

Volleyball previews

SPORTS, B1



Cruising Hines Drive

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Beans or no beans

CHILI IS ON THE MENU

FOOD, B8

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Strong outing

The Plymouth Community United Way raised \$140,000 at its golf outing last week. The outing was sponsored by Johnson Controls and DTE Energy.

The proceeds are being put into an endowment that will eventually pay all the expenses of the PCUW. That move, in turn, will allow for all future donations to be used for community programs and needs.

Murder mystery

A member of the local paparazzi is going to be found dead at 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13, in their Plymouth apartment as the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority sponsors its first murder mystery, formulated something like the board game "Clue."

Police headquarters will narrow the suspect list to eight, the potential list of weapons to 10, and the possible crime scenes to six. It will be up to participating teams to determine whodunit, with what weapon, and where. Clues are littered around town and special agents working on the case will forward information as they get it.

Cost is \$80 per team of four; tickets can be purchased at the Plymouth Community United Way, (734) 453-6879. Space is limited to 20 teams of adults.

A portion of the proceeds benefit the Plymouth Community United Way. Get more details by visiting www.downtownplymouth.org or emailing dda@ci.plymouth.mi.us.

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

After sitting in the truck for the long journey from California, the Packard is reluctant to start. Margaret Dunning gets under the hood to see what she can do. Here she wipes a spot off the cowl.

California dream

Dunning, and her Packard, are hits at 'fairyland' car show

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth's own Margaret Dunning returned recently from California, where she mingled with automobile royalty — and perhaps joined their ranks herself — during one of the world's best-known classic car shows.

Dunning, a 102-year-old businesswoman and philanthropist, exhibited her 1930 Packard earlier this month at the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, a show on the Monterey Peninsula that draws collectible cars and their owners from around the world.

"It's been a fairyland story, that's all there is to it," she said by phone Tuesday evening. "I lived in fairyland for almost a week out there."

Her Packard, which Dunning has owned since the late 1940s, won her a crystal vase, for Best Classic, from the Classic Car Club of America. "It's quite an achievement. I really feel exceedingly proud



Daniel Clements backs the Packard onto Main for the short trip to Margaret Dunning's garage.

of it," Dunning said.

The trophy was presented by comedian and *Tonight Show* host Jay Leno, himself a noted car enthusiast. Dunning had to drive the Packard up to the Concourse stage, on the 18th hole at the Lodge at Pebble Beach, to receive the honor.

"He certainly is a very gentle, congenial person to have,"

she said of Leno. "I was very pleased to meet him."

Dunning, who flew to California with friends, also met real royalty in Arvind Singh Mewar, the Maharana of Udaipur, in western India. He had brought nine or 10 of his cars, she said, plus a yacht.

Please see **PACKARD, A5**

Reform could save district \$5.1 million

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth-Canton school officials have long said one of the most difficult pieces of the budget to predict — and therefore one of the more troublesome to the budgeting process — is the cost of contributing to employees' health and retirement plans.

That factor is expected to get a lot easier, probably early in September, when Gov. Rick Snyder signs Senate Bill 1040 into law.

The bill reforms the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System and shrinks the more than \$15 billion in unfunded liabilities facing the system.

The reform is expected to save Plymouth-Canton some \$2.1 million this year and another \$3 million next year.

"(Retirement costs) was one of the largest variables we'd have to figure out in any given year," said Brodie Killian, the district's executive director for finance. "We're now able to have some budget projection stability. That's \$2.1 million that's freed up to go back into the classrooms."

Schools officials have been pressing for relief from the growing percentage of payroll that must be paid to MPERS to cover employee retirement costs. The rate would have jumped from 24.46 percent to 27.37 percent this year, said Killian, who pointed out the rate was expected to jump to some 31 percent in 2013-14.

MPERS collects and compiles employee wage, contribution and service information from 551 school districts, 70 public school academies, seven universities, 28 community colleges, 57 intermediate school districts and 11 libraries. As of Sept. 30, 2011, the system served 444,185 members.

The bill makes several changes to the MPERS Act, including increasing employee contributions, as well as pre-funding retiree health care beginning in fiscal 2012-13. According to a statement from Snyder's office, the pre-funding is critical because the state will now be setting aside money to meet the debt when it comes due in the future, meaning that the cost of the benefit will be paid for at the time it is accrued, putting stability back in the system.

Snyder has labeled the bill as "among the most critical pieces of legislation" he will sign this year.

Please see **REFORM, A3**

Community steps up to meet school supply needs

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Hundreds of western Wayne County students whose families are struggling with tight budgets will return to school with fresh supplies — and brand-new backpacks — thanks to dozens of churches, community groups, businesses and individuals. The 2012 Back to School

Blitz gathered more than \$15,000 worth of backpacks, notebooks, pens and pencils, binders, paper and other supplies, plus monetary donations, in recent weeks, said Laurie Aren, the director of family and community ministries at the Salvation Army's Plymouth Corps. The Corps' fifth Blitz was its most successful; the supplies will be distributed to

an estimated 400 students eligible for the assistance, Aren said.

When the program began in 2008, Aren said, it helped just 47 students, but the need has exploded.

"The community has really embraced this project, so as the need has grown, the support has grown," she said.

Please see **SCHOOL, A4**

Let's watch



There's a high per-capita number of strollers every Wednesday through the summer for the Music in the Park concert series hosted in Kellogg Park by the Plymouth Community Arts Council. The series just finished its 28th season. For the story and more photos, please turn to page A2.

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Concert series ends successful 28th season



Kellogg Park is filled every Wednesday for the Music in the Park series.

Time flies when you're having fun, and you've got good music.

That's how Deb Madonna feels after the organizer of the Music in the Park concert series, which features children-friendly entertainment every Wednesday in downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park, closed out its 28th year last week.

The concert series is sponsored by the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

"The Plymouth Community Arts Council wants to acknowledge all those who made the 28th season of Music in the Park a great success," Madonna said. "Most of all, thanks to all the children who bring their parents, grandparents, aunts,

uncles, caregivers to the concerts. It wouldn't be any fun without them."

Madonna also thanked:

- All the performers: Guy Louis, Tom Seley and the Troublemakers, Noah Reimer, Beverly Meyer, Gemini, Saline Fiddlers, The Blueberry Incident, Joel Tacey and Juice.
- The sponsors: The Wilcox Foundation, Genuine Toy Company, Huron Valley Ambulance, Kona Ice, Monroe Bank and Trust, and Plymouth-Canton Montessori School.
- The city of Plymouth and the Department of Municipal Services.
- Lisa Howard, "for always creating beautiful graphics for Music in the Park and all the other things that you do," Madonna said.



Music in the Park concerts draw kids of all ages to downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park.



Guy Louis is a popular attraction at the annual Music in the Park series.



Joel Tacey worked with the kids during his Music in the Park performance earlier this summer.

Bird student eighth in Tar Wars contest



Trevor French of Plymouth with his winning poster, 'Too Smart to Start.'

Trevor French, a fourth-grader from Plymouth and the Michigan winner in the 2012 Tar Wars poster contest, traveled to Washington, D.C. recently to participate in the national poster contest and awards ceremony.

Tar Wars is a tobacco prevention program that brings local family physicians and health care providers into schools to teach students about the effects of tobacco on the body and how different messages in tobacco advertising influence people. The program is administered by the American Academy of

Family Physicians.

The Tar Wars awards ceremony was held July 16-17 in Washington, D.C., where the original artwork was on display. French's poster was titled "Too Smart To Start." French was awarded eighth place and an Honorable Mention in the national poster competition. French attends Bird Elementary School in Plymouth.

As part of the Tar Wars program, the state winners saw the sights in the Washington, D.C., area and visited their U.S. representatives and senators.

Digital images of the first-place, runner-up and honorable mention posters can be downloaded from www.tarwars.org. Poster artwork is also displayed in schools and is reproduced on promotional items available at www.tarwars.org.

Tar Wars was developed in 1988 by the Hall of Life at the Denver Museum of Natural History and Doctors Ought

to Care. In its first year, the curriculum was delivered to 7000 Denver fifth graders.

The AAFP has overseen Tar Wars since 1997, and the program has grown to reach thousands of fourth- and fifth-grade students in all 50 states, several territories and internationally each year. Since its founding, Tar Wars has reached more than 8 million children.

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AROUND PLYMOUTH



DAVID L. MALHALAB | MNS PHOTO, M NEWS SERVICE

What is it?

Steve Schlum of Plymouth tries to down some fake intestines as part of a fundraiser for the Cannibals of Carnage movie that will be filmed in the Observer readership area starting in June. The event was hosted Saturday by the Back to the Past Comic Book and Pop Culture Warehouse. Schlum will have a part in the movie. The producers are Tommy and Todd Brunswick of Milford.

"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.

NOSTALGIA SALE

Date/Time: Sept. 6-8, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: 345 Sunset in Plymouth
Details: The Plymouth Historical Museum will hold its annual Nostalgia Sale during Plymouth's Fall Festival. The sale will be held at 345 Sunset Street, Plymouth, NOT at the Museum. Sale items include nostalgic and/or historic artifacts no longer needed at the museum, as well as donated items. The museum is currently accepting donated items for the sale in order to raise more funds. The proceeds benefit the Plymouth Historical Museum, which is privately funded and receives no government support.

Contact: Persons interested in the yard sale, or who want to donate items should call the museum at (734) 455-8940 for more information. Visit our website at www.plymouthhistory.org for more information.

ALANO CLUB

Date/Time: Sunday, Sept. 16, 9 a.m.
Location: Hickory Creek Golf Course (Napier and Ford Road)
Details: Plymouth/Canton Alano Club is having their fifth annual fundraising Fall Golf Outing. The Alano Club is a non profit facility providing resources for recovering alcoholics including space for meetings of groups of Alcoholics Anonymous and other 12 step groups such as Alanon and Alateen, whose focus relates to alcoholism. Many Prizes, games, raffles etc. Cost is \$85 per player or \$320 per foursome includes 18 hole scramble, cart, range balls, snacks at turn, dinner at finish. This is a no alcohol event.
Contact: Call Rick Talbot at (734) 751-8030 or send check payable to PC Alano Club to 45924 Rockledge Dr. Plymouth, MI 48170, with names of player(s).

GENEALOGICAL MEETING

Date/Time: Monday, Sept. 17, 6:30 p.m.
Location: Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Western Wayne County Genealogical Society will be meeting. The program will be WWCS President, Stephanie Smith, explaining the process of navigating the Society's new website. She will also include an explanation of how members can include their own personal information, such as surnames. The main speaker, following the 7:30 pm business meeting will be Byron Bailey presenting "The Forgotten War - the War of 1812." The meetings are open to the public. Guests are always welcome.

Contact: For further information, visit our website @ www.rootsweb.com/~miwwcgs/

CRAFTERS NEEDED

Date/Time: Friday, Nov. 16, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Location: Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, 47650 N. Territorial, Plymouth
Details: OLGC hosts a craft fair. The church will provide an 8-foot by 6-foot space, table and two chairs for \$35. Electric outlets are available. The event will feature raffle drawings, food provided by Family Affair

Catering. Proceeds applied to building debt reduction. Admission is \$2.

Contact: Call Sandy at (248) 344-7995 or email alnsain1964@aol.com

TASTE FEST

Date/Time: Friday, Sept. 7, 6-8 p.m.
Location: Station 885, 885 Starkweather, Plymouth
Details: The Plymouth Fall Festival Taste Fest features participation from Aubree's of Northville, Cupcake Station, Elite Catering, Canton Buffalo Wild Wings, Grand Traverse Pie Company, La Bistecca Italian Grille, Mitchell's Fish Market, Noodles & Company, Rusty Bucket, Scrambler Marie's, Station 885, U.P.Pasties, Happy's Pizza & Ribs, Honey Baked Ham, Boule's Artisan Bakery, Old World Olive Press, Bahama Breeze, Brann's Sizzling Steaks, Chili's Bar and Grill, Claddagh Pub, Rocky's of Northville, & Zoup. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 10. They can be purchased at the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, Station 885 or at the Civitan Booth during Music in the Air on Fridays at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.

CALL FOR CRAFTERS

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 20, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: West Middle School, Plymouth
Details: The Delta Kappa Gamma Craft Fair is looking for crafters. Proceeds go for scholarships for future educators from the Plymouth-Canton High Schools. There are 80 crafters, 1500 customers, food and drawings. Admission is \$2.

Contact: Crafters can contact Judy at (734) 347-1001, or email jbstone716@comcast.net or email Alice at dachrenko@hotmail.com

GOOD GRIEF GOLF

Date/Time: Saturday, Sept. 8, shotgun start at 10 a.m.
Location: Tanglewood Golf Club in South Lyon
Details: New Hope Center for Grief Support hosts the 14th annual "Good Grief" golf outing will be held. The proceeds from this outing will benefit New Hope Center for Grief Support, a bereavement outreach center located in Northville. New Hope provides free grief support services and resources to men, women, teens, and children throughout southeastern Michigan. The cost for this four-person scramble, which includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, lunch, dinner, contests, and prizes, is \$125. Dinner only is \$35 per person.

Contact: For information about sponsorship opportunities or registration information, contact Carol Spennachio at (248) 348-0115 and visit www.newhopecenter.net.

GIVING BLOOD

Details: The American Red Cross hosts blood drives at a variety of locations this month. Blood drives are scheduled for 7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 26, St. Kenneth Church; 2-7:45 p.m. Monday, Aug. 27, VFW Post 6695 in Plymouth; 1-6:45 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 28, Salem High School; 1-6:45 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30, Plymouth District Library. Donors will be entered into a monthly drawing for a \$500 gas card.
Contact: Call Diane Risko at (313) 549-7052 or email Diane.Risko@redcross.org to set up an appointment.

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REFORM

Continued from page A1

"These reforms ensure that schools can keep critical and much-needed resources in our classrooms," Snyder said. "The administration, legislature and stakeholders worked together to advance a plan that is fair and affordable to teachers and other school employees as well as taxpayers."

Killian called the changes "significant" and pointed out they bring Michigan in line with what other states are doing.

"Is it sweeping or drastic?" Killian said. "It's probably pretty close."

Under the legislation, new hires will receive \$2,000 that will be deposited

into a health reimbursement account once eligibility criteria have been met, as well as receive up to 2-percent matching contribution into a 401(k) account for savings to be used toward the purchase of retiree health care, or for any other purpose. That will replace fully subsidized retiree health care premiums.

It also allows existing members to opt out of retiree health care coverage, if they choose. The 3-percent retiree health contributions they've made to date would be credited to their 401(k) account.

According to the governor's office, the financial relief to school districts is substantial, capping the employer con-

tribution rate at 20.96 percent of payroll and requiring an appropriation from the School Aid Fund to pay for any excess liabilities above that amount.

That's where, Killian points out, district's find out "there's no free ice cream." He said the district's per-pupil funding — holding steady this year at \$7,351 — could be affected if liabilities have to be covered out of the School Aid Fund.

"The rate cap could mean per-pupil (funding) could be held flat," Killian said. "It's a double-edged sword."

Staff Writer Sue Mason contributed to this report.

bkadrich@hometownlife.com (313) 222-8899

Crowds fill Hines Drive for second annual cruise

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

The verdict is in. The second installment of Cruisin' Hines was an overwhelming success. "I'm ecstatic and exhausted," said organizer Don Nicholson. "There were 40,000 plus cars. All three of our clickers to tally cars coming in broke and we gave away all of our goodie bags and thousands of magazines."

Hines Drive between Ann Arbor Trail and Outer Drive was open to only classic cars and hot rods from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday for the cruise that attracted people from far and near. Spectators, who could enter the park at three locations, and cruisers lined the parkway to watch the parade of cars.

"I'd say there's double the cars here this year," said Stanley Harris of Garden City who, with his wife Pamela, had found a shady spot under a tree near the Warren Road overpass.

"We were in almost the same spot last year and we could see the cars, this year we have all these cars parked in front of us and have to look between them," said Pamela.

Stanley Harris describes himself as a car enthusiast and, while he doesn't have a classic car, he and his wife were planning to make a day of it to show support for the cruise.

"It's nice to have it in the park," Harris said. "This is an excellent program."

The hill at the overpass became a popular spot to watch the cruisers, with at least 100 people sitting in the shade.

"It looked like the lawn seats at Pine Knob," said Nicholson.



Gary Via and his wife Mary of Canton, Louise Johnson and her husband Dean of Livonia stand by his 1967 Plymouth GTX and Via's 1968 Dodge Dart GTS.

Nicholson was fielding telephone calls about the cruise from as far away as Lansing and Flint. Other callers were looking for the location of specific car clubs that had set up along Hines Drive. Most available grass between the parkway and the bike path were taken up by people who had pulled off and parked so they could watch the show.

"This is awesome, this is the best time," said Louise Johnson of Livonia, who was cruising with her husband Dean in their 1967 Plymouth GTX. "We rolled in about 10:30. We've already done the cruise once, but we're not done. We'll probably do it two or three more times."

"This is the best, it's all hot rods," said Dean Johnson. "At the Woodward Dream Cruise you might see a hot rod every 20 cars, here we're seeing a hot rod every car. This is like being back in high school. It was a weekend thing to cruise around

when we were in high school."

Gary Via had a for sale sign in the window of his 1968 Dodge Dart GTS for a very simple reason: "It gets five miles to a gallon."

"Hey, \$13,000 and you can drive it away," said the Canton resident. "I had fun, it's been cool, but I'm ready to retire. My wife said sell and I can retire."

Via bought the car 10 years ago on his wedding day. He and his wife, Mary, were at the Woodward Dream Cruise. The owner wouldn't hold the car unless he put something down, so Mary sister's, Patti Fling, of Redford gave him the down payment.

"He didn't have his checkbook, so I whipped out mine, I didn't want him to lose his car," said Fling, who was at the Hines Drive cruise with her husband, Richard.

"We got married on the day of the Dream Cruise," said Mary. "I'd never been and they took

me. They took me kicking and screaming from it to get married. I didn't want to leave."

Samantha Kaczor and Tara Danek, both of Westland, had their chairs set up by a 1976 Vega that her father John was showing off. Tara does the cruises with her father and voted Sunday's event as her favorite.

"I like it better than all the other ones," she said.

"This is my first time, although I know a lot about cars," said Kaczor. "I like cars a lot. I've watched my dad do this (customize them)."

John Zane bought his Vega - "It's all original," he said - from his brother who "got something better."

"My boss is a big time Camaro guy. He convinced me to get into cruising and I've never looked back," he added. "It's all too much fun. I headed to the Dream Cruise, but there was too much traffic. This is the best, it's number one."

Joe Fauls of Detroit was there with his son, Joe Jr. of Westland. He brought his 1923 Ford T-bucket. He's had his Ford since 1992. He bought it with the body the way it currently is, but has worked on the drive train several times.

"I do all of the cruises - Woodward Dream Cruise, Michigan Avenue and Telegraph Road," he said. "I love this, you can cruise here."

One of the more unusual classics was Bob Haas's red-and-white 1955 Ford four-door sedan. The South Lyon resident transformed the car into a rolling ice cream car, complete with a syrup dispenser, malt maker Coke machine, juke box and "a table right out of the '50s." It also has a red shade umbrella that he popped open for passengers Roxanne Fontana of Wixom, Janet Dawson of Hamburg, Barb Mecham of Livonia and his wife Lorraine.

"I saw one like this on the Internet, but it wasn't practical," he said. "It had a barbecue under the hood. You couldn't drive it."

Haas bought the car nine years ago out of Farmington Hills. It had 34,000 original miles and cost a mere \$300. It sat in his shed until this year.

Fran and Brad Hackney of Trenton were serving hot dogs and kielbasa with baked beans and sauerkraut to their friends and fellow car enthusiasts in the shadow of their 1964 Pontiac Catalina. Car cruisers for more than 20 years - their first car was a 1971 Corvette - this was their first time cruising Hines Drive.

"This is great, the best idea someone ever had to block off the road just for cruisers," said Brad Hackney.



Salem High School Key Club member Robyn Lowes, 17, of Canton, helps sort the school supplies from the Salvation Army's Back 2 School Blitz.

SCHOOL

Continued from page A1

Despite an increase in local employment, and the official end of the national recession three years ago, Aren said many families in the Plymouth Corps' service area are still struggling financially, with new jobs that pay less than they previously earned and benefits that cost more.

"We're seeing families that, both parents might be working but they've taken a 10-percent pay cut, or concessions, and they're paying more into their health care," Aren said. Some who remain jobless have exhausted their unemployment benefits, while others have taken jobs that force reductions in government assistance, such as food stamps, but don't quite

pay enough.

Expensive time

The end of state utility bill assistance in March and a brutally hot summer didn't help either, she said.

"If you're already living close to that budget ... you're just getting hit," Aren said. "For families, for all of us, it's a really expensive time of year."

Donors for this year's Blitz included area Rotary clubs, the Wilcox Foundation, the Canton Community Foundation, the Plymouth Community United Way, several area churches and several businesses, including Meijer and Walmart.

"It's just been overwhelming," Aren said. Volunteers from community groups and the Key Club, which is made up of Plymouth-Canton Educational Park high school

students, assisted regular Corps volunteers with sorting and packing the supplies earlier this week, Aren said.

"Everybody has just done their part. That and more," she said.

Distribution was to have taken place at the Plymouth Corps headquarters Wednesday. About 350 students were eligible to receive supplies, and Aren expected that number to top 400 once the school year begins and students settle in.

"We have seen a growing amount of need," said Frank Ruggirello, the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' director of community relations. While many might think of the area as wealthy, he said, district families represent a wide range of income levels, and "school supplies are fantastic help."

Extra supplies

"For a lot of families, unfortunately, they're choosing between these things and food and paying the bills," Ruggirello said.

The Plymouth Corps' service area is made up of Plymouth, Northville and Belleville and Plymouth, Canton, Van Buren and Sumpter townships. Northville and Northville Township students who need school supply assistance, however, are helped by a separate



Angry Birds, the Avengers, Spider Man and Disney Princesses are big backpack business this year.

drive organized by Northville Civic Concern.

Aren said leftover supplies will be taken to the Plymouth-Canton Public Schools and the Van Buren Community Schools for use throughout the school year.

Ruggirello said the extra supplies his district receives will be divided appropriately between school buildings. School principals, who have access to confidential information about students eligible for free or reduced-cost lunches, will make decisions about who is to receive the supplies, he said.

"Every bit of what is sent to us is going to get into the right hands of the students who need it," Ruggirello said.

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THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PUBLIC NOTICE

Beginning 9/4/2012, the Charter Township of Plymouth Department of Public Works (DPW) will start its fire hydrant winterization program. You may notice a temporary discoloration of your water. This should only be for a short period of time. Any prolonged problems should be reported to the DPW by calling 734-354-3270 x3.

Publish: August 26 & 30, 2012

Ex-candidate pleads to impaired-driving charge

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer



Schulz

A former candidate for the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees pleaded guilty Tuesday to a charge of impaired driving that stemmed from a March car crash on his street. Paul Schulz, 41, agreed before Judge Mike Gerou in 35th District Court to plead guilty to the reduced charge in exchange for having a charge of driving while intoxicated, and another of leaving the scene of a property-damage accident, dropped.

Sentencing by Gerou is pending for driving, after his arrest at about 4 a.m. on March 18. He had been accused of crashing his Ford Focus into two mailboxes before it came to rest in a ditch on Corinne south of Ann Arbor Road, and a witness reported seeing a man leave the car and walk down the street. No injuries were reported.

Police said Schulz's blood-alcohol level tested at .26, more than three times the limit for driving, after his arrest at about 4 a.m. on March 18. He had been accused of crashing his Ford Focus into two mailboxes before it came to rest in a ditch on Corinne south of Ann Arbor Road, and a witness reported seeing a man leave the car and walk down the street. No injuries were reported. Police said Schulz answered the door at his house on Corinne a short time after the crash, appeared to be drunk, and fit the description of the man the witness reported seeing.

Gerou asked Schulz in court on Tuesday how much he had had to drink. "I'd say around a six-pack, sir," Schulz replied. When township Officer Scott Linton told Gerou the blood-alcohol test result, defense attorney Richard Convertino added that Schulz had consumed more alcohol after returning home from the crashed car. Gerou ordered Schulz to report to the probation department for screening and did not set a sentencing date. An impaired-driving conviction carries a jail term of up to 93 days, plus fines, community service and the possible loss of driving privileges. Schulz's license had already been suspended by Gerou last month because of his refusal, at the time of arrest, to take a Breathalyzer. Schulz declined to comment after Tuesday's brief hearing. "Paul's decided to put it behind him," Convertino said.

Police said Schulz's blood-

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CRIME WATCH

Pot charge

A 21-year-old Canton Township man was arrested on a marijuana-possession charge late on Aug. 20 after a traffic stop on southbound Haggerty at Joy Road.

The suspect, driving a Ford Ranger pickup, was apparently trying to eat some marijuana after an officer pulled him over for crossing the intersection marker as he stopped for a red light, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report. Ordered by the officer to spit out what he was chewing onto the passenger seat, the suspect complied, police said.

The substance later tested positive for marijuana, police said. The officer also found rolling papers in the Ranger.

The incident began around 11 p.m. when police dispatch radioed officers to be on the lookout for a reported drunken driver heading south on Haggerty from Hines Drive, police said. The driver was said to be in a pickup truck.

The officer nearest that intersection soon spotted the Ranger, stopping it at Joy, police said. The officer reported smelling marijuana as he approached the driver, then noticed the driver chewing something, police said.

The suspect later posted bond and was released, police said. A charge of marijuana possession requires a mandatory court appearance.

Police impounded the suspect's Ranger.

Condom caper

A 22-year-old Lincoln Park man was arrested Aug. 22 in the shoplifting of three condoms from the CVS drug store on Ann Arbor Road at Sheldon.

Police said the shoplifter ran from the store just before 10 p.m., and the suspect was found by a Plymouth officer in a nearby subdivision. Police found a red sweatshirt like the one the thief was wearing in a bush along Ann Arbor Road.

A store employee told police he had noticed a man in a red sweatshirt pick up a three-pack of Trojan condoms, walk to another aisle in the store, then open the box and put the condoms in a sweatshirt pocket and discard the box. The employee confronted the thief, he said, and was able to grab the condoms out of his sweatshirt before the thief ran

for the door. He was last seen running across Ann Arbor Road and into a subdivision before officers arrived.

Van break-in

Power tools, including an air compressor, drills and pneumatic tools, were reported stolen recently from a work van that was parked outside a township business.

The lock on a door of the 1992 Ford van had been punched out, a police report said, and the ignition had also been punched in an apparent attempt to steal the vehicle. The van was parked at Core Investments Co., on Eckles north of Plymouth Road, at the time, police said.

The burglary occurred between Aug. 11 and Aug. 18, police said.

— By Matt Jachman

Fire runs

The Plymouth Community Fire Department responded to the following runs during the period Aug. 22-28:

- Tuesday, Aug. 28 — Runs on Ann Arbor Road, on Woodland Court, on Caprise, on Sheldon, on Northville Road, on Pinecrest Drive and on Port.

- Monday, Aug. 27 — Runs on Postiff, on M-14, on Northville Road, on Beck, on Briarwood, on Lilley, on Mayflower Court, on Hackberry and on Sheldon.

- Sunday, Aug. 26 — Runs on W. Ann Arbor Road, at Five Mile and Beck, on Orangelawn, on North, on Ridgewood and on Maple.

- Saturday, Aug. 25 — Runs on Bellwood, on Gregory, on Pinecrest, on Plymouth Oaks, on Newport, on Oakview, on S. Main, on Bradner, at Burning Tree and Beck, on Lynn, on Beacon Hill and on Ann Arbor Road wets of Haggerty.

- Friday, Aug. 24 — Several runs on Northville Road, and runs on Brentwood, on Lilley, on Ann Arbor Road and on Five Mile.

- Thursday, Aug. 23 — Runs on Highpoint, on Northville Road, on S. Tyler, on Colony Farms, on N. Umlerland, on the Sheldon ramp to eastbound M-14, at Haggerty and Ann Arbor Road, on Orangelawn and on Northville Road.

- Wednesday, Aug. 22 — Runs on Walnut Tree, at Plymouth Township Park, on Sheldon, on Plymouth Hollow, on Tyler, on Russell and on Halyard.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Margaret Dunning and friends watch the arrival of the 1930 Packard Coupe.

PACKARD

Continued from page A1

She was enchanted by the Pebble Beach grounds and the Concours itself.

"It was a beautiful, just a beautiful setup," she said. "They've done it for so many years, of course, they know what they're doing."

It was the 62nd annual Pebble Beach Concours, but the first for Dunning. She has, however, shown off the Packard closer to home, in 2011 at the Concours d'Elegance of America at the Inn at St. John's, and she is an enthusiastic backer of that show, which moved in 2011 from Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester Hills, where it had been held for more than three decades.

St. John's hosted its second successful Concours late last month.

Dunning's Packard was returned Tuesday from Pebble Beach; she accepted it at the Plymouth Historical Museum because, she said, there wasn't space outside her house for the trailer to unload it.

The car wouldn't immediately start, and Dunning had to tinker with it. Gas had drained away from the engine because of shipping conditions, she explained, but she soon got it fired up.

"I had to come home and drag a little funnel down to put in some gas," she said.

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The Packard won't start, so driver Ricardo Santoya makes the decision to push the two-ton vehicle.



Daniel Clements climbs into the Packard to back it off the trailer.

Local woman among West Nile victims

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

A Canton woman is among 38 people in Wayne County known to have been infected with West Nile virus, as county and state health officials ramp up their warnings for others to take precautions to avoid becoming sick amid an "epidemic" of the mosquito-borne illness. Though she had been

hospitalized, nothing else was known about the Canton woman or her condition. Canton Police Special Services Sgt. Pat Sullivan said hospitals and health officials are reluctant to release details even to police because of privacy laws pertaining to patients.

Angela Minicuci, Michigan Department of Community Health spokeswoman, said 38 con-

firmed cases of West Nile virus and three deaths had been reported in Wayne County alone as of Wednesday morning, though the statistics are changing daily.

Of those, 25 cases have been reported in the suburbs and 13 in Detroit, Minicuci said. Of the three deaths, two occurred outside of Detroit and one in the city, she said.

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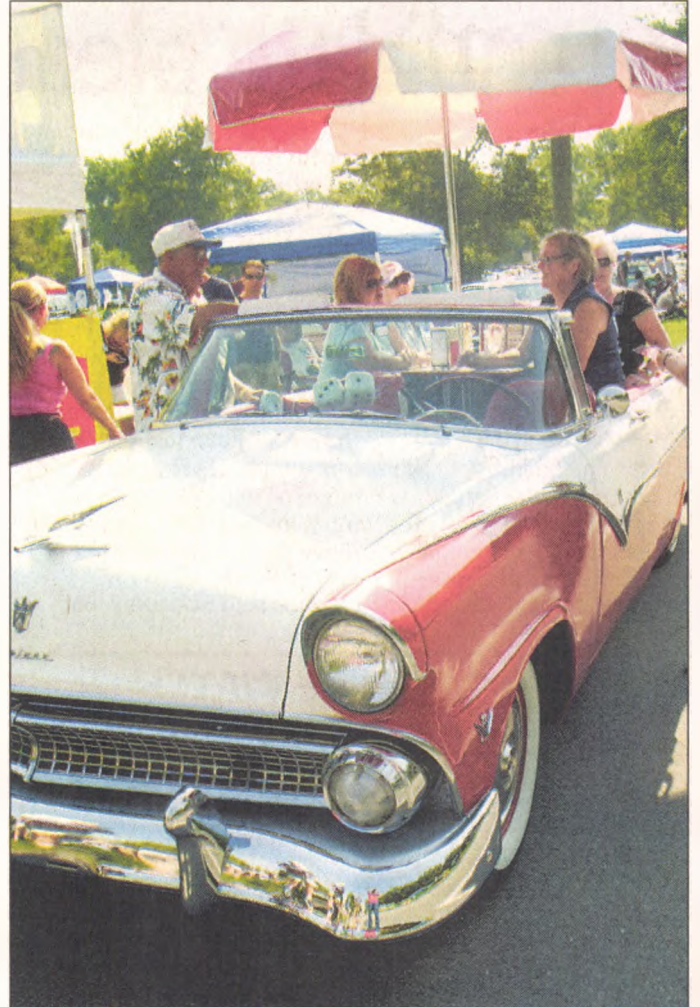
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SUMMIT ON THE PARK



The driver of a Triumph took photographs of fellow cruisers as he drove up and down Hines Drive.



Bob Haas of South Lyon puts up the umbrella on his 1955 Ford ice cream car for his passengers - Roxanne Fontana of Wixom, Janet Dawson of Hamburg, Barb Mecham of Livonia and his wife Lorraine.

Out for a ride: Cruisers take over Hines Drive

Sunday was a picture perfect day for cruising ... and more than 40,000 drivers flocked to Hines Drive where car show promoter Don Nicholson stage his second annual Cruisin' Hines.

The parkway was closed from Ann Arbor Trail in Westland to Outer Drive in Dearborn with only classics - vehicles at least 25 years old - and hot rods allowed to drive the 7 1/2 miles without a traffic light. Everything from a rat ride pickup truck to a 1955 Ford ice cream car could be seen by spectators who lined the route. And drivers found plenty of space to stop and park in the grass areas along Hines Drive.

Nicholson, who envisions the annual cruise as Wayne County's answer to the Woodward Dream Cruise, was more than pleased with the response to this year's event.

"This was a lot of fun," said Nicholson.



A dragon guarded a Chevy Nova Super Sport parked a long Hines Drive.



John Danek of Westland had his "all original" 1976 Vega parked on the grass along Hines Drive in Westland. This was his first year doing the 7 1/2-mile long cruise from Ann Arbor Trail In Westland to Outer Drive in Dearborn.



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Cruisers soaked up the sun in the back of a hot rod pickup that was cruising Hines Drive Sunday.



Samantha Kaczor and Tara Danek, both of Westland, were at the cruise with John Danek. Tara rated Cruisin' Hines as the best event.

These photos and others in photo galleries at hometownlife.com are available for purchase, contact Web Editor Larry Ruehlen at lruehlen@hometownlife.com.



Cruisers popped the hoods to show off their cars to spectators who walked by.

Commission kills county tax proposal

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Wayne County Commissioner Laura Cox called Tuesday's defeat of a 0.97 millage proposal for public services in Wayne County a "huge win" for county taxpayers.

Commission Kevin McNamara, whose district includes Canton, sees it differently.

McNamara had hoped to garner enough support to get the measure on the Nov. 6 ballot. For that, he needed a 10-vote "super majority." He didn't get it, and commissioners instead sent the measure back to com-

mittee, ending any chance to get it on the ballot. The deadline for that was Tuesday.

"It's dead," said Cox from Tampa, Fla., where she accompanied her husband, former Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox, to the Republican National Convention. "It's a huge win for the taxpayers of Wayne County."

Cox said last week she would be surprised if it did not reach the ballot, but apparently commissioners changed their minds. Cox said several phone calls were made between commissioners up to the vote Tuesday morning. When it

became apparent that Martha Scott of Detroit, one of the 10 commissioners who supported it last week at a committee meeting, was no longer on board to place the measure on the ballot, the vote switched 10-4 to return the item to committee, Cox said.

"They didn't want to vote yes on something the voters would have rejected," Cox said. "We need to go to the table and work on the budget and its structure to right the ship."

Conversely, McNamara thought last week the votes were there to get it on the ballot. He said he was "very disappointed" at Tuesday's

result, because it means the county is now going to have to start cutting services in all areas.

McNamara said Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy's vehement opposition to the proposal helped kill it. Under the proposal, Wayne County Sheriff Benny Napoleon's budget would have gotten a \$20 million boost, while Worthy's budget would have received \$9 million.

Worthy opposed the latest proposal, according to Cox, because it didn't guarantee a specific funding amount her office would receive.

"That's a problem," Cox said. "She was very angry

and upset. She didn't like the way it was written."

According to McNamara, it was simply a matter of not being enough money for Worthy's office.

"The prosecutor went against it because she wanted more money than she was going to get in the millage," McNamara said. "She killed that thing because it wasn't enough money. She wanted her budget to get more than we were going to give her."

A large chunk of the money would have gone to juvenile justice programs run by the county's department of children and family services. Now, McNamara

said, the juveniles the county generally tries to rehabilitate — "Eighty percent of those kids never see the inside of a courtroom, because we rehabilitate them," McNamara said — will be handled by the state.

McNamara said the cuts to the juvenile justice system are going to end up hurting the worst. Programs like Growth Works in Plymouth are going to feel the pain.

"We rehabilitate them, it's cheaper that way," he said. "The state system is incarceration. We will have to give our children over to the state, and the state will send us a bill."

Six vie in Wednesday primary for McCotter's unexpired term

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

Most of the candidates are spending their own money. Many are political newcomers who want to serve in U.S. Congress. Some are taking their first plunge into a political campaign.

Five candidates are running for the Republican nomination and one candidate for the Democratic nomination in a special primary election Wednesday in the current 11th Congressional District to fill the unexpired term of Thaddeus McCotter, who resigned July 6.

The special election, expected to cost communities an estimated \$650,000, was scheduled by Gov. Rick Snyder's office to fill the vacated seat.

Kerry Bentivolio of Milford, Nancy Cassis of Novi and Ken Crider, Carolyn Kavanagh and Steve King, all of Livonia, are running for the Republican nomination, with the winner to face David Curson of Belleville, who is running unopposed on the Democratic ticket, in the Nov. 6 general election.

Kavanagh, Crider and Curson have never run for political office before, though Crider was recently elected a precinct delegate in Livonia.

Wednesday's special election will occur in the old 11th Congressional District. In the newly reconfigured 11th District, Bentivolio, who won the Republican primary Aug. 7, will face Syed Taj, who was victorious in the Democratic primary, in the Nov. 6 general election.

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

Nancy Cassis

Cassis, 68, a former state senator, decided last week that she is not "actively campaigning" for the special election. She emailed reporters with a statement, but stopped short of endorsing Bentivolio.

"Much has been made of my comments from earlier this summer on *Off the Record* in which I stated that if I did not win the 11th District primary I would withdraw from the special election,"



Cassis

Cassis said. "I would like to clarify that, at that time, I made the remark in the context of only two filed candidates and for one to withdraw would save taxpayers the \$650,000 expense of a special election. That all changed when three more people from Livonia filed to run. Thus my name is on the ballot along with four other Republicans and one Democrat."

"The voters will go to the polls, see the names that are on the ballot, and our democratic process will work itself out as it has done for over 200 years in our great nation."

"It is time to lay our differences aside and work to get our Republican ticket elected in November starting with Mitt Romney."

Ken Crider

Crider, 47, a superintendent of heating and air conditioning at Kelley Bros., a Livonia company, is running because he believes voters should have more than one option on the ballot. Crider decided to run after Bentivolio was the only candidate who filed.

"We have a lot of the same views," Crider said of Bentivolio. "But he takes his views too far."

Crider describes himself as a "Christian conservative Republican." He acknowledges that Bentivolio is the candidate to beat in the race and knows it will be a challenge in his first campaign and election. "The best thing about



Crider

it is that I have no baggage," Crider said.

He said his campaign is a grass-roots campaign. He has spent money on campaign signs and wrist bands, Crider said.

Crider said he is opposed to abortion. He said he was raised by adoptive parents. "My biological mother was homeless," he said. "If she had the choice to abort me, I wouldn't be here."

Crider also has participated in protests in Washington, D.C., with his wife Penny. "We weren't happy with the health care bill," he said. "I understand that we need some change. But I'm a free market person and I don't want the government involved."

Crider said his campaign consists of four people going door to door, making phone calls and placing campaign signs.

Carolyn Kavanagh

Kavanagh, 33, a restaurant and wine consultant, is the daughter of 16th District Judge Sean Kavanagh. She ran because she enjoys public service. She volunteered to assist in Haiti after the earthquake and in Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina struck there several years ago.

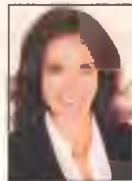
"Politics is a natural progression for me to represent my community on a larger scale," she said. "The opportunity here is really unique. It is a month-long campaign versus a six-month campaign."

Kavanagh has assisted with previous local campaigns. She's raised some money for her race from friends and family, and has put up campaign signs along major roads in the 11th District.

Her demographic, a younger female in Congress, isn't prominent in Washington, so she'd like to represent her generation in Congress, she said.

Kavanagh expects Congress will work on budget issues and vote on income taxes. She would vote to maintain tax cuts, she said. "This will be a lame-duck session," she said. "The community needs to be represented on every single vote."

Reactions are positive from the community about her campaign run, Kavanagh said. "Everyone is shocked that this seat is available, but I hear from a lot of people who say to me, 'That's great; we need a younger person,'" she said.



Kavanagh

Steve King

King, 57, a musician and certified teacher, is running

because he sees the opportunity to serve the public, even if it is only for a few weeks.

King doesn't know if any votes will take place in Washington the final weeks of the year. He said he would keep employees who remain after the criminal charges were filed against four former McCotter staffers. "I would reach out to residents who have not been able to get help over the past few years," he said. "I would help them. You aren't going to be able to go and change Washington."

King, a former Livonia school board member, decided to run as a Republican because he considers himself a "moderate Republican." When asked why he ran as a Democrat for state representative against Republican John Walsh in 2008, King said: "I wanted to beat him. That goes on all the time."



King

King is running because he doesn't think Bentivolio will serve the district well. "He might be a great guy or a nice person, but that doesn't set you up to be a legislator," King said.

King said he has met many residents of the 11th District during his summer concerts with his band, Steve King & the Dittilies. He is also maintaining an online presence through Facebook.

David Curson

Curson, 63, served in the U.S. Marines, then worked at Ford Motor Co.'s Rawsonville plant. A tool-and-die maker, Curson, the lone Democrat on the ballot, was also active with the UAW and worked on a task force with Ron Gettelfinger on the government loans to Chrysler and GM.

Curson said he was outraged when McCotter's petitions were duplicated and then McCotter resigned, leaving the 11th District without representation. "It was just foolish," Curson said. "For him to abandon the citizens of

the 11th District, I was outraged because there will be important legislation going on. With all of the health care debate and legislation, I felt it was our duty to have representation."

Curson said his experience in the UAW in negotiating disputes between workers and management trained him well for Congress. "When there were problems or issues, I'd sit down with someone across the table," he said. "We want a win-win for both sides. That's the way government used to work, but now, it's just obnoxious."

Curson expects the jobs bill to be up for a vote before the end of the year. "It affects the economy at all levels," he said. "I would work to get support to get that passed." Curson said he also would work on veteran and health care issues.



Curson

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Kerry Bentivolio

Bentivolio, 61, a veteran of the Iraqi and Vietnam wars, a former schoolteacher and currently a reindeer farmer, ran for the unexpired seat because he was already running for Congress and because he believes the 11th District deserves representation through the end of the year.

Bentivolio is tired of the "overspending, overborrowing and overregulating" of government and wants to end any more debt increases.

"It will give me a head start," Bentivolio said of the special election. "There will be budget issues, and all kinds of issues. I'm still wrapping my head around it, and I'll have to do a lot of homework."

Bentivolio has spent the past few weeks contacting supporters and thanking them, he said.

Should Bentivolio win the



Bentivolio

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Publish: August 30 & September 6, 2012

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CBL

Samsung Galaxy S3 rivals iPhone

By Jon Gunnells
Guest Columnist

Samsung's hybrid smartphone tablet the Galaxy S3 has a mixture of multimedia features that make it a fun alternative to the king of phones - Apple's iPhone.

I had the pleasure of testing Samsung's smartphone this summer courtesy of Verizon Wireless.

The Galaxy S3 features a front camera and an 8 megapixel back camera - a must in this age of Instagramming and Facebooking. It also shoots in full HD video mode another necessity of the digital age.

Additionally, the phone is enabled for quick sharing across social networks and other devices. With Samsung's AllShare feature, users can quickly send their photos and videos to tablets, PCs and computers. They can even upload them to Dropbox or other cloud storage.

Better yet, Samsung utilizes a cool feature called Social Tag where the phone recognizes familiar faces in your photos and automatically tags them as you upload to social networks. This will save social power users time when creating content on Facebook like status updates photo galleries.

The device's large



Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

of-the-line Android devices - but at 4.8 inches it is also noticeably larger.

While the Galaxy S3 doesn't have the largest screen on the market (that distinction belongs to the Galaxy Note at 5.3 inches) it is plenty big for a cell phone.

Despite its large screen size, the phone is incredibly light weight - so while it is big, it certainly won't weigh you down. The phone only has a thickness of 8.6 millimeters.

Properly placed navigation buttons allow for one-hand usage and added convenience.

The only drawback to the phone setup and user experience is the location of the charging port. Its awkward positioning may make it difficult to place into a dock - so if you are someone who likes plugging in to a stereo system while charging, you may want to test it out first.

You may also be surprised to know the device is not available in black. Samsung offers only two

screen may however, be the best feature. The screen clarity is on par with that of the iPhone or other top-

color options for this model and they are blue and white.

The device runs on the new Android Ice Cream Sandwich 4.0 operating system and has a 1.4 GHZ processor. These last two specifications may mean nothing to you - but rest assured they are the best on the market. The 1.4 GHZ processing speed is more powerful than laptops that were on the market just three or four years ago.

To compete with Apple, Samsung included voice command software, much like Siri, into this device. The feature is called S-Voice recognition and the software recognizes eight different languages (which won't matter if it performs anything like Siri). But in fairness, I did not have the phone long enough to determine the overall quality of the S-Voice recognition feature.

The Samsung Galaxy S3 is available from Verizon and other cell phone providers and retail outlets for around \$199 with a two year cell phone agreement.

For more information about the S3 visit Samsung.com.

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

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



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Axis Music: We teach Guitar, Voice, Bass, Drums, Piano and other Woodwind and String instruments. Both private and group classes. A very wide variety of different group classes depending on your age, level and skill set. But no matter what your age, level and style of music, we have a class for you. We are also an Apple Authorized Training Center that specializes in classes on Protools, Ableton, Garageband & Logic.

Observer: How did you come to open your business?

Axis Music: After moving back home from music school in California studying at the Musicians Institute, I decided to share what I learned with music lovers in the Metro Detroit area, so I opened Axis Music Academies.

Observer: Why did you choose Canton?

Axis Music: There are a lot of wonderful families in Canton. Then there is the business community, police department, fire department and schools. Or the Canton Chamber of Commerce, the Summit, Canton Leisure Services, the Partnership for the Arts & Humanities or Village Theaters. I could go on and on. ... Just a great community overall.

Observer: What makes your

AXIS MUSIC ACADEMY

Business name and address: Axis Music Academy, 42114 Ford Road, Canton

Your name: John Antone, founder and CEO

Your hometown: Royal Oak

Business opened: 1996

Number of employees: 40

Hours of operation: Monday through Thursday, noon to 9 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Your business specialty: We can teach anyone how to play, sing, compose, record and perform. All ages, styles and levels for Guitar, Bass, Drums, Voice, Piano, Brass, Strings, Woodwinds, Recording and much more.

Business phone and website: (734) 844-01000; www.axismusic.com

business unique?

Axis Music: The answer is our instructors. Just ask our students. They make learning fun. They teach the kind of music you want to learn and they teach you at your pace, not theirs. Another reason is our Showcases. We host events all the time where our students perform. From places like the Hard Rock Café, Liberty Fest, Woodward Dream Cruise or many other places over the years, our students get to showcase their skills at a lot of cool venues. And through Axis Music Foundation, proceeds raised help the less fortunate.

Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

Axis Music: More teachers and more students. We now have 3 locations: Canton, Southfield & Birmingham.

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Axis Music: Just like everyone else. But we see things are getting better.

Observer: Any advice for other business owners?

Axis Music: Get to know your customers. I hope, like us, you consider your customers your friends and family.

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

Axis Music: We recently updated the front of the store in Canton. And Canton is under new management. Ryan Ghedotte is taking on a new role and so now Canton is being run by Nick Papadakis & Kelly Hayden. If you have not met them, stop in and say hello. And check us out at www.axismusic.com and like us on Facebook.

ATTENTION: Ford Motor Company Retirees

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Murray Feldman



Steven Yager

WWJ 950
NEWSRADIO

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PLYMOUTH BUSINESS BRIEFS

Comcast honored

Diverse ideas come from a diverse work force—and Corp! Magazine, Michigan's largest business magazine, recognized those companies that have instilled diversity and multiculturalism into the culture of their business environment, honoring them Tuesday at a special event at the MGM Grand Detroit Hotel.

Among those honored was Dale Kirk, vice president of engineering for Comcast Cable Communications Inc., of Plymouth.

All of this year's diversity winners were listed in the July/August 2012 print issue of the publication and will be profiled online Aug. 30. Corp! not only considered race and ethnicity, but also gender, religion and handicapping conditions as worthy of recognition. Honorees demonstrated a commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion, and contributions to diversity issues in business and the community.

Business News

Down the desks of the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority:

- Jill Andra Young Photography has finished moving from her Penniman studio into her new studio space at 502 Forest. Look for her new sign and a 50/50 coupon on her website, good for 50 percent off a studio sitting and 50 percent off a package through Sept. 15.

- The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, in a joint effort with the Friends of the Penn, announce the seventh Annual PENN-Taste-Tic Downtown Plymouth Restaurant Crawl on Tuesday, Sept. 18, from 5-8 p.m.

"Crawlers" can walk around down-



Fitt for duty

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce cut the ribbon for the one-year anniversary of the Fitt Factory located at 7246 N. Haggerty in Canton, just south of Plymouth. The facility provides training to get people into outstanding condition using individualized programs tailored to each person.

town Plymouth enjoying delicious samples and treats from many of their favorite Plymouth restaurants and sweet shops. This year patrons have the opportunity to try samples at five new establishments that opened in the past few months.

This year's participants include: Burger Spot; E.G. Nicks; Greek Islands (new); Ironwood Grill; Kilwin's, KP Sweets (new); Nico & Vali; Panache 447 (new); Panera; Perfectly Sweet (new); Rock Bar & Grill; Sardine Room (new); Yogurt Palooza and Zin Wine Bar & Restaurant (new).

Tickets must be purchased in advance and are available at the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce (850 W. Ann Arbor Trail) and Sun & Snow (388 S. Main St.) in downtown Plymouth. Adult tickets are \$20 each, and children 10 & under are \$15. All proceeds to benefit the Friends of the Penn and the Chamber of Commerce.

Sheriff's new K9 honors slain police officer

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

The Wayne County Sheriff's Department has a new law enforcement tool, and Bill and Debbie Nagle couldn't be happier.

The Sterling Heights couple was at the K9 Academy Training Facility in Wayne Tuesday to say hello to Nags, a 1-year-old German shepherd that they named for their daughter, Jessica Nagle-Wilson, a Hazel Park police officer who died in the line of duty 10 years ago. The canine is being trained by Deputy Jason Mathews to be a narcotics dog.

"This is dear to our hearts to know Nags is out there patrolling the streets and doing her job," said Debbie Nagle. "This is one thing Jessica would have loved to have done, but her career ended too soon."

"Nags is an important member of the department," said Wayne County Sheriff Benny Napoleon. "Nags is going to be a drug dog and help us fight the drug problem in and around Wayne County."

With the addition of Nags, the Sheriff's Department now has four K9s. Nags and Mathews are currently in training. The process will take three months at which time both handler and



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Deputy Sheriff Jason Mathews and his K9 Nags joins Wayne County Sheriff Benny Napoleon in thanking Debbie and Bill Nagle for the grant that helped pay for the dog. The grant came from the Jessica Nagle-Wilson Charitable Foundation which provides law enforcement agencies with grants to cover the acquisition of police dogs.



One-year-old Nags is named after slain Hazel Park Police Officer Jessica Nagle-Wilson, whose nickname was Nags. The dog will be trained to sniff out narcotics.

dog will be tested to be certified to work.

Mathews already is a dog handler. His other K9 partner is 3-year-old Abby, who sniffs out explosives.

"Nag's the best partner I could ask for, I'm lucky to have him," said Mathews, who works primarily in Detroit. With Nags, he will be able to prove his case against the drug dealers he encounters, he said.

This is the sixth police K9 that the Jessica Nagle-Wilson Charitable Foundation has provided to law enforcement agen-

cies around the state. The foundation was set up by her husband, Matt, and her family to honor her and help police agencies. It awards grants to cover the cost of the dog. In the case of Nags, which came to the United States from Slovakia, the cost was more than \$5,000.

"This is a wonderful thing they are doing," said Napoleon. "They could have retreated and distance themselves from law enforcement, but they didn't. I wish I could give you more than a plaque for the support you provide. Nags is

going to be a big asset in our fight against narcotics."

Jessica Nagle-Wilson, known as Nags to her fellow officers, had been married just eight weeks when she was sent out to handle a neighbor problem involving a dog. What she didn't know was that the dog's owner had told his neighbors that if they called the police, he would "kill the police officer and then kill them."

"According to everyone, there was a 30-second standoff," said Bill Nagle. "She told him to put his gun down, he

didn't. They don't know who fired first, but she put him down, she injured him. She had her vest on, but a majority of the buckshot hit her in the neck."

Mathews picked up his new partner at Detroit Metropolitan Airport on Aug. 3 and introduced him to the Nagles at a 10-year end of watch ceremony on Aug. 4.

Mathews praised the Nagle family for their continuing support of law enforcement. To get the dog from a family that has suffered as much as the Nagles is a "gift from

the heart," he said. "This was an unbelievable tragedy and to see how they've held up, a lot of families suffer with the death of a police officer. This family is strong, they're together and support law enforcement. Their daughter lives on in that."

People interested in supporting the work of the Jessica Nagle-Wilson Foundation can send donations to the foundation at 2226 Camel, Sterling Heights, MI 48310.

smason@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6751

St. Nicholas Institute honors five who embody Christmas spirit year-round

Detroit hockey legend Ted Lindsay, ardent Livonia volunteer Bill Heaton and Irene Bronner are among five honorees set to participate in the first St. Nicholas Institute Awards Banquet that will be held at the Sacred Heart Banquet and Conference Center in Livonia on Oct. 3.

The banquet is held in conjunction with the four-day St. Nicholas Institute, a seminar for faith-filled men who aim to professionally portray St. Nicholas and/or Santa Claus. The institute is the brainchild of Fr. Joseph Marquis, pastor of Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church, a professional Santa Claus for 40 years, and one of 24 individuals from North America to be inducted into the International Santa Claus Hall of Fame.

Some 20 individuals who participate in the Institute program Oct. 1-4 at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center in Detroit will receive framed certificates of achievement at the banquet.

The award names are tied to the values emphasized in the St. Nicholas Institute: Nicholas as our Model, Openness to the Christmas Spirit, Exercising Compassion, and Love for Children (NOEL).

Carol Myers

The Nicholas as our Model Award goes to Carol Myers, founder of the St. Nicholas Center. Her comprehensive web-based resource educates the public about St. Nicholas. The website, www.stnicholascenter.org, features more than 1,100 pages and receives at least one million visits annually from 154 countries. A leading St. Nicholas expert, Myers, is featured in the Oprah Winfrey Network's documentary, *Becoming Santa*.

The Openness to the Christmas Spirit Award goes to Phillip Wenz, founder of Santa Claus Oath Foundation and Santa Claus Productions. A charter member of the International Santa Claus Hall of Fame, Wenz created the Santa Claus Oath, which outlines eight principles for

any portrayal of Santa Claus. His Santa Claus Productions list of works include numerous locally and nationally broadcast parades, productions for suburban Chicago's Santa's Village, the movie *Nicholas of Myra*, and the documentary *They Wore The Red Suit*. For 25 years, Wenz has portrayed Santa Claus at "Santa's Village," a



Irene Bronner and her late husband, Wally



Lindsay



Heaton



Myers

theme park in Dundee, Ill. He lives in Crescent City, Ill.

Ted Lindsay

The Exercising Compassion Award goes to Lindsay for his work with the Ted Lindsay Foundation since its inception in 2001. His foundation raised more than \$1.5 million to help children with Autism and other neurological disorders. The National Hockey League Hall of Famer and four-time Stanley Cup Champion has also worked to support numerous other charities such as the Michigan Special Olympics, Canadian Special Olympics, Canadian Alzheimer's

Association and wheelchair hockey. He lives in Troy.

Bill Heaton

The Love of Children Award goes to Heaton, the long-time president of the Livonia Goodfellows, an organization that collect money, toys and household materials for needy families as part of its annual "No Child Without a Christmas Campaign." He has devoted much of the past 50 years to supporting people with developmental disabilities by providing housing. He has received numerous awards for his community service, including the *Livonia Observer's* First Citizen Award.

Irene and Wally Bronner

The Lifetime Achievement Award goes to Irene Bronner and her late husband Wally, co-founders of Bronner's CHRISTmas Wonderland in Frankenmuth - the world's largest Christmas store. Over the years, they have dedicated millions in resources to a variety of civic and charitable organizations through the Wallace and Irene Bronner Family Charitable Foundation. In November 1992, the couple dedicated the Silent Night Chapel that welcomes the millions of visitors who come to their store. The landmark is a faithful replica of the original chapel that marks the spot where the beloved carol, *Silent Night*, was first sung during midnight mass in St. Nicholas Church, in Oberndorf, Austria, on Christmas Eve 1818.

The couple also earned a number of international awards for philanthropy and support of the Christmas spirit. Mr. Bronner died in 2008, but his widow continues her work through the Foundation. The entrance into their store posts a motto that drove their work: "Enjoy CHRISTmas, It's His Birthday; Enjoy Life, It's His way!"

"Honorees were selected from the broader community for significantly embodying the Christmas Spirit 365

days a year," Fr. Marquis said. "This banquet gives metro Detroiters a chance to meet these outstanding people and express our gratitude for their work in bringing Christmas joy into everyday life."

He added all award recipients are scheduled to attend the Oct. 3 banquet, which is open to the public. The program begins at 6 p.m. Sacred Heart Banquet and Conference Center is at 29125 Six Mile

Road, just east of Middlebelt. Admission for dinner and the program is \$40 per person. For more information or to register, call Sacred Heart at (734) 522-3166 or visit www.shbanquets.com.

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OUR VIEWS



Right to vote vital

Cast your ballot in special primary election Wednesday

Residents of the old 11th Congressional District, including those living in Plymouth, will vote in a special primary election Wednesday to nominate a Republican and a Democrat for the November ballot for the unexpired term of Congressman Thaddeus McCotter, who resigned in July 6.

Five Republicans and one Democrat are running. The Republicans are former teacher Kerry Bentivolio of Milford, whose name also appears on the Nov. 6 ballot against 11th District Democrat nominee Syed Taj of Canton for a full two-year term in the newly redrawn 11th District; Nancy Cassis, a former state senator who lost her write-in candidacy in the Aug. 7 primary; Steve King, a former Livonia school board member; Carolyn Kavanagh of Livonia, daughter of 16th District Judge Sean Kavanagh; and political newcomer Kenneth Crider.

However, the district will need good representation during the lame duck session occurring after the November general election and before new members of Congress take office in January. Lame-duck sessions are a time when some lawmakers will attempt to hinder or even damage the lawmaking process by working to stall good bills or turn bad bills into law.

The lone Democrat is David Curson. Since it is a primary election, voters cannot cross over and cast a vote for both Democratic and Republican candidates or their ballots will be spoiled and not counted.

Whoever wins in November will serve less than two months, most likely after Congress will have decided and voted on budgets, tax breaks and most major issues for the year.

The special election will cost taxpayers an estimated \$650,000, but it is required by state law and the U.S. Constitution to fill the vacancy. Voters may be tempted to skip the election, thinking it doesn't make much difference or wanting to protest it because of the cost.

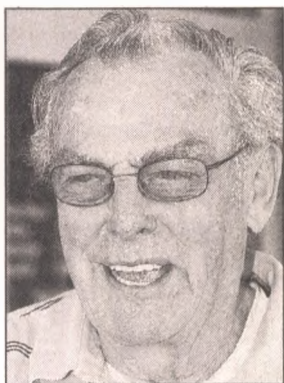
However, the district will need good representation during the lame duck session occurring after the November general election and before new members of Congress take office in January. Lame-duck sessions are a time when some lawmakers will attempt to hinder or even damage the lawmaking process by working to stall good bills or turn bad bills into law.

And no matter how expensive an election is, it is never good to waste one's right to vote.

COMMUNITY VOICE

How do you plan on spending Labor Day this year?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



"Probably have to go Up North to close the cottage. After Labor Day, don't go up there that much."

Don MacKinnon
Livonia



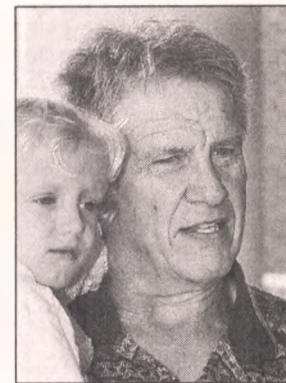
"Boring. ... Don't have any plans. ... We're looking forward to it."

Barb McIlhargey
Plymouth Township



"We have a wedding we're going to on Sunday. ... Close friend."

Teresa Endlein
Plymouth Township



"With family. Probably a cookout. ... We hope one of the kids comes home."

Chuck Every
(with grandson Zach Barszczowski)
Niles, Mich.

LETTERS

Wildcat thanks

On behalf of the entire Plymouth Wildcat football family we would like to thank the community for their support and generosity during our annual coupon card fundraiser.

Our football players went door-to-door and sold over 2,700 cards raising funds for jerseys, helmets and necessary equipment. This is not always an easy or enjoyable task, but under the direction of head coach Mike Sawchuk these young men were respectful and courteous and were rewarded with the same.

We would also like to thank the following businesses for offering over \$300 in special savings, BOGO items and free items with purchase: Applebee's, Arby's, Auto Lab, BD's Mongolian, Big Apple Bagels, Bailey's, Bigby Coffee, Chili's, Cold Stone Creamery, Crow's Nest, Dunkin' Donuts, Fast Lane, Hayden's, Jet's Pizza, Kilwins, Leo's Coney Island, Los Tres Amigos, Papa John's, Penn Grill, Plato's Coney Island, Play it Again Sports, Tim Horton's, Trading Post, White Castle, and Zap Zone.

We are incredibly fortunate to be part of a community that supports not only the Wildcat football team but the drive and determination of each player. We invite you to visit our website at www.football.plymouthwildcats.com or like us on Facebook for more information and our current Wildcat football schedule. We look forward to your

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

Web: www.hometownlife.com

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

Fax: (313) 223-3318

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

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

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

continued support at the game.

Plymouth Wildcat Football Booster Club

Blitz thanks

The Salvation Army sends its warmest thanks to the churches, agencies, vendors, service clubs and individual donors for their generous support with Back 2 School Blitz 5. The communities of Plymouth, Canton, Belleville and Northville raised almost \$15,000 in gift-in-kind donations and monetary gifts. This generous support will provide 400 students with back packs filled with school supplies and a gift card from Payless Shoe Source for new shoes.

The collection also benefitted the Plymouth Canton Clothing Bank by collecting 100 packs of new socks and underwear for students in need.

Additionally, 100 volunteers pledged their time to collect, count, sort, pack and distribute back packs and supplies - each volunteer shift was filled making the process from start to finish a smooth one.

We are blessed to be part of such a wonderful program that is by the community and for the community and again share our warmest thanks

Laurie Aren

The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps

Supports Taj

Like many people in the 11th Congressional District, I was appalled by Thaddeus McCotter's careless disregard for election law, and his constituents. He clearly did not "work for me."

In contrast, Dr. Syed Taj, who is a candidate for the 11th District, strikes me as an ethical, competent and careful guy. I met him and I was very impressed with his intelligence, cheerfulness and curiosity. He listened well, understood my concerns and seemed motivated to work hard for our district.

I anticipate that he will do a great job for us in Washington, D.C.

Diane Hallinen

Highland

OUR VIEWS

Tips can help ease back-to-school transition

It's been a great summer for kids in Plymouth and Canton — lots of summer camps, special programs and events to fill each day — but those days have dwindled to the last precious few as we approach back to school time.

Students will return to the routine of getting up early, doing homework and learning new things when school starts Tuesday, Sept. 4.

For some students, this transition can be scary and somewhat dreadful. An area education expert, Wie Pan, who is executive director of Huntington Learning Center of Canton, takes note of this, and offers parents and students some tips.

We think they're worth sharing with our readers.

1. If you haven't already, take your child back-to-school shopping. Spending a day together buying school supplies and maybe even a new back-to-school outfit is a fun way to get into the school mode and a good opportunity to let your child tell you the things he or she thinks will help make him or her successful.

It's also a good chance for parents to have one-on-one conversations with their children about any goals they have for the year and how they can be supportive of

their children.

2. Introduce your child ahead of time to another classmate or two. Reconnect with friends from last year who will be in your child's new class. If your child is new to the school, look around your neighborhood to find other children of the same age. A back-to-school night may be a good opportunity to meet other classmates, too.

3. Plan on getting extra help. For students who struggled in the previous school year, the idea of going back to school may be especially stressful. Summer is a great time to build skills and improve weaker areas, but if your summer was focused on other things, now is a great time to investigate supplemental education services for your child. Talk to his or her teacher in advance about problem areas and how the two of you can work together to get your child off on the right foot.

4. Set an optimistic tone. As a parent, you have a lot of influence on your child's attitude toward school. Show him or her through your actions that learning is fun and a part of everyday life. Teach your child to value effort and hard work. Your child needs to understand,

too, that failure is something we all experience. What matters is how we learn from it and move forward.

5. Be prepared. The information parents need about school supplies, dress code, required forms, transportation and more, are offered on the district's website. Being organized and on top of all school requirements will minimize first-week stresses for both you and your child.

6. Meet the teacher. Get familiar with the school layout and other school resources that will help your child (the guidance counselor and speech therapist, for example). Let your child's teacher know that you look forward to working together this year.

These tips can be useful in reducing the back-to-school nerves and anxieties for students and parents. Parents should set that positive tone about school, long before the bell rings on the first day. But, that's just the beginning — support throughout the school year is necessary. Partnering with your child and with his or her teacher in the education process is important in leading kids down a productive and perhaps even enjoyable educational experience.

PLYMOUTH
OBSERVER

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Retirees should look closely at Ford pension plan

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

Ford recently began sending out information to retirees regarding the pension buyout. I had the opportunity to sit down with a number of Ford retirees and here's my initial take on the buyout offers.

First, it's important to realize Ford is not doing this because they want to help their retirees. Ford is doing this because it is a good deal for the company. That doesn't mean that in certain situations Ford retirees won't benefit; because many will. However, it is also true many people would make a bad

financial decision by accepting the buyout. Similar to General Motors, the buyouts offered by Ford have been computed fairly. In the past, when Ford offered buyout options, many times they were very generous. That is not the case here. In the past it was almost a no-brainer to accept a Ford buyout offer. That is not the case here.

Retirees shouldn't auto-

matically decide to accept the offer. They must look at their individual situation. I believe when people look at their individual situation, the majority will more likely find that they would be better off to keep what they have as opposed to accepting the buyout option. This is based on a number of factors, including investment style, spending habits and need for income.

One of the differences between the Ford and General Motors plans is that Ford is not bringing in a third party. General Motors basically said it was getting out of the pension business and pensions are now the responsibility

of Prudential. Ford did not do this. As a result, those do not accept the offer will continue to have the protection of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation which acts as an insurer. It may not insure the entire pension, but it will insure a significant portion.

I believe the decision with regards to a pension is one of the most important decisions an individual can make. That is why I am hosting two free seminars in cooperation with the Observer & Eccentric Media on the Ford plan. Unlike other seminars, these will be educational. The goal is to give Ford retirees the tools

they need to decide what best fits their personal situation.

The seminars are scheduled at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 3rd at Laurel Manor in Livonia. The seminars are free but you need to make a reservation. Email which seminar you'd like to attend at seminars@bloomassetmanagement.com or contact my office at 248-932-1379. For more information visit www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

My last piece of advice for anyone who is thinking about the buyout decision is to make sure that you take your time, don't focus on what's good for everyone else. Focus on what's

good for you and make sure that if you're seeking professional advice, you're not dealing with a salesperson. Unfortunately too many salespeople have one goal in mind and that is to maximize what ends up in their pocket and not yours. If you seek professional help make sure you deal with someone whose loyalty is to you and not to generating more commissions. 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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2012 CROSS COUNTRY PREVIEW - PT. 1

Chiefs set to keep rolling

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Gone from Canton's 2011 KLAA South Division championship are standouts such as Mitch Clinton, Miles Felton, Jeff Molchan, Bradon Conley, Alex Krul and Jackson Lytle.

Those names are among the best to compete for the Canton boys cross country team, with Felton (Lansing Community College) the school record holder.

But don't expect Chiefs head coach Bill Boyd to fret about losing such runners as the 2012 varsity boys cross country season gets into gear. For starters, he has eight varsity let-terms back who tasted success last year.

"Canton runners are confident that there will not be a letdown," stressed Boyd in an e-mail to the Observer. "Canton cross country has never finished below second in the KLAA South or third in the KLAA. The team has set building on that success as their goal."

At the front of the line will be senior Andrew Stephens, juniors Tom Walkinshaw and Evan Dunklee and sophomore Billy Toth.

All but Toth were all-Observer honorable mention picks while Toth was Canton's top rookie and named to the All-KLAA third team.

- Stephens, whose personal best was 17 minutes, 27 seconds, "is consistently one of the hardest workers on the team. He leads team workouts on a daily basis."
- Walkinshaw (17:24) looks ready to

Please see CHIEFS, B3



Canton sophomore Billy Toth, shown from a 2011 meet, will be an integral part of the Chiefs' 2012 varsity boys cross country team.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

One of the key members of Salem's nucleus entering the 2012 varsity girls cross country season is senior Shannon Flynn, shown in this 2011 file photo.

Salem girls aiming high

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Salem's varsity girls cross country team really wants to make a point this season — literally.

If the Rocks do just that, it very well could be enough to push them over the hump into the Division 1 state meet. Last season, Salem came up just one point short.

"We came in fourth in the region, missed qualifying for the state finals as a team by one point, which is a huge motivator for us for this year," veteran Salem coach Dave Gerlach said.

Several factors bode well for Salem indeed getting where it just missed out on in 2011.

There is outstanding leadership, provided by senior captain Emily Bizon and senior assistant captains Shannon Flynn, Gretchen Clemans and Alejandra Beltran.

"I am very proud of my four leaders, my four captains," Gerlach said. "They have shown the team over this summer what they expect. They don't want it to happen again with the one-point loss, one point (short) of going to state finals."

Bizon, Flynn and Beltran don't just provide leadership. They return as key members of the varsity lineup.

It also helps that Salem's roster boasts a number of other runners who had success a year ago and unprecedented

depth (there are 40 girls on the roster).

Back to pick up where they left off will be junior Natasha Stevenson and sophomores Anya Cho, Lauren Arquette and Rebecca Lopez. Promising sophomores Allison Busch and Kati Binsfeld could impress and the team still has a number of other varsity veterans, including seniors Shannon Fitzpatrick, Madison Goodpasture and Alexis Foley.

Major boost

Yet Salem's biggest boost will come from the return of standout Kayla Kavulich, who was a state qualifier as a freshman, but missed

Please see SALEM, B3

Plymouth Whalers in training

The Ontario Hockey League's Plymouth Whalers hit the ice in scrimmages from 9-11 a.m. and 2-4 p.m. on Thursday and Friday. The scrimmages are free and open to the public and media. Rosters will be provided the day of the scrimmages.

Compuware Arena is located at 14900 Beck in Plymouth Township, between Five Mile and M-14.

Plymouth opens their preseason schedule against Windsor on Saturday, Sept. 1, at 7 p.m. at Yack Arena in Wyandotte and the teams will follow up with a game 2 p.m. Monday, Sept. 3, at Windsor Family Credit Union Center.

The Whalers open the 2012-13 regular season on Friday, Sept. 21, in Sault Ste. Marie, with the home opener set for 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, at Compuware against the Belleville Bulls.

Tickets for all Plymouth Whalers games can be purchased by calling Compuware Arena at (734) 453-8400.

Coaching changes

Although it hasn't officially been announced, the Plymouth varsity girls golf team is getting a new coach.

Longtime coach Chris Moore is apparently stepping down for reasons unrelated to the team. Running the Wildcats on an interim basis is Dan Young, considered a front-runner for the coaching job.

Another coaching change for the fall season at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park is Steve Johnson taking over the Canton varsity girls volleyball reigns from Mary Kryska.

2012 VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW - PT. 1



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

During 2011 action, Plymouth's Madelyn Betts ramps up the intensity. She remains one of the heavy hitters in the Wildcats' front row.

'Cats pack punch

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Could this be the year of the Black and Silver Slammers?

Perhaps that could happen in 2011-12. Plymouth second-year varsity girls volleyball coach Sarah Marody seems to think the Wildcats could be pretty amazing this season.

The team, which went 28-6-0 last season (including 7-3 in the tough KLAA South), features 10 returning players including six major contributors.

There is an influx of new players who could make it a very deep rotation and Marody is

thrilled with the "team-first" attitude displayed in the pre-season.

"We are anticipating a great season and looking to make a run for the conference title," Marody said. "This is an incredible group of girls to work with."

"They get along with each other so well and its evident in the way they connect on the court."

Front-row prowess

Marody has the crunch factor on her side, too. Third-year seniors Madelyn Betts and Emilee Beyer, along with sec-

Please see WILDCATS, B4

Rocks could make noise

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Salem's varsity girls volleyball team is sporting something old, something new as it looks to rebound from a tough season.

Setter Nancy Krutty and defensive specialist Emily Lipa, both senior co-captains, are back and expected to be catalysts as the Rocks start the 2012 season Tuesday against Canton.

But head coach Amanda Nies is enthusiastic about senior outside hitter Abigail Dworzanin's return to the fold after missing all of last season due to a torn ACL.

"We are very pleased to have her back and in the lineup," said Nies, noting that Dworzanin is another co-captain. "Abby has really grown as a player with her experience with coaching the girls last year."

"She really has an eye for the game and can be a leader on that court for us. Her skills on the floor being an all-around player for us will really help our younger girls grow



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Standing her ground for Salem during a 2011 girls volleyball contest is Brianna Beaver.

as players."

Another player not on the 2011 team (which finished 3-8 in the KLAA) who could make an impact is freshman outside hitter Tess Ganich, described as a "wild card" by Nies.

"Tess is an all-around athlete and can play any position I put

Please see ROCKS, B4

Lady Ocelots nip GLIAC opponent

Samantha Jarrett scored the match-winning goal on a penalty kick in the 75th minute as the Schoolcraft College women's soccer team knocked off its second straight foe from the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference with a 2-1 victory Friday night over host Saginaw Valley State.

The Cardinals took a 1-0 lead in the 37th minute on an own goal.

Schoolcraft's Lauren Badalamente then tied it up in the 53rd minute off an assist from Jarrett.

Schoolcraft goalkeepers Tara Gessler and Danielle Schendel (Canton) combined for 32 saves with 19 and 12, respectively.

Nikki Bowers made two saves for the SVSU.

Schoolcraft opened its season Aug. 22 with a 2-1 win at Northwood University.



Rocking the tourney

The Salem varsity boys tennis team took first place at the Aug. 25th Dexter Quad tournament. Gold medal winners and those participating (from left) are: Ryan Chin (4 singles gold), David Bloxom (3 doubles gold), Shaheer Rabbaig (3 doubles gold), Amol Carvalho, Rohan Thanedar, coach Bill Nelson, Charlie Liu (4 doubles gold), Jake Scott (1 singles gold), Jon Clark, Jeffrey Selewski (4 doubles gold), Nick Ortiz and coach Lin Ware. Not pictured are Alek Zultowski and Jake Sealy.

Salem kickers win 3-1

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

The Cole brothers struck early and often Tuesday night to pace Salem to a 3-1 varsity boys soccer victory over visiting Walled Lake Northern.

After Spencer Viksne parlayed a feed from Kyle Boulrier for an early 1-0 Knights advantage, junior forward Brady Cole evened the score (from senior midfielder Tyler Fosdick).

Before the half, junior midfielder Connor Cole put the Rocks in front and he added his second

of the night in the second half to give Salem a comfortable lead.

Down the stretch, steady goalkeeping from junior Collin Hewett and solid protection from his back line (particularly senior Daniel Marsden) kept the Knights at bay.

"Once we got the second one I thought we were pretty good defensively," Salem head coach Ed McCarthy said. "And Collin did a good job on all of the balls that were whipped into the box. They had a number of balls where he had to come out and he was very effective coming out strong."

"This was really a hard-earned game, maybe our most physical game of the year. Walled Lake really made it very difficult on us tonight."

About Marsden's play, the coach said "he's got great pace and Walled Lake has some good speed on the flank that he was able to counteract."

With the victory, the Rocks improved to 3-0-2, also having nipped Northern 1-0 at the Gary Balconi Invitational.

The Knights dropped to 2-5-0 for the season.

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Chiefs' foiled in bid to extend streak to 29

Canton traveled to Novi Monday night, looking to beat the Wildcats for the sixth consecutive time over three years, and to extend its unbeaten streak to 29 matches over two years.

Unfortunately for the Chiefs, both of those streaks came to an end as Novi scored two early goals and held on for a 2-0 victory.

The Chiefs (3-1-2) had the early pressure, with junior Griffin Parks hitting a crossbar and senior co-captain Dan Ovesea hitting the post twice on shots inside the first 10 minutes.

However, following a Canton corner kick 11 minutes into the game, Novi quickly counter-attacked and junior Nick Oakley got behind the Chiefs defense and beat senior goalkeeper Ian Wingate.

About six minutes later, Canton was unable to clear the ball in front of Wingate, and Novi junior Don Nakashima jumped on the loose ball and found the net.

A little later, Canton senior co-captain Bobby Budlong looked like he had pulled the



CHRIS JACKETT

Canton's Connor Shennan (No. 2) collides with Novi goalkeeper Andy Netter to wipe out a Bobby Budlong free-kick goal during Monday night's game. At right is Jack Zemanski (No. 19) of the Chiefs. Instead of Canton cutting the lead to 2-1 on the play, officials called Shennan for a foul and awarded Novi a free kick.

Chiefs within a goal with a long-range shot that carried Novi senior goalkeeper Andy Netter across his line.

Although the referee initially signaled a goal, after talking with his linesman he changed his mind and called a foul on a Canton player, and the Chiefs went into

the half trailing 2-0.

Novi settled into a defensive shell in the second half, working hard to keep Canton off the scoreboard. An early opportunity came just a couple of minutes into the half, when Budlong drove a direct kick into the goalie's box that senior Connor Shennan headed onto the crossbar.

Canton turned up the pressure after the mid-point in the half, and nearly drew blood on several occasions.

Senior Robbie Morgan hit a shot from the top of the 18 yard box through traffic, but Netter saw it at the last moment and pushed it wide.

Ovesea and Parks each made a couple of long runs through the Novi defense but had their shots knocked down, and Budlong had a couple of shots blocked by Wildcat defenders in the last 10 minutes of the game.

Wingate and junior Brandon Pickert split the game in goal for Canton. Wingate made six saves while Pickert stopped all seven shots that came his way.

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Plymouth's varsity boys tennis team celebrates after winning Friday's Monroe Invitational.

Resilient 'Cats win Monroe Invite

One day after Plymouth took it on the chin in a boys tennis dual match, the Wildcats rallied to capture the Monroe Invitational.

Plymouth registered 21 points Friday to top the eight-team field. Placing second with 18 points was Salem.

The Wildcats went 2-2

in singles finals, with Jordan Lu and Charlie Hou falling short at No. 1 and No. 2, respectively — but bouncing back in the 3 and 4 flights.

At No. 3, Kevin Hou won 6-2, 6-2 in the final while at No. 4, Jon Conn was victorious 6-1, 6-2.

Where Plymouth really dominated was doubles play, taking first in three of the four flights.

At No. 1 doubles, Dylan Grant-Cameron Earls were outstanding in defeating Woodhaven 3-6, 7-6 (7-5 in the tiebreaker), 6-1.

Keeping things rolling at No. 2 was the tandem of Joe Klots-Danny Sinnott, with a 6-3, 7-5 win over Livonia Franklin.

At No. 3, Plymouth won again as Akash Yerakola-Praveen Loganathan defeated Riverview 6-2, 6-3.

Placing third at No. 4 was the tandem of Bryan Caragay-Tyler Smith.

"Our seniors showed their experience and leadership as they played terrific tennis and all earned first-place victories at 1, 2, and 3 doubles," Plymouth assistant coach Erik Batell said. "Every one of our tennis flights earned a medal at this invitational."

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Red-hot 'Cats keep winning

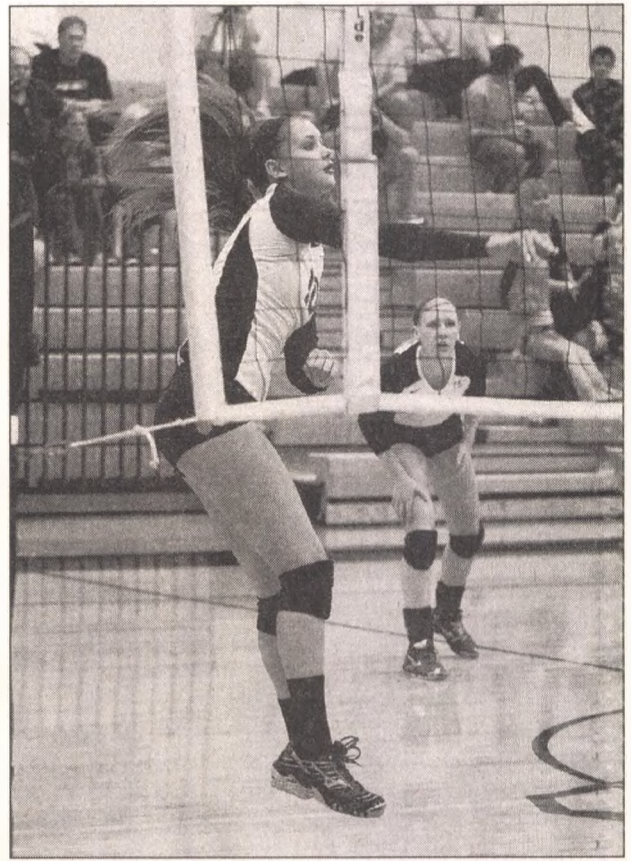
Another girls golf tournament, another record-breaking victory for Plymouth. And so it goes for the Wildcats, winners of a fourth consecutive tournament Monday at the Next Tee Invite at Knollwood in West Bloomfield with a school-record 305 tally. Leading the way was tourney medalist Sarah Thompson, with a 68. Right behind her were Kelsey Murphy (71), Sydney Murphy (82) and Kayla Whatley (84). Last Thursday, Plymouth took care of 23 opponents to win the Heather Highlands Invite in Holly with a score of 318. Kelsey Murphy was tops in that tourney with a 69,

GIRLS GOLF
followed by Thompson (77), Sydney Murphy (83) and Whatley (89). Wednesday, Aug. 22, the Wildcats won the Hudson Mills Invite, finishing with a team score of 328 (one stroke better than runner-up Lansing Catholic Central). Sydney Murphy registered a 74, tying for medalist honors. Kelsey Murphy and Thompson each finished with scores of 77, while Danielle Allen posted a 100. Plymouth (5-0 overall, 1-0 in the KLA) started the string of success on Aug. 20, winning the Birmingham Seaholm Invite at Forest Lake Country

Club with a score of 328. "This a great group and they work hard," said Dan Young, interim coach. "We've had two shoot in the 60's so far, but we have a consistent group from top to bottom. That's why we have gotten as low as we have on Thursday and (Monday)." **Rocks fall** Salem lost 187-213 to South Lyon Monday in a KLA crossover girls golf match at Cattails. Gabby Leblanc was the Rocks' top performer, registering a nine-hole score of 48. She was followed by Hope Warkoczki (50), Christine Li (52), Kiley Flynn (54), Amanda Bennett (59) and Katie Vena (66).

WILDCATS

Continued from page B1



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Keeping a rally going in this 2011 file photo is Plymouth's Taylor Rieckoff.

ond-year sophomore Olivia Beyer, will block and smash up front either at outside hitter or middle blocker. "I'm looking to Madelyn, Emilee and Olivia to lead in offensive numbers," Marody said. But Betts and Emilee Beyer also are versatile enough to be strong players on the defensive side of things and lead on and off the court. "I am looking forward to watching these two young ladies put up huge numbers for us as they, sadly, enter their final season at Plymouth," Marody said. As for the younger Beyer, the coach said "Olivia played a major role for us last year as a freshman and has dedicated herself to year-round volleyball and it is apparent as her overall game just continues to get more and more impressive."

Essential to any offense is having a setter who can put the ball on a tee. Expected to deliver the goods is junior setter and third-year varsity player Shayla Smalls. "Over the last three years, Shayla has grown and matured incredibly and will do an outstanding job running our offense," Marody said. "I have a tremendous amount of confidence in her to be able to run either a 6-2 or 5-1 (offense)." Also expected to be key players in the front row are senior middle hitter/right-side hitter Taylor Rieckoff, junior right-side hitter Emily Burkman and varsity newcomer Shelby Cheston (who can play anywhere up front). Rieckoff "can play any position I ask of her" while both lefty Burkman and Cheston (6-4) "have made tremendous

improvements to their game in the off-season and will be key offensive weapons, as well as, stepping up and leading our blocking game."

Shoes to fill

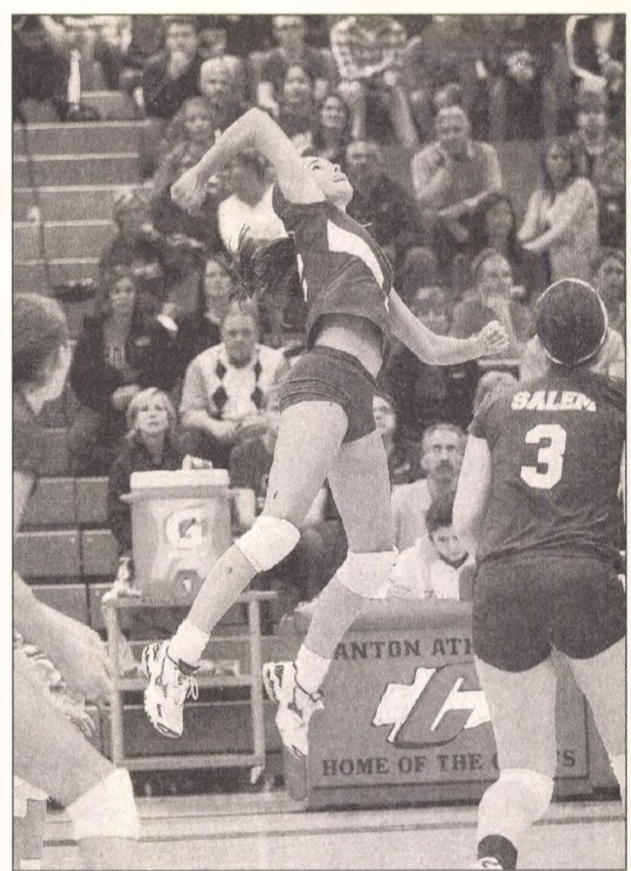
One area the Wildcats might need to tweak is defense, only because outstanding libero Lindsay Stemberger graduated. Marody emphasized that defensive specialists "know they have big shoes to fill and have taken it as a personal challenge."

Seniors Zoe Irvin, Kyra Neumann, Jess Bihn and junior Haylee Weber — all starting their second year with the varsity — are crucial to that task. One of them will take on libero duties. "I have not picked a libero yet, but Zoe, Haylee, Kyra and Jess are all in the running," Marody noted. "They will all play that position at points

during the season." Backing up Smalls at setter will be freshman Daniella Barile. "Daniella doesn't look like a freshman when she plays," Marody said. "Her poise and confidence on the court caught my eye during the summer and she has fit into our system seamlessly." Caterina Soli is an intriguing senior foreign exchange student who can fill in at middle blocker or right-side hitter. "They have the mindset and heart of 'team first' and will do whatever is asked of them to get the job done," Marody added. "I am very blessed to have the opportunity to work with this collection of talent, leadership and dedication."

The Wildcats open the KLA season on Sept. 5 against visiting Livonia Churchill.

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JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Hammering the ball in this 2011 file photo is Salem's Nancy Krutty.

ROCKS

Continued from page B1

her in," Nies said. "Right now she will be our middle hitter but she is a player that could end up playing all around, setting or outside attacking." "She has a powerful serve and will really help us a lot this year in the game."

Getting connected

The Rocks, of course, will rely a lot on Krutty and Lipa, among others. "Nancy ... will be the quarterback of the team as our setter," Nies noted. "She has been working hard these past couple weeks and we are really working on making a better connection with our hitters." "She is the first one in the gym and the last one to leave."

Lipa will be running the defense, along with senior defensive specialist Juliana DiMichele.

"They both played a lot last year defensively for us," the coach stressed. "I expect them both to really be our leaders in the back row."

Senior outside hitter Erika Hatcher, right-side hitter Brianna Beaver and junior middle hitter Kelly Whalen add punch to the offense and have worked hard to improve. "(Hatcher) has a lot of drive and really wants to be her best," Nies said. "She has an explosive jump and an arm swing that could really help us in many games."

Nies said Beaver, a senior moving over from middle hitter, "is our most improved player from last year. She is

really coming a long way and can really do some damage when attacking if she gets connected."

Beaver playing on the right side "really opens us up offensively to be powerful if we keep our consistency on the floor with our passing and setting."

Hatcher also could become one of the team's top servers with her power arm.

The Rocks have Whalen continuing to work and improve at middle hitter — the position she moved up to play near the end of last season.

"Kelly is still working in that middle on faster plays and sets," Nies said. "She loves to prac-

tice and get better. She is also one of our top blockers on the floor."

Rounding out the roster are senior defensive specialist Lexi Epley, junior outside hitters Nikki Manser and Taylor Jaaska, junior defensive specialists Nicole Jablonski (also available to play setter) and Jaclyn Schaumburger and sophomore defensive specialist Alexa Davis.

"Overall I am very excited to see us in action," Nies said. ".... My girls have been working hard in the weight room and in the gym to improve every skill."

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Livonian wins O&E women's title

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Ellen Howell was probably more surprised than anybody that she had won the Observer & Eccentric Open on Sunday at Livonia's Whispering Willows Golf Course.

"I had no clue I was going to hit this well and I had no clue I was going to win, I'm thrilled," said Howell, who shot a 79, including an impressive 36 on the back nine to win the championship flight.

Howell, a retiree who worked in business analysis for an I.T. company, had somewhat of a home course advantage. She works as a golf ranger at Whispering Willows.

The Livonian, who collected an \$80 gift certificate and first-place plaque, was three shots better than runner-up Lauri Ponikiewski of Livonia, who shot an 82 and took home a \$60 gift card en route to runner-up honors. Ironically, the round did not start out well for Howell, who took a bogey on the par-5 first hole followed by a double-bogey on the par-4 second.

"The girls that I was playing with were out-hitting me by 15 or 20 yards," Howell said. "It (the drive) has to be straight and it has to be somewhere where I can put it down by the green, and then chip and putt. On the first couple of holes I wasn't

O&E GOLF
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC WOMEN'S GOLF TOURNAMENT
Aug. 26 at Whispering Willows Golf Course
CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT:
1. Ellen Howell (Livonia), 79; 2. Lauri Ponikiewski (Livonia), 82; 3. Lori Rogers (Washington Township), 84; 5. Cindy Hill (Fpsilanti), 85; 6. Jackie McFarlane (Livonia), 87; 7. Kathy Steltema (Wayne), 90; 8. Sue Dorr (Livonia), 93. **Low net:** Rogers, 72. **FIRST FLIGHT:** 1. Tina Callewaert (Chesterfield Township), 87; 2. Michelle Sroka (Livonia), 90; 3. Debbie Hoenscheid (Livonia), 100; 4. Arlene Shields (Livonia), 101; 5. (tie) Annette Wisehart (Redford) and Ann Mikek (Royal Oak), 102 each; 6. Pat Shelton (Farmington), 103. **Low net (tie):** Mikek and Shelton, 75 each. **Long putt:** Mikek; **low putts (tie):** Sroka and Callewaert.

chipping or putting. On the whole front nine I wasn't chipping or putting. That's my game. It's not length, it's all on the short game."

Howell's back-nine was highlighted by a birdie on the par-3, No. 15 where she knocked home a 35-foot putt. Howell is a regular in a Thursday morning women's league at Whispering Willows and plays occasionally in Michigan Women's Golf Association and Golf Association of Michigan events.

"I was one of those for-

tunate people that had a father and a grandfather that were golf nuts," said Howell, a Detroit native. "I probably started at 10 or 11. I gave it up after I got out of college and started working. I gave it up 15 years then my brother got into the golf business and that's when I took it up again."

Howell was nearly flabbergasted afterwards when she found out she had taken the title.

"Never, never, ever won on gross (score) in a tournament," she said. "Leagues, yes. Tournaments, no. Never as an individual."

Lori Rogers, of Washington Township, carded an 84 to place third. She also took low net honors with a 72.

"This is it for the year," Howell said of her 2012 golf schedule. "I'm going to rest on my glory. I'm so excited I could barely ... Lori (Rogers), I played with her many, many times and she's very good. I know she hits them really well and when she gets hot she's really good."

First flight

Tina Callewaert of Chesterfield Township shot an 87 to capture the first flight crown three shots better than Livonia's Michelle Sroka, who finished with a 90.

Callewaert won a \$70 gift certificate and took home the first place plaque.

Ann Mikek (Royal Oak) and Pat Sheldon (Farming-

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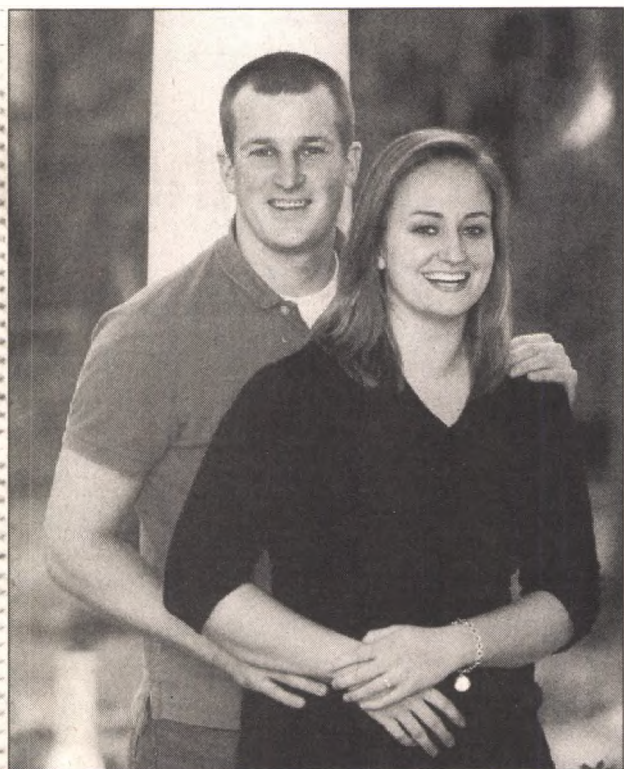
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Kristen Gee and Aaron Kettlehake will wed Saturday at Hope Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills. Kristen's dad is the church pastor and her mom is music director. They've opened the ceremony to all.

All in the family: Wedding is a 'church family' event

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

The worship service at 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 1, at Hope Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills is open to all.

But it will be anything but typical.

The Rev. Brad Gee, pastor, will walk his daughter, Kristen, to the altar where her godfather, who also is a minister, will greet the pair. Then, the pastor will don his clerical robe and officiate at his daughter's wedding to Aaron Kettlehake.

"We wanted to invite everybody, but we can't," said Becky Gee, Kristen's mom, referring to the wedding reception. "We thought, if people would like to come to the

attend the service. Kristen's brother, a music major at Central Michigan University, will play marimba music before the ceremony and accompany a cousin in song. Kristen's uncle will play the trumpet and a PowerPoint presentation will show images about God's beautiful handiwork.

"It's good for people to attend wedding ceremonies because it helps people who are currently married remember the vows they took," Becky said. "I think it's a good affirmation."

The married couple will live in Ohio where Kristen will teach special education and Aaron, the son of David and Lisa Kettlehake of Lebanon, Ohio, will work at an accounting firm.

ceremony, they could. That is the important part of the day."

She said the "church family" at Hope has been an important part of the Gee family's faith development for the past 17 years.

"They've known Kristen since first grade. We want them to be a part of the day."

She hopes congregation members, former members, church neighbors and others feel free to

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

September

BETHANY

Time/Date: 8 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Sept. 29

Location: Don Hubert VFW Hall, 27345 Schoolcraft, east of Inkster Road, Redford

Details: Admission to this Bethany Together Dance is \$13

Contact: Loretta at (586) 264-0282

BIBLE STUDY

Time/Date: 9:25-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, Sept. 11-Nov. 13

Location: Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, Northville

Details: W.O.W. Ladies Bible Study focuses on the Book of Proverbs in these interdenominational sessions. Fee is \$15. Free children's program for children, 5 and under

Contact: (248) 348-7600

BROTHERHOOD BREAK-FAST

Time/Date: 9 a.m. breakfast; 9:30 a.m. program, Sunday, Sept. 9

Location: Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills

Details: Bill Ballenger, editor of "Inside Michigan Politics," will kick off a Sunday morning breakfast speaker series. Ballenger is a former state

representative and senator, an ex-state racing commissioner and former director of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulation. The breakfast costs \$3; coffee and bagels are \$2. No charge for the program. Both are open to the public

Contact: Barbara Grant at (248) 851-1100, Ext. 3149

DIVORCED CATHOLICS

Time/Date: 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 13

Location: Our Lady of Good Counsel Church Social Hall, 47650 North Territorial, Plymouth

Details: New Beginnings, a support group for divorced Catholics, meets. The Rev. John Riccardo, pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel, will talk, followed by a Q&A session that gives attendees the opportunity to discuss issues related to divorce and faith in a safe, confidential, and prayerful environment. Pre-registration recommended. No admission charge for the event

Contact: newbeginning-solgc@gmail.com

FAMILY FEST

Time/Date: Noon-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8

Location: Crosspointe Community Church, 36125 Glenwood, Wayne

Details: Games, bounce houses, hay rides, children's crafts, food, pony rides, music, and car show; free

Contact: [www.crosspointe-](http://www.crosspointe-communitychurch.org)

COMMUNITYCHURCH.ORG FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Time/Date: Begins 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 6 and runs 9 weeks; preview class is 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market, near 12 Mile and Farmington Road, Farmington Hills

Details: Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University anyone struggling financially or looking for ways to improve their savings

Contact: (248) 553-3380 or www.daveramsey.com for registration

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Sept. 25, Oct. 2, 9, 16 and 23

Location: St. Raphael the Archangel, 31530 Beechwood, Garden City

Details: The "Grieving with Great Hope" workshop offers a prayerful, practical and personal approach for individuals who are mourning the loss of a loved one. Speakers will include the Rev. Ray Lewandowski, as well as John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization. Registration forms are online at www.goodmourningministry.net or call the St. Raphael parish office

Contact: St. Raphael at (734) 427-1533

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Time/Date:

Rosh Hashanah services, 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 16 and 10 a.m. Monday, Sept. 17; Yom Kippur services include Kol Nidre service, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25 and Neilah service and breakfast, 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 26

Location: Congregation Bet Chaverim, 321 Ridge Road, at Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, Canton

Details: No tickets are required. Donations accepted

Contact: (734) 480-8880; BetChaverim@yahoo.com; BetChaverim.com

LECTURE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 6

Location: Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills

Details: Marni Davis will be the guest speaker at the 2012 Mary Einstein Shapero Memorial Lecture sponsored by the Rabbi Leo M. Franklin Archives of Temple Beth El. She will talk about her book, "Jews and Booze: Becoming American in the Age of Prohibition" which portrays American Jews' relationship to alcohol during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the years of the national Prohibition movement. No admission charge. Davis' book will be available for purchase

Contact: For reservations or more information call (248) 865-0628 or at e-mail to franklinarchives@tbeonline.org

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GARVER, LOUIS WM., "LOU"

Age 87, of Redford; passed away peacefully on August 27, 2012. Mr. Garver was a graduate of

Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy, earned his Bachelor of Science degree from his beloved MSU "GO GREEN!" He proudly served in the Navy during the Korean War as an Intelligence Officer. Mr. Garver retired as a stock broker after 30 years, where he enjoyed his family, especially his beloved grandchildren. Beloved husband of 62 years to Joan; dear father of Diane (Fred) Herman, Mary Ann (Doug) Reschke, Richard (Sue) Garver, Carolyn (Garth) Cappy, Cathy (Tom) Mertz, Gerald (Julie) Garver; proud grandfather of nine; caring brother of Dan Garver and the late Blodwen Rogers. The Memorial Service will be Friday, August 31, 2012, at 11 a.m. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile Road, Livonia, MI. The family will greet friends at the church on Friday from 10 a.m. until the time of the memorial service. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations suggested to Veterans Administration Hospital Volunteer Program- Ann Arbor: www.volunteer.va.gov

Please visit www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com and share a tribute of Lou.

LIVELY, WILLIAM E.

Age 88 of Tecumseh passed away Saturday, August 25, 2012. A full obituary may be viewed at www.HandlerFuneralHomes.com

WASHBURN, SUSAN KAY

Age 68, of Royal Oak, passed away August 21 at Beaumont Hospital. A teacher in Ferndale and then in Whitmore Lake for over 30 years, Susan touched the lives of hundreds of children. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Amy Irene Washburn and William James Simon, of West Allis, WI. A memorial service will be held on September 1 at 10:30 AM at the First Congregational Church of Royal Oak (fcro.org). In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations in Susan's name to the Lupus Foundation of America (www.lupus.org) or the American Diabetes Association (www.diabetes.org).

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

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Chamber Music Society opens season with Beethoven

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

The Juilliard String Quartet will kick off the Chamber Music Society of Detroit's 2012-13 season, launch its new "inDepth" program series and star in a documentary Friday-Saturday, Sept. 7-8.

"The Juilliard String Quartet happened to be available an extra day. That was the beginning of the snowball down the hill, asking visiting artists to do something a little different on the night before their concert in our regular series," said Steve Wogaman, Chamber Music Society president.

The Juilliard String Quartet will be the first of six musical acts this season to play both the Society's regular concert season at the Seligman Performing Arts Center in Beverly Hills and its new Detroit-focused "inDepth" series.

Willa Walker, administrative and marketing director for the Chamber Music Society, which is based in Farmington Hills, says the new inDepth concerts will be held in smaller venues, with an intimate, informal ambiance.

"It's a really interesting series. We're starting out on (Sept.) the 7th in the Music Box at the Max Fisher Music Center. This is a beautiful little theater. We're doing it with cabaret seating. We hope to attract young professionals and the loft crowd."

Wogaman hopes the inDepth program will become a "free-standing" series next year. Not all shows will be piggybacked onto the Seligman concerts.

"By the 2013-14 season you can expect to see things downtown that won't appear at the Seligman," he said.

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF DETROIT

• **Signature Chamber Series:** Concerts start at 8 p.m. at the Seligman Performing Arts Center, located on the campus of Detroit Country Day School, located at 13 Mile and Lahser in Beverly Hills. Performers are the Juilliard String Quartet, Sept. 8; Roberto Diaz, Oct. 6; Richard Stoltzman on clarinet with David Deveau on piano and the Linden String Quartet, Nov. 17; Christoph Pregardien, tenor, and pianist Menahem Pressler, Dec. 15; Anthony Marwood, violin, and Aleksandar Madzar, piano, Jan. 13, 2013; American String Quartet, Feb. 9, 2013; Piffaro: Renaissance Band, March 23, 2013; Gryphon Trio, April 6, 2013; Lynn Harrell, cellist, May 18, 2013

• **inDepth Series:** Features concerts in Detroit. Performers are: Juilliard String Quartet, Sept. 7, in the Music Box at the Max Fisher Music Center; Richard Stoltzman and the Linden String Quartet in open rehearsal, Nov. 16 at the Detroit School for the Arts; Manahem Pressler in a master piano class, Dec. 14; American String Quartet, Feb. 8, 2013, Music Box; Piffaro: The Renaissance Band, March 22, 2013 at the Detroit Institute of Arts; Gryphon Trio & Patricia O'Callaghan, April 5, 2013 at the Jazz Cafe at Music Hall • **PNC Piano Series:** Christina & Michelle Naughton, Sept. 15; Marc-Andre Hamelin, Jan. 19, 2013; Daniil Trifonov, April 13, 2013. All concerts are held at the Seligman Performing Arts Center in Beverly Hills

• Visit the Chamber Music Society of Detroit offices at 31731 Northwestern Highway, at Middlebelt, Suite 259 West, in Farmington Hills; (248) 855-6070



Christina and Michelle Naughton kick off the Chamber Music Society of Detroit's PNC Piano Series Sept. 15 at the Seligman Performing Arts Center in Beverly Hills.

The multi-media concert at the Music Box will feature a performance of Elliott Carter's String Quartet No. 5 with onscreen images that will guide listeners through the piece and a Q&A with the musicians.

The Juilliard String Quartet also will play Beethoven's Grosse Fuge. An excerpt from a new documentary film called *The Juilliard String Quartet: Keeping Beethoven Contemporary*, will follow



The Juilliard String Quartet will open the Chamber Music Society of Detroit's 69th season Sept. 8 at the Seligman Performing Arts Center in Beverly Hills.

the performance.

The full documentary by Michael Blackwood, will make its debut the following night as a part of the Chamber Music Society's Signature Series at the Seligman. It will supplant the usual pre-concert discussion and includes rehearsal and performance excerpts, dialogue between the four musicians, a conversation between the quartet members and the filmmakers about the string quartet as a genre of music, its history, and the significant contributions of Beethoven. It also shows the group in performance at a special event to welcome new Juilliard students in August 2011. It will start at 6:30 p.m. and the Juilliard String Quartet will perform at 8 p.m. The group will play two Beethoven pieces — the String Quartet in C-sharp minor, Op. 131 and String Quartet in A minor, Op. 132.

• **Destination show**

The Juilliard String Quartet is a returning favorite to the Chamber Music Society's concert series. It performs every two to three years for the organization.

"The performers we engage are destination performers. If you're a string student studying in Ann Arbor, and the Juilliard is playing within 100 miles, you're going to go hear them," Wogaman said.

The Chamber Music Society's concert series draws primarily from Farmington, Farmington Hills, the Birmingham-Bloomfield areas and Southfield, but some audience members travel from as far as Grand Rapids and Toledo, Ohio.

"One thing the Chamber Music Society of Detroit can pride itself on is that we're not merely taking what managers give to us, but we're working with artists to come up with unique combinations."

Tickets for the inDepth concert on Sept. 7 are \$20, and \$10 for students. The Max Fisher Music Center is located at 3711 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. Refreshments will be available at the concert.

Tickets for the Signature Series concert and documentary film on Sept. 8 range from \$30-\$60. Students pay half price in most seating areas. The Seligman Center is located at Detroit Country Day School, 22305 W. 13 Mile in Detroit.

Buy tickets for both concerts by phone at (248) 855-6070 or online at www.chambermusicdetroit.org.

Local chorus seeks new members

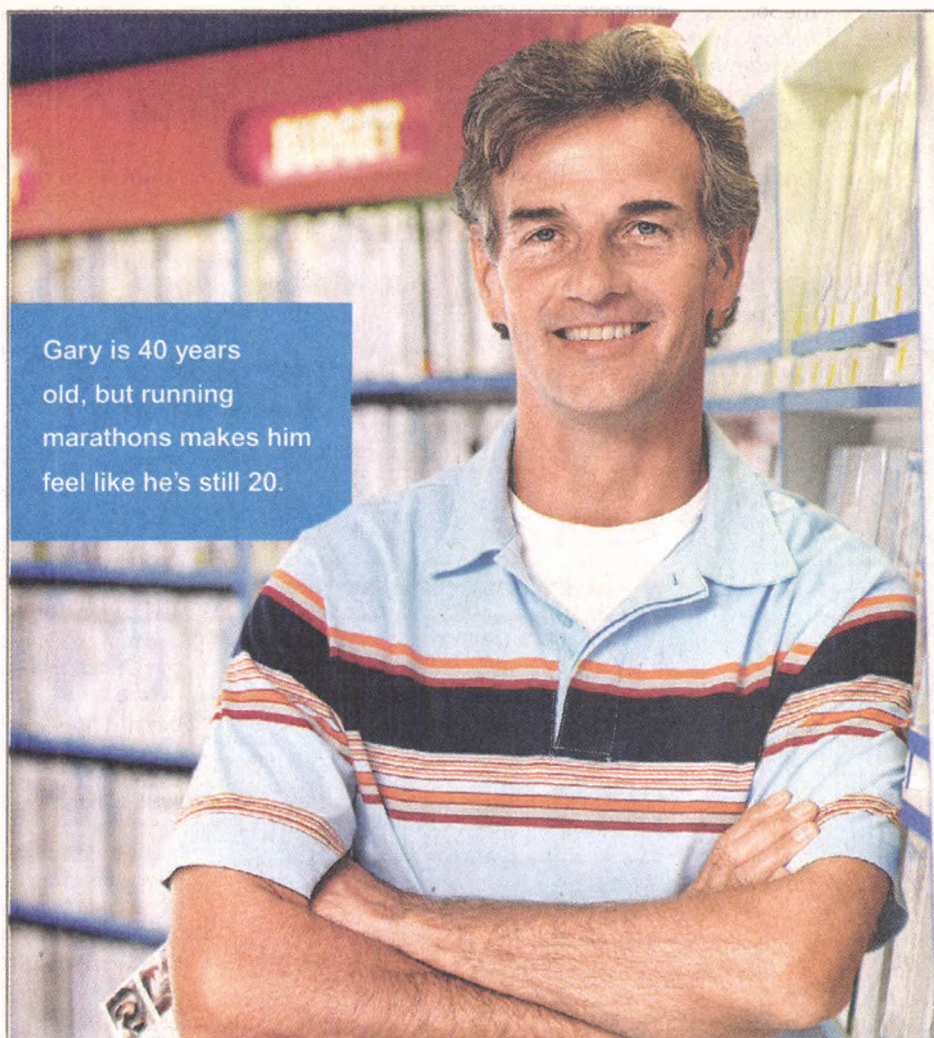
The Farmington Community Chorus (FCC) will hold open auditions for new members on three consecutive Tuesday evenings, Sept. 4, 11, and 18, at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, just east of Middlebelt, in Farmington Hills. Each audition session will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Singers, 18 and over, for all voice parts may audition. The Chorus also offers an accredited session for Oakland Community College (OCC) students in partnership with OCC's Music Department.

The Farmington Community Chorus, directed by Steve SeGraves and accom-

panied by assistant director Susan Garr, is celebrating its 33rd year. The mixed chorus is composed of more than 70 singers from throughout the metro Detroit area. The group rehearses from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, at the Costick Center. Beginning in September, the Chorus will rehearse a repertoire of popular music for its holiday concert in December.

For more information about the Farmington Community Chorus and the auditions, call Shelly Addison at (248) 250-1447 or visit the website at www.farmingtonchorus.com.



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HOT STUFF

17TH ANNUAL GREAT LAKES REGIONAL CHILI COOK-OFF

The cook-off runs 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 14, in downtown Plymouth. The event includes a restaurant chili challenge, motorcycle show and ride, dance performances, kids activities, and music by Steve King and the Dittillies, in addition to the cook-off. Cook-off categories are:

- Red Chili — Cost to enter is \$40. First place award is \$1,000 and the opportunity to compete in the International Chili Society's (ICS) World Championship in 2013.

- Chili Verde (Green) — Entry fee is \$25. The top prize is \$300 and advancement to the world championship in 2013.

- Salsa — Entrants must participate in one of the chili competitions. Entry fee is \$20. First place wins \$200 and a chance to advance to the world championship next year.

Non-members of the ICS must pay a \$50 membership fee in addition to entry fees.

- Peoples Choice — The fee is \$40 if not entered into one of the ICS competition categories; free for those who are. First place wins \$100.

Judges also will award honors to the "best booth."

Enter the contest at www.greatlakeschili.com



Larry Walton's winning chili

Fine tune your recipe and enter Plymouth chili contest

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Beans or no beans?
If you plan to enter the 17th Annual Great Lakes Regional Chili Cook-off Oct. 14 in Plymouth, you need to decide.

Legumes are the fine line between the event's International Chili Society-sanctioned red and green chili competitions and its People's Choice category.

"Those folks who just want to make chili and not abide by the (ICS) rules can come and be a part of the People's Choice chili. There are no rules other than health rules. You can put anything in it," said Annette Horn, who coordinates the event with her husband, Ken.

ICS sets stringent rules for competitors making red chili and green chili. No beans and no pasta are allowed in the mix. The combination of meat, red or green chili peppers, spices and other ingredients must cook at least three hours and no more than four hours.

"Chili cooks who are serious tend to use a cut of meat that can hold up to three hours of cooking and not become too mushy," Horn said, adding that California Tri-Tip is a favorite beef cut among chili cooks. "I've seen it at local grocery stores. It holds up well to cooking and it has really nice marbling and nice flavor."

Although all ingredients must be purchased from a commercial source — no homemade canned goods or wild game from last year's hunting trip — cooks aren't limited to beef.

"I've seen cooks using bison and more unique meats. One time a cook put rattlesnake in. Make something you love," Horn said. "I've found that throughout 30-some years being involved in chili, everyone has a favorite pot of chili and everyone makes the best pot of chili."

First-place winners of the red and green chili competitions will receive cash prizes and will advance to the ICS

World Championship Cook-off in fall 2013. The top People's Choice winner gets bragging rights and \$100.

Horn said approximately 50 cooks made red chili last year and 30 cooked green chili. Some also entered the salsa-making contest. She suggests that competition neophytes visit the event this year and enter it next fall.

"It can be overwhelming for the brand new chili cook. Other than mixing some spices up the night before, everything has to be done onsite from start to finish."

Cooks must bring their own utensils, pot and cooking stove. The event supplies a table, sample cups and sample spoons.

Horn also encourages participants to decorate their booths in a theme that reflects the name they've given their original chili recipe.

Ready to fine-tune your chili cooking chops?

Try these tips from Larry Walton, an international chili champ:

— **Chili Powder** — Using the right chili powder makes all the difference in the world. Mexene Chili Powder and Seasoning Mix is a good choice because it's well rounded and balanced.

— **Meat** — Choose premium quality ground beef with an 80/20 percent beef to fat ratio. Or for an interesting twist, choose fresh boneless, skinless chicken thighs.

— **Browning** — A key essential is to brown your meat. It not only adds richness to your dish but also helps with the dark color of the chili.

— **Spices** — The spices are a main ingredient to bring out all the flavors. It's best to use spice powders, since they're more pungent.

— **Secret Ingredient** — Last but not least, add your secret "booster" such as chili powder, paprika, cocoa or a few dashes of Louisiana Hot Sauce at the end of cooking to wow your tasters.

Give Walton's award-winning chili recipe — or any of these other recipes — a taste test and get inspired to create your own contest-worthy chili. Find more tips and recipes at www.chilicookoffwinner.com.

Larry Walton's 2011 Terlingua International Chili Champion Recipe

Courtesy of the Chili Appreciation Society International, Inc. (CASI).

Yield: 2 pounds, or 8 servings

1st Mixture:
1 tablespoon onion granules
1 tablespoon garlic granules
1 tablespoon beef granules
1 tablespoon chicken granules
2 tablespoons Mexene chili powder
¼ teaspoon salt
2 dashes Louisiana hot sauce

2nd Mixture:
1 teaspoon garlic granules
1 tablespoon cumin
1 package Sazon Goya
2 tablespoons Mexene chili powder
¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper
2 dashes Louisiana hot sauce

Additional Ingredients:
2 pounds ground beef
1 14.5-ounce can beef broth
½ 14.5-ounce can chicken broth
1 ½ 8-ounce cans tomato sauce
¼ teaspoon brown sugar, if needed
Salt to taste

Mix 1st and 2nd mixtures in separate bowls. Set aside.

Brown ground beef then drain off grease. Add beef broth, chicken broth and tomato sauce. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat to a slow simmer for 40 minutes.

Add 1st mixture and simmer for 40 minutes.

Add 2nd mixture and cook on low heat for 25 minutes. If too spicy, add brown sugar and salt to taste.

Black and White Chicken Chili

Yield: 10 servings

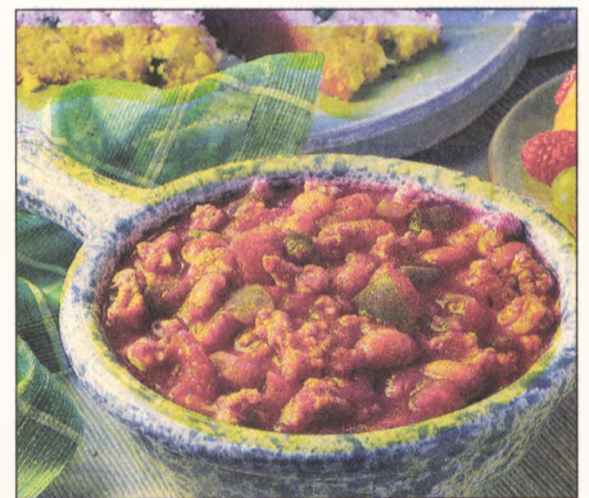
6 boneless skinless chicken thighs
1 large onion, chopped
2 jalapeño peppers, fresh; seeded and finely chopped
1 tablespoon garlic, chopped
1 14.5-ounce can chicken broth
2 15-ounce cans great Northern beans, not drained
2 15-ounce cans black beans, drained
1 tablespoon Mexene chili powder
1 ½ teaspoons ground cumin
½ teaspoon salt

Cut chicken into ½-inch cubes. Spray large, deep pot or saucepan with nonstick cooking spray. Heat over medium-high.

Add chicken; cook 2 minutes, stirring frequently.

Add onion, peppers and garlic. Cook 5 minutes longer, stirring occasionally. Add remaining ingredients. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, 20 to 30 minutes or until chicken is done (internal temperature of 170°F).

Serving Suggestion: Top individual servings of chili with sour cream. Serve with mixed green salad and hot tortillas or tortilla chips. Refrigerate leftovers or freeze in a tightly sealed nonmetallic container or freezer bag.



Easy Chicken Chili

Yield: 4 servings

6 boneless skinless chicken thighs (cooked and cut into bite-sized pieces)

2 16-ounce cans kidney beans, not drained
2 14.5-ounce cans diced tomatoes, not drained
1 1.6-ounce package Mexene Chili Seasoning Mix
1 tablespoon garlic pepper sauce, to taste

Combine all ingredients in a large saucepan. Stir until well blended. Bring to a boil; reduce heat and simmer 20 minutes.

Serve with shredded cheese and tortilla chips or crackers.

Hot Dog Sauce

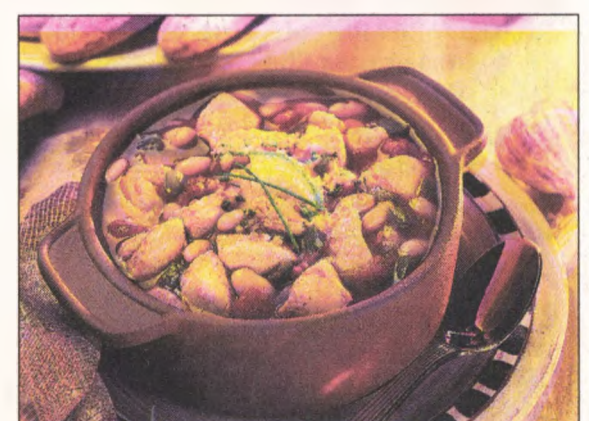
Yield: 6 servings

1 pound ground beef
1 medium onion, diced
3 tablespoons Mexene chili powder
1 teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon oregano
¼ teaspoon cumin
¼ teaspoon red pepper flakes
2 cups water

Brown meat (breaking up pieces) and onions; drain. At this point you can run it through a chopper if a finer dice is desired.

Add all other spices; mix well. Add water and simmer for one hour.

Can be made ahead of time and frozen in a nonmetallic container or freezer bag.



Black and White Chicken Chili

