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Going Greek
Downtown Plymouth has a new eatery.

George and Terrie Stefanakis have opened Greek Islands Coney Restaurant in the old bank building on the corner of Main and Penniman.

It's the latest in a line of restaurants for the Stefanakises, who have restaurants in Birmingham, West Bloomfield and Farmington Hills.

Downtown Development Authority operations director Tony Bruscato welcomed the new business.

"The old bank building was once an empty eyesore," Bruscato said. "It's once again a beautiful addition to downtown Plymouth."

OV crawl

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce presents the 14th annual Old Village Restaurant Crawl 5:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 8.

This year, the Crawl features five eateries -Hermann's Olde Towne Grille, JoJo's Treats & Sweets, Liberty Street Brewing Co., Plymouth Fish & Seafood and Station 885. Since last year's event was sold out, chamber officials are encouraging people to buy tickets now.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. They can be purchased at the Chamber of Commerce Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth and participating businesses. Tickets can also be purchased over the phone by calling (734) 453-1540.

Call the chamber at (734) 453-1540 for more information.

School

supply golf
The Inn at St. John's
in Plymouth Township announced a promotion to support school supply collection efforts of the Plymouth Community United Way. From Aug. 5-11, patrons who donate a new backpack with at least four school supply items inside will be given a voucher for free golf to be used at a later date. Backpacks and supplies should be brought to the St. John's Pro Shop, where golf vouchers will be distributed.

Local leaders, volunteers smooth road for Concours

ON DISPLAY

What: 34th annual Concours d'Elegance of America, an exhibition of more than 300 rare, unique and collectible vehicles.

When: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 29. Where: The Inn at St. John's, 44045 Five Mile, Plym-

Cost: \$25 a person, includes brochure, parking and shuttle service. Children 12 and under admitted

Parking: The ACH (formerly Visteon and Ford) plant, 14425 N. Sheldon, at M-14, Plymouth Township. A shuttle will drop visitors off at the exhibition and return them to the lot. Shuttle service is also available in downtown Plymouth, in the Old Village neighborhood and at the Hilton Garden Inn. More information: Call (248) 643-8645 or go to www.concoursusa.org.

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

Long before car collectors from across the country began arriving last week for today's Concours d'Elegance of America, an army of officials, business leaders and volunteers was working behind the scenes to make sure the visitors were welcomed.

More than 400 local volunteers are helping out for the 34th annual Concours, an exhibition of more than 300 classic, antique and collectible vehicles scheduled for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. today at the Inn at St. John's. The show is returning to the township for a second year; it had been at Mead-

Please see VOLUNTEERS, A6



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Collector Mark Sassak of Plymouth will display his 1966 Bizzarrini 5300 Spyder, a prototype and one of just three such cars in the world, at today's Concours d'Elegance of America at the Inn at St. John's.



Lauren Gohl of Plymouth wants answers about the handling of an incident involving her son, Jayden, at Webster Elementary School in Livonia.

Unanswered questions

Plymouth mom wants accountability in Livonia school case

By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

Lauren Gohl just wants answers. Gohl, the Plymouth woman whose son, Jayden, is at the epicenter of an incident that could cost one Livonia Public Schools teacher her job, is glad the teacher, Sharon Turbiak, has been removed from the specialneeds classroom she taught at Webster Elementary School in Livonia.

Turbiak, who has denied any wrong-doing, won't be charged by the Wayne County Prosecutor's office in the wake of accusations of slapping, grabbing and force feeding students. She still awaits a state tenure commission hearing to decide whether she'll lose her job. Maria Miller, spokesperson for Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy, said charges weren't filed against Turbiak because there was insufficient evidence to support them.

"We did not have a case that we could prove beyond a reasonable doubt in court," said Maria Miller, assistant prosecuting attorney and director of communications.

Miller said the evidence presented by Livonia Police Department was insufficient for misdemeanor or felony charges, and no new evidence has surfaced to reopen the case at this time, despite rumors to the contrary.

Please see QUESTIONS, A7

Board-watcher challenges township supervisor

By Matt Jachman Observer Staff Writer

A last-minute ballot entry has made it a race after all for Plymouth Township's top elected office.

Richard L. Sharland, a regular Board of Trustees meeting attendee and sometimes board critic, filed petitions to run for supervisor without party affiliation shortly before the July 19 deadline. His petition signatures have been verified and Sharland will be on the November general election ballot, according to township Clerk Joe Bridgman.

Sharland, who ran unsuccessfully for treasurer in 2008, also as an independent, is challenging Supervisor Richard Reaume, who is seeking a third four-year term. Reaume, a Republican, is unopposed in the Tuesday, Aug. 7, primary election, and there are no Democratic candidates for supervisor.

Sharland declined to talk about his candidacy when reached on Friday. "I don't have any com-

ment," he said. But he said he we likely be willing to discuss his platform further into the campaign season.

Sharland filed petitions in the spring to challenge Treasurer Ron Edwards in the Republican primary, but ended up dropping out before the withdrawal deadline. Edwards faces Edwin Schulz, a certified public accountant, in the primary.

Two other challengers, Abe Munfakh, a twoterm former Plymouth Township Board of Trustees member, and John Werth, the public safety director in Northville Township, filed petitions to run against Reaume in the GOP primary, but dropped out before the mid-May deadline for party-affiliated candi-

Reaume said he wasn't surprised that Sharland had entered the race. "He had make overtures about it to the oth-

Please see BALLOT, A5

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School board considers search process

By Brad Kadrich Observer Staff Writer

With the end of Jeremy Hughes' tenure as superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools less than a year away, the district's Board of Education has begun the process of finding his replacement.

The board Tuesday reviewed a proposed timeline put together by trustees Mark Horvath, Barry



Maloney that would have a new superintendent in place

Simescu and Mike

Hughes' contract expires at the end of the 2012-13 school year.

Under the timeline, the board would hire a search firm by mid-October, screen initial candidates in December, begin interviews in January and select finalists by early February. The successful candidate would be chosen by mid-May.

The board took no action on the plan, though consensus seemed to be it was a good timeline.

"The key point is that, by March or April, if anyone is going to move to another district, that's when they're going to

make that decision," said board Secretary Judy Mardigian, who was the board president the last time the district conducted a search.

Board President John Barrett is taking volunteers and will likely appoint a three-person subcommittee to get the process started, though it will not have decisionmaking power. Those decisions will be made by the full board.

Among decisions to be

• The budget. Horvath said conversations with Brodie Killian, the district's executive director of finance, indicate the budget for a search is generally \$25,000 to \$30,000. If that money isn't already in the 2012-13 budget, it will have to be found.

• Hire a search firm. The last time the board hired a

Please see SEARCH, A5

Paralyzed vets get chance to play ball

By Jaclyn Kochis Correspondent

The Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America- Novi annual membership picnic Saturday was no ordinary picnic.

This year's picnic came with an added bonus as members were able to utilize the completely wheelchair accessible Miracle League of Plymouth baseball field.

Nearly 75 MPVA members come out ready to "play ball." The event was free and it is just one of the many functions that the MPVA offers its membership, individuals with spinal cord injuries or disease, to gather together and build fellowship.

"We always look for-



Michigan's Paralyzed Veterans got to play some baseball Saturday, using the Miracle League of Plymouth's Bilkie Field for their annual picnic.

ward to our summer picnic with our members, but this year we had the special opportunity to play baseball," said Michael Harris,

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 29, 2012

MPVA executive director. "Many of our members are typically not able to do so because we do not always have the ability to access baseball fields



Miracle League of Plymouth President Deb Madonna accepted a \$250 donation from Michigan's Paralyzed Veterans, who used the MLP field for their picnic Saturday.

Summer fun at the Canton Public Library

CONNECT YOUR SUMMER

The all-ages summer reading program from the Canton Public Library

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Read: Queen of Hearts by Read: The Wolves of Isle Royale by Rolf Peterson Attend: Calling All Babies: Animals, August 9, 10:00 AM Do: Go on a nature walk

behind the library



Read: Oscar Season by Mary McNamara Attend: Jim Gill August 10, 7:00 PM at Heritage Amphitheater Do: Watch a movie based on a book



www.cantonpl.org/connect-your-summer/2012 1200 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188 734-397-0999 League of Plymouth, we were be able to get out and share one of America's favorite pastimes."

from our wheelchairs.

Thanks to the Miracle

The MPVA and the Miracle League of Plymouth both hope that this event will inspire further use from veterans with disabilities.

'We would be delighted to see a future veteran's baseball league play

right here on this field on a regular basis," said Debra Madonna, president of the Plymouth Miracle League. "Part of our mission is to maintain a facility that will meet the unique needs of players and their families and we are happy to see our local service men and women

do just that." Michigan Paralyzed Veterans made a generous donation of \$250 to the

Miracle League of Plym-

The Paralyzed Veterans of America was founded in 1946 to address the needs and concerns of veterans who have sustained an injury or disease of the spinal cord. PVA is devoting its life and effort to enhancing the quality of life for these veterans and other persons with disability administering programs in research, wheelchair sports, legislation and advocating for improved civil rights for persons with a disability regardless of race, creed, or color. For more information on the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America, please visit: www.michiganpva.org.

The Miracle League of Plymouth's mission is to: provide opportunities to all children with special needs to play baseball regardless of their abilities, promote community awareness and support, and construct and maintain special facilities that meet the unique needs of players and their families.

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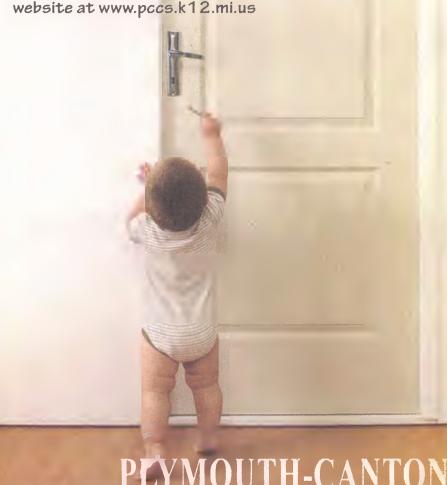
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Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is opening its doors to students in Wayne County

P-CCS will be accepting nonresident students who live in Wayne County in the following programs:

- Afternoon, half-day Kindergarten (limited to 12 students) at Hoben Elementary
- Talented and Gifted, Third Grade (limited to 20 students and testing is required) at Dodson Elementary
- International Academy, Ninth Grade (limited to 10 students) at Plymouth High School

Accepting applications beginning July 16. The deadline for applications is 4 p.m. on July 31. Applications can be completed on the District website at www.pccs.k12.mi.us





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- MICHAEL KELLY! March, 2012 – Those 4 Board Members voted to close Fire **Station #2** in Lakepointe on Wilcox Road near Haggerty. (Where an EMS vehicle normally had been ready for service)
- June, 2012 A Grandmother at the pool with her grandchildren in Bradbury Coop. on Haggerty Road & Joy Road suffers a heart attack and falls under water. The EMS vehicle, now located at Fire Station #3 on Beck Road. must travel across the township for rescue, and arrives 10 minutes after the 911 call.
- Grandmother <u>dies</u> of drowning.
- Who will be **next to die** from EMS failure?

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Summer programs offer learning opportunities

New Morning School in Plymouth, the only pre-K through eighth-grade parent cooperative school in Michigan, is currently offering a variety of summer programs offering an early foundation of learning and play school officials said is grounded in the latest brain science and supported by the work of Swiss psychologist Jean Piaget.

The school will host an open House for fall programs on Fridays, Aug. 3 and Aug. 10, at 10:30 am, followed by the student Science EXPO. All are invited.

The summer programs at New Morning School are designed for children ages 3 to 11 who are looking for a fun, educational summer experience.

"With programing focused around what kids already love, New Morning School has a program that is a good fit for every child." officials said.

Discovery Days are classes that expose children ages 3 to 6 to a topic of interest during a week's time. Students are encouraged to attend both early- and mid-morning sessions to create a week of half-days. Discovery Days run Monday through Friday. Classes starting on July 30th include Messy Mondays, Princesses &



New Morning students will have a variety of opportunities to learn about science during the school's summer programs.

Fairies, Everything Espanol and Transportation Station. The following week, beginning Aug. 6, children will enjoy Splash! Fun With Water & Giants of the Earth.

The next Junior Explorer camp (entering kindergarten or first grade) begins July 30. Students will be learning about Slippery, Slimy, Stupendous Science, a kitchen chemistry experience.

Science camps are planned for older students. Starting July 30, campers (entering second grade through age 11) will enjoy NXT LEGO® Cars & motor sports and Race Car Science. The following week (entering first grade

through age 11) students will explore Astronauts and Space Travel, Alien Adventures & Space Wars and Splitting Starlight. Student may attend mornings or full day with latchkey.

The Summer Daze Program (ages 4–11) runs in week-long sessions with themes as varied as August 13-17 Animals Discovered (Aug. 13-17) and Voyage Around the World (Aug. 20-24). Kids can attend full day with latchkey.

More details on these exciting Summer Camps including registration form, age ranges, dates, and fees are available on New Morning School's website www.newmorning-school.org.

ON CAMPUS

Top graduating seniors of 97 area high schools in the Detroit metropolitan area are being honored by the Detroit Association of Phi Beta Kappa.

More than 3,500 graduating seniors in the public, private, and parochial high schools in southeastern Michigan who maintained a 3.75 grade point in their academic classes are receiving a certificate of recognition from the Detroit Association of Phi Beta Kappa, which is comprised of members of the national scholastic honor society residing in the Detroit area.

"These students have earned recognition as future leaders and scholars by doing what it takes to rank at the head of their classes, and they deserve all the praise and recognition we can give them," said Dr. Seymour J. Wolfson, president of the organization.

Mariam Asadullah

Rachel Bissonnettte

Valerie Bolterman

Edward Borninski

Matthew Bugajski

Amber Beattie

Andrew Berner

Erica Bingham

Nathan Brocci

Emma Buchele

Sarah Chapman

Lauren Chipman

Lawren Dame

Christina Dreyer

Nicholas Durak

Sarah Dillon

Aaron Evans

Tyler Goble

Nisha Gopal

Jack Griffin

Bridget Grobosky

Brook Grobosky

Elyse Gryniewicz

Harpreet Hehar

Joshua Heinze

Brett Jia

Natalie Howard

Alison Johnson

Evan Johnson

Calley Keithler

Kristyn Kosmyna

Rebecca Levergood

Abigail Livingston

Shannon Lubin

James Maciag

Amanda Kne

Penny Kuang

Bora Kwak

Heidi Lewis

Jennifer Liu

Steve Lin

Kelly Karst

Zachary D'Agostino

Local students honored include: Canton High School: Kyle Adams DeQuan Alexander-Douglas Nour Arafat Melanie Baker Nicholas Barton Katherine Benner Gihan Beydoun Jennifer Bird Alexandra Bryden Lucas Carpenter Laura Castle Stefanie Cesario Kristen Childs Lindsey Conrad Shawn Davies Michael Ding Alyssa Downs Amanda Drucken-Christina Edgerton Michael Fluegemann Erin Fowler Anna Genrich Moleca Ghannam Jeremy Ginnard Shane Ginnard Andrew Green Katherine Grimes Alan Halim Dana Hoerman Jay Jin Robert Johnson Cody Kahrs

Matthew Kempfer

Amanda Kilgore

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Shean Krolicki

Rebecca Krupp

Anna Lang

Ian Lefebvre Sydney Liedel Kaylie Lobb Steven Marion Lindsey Mason Travis Michalak Tim Mijnsbergen Navkiran Munday Rebecca Muresan Roxana Muresan Crystal Nance-Panek Mitchell Nickert Ann Noetzel Jennifer Nyberg Jacqueline Paetzold Shelby Palmer Christa Phelps Alanna Philipose Morgan Prebenda Steven Price Bryan Ren Courtney Schmidt Kinari Shah Aftab Shaik **Bhavneet Singh** Gursimran Singh Jonathon Sitko Ajay Sohmshetty **Emily Southern** Celia Staniak Amanda Sweet Jacob Taylor Andrew Wade Joshua Wendel Grace Wine Victor Zhang

 Plymouth High School Anuraag Aekka Stacey Agar Rizwan Ahmed Eleanor Anderson Samantha Arsenault

Todd Maslyk Stephanie Matsui Ashley Melnick Katherine Merrcieca Natalie Minor Erin Oldani Katie Perry Michael Pool Kathryn Potter Prateek Prakash Alisha Punjabi Kathryn Ramey Sophie Roberts William Roberts Kaitlyn Robertson Ashley Rose Reza Sanatgar-Forootagheh Jessica Scott Meagan Shokar Steven Sochacki Nicholas Spunar **Kevin Standifer** Nathan Stemberger **Grace Stover** Jordyn Strahm Nicole Swartz **Nicole Traitses** Kristin Wagner Katelyn Watson Kayla Weber Shu Wei Bryan Zinn

Salem High School

Sarah Akhtar

Karunvir Badwal Nicholas Bair Meredith Barton Sarah Bellaire Mary-Elizabeth Benintende Amanda Beyer Alexander Blank Autumn Burin **Courtney Davis** Kali Defever Daniel DeWater **Avery Dews** Sushmitha Diraviam Kody Duhl **Brandon Duschl** Trevor Exell **Eleanor Fine Stephanie Fogoros Brittany Galliers** Drew Hansen Lauren Hansen Nicholas Hazen Rachel Head Rebecca Hershock Ashley Hinojosa Michael Holland Adam Hulscher Rachel Johnston Kristopher Kachin Kendali Keliy Preethi Kesavan Christina Knoll Katelynn Krause Kyle Latack Irene Li Taylor Liddane Halie Lindberg **Emily Lundh** Courtney March Anjali Martin Joao Mazzon Isabelle McCormack Megan McCormack Jenna McGowan Laura Miller Nicole Mott Gavin Nicol Jacob Nosewicz **Amy Novotny** Daniel O'Keefe Markus Olind Jamie Olson Asha Patel **Bilal Patel** Nikita Patel Alaina Peerbolte Alexandra Piotrowski Narges Pourmandi Shilpi Prasad Ian Pudney Maria Radzwion Carrie Ramseyer Kristina Righter Sameer Sahi **David Schnoes** Mallory Scrimger Lauren Seroka Adeel Siddiqui Rebecca Simmons Sunpreet Singh Eric Smudski Sara Stappert Nicholas Stevers Peter Su Scott Su David Telgen Scott Theisen Monica Topolovec Sarah Vander **Devon Vanstone** April Vernon **Dorothy Wong** Christine Yu Angie Zou



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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Construction on the 789 Building, named for its address on Ann Arbor Trail, resumed this month. Walls have been put up over the second-floor framing most recently, and developer Ed Dombrowski said he is vetting prospective tenants and has signed four, including three restaurants for a planned food court.

Downtown building construction resumes

By Matt Jachman **Observer Staff Writer**

Construction on the building at Ann Arbor Trail and Main Street in downtown Plymouth resumed earlier this month after an apparent pause of several weeks.

Walls were going up last week on the second floor of the two-story structure, which will house restaurants and office space, and developer consultant Ed Dombrowksi said he recently won approval from the city's Historic District Commission to change the style of windows planned for the building.

"This building's going to get off to a running start," said Dombrowski at the site Friday morning, explaining that he is vetting prospective tenants. Dombrowski said four have signed so far - three restaurants for a food court and another tenant for a second-floor office space — and that four spots remain, three in the food court and one

upstairs. Dombrowski declined to name any of the tenants, however.

The second floor had been planned as a restaurant with open-air terrace seating, but that has changed, with a tenant that plans an office use signed on for one of the two spots, Dombrowski said. "You can put a lot of different things up there," and the remaining spot may or may not be a restaurant,

he said. The first floor is being built as a five-restaurant food court with a public seating area; Dombrowksi said a sixth, smaller space is also being built, which could be for restaurant use but wouldn't have to be.

He said the tenants will be responsible for completing much of the building's interior. "We'll give them the walls," he

Dombrowski had said last fall he wanted the building completed by April, but declined Friday to name a new target date. "We don't have a time set for it," he said.

While acknowledging the window change Dombrowski will be using windows with fewer panes, saying he couldn't find a manufacturer for the multipaned windows originally approved — cost the

project some time, he hesitated to characterize that as a delay.

"I'm doing it at my own pace now," he said.

The building will have no on-site parking, the first such project approved under the city's "payment in lieu of parking" policy. The developers will be paying the city \$160,000, over four years, for a waiver of the requirement for 16 parking

Mayor Dan Dwyer said he's received a lot of inquiries about the project, and is glad it's going

'There is movement, finally," Dwyer said Thursday. "It's really good to see, because I think the entire community is looking for that building to be occupied."

mjachman@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2405

SEARCH

Continued from page A1

new superintendent, when Craig Fiegel was chosen in 2008, the district used Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates of Glenview, Ill. There was dissatisfaction at the time because the firm turned up no candidates from Michigan. The board took proposals from half a dozen search firms four years ago.

 Decide on level of community engagement, and how that will look. Some board members pointed out the search firm will help with that.

"A lot of this work will be helpful for the consultant," Simescu said. "We as a board have to decide which firm we want to work with."

Horvath's timeline also includes dates for deciding whether the board should shift gears and get another interim superintendent. If the board isn't satisfied with the candidate pool for the full-time job, Horvath's plan would have trustees making that decision in

February and March.

"If I have a goal to have (a new superintendent) in place by Time X, and I don't feel I have enough (candidates), I have a process to fill that," Horvath said.

Horvath also said he hopes the board can come to a unanimous decision this time around. In 2008, when the board ultimately hired Fiegel, they approved his contract with a unanimous vote. However, former board member Dianne Gonzalez cast a dissenting vote on the selection.

"I'd never take a job where I had seven bosses and they all didn't vote to hire me," Horvath said.

Mardigian called the upcoming decision "critical."

"The superintendent will drive the direction of the district for the next threefive years," she said. "I think building in the step for an interim is a smart step because of the importance of the decision.'

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

BALLOT

Continued from page A1

er paper," said Reaume,

referring to The Eagle. The supervisor said he takes the challenge seriously, but added, "any independent candidate, it's an uphill struggle.'

Reaume said he had been doing some doorto-door campaigning for a brief time this spring before Munfakh and Werth left the race, and with Sharland now challenging him, "in the fall, I'll get back at it."

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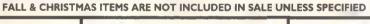
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AROUND PLYMOUTH

"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.

JUMP ROPE CAMP

Date/Time: Tuesday, July 31 - Thursday, August 2 from 1:00 - 3:00

Location: Jazzercise Center 250 N. Main Street, Plymouth, MI

Details: Hot Ropes - Jump Rope Camp offers students an opportunity to learn double dutch, single rope, long rope skills and more. Beginners are welcome. Recommended for jumpers entering grades 2-7. Cost is \$45.

Contact: Register at http://www.jumpinplymouth.com/ or contact Kris for more information jumpinplymouth@yahoo.com

Date/Time: Monday, July 30, 7 p.m. Location: Rotary Park, Pavilion #1, on Six Mile between Farmington Road and Merriman in Livonia

Details: Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox hosts an outdoor town hall to discuss current issues affecting Wayne County taxpayers and take questions from the audience. Free root-beer floats and Boston Coolers will be served.

CLASS REUNION

Date/Time: Friday, Aug. 17, 7 p.m. to midnight

Location: Laurel Manor, 3900 Schoolcraft,

Details: Combined 1982 Plymouth Canton/ Plymouth Salem 30-year reunion. Deadline to order tickets is Aug. 1. Tickets can be

38751 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills

2017 N. Canton Center Rd., Canton

37383 Six Mile Rd., Livonia

ordered thru: https://sitesgoogle.com/site/ cantonsalem1982, or www.facebook. com/groups/cantonsalem1982 or cantonsalem1982@gmail.com for \$45 per person. Dinner, dancing, D.J. provided.

Date/Time: Saturday, Aug. 25, 9-11:30 a.m. **Location:** Canton High School North (Phase 3) **Details:** The Canton Chiefettes host their pom pon clinic for potential cheerleaders ages 5-14. Students will learn pom pon techniques and a short dance routine. Parents will be treated to a performance at 11:30 a.m. Participants will also perform at the Canton High School varsity football game Aug. 30. Cost is \$45 for pre-registration, \$50 at the door.

Contact: Pre-register at www.cantonchiefettes.com; call (734) 397-1782 for more information.

HOSPICE SUPPORT

Date/Time: Third Saturday of the month, 10-11:30 a.m.

Location: Compassionate Care Hospice, 5730 Lilley, Canton

Details: Compassionate Care Hospice conducts a grief support group, "Compassionate Words," providing emotional support to any adult grieving the loss of a loved one. The group focuses on the various stages of grief, and incorporates basic journal writing as a way to express feelings. The program is free of charge.

Contact: To register, contact Ann Christensen, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement Coordinator at (888) 983-9050. or email achristensen@cchnet.net.

Phone: 248-553-3700

Phone: 734-462-7000

Phone: 734-844-0146

VOLUNTEERS

LOCAL NEWS

Continued from page A1

ow Brook Hall in Rochester Hills for decades.

Concours executive director Jim McCarter said Friday that the Plymouth community, from public officials to businesses to service club members, jumped into the event "with both feet" beginning last year and that he couldn't run the Concours without that

"We want it to look as nice as we can," said township Supervisor Richard Reaume, who was personally out Thursday, along with Department of Public Works employees, picking up roadside debris in the area around St. John's. Reaume was also seeing that the streets in the area were swept, planning to have the DPW on Friday lend picnic tables and traffic barriers to the event, and even enlisting Wayne County to send road workers to grind down high spots in the pavement, he said.

"It's just everybody trying to come together to add the little touches," he

At St. John's, volunteers from the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce were providing the Concours with an office staff, registering exhibitors and members of the media, selling merchandise, giving directions and offering suggestions on how visitors might spend their time in the area.

Earlier in the week. they arranged gift bags for exhibitors and readying brochures for Concours visitors.

Volunteers Chamber president Wes Graff said 16 cham-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

This 1957 Ford Fairlane 500 Skyliner, a retractable hardtop, belongs to Larry Miller of Plymouth Township, who will be exhibiting it today at the Concours d'Elegance at the Inn at St. John's. The top is raised and lowered with electric motors and balanced by counterweights.

ber members were devoting 170 to 180 volunteer hours to the effort.

"It fulfills the mission of the chamber, because Concours brings us a lot of prestige here," Graff said.

The idea, he said, is to direct out-of-town exhibitors to local shops, restaurants and attractions.

"They've never been here before. They don't know where to go," he said. "We help a lot of people find downtown, or Old Village, or shops across the street from St. John's."

Graff said Friday that, so far, visitors are expressing a lot of interest in Bumpers, Bikes and Bands, the annual street fair in Old Village that was planned for Saturday.

Reaume said out-oftowners have filled two township hotels, the Hilton Garden Inn and the hotel at St. John's, and others are staying at hotels in Livonia.

In addition to the chamber's volunteer office staff, members of the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth are running the parking lot for Concours attendees, at the ACH plant on Sheldon Road, and local Rotarians are providing security and assistance at St. John's itself.

Plymouth's Downtown Development Authority was instrumental in organizing a Concours shuttle service from sites in the city (next to Kellogg Park and on Starkweather near Station 885 in Old Village), in staging an exhibit of Concours-like cars for Friday night's Gia Warner concert in Kellogg Park, and in making advance ticket sales available at downtown businesses.

"We try and do as much as we can," said John Buzuvis, the DDA's director of business operations and special projects. "It's just such a great event for the area, anything we can do, we certainly will."

Last year's Concours debut at St. John's drew more than 11,000 people, McCarter said, and he expects about the same number this year.

mjachman@hometownlife.com

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by calling 800-973-0362.

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- December, 2011 Those 4 Board Members voted to unlawfully deny you a vote on the petitions for 1 Mill for 5 years for your Fire protection and **your** EMS service.
- March, 2012 Those 4 Board Members voted to reduce your Fire protection and vour EMS service.
- June, 2012 Over \$50.000 of your tax dollars have been spent so far by the Board to defend the unlawful vote by those 4 Board Members, who want to keep you from voting on your Fire protection and your EMS service.
- June, 2012 EMS arrives too late from station #3 to Bradbury Coop to save a grandmother who drowns in the pool.
- August 7, 2012 Vote for <u>new Trustees</u> who will <u>restore Fire</u> protection and EMS service to our township!

Paid for by the Citizens Action Group of Plymouth Township.

QUESTIONS

Continued from page A1

"The case was looked at, it was investigated, witnesses were spoken to, and we reached the conclusion that with the facts and evidence we had, that we did not have a case we could prosecute in court beyond a reasonable doubt," she said.

Miller said the warrant request involved "a number of people."

While the legal wheels turn. Gohl wants others who witnessed the incident, and failed to report it to anyone, to be held accountable. She wants explanations for the actions of Livonia Schools Superintendent Randy Liepa, Webster Principal Shelly Moore and district human resources chief Cindy DeMann, among others.

"The question is what did they know, when did they know it and what did they do about it?" Gohl said. "The district allowed this to happen. Every single one of them needs to be held accountable."

The case stems from a March 5 incident during which a social worker said she witnessed Turbiak grab Jayden by the top of his head, jerk it back "quite aggressively," yell at him and continue to jerk his chin upward while pushing the top of his head back because he had thrown

Life-threatening

Gohl is angry she didn't hear anything about the incident for nearly two months, despite doctor's orders on file with the school state the doctor or Gohl must be notified immediately of any type of injury, bump or bruise to the boy's head. Jayden, now 4, was born with hydrocephalus, has endured seven surgeries and has a brain shunt.

"Any head injury at all

By Darrell Clem

Observer Staff Writer

The communities of

Canton and Wayne have

stepped up to help the fam-

ilies of two teens who died

tragically Tuesday during

a two-car crash near the

Ruby Tuesday restaurant

in Canton where the young

Reed, who handles pro-

motions for Wayne Bowl,

confirmed a fundraiser

has been scheduled 7-11

p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4, at

Michigan Ave. between

Wayne and Newburgh.

Kennedy, 18, or Danielle Beavers, 19, but he want-

ed to help the families of

graduates after hearing of the tragic accident that

happened shortly after 2

Bowl owner Mike Lucen-

www.DollHospital.com

Reed approached Wayne

a.m. Tuesday.

the Belleville High School

the bowling center, 36900

Reed didn't know Brooke

women worked. Canton resident Jim

can be life-threatening to my son," Gohl said.

Liepa told the Observer last week he believes Gohl should have been notified immediately, but that "a judgment call was made at the time about whether there had been an injury to (Jayden's) head or not.'

"This is the first I've heard of that," Gohl said. "Who made that judgment call? Only a medical professional could make that call."

Liepa agreed Gohl should have been notified immediately March 5 even if there was disagreement between the teacher and social worker about what happened. "We think she should have gotten a phone call, even if there was confusion," he said.

He said he can't speak to what Moore initially told Gohl about her son's involvement because he wasn't part of the phone conversation, but there "certainly was no intention not to tell her," he said, adding Gohl was later informed

"She called 12 parents. Did she read off the list wrong?" he said. Moore is on summer break.

Not enough

The 12 preschoolers who were in the classroom, ages 3-5, are all cognitively impaired and some also have physical impairments. The classroom is part of a Wayne RESA center program serving students from multiple districts, including Plymouth-Canton.

Several school district employees, including administrators, are identified as witnesses on a heavily redacted 75-page police report.

The Livonia school board voted unanimously June 18 to recommend the state tenure commission fire Turbiak. The district has already fired a parapro who worked in the same classroom as the teacher. She also has

te, who agreed to host a

Gazdag, 21, said Friday.

fundraiser cost \$20 and

Reed said tickets will

advance by calling him at

(734) 674-2436. Gazdag also

said tickets may be bought

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from her by calling (734)

be available at the door or may be purchased in

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expenses.

fundraiser.

not been charged with any crime and denies any wrongdoing.

Written directive

Gohl wants more held accountable. She said Moore "lied to me" when finally notifying her of the incident, initially telling her Jayden wasn't involved. She said DeMann "kept putting (Turbiak) back in the classroom," even after previous incidents were reported in April 2011 and again last October.

After the October incident, Gohl said, a timeline of events provided her by Liepa indicated Turbiak was given a "written directive" that included instructions to "provide a calm, nurturing, predictable environment in the classroom; refrain from being sarcastic; do not challenge staff about their reporting on this matter; maintain a professional relationship with students/staff; work collaboratively with staff; discuss best classroom practices."

In April, during an investigation into staff complaints about the working relationship among staff in that classroom, more allegations and concerns surfaced about the classroom atmosphere and practices with students, officials said.

Mark Schultz, a former police officer who serves as the district's administrator of employee relations and public safety, began an internal investigation April 23 and the following day reported the alleged abuse to the Livonia Police Department, which conducted its own investigation.

It was Schultz, Gohl said, who told her Jayden was involved and that the incident "definitely was about (child) abuse."

Not reported

Gohl said Schultz was the first person to report the incident to Child Protective Services, despite the fact the law requires such reporting by all school members.

"The administration was aware, and they failed to take it to the next level," Gohl said. "They broke the law (by not reporting it to CPS). The fact the administration knew this was going on and did nothing is sickening to me."

Liepa said Thursday he agrees with Gohl that people need to be held accountable. "Absolutely, we have to look at ourselves, be reflective and address any issues," he said.

He declined to specify whether or with whom any disciplinary action will be taken. "It's no different from any other personnel matter," he said, explaining his reason for not going into detail.

Liepa said he believes students in Turbiak's classroom were mistreated, but would not comment on whether he thought the allegations were child abuse.

"Child abuse mean a lot of different things to different people.

There's no question we felt there was mistreatment," he said. "Obviously, we've taken the appropriate action.'

Asked if he thought any laws were broken, he said: "That's really for the police to decide. With us, it has to do with expectations, that's what were focused on."

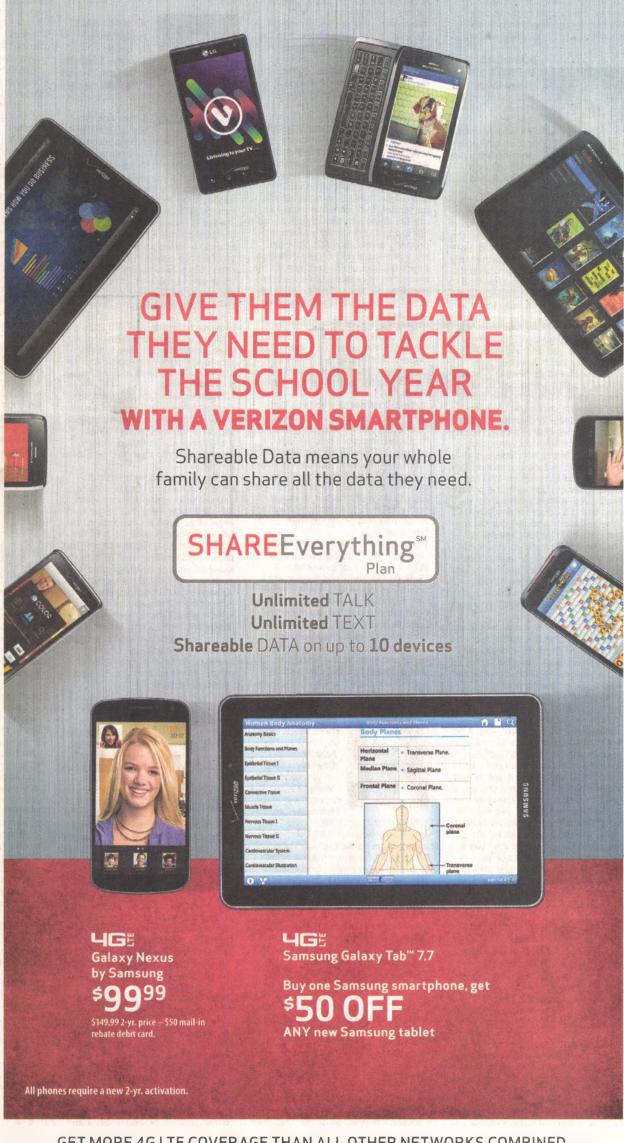
He said the district is working with the prosecutor's office in reviewing its processes before the start of next school year to see if they need strengthening and improving.

'We're looking at every aspect with regard to the issues raised," he said. "We have to make sure classrooms are meeting the expectations we have" and "everybody knows what the expectations are."

Staff writer Karen Smith contributed to this report.

bkadrich@hometownlife.com (313) 222-8899

Fundraiser set for families of victims in Canton crash fundraiser to help the families with funeral and other Reed has been working with former Ruby Tuesday server Stephanie Gazdag, who knew Kennedy and Beavers, to organize the "I worked with them for two years and still considered them good friends," "When they started working there, it became more of a family atmosphere at Reed said tickets to the include bowling and pizza donated by the Papa Romano's owned by Patrick Cur-



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Township trustee candidates sound off on issues

Thirteen candidates are running for four seats on the Plymouth Township Board in the Aug. 7 Republican primary. They recently gave us their views on township issues.



KAY ARNOLD Hometown: Plymouth Township, 23 years Family: 4 children; 7 grandchildren; 4 greatgrandchildren **Observer: Why** are you running?

Arnold: To keep our forward progress, if you don't know where you've been and how you got there, it's hard to figure out where you want to go. Nothing ever stays the same, so you have to know your history. Observer: What are the biggest

issues facing Plymouth Township? How would you address them? Arnold: Keeping taxes lowest in Wayne County; watching our expenditures; public safety. Those are the things that affect our citizens.

Observer: What do you think of the township board's recent decision to lay off Plymouth Community Fire Department firefighters? What. if anything, about that decision would you try to change if you were

Arnold: We spent two years with city officials working through concerns, til they wanted to stay. We had no choice without concessions. After losing 25 percent of the coverage and almost \$1 million, we had to do something. I think we did what we had to do. Revisiting us wouldn't get us anyplace.

Observer: What do you think of the current board's budget priorities? Where would your priorities lie? Arnold: To keep our taxes low, we do tax abatements. That helps bring businesses and people in, they buy houses, and support the community. That's one of the big things I think we do that's very positive for the community. We have to keep our eye on the budget to make sure we're not spending things, and we're cutting back where we can



BOB DORO-Hometown: Southgate; now Plymouth Town-

Family: Married to Tammy Apple Doroshewitz since 1998; children Allison, 8, and

Observer: Why are you running? Doroshewitz: We worked extremely hard and stood strong in the face of opposition to bring reform to the cost of services we deliver to the taxpayers. Raising taxes and preserving the status quo would have been the easy way out but instead I pushed to align government employee wages and lifetime benefits with those in the private sector.

Observer: What are the biggest issues facing Plymouth Township? How would you address them? Doroshewitz: 1) Revenue has dropped due to declines in property values coupled with a halt in new construction. Trimming the size of government, delivering value for every tax dollar and keeping taxes low are proving to work as property values in the Township are going up again, for the first time in over a decade. 2) Government worker pay, pension and life time health care benefits must align with the private sector. 3) We must push harder to stop being a donor community to Wayne County and pull our tax dollars back to Plymouth Township.

Observer: What do you think of the township board's recent decision to lay off Plymouth Community Fire Department firefighters? What, if anything, about that decision would you try to change if you were

Doroshewitz: I was against raising taxes to support the status quo and studied the data in detail. My position is clearly described in an Observer guest editorial I wrote on Feb. 9. Email me for a copy

Observer: What do you think of the current board's budget priorities? Where would your priorities lie? Doroshewitz: We negotiated a water deal with the City of Detroit and a new contract for trash pickup that lowered both your trash costs and our water rates. Second, we should use some of the savings from reform to put more police on the street, so that you have fast first response to whatever emergency you may have. Third, we must have vision. Vision means looking beyond your years to what you will leave behind - as those who stood to opposition to buy farmland in the early 70s that became the Township Park we all benefit from now.



CHRISTOPHER HULL Hometown: St. Joseph Family: Married with a son, 2 stepdaughters, and a Golden Retriever **Observer:** Why are you running?

Hull: The recent issues involving our fire department have made me aware that there are serious leadership issues that need to be resolved. I have seen disregard for the wants and requests of the township citizens. I have seen an abuse of power with a "we will do as we please approach" to local government.

Observer: What are the three biggest issues facing Plymouth Township? How would you address them? **Hull:** The biggest issue has been the fire department layoffs and closing of the station. I believe there are a number of ways to take care of this while keeping taxes low. We

should allow the Fire Department to transport patients to offset the cost of some of the employees. We should accept the concessions they were willing to give that totaled to over \$700,000 with a decrease in legacy cost which was reduced by \$4.8 million. The majority of the township board's behavior is another issue. This board has lost sight of the position: it is an elected position meaning you work for the citizens. As a township why are we buying large parcels of land? If we are so financially burdened that we have to close fire stations and layoff fire fighters how is it that we can buy a parcel of land for over \$600,000?

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 29, 2012

Observer: What do you think of the township board's recent decision to lay off Plymouth Community Fire Department firefighters? What, if anything, about that decision would you try to change if you were elected?

Hull: The layoffs were not necessary. The township was approved for the SAFER grant that offered \$1.2 million and would have brought back 6 firefighters, and the township turned it down. Station 2 should have never been shut down.

Observer: What do you think of the current board's budget priorities? Where would your priorities lie? **Hull:** The current budget priorities have not had the citizens in mind. The services have been cut to this community while our tax dollars have gone to property purchases and glossy multi-page flyers. My priorities are with the services provided to this community.



PAUL SCHULZ Hometown: **Plymouth Profession:** Entrepreneur. Location scouting and management for feature film, television, and commercial pro-

ductions for over 15 years. Realtor exclusive to Plymouth

Observer: Why are you running? Schulz: To return confidence to the taxpayer, that those who represent them are keeping the priorities in order. To ensure that tax dollars are spent on essential services first. Police, Fire, and Ambulatory services. Observer: What are the three biggest issues facing Plymouth Township? How would you address them?

Schulz: 1) Police, Fire, and Ambulatory services. The safety and well being of residents, businesses, and visitors within Plymouth must come first. I support rehiring all laid off firefighters, and paramedic personnel, that were trained using our tax dollars, to provide advanced life support. 2) Inventory all excess property assets. Evaluate the need for a municipal golf course (Hill-Top), its annual cost to the taxpayer vs. the revenue it generates. 3) The need for part time elected officials, and a full time Township manager to oversee day to day operations.

Observer: What do you think of the township board's recent decision to lay off Plymouth Community Fire Department firefighters? What, would you try to change if you were elected?

Schulz: The decision to lay off our fire fighters, and close the Lake Pointe fire station was completely irrational, irresponsible, and unnecessary. This will end up costing us more over the long haul, as we continue to rely upon Northville's fire department to pick up our slack. The board's decision has put the safety of our residents in jeopardy, and we are already having problems that could have cost lives.

Observer: What do you think of the current board's budget priorities? Where would your priorities lie? **Schulz:** The priorities the current

board has made have been irrational, and irresponsible decisions that have put our community in decline. Spending millions of tax dollars on luxuries such as our municipal golf course, new clubhouse, new golf carts, and even land investments, while closing fire stations, and laying-off fire fighters, is truly shocking.



JANAI STEPP Hometown: Plymouth Town-Family: Single **Observer:** Why are you running? Stepp: I was brought up in the

Plymouth-Canton school district since 4th grade. When buying my house in 1998, the only area in which I looked was Plymouth Township. I have been passionate about this community and remain dedicated to seeing it prosper in the

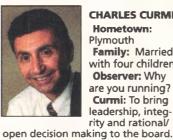
Observer: What are the biggest issues facing Plymouth Township? How would you address them? **Stepp:** The biggest issue is the decrease in the value of homes. This has caused a decrease in property taxes resulting in a deficit in the Township budget. As a result, actions and inaction have resulted in cut jobs, decreases in services, projects postponed or left completely unattended to.

Observer: What do you think of the township board's recent decision to lay off Plymouth Community Fire Department firefighters? What, if anything, about that decision would you try to change if you were

Stepp: We need all of our firefighters, police and other emergency responders. That is what makes a community safe. By sharing safety services with other communities, we can offer our citizens more peace of mind in knowing that any emergency can be responded to in an efficient and timely manner.

Observer: What do you think of the current board's budget priorities?

Where would your priorities lie? **Stepp:** I think the current board has made enough cuts in services provided to the community. Instead we need to be looking at attracting new business that will thrive in the Township, improving the quality of life for our citizens.



CHARLES CURMI Hometown: Plymouth Family: Married with four children **Observer:** Why are you running? Curmi: To bring leadership, integ-

Observer: What are the biggest issues facing Plymouth Township? How would you address them? Curmi: 1) adequate future revenue to provide acceptable services - develop cooperative high efficiency relationships with neighboring communities and Township employees; sell surplus Twp. real estate 2) fire department operations - actively involve all stakeholders to find better solutions to present model 3) Board duties are confused - ensure that full time elected positions perform statutory duties

Observer: What do you think of the township board's recent decision to lay off Plymouth Community Fire Department firefighters? What, if anything, about that decision would you try to change if you were elected?

Curmi: Losing the contract with the City of Plymouth was a strategic error. I will actively involve all stakeholders to find better solutions to the present model.

Observer: What do you think of the current board's budget priorities? Where would your priorities lie? Curmi: Land purchases and golf course investment should be very low priorities. Fire and police services should be the top priorities



MICHAEL KELLY Hometown: **Plymouth** Family: Married for almost 28 years to Brenda, no children, one golden retriever **Observer:** Why

are you running? Kelly: I am running for a second term to continue our work to provide our residents the services they need with no increases to their taxes Observer: What are the biggest issues facing Plymouth Township? How would you address them?

Kelly: 1) Legacy costs: We need to continue to make the difficult decisions to gradually reduce our long term retiree pension and health care costs. Every community is faced with these same problems, either reduce the cost or raise taxes significantly to cover them in the future. 2) Property Values: Our property values have increased, but we are still below the 2004 peak before the recession. 3) Taxes: If we do not keep out tax rate low, we lose a valuable tool to attract new residents and businesses to the township.

Observer: What do you think of the township board's recent decision to lay off Plymouth Community Fire Department firefighters? What, if anything, about that decision would you try to change if you were elected?

Kelly: That was a very difficult decision for me to vote on when you are talking about someone's job. The facts were clear, after two years of no contract concessions the City of Plymouth pulled out of the joint agreement. Faced with the loss of almost \$1 million and 25-30% reduction of the coverage area, we needed to right size the department. Observer: What do you think of the current board's budget priorities? Where would your priorities lie? Kelly: We need to continue to look for consolidation of services where it makes sense and saves money. We need to keep our costs under control as we go forward in this slow economic climate.



Hometown: City of Plymouth 18

DON SCHNET-

years, Plymouth Township 12 years Family: Wife - Debra, Sons-Robert, and Ryan, Doubter-Mikayla Observer: Why are you running?

Schnettler: I believe more transparency must be given to our municipality regarding income and expenses. My goal would be to bring to the board a level of wanting more documentation on line with checking, credit cards, and wages, and all forms of expense so all residents can see what their government is spending their money on. For 10 years I have watched a majority rule the board, and they spend money on things that I would not have voted

Observer: What are the biggest issues facing Plymouth Township? How would you address them? Schnettler: 1) Unchecked and unnecessary spending with checking account and credit cards. I would require all checks to have two signatures on them not just one like it is now, and all credit card statements must be approved by the board every month like other current bills are 2) We have a bad reputation with surrounding communities because of our current elected officials not wanting to work with any of them. I'd work with surrounding officials and see about collaborating services. If you go into all talks not wanting to do anything why go in at all. 3) Undocumented monies from donors and cash given for events. All monies go township hall and needs to be documented.

Observer: What do you think of the township board's recent decision to lay off Plymouth Community Fire Department firefighters? What, if anything, about that decision would you try to change if you were elected?

Schnettler: The Fire Department layoffs as I see it may have been unnecessary and avoided. No concessions taken, why? I would have started with concessions and then gone to layoffs. No reason for what was done except some board members have a vendetta against the fireman and wanted to get back

Observer: What do you think of the current board's budget priorities? Where would your priorities lie? Schnettler: Government's role is to provide certain level of services and protection of its citizens and that's it. I would not have voted to buy 300 acres of land for over \$600,000 that a lot of those acres are wetlands, we have property we can't get rid of now why buy more. I would not have sunk almost \$700,000 into our golf course, why must a municipality own a golf course.



SANDY GROTH Hometown: Plymouth Township Family: Husband Larry, two stepsons, five grandchildren. one great-grand-

Observer: Why are you running? Groth: I am a public servant at heart. I want to serve my community at a time when the need is strong for a change in the membership on the Board.

child

Observer: What are the biggest issues facing Plymouth Township? How would you address them? Groth: First, essential services. Second - We have a board that does not listen to the people and does not respect the will of the people, Third spending and a genuine concern for our financial future.

Observer: What do you think of the township board's recent decision to lay off Plymouth Community Fire Department firefighters? What, if anything, about that decision would you try to change if you were elected?

Groth: I think little of their decision. Before that decision was made, there should have been a presentation of all of the facts, more belt tightening in other areas, and an opportunity for the citizens to determine the level of service they want to pay for. Essential services should always come before anything else and public safety and welfare is number one!

Observer: What do you think of the current board's budget priorities? Where would your priorities lie?

Groth: Current board's priorities are misguided. Essential Services have to be the first priority, always, and that is where my priorities lie. Essential services include fire and police and everything that entails, DPW including maintenance of water mains, fire sure, recycling, assessing, elections, recordkeeping, building department for code compliance and inspections, zoning, planning, solid waste, and emergency management, all provided for the safety and well being of the public.



ANDREW JUSTUS Hometown: Plymouth, MI Profession: Reporter/Correspondent for a PBS show called Autoline This Week and at www autolinedaily.tv

Observer: Why are you running? Justus: As a lifelong resident of Plymouth and recent college graduate I could imagine no other place I would rather live than our Plymouth Township. In office, I will strive to ensure that Plymouth Township is an inviting and economically viable place for young professionals and their families to live and work.

Observer: What are the biggest issues facing Plymouth Township? How would you address them? Justus: We are continually trying to save money in our community, I just don't think we are being creative enough. I would like to see us join with the neighboring communities so we can buy things in bulk to save money. Another way to save money could involve investing in energy saving technologies that may cost money up front but would save money in the long run. Water rates are also important.

Observer: What do you think of the township board's recent decision to lay off Plymouth Community Fire Department firefighters? What, if anything, about that decision would you try to change if you were elected?

Justus: While it is unfortunate that we had to lay off fire fighters last year, it is important to ensure that we maintain a competent and cost effective system of public safety. In the long term, I would like to pursue a consolidated fire department shared by our neighboring communities in Western Wayne County.

Observer: What do you think of the current board's budget priorities? Where would your priorities

Justus: I think we have a lot of areas in the budget where there is room for savings and possible service improvement. When I was living in Grand Rapids during college, I was impressed by the garbage pickup offered in that city. By using standardized garbage cans, it allowed residents who threw away less garbage and/or recycled more

to save money compared to those who generated more garbage and thus more cost to the taxpayer to dispose of it.



JENNIFER MANN **Hometown:** Plymouth Town-Family: Married

Observer: Why are you running? Mann: I believe

with 1 son who

that Plymouth Township is a great place to live and raise a family. However, recent changes in the direction, attitude and respect for all of our residents by our elected officials are cause for great concern. I cannot stand by and watch as our community is being degraded and ruined by individuals who do not put the residents needs first.

Observer: What are the biggest issues facing Plymouth Township? How would you address them? Mann: 1) Emergency Services and closing of a fire station. Our current BOT has disregarded the voice of the residents. There were other options available and this BOT refused to even look at them. I would have taken concessions first and foremost. 2) Unnecessary spending on nonessential items. We should not be spending money on extracurricular items when we are looking at cutting public safety services. 3) Not following their own rules and procedures. It was made clear that the current elected officials believe that they do not have to follow the rules and regulations set forth in the charter and by-laws. Observer: What do you think of the township board's recent decision to lay off Plymouth Community

Fire Department firefighters? What, if anything, about that decision would you try to change if you were elected? Mann: I do not agree with this decision. There were alternatives that this current BOT refused to look at. Concessions should have been taken first. Negotiations should have been true negotiations! This could have been settled prior to

arbitration if both sides communicated openly and honestly. There are other options out there than layoffs and closures of fire stations. Observer: What do you think of the current board's budget priorities? Where would your priorities

Mann: The current Board's budget problems lie in the fact that the priorities are not the people of this community first. They spend money on nonessential items such as vacant land, ipads, the golf course and more. Government is supposed to provide services to its community, fire, police, trash, water and sewage, tax collection, etc.



ART BUTLER Hometown: Plymouth Town-Family: Wife, Carolyn Kay (Fordham) Butler;

wo daugnter:

four grandchil-

Observer: Why are you running? Butler: To bring new blood and reconciliation to the board so that we can continue the growth and appeal of our community to prospective new businesses and residents.

Observer: What are the biggest issues facing Plymouth Township? Butler: 1) The issue over the firefighters has sharply divided the community. That issue is behind us and we must accept the decision of our elected leaders and the voice of the people. As a candidate who did not actively engage in that subject, I have no bias or agenda and can focus on the future without having to defend the past. 2) Public Safety needs to be constantly examined and re-examined. A community that is not safe will not long endure. We are a safe com-munity from fire, rescue, and police perspectives. 3) Our streets and roads are horrendous. The Board of Trustees must strive to maintain good relationships with the county and insist that our streets and roads get the attention that they need. Observer: What do you think of the township board's recent decision to lay off Plymouth Community Fire Department firefighters? What, if anything, about that decision would you try to change if you were elected?

Butler: Our Township Officials were duly elected and charged with insuring that the needs of the citizens of the Plymouth Township were met. Those officials, privy to much more information than am I, made decisions that affected not only the firefighters, but the whole community. In their judgment they did the right thing. I do not dispute their decision, rather as a citizen, I support my leaders. As a Trustee, if that subject, or any other subject, is brought before the board, it will be my duty to learn as much about the subject as possible and then to act according to my conscience and how I believe the voters of Plymouth Township who sent me to the Board would want

me to act. Observer: What do you think of the current board's budget priorities? Where would your priorities

Butler: The past board has done a laudable job of extending services without raising taxes. My priorities would be to continue that endeavor focusing on public safety, preserving and improving the infrastructure, minimizing taxes, improving streets and roads, and improving overall habitability.

Enter to win a shopping spree

You could win \$250, \$125 or \$75 in cash to go on a Christmas in July shopping spree.

The Plymouth and Canton Observer Christmas in July contest is back this year inside Hometownlife INSPIRE and online at hometownlife.

List the pages where you spot the holiday icon (pictured here) and enter with the form inside the



print edition of INSPIRE or download the form online and mail to: Christmas in July, ATTN:

Hometownlife INSPIRE, 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Contestants can also enter online through Facebook (see the holiday icon in the Don't Miss module) at hometownlife.

All entries must be received by midnight July 31.

Winners will be selected at random from all correct entries.

for Circuit Court Judge

20 years as a Trial Attorney:



- Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor for the past 7 years.
- Previously a solo Practitioner for 13 years. Specializing in the areas of Probate, Juvenile, Criminal, Civil and Family Law.
- Former Special Assistant to the Attorney General.
- Recipient of the Spirit of Detroit Award for volunteer work in the community
- Married 18 years, two children

Endorsements (partial list):

Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy Wayne County Sheriff Benny Napoleon **Polish American Congress** Wayne County Association of Chiefs of Police Metropolitan Detroit AFL-CIO Wayne County Sheriff's Association Michigan Court Officers

Connect with the campaign: www.JaneEllenGillisForJudge.com

Please Vote on August

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Jane Gillis - 615 Griswold Ste. 925- Detroit, MI 48226

W-W seeks line of credit

By Sue Mason Observer Staff Writer

The Wayne-Westland school officials have been given the go-ahead to open a line of credit not to exceed \$6 million.

The Wayne-Westland board voted 7-0 to allow Jim Larson-Shidler, deputy superintendent for administrative and business services, to begin the process for securing the line of credit. The money, if needed, will be used to cover school operations during the 2012-13 budget year.

"We didn't have to use the line of credit last year, but with a deficit of \$8 million going forward, we may have to this year," LarsonShidler told the school board.

The district expects to receive \$99.8 million in revenue for 2012-13 and spend \$108.2 million. It will use a majority of its more than \$10 million fund equity to cover the shortfall, leaving it with just \$2 million in the bank. The line of credit will help the district handle any cash flow

ence in its general fund. Part of the problem is the three-month gap between the start of the school district's and state's budget years. Wayne-Westland's starts on July 1 and the state's on Oct. 1. The district doesn't receive its first school aid payment until mid-October.

problems it may experi-

The line of credit also will be less costly for the district which will be able to use what it needs and pay interest only on that amount, something that's not possible if Wayne-Westland were to get the funds from the State of

"If we borrow from the state we have to take the entire amount for the entire year, with this, we only take what we need," Larson-Shidler said.

Michigan.

Wayne-Westland, however, must have to get prior approval of the line of credit from the State Treasury Depart-

> smason@hometownlife.com (313) 222-6751

Five kids, a dress and a mission

They are five kids represented by The Dress of Many Colors. Their mission is to raise money to meet the needs of individuals and families struggling with cancer.

Two families — the Bonacorsi and Morelli families — came together. The Bonacorsi family of Plymouth includes Kenna, 13, Roman, 10, and Mario, 6. The Morelli family of Bloomfield Hills includes Gianni, 13, and Mia, 12.

Together, they are "5 Kids 4 A Cure."

In 2006, their lives where impacted by cancer when their mother/aunt had been diagnosed with breast cancer. As a survivor, she is their inspiration for the dress of many colors.

The Dress of Many Colors was introduced at the 2011 Livonia Relay for Life. Made up of colored ribbons to represent each color of cancer.

Their latest event was Art in the Park in Plymouth where the dress was completed and will soon be auctioned off.



Fall Registration Starts August 2nd

NO Annual Registration Feel

Providing Quality Dance Education to Canton and Surrounding Communities for 18 Years

Ballet • Tap • Jazz • Hip Hop • Lyrical/Contemporary Pom Pon - Pre-school Creative Dance



- All adult certified teaching staff
- No annual registration fees!
- Affordable costumes
- Reasonable recital tickets
- Annual trophies for attendance



FALL REPRESENTING

Every Tuesday & Thursday, 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Starting Aug. 2- Aug. 30 • Classes begin Sept. 4th

1672 S. Lilley at Palmer - Canton - 734.397.9755 Check out our website: www.the-dance-connection.com

Youth no impediment for entrepreneurs

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Being young certainly doesn't mean you can't succeed in business. Just ask Bill Gates — or Sergio Troiani, Eric Wierszewski and John Govan.

Troiani, 17, lives in Plymouth Township and just graduated from Catholic Central High School, as did Wierszewski, 18. Govan, 17, is a recent Divine Child graduate.

The three young men just started PIN (Personal Incentives Network), with a website of www.joinpin.com. Visitors to such places as Fiamma Restaurant in downtown Plymouth

can upload discount offers to a mobile app.

So far, they have mostly Plymouth businesses, as well as Westland, Canton and Dearborn, Troiani said. Wierszewski and Govan live in Dearborn.

Troiani and Govan will head to Grand Valley State University this fall, Wierszewski to the University of Michigan-Dearborn, including an international program in China.

"The three of us came up with the idea this December," said Troiani. They've been visiting businesses to arrange discounts.

"We take that deal and we advertise it,"



John Govan (left), Eric Wierszewski (center) and Sergio Troiani have started a discount deal businesses including restaurants and services, using a distinctive keychain.

Troiani said.

They offer two styles of keychain, each good for life at \$20. There's no clipping of coupons involved.

The men set up several categories online of food, drink, entertainment, shopping and

services. They're hiring a sales force to assist when they leave for college.

The two at Grand
Valley State will also
reach out to the Grand
Rapids market.

"The company will continue to prosper while we go to college," Troiani said. "It's helping the local community."

He touts their service over those like Groupon, noting no cost now to businesses and a low one later in the business's growth.

"We're helping them to grow," Troiani said. "They keep the profits."

The field is competitive, he agreed, with

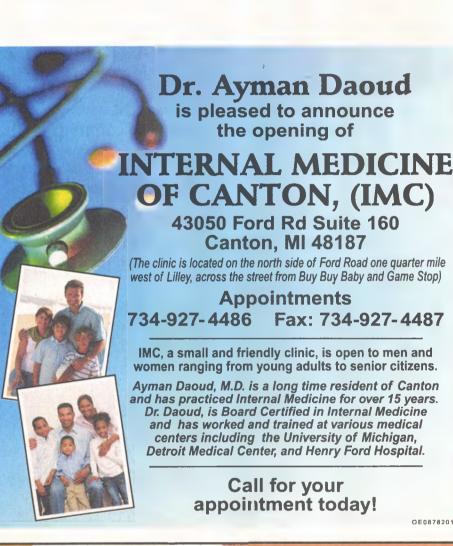
direct mail businesses.
"We're trying to get
our foot in the door,"
said Troiani, who
emphasized social
media as being impor-

tant to their business.

"We're making this user-friendly to both generations," he said of baby boomers and their kids. The participating business needs only to use the distinctive keychain for verification.

The men were able to overcome legal issues with two being minors and owning a business, with parental help. For information, go online or call (855) JOIN-PIN/564-6746.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com









5ive Restaurant is located within The Inn at St. John's 44045 Five Mile, Plymouth www.theinnatstjohns.com

Candidates don't like special election costs

By Ken Abramczyk Observer Staff Writer

Most of the five Republican candidates are angry about the cost of the special election to fill Thaddeus McCotter's vacated seat, but they are also adamant that the old 11th Congressional District deserves representation over the last few weeks of the year.

Five Republicans, including a former school board member in Livonia, and one Democrat have filed to run in the special election Sept. 5.

McCotter resigned July 6, ending his term six months early after what he called a "nightmarish month and a half" in apparent reference to his duplicated signatures on petitions turned into the Secretary of State that resulted in an investigation by state Attorney General Bill Schuette. The duplicate signatures were invalidated so he fell short of the minimum signatures required

On July 13, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, acting in Gov. Rick Snyder's absence, called for a special election in the 11th District to fill the vacancy created by McCotter's resignation.

Former state Sen. Nancy Cassis, former Livonia school board member Steve King, Carolyn Kavanagh of Livonia and Kenneth Crider of Livonia filed last week to run on the Republican ballot in the 11th Congressional District. David Curson of Belleville filed as a Democrat.

The candidates had until 4 p.m. Monday to withdraw, but none of them did.

Residents in the current 11th District will be voting in a special election Wednesday, Sept. 5, and again Nov. 6 to fill the unexpired term. All of Livonia is included in both the former 11th District and the redistricted 11th District.

Thad ought to pay'

Robert Dindoffer, campaign manager for Kerry Bentivolio, said Thaddeus McCotter is to blame for the \$650,000 estimated cost of the special election to local communities. Livonia's cost is estimated at \$50,000.

"It's no one's fault but Thad McCotter's, and he ought to pay," Dindoffer said. McCotter could not be reached for comment.

Since Bentivolio filed

first, he asked others not to file, Dindoffer said. If only one candidate had filed in each party, the governor would have canceled the special primary election.

Dindoffer also said another candidate had run as a Democrat in a previous state election. Steve King ran as a Democrat in the race against John Walsh in 2008. "It appears that someone is trying to manipulate the system," Dindoffer said.

Dindoffer believes residents in the 11th District should have representation, especially in a lameduck session he expects toward the end of the year. "There is all kinds of absurd legislation that is proposed in a lame duck session," Dindoffer said.

Should Bentivolio win the special primary and special general election in the old 11th District and win the general election in the new 11th District, it will help Bentivolio better represent the district, Dindoffer said. "He will get a couple of months seniority, which will help him get better committees," Dindoffer said.

Cost a 'travesty'

Nancy Cassis, former state senator from Novi, said the cost of the special election was a travesty. She said she "sincerely regrets the cost and confusion" created by the special election.

"We have to explain to people why the special election is necessary and that is because Congressman McCotter resigned and created this vacancy," Cassis said. "The real key here, though, is the prevention of about six weeks that the people of the 11th District would not have representation during a lame duck session, when they will be dealing with impor-

tant pieces of legislation." "It brings about confusion and costs, but it is still is a democracy and an allimportant six-week session."

Crider is a steel metal worker in the heating and air conditioning field. Crider has never sought elective office before.

When McCotter didn't qualify and then quit his write-in campaign, Crider didn't like Bentivolio's views. "The only choice I had didn't represent my views," Crider said. "I haven't voted for anyone

but a Republican."

Crider believes residents also deserve the right to vote, even at the \$650,000 cost. "Government wastes a lot of money, but it's never a waste of money for people to have a vote," Crider said. "It's what democracy is all about."

'Law of the land'

The U.S. Constitution also requires the representation, Crider said. "It's the law. It's the law of the land.' Crider said he was con-

tacted by some Republicans, whom he didn't identify, who wanted him to withdraw his candidacy. "I don't agree with that," Crider said. "People need to have a choice. Besides, it's the law."

Crider calls himself a "common man who can bring common sense to government.

"People are fed up with the status quo, and the professional politicians in gov-

ernment," Crider said. Kavanagh, the daughter of 16th District Judge Sean Kavanagh, could not be reached for comment.

King said the election was part of the process in selecting the Republican

candidates. "If they didn't like the process, the governor, state Senate and state House, where there is a Republican majority, could have changed it," King said. "They could have changed the process."

King said Bentivolio and Cassis had already filed, so for King to withdraw at that point would not make sense for King since the election would already be scheduled.

King said "nobody said anything" about the \$10 million the state spent on Michigan's presidential primary, when the primary date was moved up to Feb. 28. "Nobody cared about that (election cost) "King said.

King also reiterated his stance on the Livonia school board that he opposed scheduling special elections in August and May, but rather scheduling them along with city or state elections to cut the costs to the district.

Since McCotter's resignation, the special election "is now a mess.

"It is confusing," King said. "I've had to educate every voter, and that's why it took so long to get signa-

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH LEGAL NOTICE

Close of Registration For the **Special Primary Election** September 5, 2012

PLEASE NOTE: that August 6, 2012. is the last day to register to vote, in order to vote in the September 5, 2012 Special Primary Election.

Registration for Plymouth Township electors will be taken at the Office of the Clerk, 9955 N Haggerty Road, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. If a resident is unable to register during regular office hours a call to the Clerk at (734) 354-3224, can set up a convenient time for the resident.

Below is a listing of the offices that will be on the September 5, 2012 Special Primary Election. Sections are the Republican Party, and Democratic Party.

Partisan Section:

Representative in Congress - 11th District - Partial Term Ending 01/02/2013

Joe Bridgman, MMC Township Clerk

Publish: July 29, 2012



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

NOTICE OF THE CLOSE OF REGISTRATION

FOR THE

SEPTEMBER 5, 2012

11TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that August 6, 2012, is the last day registrations can be accepted in order to be eligible to vote in the above stated election to be held on Wednesday, September 5, 2012. Registrations will be accepted at the Canton Township Clerk's Office, 1150 South Canton Center Road, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Registration can also be made at any Secretary of State Branch Office or State Designated Agency. Persons with special needs who are unable to register in the above mentioned manner are urged to contact the Clerk's Office at 734-394-5120. Mailin registrations postmarked by August 6, 2012 will also be accepted.

> Terry G. Bennett Canton Township Clerk

Publish: July 29, 2012



NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth, Michigan will accept sealed bids up until 2:00 p.m., July 31, 2012. The bid opening will be at 2:00 p.m., July 31, 2012 for the

2012 Central Parking Deck Restoration Project

City of Plymouth **Downtown Development Authority** c/o City Clerk Plymouth City Hall 201. S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at 2:00pm EDT on July 24, 2012 in the office of the City of Plymouth Downtown Development Authority located at 831 Penniman Ave. Plymouth, MI 48170

Electronic Bid Documents can be obtained by contacting Mark Sampson of Carl Walker, Inc. (269) 381-2222 and requesting a set of Bid Documents for the Central Parking Deck restoration project in Plymouth, MI. Basic bid documents are available at the city hall during normal business hours. You may also download a copy of the documentation from the City's web site at: http://www.ci.plymouth.mi.us.

The City of Plymouth reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in

part, and to waive any irregularities.

Publish: July 22, 2012

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC City Clerk

City of Plymouth

OE08782474 - 3x5

LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF PLYMOUTH STATE PRIMARY ELECTION TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a "State Primary Election" will be held in the City of Plymouth, Wayne County, Michigan, on TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2012, from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., at which time candidates of the Republican, Democratic and Non-Partisan Candidates along with two county proposals will be voted upon:

> UNITED STATES SENATOR UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS - 11TH DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES IN STATE LEGISLATURE – 20th DISTRICT WAYNE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY WAYNE COUNTY SHERIFF WAYNE COUNTY CLERK WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER WAYNE COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSIONER, 10th DISTRICT

And in the CITY OF PLYMOUTH:

DELEGATES TO THE COUNTY CONVENTION

And the following NON-PARTISAN CANDIDATES:

JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT - 3rd CIRCUIT, NON-INCUMBENT Vote for note more than 3

STATEMENT AS REQUIRED BY ACT 278 OF PUBLIC ACTS OF 1964 Amending the Property Tax Limitation Act

I, RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ, Treasurer of Wayne County, Michigan, do hereby certify that, as of June 27, 2012 the total of all voted increases in excess of the tax rate limitation established by Section 6, Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Michigan, as amended, and the years such increases are effective on property in the County of Wayne are as follows:

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Plymouth-Canton

Community Schools September, 2004 18 mills

2014 (non-homestead only) The following Wayne County Proposals will appear on the Primary Ballot:

WAYNE COUNTY PROPOSAL WAYNE COUNTY ART INSTITUTE AUTHORITY MILLAGE

The Wayne county Art Institute Authority was established pursuant to Public Act 296 of 2010 and formed to allow for continuing support of art institute services to the students, residents and visitors of Wayne County. The law allows the Authority to seek authorization from the electors to levy a tax of not more than 0.2 mill (20 cents per \$1,000 of taxable value) on real and personal property to provide revenue to an art institute services provider for this purpose. Accordingly, to continue providing art institute services to benefit the residents of the County, shall a 0.2 mill on all of the taxable property located within the County be imposed for a period of ten (10) years, being years 2012 through 2021? It is estimated that if approved and levied, this new millage would generate approximately \$8,284,722 in 2012

NO

WAYNE COUNTY PROPOSAL PROPOSITION J JAILS MILLAGE RENEWAL

To renew the millage authorized in 2002, shall Wayne County be authorized to continue to levy this millage at the 2011 rollback rate of .9381 mills (about 94 cents per thousand dollars of taxable valuation) for ten more years (2012 through 2021) for any of the following previously authorized uses.

To acquire, construct, and/or operate jail, misdemeanant, or juvenile incarceration or detention facilities, and for adult penalty options, such as work release, home detention and community restitution, with at least one-tenth of the millage used to acquire, build and operate a juvenile offender work/training institution? This renewal is estimated to generate at least \$38,859,493 in property tax revenue in 2012.

Polling Locations for the City of Plymouth are as follows:

PRECINCT #1, #2, #3 & #4 Plymouth Cultural Center 525 Farmer Street, Plymouth

Applications for Absent Voter Ballots for the City of Plymouth registered voters may be obtained at the City of Plymouth Clerk's office, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170, during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Absentee Ballots will be issued to qualified absentee voters in person at the Clerk's Office from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., on Saturday, August 4, 2012. On Monday, August 6, 2012, qualified register voters can apply for a ballot and vote them in the Clerk's Office until 4:00 p.m.

> Linda Langmesser, CMC City of Plymouth

Publish: July 29, 2012

OF08782334 9v14

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH **LEGAL NOTICE**

STATE PRIMARY ELECTION - TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2012

To the qualified electors of the Charter Towship of Plymouth notice is hereby given that a primary election will be held in the Charter Township of Plymouth, Wayne County, Michigan, on Tuesday, August 7, 2012 from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of nominating or electing candidates for the following offices:

Below is a listing of the offices that will be on the August 7, 2012 State Primary Election. Sections are the Republican Party, Democratic Party, Non-Partisan, and Proposal.

Partisan Section:

United States Senator Representative in Congress - 11th District Representative in State Legislature - 20th District County Prosecuting Attorney County Sheriff County Clerk County Treasurer County Register of Deeds County Commissioner - 10th District Township Supervisor Township Clerk Township Treasurer **Township Trustee** Delegate to County Convention

Non-Partisan Section: Judge of the Circuit Court, 3rd Circuit - Non-Incumbent

Precinct 1

Precinct 2

Precinct 3

Precinct 4

AND to vote on the following proposals:

Proposal Section:

Wayne County Art Institute Authority Millage

The Wayne County Art Institute Authority was established pursuant to Public Act 296 of 2010 and formed to allow for continuing support of art institute services for the students, residents and visitors of Wayne County. The law allows the Authority to seek authorization from the electors to levy a tax of not more than 0.2 mill (20 cents per \$1,000 of taxable value) on real and personal property to provide revenue to an art institute services provider for this purpose. Accordingly, to continue providing art institute services to benefit the residents of the County, shall a 0.2 mill on all of the taxable property located within the County be imposed for a period of ten (10) years, being years 2012 through 2021? It is estimated that if approved and levied, this new millage would generate approximately \$8,284,722 in 2012.

Proposition J - Jails Millage Renewal

To renew the millage authorized in 2002, shall Wayne County be authorized to continue to levy this millage at the 2011 rollback rate of .9381 mills (about 94 cents per thousand dollars of taxable valuation) for ten more years (2012 through 2021) for any of the following previously

To acquire, construct, and/or operate jail, misdemeanant, or juvenile incarceration or detention facilities, and for adult penalty options such as work release, home detention and community restitution; with at least one-tenth of the millage used to acquire, build and operate a juvenile offender work/training institution? This renewal is estimated to generate at least \$38,859,493 in property tax revenue in 2012.

St. Kenneth's Catholic Church 14951 N Haggerty Rd. Friendship Station 42375 Schoolcraft Rd. 9955 N Haggerty Rd. 39750 Joy Rd. Township Hall Fiegel Elementary School 9300 Canton Center Rd. 44401 W Ann Arbor Trl. Isbister Elementary School West Middle School

POLLING LOCATIONS ARE:

Precinct 5 Precinct 6 Church of the Nazarene Precinct 7 Praise Baptist Church Precinct 8 Living Word Church Precinct 9 NorthRidge Church Precinct 10 Risen Christ Lutheran Church Precinct 11 Precinct 12

Applications for Absentee ballots may be obtained during regular business hours, which are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. from our office located at:

> Township Clerk's Office 9955 N Haggerty Road Plymouth, MI 48170

Plymouth - Canton Comm. Schools

River Rouge School District

South Redford School District

Romulus School District

Taylor School District

Van Buren Township

Community Schools

Woodhaven - Brownstown

Wyandotte School District

Westwood Community

School District

School District

Publish: July 29, 2012

School District Wayne - Westland

Trenton Public Schools

Redford Union School District No. 1

Riverview Community School District

Southgate Community School District

June 2004

August 2010

August, 2011

February, 2012

February 2011

June, 1998

May 2010

April 1995

May 2006

May 2005

May, 2005

On Saturday, August 4, 2012 the Clerk's Office will be

open; 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., to issue Absentee ballots to

45801 Ann Arbor Rd. W.

45000 N Territorial Rd.

46500 N Territorial Rd.

49555 N Territorial Rd.

46250 Ann Arbor Rd. W.

46081 Ann Arbor Rd. W.

On Monday, August 6, 2012 qualified voters may be issued an Absentee ballot in person, and shall vote them in the Clerk's Offices until 4:00 p.m.

> Joe Bridgman, MMC Township Clerk

STATEMENT AS REQUIRED BY ACT 278 OF PUBLIC ACTS OF 1964 Amending the Property Tax Limitation Act

I, RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ, Treasurer of Wayne County, Michigan, do hereby certify that, as of June 27, 2012 the total of all voted increases in excess of the tax rate limitation established by Section 6, Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Michigan, as amended, and the years such increases are effective on property in the County of Wayne are as

ionows.	WAYNE COUNTY,		
		Voted	Years
Taxing Authorities	Date of Election	Increases	Increase Effective
County of Wayne	November 2, 2010	1 mill	2015
Wayne County Jail	August 6, 2002	1 mill	2011
Wayne County Parks	November 2, 2010	0.25 mills	2015
Wayne County	November 6, 2009	1.25 mills	2020
Community College	TOWNSH	IPS	
	10 111011	Voted	Years
Taxing Authorities	Date of Election	Increases	Increase Effective
Grosse Ile	November 6, 2001	2 mills	2011
	August 3, 2010	0.4995 mills	2015
	November 4, 2008	1 mill	2013
	November 4, 2008	1.5 mills	2013
	November 4, 2008	1 mill	2011
	May 8, 2007	0.4 mills	2012
	May 7, 2007	0.33 mills	2012
	May 8, 2007	0.75 mills	2012
	August 3, 2010	0.4995 mills	2015
Sumpter Township	August 5, 2008	1 mill	2011
	May 3, 2011	1 mill	2015
	August 03, 2010	2 mills	2015
	SCHOOL DIS	TRICTS	
		** . *	***

	May 7, 2007	0.33 mills	2012
	May 8, 2007	0.75 mills	2012
	August 3, 2010	0.4995 mills	2015
Sumpter Township	August 5, 2008	1 mill	2011
L L	May 3, 2011	1 mill	2015
	August 03, 2010	2 mills	2015
	,		
	SCHOOL DIS		W.
		Voted	Years
Taxing Authorities	Date of Election	<u>Increases</u>	Increase Effective
Airport Community Schools	May 2008	18 mills	2013 (non-homestead only)
Allen Park Public Schools	November, 2008	18 mills	2014(non-homestead only)
Clarenceville School District	May, 2005	18 mills	2016 (non-homestead only)
	May, 2006	4.5 mills	2016
	May, 2005	1.1210	2016
Crestwood School District	February, 2005	17.0194 mills	2014 (non-homestead only)
	February, 2005	3 mills	2014 (non-homestead only)
City Of Dearborn School District	August, 2004	6.17 mills	2015
·	August, 2004	18 mills	2015 (non-homestead only)
	November, 2003	.50 mill	2015
	November, 2003	2.50 mills	2015
Dearborn Heights School	November, 2004	18 mills	2014 (non-homestead only)
District N. 7	November 2008	1.3342	2014
22202200211	May, 2006	2 mills	2016
	November 2008	3 mills	2016
City Of Detroit School District	November, 2005	18 mills	2012 (non-homestead only)
Ecorse Public Schools	June, 2005	18 mills	2015 (non-homestead only)
Flat Rock Community Schools	Nov, 2010	18 mills	2015 (non-homestead only)
Garden City Public Schools	June, 2002	18 mills	2012 (non-homestead only)
Gibraltar School District	December, 2004	18 mills	2015 (non-homestead only)
Gibiaitai School Bistrict	May, 2006	3 mills	2015
Grosse Ile Township Schools	August, 2010	18 mills	2020 (non-homestead only)
Grosse Pointe Schools	February, 2005	18 mills	2015 (non-homestead only)
Grosse i onite Schools	November, 2009	1 mill 2015	2010 (non-nonicoccad omy)
	November, 2009	8.0784 mills	2015 (homestead only)
Hamtramck School District	November, 2005	18 mills	2015 (non-homestead only)
Hamilianica School District	November, 2006	4.467 mills	2016
	November, 2005	1 mill	2015
Harper Woods School District	June, 1995	18 mills	2014 (non homestead only)
Highland Park	April, 1997	18 mills	2016 (non homestead only)
School District	January, 1997	5.00 mills	2016
Huron School District	November, 2011	18 mills	2017 (non homestead only)
Inkster School District	May, 2006	21 mills	2015 (non homestead only)
master School Bistrict	May, 2006	6 mills	2015
Lincoln Consolidated Schools	June, 1994	18 mills	2013 (non homestead only)
Efficient Consolidated Schools	June, 2003	2.0 mills 2013	2010 (Holl Holliobledd Olly)
	November, 2008	.1 mill	2012
Lincoln Park School District	November, 2008	18 mills	2017 (non homestead only)
Lincom Park School District	November, 2005	1.5 mills	2014 (non nomestead only)
Livonia Public School District	November 2009	18.4568 mills	2015 (non homestead only)
Livolità i ubile School District	November 2009	1.12 mills	2014 (non nomestead only)
Melvindale Northern	November 2009 November 2008	18 mills	2014 2018 (non homestead only)
Allen Park School District	MOVEHIDEL 2000	TO HIIIIS	2010 (non nomesteau only)
Northville Public Schools	November 2011	18 mills	2021 (non-homostond cally)
Northville Public Schools	November, 2011	.25 mills	2021 (non homestead only)
	September 2004	3 mills	2012 (non homestead only)
	November, 2005	3 mills 1 mill	2012 (non homestead only)
	May, 2011	1 mill	2012

September, 2004 18 mills 2014 (non homestead only) November 2, 2010 18.7551 mills 2015 (non homestead only) March,2002 17.35 mills 2012 (non homestead only) March,2002 17.35 mills 2012 (homestead only) May, 2006 18 mills 2016 (non homestead only) May, 2011 18 mills 2021 (non homestead only) September, 1999 November, 2008 16.63 mills 2011 (homestead only) .75 millsMay, 2005 18 mills 2024 (non homestead only) June 2003 2.8 mills 2013 (non homestead only) June, 1995 18 mills April, 1999 3.82 mills 2024 January 2008 18 mills

1 mill

18 mills

2015 (non homestead only) 2013 (non homestead only) 18 mills 2014(non homestead only) 4.90 mills 2020 18 mills 2016 (non homestead only)

1.30 mills 2015 2025 (non homestead only) 18 mills .9922 mills 2022 18 mills 2014 (non homestead only) 3 mills 18 mills 2015 (non homestead only)

We need **financial donations** and hundreds of volunteers. Please make checks payable to *Adam Adamski 2012* and send your contribution to Adam Adamski. 25925 Michigan Avenue, Ste 127, Inkster, MI 48141. 313-274-3900, Ext. 127 2015 (non homestead only) RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ, Wayne County Treasurer Paid for by state of MI #513268-3



STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jasmine Millwood discusses her new book, "Unbreakable: a Memoir," and her Lighthouse Family Charity at the July 19 Garden City Rotary meeting.

Memoir recounts her experience with child abuse

By Sue Buck Observer Staff Writer

Jasmine Millwood started writing her memoir when she was

"Writing was a way for me to cope," she said. "It was a healing process for me. I would write and I would feel better."

Millwood, a victim of child abuse, compiled all of the difficult, traumatic moments in her book, Unbreakable, a Memoir, which was released in March. Since then, the Plymouth Township resident has been speaking at different Rotary Club about the Lighthouse Family Charity which she started.

"The past does not define you and overcoming (it) is always a possibility," said a statement on the bookmarks she handed out to members of the Garden City Rotary Club at their July 19 meeting at Amantea's Restaurant in Garden City.

educate people about abuse and help start support groups. She especially wants children to learn to say no to abuse, remove themselves from the abusive situation and to tell another adult.

The charity is doing a 5K run Sept. 23 in Plymouth called Paint the Town Blue because royal blue is the signature color of child abuse.

Millwood, 24, continues to speak about her survival of the foster care system and what she believes was the near fatal abuse of herself, a twin and another sister. From 1995-97, she said that she and her sisters were beaten, starved, tortured and tormented.

"We stole food and lied to our teachers," Millwood said. "We took care of each other and bond-

She wants to continue to help.

"It's important for me to be a voice for children," Millwood said. "Child abuse is still going on today at an alarming rate. Fifteen hundred kids in the United States died last year through abuse and neglect. Thirty thousand cases of child abuse were reported last year in Wayne County alone. The Department of Human Services only have enough resources to respond to about 10 percent of those claims. It is disheartening and

sad." When one Rotary Club member asked why teachers didn't recognize the abuse sooner, Millwood answered that many teachers looked away from child abuse years ago. For a time they denied it because the circumstances were so terrible, she said.

She and her sisters eventually came forward and told teachers that they were being hurt at home and that it was a struggle to stay alive. It was disheartening when social workers referred to them as "manipulative," she

"Children's 'behavior is a way for them to express themselves," Millwood said. "When children behave a certain way, there is a reason behind it."

There's a good ending. "We were adopted by our biological uncle at age 12," Millwood said. "He is an amazing person."

Her uncle is Richard Reaume, now the Plymouth Township supervisor. Reaume, a single foster father, had taken on a difficult situation.

To purchase the book, contact Millwood through her website, jasminemillwood.com

The book also is available at Barnes & Noble and amazon.com

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



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Please call the county clerk at 313-224-6262 and ask why you should vote for Prop J.

O&E, Hometown crew spruces up I-275

By Philip Allmen

Staff members from the Observer & Eccentric/Hometown Weeklies did their part to keep a stretch of I-275 in Livonia a little more tidy.

The company joined the Michigan Department of Transportation's Adopt-A-Highway program last week, where people and groups can volunteer to collect trash alongside the state's highways.

The project was something Mark Warren, circulation manager for the newspaper group, had been thinking about for some time.

"I pass by the roadside signs all the time and thought that could be us," he said. "I thought it was a great way to get involved with the community."

The company adopted the stretch of I-275 between Six Mile Road and I-96 in Livonia.

The debris alongside I-275 was about what one would expect near a busy highway. There were plenty of random car parts, likely from the various fender benders seemingly on a daily basis. An entire car hood and plenty of tire fragments were among the vehicular highlights.

Fast food bags, beer cans and water bottles were other common finds, all scooped up and tossed into trash bags for MDOT to pick up later.

Among the more unusual finds were a cell phone, plastic frogs, golf balls, a credit card and even a \$20 bill.

"That was a big surprise," admitted Warren, who apparently had karma on his side for organizing the endeavor. "There was a lot of trash to pick up. That was a bit of a surprise."

In all, the group collected more than two dozen garbage bags filled of trash.

"I drive that stretch all the time, and the nicer it looks the better I feel about my hometown,' said Diane Andreassi, a Livonia resident and South Lyon Herald reporter who was among the dozen or so volunteers last week.

Volunteers for the Adopt-A-Highway program clean up litter along more than 7,200 miles of highway. Cleanups take place in April, July and September.

"Volunteers in the Adopt-A-Highway program perform a tremendous public service," stated State Transportation Director Kirk T. Steudle. "They take great pride in their communities, and help MDOT concentrate its limited resources on repairing roads and bridges.

In 2011, Adopt-A-Highway volunteers collected more than 75,000 bags of trash, saving taxpayers \$1.5 million in cleanup costs, according to Steudle. The volunteers include members of various civic groups, businesses and families.

Highway sections are still available. Learn more about the program online at www.michigan. gov/adoptahighway.

pallmen@hometownlife.com (248) 685-1507, Ext. 226



MICHELLE PALMERI

The Observer and Eccentric/Hometown Weeklies cleanup crew included (from left): Linda Rigdon (sales), Tom Carron-Smith (circulation), Deb Conner (administration), Diane Andreassi (editorial), Frank Cibor (sales), Jenna Smith (Tom's daughter), Lisa Walker (sales), Troy Gibson (circulation), Mark Warren (circulation) Gail Smalley (sales) and Philip Allmen (editorial).



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Frank Cibor and Deb Conner have some fun out of the

Transportation's Adopt-a-Highway program last week.

office while participating in the Michigan Department of

Mark Warren has his eye on another piece of trash on the northbound side of I-275 near Six Mile Road.



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MarycrestHeights.org

Paying off mortgage with lump-sum withdraw may have tax consequences

Q: Dear Rick: My wife and I have a dilemma that we hope you can help us with. We are in our early 60s and are both retired. At this point we are not taking Social Security and plan to delay that a couple of years. Currently, my pension and my wife's severance more than cover our living expenses. We have a \$150,000 mortgage on our home. The interest rate is 4.5 percent and we have approximately 15 years left. For many reasons we cannot refinance. My wife is more conservative than me and she would like to take the money out of our IRA and pay off the mortgage. I think with interest rates so low it doesn't make sense to pay the mortgage off. What do you recommend?

A: I don't want to come between you and your wife, however, I think it would be a mistake to withdraw the money in one lump sum from your retirement account. My



Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 29, 2012

Money Matters

Rick Bloom

to ordinary income tax; which means you will lose a significant amount of money toward taxes.

reasoning is

based on when

you withdraw

the money,

it is subject

Withdrawing the money in one lump sum would also throw you into a higher tax bracket.

I believe that money should be used to increase the quality of your life. If having the mortgage paid off would do that, I would recommend to do it over a five-year period. Based upon the number you provided and upon current tax laws,

you could make a lump-sum payment of approximately \$25,000 per year for the next five years. Coupled with your current payment, you would have the house paid off in five years. Doing it this way would not throw you into a higher tax bracket.

One question I'm frequently asked is whether it makes sense to pay off mortgages. As far as I'm concerned, there are two ways to think about this issue. The first is purely from a financial standpoint. Look at what the mortgage is costing after tax, versus money earned after taxes, if invested. If, for example, the mortgage, after taxes is costing 2 percent and after taxes that money was earning you 4 percent, from a financial standpoint, it

would make sense to keep the mortgage. On the other hand, if the after tax cost of the mortgage was 4 percent and you were earning only 2 percent on your money, paying off the mortgage would make sense.

Some people sleep better at night when their homes are paid off. In that regard, it's not a financial decision, but a peace of mind decision. In those cases where people will feel more comfortable by having their house paid off, it does make sense to work on a program to accelerate the mortgage payments.

Never forget that money is a tool that is used to increase the quality of your life. The goal is not to accumulate as much money as you can but to live a

fulfilled life. Money is a tool that can assist you. That doesn't mean we don't have to watch our money and be vigilant with it; but rather, it should never be the end withal.

One of the challenges in life is to balance quality of life versus the reality of our finances. If you let the scales tip too far in either direction that is where problems will develop. I wish I had an easy answer, but I don't; what I do know is that it is possible to have that balance. Good luck!

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

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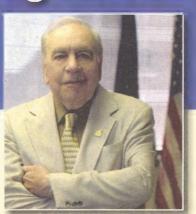
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- Last year assisted over 14,000 taxpayers in avoiding foreclosure, stabilizing neighborhoods, and stopping blight.
- Developed partnerships with over 20 neighborhood organizations to keep people in their homes.
- Effectively managed over \$2 billion a year in county revenue.

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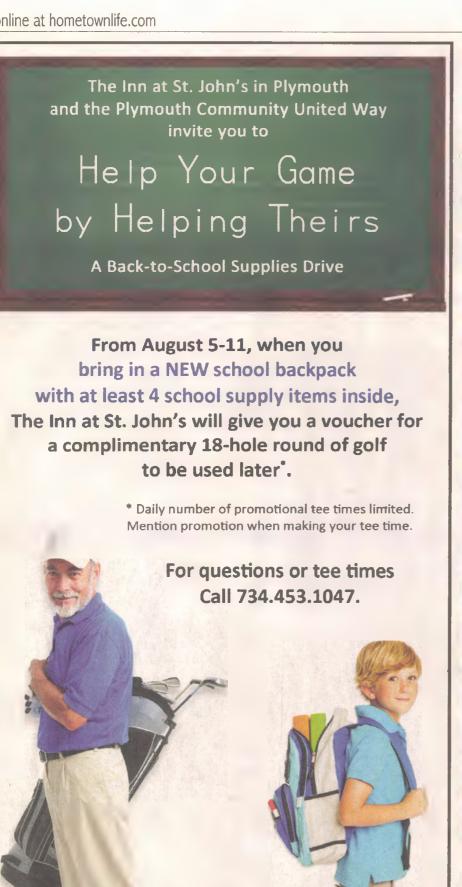
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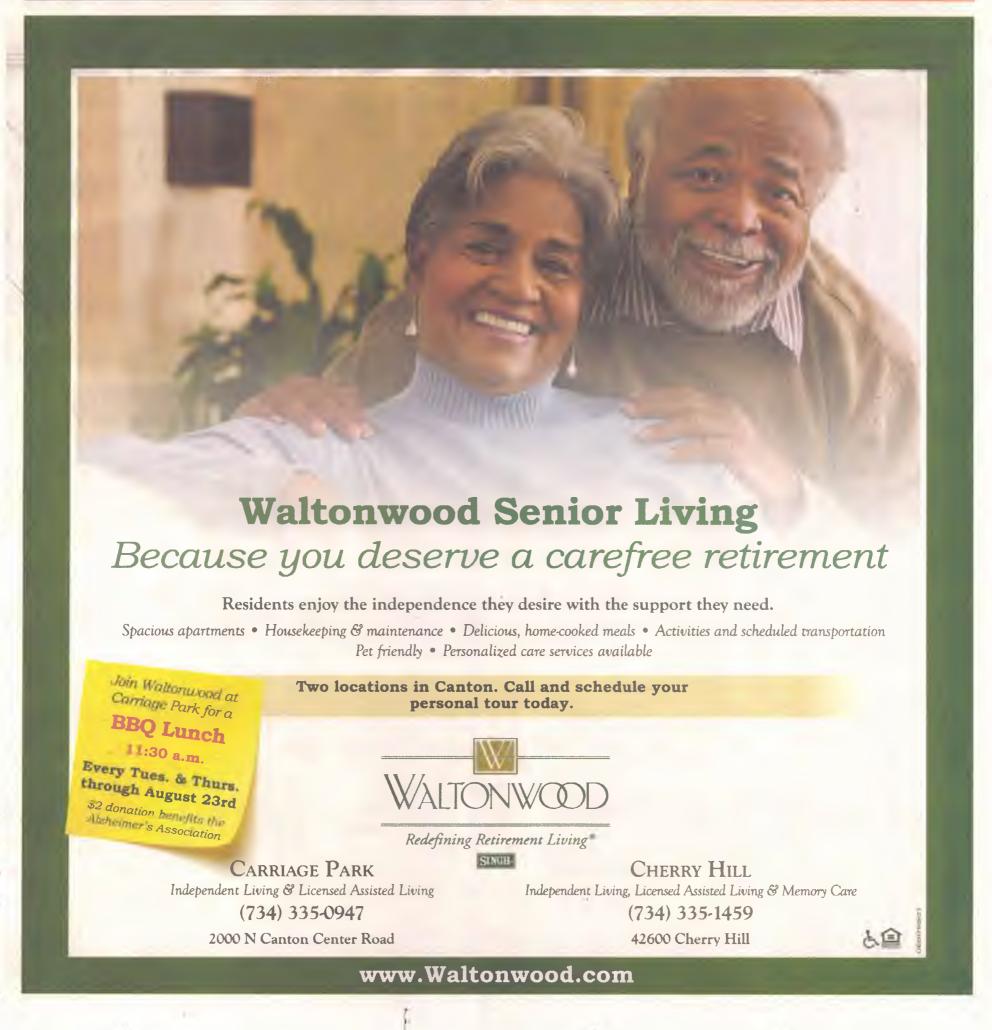
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SECTION B.(*) SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2012 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR

tsmith@hometownlife.com 734-469-4128

Pride and joy

Canton will have collective eye on Schmitt at London Olympics

Observer Staff Writer

All of Canton will be crowding their television sets or computer screens in the coming days to keep up with Allison Schmitt at the Summer Olympic Games in London.

One of her former coaches with the Canton girls swim team certainly will.

"We're very proud that Canton High School has an Olympian," said Ed Weber Thursday, who along with Molly Raines coached Schmitt in the mid-2000s when she began to show all-world skills. "... We are very excited. We followed her since Allison took the year off from Georgia to train for the Olympics."

Schmitt, a 22-year-old who graduated from Canton in 2008, is with the U.S. Olympic Swimming Team where she will go for the gold in the 200and 400-meter freestyles and as part of the 4 x 100 and 4 x 200-meter freestyle relays. At the U.S. Olympic Trials late

Please see SCHMITT, B4



Canton's Allison Schmitt pumps her fist to celebrate her win in the 200-meter freestyle at last month's U.S. Olympic Trials in Omaha, Neb. She broke her own American record in the event with a time of 1:54.40.

llitch hockey scholarships

Vaughn Birchler of Plymouth and Joseph Kristofik of Farmington Hills were among eight players from the Little Caesars AAA Hockey Club and Little Caesars Amateur Hockey League to receive a portion of \$20,000 in scholarships from Ilitch Charities.

On the air

The new 88.1 FM WSDP will air the Plymouth Whalers Hunger Free Summer Alumni Game beginning 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4, from Compuware Arena.

Whalers play-by-play voice Pete Krupsky and analyst Sean Baligian will have the call of the game. Long-distance listeners can hear the game online at www.881theescape.com.

The Whalers are asking fans for a donation of 10 canned goods for admission. Tickets for \$10 can be also purchased by calling the Compuware Arena box office at (734) 453-8400 or by going online to www.plymouthwhalers.com.



Schoolcraft College coach Randy Henry (left) signed Livonia Stevenson guard Jonathon Campbell to an NJCAA basketball letter-of-intent on Friday.

Stevenson alum heads Class of 2012 for Schoolcraft men

By Brad Emons Observer Staff Writer

Schoolcraft College men's basketball coach Randy Henry wants to build upon last year's 19-12 season record and Friday he took a step in the right direction by signing Livonia Stevenson guard Jonathon Campbell.

The 6-foot Campbell earned firstteam All-Observer honors as a junior on the Spartans' 19-4 Class A district and KLAA Central Division championship teams where he averaged 14.5 points and 4.5 assists per game.

"I like the idea of having a local kid on the team, and at the same time he's going to make contribution for you because we only have one guy return-

ing," Henry said. "There's a great chance that he'll be able to fit into a starting role. And he's going to be a little more mature because he's 19. It's not like a young guy coming in as an 18year-old and wide-eyed excited about coming to college."

During his senior year, Campbell was eligible for only nine games after the Michigan High School Athletic Association declared he could only play first semester. The MHSAA declared that he had used up eight semesters after being home schooled prior to enrolling at Ste-

During his abbreviated eight-game stint his senior year, the three-point

Please see CAMPBELL, B3

Holes-in-one

Several golfers scored aces recently at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center near Plymouth.

On Wednesday, 13year-old Jackson Sartain of Canton used an 8-iron to ace the 141-yard No. 3 hole of the Woodlands course. He carded a 9hole round of 39.

Canton's Steve Matera, 53, sank a hole-in-one on July 22. He used a 9-iron to ace the 102-yard No. 6 hole of the Hills course and finished with a score of 37 for nine holes.

And on July 21, 63year-old Dave Young of Monroe aced the No. 6 hole of the Hills course. He used a 5-iron to sink his 126-yard shot and scored a 9-hole round

Clack is ageless wonder on the links

By Brad Emons Observer Staff Writer

If age is a handicap, then Dil Clack is an exception to the rule.

The 88-year-old, who resides in Canton, appears to be getting better despite his advanced years after carding a 70 during his Red Fox Saturday League at the Links of Whitmore Lake.

For Clack, who has been the league director for 35 years, it is believed to be the lowest 18-hole round in a Fox Hills League by any senior player over 65.

His front nine score was 32 and back nine 38 with five birdies in total.

Clack played from the senior (gold) tees, which were 4,185 yards.

There was an ironic twist to his round because Clack and his Red Fox Saturday League members had to play at Links of Whitmore Lake due to a golf outing at Fox Hills that day.

"It's the best I've ever shot," said Clack, who is currently in first place in his Saturday Red Fox League and is gunning for his 15th league title. "I have shot a 71 at Fox Hills, but that was over 20 years ago."

Clack has been a starter at Fox Hills for 23 years ever since retiring from the Garden City Schools in 1989 where he worked for the building and grounds department.

Clack normally works

Sunday through Tuesday at Fox Hills, and then plays golf Wednesday through Saturday.

He also plays in a Friday league at the Fox Classic Course.

"I really don't keep a handicap," he said. "But we have a secretary and we keep all the score sheets in the Saturday league and mine is 17."

Going long

Clack, who has been a league director for 35 years, credits his recent success to a newly purchased Taylor Made driver and 3-wood. He plays with a senior-flexed set of Wilson fat shafts.

Please see CLACK, B3



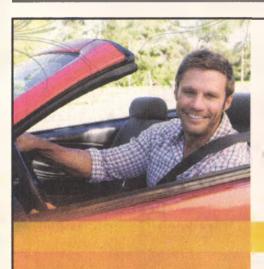
88, is still going strong after firing a 70 at the Links of Whitmore Lake in the Fox Hills Red Fox 65-andover Saturday league for seniors 65-and-over. He is originally from **Garden City** and now resides in Canton.

MU athletic teams lauded

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics announced Thursday its 2011-12 **NAIA Scholar Teams** with school record nine Madonna University squads (out of 11 sports) being honored.

Led by women's golf with a 3.50 grade-point average and women's basketball at 3.48, MU breaks its own previous mark of eight set in 2009-10.

"The importance of academics that our coaches have stressed to the student-athletes speaks volumes to the sustained success we have had," MU athletic director Bryan Rizzo



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In the same boat

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 29, 2012

Outboard racers eager to compete at Grass Lake

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

There's no huge pile of cash and ESPN coverage for Plymouth's Sam Pilato and other hydroplane racers who will be competing Tuesday through Saturday at Grass Lake, Mich-

But Pilato said that's no deterrent from taking part in the 2012 Stock/ Junior Outboard Nationals, hosted by the Michigan Hydroplane Racing Association. About 100 racers from across the United States and Canada will make the trek to the Jackson-area event.

"These are all amateur racers, and as competitive as it is we're all pretty much friends," said Pilato, 56, in his fifth year racing his 87-M boat in the C-Stock runabout class. "So it's really more kind of

bragging rights.

"There's no money to be made or anything like that. But it's just a bunch of us guys and gals who enjoy the sport and this is kind of the best of the

Others who are ready for the race include Andrew Tate of Canton (B Stock Hydro, C Stock Hydro) and Livonia's Josh Toccalino (AX Hydroplane, AX Runabout).

Recently, Tate won a divisional championship in BSH in Akron, Ohio and could be a contender at Grass Lake.

Toccalino will go for the gusto in two very competitive junior racing classes, looking to reach speeds of 50 miles-per-hour. He also is a fifth-year racer.

According to Pilato, anybody can sign up for the Grass Lake race, from 10year-olds to those in their

70s. But to have a chance at winning, which he does, entails surviving elimination heats.

"Let's say there are 15 entries in a particular class," he explained. "They'll run an elimination and eliminate certain people by the way they place and wind up with a final group of racers.

"Out of those racers you will have a winner."

Everybody will race the same course, albeit in different classes.

"Each class represents a specific set of criteria," Pilato said. "It's based on weight, your age, and the type of power and boat that you use."

For more information on the Grass Lake Outboard Nationals, go to www. michiganhydroplane.com.

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



Members of the North Farmington-West Bloomfield 16-and-under Cobras include (front row, from left) bat boy John Wierimaa), Patrick Wierimaa, Bobby Williams, Connor Jeffries, Eric Stanis, Patrick Williams, Ian Gillis; (back row, from left) coach Mike Bjerke, Austin Krus, Corey Williams, Brennan Williams, Danny Sanders, Mitch Sykes, Tyler Davis, Alex Shimmons, coaches Andrew Stanis and Bill Davis.

Cobras win Triple Crown tourney

The North Farmington-West Bloomfield 16-and-under Cobras put the pedal to the metal by winning seven straight games and the Great Lakes Spectacular Triple Crown baseball tournament, July 12-15, in Mount

Despite falling behind 2-0 after the top of the second inning, the Cobras answered with six runs of their own and never looked back in a 10-6 championship final victory over the Oakland Whitecaps of Waterford.

"This was an entire team effort with contributions from all team members," Cobras coach Bill Davis said. "Everyone stepped up at different times over the seven games to seal the victories. Pitching and defense was solid and the

offense came up with some key hits. I am very proud of the boys."

The Cobras reached the finals with a come-from-behind 6-5 semifinal victory over the Central Michigan Stars.

Trailing by three runs with one out heading into the bottom of the seventh, the Cobras strung together four hits to tie the score. With runners at second and third, the Stars issued an intentional walk to load the bases followed by a Cobras walk-off sacrifice fly to complete the rally.

The Cobras' run started with a 3-0 record in pool play to earn the top seed in the 24-team bracket followed by elimination round victories over Slezak Baseball of Davison, 11-2, and the Northville Broncos, 1-0.

Sam Pilato of Plymouth races in his 87-M hydroplane during a recent event. He is competing at this week's outboard nationals near Jackson.

SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

Wayne football

Wayne Memorial High will be staging summer football camps.

For more information, call new varsity football coach Lee Grizzell at (313) 408-

MU boys hoops

Madonna University will stage a series of summer boys basketball camps includ-

All-Star – 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday through Friday, July 30-Aug. 3, (cost \$200); Post/ Perimeter, 4:30-8 p.m., Monday through Friday, July 30-Aug. 3 (cost \$150).

For more information, visit www. MadonnaCrusaders.com.

Plymouth High hockey

Plymouth High School hockey players interested in trying out for the varsity team this fall are encouraged to participate in a summer mini-camp that begins Tuesday, Aug. 7, with a 90-minute skate at the Canton Arctic Edge Arena starting at 7:30 p.m.

A second skating session will be 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 9.

The Plymouth varsity hockey minicamp is a series of on-ice sessions and off-ice workouts for three weeks.

For more information, call Wildcats head coach Gerry Vento at (313) 215-3394, or visit the team's website: www. hockey.plymouthwildcats.com.

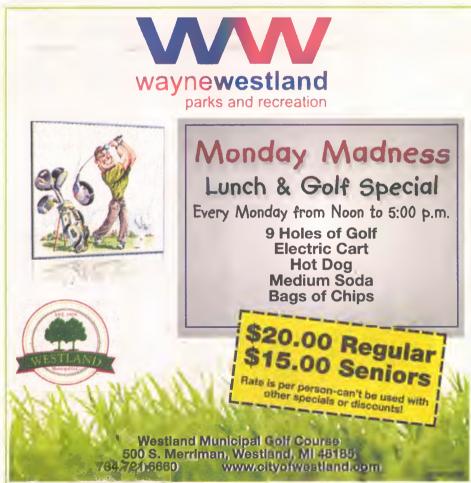
Triple Threat hoop program

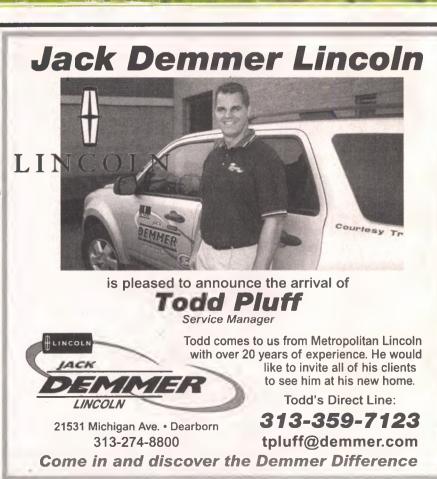
Triple Threat Training is hosting a developmental club for young basketball players at High Velocity Sports in Canton, running from Sept. 9 through Oct. 22. The six-week club is for boys and girls of all ages

The club (\$250) is designed for those entering grades 3-8 who are interested in taking their game to the next level. Training will focus on improving individual skills, basketball IQ, strength, conditioning, speed and agility.

In addition to age-appropriate workouts will be instructional scrimmages with referees on Sundays from 3-6 p.m. A jersey will be included.

High Velocity is located south of Michigan Ave. west of Canton Center/Belleville Road in Canton. Call (734) 341-1336 or e-mail Troy Coleman at tcoleman@tttsports.net for more details.





Perfect Mets!



With their June 26 victory, the 12-Under Mets Little League baseball team of the Greater Canton Youth Baseball Softball Association won the championship and finished undefeated with a 15-0 record. Coached by Jerry Dorman, the Mets knocked off the pesky Red Sox — who reached the title tilt thanks to defeating the league's No. 2 and No. 3 teams (Blue Jays, Cubs, respectively). Pictured are the victorious Mets. In the front row (from left) are head coach Dorman, Jared Dorman, Andrew Beaudoin, Nick Arbanas, Gary Calhoun and Josh Kline. In the back row (from left) are assistant coach Kevin Swope Sr., Kevin Swope, Gage Bitzer, Marcus McNutt, Mathieu Mondro, Brad Byars, Carter Kahl and assistant coach Josh Utley. Not pictured is Jacob Kalinowski, described by coach Dorman as an "awesome catcher and fine young man."

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Need cheer coach

Livonia Clarenceville High School is currently accepting applications for its varsity girls cheerleading coach posi-

To apply, send a resume, letter of recommendation and references to Clarenceville athletic director Kevin Murphy at kmurphy@clarenceville.k12. mi.us.

Golf classes

Late summer youth and adult golf

classes are available during the month of August at Hickory Creek Golf Course, 3625 Napier Road, Superior Township. Also, the next Golf Enhancement Ses-

sion, "How to Dial in Your Irons," is from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Monday, July 30 at the Hickory Creek practice range. The \$20 cost includes range balls and swing tips. (Golf after 6:30 p.m. is an additional \$10 with cart).

For more information or to book a lesson, contact PGA professional Tami Bealert at TrainwithTami@yahoo.com; or call (734) 731-0238.

Winning return to Willows for Shepler, Ioanou

By Brad Emons **Observer Staff Writer**

Both Jordyn Shepler and Andrew Ioanou know Whispering Willows Golf Course like the back of their hands.

It was their home course for four years for the two graduating seniors from Livonia Churchill High, who won their respective 16-17 age divisions Wednesday in the 2012 Motor City Junior Championship at Willows.

Ioanou, who will attend Schoolcraft College and try out for the Ocelot



men's team, captured the Boys 16-17 title for the third straight year with 79 to beat Churchill teammate Brian Sexton, who will be a senior this fall, by two strokes.

Ironically, it wasn't Jordyn Shepler the best of days for Ioanou.

"It was pretty bad actually," the second-team All-Observer selection said. "I just wasn't feeling it yesterday I guess. I really couldn't get around on the ball and just kind of made it tough

"Surprisingly my putter was working pretty good. It felt good. I had one three-putt, but it was from 80 feet."

Ioanou admitted he hasn't played much summer tournament golf since the high school season ended in ear-

"The long game is kind of hurting me right now, but hopefully it will get a little better," he said. "I've been working (a job) and playing beach volleyball. I just got started with my friends (in volleyball) and it's been a lot of fun. We go around a lot of different places and play pick-up.'

Shepler, meanwhile, has been a firstteam All-Observer player for the Chargers and will play this fall on a scholarship to Madonna University.

She gave herself mixed reviews after shooting a 79.

"It was a pretty good round for me," said Shepler, who turns 18 on Sunday. "I played well and just tried to have fun. It's a decent score, but I think I can do better.

"I started with a birdie on the first hole, and then I had two eagle putts on



Canton's Jack Boczar captured the 13-and-under division at the Motor City Junior Golf Championship Wednesday at Whispering Willows with a 73.

number eight and 16, but both lipped

Shepler said she plans on playing Tuesday in Livonia's Tournament of Champions event - also at Whispering Willows.

"I'm trying to get ready for Madonna golf (Aug. 1)," Shepler said. "I'm trying to keep more consistency. I've been working and practicing."

The most impressive score was turned in by Boys 13-and-under division winner Jack Boczar, who shot an impressive 73 from the 5,200-yard forward tees to beat fellow Canton native Justin Kapke by five strokes.

Both will be eighth-graders and are eventually headed to Plymouth High. Boczar, who attends Discovery Middle School, posted two birdies with only one bogey and one double-bogey.

Despite standing only 5-foot-1 and weighing 87 pounds, Boczar hits 220 yards regularly off the tee. He takes lessons from Jeff Goble at a driving range and dome in Auburn Hills. Bozcar also competes during the summer for Colony Swim Club, but prefers golf.

"My long game was working, but my putting wasn't the best," said Boczar, who has played 15 Meijer Junior Tour events this year including a third-place finish recently at Edgewood Country

Meanwhile, Edgar Lewis IV, of Livonia, took the Boys 14-15 crown with an 83, two strokes better than Justice Graves of Canton.

The Girls 15-and-under victor was Northville's Julia Shaw with a 118.

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

JUNIOR GOLF RESULTS

2012 MOTOR CITY JUNIOR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP July 25 at Whisp. Willows **BOYS RESULTS**

Ages16-17: 1. Andrew Joanou (Livonia), 79: 2. Brian Sexton (Livonia), 81; 3. Austin Harris, 82; 4. (tie) Chad Macorkindale and Hayden Sackey, 89 each; 6. Herbie Taylor, 96; 7. Ryan Gliwa, 99; 8. Jason Wysocki, 113; 9. Justin Legel (withdrew). Long drive: loanou; closest-to-

14-15: 1. Edgar Lewis IV (Livonia), 83; 2. Justice Graves (Canton), 85; 3. Alex Cleaver, 89; 4. T.J. Kulfan, 95; 5. Alex Westphal, 102; 6. Nicklas Beers, 103; 7. Ryan Bohr, 106; 8. Alec Moore, 113; 9. Matthew Flood, 118; 10. Colin Burford, 125; 11. Brent Wilkerson (withdrew). **Long** drive: Moore; closest-to-pin: Kulfan.
13-and-under: 1. Jack Boczar (Canton), 73;

2. Justin Kapke (Canton), 78; 3. Dominic Marsalese, 86; 4. Saahith Mummadi, 90; 5. Carson Graves, 96; 6. Logan Welch, 102; 7. Jacob Kar-wowski, 119; 8. Rob Gulick, 120. Long drive: Kapke; closest-to-pin: Boczar. GIRLS RESULTS

16-17: 1. Jordyn Shepler (Livonia), 79; 2. Kayla Whatley (Canton), 82; 3. Christina Briden, 93; 4. Maggie McGowan, 95; 5. Kristin Swad, 97. Long drive: Whatley; closest-to-pin: Shepler. 15-and-under: 1. Julia Shaw (Northville), 118; 2. Kendall Payne (Livonia), 127; 3. Marin McGowan, 128. Long drive: Shaw.



Edgar Lewis IV, of Livonia, shot an 83 to captured the Boys 14-15 age division Wednesday at the Motor City Junior Golf Championship held at Whispering Willows.

Mercy to host Mary Angela Run

The 10th annual Mary Angela Run is slated to take place 9 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 12 at Mercy High School in Farmington Hills.

For the fourth year, the event will benefit Angels' Place, a nonprofit which provides housing and mental disabilities.

This will be the first year the run takes place at Mercy, the school that Mary Angela DiGiovanni graduated from.

The Mary Angela Run is dedicated to the memory of DiGiovanni, who was involved in a fatal car accident in January of 2003.

She was a University of Michigan Public Health student with a desire to improve health care and help people in need, and her family has pledged that her life will continue to reach out and help oth-

"Mary Angela was a caring and dedicated person who wanted to help many different people and we believe that Angels Place has the same ideals," said race coordinator Sue Vincent who is also Mary Angela's aunt. "We have had a great turn out every year with nearly 500 people attending, and we're hoping to have another great event this year."

The event has raised approximately \$40,000 each year for the past nine years.

"Whenever I think of the Mary

Angela Run, I see in my mind's eye

the image of Mary Angela with blue angel wings embracing and protecting the people we serve," said Cheryl Loveday, Angels' Place executive director.

Registration is now open with a standard entry fee of \$25 or \$50 for a Mary's Angel sponsorship. which includes a special Mary's Angel T-shirt and recognition on event signage.

Participants may register in advance or on the day of the event beginning at 7:30 a.m.

There will be chip timed 5K and 10K runs, plus a 1-mile fitness walk and childrens run.

For more information on the Mary Angela Run, or to register, please visit www.angelsplace.com.

CLACK

Continued from page B1

"I'm getting more distance," Clack said. "About 15-to-20 years, more than I've been hitting. Normally I'll hit the ball out there maybe about 185-190 off the tee. I get it mostly down the middle all the time because the shorter you hit the ball. The better control you have

He managed baseball in Garden City for 28 years, including six years of little league before moving up to Babe Ruth (with his son Rick, who is currently the Livonia Franklin girls tennis coach).

He also coached Connie Mack baseball (ages 16-18) and he organized the Garden City Class A Invitational league where he directed that league for 15 years.

"Anybody could play in that league," Clack said. "I myself started playing in that particular league when I was 49 years-old and played until I was

At the age of 62, Clack proved he was the Satchel Paige of the Garden City Class A circuit once pitching all nine innings and winning against an all-star team from

Detroit that featured five ex-Major Leaguers.

On Thursday, Clack proved his round of 70 was no fluke as he carded a 76 on the same Links of Whitmore Lake.

Clack said he has never taken a golf lesson and basically learned the game on his own. He's had five hole-in-ones in the "last six or seven years," but only two came when he had wit-

"I've playing since World War II," he said. "I'm playing pretty good golf right now. I'm in excellent health. I weigh about 165 pounds and I go about 5-foot-9. I don't smoke and do a lot of exercise working outside of Fox Hills. I go to the Summit (Parkway) and walk in that indoor track. I walk every day and walk a mile, so I keep myself in pretty good shape."

He's taken a page from Paige's book when it comes to golf and living when he was quoted saying: "Don't look back. Something might be gaining on you."

Dil Clack apparently isn't looking back.

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

CAMPBELL Continued from page B1

sharpshooter switched to the point-guard position where he averaged 15.5 points and 5.5 assists per game as Stevenson went 6-2. Ironically in his final game against Novi, Campbell went down with a season-ending ankle injury in the first minute of play.

"What I also liked about him when he came and worked out for me was that he has great quickness," Henry said. "He can get up and down the floor quickly, so he's going to add a dimension where he can handle it and put the ball in the hole. He's a good push man. He can dish it, handle it and shoot the 'three."

Henry also announced he has signed nine other players including area products Grant Bettner, a 6-foot guard from Salem's KLAA championship team; Terrell Sewell, a 6-6 forward from Canton; Kyle Bambach, a 6-0 guard from Stevenson who played for the Ocelots two years ago; and Redford's Joniero Bryant, a 6-4 forward via Grayson H.S. in Loganville, Ga.

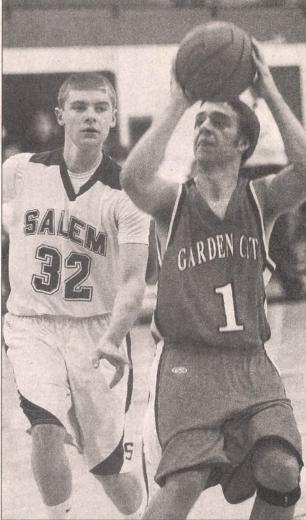
Also in the fold are 6-4 small forward Nicholas Redmond and 5-11 guard Keith Sykes, both from **Detroit Plymouth Educa**tional Center Prep; Salah Alawgari, a 6-3 guard from Hamtramck Frontier International; Marcus Williams, a 6-4 forward who played two years ago at Henry Ford CC; and Chris Brown, a 6-1 guard and 2010 grad from Bloomfield Hills

Henry also said 6-4 forward Adonis Bryant (Lahser) will join the Ocelots' 2012-13 squad as a walk-

Meanwhile, Richmond Jackson, a 6-5 forward from Detroit, is the only returning player off last year's squad for Henry.

"He's a kid that went to (Detroit) Cass Tech, dropped out of (Detroit) Mumford and then came back and got his G.E.D.," Henry said. "He's been a real success story for us and pulled a 3.8 (gradepoint average) his last semester."

Henry added that he hopes to sign two more players by Tuesday.



Schoolcraft also signed Salem's Grant Bettner (No. 32), shown in this 2010-11 photo with Garden City's Brandon Kennedy.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

U-9 baseball

Tryouts for the Livonia Bats, an under-9 baseball team, will be from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 5 at Livonia Franklin H.S.

For more information, call coach Bill Schaffer at (734) 891-3896.

Salem Rockettes set golf outing

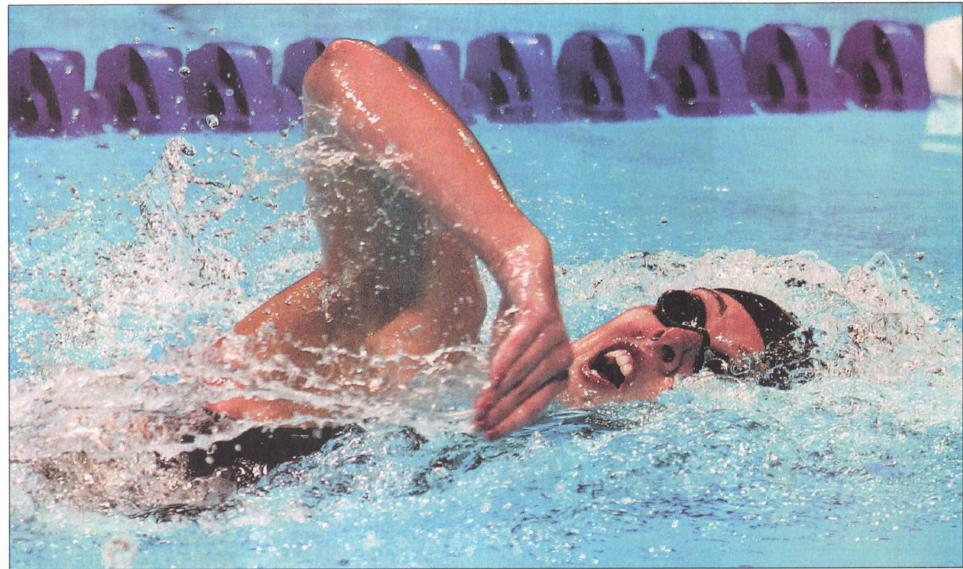
The 12th annual Salem Rockettes Golf Outing is slated for Sunday, Aug. 5 at Fox Hills Golf Club, 8768 N. Territorial Road in Plymouth.

Cost is \$100 per golfer for 18 holes of golf (scramble format) on the Premium Classic Fox course, followed by a buffet dinner and silent auction. Also on tap will be contests with prizes for closest to

the pin, longest drive and much more.

Register on-line at www.golfoutingpro.com/event/ salemrockettes.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 29, 2012



PHOTOS BY GANNETT NEWS SERVICE | USA TODAY

Carving her way through the water en route to a record-breaking finish in the 200-meter freestyle at the recent U.S. Olympic Trials is Allison Schmitt of Canton.

SCHMITT

Continued from page B1

last month in Omaha, Neb., she broke her own American record in the 200 free with a mark of 1:54.40.

Still the same

Weber said Schmitt seems to still be the same fun-loving girl who enjoyed joking with her teammates almost as much as coming from behind in a relay to drench the competition.

"The respect factor that we hear other coaches and other athletes talk about Allison really go right in line from our experiences," Weber noted. "So she hasn't changed a bit. When you hear the interviews with other athletes, you hear how Allison is fun to have at practice.

"She's always in with the jokes, excited to be there. We had that day in and day out for four years."

Looking back on when Schmitt started her Canton career as a high school freshman, the veteran coach recalled how much potential she had.

"She came in as a freshman very excited about swimming," Weber said. "She still hadn't had the big breakthrough.'

Others saw it, too.

"Chuck Olson, the Salem coach. he came up to me as she was a freshman," Weber continued. "And he said after one of the first times he got to see her swim was 'She can do things in the water that I have never seen before.'



After completing her heat in the 200-meter freestyle at the recent U.S. Olympic Trials, Allison Schmitt glances at the scoreboard to see how she finished.

"And what he meant by that is the way she can grab the water, (get) her elbow up underwater and pull herself up and over."

While Schmitt was a sophomore, Weber and Raines kept working with her on breakouts and turns.

"You could see her finding that niche after her sophomore year," Weber said.

"She started to make her Junior Olympic team and it proceeded on to winning state meet her junior year, winning state meet her senior year.

"She was second place in the 50 and 100 (free) her sophomore year and right after that some magical switch happened. She went from being an excellent swimmer to being the swimmer we know now."

Gold's the goal

As great as she swam for the Chiefs, Schmitt really took off after she graduated. She nabbed a bronze medal in the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games in the women's 4 x 200 relay.

From there she went to the University of Georgia, where she became a fourtime NCAA champion.

But in the next two weeks at the London Olympics, Schmitt will be focused on bettering 2008 by winning a gold medal or two.

That could be next for a supreme athlete who Weber recalled having an absolute disdain of defeat.

"There are just tons of stories about how she would come back on a relay,' from a length or more, Weber said. "We often put her fourth, because Allison hated to lose.

With Schmitt's talent and fierce mindset, it's no surprise she's on the world stage once again — and that those in her hometown who had a part in her career also feel like a winner.

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ALL ABOUT SCHMITTY



Schmitt

Who: Allison Schmitt, nicknamed "Schmitty," member of the U.S. Olympic Swimming Team who will compete in four events at the London Olympics (200 freestyle, 400 freestyle, 4 x 100 freestyle relay, 4 x 200 freestyle relay). When: Check local

TV listings and USA Swimming's Web site, www.usaswimming.org for more

Olympics: The opening ceremonies were Friday and the games continue until Aug. 12.

Local ties: Schmitt, 22, is a 2008 graduate of Canton High School, where she was a state champion. She went on to earn the bronze medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympics and followed up with NCAA championships at the University of Georgia. She trained for the Olympics under the watch of coach Bob Bowman at the North Baltimore Aquatic Club. Family: Her parents are Ralph and Gail Schmitt of Canton. Allison is one of the family's five successful student-athletes, all who swam at Canton. Those include Kirsten, Derek and twin sisters Kari and Sara (currently playing Division 1 women's hockey at Ohio State University).

Suburban Ice ready to give thanks

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

While the weather on Saturday, Aug. 4 figures to be sizzling, a day-long celebration of hockey is just around the corner at Suburban Ice Farmington Hills.

The arena's seventh annual "Open House" is slated from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and should draw plenty of Livonia leftwingers, Garden City goalies and Pee Wees from Plymouth.

Everything that is on the agenda won't cost participants a dime. Inside the arena will be men's drop-in hockey (10-11 a.m.), women's drop-in (11 a.m. to 12 noon), backto-back sticks and pucks sessions (12 noon-1 p.m., 1-2 p.m.) and open skating from 2-3 p.m.

All hockey and skating sessions will take place at the arena's Pepsi Rink.

But there will be plenty of fun outside, too. There will be street hockey, face painting, slide boards and plenty more - not to mention free popcorn,



Youngsters battle it out in a game of street hockey during last year's Open House at Suburban Ice Farmington Hills. A bevy of free activities will be on tap at the arena on Saturday, Aug. 4.

soft drinks and hot dogs. "We're always looking for ways to give back to old customers and generate new customers," said Geoff Bennetts, general manager of Suburban Ice Farmington Hills.

Bennetts estimated that anywhere from 300-400 hockey-loving people will come out for the event. Those who do want to come out should pre-register by calling (248) 888-1400 as soon as possible.

Bringing in newbies to the SIFH fold is always part of the plan, he continued. But the open house is a "thank you" to the regulars more than

anything else "This is really an opportunity to give back to our customers who spend money with us all year," Bennett said.

To gear up for the event, Bennetts said more than 1,000 indexcard-sized orange fliers were handed out during the Farmington Founders Parade on July 21.

For more on SIFH programs, go to www.suburbanicefarmingtonhills. com. Suburban Ice Farmington Hills is located at 23996 Freeway Park Drive.

located off Eight Mile Road (one mile west of

For more information, email Jim Marshall at jim@ northvillebaseball.com.

12-U baseball

Beck Road).

13-U baseball

• The Michigan Bull-

dogs will be holding try-

under baseball team from 2-4 p.m., Sunday, August

5 at Bicentennial Park's

(Field No. 8), located off

Seven Mile and Wayne

Players are asked to

show up by 1:45 p.m. to

get warmed up and fill

Email Scott Coughlin

at scott.coughlin@yahoo.

• Tryouts for the 2013

and-under baseball team

com for more informa-

Northville Cubs, a 13-

in the KVBSA travel

league, will be from 5-7

p.m. Sunday, July 29; and

6-8 p.m. Monday, July 30

and Wednesday, Aug. 1,

at Maybury State Park,

roads in Livonia.

out a tryout form.

outs for their 13-and-

• Open travel baseball tryouts for the 12-andunder Dearborn Heights Knights will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 7 and 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 18 at the Canfield Arena/Central Park, located south of Ford between Beech Daly and Inkster

Roads.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Interested players must be 12-years-old prior to May 1, 2013 and only need to attend one of the two tryout sessions.

For more registration information, call head coach Brad Ebben at (248) 924-0489; or e-mail bebben1.att.net.

 Tryouts for the Livonia Longhorns, an under-12 baseball team, will be from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 4 at Livonia Franklin High School.

For more information, call coach Matt Fournier at (734) 968-0499.

U-11 baseball

Tryouts for the 2013 Motor City Chiefs under-11 travel baseball team will be at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 5 at Massey Field, 790 Plymouth Road, Plymouth; and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 8 at Castle Gardens, 14501 Hix Road, Livonia.

Players are asked to arrive 30 minutes prior to tryout time to register and warm up. (If unable to attend, a player evaluation can be scheduled upon request.)

For more information, call Dan Sheahan at (734) 377-3123; or Ken Gaffney at (734) 395-4058.

You can also e-mail motorcitybaseball@gmail.

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

COMMUNITY LIFE

Twenty years later, Livonia band continues to entertain

By Joanne Maliszewski Correspondent

Five hometown boys and Bentley High School pals are proof you don't have to be Hollywood or New York City to be successful musicians with a considerable following.

"We don't have any grand illusions. We are just having fun," said Greg Panaretos, one of five original members of the popular The Major Woody Band.

Graduation, marriages, children and jobs kept the friends busy over the years; some staying in touch and playing music together. But in 1992, Glen Dickson decided it was time to make their continuing love of music official and organize a new band.

One element, however, was missing for the five friends who gathered now as adults to venture into a professional world of music. The new band needed a name.

The name

Founding member Carl Gerhard one day just said it: "The Major Woody Band."

The name has stuck. "Back in the day, we were just throwing names around. It really doesn't mean anything. It's just a silly phrase, Dickson said.

Still, the name is interesting enough to draw the requisite attention from fans in the region. Of course, good music is what keeps the fans coming back for more.

The Bentley High School grads just took down the house at the Livonia Spree Festival and continue to be



The Major Woody includes Mark Lutzo, (back, left) Tim McPherson, Carl Gerhard, Duran Grisa, Glenn Dickson, (front, left) Carrie Firth, and Greg Panaretos.



The band rocks out.

booked throughout the year at the region's favorite clubs.

Now in their late 40s and early 50s, band members are celebrating The Major Woody Band's 20th anniversary. A milestone to be sure, but members

also recognize the length and depth of friendships and a commitment to playing good music.

Right out of the gate, original Major Woody members Michael Wigand, Dickson, Carl Gerhard, Chris McCrory and Panaretos agreed they wanted to be known for being different.

"We like all music but we wanted to play alter-native music," Panaretos said.

When the decision was made to include the Motown landmark, I Heard It Through The Grapevine, it wasn't the popular Marvin Gaye version, but a more soulful rendition by Gladys Knight & the Pips.

Heavy rock-and-roll and some punk also captured the band's interest. But as Dickson said, "we knew that if we wanted to be successful and make money we would have to play dance music and some of the classics."

When band members

in the repertoire. "Our

If the musicians' wives like dancing to their selections, the songs stay wives have good taste in music," Panaretos added. Twenty years lat-

son who joined the band

six years ago.

er, Major Woody has remained true to its roots. Friendship, family and a love of good music continue to sustain the band and the relationships forged long ago as teenagers. It is also a parttime gig for the band. Each member has a day job and each works on their own for practice and for searching new music.

Along the way new members have joined the band, bringing what Panaretos calls a new kind of professionalism.

Joining the original five members is Tim McPherson, Mark Lutzo, Duran Grisa and Carrie Firth, the lead vocal and a special education teacher for the Livonia Public Schools. McCrory of the original group has left as has Susan Harwell, who sang with the group for a while.

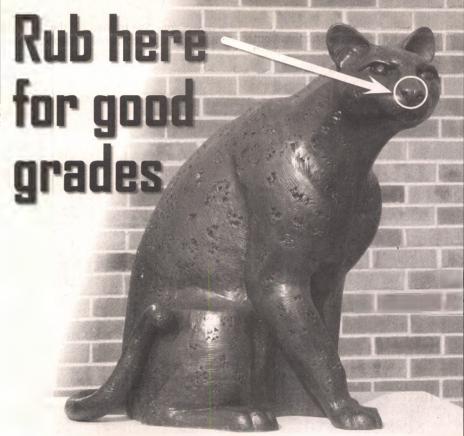
Each of the members gives credit for their musical success to their alma mater. "Dr. (Jerry) Smith (music teacher) and Bentley High School - there's a lot of talent in that school," Dickson

Sell it

It was Smith who not only taught them music, but an important fact about the business. You have to sell it.

"Now it's Glen who tells us that," Panaretos said.

Please see WOODY, B6



Take a campus tour and get answers to all of your Schoolcraft questions, such as

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say classics, howev-

radio. It's not exact-

ly "oldies but goodies."

ists, but not necessarily

the songs that made them

"We really do off-the-

wall classic. We don't do

the usual," Dickson said.
"We really try to stay

The band does their

homework, searching

for new music that will

be a hit with their fans.

recordings and the art-

"We try to stay true to the

ists because we also want

the music to be recogniz-

able," said Tim McPher-

They sing classic art-

famous.

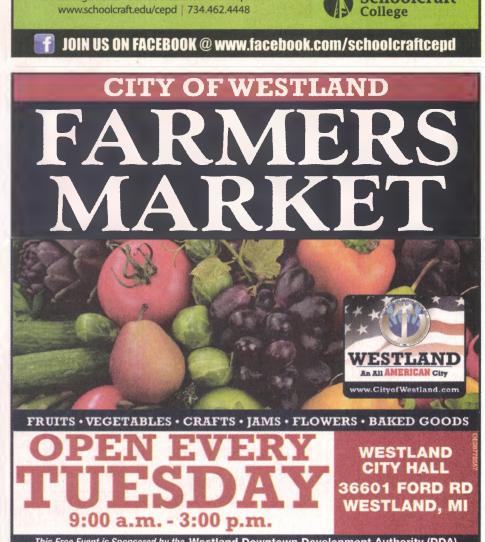
new."

Staying true

er, they aren't necessar-

ily talking about imitat-

ing music on mainstream



WOODY

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 29, 2012

Continued from page B5

It's one thing to make good music, it's another to play and present it in a way that keeps people coming back for more. The show has to be entertaining.

"You can get sucked into the vortex," said McPherson, who followed the band before he joined it. "The crowds have a good time because they watch and see us having a good time.'

That means constant change and searching for music that can be universally appealing to the 25 to 65 age group. It is the reason The Major Woody Band plays a wide variety that includes David Bowie, some Motown and even Lady Gaga.

"We try to stay on the edge," Panaretos said. "But maybe not exactly the way people have heard it before. We will have people say to us, "who did that music or I haven't heard that in so long,"

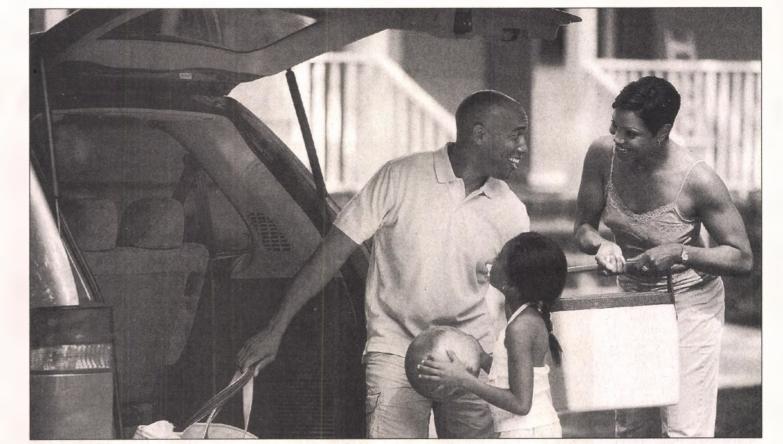
The music is an art, but so is finding the right venues. McPherson tends to handle that task. But it's more than just scheduling a gig. He prefers to create partnerships with clubs and owners. It creates longevity and trust.

Weddings and other functions remain a part of the band's venues. Members try to personalize the music program for the guests of honor. At one wedding, band members invited the groom to bring along his trumpet and play with them.

Despite its success, the band was floored with the reception it received at the latest Spree in Livonia. "Between sets, I couldn't say hello fast enough to all the people I knew who were coming in," Panaretos said.

It's been 20 years and nothing has dampened band members' spirits. "We are very loyal to Livonia. We will still be doing this when we are all 97," McPherson said.

For more information about The Major Woody Band, visit the band on Facebook.



Budget-friendly road trip tips

With warm weather season in full swing, now is the time to start planning your fun family getaways. If you are concerned about affording it all, author and financial expert Farnoosh Torabi offers the following tips to help you have fun and save money on your next vacation.

Bank on gas-saving apps Look to budget-friendly web-

sites, such as www.GasBuddy. com, which also offers an app that helps you find the closest gas station with the best prices near you. Another gas-saving app is Gas Hog. It costs 99 cents and calculates your car's fuel economy, then provides tips on ways to make your car more fuel-efficient.

Rent a car

It turns out that, contrary to popular belief, it can actually be cheaper to rent a car for weekend getaways than it is to drive your own. According to a study by Brett Smith, co-director, manufacturing, engineering and technology for the Center for Automotive Research, when renting a compact car from Enterprise Rent-A-Car, for example, at its weekend rate, the savings can come to 12 cents per mile. If your getaway is a 300-mile round trip, the fuel savings could be more than

"By renting a car, you reduce the stress and mileage placed on your own vehicle, and you can upgrade or

downgrade depending on the size of your family and fuel economy needs," explains Torabi.

Pack and save

On road trips, most people grab a few snacks every time they stop for gas. Over time, those candy bars and sodas can really add up. A family of four can easily spend \$15 for drinks and snacks at just one stop. "One easy way to lower the cost of your trip is to pack your own food. Pack a cooler full of bread, peanut butter, string cheese, water, juice and plenty of fruit. You'll be less likely to splurge while filling up the tank, make healthier choices, and save a bundle over all," says Torabi.

Book hotels on Sunday nights

This is when the weekend rush is over and hotel managers have time to talk on the phone and discuss available discounts. Ask to get a free night's stay if you're staying for more than two nights. That's at least \$100 saved right there. Better yet, skip the hotel and find a cheap, but chic, guest room in a local home or apartment through websites such as www.AirBnB.com and www.OneFineStay.com.

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Aviation artist's work selected for Air Zoo

Robert Aikins, a Farmington Hills resident and a member of the American Society of Aviation Artists, will show two paintings in the ASAA 2012 International Aerospace Art Exhibition at The "Air Zoo" Aviation Museum, in Kalamazoo.

Aikins was one of 51 artists from around the world whose work was selected for the show, which runs through Sept.

His works, titled Showtime and Target Toyama depict both the beauty and horror of aviation history

Aikins retired from Ford Motor Company as chief designer, Ford Trucks, in 2000.

"I wanted to return to my love of aviation and try something new, which turned out to be oil painting," he said. "Since then, I have completed over 100 paintings and my work covers all phases of aviation history.

Last year, he was accepted as an Artist Member of the American Society of Aviation Artists with work exhibited at the National Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola, Fla.

Showtime, one of the two paintings chosen for exhibit at the Kalamazoo Air Zoo, shows a WACO — a 1930s type biplane now manufactured in Battle Creek as it appeared in September 2007 at the Gathering of Mustangs and Legends Air Show in Columbus, Ohio.

The painting won Second Place in the General Aviation Category of the Aviation Week-sponsored American Society of Aviation Artists Exhibit 2012.

Target Toyama shows the devastation of a 1945 B-29 attack on the chemical and textile manufacturing center of Toyama, Japan in which 95

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cooling system is passable, and nothing is loose under the

hood or car. In short, the auto is good to go. Still, he may be

unable to tell you why you have the noise, and will conclude

the joints, muscles and their attachments. If you suddenly have a new pain that persists, in the area of your knee or hip, you

have a reason to question if the problem is a strain or even possibly a cancer? Making a doctor's appointment is an

Your physician then has the responsibility to evaluate the

pain. By a combination of examination, laboratory and imaging

findings such as x-ray, CT and MRI scanning, the physician

In some instances, he may conclude in a manner akin to the mechanic's answer. The pain does not represent an injury, a

tumor or cancer, is not an infection, and does not reveal arthritis such as rheumatoid arthritis or lupus. The problem is

not potentially life threatening or crippling, nor represents

conclusion as important as uncovering a cancer, a conclusion

The treatment of choice for this pain is to do nothing, a

usually can provide answers to your concerns.

another condition needing medical attention.

that should not be a disappointment, but a relief.

A similar situation can occur with the body, particularly with



Robert Aikins of Farmington Hills is an aviation artist.



Aikins.

by Robert

"Showtime"

members representing all corners of the United States. Aikins has been an ASAA member since



Target Toyama by Robert Aikins.

percent of the city was destroyed. The piece won the Four

Feathers Enterprises award for the most creative approach to telling an aviation story or depicting an aviation

The American Society of Aviation Artist was formed in 1986 to bring together, in one professional body, artists who are leaders in the field, for the purpose of recognizing and promoting interest in aviation art as a fine art form.

Artist members are selected by a group of their peers on the basis of their demonstrated abilities and experience. Membership currently numbers more than 250 artists and associate



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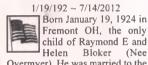


BAIN, ELAINE R.

July 24, 2012, Age 67 of Plymouth. Loving wife of Donald. Dear mother of Elizabeth Bain of Alameda, CA, Bruce (Thais Fortes) Bain III of Plymouth, and Alexander M. (Meg) Bain of Des Plains, IL. Sister of Michael (Barbara) Rugienius of Ovedio, Fl. Beloved daughter of Helen Rugienius of Minersville, PA. Niece of Beatrice Thomas of Haddon Heights, NJ. Survived by many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Long term teacher at East Middle School in Plymouth, MI. Visitation Saturday, August 4, 2012, 1-3 PM with a memorial service at 3 PM Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., (btwn Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth. Memorial contributions may be made Michigan Humane Society, or The Bain Family Scholarship Fund, The Pennsylvania State University Office of Annual Giving, 7 Old Main, University Park, PA 16802

To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

BLOKER, RAYMOND E.



Helen Bloker (Nee Overmyer). He was married to the former Betty Kerns in June 1947. shortly after they both graduated from the Ohio State University. Employed as a financial analyst and accounting manager by the Ford Motor Company Cleveland OH and Dearborn MI for 33 years, he retired from Ford in August 1981. The Blokers resided in Birmingham Ml for 39 years, enjoying many winters in Naples FL, where they moved fulltime in 2003. In December 2011 they moved to Gainesville FL. Ray was a Veteran of World War II serving as a navigator of an 8th Air Force B-17 bomber and flew 30 bombing missions over Germany and occupied Europe from May to August 1944. Shot down in enemy territory and rescued, Ray was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal and the Purple Heart for his service in Europe. His favorite recreational pursuits were golf, following all sports activities of the Ohio State Buckeyes and duplicate bridge where he had attained the ranking of Bronze Life Master. Ray is survived by his loving wife Betty, daughters Sherry Bloker of Chico, CA and Sue Kelman (Mark) of Micanopy, FL, son Raymond E Bloker III (Judy) of Los Gatos CA and grandsons Brett Kelman (Guam), David Friedlander (Chico, CA) and granddaughter Lane Kelman (Micanopy, FL). Graveside Services and Military Honors will be held on Friday, July 27th, 2012 at 11:30am at Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, FL. Services are under the care of Forest Meadows Funeral Home, 725 NW 23rd Ave., Gainesville, FL

(352) 378-2528. Please sign his guestbook at: www.forestmeadowsfh.com



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BUMSTEAD, RICHARD CHARLES

August. 1, 1934-June 15, 2012 Richard Charles Bumstead's life ended on June 15, 2012, in an unfortunate accident on his ranch in Huffman, Texas, where he and his wife Sylvia (Bjork) Bumstead made their home for the last 21 years. He was born on August 1, 1934, in Sault Ste Marie, Michigan and was predeceased by his parents Merton Merrill Bumstead and Marguerite (Allinotte) Bumstead, stepmother Charlotte Emma Bumstead and his brother Leroy Bumstead.

He was wealthy beyond description in family and friends. Richard (Dick as he was known to his many friends) was a devoted husband, father and loving grandfather. He never missing an opportunity to be with the family he loved so dearly.

The family will hold a celebration in honor of Richard's life on Saturday, August 4, 2012 at the Helenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland, MI 48185 from 7:00 to 10:00 pm. Please join us for dinner and sharing stories, laughter and memories.

In lieu of flowers, those wishing to honor Richard's memory are invited to contribute to the Wounded Warrior Project-Advanced Guard-P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, Kansas 66675 or the American Diabetes Association, 2400 Augusta Dr., Suite 175 Houston, TX 77057 He is survived by Sylvia - his high school sweetheart and wife of 56 years, and three daughters. Debbie and husband Dr.. Dave Holzworth, Kathy and Jim Marcotte and Carol Bumstead. He is also survived by his sisters Delores Hart of Wayne, MI., Patricia Jackson of St. George, SC, Judy Bjork of Dewey, AZ and Charlotte Cosagolos of Canton, MI. He is also survived by broth-

ers John G. Bumstead of Columbia, SC; Merrill M. Columbia, Merrill M. Bumstead of Chelsea, MI. and his brothers-in-law Larry Bjork and Jack Jackson. He also left behind six grandchildren: Abbey, Elliott, Shane, Cody, Taylor and Lindsey. As young man, he moved to the Wayne, Michigan area, where he attended Wayne High School and graduated in the class of 1952. After high school he entered the rained Following active Richard attended Schoolcraft College, and then began his proand entrepreneurial career in Wayne, Michigan.

As a young man one of his early jobs was running the printing press at The Wayne Dispatch newspaper. In addition, he learned the asphalt paving business, working for his father's company,

Ypsilanti Asphalt Paving. Richard was an active sportsman, and through the years he enjoyed playing tennis, golf, bowling, ice hockey, fishing, scuba diving, snow and water skiing.

His first business venture was RC Bumstead Asphalt Paving. For over 30 years he built and operated this successful business. He had a "can do spirit", and no job was too big and there was nothing he couldn't accomplish once he

set his mind to it. In 1981, Sylvia and Richard relocated to Houston and established Houston Crushed Concrete and Houston Crushed Concrete Demolition companies. They were pioneers and a force to be reckoned with in bringing the crushed concrete industry to Houston. As a result, the crushed concrete industry flourishes today in the Houston

After selling Houston Crushed Concrete in the early 1990's. Richard and Sylvia purchased acreage in Huffman, Texas where he became a benefactor to the local 4-H. His love for farming came at an early age, helping his grandfather on his farm in

Ontario, Canada. Richards's entrepreneurial skills and drive once again proved suc-cessful as he built three strong agricultural based businesses. Richard raised beef cattle, had a thriving hay business and harvest-ed and sold honey. He also served on the local agricultural board. He loved tinkering and working on his equipment and making improvements to his home and the

property. While Richard excelled in business, he was to those who knew him intelligent, gregarious and possessed a great sense of humor; always sharing a never ending smile. (However, when sometimes talking to Dick you had to remember to wear your boots!) He was loyal, supportive, an incredibly strong and a wonderful father figure to not only his own children, but his six grandchildren and many close friends whom he men-



EDDINGTON -CULBERTSON JANET L.

Of Dexter, formerly of Plymouth, passed away on July 17, 2012 at the age of 71. She was born in Plymouth September 16, 1940 to the late Charles and Icle Woodard Janet grew up in Plymouth and attended Plymouth High School. She would later marry Jack Culbertson in Hawaii and remain married to him for the next 31 years. In 1988 they would move to Dexter. Janet is the dear mother of Sheila (Lynn) DeCair, Thomas Eddington, Greg Eddington, Cheryl (Jerry) DeVola, Alexander Eddington, Mark (Michelle) (Kathy) Culbertson and Kathleen Culbertson. She was the proud grandmother of 16 and is also survived by 8 brothers and sisters. Janet loved to travel all over the country. However, her favorite destination was Hawaii, which she visited several times. A funeral service was held Saturday, July 21, 2012, from the Schrader Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main St, Plymouth. Burial took place at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Memorials may be made to the Arbor Hospice Foundation 2366 Oak Valley Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48103-8944 or to the family of Janet L. Eddington-Culbertson.

Share memories at: Schrader-Howell.com



GLOVER, CYNTHIA H.

July 22, 2012 age 54 of Canton. Beloved wife of Jake Glover. Loving mother of Ashton E., Faron A., and Jacob M. Sister of the late Richard Machnak. Aunt of Lois Weathers. Loving daughof Steve and the late Louis Machnak. Arrangements made by Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170. Entombment Knollwood Memorial Park.

To share memories, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

GREENE, DONNA M.

Age 62, of Farmington Hills, July Arrangements: THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

KOS, RAYMOND

Age 82, of Howell, MI passed away on July 22, 2012. He was born August 31, 1929 in Cutchogue, Long Island, New York to Mikolaj and Albina (Rusak) Kos. He is survived by his two daughters, Tamara (Ash) Elassal of Springfield, VA and Carolyn (Jason) Cooper of Oceanside, CA. Loving grandfa-ther of Bethany, Zackary, Alexander, Timothy, Haley, Mariam, Madelyn and siblings Casmir, Jeanette and Chris, He was preceded in death by his wife of 40 years, Lynn (Ashby), his siblings; Stella, Chuck, Louise, Adam, Francis, Edmond and lov-

Adam, Francis, Edinonia and loving granddaughter Sophia.
The family will gather with friends Thursday, July 26, 2012 from 11-1 PM, with a Healing Farewell Service at 1 PM at Borek Jennings Lamb Chapel in Howell. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Wounded Warriors. Please leave a message of comfort to Raymond's family by calling 877-231-7900 or sign his guestbook at: www.borekjennings.com



May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

PECKENPAUGH, **DONALD HUGH** 1928- 2012

Donald Hugh Peckenpaugh, former Superintendent of the Birmingham, MI public schools, passed away on Monday May 14 2012 at the age of 83. He is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Mary Frances "Marifran" Peckenpaugh, and two daughters, Peckenpaugh Becker (David) and Eve Peckenpaugh. He also leaves two grandchildren, Jeremy Martin Becker and Steven Joseph Becker. He was predeceased by his father, George Martin Peckenpaugh, his mother, Thelma Anderson Peckenpaugh and his brother, The Reverend Howard Dudley Peckenpaugh. He was born in East Chicago, Indiana on August 11, 1928. He received his three degrees from the University of Chicago Bachelors degree in 1948, Masters in 1954, and Doctorate in 1968. Don was Superintendent

schools from 1972 to 1978 A memorial service will be held on Saturday, September 1 at Smith Crossing Senior Living, 10501 Emilie Lane, Orland Park, Illinois. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that a donation be made in his memory to the Morton Arboretum (www.mortonarb.org or 630-968-0074).

public

the Birmingham

PENROD, MICHAEL ANTHONY

Age 27, of Westland, July 21, 2012. Beloved son of Lynne. Loving brother of Nicole (Manuel) Ruiz, Kenneth, Valerie and Ronald Penrod and James, Farrah, Steven and Brandon Hjeltness. He is also survived by his girlfriend Jessica Wagg. He was preceded in death by his father James and his sister Breanna Hjeltness. Funeral service is Saturday, 1:00 PM, at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, Michigan (next to Memorial Park) 30895 Huron River Dr., Huron Twp., (734) 783-2646. Visitation is Thursday, 6:00-8:00 PM & Friday, 12:00-8:00PM. www.michiganmemorial funeralhome.com



· UNRUH, KAREN J.

Age 70, of Brighton, MI passed away Friday, July 27, 2012 at the University of Michigan Hospital. She was born July 21, 1942 in Sioux Falls, SD a daughter of Orville and Audrey Olson. On September 5, 1964 she was married to Gary Unruh. Surviving are her husband, Gary; children: Jon (Bonnie) Unruh and Jeff (Lisa) Unruh; grandchildren: Megan, Brendan, and Sydney; brother Tom (Deb) Olson; and nephew Taylor. Karen was preceded in death by her parents: Orville and Audrey Olson and sister Marcia Visitation will be held Tuesday, July 31, 2012 from 2:00-8:00PM at the Keehn Funeral Home, Brighton 810-229-9871. Funeral Service Wednesday, August 1, 2012 at 229-9871. 11:00 AM at Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church with the Pastor Mark Milatz officiating. visitation will begin at 10:00 AM at the church. Please visit Karen's Book of Memories at www.keehnfuneralhome.com

In memory of



BRIAN HINZMAN $3/16/81 \sim 7/27/07$ We love & miss you very much!

Love. Your family

In memory of



IN MEMORY OF DR. ZAC ZACHARIAS

Passed Aug. 1st 2006. A hundred hearts would be too few to carry all my love for you. f Miss you so. Mariann

REUNIONS

BELLEVILLE

Class of 1957 55-year reunion, Sept. 21-22, at the Holiday Inn Express and Suites, I-94 and Belleville Road. Informal gathering starts at 6 p.m., Friday. Social time starts at 5 p.m., Saturday, followed by dinner. For more information call Donna (Watkins) Gotts at (734) 331-9180 or e-mail to donnagotts@aol for more details. Centerline Class of 1977

35-year reunion, 7:30 p.m. Aug. 18 at Ernie's in Clinton Township. \$25 per person. E-mail to clhs1977@hotmail.

DEARBORN FORDSON

Class of 1948 The January and June classes will hold a 64-year reunion lunch, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 20, at the American Legion, Carl E. Stitt Post, 232 Warren Road, Dearborn. For more information call Rose Marie Listwan Kopelkin at (734) 421-1485.

DEARBORN HEIGHTS ANNAPOLIS

Class of 1982 For information about the 30-year reunion on Saturday, Oct. 20, at Fr. Patrick O'Kelley Knights of Columbus in Dearborn, visit the "AHS Class of 82" page on Facebook, or contact Diane Goodreau at dianeschofield@sbcglobal.net or (313) 363-0523; Jim Linaras at godofouzo@yahoo.com; or John Zadikian at zman6754@ aol.com.

DEARBORN HEIGHTS ROBICHAUD

Class of 1962 50th class reunion, Sept. 29 at the 1-Under Bar & Grill Banquet Facility in Livonia. The committee is looking for classmates and contact information. All classes are welcome to attend. Send names, contact info and questions to the reunion committee website, robichaud62@yahoo. com. Check out "Robichaud 50th Reunion Class of 62" on Facebook and on classmates. com. Or call Paula (McGue) at (517) 304-9755.

DETROIT CODY

Class of 1962 Looking for Classmates from January and June graduations for 50th reunion, 6 p.m. Sept. 29, at the Holiday Inn, 17123 Laurel Park Dr. North, Livonia. Call Neal and Barb Gehring at (248) 568-2254; NGBG@comcast.net. 1950s, 1960s

Annual Cody 50s-60s picnic, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 19, Nankin Mills Pavilion in Hines Park, located at Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive. Music, camaraderie, memorabilia, door prizes, hot dogs, chips, bottled water, baseball hats, T-shirts, sweat shirts, tassels, beads, music CD's are all available. Special parking for classic cars. Bring chairs and pop-ups. No need to register. Questions? Call Phil Varilone at (313) 562-3579 or e-mail to Pvarilone@wowway.com; Jerry Marszalek at (313) 532-0134 or e-mail to Jmarsares@ sbcglobal.net.

DETROIT MUMFORD

Class of 1962 50-year reunion, 6:45 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25, at the Somerset Inn, Troy. Make reservations at www.mumford62.com.

DETROIT WESTERN

All Classes Friday, Sept. 14 at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia. Familystyle luncheon plus prizes and plenty of school spirit. \$25 per person. Phone Mildred (Lois) Carpenter at (248) 427-0673 for tickets. Deadline is Aug.

Class of 1962 Looking for classmates from January and June classes for 50th class reunion Saturday, Sept. 22 at Western Golf and Country Club, Redford. Cost is \$62 per person. Other weekend activities include tour of school, evening icebreaker and Sunday brunch. For information call Judy Alegnani Murray, (313) 399-0507, Judy Hull Rakowski, (734) 459-3832, Helen Knight Tucker, (734) 285-4927 or Ralph Brighton, (734) 513-7499

FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 1962 The 50th class reunion will be held Saturday, Sept. 22 at Farmington Hills Holiday Inn, 37529 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills; (248) 477-7800. The \$60 per person cost includes a welcome reception from 2-5 p.m. and an

evening dinner dance with* cash bar. Cocktails will be at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. Reservations deadline is Sept. 1. For more information call Michele Cook Hoffmeyer at (602) 290-6006 or e-mail to russmichele@yahoo.com. Check Classmates and Facebook FHS Class of 62 Reunion pages for more information.

GARDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL EAST

Classes of 1968-1973 Reunion Sept. 22. Looking for classmates. Check out the "Garden City High School (East) Reunion 2012" on facebook. Or e-mail to Cindy Eads Frens at irish4200@hotmail. com, Debi Cassidy Haller at debi.haller@gmail.com, Doris Fugaban Williams at doris1226@wowway.com, Lee A Gilligan at ee.gilligan@att. net, Sue Cook at stasselmyer@charter.net, SuzieWright Rogiero at suzierogiero@ yahoo.com, Jackie Kalifut at jackieideson@gmail.com or Jeff Fordell at jeffreyfordell@ comcast.net.

GARDEN CITY WEST

Class of 1972 6:30 p.m. Oct. 27. For more information e-mail to Janine (Alioto) Brown at jbrown@ psm.inc.net.

LINCOLN PARK HIGH

Class of 1962 50-year reunion for January and June graduates is set for 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Sept. 15, at the Marriott Hotel, located at Six Mile and I-275 in Livonia. For more information or to RSVP e-mail Marilyn Roy Snyder at Marilyn@MarilynJSnyder.com, or call (586) 215-9445.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL

Classes of 1971-73 A "40ish" class reunion hosted by the class of 1972 is planned for 6-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4, at the Holiday Inn Laurel Park, 17123 Laurel Park Drive North, Livonia. Friends from junior high may also attend the gathering. Tickets are \$65 per person. Go to www.churchillalumni. com for a registration form. Contact Susan Burke at susanamyburke@gmail.com if you want to help organize

this party. NORTHVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 1971-75 The classes are joining together to celebrate with a reunion on Aug. 4. Reunion organizers are searching for classmates from those years. Send your name, address, phone and e-mail to nhs40yearreunion@gmail.com. The organizers will send more details after receiving your

information. **PONTIAC CENTRAL**

Class of 1962 Informal social gathering, 6 p.m., Friday, Sept. 21 and reunion, 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, both at the Radisson Hotel, 30475 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. For more information call Bob or Marilyn (Coffing) Pomeroy at (248) 625-5301. Class of 1972 40th class reunion Sept. 22

at The Lafayette Grand of Pontiac. A "Meet & Greet" also will be held Friday, Sept. 21. Location to be determined. E-mail Tina Johnson tinastribe@charter.

REDFORD THURSTON **HIGH SCHOOL**

Class of 1962 Looking for classmates for reunion on Sept. 8. Contact: nikkiwestberg@yahoo.com or Sue (Hughes) Morman at (734) 414-9941 for more information.

ST. THOMAS THE **APOSTLE**

All Classes 7 p.m.-midnight, Oct. 6, at the Polish Cultural Center in Troy. \$45 per person. For more information contact Rose Ann Filar (Novik) at rjfilar@yahoo.com or (248) 770-1271.

ST. BENEDICT HIGH

SCHOOL Class of 1962 The Highland Park school will hold a 50th year reunion Aug. 25. Contact Milt Dugas at (248) 446-6042 or mgdugas@sbcglobal.net.

STERLING HEIGHTS **HENRY FORD II**

Class of 1982 30-year reunion, 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4 at the American Polish Century Club, 33204 Maple Lane Dr., Sterling Heights. The cost is \$45 per person. For tickets, contact Dana Anthony Sullivan at (586) 246-4679 or henryford30th@yahoo.com.

Helping seniors drive safer, longer

Since January 2011, nearly 10,000 Americans turn 65 every day, joining the fastest growing age group in the nation. According to a recent American Automobile Association (AAA) survey of that booming population, nearly half of seniors worry about losing their freedom and mobility when the time comes for them to transition from driver to passenger.

From understanding how vision changes can affect one's ability to drive at night, to researching the effects certain medications can have on one's driving ability, it's important to get the facts about driving for seniors. Use these tips from AAA to help ensure you and your family members are driving safely:

Evaluate your driving.

While most seniors are experienced drivers, it's important to take time to consider one's driving "health" and habits. For instance, how frequently do you wear a seatbelt? Do you use your signal and check for nearby traffic before changing lanes? Does traffic cause you to feel anxious? When was the last time you had an eye exam? You can take a Driver 65 Plus self-assessment at www.SeniorDriving. AAA.com to get a clear picture of just how good your driving skills really are, and you'll also get suggestions for improving your driving.

Be aware of how aging affects driving habits.

From hearing and vision loss, to mental fitness and



reaction time, seniors may not notice the gradual differences that can impact their driving ability. For instance, by age 60, your eyes need three times the amount of light to see properly as they do for people 20 years old, which means it's more difficult to see at night. Likewise, one-third of Americans suffer from hearing loss by age 65. This can pose a problem, as senior drivers may be unable to hear high-pitched noises such as emergency response vehicles while on the road.

Reaction times can be slower for seniors as well. But preventative measures can go a long way.

When following other vehicles, seniors should increase the distance between their car and the car in front of them, to allow more time to react to sudden braking.

- Eliminating distractions in the vehicle and avoiding heavy traffic can also help seniors identify emergency sirens, and avoiding driving at night is another safer option for seniors.

Find the right fit.

With the wide array of vehicles offering all sorts of convenience features, seniors may not realize that their car may not be optimally adjusted to fit them. For example, sitting too close to the steering wheel can interfere with steering and cause fatigue, as well as injury, should the airbag deploy

during a collision. - Make sure you have at least 10 to 12 inches between your chest and the steering wheel.

 When seated properly, you should be able to see the ground in front of

your car within 12 to 15 feet and 1 1/2 car widths left and right.

- Visit www.car-fit. org to assess the safety of your vehicle, find the proper seat and mirror adjustments and more.

Take a refresher course.

No matter how many years a driver has been on the road, a refresher course can help reinforce the basics such as identifying road signs, as well as provide information on updated driving rules and new vehicle technologies.

Talk with your doctor and pharmacist.

Ensure that the medications you take - both prescription and over-thecounter — will not impair your ability to drive safe-

Course

EMS I/C Evening Class

ly. In addition, make sure all your medications go through one pharmacy, so the pharmacists on staff can better assess any potential drug inter-

Top 5 driving tips for seniors

1. Prepare for a drive by adjusting your mirrors and seat to ensure you can see properly. Always wear a seatbelt.

2. Eliminate distractions, such as the car radio, which can interfere with your ability to hear emergency response vehicle sirens and other important

3. Avoid driving in bad weather, heavy traffic or at night.

4. Making left-hand turns can be difficult for people with limited vision. Avoid left-hand turns at

intersections with signals by making three right hand turns around the block when possible.

5. Manage slower reaction times by increasing the amount of space between your vehicle and the car in front of you, allowing for more time to react to sudden braking.

Tips for family members

If you're concerned about the safety of a senior family member, look to resources such as their doctor or your local DMV, that can help identify their capacity to drive, and find transportation resources to help them manage daily needs:

-If your family member has received two traffic citations, warnings or been involved in two collisions or "near misses" within a two year period, it may be time to look for other forms of transpor-

---Make sure your family member speaks with their doctor and pharmacist about prescription and over-the-counter medications that may impair their ability to drive safe-

-Talk with family members, friends and neighbors about organizing a car pool to help seniors who need rides find transportation. Look to local public and supplemental transportation options as

Read more about assessing your family member's ability to drive, as well as where to find alternative transportation, at www. SeniorDriving.AAA.com.

Courtesy of Family Features

SOCIAL SECURIT

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

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



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

Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the

No Road Blocks Here!

interviewed on various television programs. **Both attorney Bieske** and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive

Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits

www.ssdfighter.com



Upcoming 2012 Course Offerings Start Date Days Location 8/7/12 T-Th **Taylor EMT Day Class EMT-S Bridge Class** 8/7/12 T-Th Taylor **Paramedic Evening Class** 9/4/12 Southfield T-Th · EMT-S Bridge Class 9/9/12 **Sundays Taylor** M-W **Taylor** · EMT Day Class 9/17/12 M-W Southfield · EMT Day Class 10/8/12 **Paramedic Evening Class** 10/9/12 T-Th **Taylor** Southfield

T-Th

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OE0878287

New Recycling Business Pays Cash for Your Metal and Old Computers



Michael Bassirpour has opened Advanced Recycling, located on Merriman road between Plymouth Road and Schoolcraft. Michael and crew will take your scrap metal and turn it into cash.

Advanced Recycling, which specializes in metal and plastic recycling, opened in May, 2012. President Michael Bassirpour answered the following questions about his business.

Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature:
We are a full-service metal and plastic recycling company. We purchase scrap metal from industrial, commercial, and local residents. We provide roll-off services and trucking. We are open six days a week and pay the best prices for excess metals.

What makes your business unique:

Our exceptional customer service and best prices in town separate us from our competition. We do what we can to maximize supplemental income for anyone who brings us metal. We work with industrial businesses and local home owners. When they clean out their basement/garage and find old tools, barbecue grills or anything metal, they can bring it to us for cash. Trash for Cash. They can also bring us old their old

computers. Electronic material poses a hazard to the environment, we will recycle this material, including shredding hard drives, and make sure it does not end up in a landfill.

How did you first decide to open your own business in Livonia? I have been in this industry for years. I believe with the local industrial business and the good people, Livonia is the perfect place for our business. We wanted to reach out to this area because there is no other metal recycler in the city of Livonia.

Do you have a story to share with our readers?

Yes, August 2nd, Advanced
Recycling will be having our first
Customer Appreciation Day. Not
only will our industrial, commercial
and residential customers receive
the best prices for the metal,
plastic and old computers, they'll
get a free lunch. We'll be serving
hot dogs, chips and soft drinks all
day. We welcome Livonia residents
to visit, see our facility, learn what
they can bring in for cash instead
of leaving at the curb, and enjoy a
hot dog on us!

Advanced Recycling is at 12240 Merriman, Livonia. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to noon Saturday. For more information, call (734) 266-2700 or visit www.advrecycling.com.



HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

9 health-care jobs for people who don't want to be a doctor

Debra Auerbach, CareerBuilder Writer

When you ask children what they want to be when they grow up, a common answer is "doctor." When those children do eventually grow up, their job dreams may have shifted, but for those who still aspire to work in health care, doctor is just one of the many career paths to take.

The population of elderly people in the U.S. is growing, and the health-care field is growing along with it. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the healthcare and social assistance sector is projected to gain more jobs than any other sector between 2010 and 2020.

If you're interested in health care and medicine, but becoming a doctor just isn't for you, consider one of these nine health-care occupation alternatives:

1. Cardiovascular technologists and technicians and vascular technologists *

What they do: Cardiovascular technologists perform tests via imaging technology on the heart and vascular system to help physicians detect and diagnose heart and blood-vessel conditions in patients. Most workers who enter this field receive an associate degree. Some technologists and technicians get on-the-job training, but many employers also require professional certification. Projected job growth between 2010-20: 29 percent (much faster than average) Median annual pay: \$49,410

2. Clinical/medical lab technicians & technologists

What they do: These technicians and technologists perform various tasks in a clinical lab, such as collecting samples and performing tests to analyze body fluids, tissue and other substances. In 2010, 52 percent of medical laboratory technologists and technicians worked in hospitals. Projected job growth between 2010-20: 13

percent (about as fast as average) Median annual pay: \$46,680

3. Dental assistants

What they do: Dental assistants help dentists with patients in a variety of ways. Tasks include making patients comfortable before procedures, sterilizing equipment, teaching patients about proper dental hygiene and scheduling appointments. Almost all dental assistants work in dental offices. Projected job growth between 2010-20: 31 percent (much faster than average) Median annual pay: \$33,470

4. Dietitians & nutritionists What they do: As food and nutrition experts, dietitians and nutritionists advise patients on what to eat in order to lead a healthy lifestyle or reach certain weight goals. Most workers in this field have a bachelor's degree and have participated in supervised on-the-job training. Many states require dietitians and nutritionists to be licensed.

Projected job growth between 2010-20: 20 percent (faster than average) Median annual pay: \$53,250

5. Dispensing opticians What they do: Dispensing opticians fit patients with eyeglasses and contact lenses. Opticians typically have a highschool diploma or equivalent and some form of on-the-job training. Training may include technical instruction and sales and office management practices. Twentythree states require opticians to be licensed. Depending on the state, opticians may also need to pass a state written exam, a state practical exam and/or certification exams. Projected job growth between 2010-20: 29 percent (much faster than average)

Median annual pay: \$32,940 6. Health information and medical records technicians What they do: The responsibilities of health information and medical records technicians include



JOBS

collecting and organizing health data, updating national cancer registries and coding medical bills for insurance reimbursement. The job outlook for this occupation is strong, given that more hospitals are transitioning to electronic health records. Projected job growth between 2010-20: 21 percent (faster than average) Median annual pay: \$32,350

7. Home health and personal care aides

What they do: As the elderly population grows, the need for home health and personal care aides increases. These workers specifically help elderly, disabled or ill patients who aren't able to care for themselves independently. They help with everything from bathing and dressing to light housekeeping to dispensing medication. While most aides work in a client's home, others may work in group homes or care communities.

Projected job growth between 2010-20: 70 percent (much faster than average) Median annual pay:

8. Pharmacy technicians What they do: Pharmacy

technicians help licensed pharmacists dispense prescription medication. They also perform administrative tasks in pharmacies. While most

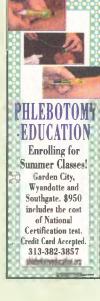
technicians hold a high-school diploma or equivalent, some states require that they complete a formal training program and pass an exam. These technicians may work either full or part time in grocery or drugstore pharmacies or in hospitals.

Projected job growth between 2010-20: 32 percent (much faster than average) Median annual pay: \$28,400

9. Speech-language pathologists

What they do: Speech-language pathologists, also known as speech therapists, help people with communication and swallowing disorders caused by anything from stroke to hearing loss to emotional problems. In this role, workers assess, diagnose and treat patients. Some pathologists choose to work with specific age groups, or they may focus on treatments for specific communication or swallowing problems. The standard level of education for speech-language pathologists is a master's degree. Projected job growth between 2010-20: 23 percent (faster than average) Median annual pay: \$66,920

*Job descriptions, projected growth and median annual pay from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.





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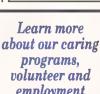
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- author
- Demolished 19 Steely, as
- nerves 20 Taunting
- remark 21 String quartet member
- 24 Grapple
- 27 Libra's stone 28 Contends
- 29 Highland
- topper 30 Dogma 31 Remove the
- bones
- 32 PC button
- 33 Vain fellow
- 53 Unforeseen alitch

34 Help go wrong 35 Festive

celebration

Dome range

39 Bireme movers

40 52, to Livy 41 "— Get Your

47 Bridal notice

36 Clingman's

38 Not better

Gun"

43 Football

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48 Yul's film

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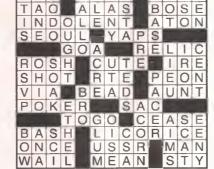
50 Fictional

plantation 51 A bit

offering

52 Scheherazade

- 1 Music or dance
- 3 GI entertainers 4 Electrify



Answer to Previous Puzzle

GIZA

ABED

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DOWN

- 2 Pooh-
- 5 Hee-haw 6 Rawls or Gehrig 7 Doubtful
 - answer Most uncanny
 - - 16 "Foucault's
 - - Pendulum' author
 - 18 Sit-up targets 20 Welcome at
 - the door

9 Reference

10 Tarzan friend

11 Stylish, in the

1960s

book

- 21 Hairdos — salts
- 23 Satirized harshly
- 24 Cunning ways 25 Survives 26 Toastmaster
- 28 Intuitions 31 Clearest
- 35 Palms off 37 Chiang -
- -shek
- 38 Artificial hair
- 40 Key pie 41 Crumb toter
- 42 Teachers' org.
- 43 Confidant 44 Colo. neighbor
- 45 Tax shelter
- 46 Pester
- continuously 49 Midwest st.

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R T Land

Fire

S

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9

7

4

2

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column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will

appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The

G

D I

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Т Ε

NWXDEP

L R C

LTIYPDLS

FILDLIWGSWENHCA

E

В

ILVD

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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В

YLOTR

TRCIU

YPTV

C

0

more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

5

4

1

3

3

1

8

2

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3

8

6

2

1

7

6

9

8

2

9

4

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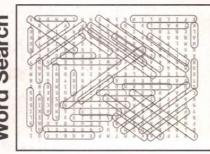
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9 1 2 8

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Garage/Moving Sales

CANTON- MOVING SALE: Furniture, baby items, aquarium. 8/3 - 8/5, 9-5pm 43156 Lancelot, off Palmer btwn Lilley & Sheldon.

www.TLC-estatesales.com

FARMINGTON HILLS Sub-Wide Garage Sale Aug. 2-4th, 9am-4pm.

11 Mile & Drake. LIVONIA Huge Sale! Teaching items, new household, crafts kid's items. Thurs-Fri., Aug 2-3, 8:30-3:30pm. 17726 Levan LIVONIA- Huge sale! Toro lawnmower, new Genie new Gen lawnmower, new Genie garage opener, antique steamer trunk, Singer sewing

machine, holiday stuff, house hold items, tools & more. 8/2 8/5,9am, 31101 Westfield NEW HUDSON: Aug. 2-3, 9-6pm & Aug 4, 9-12pm. 60514 Town Sq., N of Pontiac Trail btwn Martindale and Kent Lake. Household, tools, vintage table

saw & planer NOVI: Multi-Family! Aug 2-4. 9-6pm. 46463 Galway Dr., S of 9 Mile, W of Taft in Bradford Estates. Furniture, small appli bikes, clothes, toys & more!

PLYMOUTH Toys, clothes, household goods & furniture. August 2, 8am-3pm. 1320 Ann Arbor Trail, btwn Sheldon and Main St.

PLYMOUTH TWP: Garage & Moving Sale. Aug. 3 & 4, Garden Tools, household items, etc. 11524 Aspen. Near Ann Arbor Trail & 275.

PLYMOUTH: 42315 Hammill Ln., Northville Rd. Boy's & twin girl's infant clothing, misc infant items, 2 table & chair sets, window unit a/c. misc items. Aug. 2-4, 8-4pm.

Household Goods

ART DECO DINING ROOM: ART DECO DINING ROOM:
Glass & Black Lacquer Table,
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\$50. 8x10 wool area rug,
\$225. 2 black lacquer antique
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glass deco occasional table,
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Tiered White Metal & Crystal
Chandelier, \$450. Call: (734) 420-0402

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CHAIRS Flexsteel chair with fish motif

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\$250/best. 248-437-4848 Cats

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White, 11 lbs, 9 yrs. Redford area. 734-721-0145 FOUND: POODLE. Hamtramck In Livonia, call: 734-545-0384 area. 17 lbs. Light brown or white. Female. 734-721-0145

Lost - Pets

Maltipoo 6 lbs. 8 vrs old & Jet.

Lost - Pets



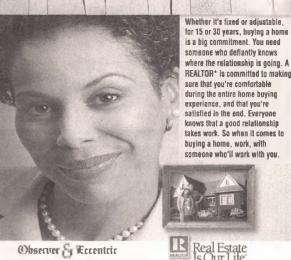
PIT BULL-4 mos old white male. Garden City - Middlebelt & Warren, lost since 7/19 Warren, lo around 8pm 734-276-9703

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