Division; John Glenn, 1-4 overall, 1-4 KLAA South.

GIRLS TRACK & FIELD RESULTS

STEVENSON INVITATIONAL GIRLS TRACK MEET May 5 at Livonia Stevenson

Participating schools: Livonia Churchill (LC), Livonia Franklin (LF), Livonia Stevenson (LS), Livonia Ladywood (LL), Farmington Hills Mercy (FM), Canton (Canton), Northville (N), Southfield (S), Warren Regina (WR), Dearborn Heights Crestwood (DHC); Lake Orion (LO).

Shot put: 1. Amy Lewandowski (LL), 32 feet, 8.5 inches; 2. Elizabeth Jenkins (FM), 32-3.75; 3. Amber Warren (Canton), 31-9; 4. Oly Nwanko (LS), 31-8; 5. Megan Ling (LC), 30-9.5; 6. Chelsea Billingsley (LS), 30-5.
Discus: 1. Kayla Branton (LS), 101-2; 2. Lewandowski (LL), 99-6; 3. Sarah Wojnarowski (LL), 94-11; 4. Sarah Muzzini (LS), 92-1; 5. Jenkins (FM), 90-2; 6. Sofia Modes (LF), 87-11.
High jump: 1. Senclair McDonnell (LC), 5-1; 2. Ashley Cochran (LC), 4-11; 3. Kelly O'Brien (LF), 4-9; 4. Sheila McKinley (LF), 4-6; 5. Chelsea Carmody (Canton), 4-6.
Long jump: 1. Alex Kitz (LS), 16-4.75; 2. Natalie Modes (LF), 15-4.5; 3. Cochran (LC), 15-4; 4. Brianna Jed (LS), 15-3.75; 5. McDonnell (LC), 15-0.25; 6. Pia Simon (Canton), 14-10.75.
Pole vault: 1. Kitz (LS), 11-6 (school record); 2. Emily Lang (Canton), 10-0; 3. Simon (Canton), 9-6; 4. Madele Martindale (LO), 9-3; 5. (tie) Amanda Fox (LC) and Mallory Dorton (LO), 9-0 each.
100-meter hurdles: 1. Molly Jarvis (LC), 15.67 (school record); 2. O'Brien (LF), 15.81; 3. Lauren Rodriguez (N), 49.1; 4. Anna-Kay Barrett (S), 16.8; 5. Krashawn Willis (S), 17.21; 6. Marina Milad (Canton), 21.8.

300 hurdles: 1. Jarvis (LC), 47.75; 2. O'Brien (LF), 49.04; 3. Rodriguez (N), 49.1; 4. Milad (Canton), 50.28; 5. Maddie Miller (FM), 51.32; 6. Vanessa Cousino (N), 51.86.
100 dash: 1. Madison Agnew (LF), 12.81; 2. Bryah White (LF), 12.81; 3. Jewel Hampton (S), 13.01; 4. Elyssa Hofmann (LC), 13.06; 5. Jed (LS), 13.19; 6. Demi Crossman (LC), 13.21.
200: 1. LaTiphia Cross (S), 26.2; 2. Crystal Abernathy (S), 26.78; 3. Lacey Jones (S), 26.98; 4. Leah Heinzelman (LC), 27.49; 5. Nadia Affes (N), 27.84; 6. Hofmann (LC), 28.0.
400: 1. Cross (S), 58.91; 2. Abernathy (S), 1:01.6; 3. Sydney Anderson (LC), 1:01.1; 3. Pilar Furlong (LL), 1:03.6; 5. Allison Timberlake (LS), 1:03.83; 6. Kara Ernst (N), 1:03.92.
800: 1. Michelle Azar (LC), 2:29.15; 2. Alison Robinson (N), 2:31.276; 3. Katie Grimes (Canton), 2:33.98; 4. Brenna Gabrielson (LS), 2:35.27; 5. Julia Capeneka (LS), 2:35.64; 6. Hamdi Ashkar (DHC), 2:35.79.
1,600: 1. Kergian Riley (LC), 5:17.65; 2. Kristen Muir (Canton), 5:18.32; 3. Bethany Pilat (LC), 5:24.46; 4. Azar (LC), 5:29.13; 5. Heather Smith (FM), 5:30.52; 6. Allysen Eads (FM), 5:38.34.
3,200: 1. Pilat (LC), 11:39.7; 2. Smith (FM), 11:50.18; 3. Riley (LC), 1:54.76; 4. Brooke Kuchka (LS), 12:06.0; 5. Jenny Ponkowski (WR), 12:23.43; 6. Vivien Okechuku (LC), 12:25.76.
400 relay: 1. Churchill (Crossman, Jarvis, Hofmann, Heinzelman), 50.89; 2. Franklin (Agnew, N. Modes, Jessica Thomas, White), 51.02 (school record); 3. Southfield, 51.22; 4. Northville, 53.46; 5. Canton, 53.53; 6. Mercy, 54.52.
800 relay: 1. Southfield (Cross, Kalisi Latta-Thompson,

Hampton, Abernathy), 1:46.46; 2. Churchill (Anderson, Heinzelman, Hofmann, Jarvis), 1:48.72; 3. Canton, 1:52.44; 4. Mercy, 1:52.97; 5. Stevenson, 1:53.2; 6. Franklin, 1:55.57.
1,600 relay: 1. Southfield (Cross, Jones, Kierra Washington, Abernathy), 4:13.63; 2. Churchill (Anderson, Heinzelman, Julia Szuba, Natalie Spala), 4:14.24; 3. Stevenson, 4:22.1; 4. Canton, 4:26.29; 5. Ladywood, 4:33.47; 6. Franklin, 4:35.98.
3,200 relay: 1. Churchill (Anderson, Pilat, Riley, Azar), 9:45.18; 2. Mercy (Katelyn Toloff, Eads, Teagan Dillon, Smith), 10:24.57; 3. Canton, 10:31.49; 4. Regina, 10:49.91; 5. Ladywood, 10:59.14; 6. Northville, 11:00.72.
DUAL MEET RESULTS LIVONIA FRANKLIN 70 CANTON 67
May 8 at Canton
Shot put: 1. Ashley Gruden (LF), 30 feet, 8 inches; 2. Jamie Mondella (LF), 28-11.5; **discus:** 1. Lobb (C), 91-2.5; 3. Gruden (LF), 82-9; **high jump:** 1. Kelly O'Brien (LF), 4-10; 2. Sheila McKinley (LF), 4-10; **long jump:** 1. Pia Simon (C), 15-11.25; 2. Natalie Modes (LF), 15-2; **pole vault:** 1. Laing (C), 9-6; 3. McKinley (LF), 13-0; **100-meter hurdles:** 1. O'Brien (LF), 16.6; **300 hurdles:** 1. Marina Milad (C), 50.1; 2. O'Brien (LF), 52.7; **100 dash:** 1. Madison Agnew (LF), 12.9; 2. Bryah White (LF), 13.0; 3. Jessica Thomas (LF), 13.0; **200:** 1. Agnew (LF), 27.3; 2. Thomas (LF), 27.8; 3. White (LF), 27.9; **400:** 1. Alaniva (C), 1:05.9; 2. Jada Johnson (LF), 1:07.3; **800:** 1. Grimes (C), 2:30.9; 3. Mandy Pokryfky (LF), 2:40.1; **1,600:** 1. Kristen Muir (C), 5:34.7; **3,200:** 1. Tiffany Lambie (LF), 13:00.5; 2. Anna Snider (LF), 13:07.7; **400 relay:** 1. Franklin (White,

Thomas, Modes, Agnew), 52.2; 2. Canton, 53.3; **800 relay:** 1. Franklin (White, Thomas, Modes, Agnew), 1:50.9; 2. Canton, 1:51.7; **1,600 relay:** 1. Canton, 4:21.6; 2. Franklin, 4:31.0; **3,200 relay:** 1. Canton, 10:52.9; 2. Franklin, 12:02.7.
Dual meet records: Franklin, 3-2 overall, 3-2 KLAA South Division; Canton, 1-4 overall, 1-4 KLAA South.
PLYMOUTH 75 WESTLAND GLENN 62
May 8 at John Glenn
Shot put: 1. Johnson (P), 32 feet-9.5 inches; **discus:** 1. Williams (P), 116-0; 3. Alexis Mikonczyk (WJG), 89-7.5; **high jump:** 1. Joslyn Massey (WJG), 5-2; **long jump:** 1. Massey (WJG), 16-4.25; 2. Kayla Jones (WJG), 16-3; **pole vault:** 1. Engstrom (P), 11-0; **100-meter hurdles:** 1. Kirsten Smith (WJG), 14.84; 3. Taelour Phillips (WJG), 16.84; **300 hurdles:** 1. Smith (WJG), 46.54 (school record); 2. Phillips (WJG), 51.14; **100 dash:** 1. Jones (WJG), 12.56; 2. Shekinah Johnson (WJG), 12.62; **200:** 1. Jones (WJG), 26.43; 2. Massey (WJG), 27.43; **400:** 1. Hille (P), 1:01.82; 2. Stephany Brown (WJG), 1:03.27; **800:** 1. Traites (S), 2:29.76; **1,600:** 1. Plymouth, 5:38.08; **3,200:** 1. Lax (P), 13:02.0; **400 relay:** 1. John Glenn (Johnson, Breyon Crawford, Rheanna Allen, Jones), 51.67; 2. Plymouth, 52.86; **800 relay:** 1. John Glenn (Brown, Allen, Massey), 1:49.59; 2. Plymouth, 1:52.95; **1,600 relay:** 1. John Glenn (Brown, Kayla Hall, Kierra Jordan, Johnson), 4:25.5; 2. Plymouth, 4:28.88; **3,200 relay:** 1. Plymouth, 10:30.14; 2. John Glenn, 11:21.1.
Dual meet records: Plymouth, 4-1 overall, 4-1 KLAA South Division; John Glenn, 3-2 overall, 3-2 KLAA South.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Soccer equipment drive

As part of the Soccer Aid for Hope project, a soccer equipment drive will take place Saturday-Sunday, May 26-27 at the 2012 Canton Cup Soccer Tournament.

The drive is slated from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day, at Independence Park (Denton Road, south of Cherry Hill).

All soccer equipment will be donated to the Achievers Football Club and Futbol Club Leverkusen in the Philippines.

Among needed items: jerseys, shorts, socks, T-shirts, soccer cleats, indoor soccer shoes, running shoes, goalie jerseys and gloves, warmups, bags/backpacks, soccer balls, shin guards, cones, practice pinnies/vests and ball air pumps.

For more information, contact Mark Mangune at mark.mangune@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/SoccerAidforHope.

Golf outing

The fifth annual Canton Boys and Girls Basketball Golf Outing is slated for Sunday, June 3, at Fellows Creek Golf Club. A shotgun start will be at 1 p.m.

Included in the \$100 registration fee are 18 holes of golf with a cart, lunch at the turn, dinner and a prizes raffle. Go to: www.facebook.com/cantonchiefsbasketball to get registration forms or contact Jimmy Reddy at redjy@slcs.us.

State Senior Olympics near

The Michigan Senior Olympics will be hosting the 2012 Summer Games June 9-17 and a golf tournament May 23-25. Softball and track and field will be held July 27-29.

Participants aged 50 and up will be competing for medals and the chance to go to the National Senior Games in 2013. There are more than 20 sports available in which to compete. The deadline to register

for the summer games is May 4.

MSO is a nonprofit organization that promotes living healthy, competition and wellness programs. Volunteers are needed to help run the games and there are many positions that need to be filled. There are also sponsorship opportunities that can be customized to best suit your needs. Contact the MSO office to find out more about sponsoring the Summer Games.

Visit www.michiganse-niorolympics.org or call (248) 608-0250 to learn more about the organization, to register or volunteer for the upcoming games.

Plymouth grid camp

The Plymouth High School Football Program will be holding its annual football camp June 25-27 at the PCEP varsity turf field.

Youngsters entering grades five-nine will participate from 5-7 p.m. each of the three days; those entering grades 10-12 will take part from 7-9 p.m..

The cost of the camp is \$40. Go to www.plymouthwildcats.com, click on sports and go to football for a camp brochure. Any questions, contact coach Mike Sawchuk at (734) 765-1766.

Football info meeting

Speaking of Plymouth High School football, a mandatory informational meeting for any student-athletes interested in playing in 2012 will be Tuesday, May 22, in the high school cafeteria.

Incoming freshmen will meet from 6-7:30 p.m. with upperclassmen meeting from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

On the agenda will be program expectations with distribution of necessary paperwork. Wildcat merchandise will be on sale at the meeting. Contact coach Mike Sawchuk at (734) 765-1766 for more information.

'Cats perfect at Stars tourney

Boasting a perfect mix of pitching, hitting and defense, Plymouth's varsity girls softball team captured the Stars Tournament last weekend.

The Wildcats (18-2) won all five games, including a 5-4 victory over Clarkston in the championship game on Sunday.

"We only allowed six errors and seven runs" over the course of the tournament, Plymouth head coach Val Canfield said. "We're meeting my expectations (that) I have set for the season."

"Each of these players love the game and that's what makes the difference."

MVPs for the tournament included freshman pitcher Mikayela Marciniak, sophomore catcher Brooke Senkbeil, freshman third baseman Brittney Miller and sophomore shortstop Lindsay Lutton.

Marciniak, stepping up while junior pitcher Elaine Gerou heals from an arm injury, allowed 18 hits and two walks over 41 innings while fanning 25 opponents and posting a 1.20 earned run average.

At the plate, she went 5-for-16 and hit two homers.

Senkbeil batted .300 with an inside-the-park home run in Plymouth's 2-0 victory over Farmington Hills Mercy. Miller posted a .389 average, also homering once.

Lutton was the big hitter for the Wildcats, with nine hits in 19 trips for a .474 average. She also doubled, tripled, homered



JOHN KEMSKI

Strong all-around play by Plymouth's Bri Giordano helped the Wildcats win the Stars Tournament last weekend. Giordano and her teammates excelled in winning all five games.

and drove in seven runs.

Augmenting those players were Bri Giordano (.357) and Allison Raylean (.500).

Other wins were 5-0 against Hartland, 8-2 against Lapeer West and 7-0 against North Farmington.

CANTON 12, SOUTH LYON 4:

On Tuesday in the makeup of a rainout, Jessica Webster went 4-for-4 and homered twice to spark the Chiefs.

Webster stroked a grand slam and solo shot, driving in six runs.

Other big hitters for the Chiefs (10-3) were Catherine

Porter (2-for-4, 1 RBI) and Delainey O'Donnell (2-for-4, 2 RBI).

Earning the win for Canton was Hannah Shuler, who went 4 2/3 innings, giving up three hits and striking out four. Wrapping up the win with 2 1/3 innings of relief was Alyssa Boucher.

CANTON 9, S. LYON EAST 5: Friday, the Chiefs scored three times in the first and went on to post a KLAAs crossover victory.

Paige Aresco went 3-for-3 and drove in three runs to lead the way. Chipping in with two hits each were Catherine Porter, Kendyl Richter and Kaitlyn Keys.

Alyssa Boucher gave up one run in three innings for the win.

Chiefs make it six straight wins

Canton's varsity baseball team made it six straight wins with Tuesday's 13-3 victory over visiting South Lyon.

The Chiefs (13-5 overall) needed just five innings to finish the mercy victory. Earning the win was pitcher David Blythe, who gave up one run and struck out five.

Spearheading the attack was Michael Stafford, with a 4-for-5 day and two RBI. Weston Price collected three hits (including a double) while Ryan Bazner (two doubles) and Nick Hazergian (2-for-4, two RBI) also helped the cause.

On Saturday at Kalamazoo Central, the Chiefs earned a doubleheader sweep (5-3, 8-1).

Stafford struck out 11 in the opener with Hazergian throwing two innings and striking out five for the save. Bazner's RBI triple was a key hit.

In Game 2, Hazergian

earned the win and hit a grand slam to help his cause.

Bazner tallied two hits, with James Hall contributing a hit and scoring twice. Mitch Clinton chipped in with a base hit and run.

Last week, the Chiefs swept Livonia Franklin (11-4, 11-2) and earned a 6-1 victory over South Lyon East.

Against the visiting Patriots on May 2, starting pitchers Bazner and Brent Mattson (complete game, seven strikeouts in Game 2) were strong on the bump.

Jake Boucher collected two hits in each game.

In the victory over host South Lyon East on May 4, Drew Misenko was the winning pitcher in his first varsity start.

Misenko went three innings, struck out three and allowed just one hit.

Nick Tata and Stafford each doubled in a run.

KENNEDY INVITE: The

Plymouth Wildcats defeated Taylor Kennedy 9-2 Saturday to claim the Taylor Kennedy Invitational.

The offense was on a roll early, with three runs in the first setting the tone.

Brendan Swanson walked and Tyler Goble singled, with singles by Rich Guglielmi and Jamarl Eiland each knocking in a run. Matt Janke (two hits, three RBI) then laid down a perfect suicide squeeze to score courtesy runner Brandon Waack.

The Wildcats added two in the third and four in the fifth. Andrew Page (two hits, run, RBI), Goble (two hits, three runs) and Guglielmi (two hits) had big games for Plymouth (14-4).

Taylor Kennedy reached the championship game with a walk-off single against Salem, for a 3-2 win.

Plymouth routed Milan 7-2 in the first game, paced by Guglielmi's three hits and two runs.

Other key players for the Wildcats' offense were Brian Schmid (two hits, two RBI), Eiland (three runs) and Nick Sandberg (two RBI).

Sandberg earned the pitching win, going six innings and allowing just two runs. He struck out four while giving up six hits. Pitching a scoreless seventh was James Willey.

EVENT

Continued from page B1

awareness of the disease, reminding men and their families that regular checkups and screenings can help them live longer and healthier lives.

"The feedback to our players has been very positive. The players see first hand how they can use the game of baseball to help others.

"There is a great sense of accomplishment every

year once we tally up the final donation. The players' parents and coaches appreciate the many lessons taught on this important day."

Event info

Following is the full schedule, to take place at Salem's varsity and freshman fields:

- 11 a.m. Salem vs. Plymouth JV (varsity field); 11 a.m. Salem vs. Plymouth freshman doubleheader (freshman field); 2 p.m. Salem vs. Plymouth varsity (varsity field).

• No admission fee is required although donations will be accepted. Also, there will be raffle prizes, 50/50 raffle, concessions and programs for sale to benefit the Prostate Cancer Foundation.

• For more information, go to www.rocksbasedb.com or contact Anne Driscoll of Salem Baseball Boosters (Adriscolcm@aol.com; (734) 392-4901).

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Hawks capture softball tournament

A freshman pitcher led the way as Westland Huron Valley Lutheran emerged the victor in Saturday's Lutheran High Westland girls softball tournament.

Julie St. John, a ninth-grader, won both games including a tense 3-2 win in the championship final over the host Warriors following a 12-1 first-round victory over Livonia Clarenceville where she recorded 13 strikeouts.

St. John scattered eight hits and walked one in the

win over Lutheran Westland to outduel the Warriors' starter Emily Hahn, also a freshman, who gave up just five hits and three walks while fanning eight.

Each team committed three errors.

Freshman Bethany Schaffer went 2-for-3 with a double and RBI, while sophomore Brooke Kuehn went 2-for-4 for the victorious Hawks, who improved to 12-4 overall.

The Warriors loaded the bases with no outs in the

fourth inning, but managed to only get one run across.

"The second game was battle," HVL coach Eric Ruth said. "We did not get our bats going against Lutheran Westland and had to play good defense to get out of some jams."

"We were sluggish in the batter's box today. Eight strikeouts is the most we have had in a game all year. We need to work on learning how to adjust quicker from pitcher-to-pitcher we see game-to-

game."

In the opener, HVL unloaded for 20 hits as sophomore Dayna Schroeder led the way going 4-for-4 with a double, three RBI and two runs scored.

Freshman Jessie Strach went 3-for-5, including a pair of doubles, two RBI and two runs.

St. John allowed one earned run on three walks and two hit batters.

Clarenceville starter Jaki Bateman suffered the loss as the Trojans fell to 10-7.


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Pet survives Canton house fire

Former Canton resident Christy Jones donated a special oxygen mask for pets to the Canton Fire Department four years ago.

On Saturday, that donation paid off, helping to rescue a family dog from a house fire on Carriage Hills Drive in Canton.

Canton dispatchers got the call about the fire around 3:30 p.m. Saturday. When they got there, firefighters

found smoke billowing from the overhang, forced the front door of the house and made entry to the home which, according to officials, was filled with "thick, black smoke."

Firefighters found the home unoccupied except for the family dog, which they found unconscious and unresponsive, with labored breathing. They took the dog outside, where another firefighter wait-

ed with one of Jones' donated masks. Oxygen was administered to the dog for approximately 20 minutes, when Skylar, a yellow Labrador, regained conscious, became responsive and started breathing better.

The homeowner contacted Dr. Mark Alsager, of Alsager Animal Care Center in Canton, who arrived on scene and transported the dog to a 24-hour animal hospital.

Meanwhile, two firefighters continued into the basement where they encountered zero visibility and extreme heat. Using a thermal imaging camera they discovered the fire and put it out. Additional firefighters began ventilating the house using positive pressure fans.

The fire was confined to the northeast area of the basement with smoke damage throughout the house. The area of ori-

gin was determined to be in a small room in the northeast part of the basement — the actual cause is still under investigation.

No human injuries were reported, and Skylar is reported to be in stable condition and expected to recover from her injuries. According to fire officials, Alsager credits the firefighter's use of the special oxygen mask with saving the Labrador's life.

CRIME WATCH

Scam alert

A Canton woman has issued an alert to other residents after she avoided being taken by a scam she realized was too good to be true.

The woman notified the *Observer* after she received a letter from a scam artist posing as Polyair Corp. The mailing included what she learned was a bogus check for \$3,700, but the letter requested that she send by Western Union \$1,950 to pay taxes in the United Kingdom.

The woman said she wanted to alert the community in hopes she could prevent someone from losing money.

Accidental shooting

1 A 40-year-old man told police he accidentally shot himself with a .38-caliber Smith & Wesson handgun while he was walking his dogs on Cherry Hill east of Denton Road, according to a police report.

The man allegedly told police he had his hand

in his coat pocket where he was carrying the gun — and he accidentally pulled the trigger and shot himself in the lower right abdomen when a raccoon startled him.

The incident happened about 10:30 p.m. Saturday, and the man went to the Oakwood facility on North Canton Center for treatment. He had a permit to carry a gun.

License issues

2 A woman driving with a suspended license was cited for another license offense and for failing to stop within a clear assured distance following a two-car accident that happened shortly after 11 a.m. Monday at Ford and Canton Center roads, according to a police report.

The woman was initially taken to a hospital and treated for injuries, but she was later issued a citation and released.

Retail fraud

3 Canton police arrested two females, ages 20 and 16, for a retail fraud



incident that, according to a police report, happened shortly after 8 p.m. Sunday at the Walmart store on Michigan Avenue just west of Belleville Road.

A loss prevention employee told police the females were watched as they ripped the tags off clothing. One of the women left the store with no merchandise and returned with a purse, then the suspects are accused of putting cloth-

ing in their purses.

The suspects, reportedly sisters, did buy what was described as a tongue ring but didn't pay for the clothing they allegedly concealed in their purses. They initially told police their parents were dead, but later gave the name of their mother.

The pair, who said they live in Belleville, were charged with retail fraud and obstructing a police investigation.

Neighbor dispute

4 A 63-year-old man was accused of trying to hit a neighbor with a wrench during an incident that happened about 6 p.m. Saturday in the 44100 block of Somerset Square, southeast of Sheldon and Hanford, a police report said.

The man was accused of cursing loudly while he was intoxicated, and he allegedly charged at the neighbor and tried to hit him with a wrench. The alleged victim said the incident occurred while he was lowering the seat on a bike that had been given to a neighborhood child.

A police report indicated no one wanted to prosecute the case.

Sunglasses swiped

5 Police were investigating reports that someone gained entry to a window of Vision Center on Lilley Road north of Cherry Hill and stole numerous pairs of Maui Jim sunglasses worth thousands of dollars.

The incident was discovered shortly before 8 a.m. Saturday when police went to the scene following an alarm call.

No seat belt

6 Canton police nabbed a driver who tried to flee after he was stopped for not wearing his seat belt.

The incident happened shortly after 8 p.m. May 2 on Michigan Avenue west of Sheldon.

According to a police report, an officer stopped the male driver after he ignored attempts to pull him over for two blocks. The driver finally pulled off the road and, as an officer approached the driver's side of the car, the man is accused of jumping out the passenger door and trying to flee. He was captured.

Police learned the man had five license suspensions and seven prior convictions for license plate confiscation. He was arrested for fleeing and eluding police.

Compiled by Staff Writer Darrell Clem from Canton Police Department reports.

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TRIAL

Continued from page A1

remains unknown to what extent he will ever live a normal life.

Initially, Hunter wasn't expected to survive injuries he received inside a three-bedroom rental house on Michigan Avenue where the baby lived with his unmarried parents, Sewejkis and Leanne Garlick.

Though Garlick wasn't at home when the incident occurred, she has lost custody of her child, who is staying with maternal grandparents Sal and Theresa Alongi of Belleville.

"He's got a long road ahead," Sal Alongi said during a courtroom recess. "He smiles sometimes. To me, he's a joy." Garlick, fighting back tears, said she last saw her son healthy when she stopped by their home about 3 p.m. Dec. 7 for a lunch break from her job. "He was fine, normal."

New story

A few hours later, Garlick said Sewejkis began texting her to say Hunter had fallen off a couch and sustained minor injuries, but when she came home around 9 p.m., Hunter's face "was slanted on one side" as though he had



Anthony Sewejkis, here in an earlier court appearance, took the stand in his own defense Wednesday.

suffered a stroke.

The parents took Hunter to Oakwood Annapolis, where Wright said Sewejkis initially told him the same story he had told Garlick. Then a new version arose.

"He became upset, very emotional. He had his face in his hands, and he told me if he explained the truth about what happened, he would lose everything," Wright testified.

That's when Wright said Sewejkis confessed to injuring Hunter, now 9 months old.

Wright also recounted statements Sewejkis made during his tearful video arraignment before 35th District Judge James Plakas.

"He put his hands to his face and said, 'I messed up real bad,'" Wright testified.

Garlick, under questioning from defense

attorney Kelly D. Watson, said she had no reason to believe Sewejkis was mentally impaired. She also denied telling Sewejkis she could no longer afford to pay for medications he took such as Prozac.

Some of Sewejkis' relatives have said they don't believe he would have intentionally hurt his son.

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Historical Society looking for help

Whether you want to learn more about history, meet other history buffs, or just help preserve Canton's rich past, the Canton Historical Society offers valuable volunteer opportunities. The Canton Historical Society currently has openings for a Development Officer and a Volunteer Coordinator.

The Development Officer will direct all efforts to raise necessary funds to support Canton Historical Society operations and programs. Responsibilities include developing, implementing and managing annual fundraising activities; securing financial support from individual donors, as well as foundations and corporations; maintaining donation records; creating and implementing strategies for annual donor campaigns by contacting individuals, businesses, government agencies and charitable foundations.

The Volunteer Coordinator develops, promotes and maintains the Canton Historical Society's volunteer program. Responsibilities include recruit-

ment, training and administration of volunteers for special programs/events, as well as daily operations. Additional duties include: scheduling of all volunteer activity, such as Museum tours as well as visits to the Bartlett-Travis House, Cady-Boyer Barn and other historic sites; reporting on volunteer activity and assessment of volunteer needs; administering volunteer orientation; and identifying community outreach opportunities for recruitment.

The Canton Historical Museum is located at 1022 S. Canton Center Road, on the corner of Canton Center Road and Heritage Park Drive in Canton.

Admission to the Canton Historical Museum is by donation. Regular museum hours are Tuesdays from 1-4 p.m., Thursdays from 2-5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To volunteer, contact the Canton Historical Museum at (734) 397-0088 or e-mail Cantonhist@comcast.net. To learn about these and other volunteer opportunities, visit www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org.

Livonia Public Schools Opens Renowned Academically Talented Program to Out-of-District Students

Seventeen seats are open to students entering
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Six seats are open to students entering 3rd or 4th grade in fall of 2012.

Limited Registration window: May 11 - May 25, 2012

Livonia Public Schools is opening its Alternative Classrooms for the Academically Talented (ACAT) program to Limited Schools of Choice for the 2012-2013 school year.

This program is geared toward academically talented students looking for a specialized learning experience.

Registration will be open from May 11 - May 25, 2012 at Webster Elementary, 32401 Pembroke, Livonia 48152 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. All candidates MUST meet the ACAT selection testing criteria.

For complete information on the application process, visit www.livoniapublicschools.org or contact Webster School at 734-744-2795.

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Teen actors recreate Motown 1962 on youth theater stage

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Sheridynn Frazier got a little extra help shaping her role for Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit's upcoming musical, *Now That I Can Dance — Motown 1962*.

The 18-year-old Redford Thurston High School senior met Georgia Dobbins, the character she portrays in the musical about the Marvelettes and other Motown artists during their teen years in the early 1960s. Dobbins was an original member of The Marvelettes, an all-girl singing group from Inkster, but left before they recorded their first hit.

"When everyone else got a (Motown) contract, Georgia was scared because she had a feeling her dad would say no, and he did say no. He kept saying no ... and she didn't want to sing any more," Frazier said.

Mosaic director and founder, Rick Sperling, brought Dobbins and Frazier together during a rehearsal of the play, which opens Friday, May 11 at the Detroit Film Theatre in the Detroit Institute of Arts.

"Everyone was saying how quiet and shy she was and I really don't know how to portray that," said Frazier, a Mosaic member for six years. "But she wasn't like that. I'm glad I got to



Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit members portray the Marvelettes.



Sheridynn Frazier of Redford belts out a song in Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit's original play, "Now That I Can Dance - Motown 1962."

MOTOWN 1962

What: Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit's show about the Marvelettes and other Motown greats, portrayed as teens, by teens

When: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 11-12 and 18-19; 4 p.m. Sunday, May 13 and 20. Special student matinees at 10 a.m. May 10 and 17

Where: In the Detroit Film Theatre inside the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit

Tickets: \$20 for adults, \$12 for students and seniors

Contact: (313) 872-6910

meet Georgia Dobbins. It was great. She has a great personality, she's funny."

Frazier even got a chance to hear Dobbins sing the song she penned, *Please Mr. Postman*, with its original blues-style music.

Sperling described the face-to-face meeting as "incredibly powerful."

"It gives the young artist a tremendous amount of responsibility. They understand 'this is a real person and I have to do their story justice,'" he explained.

Ten of the individuals portrayed in the play, which Sperling wrote several years ago, will be in the audience on opening night and brought to the stage to meet their

Mosaic Youth Theatre counterparts.

Original works

Now That I Can Dance — Motown 62 is Mosaic's most popular show and was pulled from a vault of original works to help mark the theater's 20-year anniversary. Sperling has written many of Mosaic's scripts, as well as employed playwrights for the task.

"The content of the play is from interviews with original Marvelettes, the Vandellas, the Contours, the Miracles. We even got to interview people like Stevie Wonder's tutor," Sperling recalled. "This is Detroit teenagers of today telling the story of Detroit teenagers that

changed the music world in the '60s.

"We feel like this piece is a signature piece for us. I don't think an adult professional company could tell the story as well as we can. Why we create these original works is we want teenagers to tell the story of other teens in the way only they can," he said. "We couldn't do this show if young people started with us two months ago. They are with us nine months of the year. The training they are getting is all with professional actors and vocal coaches. It's a minimum 10 hours a week."

The Mosaic Youth Ensemble members are age 12-18 and cho-

sen by interview and audition. They rehearse three times a week for nine months and are cast in main stage productions. The Intermediate Training Program grooms approximately 65 students a year for the Ensemble. The First Stage program is aimed at beginning actors.

"We look for potential, not polish," Sperling noted.

Unique experience

The main stage troupe has toured internationally, performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. and at the White House.

Sperling said about 20 percent of Mosaic's members come from outside Detroit.

"Ninety-five percent who go through the core program go to college."

Many attend high schools that offer no drama or music programs. "But we do have kids every year that come from schools that have full programs. A high school program is kids doing adult plays. They want the Mosaic experience."

Frazier said her mother suggested she audition for Mosaic Youth Theatre. Since joining the group she has performed in such main stage productions as *Singsation* and *Northern Lights 1966*.

"For me it's really challenging," she said, "and it's fun at the same time."

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Michigan Philharmonic performs 'Bollywood' at Music Hall

Indian film and classical music will unite in "Bollywood in the D," premiering at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 19 at the Music Hall Center for Performing Arts, in Detroit.

The multi-media concert is presented by the Michigan Philharmonic, along with music professionals and singers from India.

"The Bollywood in the D concert brings with it a message of ethnic and musical fusion on the stage," said Narendra Sheth, American-Indian producer and director. "Cultural awareness is always a goal; the real impact will be the life enrichment."

Seventeen songs were selected from a variety of Bollywood films dating from the 1950s to today. Some familiar titles include: Jai Ho from *Slumdog Millionaire* and Tum Jo Aaye from *Once Upon A Time in*

Mumbai. The songs were chosen to represent a variety of Bollywood music and will deliver three different medleys including, east/west fusion medley, classical medley, and instrumental Bollywood music medley.

"The music selection gives increased participation by all different components of the orchestra and singers," said Sheth.

The process to meld of these two, very different, art forms was highly complicated because Bollywood music is played by ear. The duality of Sheth's ethnic background and classical music training afforded him the unique expertise to help create the orchestration of Bollywood music. His team of musicians, along with Michigan Philharmonic Conductor Nan Washburn, and orchestrators Gabri-

el Dharmoo and Sekar Vaidyanathan from Bollywood India, and one of the senior musicians of A.R. Rahman of *Slumdog Millionaire* fame, spent hours listening to the Bollywood music and translating it to an orchestration for the Michigan Philharmonic musicians.

Beth Stewart, Michigan Philharmonic executive director, is thrilled with the response to *Bollywood in the D*.

"We have had such an outpouring of support in response to this *Bollywood in the D*," she said. "This event is a wonderful way to bring a greater depth of integration between the Indian and American cultures in Detroit. Nothing speaks quite as collectively as music."

Ticket prices range from \$35 to \$200; for more information and to buy tickets, visit www.bollywoodinthed.com.



Dorothy — the true story

Zoe Stirret (left) plays Dorothy and Alora Adams is Glenda the Good Witch in the Spotlight on Youth production of "The Oz Monologues," Thursday-Saturday, May 10-12, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton. The play takes a behind-the-scenes look at what really happened to Dorothy when she landed in Oz, explains what happened to the other characters after she left, and reveals the secret of the "magical" ruby slippers. The audience learns that Dorothy actually landed in Oz, N. M., where a prom queen forced her to wear a hideous pair of red designer shoes that were too small. Show time is 7 p.m., with an additional performance at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$10. Call (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460 or visit online at www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater or www.spotlightplayersmi.org.

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Find unique artisan foods, plants and produce at farmers markets

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Emily Jenkins will take her baked goods on the road this weekend.

"I am a solo baker and I grow much of my own fruit. I started my market bakery last fall and I sell tartlets, mini pies, mini cakes, artisan breads and confections, well as eggs and heirloom — 19th century — fruit and other produce," she said.

"I'm so excited to be joining the Canton Market this year."

Jenkins, who owns Tanglewood Farm & Bakery in Plymouth, is among new vendors this season at the Canton Farmers Market, which opens Sunday, May 13, in Preservation Park, 500 N. Ridge Road. The Market kicks off its sixth season with new hours — 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Opening day events will include a perennial exchange, music by Mark Reitenga and a demonstration by chef Paul Penney. He'll cook recipes featuring seasonal produce from the Market from 10:30 a.m. to noon near the back porch of the Bartlett-Travis House.

Jenkins will bring a wide variety of Tanglewood Bakery sweets to the market, but she also takes custom orders and offers catering orders.

"All of my ingredients are either locally or ethically sourced, and I try to use organic and sustainable ingredients whenever I can. I am a huge history buff, so many of my recipes are historically inspired, often with flavors that we don't use much anymore, such as gooseberry and currant, and floral infusions."

She bakes with butter from a 100-year-old dairy that churns its product the old-fashioned way. Milk and other dairy products come from a local dairy and flour from grain grown on a living history farm in Illinois, is milled in west Michigan in a windmill.

Gluten-free

Ingredients are equally important to Kristi Zebrowski, another new vendor.

"I've been developing gluten-free baking mixes for about a year," the Northville resident said. "I use flax meal and chia seeds and healthy ingredients in my mixes. They are delicious and you wouldn't even notice they are gluten-free."

Zebrowski became interested in farm markets while working as a chef for four years in Chicago, Ill. She moved back to Michigan last year, started eating gluten-free and decided to create a home-based company, Grace Savory & Sweet.

"Why not try to come up with great recipes and share them? Everything I use is certified gluten free."

She works full time at St. John Golf and Conference Center in Plymouth and spends her spare



Tina DeWulf of DeWulf Farms stocks her table with squash at the Westland Farmers Market last year. DeWulf Farms is a new vendor at the Plymouth Farmers Market this season.



A nectarine galette, with poached figs in the background, made by Emily Jenkins of Plymouth. She'll sell baked goods like these at the Canton Farmers Market.



Garlic is measured at the Michigan Garlic Farm. The farm will sell its produce at the Plymouth Farmers Market this season.

time developing gluten-free mixes, producing them at a relative's house in Westland, and selling them online. She also sells at the Northville Farmer's Market, which opened Thursday, May 3, in addition to the Canton Market. Her line of mixes includes pancakes, cornbread, cookies, multi-grain bread, chewy granola bars, and a flour blend.

"I've experimented with different types of flour as well. Sorghum, oat flours, they all have their own unique consistency."

Other new vendors at the Canton Farmers Market Sunday include Hand Sown Farm with pesticide-free produce and Crunch Granola with small-batch granola.

The Canton Farmers Market runs through Oct. 14. For more information visit Cantonfun.org or call Tina Lloyd, market manager, at (734) 394-5375.

In Plymouth

The Plymouth Farmers Market will offer several new vendors when it opens Saturday, May 12, in The Gathering across from Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.

Donna and Les Abel of the Michigan Garlic Farm will be among them. They grow hardneck garlic, which produces a flowering stalk and scape — a tasty green shoot — at the top of the plant. Their farm, located in Livingston County, has more than 30,000 garlic plants, all of it naturally grown without pesticides or herbicides. All of it is planted and harvested by hand. Products include regular and smoked garlic granules and powders, garlic scapes, and fresh and smoked bulbs. Scapes are harvested in mid-June; bulbs in mid-July.

Other new vendors in Plymouth include Sir Williams Gardens, with garden plants; Ruehs Family Farms, with produce and flowering plants; U.P. Pasties, with sirloin, chicken, and veggie pasties, pot pies, bread stix, bread mix, cherry products and cookies; and DeWulf Farms, with vegetable plants and produce.

The Plymouth Market runs 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. through Oct. 27. It will be closed July 9 for Art in the Park and Sept. 10 for the Plymouth Communi-

ty Fall Festival. In addition to produce and plants, vendors will sell artisan food products, handmade and recycled items. For more information visit www.plymouthmich.org.

Here's a list of other farmer's markets in the area:

- Farmington Farmers & Artisans Market

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, through Nov. 17, at the Sundquist Pavilion in Riley Park, located at Grand River Avenue and Grove.

See cooking demonstrations by local restaurants at 11 a.m. Basement Burger Bar is the presenter on May 12. The scheduled performer this weekend is Dan Goree, singer and guitarist; www.downtown-farmington.org.

- Northville Farmers Market

8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday through Oct. 25, in the Northville Downs parking lot, located at Seven Mile and Sheldon. Includes more than 125 Michigan-made and Michigan-grown products. Lunch food service, cold drinks and shaded picnic tables also are available. The Chefs at the Market series is 9-10 a.m. every third Thursday. Weekly events include Master Gardeners from 9 a.m. to noon. Better Finds, a DNR-approved grower of native Michigan plants and wildflowers will be at the market May 10, 17 and 24. Wild orchids, rescue plants of protected species, and rare varieties are included. www.northville.org.

Save the date

- Garden City Farmers Market opens Wednesday, May 23 at Ford Road and Middlebelt. The market runs 9 a.m.-2, Wednesday through Oct. 24.

- Livonia Farmers Market opens Saturday, June 23 at the Wilson Barn, 29350 W. Chicago Road, at Middlebelt. Buy crafts, fruits, vegetables and artisan foods from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday through Oct. 13.

- Redford Farmers Market opens Sunday, June 17 at the Marquee, located at the Town Hall complex on Beech Daly, one block south of Five Mile. The market runs 10 a.m.-3 p.m. through Sept. 30.

- Westland's Market opens Tuesday, May 29, at Westland City Hall parking lot, 36601 Ford Road. The market runs 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesdays through Oct. 23.



TASTING NOTES

- Beer: Hitachino Nest Extra High (XH)
- Brewery: Kiuchi Brewery
- Origin: Ibaraki, Japan
- Style: Brown Ale
- ABV: 8.00%
- Glassware: Snifter, Tulip, or Oversized Wine Glass
- Description: Medium in build, this murky amber ale wears an epic off-white head. Toasted scents meet the nose followed by a bouquet of ginger-laced sour fruit, lime, apricot, green grape. More sour ginger on the palate, threads of earthy yeast, and playful effervescence cover the back of the throat. Departure is slightly floral with a hint of sweet malt and a faint sake bite that finishes dry. The flavors are complex with good definition but do not take away from the base style of brown ale. Very interesting, I will need to do more research.
- Conclusion: Beer and Wine working in harmony for the greater good... Washington take note!
- Where to Purchase
 - Whole Foods, 3135 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor — 11.2 ounces/\$4.99
 - The Wine Palace, 13971 Middlebelt Road, Livonia — 11.2 ounces/\$5.99
 - Super Fine Wine, 1634 Haggerty, Road, Canton — 11.2 ounces / \$5.99
 - Merchant's Fine Wine — 22250 Michigan Ave., Dearborn — 11.2 ounces / \$5.50

Beer Tracker — Got Wood?

By Nate Parsons
Guest Columnist

Centuries ago, wood barrels were simply vessels in which to brew and store beer. Brewers spent countless hours scrubbing and soaking barrels, hoping to neutralize the wood's influence on the finished product. However, in the last decade, wood barrels — wine, rum, and whiskey alike — are getting another look by the master brewer. In general, the prized accents of natural woody notes, complex tannins, and smoky char are highly sought after in the realm of

craft beer. Categorically speaking, "wood-aged" refers to any beer aged in a wood cask or vessel. This definition leads to many interpretations spanning the ale and lager spectrums. Though it's still a niche in the overall industry, wood barrel aged beers merited their own category in the 2011 Great American Beer Festival, with more than 40 entries.

Michigan brewers stock a number of barrel-aged offerings. Dragon's Milk, the crown jewel of New Holland's High Gravity series, is aged in old bourbon barrels made of oak. It's available year-round but the deep complex body lends itself to winter consumption. All Jolly Pumpkin ales benefit from oak barrel aging which provides a sense of balance to the somewhat sour profile found in Flemish style ales. Jolly Pumpkin's La Roja, is an America Wild Ale with a sweet-sour contrast for anyone looking for a refreshing change of pace.

An interesting international take on wood barrel aging comes from the land of the rising sun. Japan's Kiuchi Brewery has a long storied history of distilling premium rice wine, or Sake. It was only 1996 when the first batch of craft beer rolled off the assembly line under the Hitachino Nest label. In recent years, casks used for sake production have been incorporated into the beer brewing process. Housed in refurbished sake casks for several months, Hitachino Nest Extra High (XH) offers a unique twist on East meets West.

Nate Parsons can be reached at mdevin@yahoo.com.

CITY BITES

Food drive

METRO AREA — The 20th anniversary of the National Association of Letter Carriers' annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, is Saturday, May 12. To participate, place non-perishable food donations, such as canned soup, canned meats and fish, canned vegetables and canned fruit, as well as pasta and rice, in a bag and place it near your mailbox. Your letter carrier will collect the donations and deliver them

to local food banks and pantries.

Wine tasting

LIVONIA — d.vine fine wines will hold a Mother's Day tasting event with dessert wine and ice cream, noon, Saturday, May 12. Chef Brandon will share his hand-churned, custard-based ice cream. \$25 per person. Call (734) 432-3800 for reservations. d.vine fine wines is located at 17386 Haggerty.

Gluten-free crust

NATIONWIDE — Domino's Pizza this week launched a gluten-free pizza crust — appropriate for those with mild gluten sensitivity — that is available in nearly all of its 5,000 U.S. stores. It becomes the first national pizza delivery chain to offer such a product. Domino's and the National Foundation for Celiac Awareness do not recommend it for those with celiac disease because although

the crust is certified as gluten free, current store operations at Domino's cannot guarantee that each hand-crafted pizza will be completely free from gluten. There is a risk of cross-contamination because the crust is made in a common kitchen with crusts that contain wheat. Domino's new Gluten Free Crust is available in stores across the U.S. in a small, 10-inch size only, and prices vary by store.

County grant funds upgrades at Family Center

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

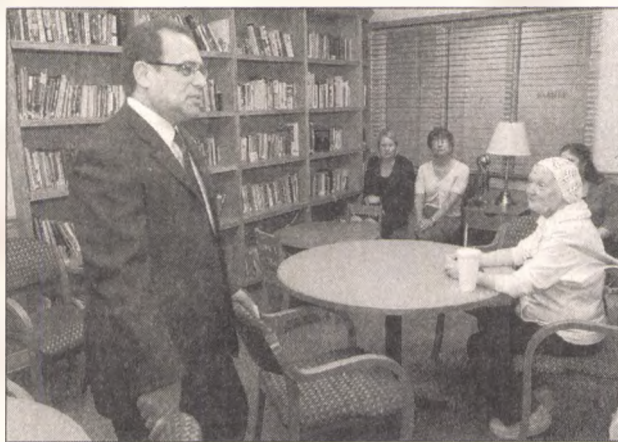
A year after she moved out of the Wayne County Family Center, Jody Hurick stopped in for visit and was impressed by how many improvements had been made to the facility.

That's before \$400,000 in upcoming improvements being funded through Wayne County Community Development Block grant money.

Located on Michigan Avenue in Westland, the center is slated to receive new windows and screens, bathroom and laundry room renovations, upgrades to lighting, air conditioning, heating systems and a new playscape.

While Hurick and her son David, 8, were visiting, they got a chance to meet some other guests touring the facility — Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and members of his staff.

"This shelter is unique, it's the only one is western



Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano came to tour the Wayne County Family Center accompanied by Jill Ferrari Wayne County Edge Director of Community Development and Joan Siavrakas, Wayne County Senior Citizen and Family Center Liaison. Jody Hurick (far right), who stayed at the center for a few months last year, was also visiting.

Wayne County that accepts families," said Ficano. "The safety net for this portion of the county is important. We stress economic development, but it's also a Wayne County function to help people in the shadow of life who are homeless."

With the current economic conditions, Ficano said the face of homelessness has changed.

"It used to be adult males living under the freeway overpass," said Ficano. "Now there are more and more families being economically challenged."

Operated by Lutheran Social Services of Michigan, the family center provides housing for 24 families. Clients can stay up to two years but the average stay is six or seven months.

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City Clerk

Publish: May 10, 2012

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Eco-friendly fair draws crowd to Plymouth

The fifth annual Green Street Fair brought thousands of people to Plymouth last weekend.

The fair, Friday, Saturday and Sunday in Kellogg Park and on surrounding downtown streets, featured vendors offering products made with the environment in mind, information on issues ranging from recycling to vegetarianism to the use of hemp as a fiber, companies touting fuel-saving cars and energy efficient construction, and hands-on art projects for children. There were rain barrels, natural-fiber clothing, soaps and foods with organic ingredients for sale and opportunities to recycle and donate old clothing.

There was also free live entertainment, a petting zoo for children, and a display of



Three-year-old Elliot Vanderveev spins a duck made of recycled plastic jar lids and built by kids.

raptors — birds of prey such as owls and a bald eagle — from the Leslie Science & Nature Center in Ann Arbor.

"I think it's a great fair this year," Plymouth City Commissioner Ed Hingelberg said Friday as he headed to his Cass Community Social Services' booth, where doormats made of recycled tires are sold. Hingelberg is an administrator at the Detroit-based social services agency.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

There was a pretty good crowd for the Green Street Fair around noon Sunday.



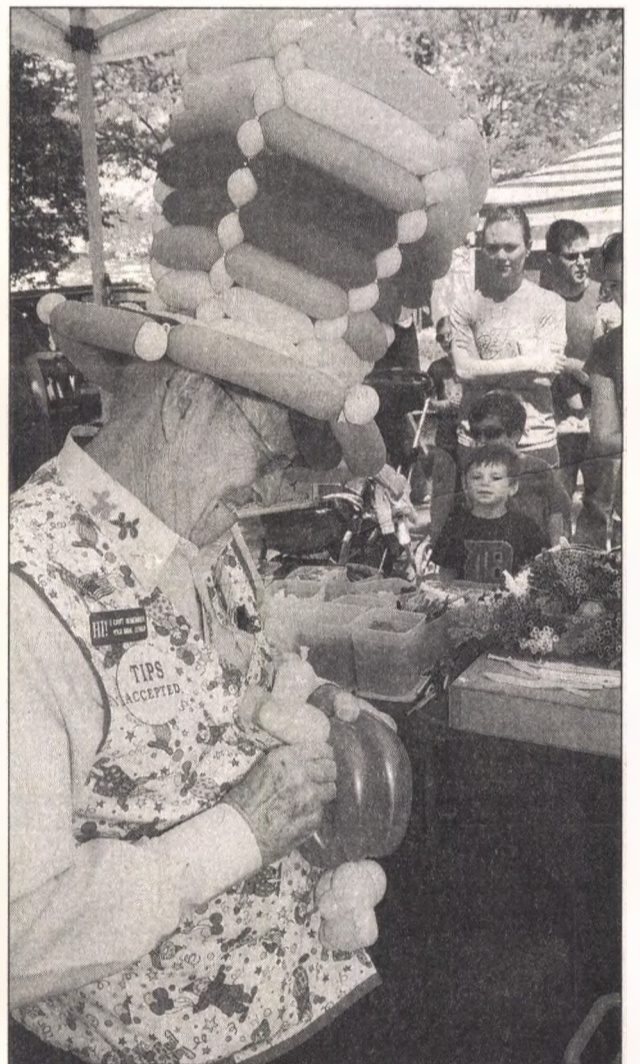
Sandy Kristen offers samples of Meijer natural cheese puffs.



Tate Kolongowski works on her contribution to Fort Box.



The Green Street Fair drew a strong crowd to downtown Plymouth over the weekend.



Jack 'The Balloon Man' Mittig entertains the kiddies.

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*Rebate offer is valid only with the purchase of qualifying Lennox products. **See dealer for details. ©2012 Lennox Industries, Inc. Lennox dealers include independently owned & operated businesses.

Give Mom the Gift of Nature

Mother's Day May 13

Wild Birds Unlimited

41816 Ford Rd., Canton, MI 48187 Between Haggerty and Lilley Rds.
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PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP ADVERTISEMENT

Sealed proposals will be received for the construction of the **2012 SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM** by Plymouth Charter Township, Michigan as Owner, until 10:00 A.M. Official Local Time, on Wednesday, May 16, 2012 at the office of the Clerk, Plymouth Charter Township, 9955 North Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, at which time they will be publicly opened and read.

Major Estimated Quantities are:

- 4" Concrete Sidewalk 26,500 SF
- 6" Concrete Sidewalk or Driveway Approach 3,100 SF
- 8" Concrete Sidewalk or Driveway Approach 450 SF

Copies of plans and specifications may be obtained at the Office of the Clerk, Plymouth Township Hall, 9955, N Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, MI 48170 on or after April 18, 2012. Bid documents may be mailed for a charge of \$10.00.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a Certified Check in the amount of 5% of the bid, payable to the Owner, as security for acceptance of the contract. A bid bond in the Michigan Standard Form issued by an approved surety company may be furnished in lieu of a Certified Check.

No bidder may withdraw his proposal within 60 days after the date set for the opening thereof.

The right is reserved by the Owner to reject any or all proposals, either in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities therein.

PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP
Plymouth, MI

Signed: Joe Bridgman, Clerk
Plymouth Charter Township

Publish: April 19, 2012 CE08774078 2x6

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, May 22, 2012

Request from Guardian Automotive Products, Inc. to Amend Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate Number 2007-474

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: That a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 22, 2012, during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider the request from Guardian Automotive Products, Inc. to extend for an additional five (5) years, Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate Number 2007-474. P.A. 94 of 1996 allows an applicant who was granted less than the 12 year maximum by the local municipality to request, during the last year of the abatement granted, additional abated years up to the maximum of 12 years. The facility is located at 40985 Concept Drive, Metro Plymouth Business Park, Plymouth Township, County of Wayne, Michigan.

The request is on file in the Township Clerk's Office where it is available for public perusal during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Any Township resident or member of any taxing authority within the Township of Plymouth shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments directed to the Clerk and received prior to the meeting will be considered. Following the public hearing the Board of Trustees may consider the request.

The public hearing, commencing at 7:00 p.m., will be held in the Town Hall at the Charter Township of Plymouth Municipal Offices, 9955 N Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, May 22, 2012 during the regularly scheduled Board of Trustee meeting. Telephone number 734 354-3224.

Joe Bridgman, MMC
Township Clerk

Publish: May 10, 2012 CE08776108 - 4x8

