



POWER PLAY
BAND ROCKS AT LOCAL VENUES
ENTERTAINMENT, B6



POTATOES — MORE THAN FRENCH FRIES
FOOD, B8



SPRING SPORTS PREVIEWS
SECTION B

Food for fire

Plymouth officials are lauding staffers at one local restaurant for opening their grills to displaced residents and firefighters at last week's fire at Lake Pointe Village Apartments in Plymouth Township.

The Salvation Army called several eateries in town and were turned down until dialing the number at E.G. Nick's. When the call came, owner Tony Belli sent over hot pasta and salad.

The move impressed Tony Bruscato, operations director for the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority.

"It's another example of how downtown steps up when called upon to help," Bruscato said.

Best weddings

The Meeting House Grand Ballroom in Plymouth has been honored by being named a recipient of the 2013 Knot Best of Weddings award.

The award is bestowed each year by *The Knot* wedding magazine, which selects honorees by asking recent brides to rate and review their wedding vendors.

It's the second consecutive year the Meeting House has been voted the winner for the Knot Best of Weddings.



Griffin Simpson waited patiently for the start of last year's Easter Egg hunt at Plymouth Township Park.

Egg hunt

The Plymouth Lions Club again hosts its Easter Egg Hunt, starting at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 30, in Plymouth Township Park.

Organizers say parents should bring the kids, their baskets and cameras. The hunt will be divided into age groups 0-3, 4-6, 7-8 and 9-10. There will be a collection box available for hearing aids, eyeglasses and cell phones. Donations are welcome.

PLYMOUTH
OBSERVER
A GANNETT COMPANY

PRICE: \$1 • THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2013 • hometownlife.com

Chief: Apartment blaze started in a kitchen

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

The fire March 21 that destroyed a building at the Lake Pointe Village Apartments started in an apartment kitchen, but fire officials haven't been able to determine an exact cause.

Chief Mark Wendel of the Plymouth Community Fire Department said the fire investigation was completed Friday and the building turned over to management at the complex.

"We do not think it's a suspi-

cious fire," Wendel said Monday. "We think it's an accidental fire at this point."

The kitchen in question was in a second-floor apartment, the chief said, but investigators couldn't pinpoint an exact location, such as a stove or other appliance, or an exact cause, because of the heavy damage.

No injuries were reported in the fire in the 16-unit building, which brought out the PCFD and firefighters from Livonia, Northville Township and the city of Northville's Plymouth

station. Wendel said there were a total of about 40 firefighters at the scene.

Many insured

Displaced residents have been staying with relatives or at local motels. Wendel said his understanding is that 14 of the 16 families or individuals who had been living in the building had renters insurance.

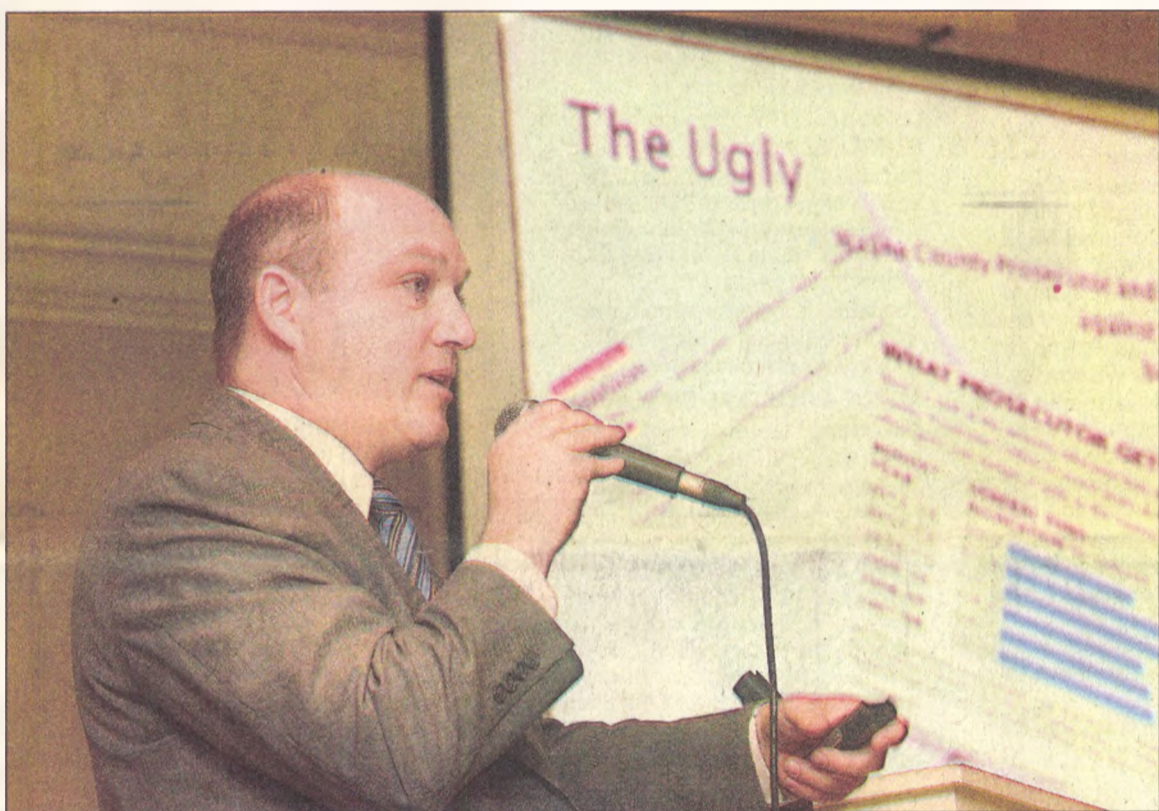
Local agencies, such as the Plymouth Corps of the Salvation

Please see FIRE, A3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth Community Fire Department Chief Mark Wendel said this fire that ravaged the Lake Pointe Village Apartments on Wilcox started in a kitchen, but no cause is yet known.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne County Commissioner Shannon Price talks about how things are going at the county during Wednesday's State of the Community luncheon sponsored by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce.

Plymouth-area leaders talk up future plans

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Investing in the future — through schools, infrastructure and business development — was a common theme Wednesday as Plymouth-area leaders spoke about recent accomplishments and projects starting to take shape.

The annual State of the Community remarks, hosted at Plymouth Manor by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, took place during a luncheon for just over 110 people.

Speakers from Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Wayne County government, plus the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, emphasized near-term plans that they said bode well for the area's economy and its residents.

County Commissioner Shan-



Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer talked about successes in the city during Wednesday's State of the Community luncheon.

non Price, R-Canton Township, kicked off the talks, saying that an "innovative and cool" company is close to agreeing to locate in Plymouth Township, bringing up to 100 jobs. Township Supervisor Richard Reaume and the county's economic development office have been working to land the company, Price said,

and an announcement is expected perhaps as early as next week.

"It's very innovative and cool — that's all I'm allowed to tell you," Price said.

Shipping commerce

Price, who also mentioned the county's financial woes — including a budget deficit — said economic development is a "fun" part of his job. Price said he sees great potential in the Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority in developing commerce along the county's Detroit River access, and credited James Amar, his Democratic opponent in the commission race last fall, for bringing his attention to it.

Price also mentioned plans for a new \$400 million rail tunnel between Detroit and Wind-

Please see LEADERS, A3

District leaders push bond

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Mere days before Canton voters start receiving their absentee ballots by mail, Plymouth-Canton school officials are ramping up their efforts to win support for a \$114 million bond proposal for a new middle school, improvements to existing buildings, increased spending for classroom technology and replacement of aging buses.

Departing Superintendent Jeremy Hughes, who leaves his job June 30, and new school board Trustee Kim Crouch pitched the plan Tuesday evening during a Canton Township Board of Trustees session that will air on local cable television.

Hughes gave a 30-minute overview of how the 17,685-student school district would spend the money, while Crouch made a much shorter, direct appeal for community support for the May 7 ballot measure.

District officials are scheduled to make a similar presentation April 9 to the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees, Crouch said.

Hughes said the bond proposal would cost the owner of a \$200,000 home about \$410 a year, but he said taxpayers wouldn't feel the pinch because it simply replaces what would have been a decrease in Plymouth-Canton's debt levy.

"This will not increase the tax

Please see BOND, A2

"We see this as putting in their hands an electronic textbook."



DR. JEREMY HUGHES
Plymouth-Canton Superintendent

INDEX

Business.....	A8
Crossword Puzzle.....	B11
Entertainment.....	B6
Food.....	B8
Homes.....	B10
Jobs.....	B10
Obituaries.....	B5
Opinion.....	A10
Services.....	B10
Sports.....	B1
Wheels.....	B12

© The Observer & Eccentric
Volume 126 • Number 66

Home Delivery:
(866) 887-2737



Return Address:
41304 Concept Dr.
Plymouth MI 48170



Home Equity Loans Made Easier
Rates as low as **2.50% APR***

COMMUNITY FINANCIAL
right here right for you
www.cfcu.org
(877) 937-2328

*Variable rate of 2.50% Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is based on a \$25,000+ line of credit and 80% Loan to Value (LTV). Rate assumes excellent credit and includes a .25% rate discount when payments are automatically deducted from a Community Financial checking account. Rates are based on the published Prime Rate and subject to change without notice. Additional rates available based on loan amount, LTV and individual credit history. Maximum rate 18.00% APR, minimum rate 2.00% APR. An early termination fee of \$300 will be charged on lines closed within the first 24 months. Federally insured by NCUA. Equal Housing Lender. ©2013 Community Financial

School board OKs pact with new chief

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

The new superintendent for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is signed, sealed and all but delivered.

The district's Board of Education Tuesday unanimously approved a resolution agreeing to a three-year deal for Michael Meissen, currently the supervisor of school improvement and student achievement for Milwaukee Public Schools in Milwaukee, Wis. (The vote was actually 6-0, with Trustee Mark Horvath absent).

Meissen, chosen over the district's executive director for finance, Brodie Killian, and the

board agreed to a contract that pays Meissen \$212,000 a year, plus benefits. The agreement starts July 1 and runs through June 30, 2016.

"I've spoken to Dr. Meissen, and he is very excited to get started," board President John Barrett said Tuesday.

Meissen will replace Jeremy Hughes, whose contract expires at the end of June. Hughes has served since taking the job on an interim basis in 2011.

While he doesn't officially start until July 1, Barrett said Meissen has agreed to come to the district for at least a couple of days per month until then to learn the district, meet staff and



Dr. Michael Meissen and the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education have reached agreement on Meissen's three-year contract to become superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

begin the transition process. Meissen was chosen over Killian largely because of the broader experience he's had

in public education. Prior to his current position, Meissen spent six years as the superintendent of the Glenbard Township High School District #87 in Glen Ellyn, Ill. That district has some 9,000 students and serves nine different municipalities.

He's also been a principal at the high school, middle school and grade school levels, as well as having experience as an athletic director.

Meissen and Killian were the only candidates brought back for a second interview. A third candidate, Adrian Public Schools Superintendent Christopher Timmis, withdrew after the first round of interviews. Meissen earned his bache-

lor's degree in social welfare from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in 1981, got his master's in counseling and guidance from the University of Wisconsin in 1983 and earned his Ph.D. in educational administration in December 1990.

"I like the fact (Plymouth-Canton) is a district that has a demonstrated record of excellence and wants to continue to achieve greatness," Meissen said after his second interview. "I want to get into a district with a board that wants to continue working toward greatness. This is a really strong district."

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

BOND

Continued from page A1

rate that people are currently paying for school bonds," Hughes said.

Central 'archaic'

Hughes touted the bond proposal as a way to pay for a new middle school, on Cherry Hill Road west of Canton, to replace aging Central Middle School, and he said the money would allow for new middle school computer labs and an expansion of the district's STEM — Science, Technology, Engineering and Math — academies.

Township Trustee Tom Yack, a former school board trustee, said Central Middle School is in dire need of replacing. "It's old," he said. "It's archaic."

Township Trustee Steven Sneideman, also a former school board member, said he has long hoped for a way to reduce teacher-pupil ratios in classrooms he indicated are too crowded.

"To do that," he said, "we need more classrooms."

Hughes said the bond proposal would boost classroom technology and the district's information technology infrastructure — partly by gradually buying computer devices for every student over the next five years.

in their hands an electronic textbook," Hughes said.

Moreover, building improvements would be made across the district, plus the bond proposal would allow officials to ratchet up their efforts to replace an aging fleet of 130 buses. Middle schools would receive additions except for Discovery, which can accommodate improvements without expanding the building.

Hughes said state aid for schools has remained flat for the last four years. He called the bond proposal necessary to help the district remain competitive.

Crouch, meanwhile, made a short statement simply urging support for the bond proposal.

Hughes and Crouch addressed the township board on the same night the Plymouth-Canton school board approved a three-year contract for incoming Superintendent Michael Meissen, currently supervisor of school improvement and student achievement for Milwaukee Public Schools in Wisconsin.

Canton Township Trustee John Anthony said Tuesday he believes Hughes has shown strong leadership during his tenure as Plymouth-Canton superintendent. He commended Hughes for "a tremendous job."

dclcm@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2238
Twitter: @CantonObserver

Choirs score big at choral festival

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Choirs earned high marks for their performances at MSVMA District Choral Festival held at Northville High School March 21-22.

Under the direction of Jennifer Kopp and Valerie Said, five choirs

— Allegro, Dulcissima, Chamber Choir, Madrigal Singers, and Festival Singers — all earned either an Excellent or Superior rating and have been invited to perform at State Choral Festival to be held April 25-26 at Holt High School. All seven curricular

choirs at P-CEP attended the festival, sponsored by the Michigan School Vocal Music Association. Each choir prepared two contrasting pieces, which were then performed for a panel of three highly respected judges. In addition, each choir was required to complete an

adjudicated sight-reading exercise and a clinic with one of the judges.

The P-CEP Choirs will host a Festival Concert at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, at Salem High School. Each choir will perform their festival music at this concert. Tickets are \$5 and are sold at the door.

AROUND PLYMOUTH

"Around Plymouth" is designed to announce upcoming events taking place in the community. Items will run on a space-available basis. Send details to bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

BLOOD DRIVE

Date/Time: Friday, March 29, 7-10:45 a.m., and 2:45-6:45 p.m.

Location: St. Thomas a'Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley in Canton

Details: The American Red Cross hosts a blood drive at St. Thomas a'Becket Church in Canton. Appointments can be made, and walk-ins are welcome.

Contact: To make an appointment, call Diane Risko at (313) 549-7052 or email Diane.Risko@redcross.org

MUSIC BOOSTERS ENSEMBLE

Date/Time: Saturday, April 13, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: Plymouth High School

Details: The Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters will be holding their Annual Spring Arts & Crafts Ensemble with more than 100 unique exhibitors. In addition, there will be entertainment provided by student musicians, a raffle, door prizes, concessions and a bake sale. There is a \$2 admission fee.

ROAD RALLY

Date/Time: Saturday, April 27, check-in begins at 3:30 p.m.

Location: Check-in is at Smith Elementary School, 1298 McKinley in Plymouth

Details: Registration is now open for the annual Plymouth Newcomers and Neighbors Road Rally. Competing teams race around the city solving puzzles, performing activities, and enjoying an evening on the town. The rally ends at a final dinner party location. The rally begins at 4 p.m., and projected arrival time at final destination is 7:30 p.m. Early-bird registration ends April 1, but participants can still register (for \$25) until April 7.

Contact: Pete and Eileen Ganster at (734) 718-4589 or pganster@comcast.net

DRESS SHOPPING

Date/Time: Saturday, April 13, 9 a.m.



Barbershop buzz

The Impulse Barbershop Quartet will perform at the Plymouth Historical Museum on Friday, April 19 at 7 p.m. The quartet is made up of members from the Harmony Town Chorus of the Wayne Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Tenor Allen Holmes, lead Dave Peiffer, bass Frank Adams and baritone Charles Nalbandian make up the quartet that won first place in the Battle of the Barbershop Quartets in Belleville in 2012. Tickets to the show are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door and can be purchased at the Museum or on the website at www.plymouthhistory.org/events/impulse-Barbershop-Quartet_ET711.html?SortBox=201304. Museum doors will open at 6 p.m., the show begins at 7 p.m. Come early to explore the Museum's special exhibit "Made in America," which runs through June 9. The exhibit pays homage to American ingenuity and industry through the centuries. For more information visit the website, or call (734) 455-8940.

to noon

Location: Plymouth High School

Details: Shoppers can find the "perfect" formal dress, with many long and short dresses from which to choose. There will also be formal shoes and jewelry. Nothing priced higher than \$10. Donations of dresses, jewelry and shoes are accepted from 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. weekdays at Plymouth High School.

Contact: lisa.benages@pccsmail.net

MOM 2 MOM

Date/Time: Saturday, May 4, 8:30 a.m.

Location: St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh in Livonia

Details: St. Edith Church hosts its Mom-2-Mom Sale, with 74 tables of gently-used maternity, baby, and kids' items, a bake sale and refreshments.

Proceeds benefit St. Edith/St. Kenneth MOPS.

Contact: www.stekmops.org or on Facebook at St. Edith/St. Kenneth Mom-to-Mom Sale

CRAFTERS WANTED

Date/Time: Sept. 6-8, during Fall Festival hours

Location: Plymouth

Details: Organizers say it's not too early to send in an application for a booth in the Plymouth Fall Festival Craft Show. The spaces are limited and are filling up quickly. Applications are available on the Craft Show page at www.plymouthfallfestival.com.

Contact: For more information contact Colleen Brown craftshow@plymouthfallfestival.com or (734) 455-1614.

Advertisement for Observer Newspapers. Includes contact information for community office, subscription rates, and advertising policy.

Advertisement for Canton's Village Theater. Features Tony Lucca Live On Stage and Tiempo Libre in Concert.

Advertisement for Blazo's Pie Shoppe. Promotes Easter pies and lists various locations where they are sold.

Veteran officer is township's newest lieutenant

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer



Brothers

John Brothers has been waiting two years for his promotion, and his employer, the Plymouth Township Police Department, has been waiting even longer.

But the wait ended this week when Brothers, a 16-year veteran of the department, became its newest lieutenant, following the township Board of Trustees' approval Tuesday evening of the hiring of a third lieutenant. Brothers joins current Lts. Bob Antal and Cal Lauria.

"John's just an all-around great guy, and he'll do an outstanding job and bring value to that post," said his boss, Chief

Tom Tiderington.

Brothers, a sergeant for 10 years, has most recently been a day-shift patrol supervisor, and the chief said management is

still discussing how duties will be split with the addition of a third lieutenant.

"I truly thought I was going to 'die on the vine,'" said Brothers of his promotion eligibility, which was set to expire Friday. "It's new, it's exciting, it's challenging."

Brothers said he expects to remain a day-shift supervisor for the time being.

Tiderington told trustees Tuesday that he is trying to plan ahead with the addition of a third lieutenant. Retirements among command officers are expected down the road, he said, and the department needs to make a place for Sgt. Todd Siepenko when his three-year stint with the western Wayne County community response team, a unit of officers from several departments that targets dangerous felons, ends later this year. With Siepenko's return, the chief said, the vacancy left by Brothers at the rank of sergeant is not expected to be filled.

In addition, Tiderington said, the expiration Friday of the promotion eligibility list — the

lists are good for two years — means the township would have to redo the testing procedure to create a new list for a future promotion, which could cost \$7,000 to \$10,000.

"We'd probably end up with the exact same list," Tiderington said.

Brothers, who is married with two children, started with the force in January 1997 after a short stint with the police department in Clarkston. He said his colleagues keep him motivated, and that the 28-year-old department, given recent and expected retirements, is facing major changes.

"We've got a great group of guys — and gals. We're at a

point in the police department that is actually kind of exciting for me," Brothers said. "We're seeing a whole new department, if you will."

The third lieutenant's spot Brothers is taking was authorized by the township board seven years ago but never filled. The annual salary for a township police lieutenant is \$95,000.

The department, currently with 28 sworn officers, is also working to fill two vacancies at the patrol officer level. One vacancy was created with the recent retirement of Ed Gauthier, who had been an officer on the force for 25 years.

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



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wednesday's State of the Community luncheon drew a sellout crowd to Plymouth Manor.

LEADERS

Continued from page A1

sor, which he said could create 2,000 jobs and bring rail traffic that now crosses the border at Port Huron or Buffalo. That would be good for the township, he said, as much of its undeveloped land has rail access.

The current Detroit-Windsor tunnel can't accommodate double-stacked freight cars, Price said, while a new one would.

Price also announced planned infrastructure improvements closer to home, including the refurbishing of restrooms at the county's Riverside and Cass Benton parks, the repaving of Sheldon Road between M-14 and Five Mile and repairs to the Plymouth Road bridge over Hines Drive.

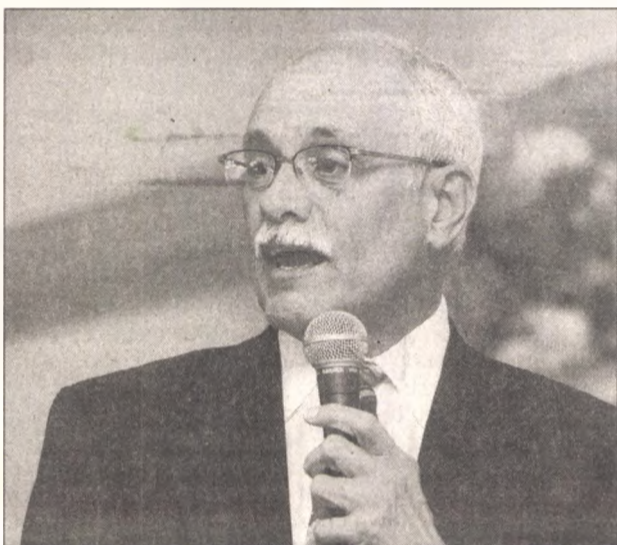
Schools' 'great year'

Jeremy Hughes, superintendent of the Plymouth-Canton schools, said it's been "a really great year for our school district." Hughes touted the launch of two new programs — the Science, Engineering, Technology and Math (STEM) Academy, plus the International Baccalaureate program — within the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park high school complex, plus the introduction of foreign languages at the fourth-grade level and the district being named one of only five advanced-placement honors districts in the state, as examples of forward progress.

Hughes spent a few minutes discussing the district's Tuesday, May 7, ballot proposal for \$114 million in bonds that would, among other things, pay for a new middle school, buy new technology and school buses and pay for facilities maintenance. The new school, designed to replace Central Middle School, would be at Cherry Hill and Canton center roads. Taxes would not rise, Hughes said, as other debt is being retired.

Hughes illustrated the state funding disparity the district faces with a chart showing some of the better-financed districts, including Bloomfield Hills at more than \$11,800 per student, compared to his district's \$7,134 a student.

"We are at the point now where this dollar has been stretched as far as it can," he said.



Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume spoke to township issues during the luncheon.



Dr. Jeremy Hughes, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools superintendent, talked about details of the district's upcoming \$114 million bond campaign.

Teamwork praised

Dan Dwyer, the Plymouth mayor, credited the city's employees and leadership, particularly City Manager Paul Sincoc, with teamwork and cost-cutting he said helped Plymouth through a very tough time for local municipalities.

"People have a rough view of government these days," Dwyer said. "I am very proud of the fact that we hold ourselves to a very high standard."

Dwyer went over the city commission's goals for the year and indicated progress toward them is being made. He announced the cancellation of the purchase agreement between the city and a local church for its parking lot, and said negotiations with the church would start anew. Increasing the availability of downtown parking is one of the commission's goals.

"One day, before I leave the city commission, we're going to do something about expanding the stock of parking," he said.

Dwyer also mentioned plans to replace an office building on Plymouth Road, east of Mill, with an 80-unit apartment or condominium complex.

Employer expansion
Reaume, the township

supervisor, spoke last, hurrying through his talk and humorously acknowledging the program had run long. He spoke of the expansions of several township companies, including Robert Bosch LLC, Superior Controls and Johnson Controls, and said two employers with a science and technology focus are showing interest in the township, Algal Scientific and Stanford Research International, a nonprofit.

Reaume said the Sheldon Road repaving will begin in August so it won't interfere with the Concours d'Elegance of America, a show of classic and collectible vehicles hosted by the Inn at St. John's. The Concours, on the last weekend in July, will be marking its third year in the township.

"I begged them to start it (road work) after this year's event," Reaume said.

Amar, a township resident and retired arbitrator who is starting a consulting business, said he liked the program's focus on economic development and job creation.

"Very positive. I thought it was a great presentation," Amar said.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2405

Canton woman donates mom's hair cut 74 years ago

A family treasure sat on Caroline Van Gorder's dresser most of her life: An 18-inch lock of her mother's hair that was cut about 74 years ago.

Her mother, Francis Tench, cut the brown and auburn strands around 1939 when Van Gorder was about 10 years old.

"She saved it for me because I am the only daughter; she thought I may want to have it," said Van Gorder, 83, of Canton, adding that she still remembers the moment when her mother cut the hair and gave it to her.

Her mother was born in 1898. "I've had it all these years, always wrapped it in tissue on my dresser."

Van Gorder was married for 50 years before her husband, John Donald, passed away in 2002 at age 72. With no children of her own to pass it



Caroline Van Gorder (left), 83, of Canton, donates her mother's hair that was cut about 74 years ago. Van Gorder stands with Trish Tyl, a licensed clinical cosmetologist with the Helen Palmer Image Recovery Center at St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

on to, Van Gorder decided to donate the family heirloom to a cause that would honor her mother's gift.

"I wanted to do something for children or adults who could use it," she said. "That was the type of person my mother was. If someone could

use something, she would help them."

Her St. Mary Mercy Hospital physician recommended to approach the Helen Palmer Image Recovery Center, a St. Mary Mercy service that specializes in image rehabilitation for cancer patients.

FIRE

Continued from page A1

Army and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, have been providing assistance and guidance to those displaced because of the fire, but donations from the public are not currently needed, said Laurie Aren, director of family and community ministries at the Plymouth Corps.

Aren said the Salvation Army will ask for donations if and when they are needed.

The fire was reported around 11 a.m. March 21, but Wendel said it had apparently been burning for some time.

"That fire was potentially burning for up to three hours" before it was reported, Wendel said at Tuesday's Plymouth Township Board of Trustees meeting.

Wendel said he was pleased with firefighters' response to the blaze, and with the mutual-aid cooperation. He said it was the largest residential-fire

since the restructuring of the PCFD 13 months ago. That move included the layoffs of six firefighters and the closing of Station No. 2, which is near the apartment complex.

"I think the overall incident was handled extremely well," Wendel said. PCFD Lt. Scott Gross was the incident commander, he said.

Teaching tool

Firefighters were at the scene for several hours. The Salvation Army's canteen truck provided drinks and nourishment, the nearby property management company Herriman and Associates ordered 15 pizzas for them and the downtown Plymouth restaurant E.G. Nick's brought in pasta and salad.

Township Supervisor Richard Reaume said fire officials, including in the departments that provided mutual aid, are using the incident as a tool to learn how better to respond to such fires.

Wendel said the building had no overall fire alarm

system, as they were not required at the time it was built, though there may have been individual smoke detectors. Wendel and township officials discussed the possibility of amending the township's fire code to require fire alarms in older apartment buildings.

Tower fire

An earlier township fire, March 13 at the Tower Automotive plant on Plymouth Oaks Boulevard, was due to equipment failure, Wendel said.

Insulating material between the walls of a giant oven that workers use in a parts-coating process caught fire, and firefighters had to cut into the oven's outer layer in order to extinguish it.

No injuries were reported in that fire, which also involved mutual aid from neighboring departments.

Workers at the Tower plant produce frames for the Jeep Wrangler.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2405

• 30 Years Training EMS Providers
• Nationally Accredited for Over 10 Years

Classes Start May 2013
Register by April 24, 2013
For info: 734.477.6331
Scholarships Available

Huron Valley Ambulance Center For EMS Education

Center for EMS EDUCATION HVA

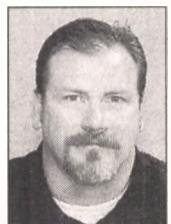
Visit our website: hvaedu.org

Changing course

Rouge River has gone from open sewer to potential urban water trail

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Columnist

If you mention the Rouge River to someone from the Detroit area, the thought might conjure up images of industry, which only makes sense considering the river had been for years synonymous with Ford Motor Company's River Rouge Complex. Affectionately known as The Rouge, the massive factory that became the



Kurt Kuban

world's largest in 1928 as it cranked out instant mobility for the masses still casts quite a

shadow above the lower reaches of our modest little river.

And the Ford factory is not alone. The area between the Ford complex and Zug Island where the Rouge River ultimately runs its course and empties into the Detroit River is an industrial landscape straight from a post-apocalyptic, sci-fi movie. It is the very buckle of the Rust Belt — an area where the Rouge River famously caught fire in 1969. It is also the area where the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers paved much of the river channel in a misguided effort to curb flooding back in the 1970s.

Not surprisingly, many people equated the Rouge River with the pollution that spoiled it. That's what happens when a watershed is located in the cradle of the automo-



KURT KUBAN

It wasn't that long ago that canoeing on the Rouge River seemed like a pipe dream. However, a number of communities — including Canton Township and Wayne, along with Wayne County Parks — hopes to get a federal grant to designate the Lower Rouge River an urban water trail that would provide 25 miles of canoeing/kayaking, including through this section of Wayne.

bile industry and is home to 1.5 million people.

And when you consider the stormwater and sanitary pollution that municipalities all over Wayne and Oakland counties flushed into the river every time there was a thunderstorm, you begin to see how the Rouge River ended up getting listed by the E.P.A. as a Great Lakes AOC - Area of Concern (www.epa.gov/greatlakes/aoc/rougeriver/index.html). The reality is, for years, much of this urban river system was pretty much off limits to people.

That dubious history, however, shrouds some very positive news about the River Rouge in recent years. There has been a combined effort between the federal government, local municipalities and especially a small

army of dedicated volunteers who have fought for a generation to bring the river back from the brink. Beginning in the 1980s, millions of mostly federal but plenty of local dollars have been spent to curb pollution, especially the sanitary discharges that plagued the river for years (and still do in some places).

Just as encouraging, there has been a successful grassroots effort involved as well. Over the last 25 years, thousands of area residents have volunteered in the annual Rouge Rescue cleanup, led by the group Friends of the Rouge (www.therouge.org). Volunteers have removed a mountain of garbage — everything from cars and shopping carts to liquor bottles (and just about every-

thing else imaginable).

And sure enough, the river is coming back to life, especially in communities that have implemented best practices. Water quality has improved, including dissolved oxygen levels. Fish and aquatic insects have made a comeback in portions of the river where they had disappeared years ago.

Most of the 48 Rouge communities have joined together to form the ARC, or Alliance of Rouge Communities (www.allianceofrougecommunities.com), which has allowed a pooling of resources to heal the watershed. For example, in the city of Wayne, ARC secured a federal grant and led the effort last fall to remove an obsolete dam dating back to the 1930s. With the dam removed, fish, including salmon and steelhead, can now move up from the Great Lakes all the way to the headwaters in Canton Township and Washtenaw County where they will be able to spawn with greater success.

Many Rouge communities are now realizing what a fantastic resource they have in their own backyards, and there is an ongoing effort to reconnect residents to the river. This movement is picking up momentum as the water quality continues to improve.

In recent years, for instance, volunteers have hacked away at logjams to open up the Lower Branch of the Rouge to canoeing, especial-

ly in the city of Wayne — home to a half dozen river miles. In addition to locals who do paddle the river on occasion, large group trips organized by Friends of the Rouge each fall have proven more and more popular. Last October, for example, a group of more than 50 people participated in the trip, which took them past the dam removal site for the first time.

I recently sat in on a meeting with numerous Rouge River stakeholders who agreed to partner up and pursue an "urban waterway" designation for the Lower Branch, which begins in Washtenaw County and generally follows Michigan Avenue through Canton Township, Wayne, Westland, Inkster, and Dearborn before reaching the Detroit River. Despite the fact that there are a half million people living in these communities, the river flows through a wooded corridor that resembles northern Michigan in many places.

The shareholders in this effort — including Dearborn, Canton, Wayne, Wayne County and the Alliance of Rouge Communities — are collaborating to get a grant through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Urban Waters program. They want to designate the Lower Branch from Canton Township all the way to the Detroit River as an 'Urban Water Trail'.

Riverside Kayak Connection and Heavner Canoe Rental are also on board with the effort. They are located on the opposite ends of the watershed. Riverside Kayak Connection is located in Wyandotte near the Detroit River, and Heavner is actually based in Milford in the Huron River watershed (though they do rent canoes on Newburgh Lake in the Rouge watershed). The owners of both establishments see the urban waterway concept as a great way to promote "getting outdoors" but they also recognize the potential to capitalize on people reconnecting with the river. Paddling sports have always been very popular in Michigan. In a watershed of 1.5 million people, a few of them are bound to rent canoes or purchase kayaks.

This urban water trail is nearly 25 miles long, and would allow paddlers

a day long journey from Canton to the Detroit River — through sections of peaceful woodlands and past historic structures like Henry Ford's incredible Fairlane Estate, the River Rouge Complex and even Zug Island. Once out in the Detroit River, people will be able to paddle in the shadows of passing freighters plying the waters of the Great Lakes.

Much work needs to be done to make this possible. The communities need to establish canoe launches along the route, not to mention bathroom facilities and parking. The stakeholders hope to get the grant to do this work. The fact that much of the land is already park land and in public hands makes these tasks much easier.

The biggest struggle will be to open up the logjams along the route — and keep them open. Friends of the Rouge led an expedition on this route two years ago, which I happened to be part of, and we encountered nearly 200 logjams of various sizes. It will take many volunteer hours, and hopefully some work by municipal crews to open up the entire route. With more and more people taking an interest in the Rouge, however, this is certainly possible.

The bottom line is canoeing on the Rouge River is no longer a pipe dream. I recently read an article published in the Detroit Free Press back in 1985 that all but declared the Rouge a dead river. Well, to steal a quote the great Mark Twain, the reports of the Rouge's demise were greatly exaggerated. Yes, people were responsible for nearly killing the river, but they are now leading the charge in its renaissance.

Changing perceptions isn't always easy — especially when you are talking about the Rouge River. But once people start seeing kayaks and canoes moving through their communities, chances are they won't be thinking about all that industry downstream.

Kurt Kuban is community editor of the Northville Record and also covers environmental issues for O&E Media. He welcomes your feedback at kkuban@hometownlife.com.

ATTENTION BOYS, GIRLS, TEACHERS AND PARENTS!

Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights

Look for Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights page monthly right here in this newspaper!



Kids are invited to participate in monthly contests!

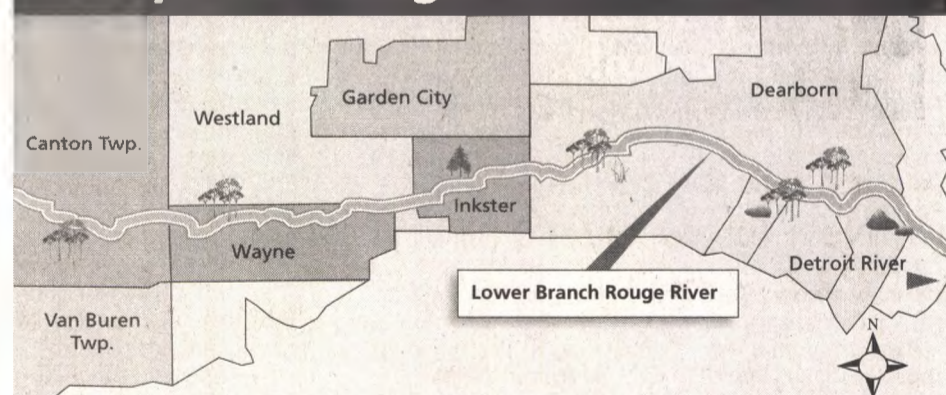
- Win Prizes!
- See your photo in the paper!
- Get published in the newspaper!



Follow Scoop on Facebook
facebook.com/ScoopTheNewshound

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
hometownlife.com MEDIA
A GANNETT COMPANY

Proposed Rouge River Water Trail



Dog Scout troop donates canine masks

Julie Benson heard the statistics: Every year approximately 4,000 humans die in house fires and 40,000 family pets are killed, the leading cause of death from fire being asphyxiation.

When Benson, the leader to a local Dog Scout troop, heard this, she knew she wanted to do something with her troop members to take action and help save as many animals as possible.

So, with the help of troop 217 members Melissa Perez of Wayne, Michelle Neu of Taylor and Vickie Lomas of Walled Lake, Benson helped collect more than

\$500 in returnable cans and bottles in order to purchase six full canine oxygen mask kits.

"Pets are members of our families, they aren't just pets to the people of my Dog Scouts of America troop," said Benson, a Novi resident who leads Troop 217. "What better way to serve the community than to help pets, throughout the metro Detroit area, that may not have a chance of surviving without the aid of these masks."

The kits (which contain a large, medium, and small mask) will be distributed to Huron Valley Ambulance, who in turn will issue to EMS and

local fire houses in Oakland, Wayne and Washtenaw counties.

Benson and fellow troop members will present the canine oxygen mask kits to Eric Fields 10 a.m. Saturday, April 6, at HVA's Plymouth station, located at 1270 Goldsmith in Plymouth.

Dog Scouts of America is a non-profit organization that promotes positive reinforcement training and responsible pet ownership. For more information on Dog Scouts of America visit www.dogscouts.org. Anyone interested in joining the local troop can contact Benson at bensonjulie@earthlink.net.

Suspects face trial in crime spree

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Two Detroit men are facing trial on charges arising from a suburban crime spree that authorities say included an armed robbery inside a Canton Family Dollar store and conspiracy to rob a Westland Cash Advance store.

Eric Anthony Reed, 21, and Raymond Maurice Whatley, 19, could face penalties ranging up to life in prison if they are convicted of a robbery-related spree that police say began Jan. 29 in Taylor and ended when Westland Police captured the suspects Feb. 16.

According to Wayne County Circuit Court documents, Reed and Whatley are charged

with armed robberies in Canton, Taylor and Allen Park and conspiracy to commit another offense in Westland. The two men are jailed with cash bonds totaling over \$500,000.

Reed and Whatley are facing trial after they voluntarily waived their preliminary examinations last Friday in Plymouth 35th District Court, which handled charges from the four communities.

Reed faces trial for additional counts of felony firearm and second-degree criminal sexual conduct out of Canton. Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said Reed was accused of fondling a female employee during a robbery that occurred just before 9 p.m. Feb. 6 inside the Family Dollar store on Joy Road near I-275.



Whatley



Reed

"There was inappropriate contact between the suspect and a female in the store," Schreiner said.

Reed and Whatley are accused of seizing cell phones from Family Dollar workers and taking money from the store, Schreiner said.

Westland Police arrested the defendants Feb. 16 after two men arrived outside the Cash Advance store at 208 S. Mer-

riman. The men had arrived before the store opened, police said, and a male employee refused to open the door for two men described as wearing hoods.

"The men left. The teller knew there had been robberies of cash stores, so he decided to go the Chase Bank branch to make a deposit," Westland Police Sgt. Randy Thivierge has said. "While he was at the bank, he saw the suspects' vehicle at a Burger King drive-through."

The employee got a license plate number and called police as the suspects returned to the business. He again refused to let the suspects in with their hoods up.

Westland Police said the

license plate didn't belong to the car driven by the suspects, who were stopped by police.

"The driver didn't have a license and a gun was found in the car," Thivierge said.

Once police had the pair in custody, they were identified as suspects in the Canton robbery.

"One of our dispatchers remembered an article in the *Observer* from Canton (about an armed robbery)," Westland Police Sgt. Dan Serrano said. "We printed out the photos. One of the suspects was wearing the same clothes he was arrested in."

Staff Writer LeAnne Rogers contributed to this story.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238
Twitter: @CantonObserver

CANTON CRIME WATCH

Brazen thief

A Canton man said he was astounded when he looked out a window of his home and saw a well-dressed woman stealing a 40-pound lawn jockey from his property on Cherry Hill Road between Beck and Denton.

"It just astonished me," he told the *Observer* on Tuesday.

The victim said the incident happened on a recent March evening. He said he saw the woman, about 35 years old, pick up the lawn jockey and stagger back to a car and drive off. He said he was even more shocked when he learned she had taken a cast aluminum horse head that had been mounted on a metal post on his deck.

He said the woman drove off in a small black sedan. He said he contacted the *Observer* so other residents could be on the alert.

Gun threats

A Canton High School resource officer notified police after a female student made what appeared to be threat-

ening remarks about a gun, a police report said.

The incident happened Monday afternoon. During a group discussion about the stresses of high school life, the 17-year-old student reportedly said "I wish I could kill them" and indicated she wished she knew where her father kept his gun, the report said.

She was referred to a school resource officer, began crying and said she didn't mean what she had said. Her father was contacted to make sure he properly locks any guns away that he has.

The father indicated that his daughter has been bullied at school and on social media, the police report said.

Disgruntled worker

An employee of a Canton company on Haggerty south of Michigan Avenue contacted police after a fired employee made what was perceived as threatening remarks Saturday afternoon, a police report said.

The 26-year-old worker had earlier argued with other employees in what

led to a scuffle, a police report said. The employee was fired, but before he left he threatened to return with others, the report said.

There was no indication he actually did.

Phone scam

A man went to the Canton Police Station last Thursday evening to report he had received a Verizon bill in the mail for activation of five new phones he never bought. He said the bill was \$430.

The man contacted the company and was told someone had called in, provided his personal information and opened an account. He told police he cancelled the account and phone numbers, but he wanted to file a formal police report.

Identity theft

A 67-year-old woman who lives on Cavalier, southeast of Saltz and Sheldon, contacted Canton Police last Thursday to report she had been the victim of an apparent identity theft.

She told police that she had received notification from the Internal Revenue Service on two occasions in February that her Social Security number had been used to file a 2012 tax return. The woman hadn't yet filed her taxes.

She notified the IRS, credit report-

ing agencies, banks the Social Security Administration and credit card companies of the incident, along with police.

Copper stolen

A home on Hartford, northeast of Ford and Lilley roads, was stripped of copper piping after an intruder cut water lines in the basement sometime prior to March 19, a police report said.

A realty company in charge of the home told police the house had been shown because it is on the market. It is believed that a sliding glass door was unlocked.

The police report indicated 40 feet of copper pipe was stolen.

Car missing

A 21-year-old resident of Stoney-brooke Park Apartments, southwest of Joy Road and I-275, told police he noticed his black Chrysler 200 was missing from the parking lot Friday night.

He told police he was behind on his payments, but Canton Police had not received any notification that any employee of a company was going to the site to repossess the vehicle, leaving the owner to question if the car had been stolen.

— By Darrell Clem

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Suspicious substance

Employees at Comcast, the cable television and communications company with a regional office on Concept Drive in Plymouth Township, reported receiving a suspicious powdery substance in the mail on March 20.

No injuries were reported, and a Plymouth Township Police Department report said the blue material looked like glitter.

It had been received through the mail earlier that day, a Comcast security official told police, in an envelope that also contained a blank sheet of paper. There were a name and an East Lansing address on the envelope, but Comcast could not match the name or the address to a customer.

Police could not find a match in their records between the name and the address given, the report said.

Local hazardous waste officials, through the Plymouth Community Fire Department, advised employees who

had contact with the substance to throw it away and wash their hands.

Comcast reported receiving a threat, on average, every two weeks.

Fraud thwarted

A township woman reported that a credit card of hers had been compromised recently, but that no charges had been made on it. The card was canceled and the woman advised to check her credit report.

The woman told police March 19 that she had received a call from the fraud division at her bank, saying someone with access to the card number, her birthdate and other personal information had inquired about activating it to make purchases during an overseas trip. The bank had apparently flagged the call as suspicious.

The woman filed the police report for followup by the bank's investigative division.

— By Matt Jachman

NEW Tulip Nail & Spa is Open!

TULIP Nail & Spa

"Indulge the Revitalization"

Indulge the revitalization at Tulip Nail & Spa, Novi Town Center's newest salon!

- Expert Pedicure-Manicure Services
- Gel nail polish/Shellac nail polish
- Acrylic Nails
- Full body wax

Both walk-ins and appointments welcome!
Gift certificates available!
Ask about our special private party events!

Save 20% on All Services!

For a limited time, stop in and save 20% Off any Tulip Nail & Spa service!

Tulip Nail & Spa is located at 26136 Ingersol Drive.
Call: 248-331-7858
Open: Monday-Friday 10am-9pm, Saturday 9am-9pm, Sunday Noon-6pm.

Novi Town Center
Novi, Michigan

SIMON www.novitowncenter.com

ONE-STOP SHOP.

SAVE ON INSURANCE:

- Car
- Home
- Renters
- Business
- Life
- Motorhome
- Motorcycle
- Boat

And much more...

Call me to get more for your money.

I make it easy to protect everything on your list and save money too. Call now and you'll also get a FREE lifetime membership in Good Hands™ Roadside Assistance. Get 24/7 access and low, flat rates on everything from tows to tire changes. Call me today.

Sara C. Tyranski
(734) 326-6660
2012 S Wayne Road
Westland
styanski@allstate.com

Allstate
You're in good hands.
Auto Home Life Retirement

Pay only when roadside services provided. Subject to terms, conditions and availability. Allstate Insurance Company, Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company, Allstate Indemnity Company, Lincoln Benefit Life Co., Lincoln, NE and American Heritage Life Insurance Co., Jacksonville, FL. © 2011 Allstate Insurance Co. 060795054

Care & Love are the greatest things we provide

STATE LICENSED

Full Assistance with Bathing, Dressing & Hygiene in a Small Home-like Setting

for Active/Alert, Memory Impaired, Frail/Recovering & Alzheimer's residents

- Highly Competitive Inclusive Rates
- 24 Hour Professional Staffing
- Private/Semi-Private/Barrier-Free
- 3 Home-Cooked Meals a Day
- On-Call Nurse Practitioner
- Medication Management
- Daily Housekeeping & Laundry
- Beauty & Barber Shop
- Wander Secured/Enclosed Courtyard

Crystal Creek Assisted Living

8121 Lilley Road
Canton, Michigan 48187
(Located between Joy & Warren Roads)

(734) 453-3203
www.CrystalCreekAssistedLiving.com

060795182

Egg hunters' delight!

Mother Nature cooperated, and hundreds of youngsters from around the area took advantage Saturday as Canton Township hosted its annual Easter Eggstravaganza in and around Heritage Park.

Kids ages 11 and younger got a chance to meet, and have their pictures taken with, the Easter Bunny, and to hunt for eggs around spacious Heritage Park.

There were animals to pet, and crafts to build and entertainment in the gym at the Summit on the Park, as well as the always-popular egg hunts.



PHOTOS BY THOMAS BEAUDOIN

Eager youngsters wait to get the word for the Easter egg hunt attended by hundreds of kids at Heritage Park in Canton.



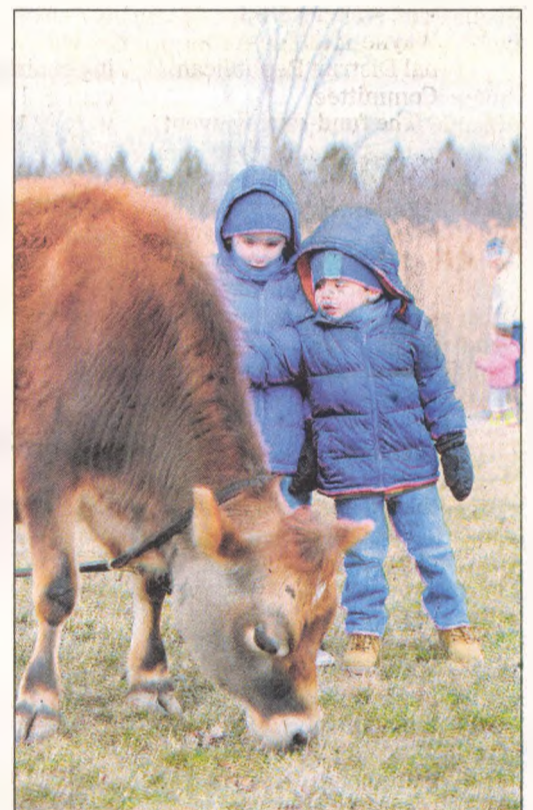
Savanahh Chapman, 7, of Wixom feeds Snoopy, an 8-week-old Nigerian Dwarf Goat at the Eggstravaganza held in Canton.



Harrison Qian, a 4-year-old from Canton, keeps his eyes peeled for Easter eggs that are scattered in the playscape at Heritage Park in Canton.



Mickey, Isabella, Lilah and Logan Mohacst of Livonia enjoy a visit with the Easter Bunny at this year's Easter Eggstravaganza.



Brothers Jake and Gabe Christensen of Canton pet one of the many animals on hand at this year's Easter Eggstravaganza held in Canton's Heritage Park.

Hiller's adds new mobility carts to help disabled patrons

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Heather Pizar of Northville Township used to have a tough time shopping with her 10-year-old daughter, Sarah, who has Mowat-Wilson syndrome, which creates mobility limitations. Whenever Heather would go shopping, she would have to push the grocery cart and, at the same time, pull Sarah in her adaptive stroller, which was difficult.

Thanks to Pizar's hard work and the kindness of Hiller's Markets, that's no longer true. Hiller's recently purchased one of the carts for disabled loved ones of customers for each of its seven Michigan stores, making it much easier for Pizar and Sarah, who attends Cooke School in Northville. Hiller's has a Plymouth-area store at 5 Mile



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hiller's Vice President Justin Hiller has made sure that all of his stores have one of the "Caroline's Carts" that patron Heather Pizar utilizes for her daughter Sarah, 10, who has problems riding in a typical grocery cart. The cart, with an attached seat, is capable of safely welcoming a person with disabilities — with its swing-out handles.

and Haggerty. "It's Hiller's Market that has really taken the initiative. No one made them do this. I was just so impressed by them," said

Heather Pizar. "Hiller's stepped right up and said 'We want them in our store.'"

Justin Hiller, Hiller's vice president, said the

move was a no-brainer.

"It's just all about the customers," he said. His dad and grandfather in the business taught him that.

The cart was designed by Alabama mom Drew Ann Long, who got a manufacturer and is now instrumental in marketing it via www.carolines-cart.com.

"I saw an advertisement in a trade magazine," said Hiller. "I think the majority of people just don't think how difficult it is" to shop with a disabled person.

Caroline's Carts can accommodate an adult up to 250 pounds, said Pizar, who is married to Sandor. They have four children.

Hiller said he paid \$850 per cart, about twice what a regular grocery cart costs. The retailer takes on maintenance responsibility. The cart has a foot-operated brake.

"It's just starting to get traction now," he said of the local effort. "It's been a very positive response. I think there are still those individuals who take advantage of them."

He's heard thanks from Pizar, who worked for about a year and a half on the effort and also approached other grocers. Her daughter was diagnosed at age 4 with the fairly rare disorder, which causes seizures.

"She is mobile and she loves to get outside and play," Pizar said of Sarah. "I'm not the only parent in the community who could benefit from this."

The Caroline's Cart has a harness. Its handles swing open to allow the disabled person to sit facing the shopper, which Pizar said is helpful for her daughter to be able to see her.

"So that's another

advantage of the cart. I'm just so impressed with this mom designing this," Pizar added.

"I can't tell you how convenient it will be. It's a real blessing, absolutely," Hiller's said to her, "We're going to lead by example. I'm just really touched and impressed by that statement."

The Hiller family bought the Caroline's Carts as part of their philosophy of doing business. Justin Hiller said it wasn't difficult to buy the carts over the phone and have them delivered.

"It's equally important we do good as individuals," the third-generation owner said. "That's what we're trying to do. This is just more about helping our fellow man. We try to help the community as much as we can."

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

World events can't help but influence U.S. markets

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

It seems lately that things have been pretty good. Unemployment has dropped, spending has been on the rise and the market keeps moving forward. Then all of a sudden, we hear about a bailout of the Cyprus economy and once again fears about Europe start causing problems in our markets.

Many may be questioning why what happens in Cyprus affects U.S. markets. After all, Cyprus is a very small economy and the bailout was only \$12 billion. Don't get me wrong, \$12 billion is a lot of money, but not when you consider the bailouts of other countries and the bailouts here including that of the auto industry.

The question is why the proposed Cyprus bailout caused a problem. The answer is two-fold.

We no longer live in an American economy; we live in a world economy. What happens in other markets, other economies, affects the United States. Economies around the world are interconnected, so defaults in one part of the world can have a domino effect.

Closer to home, think about how the world economy affects Ford or GM or even a company like Domino's pizza that



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

has more international franchises than U.S. ones. That is why when problems develop in one economy, the consequences spread throughout the world. I also believe that the market's reaction to the Cyprus bailout has to do with the terms of the bailout.

Taxation uproar

One of the terms dealt with the taxation of accounts in Cyprus banks. The tax — as high as 10 percent — was to be levied on all bank accounts, no matter the size. The proposal caused an uproar in Cyprus and around the world, particularly in other European countries. If they can tax bank accounts in Cyprus, what was preventing them from taxing bank accounts in other European nations that may require bailouts? After all, one of the reasons for the bailout is to promote confidence in the financial system. If you start having special taxes on bank accounts, the opposite will happen. People won't have confidence in the banking system and will rush to banks to liqui-

date their accounts. To me, this was an obvious reaction and shouldn't have surprised anyone. However, the European regulators were taken aback by the reaction. The head scratcher to me is how they could be surprised at the outrage. However, I'm not sure if anyone believes that. The reaction of investors throughout the European union was they also doubted the proposal.

It would be nice to go back to the old days, when foreign markets had little if any effect on ours. That's a pipedream. The reality is we live in a world economy and everything is interrelated. What happens around the world has a direct impact on our markets and our economy. That is why for years I've been encouraging investors to diversify portfolios to make sure they include international investments, including a portion in emerging markets.

What happens in the far corners of the world has a ripple effect that affects all of us.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, please email Rick at rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

Gov. Nikki Haley to speak at Wayne 11th Republican Dinner

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley will be the featured speaker April 25 at the annual Lincoln Reagan Dinner held by the Wayne 11th Congressional District Republican Committee.

The fund-raising event is an opportunity for voters to network with elected officials, community activists and precinct delegates, as well as to hear first-hand the Republican message.

The dinner will be held at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft Road, in Livonia, and is open to the general public. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for a Private VIP Photo Reception with the governor; a social gathering time for general attendees is at 6 p.m., and the dinner program begins at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$75 per person or \$700 for a table

of 10. (Deadline for tickets is April 19). Tickets for the VIP Photo Reception are \$150 per person. Inquiries can be handled by emailing chair@wayne11th.com and checking www.wayne11th.com.

The goal of the Wayne 11th Congressional District Republican Committee is to deliver the Republican message through outreach and grassroots efforts. "We can't only rely on party loyalists for our support," said Paul Cusick, chairman of the Wayne 11th CDRC. "We need to bring our message to the average citizen and enlist their support for our efforts to bring common-sense leadership to this country. This dinner helps us raise the resources needed to get our message out to the general public, especially our younger voters."

One of the strongest fiscal conservatives in state government, Haley was first elected to represent the 87th District in Lex-

ington County in 2004, as a virtual unknown. In 2008, Rep. Haley was sent back to the State House with 83 percent of the vote — the highest percentage earned by any lawmaker facing a contested South Carolina election that year. She was elected as governor on Nov. 2, 2010.

Her time in government has been marked by conservative leadership and an unwavering commitment to the taxpayers' bottom line. She has fought wasteful spending at every turn, pushed for smaller, more efficient government, and led the fight for accountability and transparency that, before her arrival, was sorely lacking in the Legislature.

The Wayne 11th Congressional District Republican Committee covers the communities of Canton Township, Livonia, Northville, Northville Township, Plymouth and Plymouth Township. Their focus is primarily on state and local election efforts.



Haley

precinct delegates, as well as to hear first-hand the Republican message.

Tickets are \$75 per person or \$700 for a table

XFINITY® delivers the fastest Internet. U-verse doesn't even come close.



XFINITY® already delivers speeds up to four times faster than U-verse.* And now, XFINITY is doubling the speeds on two of its fastest Internet tiers. Plus, XFINITY brings you the fastest in-home Wi-Fi with the most coverage in your home. So don't fall for U-verse.

FEATURE	XFINITY	U-VERSE
The fastest Internet	YES	NO
The fastest in-home Wi-Fi with the most coverage in your home	YES	NO
More Internet protection included at no additional cost with Norton® Security Suite, IDENTITY GUARD® and Comcast Secure Backup & Share	YES	NO

GET STARTED WITH ECONOMY PLUS INTERNET

\$14⁹⁹

a month for 12 months

NO TERM CONTRACT REQUIRED

INCLUDES CONSTANT GUARD
Stay protected with our comprehensive suite of online protection (a \$360 value)

Tomorrow could be awesome if you call **1-888-868-0920** today.

comcast.com/xfinity



Offer ends 3/31/13. Not available in all areas. Limited to Economy Plus Internet for new residential customers. After promotional period, or if any service is cancelled or downgraded, regular rates apply. Comcast's current monthly service charge for Economy Plus Internet is \$39.95 or \$29.95 with another service. Limited to service to a single outlet. Equipment, installation and taxes extra. May not be combined with other offers. *Compares Comcast's and AT&T's fastest available download Internet speeds. Actual speeds vary and are not guaranteed. Wi-Fi claim based on August 2012 study of comparable in-home wireless routers by Allion Test Labs, Inc. Not all features, including Constant Guard, compatible with Macintosh systems. Call for restrictions and complete details, or visit comcast.com. ©2013 Comcast. All rights reserved. 2012 Electronic Arts Inc. EA, EA SPORTS and the EA SPORTS logo are trademarks of Electronic Arts Inc. Official FIFA licensed product. © The FIFA name and OLP Logo are copyright or trademark protected by FIFA. NPA125653-0009

Open 7 Days a Week, 11-6pm, Wednesdays 11-8pm

KNIGHTSBRIDGE ANTIQUE MALL

42305 Seven Mile Road • (Just 2 Miles west of I-275) Northville, MI 48167 • 248-344-7200

We have something for everyone!

26,000 sq. ft. with over 200 dealers of quality antiques

- Furniture – Mid-Century/ Art Deco/ Modern • Coins
- Stained Glass • Jewelry • Vintage Toys • Linens • Military
- Glass/Crystal/China • Tiffany Lamps • Clothing

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

Tips for small businesses about using social media

By Jon Gunnells
Guest Columnist

Volunteers, marketing managers and small-business owners are always asking me how to find important data about their Facebook fans or simply how to use social networks to drive sales.

With so many social networks and large volumes of data, uncovering insights about your company or organization's fans may seem daunting, but it is actually easier than you think.

1. Find Where Your Targets Are – With more than a billion users, it is safe to assume your key demographic is on Facebook. The problem is, your key demographics may not use Facebook to get information about what you're selling. This is especially true if you are, say, a business-to-business wholesaler of widgets to regional retailers. Find where your target is whether on major networks like Twitter or niche message boards and blogs and work from there.

2. Don't Focus on Fan Counts – The most common mistake brands small and large make is putting too much importance on fans and followers. Large communities are great, but if those fans aren't engaging with your brand, they aren't helping your bottom line. Make it a priority to increase interaction among a core group of followers. It will build loyalty for your brand or product and prove more important, even if your



Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

data is something even professionals can get lost in. When looking at YouTube insights, Facebook insights or measuring conversation volumes, pick a few key numbers to look at. My favorites are impressions, reach and engagement metrics such as comments, video views, or replies. After understanding these key metrics, expand using common sense. Do you need to understand day-to-day increases in video views? Probably not. But it might make sense to look at month-to-month increases in Facebook likes, or the best time to post content.

4. Have A Plan – This might be the most important tip for any small business or non-profit on the social web. If you don't have a set posting schedule or time to engage with your key demographics on message boards or blogs just stop. With social media you are either in or out – there is no halfway. A Twitter account or Facebook page with no new content is like a website with outdated contact information.

5. Use Resources Wisely – There's a reason big companies don't have marketing managers and CEOs running their social pres-

competitor has a few more likes.

3. Start Small With Metrics – We are in an age of big data and social media

ence: Social is time-consuming. Small companies may not have the luxury of dedicated social staff — and if that's the case, do your research on Google. Instead of spending a day's time to find the best time to post for your brand, look for research or white papers on Facebook's peak activity time, or key information on your industry.

6. Don't Overwhelm Fans – When considering what and when to post content remember not to overload fans with information they don't need. If you post too much, fans will hide your content making your fan count even less important. Additionally, you can look into Facebook's post level data (by clicking and exporting insights) to see if any specific content has driven fans to unlike or unsubscribe for your page.

7. Have Fun – Social media is a two-way street. Followers and potential followers want to have fun, not listen to constant sales pitches. Try applying the 80-20 rule when posting content. Eighty percent should be topical, conversational, helpful and of added value. The other 20 percent can be what I refer to as "shameless self promotion."

While these tips won't make your brand the next Red Bull or Taco Bell, they will make your social presence more effective and efficient.

Jon Gunnells is a freelance writer and social media planner. Comments or suggestions for future columns? Email Jonathan.Gunnells@gmail.com.



PHOTOS COURTESY PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Divas turned out in droves for the chamber's annual Diva Day promotion Saturday. Chamber executive director Wes Graff called the event "a huge success" for local businesses.

Divas out in force for annual event

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Jaya Wilson of Canton did some serious shopping during Saturday's Diva Day in downtown Plymouth.

"It's nice," Wilson said, pausing at Basket Kreations on Forest. "Everyone's been so friendly, and the good deals you get."

Wilson, who also liked the snacks, was shopping for herself, as well as for Easter baskets and birthdays. "Just great stuff," she said. "Even for your puppies. I have two, grandpuppies, I should say."

The March 23 day-long event, offered by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, featured hot pink feather boas for the first 500 women. "I like to see all the boas," said Wilson, who got one. "It makes it fun."

Nearby at Gigi's Mode on Ann Arbor Trail, owner Beverly Whitby was also pleased. "It's been great," Whitby said of Diva Day. "We had the Divas out as soon as we opened the door."

Chamber executive director Wes Graff was pleased with the turnout. "The day was a huge success for the local businesses," Graff said. "Attendance was much-improved this year."

The chamber event was later last year, and



Divas of all ages took advantage of the annual Diva Day event.

Whitby liked having it before Easter this year. "These are great," she said. "They always carry us through. The chamber's awesome. Even though it's a little chilly, they (shoppers) still come out."

Her business has been there nine years. "They're in a buying mood," Whitby said of the Divas, who wanted spring color for their wardrobes. "They're ready to have spring hit."

Staffer Chanelle Boucher was busy Saturday at Creatopia on Ann Arbor Trail, where many customers were painting pottery and socializing. "It's been crazy," said Boucher, who's pursuing her master's degree through Bennington College in Vermont. "Feather boas are everywhere."

Creatopia had a 14-person birthday party Saturday, followed by a 12-

person birthday party that day. "We've been packed all day," Boucher said. "Everyone's having a really good time, especially because it's sunny out."

Canton resident Stella Delap owns Basket Kreations and is a fan of Diva Day.

"It's been going really well," Delap said. "It's been wonderful to see all the ladies out and having fun. It's been a great turnout. People can take their time and get to all the stores."

Delap also found women in a shopping mood, including for themselves. "They really help business," she said of such events. "They're expecting to have a good time. It's just so nice to see."

Staffers were tired but happy at TranquiliTea on Ann Arbor Trail. "We are pooped," said owner Colleen Cannon, a Livonia resident. "At least I'm pooped. Feathers are everywhere."

Chocolate Charmer was a big seller on Diva Day, featuring crushed malted milk balls and tea. The staff also had "Shades of Grey," a play on the books featuring more exotic Earl Grey blends which sold well, too.

"We've been doing fabulous," Cannon said between customers. "It's a really good event."

jbrown@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6755

BUSINESS BRIEFS

New teammate

Bank of Ann Arbor officials announced Robert Rose has joined its team as Vice President and Senior Loan Officer, serving existing and new business clients out of its Plymouth office.

Rose has more than 28 years of banking experience in providing needs-based business banking solutions to businesses and their owners in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Livingston counties. He was most recently with Citizen's Bank.

"(Rose's) focus on customer service and his desire to provide a closer connection for the client with the decision maker in a highly successful and growth oriented community bank format has brought him to Bank of Ann Arbor," said Tim Marshall, President & CEO, Bank of Ann Arbor. "We are absolutely delighted he's joined the high-performing banking team at our Plymouth office."

Rose holds a bachelor's degree from Albion College. He serves the community through his involvement with the Triumph Home Health Care, Automation Alley, Livonia Chamber, United Way and CYO Coach. Rose and his family live in the Plymouth community.

Cheerleading champs

Rage, the junior level 4 team from Plymouth-based Premier Athletics Michigan Extreme traveled recently to the COA Midwest National Championships in Columbus, Ohio, and came home with the best trophies.

Rage finished first in its division and was named the Level 4 grand champion. The team finished in the top 10 of 182 competing teams.

Athletes competing for coaches Rachelle Frusti and Kevin Enna included Sarah Bowler, Bethany Caswell, Maddie DeGroff, Caitlin Farrand, Olivia Ferrantino, Gabrielle Georgeson, Olivia Georgeson, Julia Marshall, Megan Matatall, Anna Molnar, Christina Molnar, Payton Olson, Amanda Owsley, Shaylah Pate, Morgan Rosen, Mourgain Shepard, Alexis Smith, Dakota Steffey, Cassidy Tear, Sam Tear and Clare Zgoda.

Marywood seeks public input

Marywood Nursing Care Center in Livonia has once again been recognized by U.S. News & World Report as one of Michigan's best nursing homes for 2013.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) continues to rate Marywood a 5-Star facility.

In the rapidly changing landscape of health care today, Marywood is now examining how it can best respond in order to continue offering 5-Star quality care. Guided by its board of directors an effort is under way to solicit ideas, concerns and opinions from various Marywood stakeholders, including the local Livonia community and others living in Southeast Michigan. The input will assist the board in identifying strategic pathways for the next several years.

A brief on-line survey can easily be found on Marywood Nursing Care Center's website: www.marywoodnursingcarecenter.org, just look for the Survey Monkey link.

HOME INSURANCE WITH THE RIGHT
LOCATION, LOCATION,
LOCATION.

NEW ALLSTATE HOUSE & HOME

I'm proud to protect homes in our community.

When it comes to protecting your home, it's nice to have an agent who knows the area. I can help customize a policy just for you, so you pay only for the protection you need. Call me today!

JOEL SCHEMBRI
734-927-9500

NORTHVILLE INSURANCE &
FINANCIAL



Allstate
You're in good hands.

Auto Home Life Retirement

SAVE THE DATE!

2013 | *Our 10th Anniversary*
Spring EXPO
 Formerly known as the Senior Expo

Tuesday,
April 23, 2013
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Schoolcraft College
 Livonia Campus
 VisTaTech Center

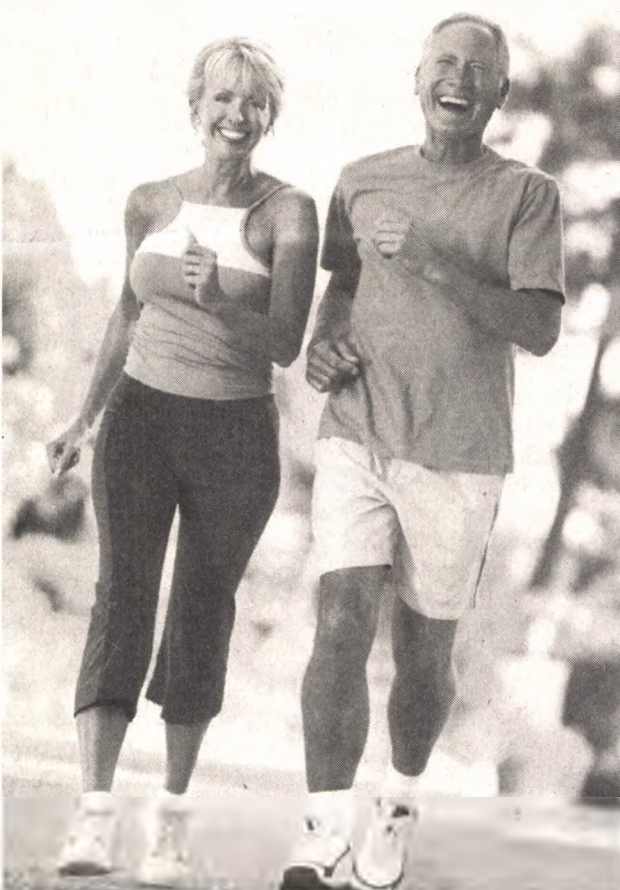


- **Prizes**
- **Free Admission and Parking**
- **Morning Refreshments**



Workshops and Demonstrations

- **Healthy Eating for Healthy Aging**
Priority Health
- **Zumba Gold**
American Health and Fitness
Schoolcraft College
- **Are your veins blue? There is a solution for you!**
University of Michigan
Livonia Vein Center
- **Stand up to Neck & Back Pain**
HealthQuest
- **Getting More Returns on Your Investments Without Taking Risks**
Bloom Asset Management
- **Strength Training for Seniors**
American Health and Fitness
Schoolcraft College
- **Hearing Loss & Associated Issues**
Michigan Hearing
- **Is Grief Really Good Charlie Brown?**
Angela Hospice
- **YOUR Mouth, YOUR Body!**
Comfort Dental Spa
- **CEPD Course Overview**
Schoolcraft College
- **Assure Quality Long Term Care**
Richmond Financial
- **Setting Goals to Stay Healthy and Independent**
St. Mary Mercy Hospital
- **Hospice 101 - Everything You Wanted to Know About Hospice, but were too afraid to ask**
Hospice of Michigan
- **Top 10 Estate Planning Mistakes People Make (and how to easily avoid them)**
Gaggos Law Firm
- **Increasing Mobility and Fall Prevention**
The Recovery Project



Visit www.hometownlife.com or facebook for a complete listing and times.

Live Entertainment!



Vickie Winans

Special comedic and musical selections from award winning gospel artist Vickie Winans

Performance: 12 - 1p.m.

Entertainment Sponsor
 **ST. MARY MERCY LIVONIA**
 SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

Gold Sponsor



HERE'S LOOKIN' AT YOU

Comfort Dental Spa is not affiliated with Comfort Dental Center in Southfield, MI or Dr. Halmaghi

For more information please contact:

Choya Jordan
313.222.2414

cbjordan@hometownlife.com

Presented by:



Refreshments sponsored by:

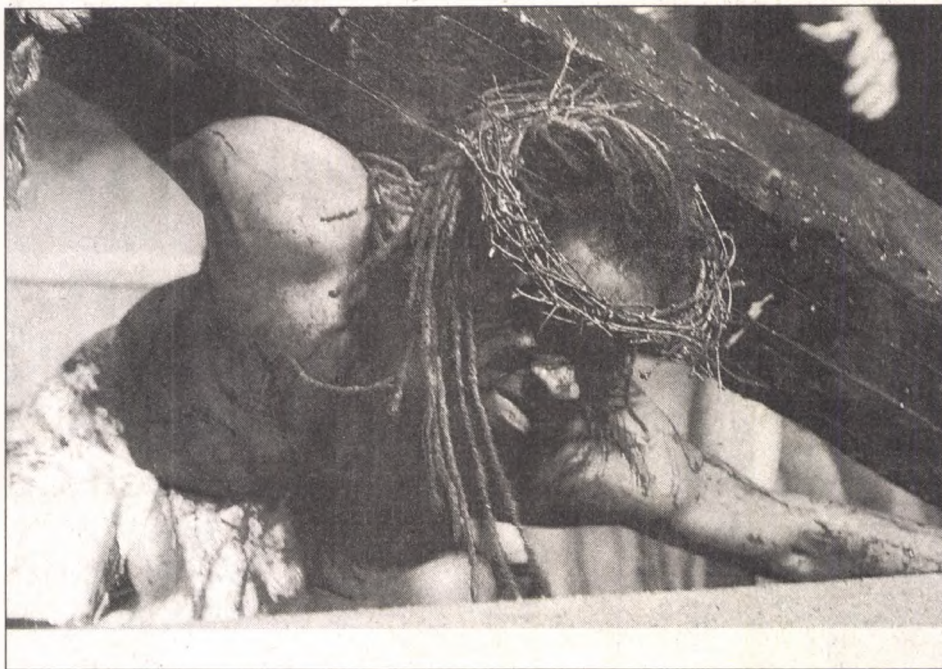
OUR VIEWS

Rich traditions mark Easter and Passover

The rich traditions of faith and family come together this week with special significance as Christians and Jews around the world celebrate Easter and Passover. They are celebrations filled with the foundation stories that are recounted ritually each year.

For Christians, Easter is about the redemption of people through the sacrifice of Christ and the eternal life given to those who believe in him. Holy Week retells and commemorates Christ's last days on Earth and his resurrection on Easter Sunday.

For Jews, Passover recounts the remembrance of deliverance and redemption from 400 years of slavery in Egypt and the exodus to the Promised Land. It lasts for eight days and commemorates the sparing of Hebrew families when God punished Egypt by killing the first-born in every family.



Easter is a celebration of resurrection and redemption. Passover celebrates deliverance and liberation. The stories are thousands of years old, but their messages transcend time. Even today people from Libya, Afghanistan and Somalia seek

to be saved and to be delivered from oppression.

What would we say or what would do if these two historic events took place today? What would we post on Facebook about them?

Would we like, would we comment, would we share? What would we tweet? Who would get our Instagram?

In this day of being connected 24/7, it is not technology but the words of people we don't know, from a different time and a different place who continue to offer us hope of freedom, renewal, redemption and resurrection.

It is our faith that guides us, and it is that faith that is being renewed this week.

Whether you worship Easter Sunday at a church or are concluding Passover with your family at home, know that those around you are also sharing in the hope and the renewal that faith offers.

GUEST COLUMN

Arts play key role in state's economic future

By Jennifer Goulet
Guest Columnist

Collaborate. Create. Connect. These themes set the stage at the Governor's Economic Summit in mid-March that strategically engaged business, education and emerging leaders to define approaches aligning Michigan's rich talent supply with the workforce needs of Michigan's employers. As Michigan continues on a strategic pathway of reinvention, we have important decisions to make.

How can we maximize our state's assets in innovation and creativity to equip emerging talent to possess the skills needed by employers today and into the future? What must we do to ensure talent is attracted to live and work in Michigan communities, finding both meaningful career opportunities and a vibrant quality of life?

Studies abound documenting the critical role the arts play in educating our children: not only through arts programs like music, theater or dance but also by incorporating the arts throughout academic curriculum. With inclusion of the arts in education, students gain valuable skills in creative and innovative problem-solving; critical thinking and reasoning; teamwork; and communication. Results for increased academic achievement overall, and especially in subjects like science, math, engineering and technology, a mastery of which is in high demand, have been a proven benefit of integrated arts.

Many of these skills were directly detailed as "projected demand" skills by 2018 at the Governor's Economic Summit. The arts prepare our students to gain these top-ranked skills employers need and ensure a talented workforce for our future. We must engage all of our assets to prepare our students.

And yet, there's much work ahead to guarantee Michigan's students have access to the arts in their schools and educational experience. The Michigan Arts Education Census, released in September 2012 by ArtServe Michigan and Michigan Youth Arts, confirmed the grim reality that at least 108,000 K thru 12 students in Michigan schools have no access to the arts. None.

This is in sobering contrast to the notion of equipping our future talent to meet the needs of Michigan's employers for continued economic growth statewide. We must bring this number to "zero" by embracing strategic and collective efforts across public, private and nonprofit sectors to secure a future of equitable access to the arts and creativity for all Michigan students.

We also can't lose sight of the importance placemaking plays in attracting and retaining talent in Michigan communities. The Summit referenced a study from the Michigan Colleges Foundation indicating placemaking as an important factor in keeping college graduates in Michigan, with 42 percent of graduates citing vibrant communities as a necessity for post-graduate life. The arts contribute significantly to generating that community vibe where the spirit of creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship is valued and nurtured and where creative minds seek to locate and be inspired by their peers.

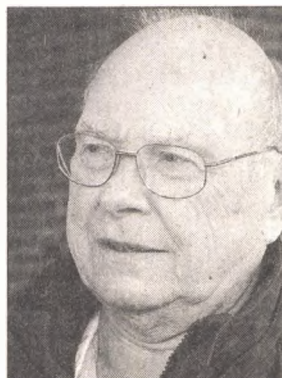
While the arts are so often perceived as "great to have" but not essential, especially in tight economic times, we must embrace its critical role in equipping tomorrow's talented workforce, creating job and economic opportunities and cultivating a vibrant sense of place in our communities. We urge support of the Governor's recommended \$1 million increase in the state's investment in its arts and cultural assets for FY 2014 - an important step in rebuilding funding to levels more closely aligned with the creative sector's significant return on investment for Michigan. The creative industries must be engaged in the "heavy-lifting" of Michigan's economic development strategies, or we miss the strategic advantage that could lie ahead.

Jennifer Goulet is the president and CEO of ArtServe Michigan. She can be reached at jennifer@artserve-michigan.org.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Which team, the University of Michigan or Michigan State, has the better chance at making it into the Final Four in the NCAA basketball tournament, and why?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



"I have no idea. I really don't care. The last time I went to a sporting event — and my wife as well — is when we were in college. I was bored with it then. I'm bored with it now."

John Schmidt
Plymouth Township



"I would say Michigan. I would base that on their path, the (teams) they have to face to get there. ... I think they're both going to advance to at least the next round."

Christine Cummings
Plymouth Township



"I'm saying Michigan State, because I went to Michigan State, and my daughter goes there."

Mary Krebs
Canton Township



"Well, I'm going to say Michigan. My husband's a big Michigan fan."

April Maikowski
Plymouth Township

LETTERS

Part of the solution

Thinking and asking for alternative ideas to fund roads is a great idea.

What are your ideas? People are always critical but offer no solutions. Step up and offer alternatives to raising taxes. Past legislators have always passed their poor choices on to us, the taxpayers. You want representation, you got it with Heise and Colbeck.

Get involved and help them solve our issues. If you're not part of the solution you're part of the problem.

Andrew Brandt
Canton

Incredible opportunity

My wife, Sally, and I moved to Plymouth in 1972 because of the excellent reputation of the Plymouth-Canton school system. We were not disappointed as both our children received an excellent education and were able to complete advanced degrees leading to a professional life.

Our grandchildren are now enrolled in our school system. If we are to ensure the high quality of local education, for all our children and grandchildren, we must support the efforts to maintain our facilities.

I am a senior citizen. It is often tempting to say, "I have done enough, it is now their turn." However, building a strong community is a lifelong endeavor. We know the area is facing an uncertain financial future. I have learned that the greatest investment we can make, for the future of our community, is a strong educational system. Our children and our nation will prosper to the extent we provide educational opportunities today.

Sally and I are strong supporters of

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.

the May 7 bonding issue proposed by our school board. The bond issue provides an incredible opportunity to make all the proposed enhancements without raising our school taxes above the current rate. Please join us in getting out the yes vote for our children's future.

Dennis Bila
former mayor, City of Plymouth

EEF thanks

I had the recent privilege of chairing the Educational Excellence Foundation's annual Wine Tasting and Strolling Dinner Benefit held at the Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center. I appreciated seeing board members and administrators in attendance as well as many local dignitaries and so many others who attended in support of this worthy cause.

On behalf of our foundation I'd like to recognize some of the local businesses who were instrumental in the success of this event: Our "Land a Deal on Wheels" Dealership sponsors Dick Scott Dodge Chrysler Jeep, Hines Park Lincoln, Lou LaRiche Chevrolet and Victory Honda in Plym-

outh as well as Tennyson Chevrolet in Livonia, Atchinson Ford in Belleville and Jack Demmer Ford in Wayne for their generous contributions to our event.

In addition, I really appreciate all of the wonderful foods provided and served by the Courthouse Grill, Espresso Elevado, Happy's Pizza, Kilwin's, Red Olive Restaurant, Leo's Coney Island on Five Mile and Sheldon and E.G. Nicks in Plymouth, the Beirut Bakery in Redford, Olga's Kitchen in Canton, Noodles & Company in Livonia, the Dearborn Sausage Company in Dearborn, Sysco Detroit, Fox Hills, Busch's Fresh Market and Diana Woodward and her talented Culinary Arts students.

I especially need to applaud our major event sponsors, Busch's Fresh Markets, Alphagraphics Printing and the Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center, for their continued support of our efforts.

... this was truly a community-driven event.

From our Gold Sponsors Community Financial, National Home Lending & Canton Soccer to our Silver Sponsors Hugs Hearing Center, Fountain & Hock Dentistry, Skyway Precisions, Monroe Bank & Trust, the Plymouth-Canton Education Association, Plymouth-Canton Board of Education, Neville Financial, Sen. Patrick Colbeck, Title Direct, Kohl's, Rep. Kurt Heise and our Valet Sponsors Keller Williams & Ross Mortgage, they all are in part responsible for the success of this event.

The proceeds from last year's event were used in a variety of ways to support education in our district.

Jim Harb
Plymouth-Canton EEF

Bentivolio: Government spending out of control

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

The numbers are staggering.

The United States faces a national debt of \$17 trillion. Federal spending for 2013 is estimated at \$3.8 trillion. The sequester budget alone was estimated at \$85 billion.

On Wednesday, U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio highlighted his push to cut government spending and gave a legislative update to a breakfast audience consisting of members of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce at Schoolcraft College.

Bentivolio believes Congressional spending is out of control.

"If we were to pay \$1 trillion off, we have to cut \$500 million each week for four years," Bentivolio said. That amount — 2½ percent — is all that needs to be cut to reach the \$1 trillion, Bentivolio said. "Do you think you could cut 2½ percent from your budget? Sure. Why can't the government?"

Bentivolio said opponents of the cuts say that travelers will wait in longer lines because of fewer TSA agents or police and fire furloughs will



BILL BRÉSLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Congressman Kerry Bentivolio speaks with Livonia architect Ben Tisio.

impact public safety, but Bentivolio believes the number of federal employees can be cut in other areas. "What about the bureaucrats in between?" he asked. "It's amazing how much we are wasting on government programs."

Obamacare will drive up costs

The Affordable Health Care Act will add to those costs and regulations, he said.

As an example of gov-

ernment regulation, Bentivolio cited his reindeer ranch. Bentivolio, who used the reindeer to participate in parades over the past 20 years, had the area fenced, but was required by the state to send in an inspection report and pay \$400 each year.

Bentivolio said he inspected his fence "every day" to make sure his investment — his reindeer — didn't run away. "And they sent a DNR agent to my house," Bentivolio said. "Unbelievable."

Bentivolio introduced

his first bill in February, which offers small business owners a six-month grace period to correct a violation of federal regulations without penalty, as long as the violation "doesn't threaten or jeopardize human life."

On health care, Bentivolio said even Congress doesn't know what the Affordable Health Care Act will cost. "We know it will raise taxes, and bankrupt the country," Bentivolio said. "Even if taxes go up, we won't be able to pay for it in six years."

Bentivolio compared government health care programs to his days serving in the military when he needed a prescription. It took two days from the pharmacy on the base, when he could have received the prescription within two hours at a local retail store, he said.

One of the attendees asked Bentivolio what he was doing to get his message on government spending to the public. Bentivolio said he created a video on his website to discuss the sequester. "Let's put it in perspective so that everyone can understand it," Bentivolio said.

Bentivolio also has opened an office on Commerce Township near M-5 and Maple Road.

Immigration issue

On immigration, Bentivolio said he expected to tour the Arizona and New Mexico borders in early April to learn more about the immigration issue. Some immigrants cross the border illegally to enjoy the same economic freedoms as Americans, Bentivolio said. "They are still breaking the law."

Some who cross the border illegally try to get benefits, namely Social Security, and even unemployment, Bentivolio said. Government agencies are rated on the number of "customers" they obtain for these benefits,

he said.

On the other hand, workers are needed for jobs in this country, he added. Produce is rotting in the fields of Alabama, New Mexico and Arizona because no workers are available to pick them, Bentivolio said. "We are going to need those workers," Bentivolio said. "My job is to look at the pros and cons."

Attendees at the breakfast agreed with Bentivolio on some of the issues.

Pamela Armon, community director of Oakmont in Livonia, attended the breakfast with another Oakmont employee.

"When you live here in Livonia, it's important to know what is going on in Washington," Armon said.

On the issues, Armon believed government can't always take care of everyone. "We have a hard time taking care of our own, let alone additional people from another country," she said.

Tom Karabatakis, owner of Promotional Concepts, thought Bentivolio was honest and liked his discussion about regulations. But Karabatakis was also frustrated. "You hear problems but not solutions," Karabatakis said. "You need some action to find some solutions. It's frustrating. Everyone is always talking about the problems. You need someone to sit down and decide to run with it."

Council on Aging, Hospice present series

The Plymouth Community Council on Aging and Hospice of Michigan present a series focused on caregivers and those who need hospice services.

- "Caring for the Caregiver," Thursday, April 4, noon (fitness room) — This talk will walk caregivers through the caregiver kit Hospice of Michigan has devel-

oped. The kit offers caregivers practical suggestions, tools and resources to assist them with caregiving.

- "Have You Had The Talk?" Thursday, April 25, noon (fitness room) — This talk will walk caregivers through the "Have You Had The Talk" kit Hospice of Michigan has developed. The kit offers worksheets, tools and

resources to assist clients should they ever need to rely on someone else for medical care and decision making. Officials said the best time to plan and prepare is "when there is no emergency, no crisis, no scrambling."

- "Except for Six," Thursday, May 2, 12:30 p.m. (banquet center) — The one-hour Hospice of Michigan documenta-

ry film "Except for Six" takes a subject Hospice officials said "most of us would rather ignore and humanizes it. It is a reflection on the time of a person's life that everyone must eventually deal with — the end of it."

The Plymouth Cultural Center is located at 525 Farmer in Plymouth. To RSVP, call (734) 453-1234, ext. 236.

Pension recipients...have you been offered the option to receive a lump sum payment from your employer?

Call us today to talk about what options may be right for you.

Ameriprise Financial

37677 Pembroke Ave. • Livonia, MI 48152 • 734-432-6490

Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA and SIPC. © 2011 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.

The All New Don Massey Cadillac

In Plymouth

Come see our brand new state-of-the-art repair facility at

40475 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI

Introducing...**SAME DAY SERVICE**



FREE WINTER SAFETY INSPECTION

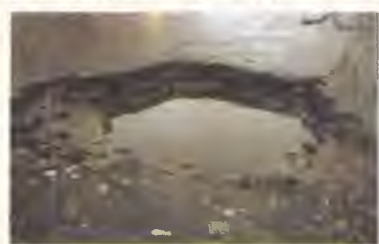
Includes: Battery & Charging System, Check & Fill all Fluid Levels, Brake & Suspension Systems, & Condition of Tires. Call Today for an Appointment. Expires 4-15-13.



20% OFF ANY SERVICE, REPAIR, PARTS, ACCESSORIES & BOUTIQUE ITEMS

Up to \$100 in Total Savings.

Valid at Don Massey Cadillac Plymouth only. Must be presented at time of write up. Not valid with any other offers or in-store specials. Excludes tires. Does not include sales tax, hazardous waste fees or shop supplies. See dealer for details. Expires 4-15-13.



\$99.00 POT HOLE SPECIAL

Includes: Tire Balance & Rotation, & Front End Alignment

Valid at Don Massey Cadillac Plymouth only. Must be presented at time of write up. Valid on most cars and light duty trucks. See dealer for details. Expires 4-15-13.



FREE LOANER CARS

With any collision center repair.

We service all makes and models. We are a direct repair facility for many major insurance companies. Full warranty on all repairs. Expires 4-15-13.

Hours of operation: Mon., Thurs. 7:30 am - 7:00 pm; Tues., Wed., Fri. 7:30 am - 6:00 pm; Sat. 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Call Today for an Appointment

(734) 453-7500

www.donmasseycadillac.com

Live Here, for the Best of Your Life® - at half the cost of assisted living!

Abbey Park
INDEPENDENT SENIOR LIVING

You Deserve the Very Best!

SPRING SPECIAL! \$400 Spring Shopping Spree for New Tenants moving into Abbey Park at Mill River during the month of April.

The offer is valid at the Lyon Township location only and expires 4/30/13. A copy of this ad must be presented along with the security deposit, rental application and first month's rent to qualify. Resident must take occupancy of apartment by May 1st. A \$400 gift card will be presented to the new resident at the completion of 90 days of residency.

Nine floor plans to choose from, all including services and style to rival a fine hotel.

- Home Cooked Lunch or Dinner*
- Luxurious Dining Room
- Coffee Shop
- Game Room
- 24 Hour Staffing
- Exercise Room
- Library
- Friendly Staff
- Beauty / Barber Shop
- Country Store
- Movie Theater
- Chapel
- Planned Activities and Outings
- Beautiful Indoor Lounge Area
- Outdoor Court Yards

Our Extras Make the Difference

For more information, please call

Grand Blanc

at Geneys Health Park
3221 E. Baldwin Rd.
Grand Blanc, MI
(810) 606-1110

Lyon Township

Across from Coyote Golf Club
28413 Abbey Lane
New Hudson, MI
(248) 437-6550

www.abbeypark.com

Find us on facebook



Make your Holiday Egg-stra Special with Easter Plants & Fresh Flowers from Joe's.



Come see our beautiful selection of blooming Easter Lilies,
Hydrangeas, Pansies & Tulips just to name a few...
Starting at \$6.99 each

All of us at Joe's wish you a Joyous Easter!

Hours: Monday - Saturday 9 am - 8 pm • Closed Easter Sunday

33152 W. SEVEN MILE RD • LIVONIA, MI 248.477.4333 (JOE'S PRODUCE) 248.477.4323 (JOE'S MEAT & SEAFOOD)

PRODUCE

Chiquita Golden Whole Pineapples 2/\$5	California All Green Asparagus \$1.99 lb	Louisiana Sweet Potatoes 59¢ lb	Driscoll's California Strawberries 2/\$5	California Mild & Sweet Red Peppers 2/\$4 <small>pkgs \$2.00 pkg</small>	California Baby Cutie Clementines 99¢ lb <small>Loose</small>
--	--	---	--	--	---

Joe's Meat & Seafood

Dearborn Spiral Sliced Flame Glazed Ham \$3.99 lb			Atlantic Salmon Fillets \$6.99 lb.		
USDA Premium Choice Angus Standing Rib Roast \$8.99 lb <small>Save \$1.00 lb</small>	Fresh All Natural Locally Raised USDA Choice Lamb Rack of Lamb Lamb Rib Chops \$16.99 lb <small>Save \$3.00 lb</small>	Housemade Polish or Bulk Breakfast Sausage \$2.99 lb <small>Save \$1.00 lb</small>	Wild Caught Cod \$5.99 lb <small>Save \$3.00 lb</small>	Ready to Eat Shrimp \$7.99 lb <small>31/40 CT.</small>	
USDA Premium Choice Angus Porterhouse & T-Bone Steaks \$7.99 lb <small>Save \$2.00 lb</small>	Lamb Shoulder Chops Leg of Lamb Lamb Shanks \$5.49 lb <small>Save \$1.50 lb</small>	All Natural Pork Crown Roast \$3.49 lb <small>Save \$1.00 lb</small>	Lobster Tails starting at \$5.99 each	Wild Caught Mahi Mahi \$7.99 lb <small>Save \$2.00 lb</small>	

DELI

Boar's Head Sweet Slice Ham \$6.99 lb Boar's Head <small>Save \$3.00 lb</small>	Dietz & Watson Gourmet Lite Turkey \$6.99 lb <small>Save \$4.00 lb</small>	Amish Pride Spiral Hams \$2.99 lb <small>Save \$1.00 lb</small>	Hoffman's Salami \$4.99 lb <small>Save \$2.00 lb</small>	Dearborn Honey Maple Turkey \$6.49 lb <small>Save \$1.50 lb</small>	
Boar's Head Everroast Chicken \$6.99 lb Boar's Head <small>Save \$2.00 lb</small>	Dietz & Watson Swiss Cheese \$7.49 lb <small>Save \$1.00 lb</small>	Havarti Plain Cheese \$5.99 lb <small>Save \$3.00 lb</small>	Hoffman's Super Sharp Cheddar Cheese \$5.99 lb <small>Save \$4.00 lb</small>	Dearborn Pepper Turkey \$6.49 lb <small>Save \$1.50 lb</small>	

GROCERY

Danish Maid-Easter Butter Lambs	2/\$5
Garlic Expressions Salad Dressings & Marinade	2/\$7
Marzetti Refrigerated Salad Dressing <small>All Varieties</small>	2/\$6
Lays Potato Chips & Doritos Buy One Get One Free <small>(Excludes Baked & Kettle)</small>	
Dairy Fresh Medium Eggs	5/\$5 doz

Everyday GOURMET

Brown Sugar Dijon Glazed Ham	\$6.99 lb <small>Save \$1.00 lb</small>
Sweet Potato Casserole	\$3.99 lb <small>Save \$1.00 lb</small>
Scalloped Potatoes	\$3.99 lb <small>Save \$2.00 lb</small>
Deviled Eggs	\$3.99 6 ct
Colored Easter Eggs	\$3.99 6 ct

BAKERY

Vanilla Bavarian with Fresh Fruit	Small \$16.99 Large \$26.99
Carrot Cake with Golden Raisins & Walnuts	\$23.99 each
Easter Lofthouse Cookies are here!	
	\$3.99 each
Joe's Peach Pie	\$10.99 <small>Save \$2.00</small>
Easter Cupcakes	\$2.99 each
<small>Try Our Pies: Coconut Cream, Lemon Meringue & Key Lime</small>	\$12.99 & up <small>Great for Easter</small>

We Now Have Oberon Beer \$8.99 6 PK + DEP.
Save \$1.00

Part of bread

248-477-4311

EGG BREAD 2/\$5	ENGLISH MUFFIN BREAD 2/\$5
HOT CROSS BUNS \$3.99 4 pk or \$1.29 each	CINNAMON SWIRL BREAD \$2.99 each <small>Save \$1.00</small>

CAFE

Joe's Fresh Roasted Coffee	Flavor of the Week: "Chocolate Fudge" \$8.99 lb <small>Save \$1.00 lb</small>
<small>Joe's Bulk Department has everything you need to make Easter Special!! Sanders Chocolate Eggs & Bunnies Jelly Belly Beans & Spring Mix...Bunny Corn too Beautiful Ready to Go Easter Baskets for Every Budget</small>	
<small>Healthy Basket Fillers-Luna Bars, Kind Bars & Good Greens Bars</small>	2/\$4
<small>COME SEE WHAT'S BLOOMING IN JOE'S FLORAL DEPARTMENT</small>	
<small>Easter Lilies</small>	\$8.99 & up
<small>Bulb Plants</small>	Starting at \$3.99 & up
<small>Glorious Spring Bouquets</small>	\$10.99 & up
<small>Fresh Cut Tulips</small>	\$6.99 bunch
<small>Daffodils</small>	\$2.99 bunch

WINE CELLAR

Rosenblum Pink Moscato	\$9.99 <small>Save \$3.00 • A Great Apéritif Wine</small>
Krayer Riesling Halbtrocken	\$12.99 <small>Save \$2.00</small>
<i>Outstanding with Holiday Ham</i>	
Anabella Cabernet	\$12.99 <small>Save \$2.00</small>
<i>Perfect with Lamb Chops</i>	
Wine Tasting Dinner FEATURING "WINES FROM THE BOOT" March 28th @ 6:30 pm ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY \$50.00	

SECTION B . (CP)
THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2013
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR
tsmith@hometownlife.com
(734) 469-4128

GIRLS SOCCER PREVIEW - PT. 2

Duhl no stranger to Salem soccer

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Scott Duhl knows all about the Salem way, first as a first-team all-state player in the 1990s and then in recent years as an assistant coach to Ed McCarthy.

Duhl also has several years under his belt as a coach within the Salem girls soccer program, most recently in 2010.

That familiarity will help Duhl as he succeeds Joe Nora at the helm of the Salem varsity girls soccer team this season, which began Wednesday night against Livonia Churchill.

"Taking over for Joe Nora will be very difficult," emphasized Duhl, in a recent e-mail to the *Observer*. "Joe had over 100 career wins and had a lot

of soccer experience both playing and coaching. Joe was also a coach of mine as a youth player growing up in Plymouth-Canton.

"So, being that I coached along side of him and had him as a coach, I have high regard for him and think he did a great job in his tenure."

Duhl, an assistant for McCarthy since 2004, also has plenty of sideline experience with elite club programs. On his resume are stints with the Michigan Wolves (2007 to present), U16 CSA Wolves Academy (2010 to present) and Michigan Bucks semiprofessional men's team (2011, 2012).

Another aspect of Nora's coaching philosophy that Duhl brings is his penchant for getting the most out of what he has on the roster.



Duhl

Please see SOCCER, B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

One of the top returnees for Salem's varsity girls soccer team is junior defender Olivia Kaye (No. 8), shown during a 2012 game.

Canton youth grid camps

Several Canton Chiefs football camps are just around the corner.

• From June 10-13 and July 15-18 (5-7:30 p.m. for each Monday-through-Thursday session) is the Canton Football Skills Camp for kids entering grades seven-nine in the fall. Call Canton freshman head coach Rich Mui at (248) 229-2738 for more information.

• The Canton Football Wing T Camp is slated to take place 2-5 p.m. Monday, June 17, and 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, June 18, through Thursday, June 20. It is for players entering grades 10-12. Call Canton varsity head coach Tim Baechler at (734) 455-7691 for more information.

• From Monday, June 24, through Thursday, June 27, (from 9 a.m. to noon each day) will be the Canton Football Fundamental Camp, for youngsters entering grades three-six in the fall. For more information, contact Enza Lanava at (313) 300-1173.

All of the sessions will take place at the Canton High School varsity football field.

Chiefs score big to help out Kelly's Kidz

'The money we donated is going to do something fantastic for the community. And that is more important than the players receiving a gift at the banquet.'

PAIGE ARESKO,
Canton player

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Stuffing the ball through baskets has nothing over stuffing envelopes to help Kelly's Kidz.

Just ask the Canton varsity girls basketball team, which at Sunday's team banquet donated a check for an undisclosed amount to the local charity — money that will enable as many as eight children with special needs to play baseball in the Miracle League later this year.

"The money we donated is going to do something fantastic for the community," junior forward Paige Aresco emphasized. "And that is more important than the play-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Here, Canton varsity girls basketball players listen to instruction from their coaches, Brian Samulski and Bob Blohm during a 2012-13 game. The coaches also want their players to be solid citizens off the court, as they demonstrated with a recent donation to Kelly's Kidz.

ers receiving a gift at the banquet."

Aresco and others on the Chiefs already are active in community service, many through the National Honor Society.

In November, noted Aresco, the varsity team went to the house of Kel-

ly's Kidz co-founder Kelly Hermann (sister-in-law of Canton girls basketball coach Brian Samulski) to stuff envelopes for their fundraising efforts. The players have done so for the past several years.

This year, it was decided time and money would

be the way to go.

"Kelly's Kidz is such a fantastic organization," Aresco said. "And since we are familiar with them, we thought they would be a perfect charity to donate to."

The team collected money through various

fundraising endeavors as well as through the sale of concessions at home games. Funds were earmarked for Kelly's Kidz instead of for player gifts such as coffee mugs or computer mouse pads.

Please see DONATION, B4

League seeks football alums

Full-contact alumni football games are on the way to the Plymouth-Canton area, and Alumni Football USA is on the lookout for past high school players to join the fledgling circuit.

The organization (located at the AlumniFootballUSA.com Web site) is organizing a full-contact football game "representing your old school against a top rival."

According to a press release from media director Christie Rayburn of Alumni Football USA, "These are complete high school rules games. We organize the event and supply all equipment. You supply the greatest hits."

Go to the website listed above or call (866) U-Get-Hit for more information. Only the first 40 players per roster will get to play.

GIRLS TENNIS PREVIEW - PT. 1

Tennis coaches see potential

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Salem's and Canton's varsity girls tennis teams will have a different look in 2013, but coaches remain optimistic for the coming season.

According to Salem coach Lin Ware, the influx of four freshmen to the roster should spark the Rocks — who already feature fourth-year varsity player Ashley Walker at No. 1 singles.

There's no doubt that Walker is the key player. The senior is described by Ware as "a big hitter with an all-around game" who is slated to play women's tennis at Wayne State University.

"One of the freshmen we picked up is Chelsea Yu who will move high into the singles lineup," Ware noted. "Chelsea is a



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ashley Walker, shown in this file photo, is beginning her fourth season with Salem's varsity girls tennis team.

volleyball player and has been a club tennis player for a number of years."

Ware said returning

Please see TENNIS, B3

Canton girls lacrosse clinics

The sport of girls lacrosse is still growing, and youngsters interested in learning to play the sport have a great opportunity.

The Canton Chiefs girls lacrosse team is hosting lacrosse clinics for elementary and middle school kids on Saturday, April 20.

From 10 a.m. to noon will be the clinic for elementary school students; the middle school clinic will be from noon to 2 p.m. The cost is \$35, with no experience required.

To register, go through Plymouth-Canton Community Education at (734) 416-2937 or go to communityeducation.pccs.k12.mi.us for more information.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Among the best

During the 2012-13 varsity girls bowling season, Plymouth's Emily Fraser (left) is congratulated by teammate Caitlyn Webb after throwing a strike. Both were selected to the All-Observer team, which is profiled on B3.

Blazers thaw out, best Churchill

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

At least the sun was out Friday afternoon despite the lingering winter-like weather conditions and temperatures still hovering below 40.

Livonia Ladywood and host Livonia Churchill, however, were able to launch their 2013 girls soccer season on time.

And it was Ladywood that was basking in the sun following a 2-1 victory over the Chargers as junior Jenna Urso tallied the game-winning goal with only 13:54 remaining off an assist from fellow junior Abigail Pelon.

"This is the second time we've been outside, maybe the third," Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker said. "We've been inside the whole week, not outside one time. I think they've been in the same boat. This weather has been unbelievable."

The Blazers, coming off a 21-3-2 season, struck first for a 1-0 advantage on senior Dominique Sarnecky's goal, set up from senior defender Liz Danger with just 1:14 to play in the opening half.

"We have a different look to us, obviously," said Shingledecker, who lost leading scorer Kelly Capoccia (24 goals) and top playmaker Paige Brennan (27 assists) to graduation. "When you take Paige and Kelly out of the equation, it's a different team. We have lots of good players. How they mix together ... we'll wait and see."

The Blazers were missing starting goalkeeper Sara Even and veteran forward DeYana Walker, both whom were out with injuries.

"The possession side of things was spot on," Shingledecker said.

"Then it's a matter of putting the final touches on things ... you've got to score when you possess the ball like we did. We're going to have to get goals from an abundance of people. It's not going to be one. 'Dom' can do it. And when DeYana is here, she'll do it. And Jenna showed she can do it. We have lots of good players and we just have to take care of business. And they will."

Keeping it close

Churchill was forced to defend its end for most of first half, but the Chargers kept it a one-goal game thanks to the goalkeeping of senior Alexis Tzafaroglou.

"She (Tzafaroglou) made all the right decisions today," Churchill first-year coach Reid Friedrichs said. "She made a lot of great saves by being in the right spot. She made a great save right there at the end by coming out. It was a little unlucky on their game-winner because she made another great decision. If my goalie can make the decisions Alexis makes — putting herself in the right spots all the time — then we're going to be a lot better for it."

Churchill made a game of it with 17:22 left in the match on junior Kelsey Parrinello's goal from junior Kacie Murray.

But Urso's goal just 3:38 later proved to be the difference.

Whitney Bauriedl, filling in for Even in goal, received solid play from her defense, led by left back Marissa Ozog, a junior.

"I thought Marissa was excellent," Shingledecker said. "She's always a big part of our attack coming out of the back line and I thought she was really, really good today."

"And (junior) Emily

Huddleston is as a good a midfielder as anybody in the state. I like our team. We've just got to take care of business and score goals."

Meanwhile, despite very limited practice time outdoors, Friedrichs may have found a starter in sophomore Sediqa Nedam.

"I needed a fast defender," the Churchill coach said, "someone who could start and handle the pressure of a game. ... I was looking for one for days and Sediqa plays outside mid and I put her in the center back. When she came out, they (Ladywood) scored and when she came back in they didn't score. She was our best player on the field for us in the first half. She did a great, great job for being in a new position. She's a sophomore and was thrown in the middle because she was needed there and she responded really well. She did great."

Some other Chargers also put in a good work rate as well.

"Kelsey Parrinello played a very good game," Friedrichs said. "Lauren Wynns, the freshman, played well up top, as well as Karly Munroe in the midfield. Rachel Tomassi played well in the back. We did a pretty good job."

Despite the loss, Friedrichs was upbeat about his team's play heading in to two tough road matches this week against Northville (Monday) and Salem (Wednesday).

"For where we've been, we've come a long way," said the Churchill coach, who inherited a 4-10-5 squad from a year ago. "I enjoyed our effort and I was very pleased."

bebons@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6851



PHOTOS BY RENA LAVERTY
Mitchell Heard (No. 15) of the Plymouth Whalers, shown from earlier this season, is one of many players making offensive contributions in the team's first-round OHL series against Sarnia.

Whalers one win from sweep

The Plymouth Whalers are within reach of a sweep of their first-round OHL Western Conference playoff series against Sarnia, following Monday's 5-2 victory in Game 3.

Plymouth jumped out to a 2-0 lead at the RBC Centre in Sarnia before the contest was four minutes old with Rickard Rakeell and Ryan Hartman finding the range against Sting goalie JP Anderson.

After Sarnia got on the board at 5:57, when Nickolas Latta scored an unassisted goal against Plymouth netminder Alex Nedeljkovic, the Whalers regained a two-goal edge before the period ended.

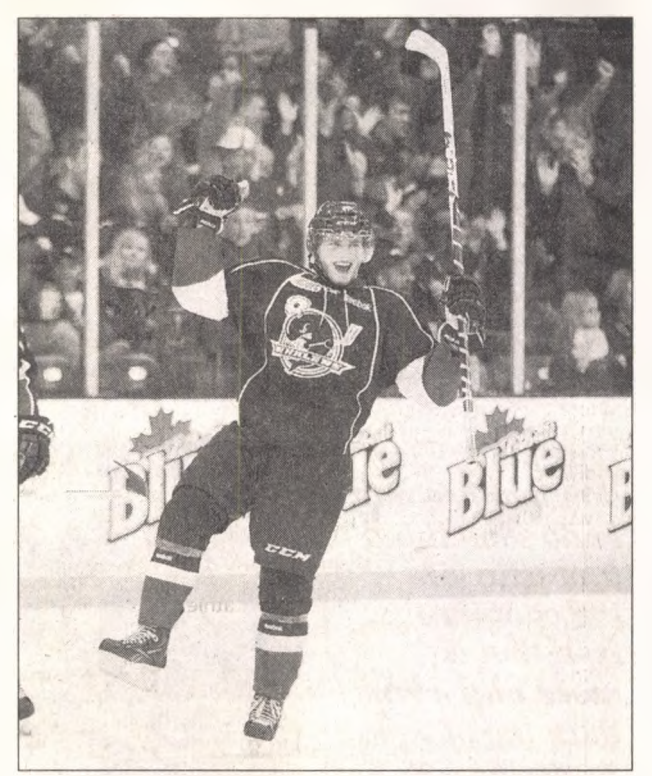
Making it 3-1 at 10:49 of the first was Stefan Noesen, on a play set up by Cody Payne and Vince Trocheck (three assists).

Hartman's second of the game, from Trocheck and Tom Wilson, opened up a 4-1 lead with 13:05 to play in the middle stanza.

Both teams scored in the third, with Rakeell garnering his second marker of the contest at 16:49. Assisting were Noesen and Sebastian Uvira.

Nedeljkovic won for the third straight game against Sarnia, making 19 saves. Anderson stopped 39 of 44 shots directed his way.

The Whalers will have a chance to sweep the series 7 p.m. Wednesday in Sar-



Ryan Hartman, shown from earlier this season, scored twice for the Plymouth Whalers in Game 3 Monday night against Sarnia.

nia. But if the Sting stave off elimination, the teams will reconvene 7 p.m. Friday at Compuware Arena for Game 5.

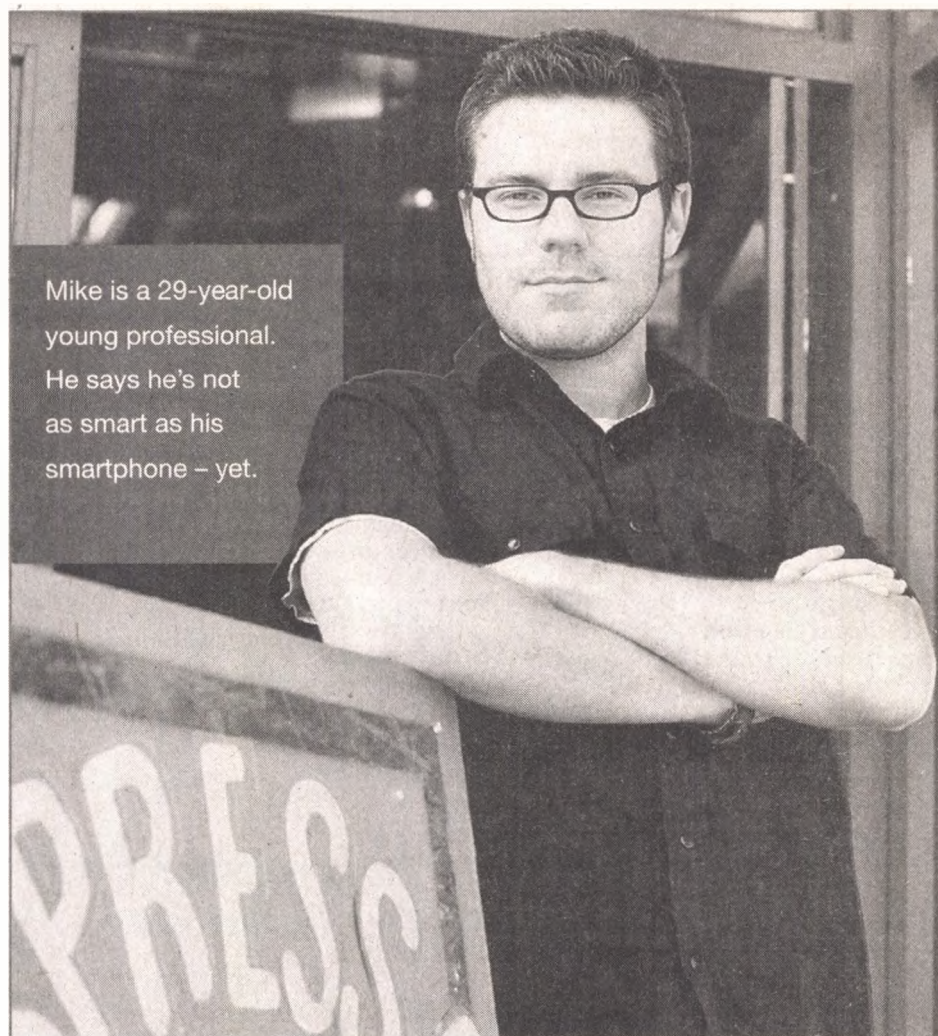
Plymouth opened the best-of-7 series with Friday's 11-2 rout at Compuware. On Saturday, the Whalers hung on for a 3-2 home victory before just under 3,000 fans.

Zach Lorentz and Mitchell Heard each had a goal and an assist with Wilson scoring the other goal for

Plymouth.

The contest was 1-1 after 20 minutes before Lorentz and Wilson each scored in the second stanza to make it a 3-1 contest entering the third. A power-play goal by Sarnia's Reid Boucher closed the gap to a goal and Sarnia kept pressing, outshooting the Whalers 13-7 in the frame.

Nedeljkovic held the fort, however, and Sarnia could not send the game to overtime.



Mike is a 29-year-old young professional. He says he's not as smart as his smartphone — yet.

Do you know what Mike likes? (We do.)

With our audience expertise and targeting, we can help your business reach more Young Professionals like Mike. Find out how O&E Media's solutions — enhanced by partnerships with companies like Yahoo! — make us the local leader in digital marketing.

Call O&E Media Advertising
at: 734-582-8363 or 248-437-2011



Learn more! Visit us online at hometownlife.com

SOCCER

Continued from page B1

High hopes

He doesn't expect that to change this spring, as the Rocks look to make some noise in the KLA Central Division despite being relatively young.

"I have high expectations for the group," Duhl said. "We're going to be a team that at every moment of the game has 11 very capable young women making good choices."

"We might not have a dream team player on the roster, but we have a lot of very good players that want to win and compete at the highest level."

Leading the way on the field will be senior forwards Emily Barfuss and Emma Tardiff, who are both "capable of scoring goals but are very much different how they go about the game. Emi-

ly's energy and ability to beat people off the dribble will cause opponents fits while Emma is a playmaker and more of a target player."

Forward/midfielders Nancy Krutty and Ali Eggenberger, also seniors, are expected to be catalysts as well.

"Both will play critical roles for us if we are going to have any success," Duhl noted.

Other returnees include juniors Olivia Kaye, Taylor Jaaska and Kati Binsfield.

Kaye is Salem's best defender who is an excellent passer and student of the game while Jaaska is poised under pressure while Binsfield is relentless on the pitch.

"All three will play critical roles in the backline, defending and helping build the game as we come forward," he said.

Perhaps the team's most talented player is sophomore Kylie Knight, who

can play in the back or at midfield.

Junior Morgan Siterlet is a solid passer and striker "who we will rely on to cover lots of ground and to play a ton of minutes," Duhl said.

Freshmen with a good chance to make an impact are defender Leah Mossi and midfielder Caroline Simko.

He described Mossi as "fast, composed and a terrific passer" and Simko as a player with the ability "to score from distance as well as make the right pass in the final moment."

Others who Duhl listed as players with potential to help the cause include senior defender/midfielders Sarah Martin and Madie Kummer, juniors Emily Hawks, Beth Miller, Alexa Norman, (goalie) Aly Mann and sophomores Hayley Rodgers and Kaitlyn Pelech.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
(734) 469-4128

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Football clinic

The Livonia Stevenson Youth Football Clinic for students currently in grades 2-6 will be from 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Saturday, May 18 at the high school turf field.

The camp is free. Check-in starts at 9 a.m. at the school's north cafeteria. Clinic T-shirts are available for \$8 (must be received by May 16.

For more information, e-mail Stevenson varsity football coach Matt Fielder at mfielder@livoniapublicschools.org.

Gymnastics camp

The 2013 Livonia Blue summer gymnastics camp will offer three sessions (four days each) for ages 11-and-up from 4-7 p.m. Monday through Friday, June 17-

20, July 15-18 and Aug. 19-22 at the Churchill High School gymnastics room.

The cost is \$70 (one week), \$130 (two weeks) or \$180 (three weeks).

The registration deadline is Friday, June 7.

For more information, e-mail Livonia Blue coach Lisa Broomfield at MissLisa621@yahoo.com.

Egg hunt benefits kids in foster care

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

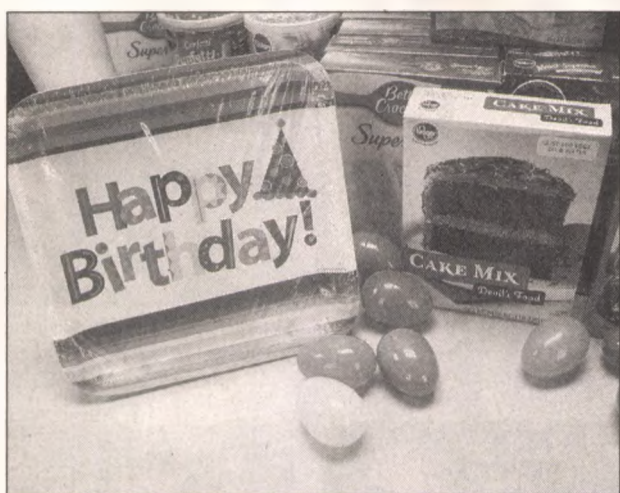
Youngsters will hunt for Easter eggs on Good Friday at Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia, but will give away the goodies connected with their search.

"Basically, I wanted to turn an egg hunt upside down. We tried to give the traditional egg hunt a twist," said Rachel Benton, director of Family and Children's Ministry for the church. "This is something new we're trying out this year. We wanted to offer something for the community ... to celebrate Easter in a meaningful way."

Children will collect plastic eggs and then trade them in for a chance to create a "birthday kit" for a child in foster care at the United Methodist Children's Home in Redford. They'll choose a cake mix, frosting, party supplies, balloons and other components of a birthday celebration. They'll also decorate a gift bag to contain the items.

The church will donate 100 birthday kits to the foster care facility. Benton said the activity helps young participants learn how to give to others.

The egg hunt is one of several events planned during the Easter Fair that will run 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., March 29, at the church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, between Wayne Road and Newburgh.



Children who egg hunt on Good Friday at Newburg United Methodist Church, will get a chance to build birthday kits for youngsters in foster care. Kits will contain cake mix, frosting and birthday party supplies.

Lunch will be served and children who participate in six activities will receive a small prize and candy.

"We'll have a couple of crafts, cookie decorating, games like bean bag toss," Benton said. "We have an interactive Bible story that will run through the entire event. It starts with Jesus on Palm Sunday and ends with the Resurrection. We tell the story in engaging and age-appropriate ways."

Youngsters will get a chance to participate in the story by waving palms, tasting "Last Supper" bread, and visiting Jesus' tomb.

"It's our hope that they really feel engaged."

The fair is aimed at families with infants, toddlers and elementary-aged youngsters and is

open to the community. Benton said the church's pastor chose Good Friday for the fair because families — including those planning to attend Wayne County's annual Marshmallow Drop at nearby Nankin Mill in Westland — might be more likely to drive by and drop in.

"It's unconventional, but we thought we'd give it a try. We want people to come and enjoy their time together. Easter is about God's love and the gift of life. Our hope is that by offering this event, families will be able to experience the components of that narrative."

The church will hold its Good Friday service at 7 p.m.

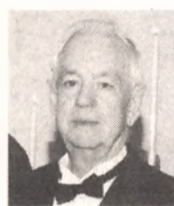
For more information call (734) 422-0149 or visit www.newburgumc.org.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

View Online
www.hometownlife.com

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oeobits@hometownlife.com
Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday



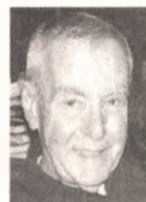
GRAHAM, EWING "DALE"

March 23, 2013; age 86 of Westland. Beloved husband of the late Gloria. Dear father of Sandra (Donald) Holzhazusen, Dwayne (Tammy), and Cynthia (Danny) Costantino. Brother of Wayne. Grandfather of ten and great grandfather of many. Funeral services from The Uht Funeral Home, Westland, Wednesday 10am. Visitation at the funeral home Tuesday 2-9pm. Burial to take place at Parkview Memorial Cemetery, Livonia, Michigan. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhtfh.com.



RAWLINS, MICHAEL B.

Of Monroe, Michigan, home town of Garden City, Michigan. Born February 23, 1983 died unexpectedly Saturday March 23, 2013 one month after his 30th birthday. He was a beloved husband to Kellie and stepfather to Angel, Willie and Destiny. He is also survived by his parents Paul and Debra Rawlins, brother Robert (Holly) and sister Lisa (Tom). He was an amazing Uncle to Allison, Ryan, Keegan and lil Robert. You will forever be in our hearts and prayers. Visitation was Wednesday and will be Thursday, March 28, 2013 12pm until time of service Thursday 2pm at The Ridge Chapel-Martenson Family of Funeral Homes, 2272 West Jefferson, Trenton. Memorial contributions to honor Michael's life may be made payable to DFCU Financial. To share a memory visit www.martenson.com



LEVINE, DR. SEYMOUR EARL

Age 82, of Livonia, Michigan, died March 22, 2013. Dr. LeVine was a retired Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force and an educator in Livonia Public Schools. Beloved husband for 58 years of Maxine LeVine. Cherished father of Ian (Cindy) LeVine, Monica LeVine, Robin Motisi and Peter (fiance Carolyn Davis) LeVine. Proud grandfather of Anthony Motisi and Talia Motisi. Loving brother of Ronald (Doralee) LeVine. Dear brother-in-law of Susan Goldberg and the late Dr. Bertram Goldberg. Also survived by Cindy's children, Dr. Carrie (Major Derek Oliver) Preston and Casey Preston, and many loving nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

SERVICES MONDAY, MARCH 25 AT 12:00 P.M. AT IRA KAUFMAN CHAPEL, 248-569-0020
INTERMENT AT GREAT LAKES NATIONAL CEMETERY IN HOLLY. www.ira kaufman.com

THE IRA KAUFMAN CHAPEL
Bringing Together Family, Faith & Community

OLESNAVAGE, JOSEPH

Joseph Olesnavage, age 92, of Lexington, formerly Birmingham died Sunday March 24. He is survived by his wife Jeannette (Charlier); 5 sons John (Margaret), Joseph (Sue), Mark (Judy), Paul, and Jim (Terri), and daughters Margery (Tom) Vogel, and Mary Ann (John) Cary. Services were held at 11 AM Wednesday March 27 at St. Denis Catholic Church, Lexington.

Read full obituary at www.pomeroyfuneralhomes.com



PAWLAK, ROSEMARY A.

Age 76, March 26, 2013. Beloved wife of the late Alfred Sr. Dear mother of Renee (Paul) Fershee, Toniann (Kim) Taylor, Michael (Kim) and the late Alfred Jr. Mother-in-law of Diane Pawlak. Grandmother of Daniel, Cory, Ivory, Benjamin, Connor, Joey and the late Erika. Sister of Joanna McKay. Visitation Friday 3-9 pm with an evening Rosary. Funeral service Saturday 10am at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 N. Inkster Rd., Garden City (Btwn. Ford Rd. & Cherry Hill). www.santeiufuneralhome.com

Santeiu Funeral Home



RIMER, MARVIN DANIEL

Age 85, March 24, 2013. Marvin was the loving husband of the late Eleanor Rimer (McPhail) for 46 years and the late Dorothy Rimer (Thomas) for 11 years, the dear father of Kenneth (Jan), Daniel (Helene) and Ted and beloved son of the late John and Martha Rimer. He is also survived by his loving grandchildren; Jessica, Kyle, Erin, Sara, Emily and Kelsey, as well as his brother John. Marvin was predeceased by his sister Dolores Sinclair and brothers; Russell and Donald (Tiny) and step brother Roger and brother in law James McPhail. Marvin was a Marine veteran. He was a union carpenter for 65 years. Marvin loved being a Sunday School Teacher at Redford Baptist Church for over 50 years. He was a huge Constantine Falcons fan. A memorial visitation will take place on Tues. March 26, 2013 from 5-9pm. A memorial service will be on Wed. March 27, 2013 with Pastor Danny Langley officiating. Both services will take place at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 W. Six Mile (East of Newburgh), Livonia, Michigan 48152. Interment will take place at Parkview Cemetery in Livonia. In lieu of flowers, Marvin's family asks that donations be made to Cross Point Meadows Church, Constantine Track/football or I Am My Brothers Keeper Church of Detroit. A guest book can be signed at www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

March

BETHANY

Time/Date: 8 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, March 30

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

Details: Bethany, an organization serving Catholics and other Christians, offers a singles dance. Tickets are \$13. Beer, wine, pop, snacks and coffee are included

Contact: (586) 264-0284

CAMP ENROLLMENT

Time/Date: Now through May 31

Location: Consuming Fire Christian Center, 31463 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland

Details: The Center is enrolling kids and teens, age 5-15, for its six-week Bible/Home-work Enrichment Camp that will run July 8-Aug. 16. Full day sessions are \$700 and a half-day is \$480. Families get a \$25 discount for added siblings for the full day rate; \$10 discount for the half-day rate. A non-refundable \$100 registration fee at the time of enrollment secures a place at camp. All tuition must be paid in full by May 31. Cost includes the registration fee, snacks, materials for class, tutoring in most subjects and assessment testing

Contact: Melanie Staten or Sylvia Brown at (734) 266-2293

Your Invitation to Worship

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Tridentine Latin Mass
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
38100 Five Mile Road
Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200
Mass Schedule:
First Friday Mass 7:00 p.m.
Saturday Mass 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. ATB78020

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

Rosedale Gardens
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
(between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)
(734) 422-0494
Friends in Faith Service
9:00 am
Traditional Service
10:30 am
Visit www.rosedalegardens.org
For information about our many programs

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

WARD CHURCH
40000 Six Mile Road
Northville, MI 48168
248.374.7400
www.wardchurch.org
Traditional Worship at 8:30 & 11 a.m.
Contemporary Worship at 9:30 & 11 a.m.
Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m.
The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia, Just north of I-96
www.christsaviorsavior.org
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional
Staffed Nursery Available
Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am
Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413
Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ
Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, & Creeden
734-522-6830 ATB782042

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

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

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

A Church for Seasoned Saints
OPEN ARMS CHURCH
Worship: Sunday 10:30 am
Wednesday 7 pm
Pastor Grady Jensen & Music Minister Abe Fazzini
33015 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia 48152
Between Farmington & Merriman
Across from Joe's Produce
248.471.5282
Church As You Remember it!

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
17810 FARMINGTON ROAD
LIVONIA (734)281-1380
WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday: 8:30 A.M. & 11 A.M.
Thursday: 6:30 P.M.
website: www.stpaulsilivonia.org

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church
Adult Sunday: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church
16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road
Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org

UNITY WORLDWIDE MINISTRIES

Friends of Unity
774 North Sheldon Road
Plymouth, MI
(Plymouth Community Arts Building)
www.friendsunity.org
Sunday Service and Youth Programs 10 a.m.
Florence Erman, Licensed Unity Teacher
734.454.0015

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
1343 Penniman • Plymouth
Church: (734) 453-3393
School PreK-8: (734) 453-0460
Website: www.splp.org
WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday Worship 9:30am
EASTER WEEK SERVICES:
Thurs 7pm, Good Fri 1pm,
Sat 7pm, Sun 7am & 9:30am

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Antioch Lutheran Church
13 Mile & Farmington Rd.
(248) 626-7906
www.antiochelca.org
Holy Week Services
Maundy Thursday 1:00 and 7:30 p.m.
Good Friday 7:30 p.m.
Easter Vigil
Saturday at 7:30 p.m.
Easter Worship Services
at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

For Information

regarding this Directory, please call
Sue Sare at 248-437-2011 ext. 247
or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

Power Play

Local band plays classic rock with high energy, experience

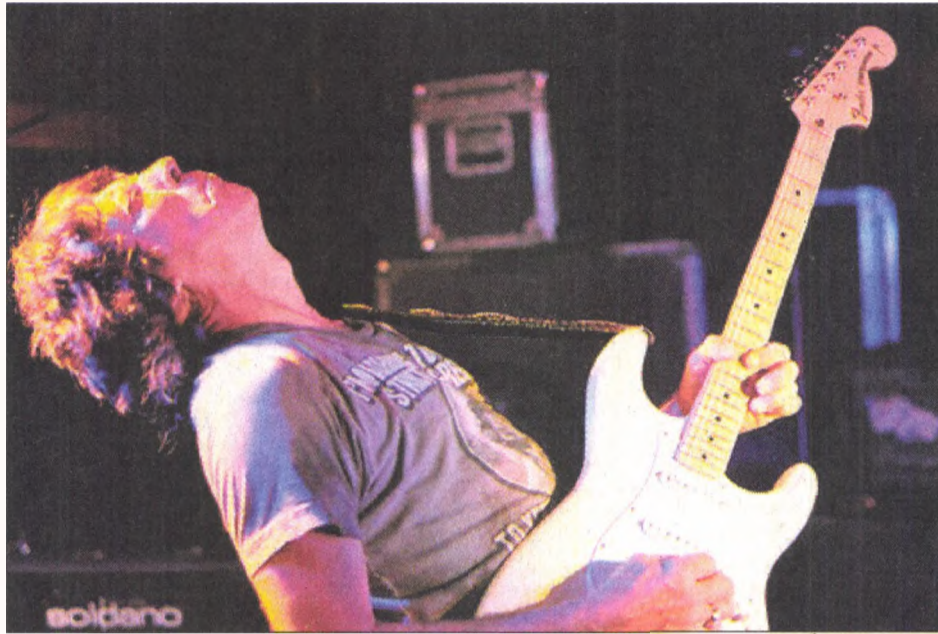
By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Mike Smith knows exactly what sets his group, Power Play, apart from other cover bands — showmanship and experience.

“We do more than just stand there and play,” said Smith, a Livonia resident. “We do what would be like a 70s rock show, where there is a lot of movement. I play guitar behind my back and we go out and interact with the audience.”

“People want to see something that is kind of exciting instead of just a pretty girl in an evening gown and a bunch of overweight, bald guys standing behind her playing. Our band has a younger vibe, even though we’re older guys.”

Smith began playing guitar at age 9 and has performed with numerous bands over the years. Dave Tatro on bass and Mario Resto on drums, both of Livonia, played together with Resto’s brother, Luis, throughout the U.S. and Canada before Smith recruited them for Power Play two years ago. Resto, who plays drums and sings,



Mike Smith, founder of Power Play, rocks out.

composed and produced two CDs and has written music for television, radio and Web projects. April Hudson, vocals, sang with various local bands before joining Power Play a little over a year ago. Smith founded the band five years ago, but didn’t find the right mix of performers until Tatro, Resto and Hudson came along.

“It went through different combinations,” he said. “The last couple of years we’ve tried to get the group estab-

lished solidly, with some solid booking, a solid following. We’re starting to pick up steam.”

Playing at Spree

With his wife, Tama, in charge of booking for the band, Power Play has picked up regular gigs at T.C. Gators in Canton and Bayside Sports Grill in Walled Lake. The group’s spring-summer schedule also includes weddings, country club appearances, a senior all-night party at North-



www.powerplaydetroit.com

ville High School, Lake-a-Palooza at Grass Lake and a coveted spot in the music line-up on the main stage at Livonia Spree. The band will play the evening of the annual festival’s fireworks display.

“Everything is clicking and hopefully it will continue,” said Tama, who also assists with managing her husband’s carpentry business. “We’re really excited about Spree. I’m always looking for new opportunities, but the band sells itself once they play somewhere and people see them.”

She said the band plays mostly classic rock, but includes some current sounds. The set list is an eclectic mix of music by Cee Lo Green, Adele, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Maroon 5, AC/DC, Rolling Stones, Pink, Foo Fighters, Ozzy Osbourne and Dave Matthews, among many others.

“The musicians have been around and are a cut above the rest. They’ve been in the business a long time. That’s what makes them special.”

Performing nightly
Tama and Mike Smith



Weekdays, April Hudson works with heavy machinery outdoors at Schoolcraft College. On weekends she sings with Power Play.



Mario Resto of Livonia sings and plays drums with Power Play.



Dave Tatro of Livonia plays bass and sings.

met while working at Jamie’s on 7, a popular spot for live music in Livonia several years ago. She was a waitress and he played with a house band called Undercover.

“We played over 3,000 nights — 300 nights a year for 10 years. That was 1982-92,” Mike Smith recalled. “Those were very formative years for me. We used to have national acts come in from time to time and we got a chance to play as a warm-up for them. When you’re playing night after night, that’s where you really develop your chops. You learn to work a live audience and read the room. A lot of bands make a set list and never vary from it. But we’ll change on the fly. That’s something that comes with experience.”

After Smith left Jamie’s, he focused on family — the couple have three sons — recording in his home studio and working in his carpentry business.

“I just got back into the live (performances) about five years ago. I had kind of dropped out of it,” he said. An acquaintance from his years at Jamie’s invited him to play with a band. He did, but it didn’t take long before he assembled his own group.

“We all get along. I love playing with these guys,” said Hudson, whose day job entails snow removal, mowing and other grounds maintenance at Schoolcraft College. She looks forward to their appearance at Livonia Spree because it will introduce the band to “a whole new group of people.”

“I’m super excited,” she said.

You don’t have to wait for Livonia Spree to see Power Play. Catch their act at 9 p.m. Saturday, April 20, at Bayside Sports Grill, 142 E. Walled Lake Drive, in Walled Lake. They also will perform at 9 p.m. Saturday, May 18, at T.C. Gators 42775 Ford Road, Canton.

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
hometownlife.com MEDIA
A GANNETT COMPANY

Surprising people all over town!

ENTER TO

Win

Fun and exciting contests and events week after week. Look for contests in your local newspaper, Special Section Inserts and online... GREAT PRIZES GREAT FUN

You could win!

www.hometownlife.com



Concert raises funds to feed the hungry

Tom Birchler of Livonia will take the stage at Marian High School in Bloomfield Hills, along with his brothers, Dave, Keith, Jim and John, for the family’s “Jammin’ to End Famine” concert on April 26.

The concert was inspired by the brothers’ father, Don Birchler, who reached out to help others when needed. Proceeds from the concert will pay for food that will be packaged by volunteers at a Kids Against Hunger event in June at Marian.

“All of the Birchlers had our first experiences performing on this very stage back in our high school days,” Tom Birchler wrote in a press release. “I remember winning the Marian/Rice talent show there and getting seriously bitten by the performing bug.”

The sixth annual concert will start with a pre-concert reception and sweet table in the school auditorium lobby from 7-8 p.m. Music will start at 8 p.m. Marian High School is located at 7225 Lahser.

Performers will include The Paisley Fogg, a 1960s-style rock band, featur-

ing David, Keith and Tom Birchler; The Grunyns, a jazz a Cappella group with John Birchler; and Moose Wampler & the Overdays, a 1950s party rock group, featuring Jim Birchler.

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students. They are available at the door or in advance by e-mailing Tom Birchler at tbirchler@mi.rr.com or by calling (248) 722-1830.

Kids Against Hunger works with churches and local nonprofits to package its specially formulated soy casserole for delivery in the US and 40 other countries to feed starving children and their families. Since 2004, volunteers have packaged more than 10 million meals in Michigan. They’ve been distributed to disaster victims, starving people worldwide and to food shelters in the Great Lakes states. Since 2008, Jammin’ to End Famine has raised funds for more than 75,000 of those meals.

For more about Kids Against Hunger, visit www.kidsagainsthungercoalition.com. For more about Jammin’ to End Famine, visit www.thepaisleyfogg.com/shows.



The Stray Birds will perform April 12 at Trinity Theatre in Livonia.



The Farmington Hills-based Chamber Music Society of Detroit will present Gryphon in concert April 6 at the Seligman Center in Beverly Hills.

GET OUT!

Arts Crafts

CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: Exhibit runs through April 12
Location: In the Costick Center lobby, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: Works by Farmington Hills resident, Bob Aikins
Contact: Aikins at www.AikinsAviationArt.com; (248) 473-1800 for Costick Center
DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday
Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit
Family Sundays: 2 p.m. Sundays; storytelling, performances; free with admission
Exhibits: Motor City Muse: Detroit Photographs: Then and Now, through June 16; Shirin Neshat, includes eight video installations and two series of photos, April 7-July 7; printmaking by Ellsworth Kelly, May 24-Sept. 8
Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

GALLERY@VT

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, through March 26
Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: Works by the Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild
Contact: (734) 394-5308

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and during public events, through April
Location: Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth
Details: "Spaces & Places," is the PCAC's 4th annual open juried exhibit
Contact: (734) 416-4278

Film

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 29-30
Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth
Details: "Hop," a 2001 animated film, \$3
Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 5 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. April 6
Location: 17350 Lahser, Detroit
Details: Three Stooges Festival, featuring the films "Women Haters," "Movie Maniacs," "Disorder in the Court," "False Alarms," "Mutts to You," and "Three Missing Links," tickets are \$5
Contact: (313) 537-2560; www.redfordtheatre.com

Music

BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: Sign up for open mic, 6:15-6:45 p.m.; performances, 7 p.m., the third Saturday of the month.
Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth
Details: Includes open mic performances along with a featured act. Admission is \$5. Individual and family annual memberships also

are available
Contact: Scott Ludwig at BFSpresident@aol.com or call (734) 453-0869
CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, April 6
Location: Seligman Performing Arts Center, 22305 W. 13 Mile, at Lahser, on the campus of Detroit Country Day, Beverly Hills
Details: Gryphon Trio will perform music by Haydn, Chan Ka Nin, Christos Hatzis and Mendelssohn. Tickets range from \$30-\$60
Contact: www.ChamberMusicDetroit.org or (248) 855-6070

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. last Tuesday of the month — except December
Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds from Jazz Elks goes toward special needs and disadvantaged children and veterans
Contact: (734) 453-1780 or e-mail to plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.
Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia
Details: Tim Grimm, April 5; Bill Bynum and Company with Robert Stark, April 6; Empty Chair Night with Annie and Rod Capps, Joel Palmer and Bill Edwards, April 7; The Stray Birds with Red Tail Ring, April 12; Antione Dufour, April 13; Derek Webb, April 14; Barzin, April 19; Blue Water Ramblers, April 20. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks are accepted
Contact: (734) 464-6302

Something different

DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily
Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak
Details: Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free
Special program: Frog-Watch training classes for 2013 will be held 1-4:30 p.m. Thursday, March 28, and 1-4:30 p.m. Sunday, April 7, at the Detroit Zoo's Ford Education Center. The "citizen science" program teaches volunteers how to identify frogs and toads by their breeding calls and gather and record data that supports a national network. For more information or to register, e-mail Rebecca Johnson, associate curator of amphibians, at rjohnson@dzo.org
Bunnyville: The event, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, March 30, will feature treats, games, crafts, live entertainment, animal enrichment, photos with the Easter Bunny, and an egg hunt. Visitors who donate a canned or other non-perishable food item for donation to Gleaners Community Food Bank, will receive a reduced admission price of \$8.
Contact: (248) 541-5717

MARSHMALLOW DROP

Time/Date: 11 a.m., Friday, March 29
Location: Nankin Mills, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland
Details: More than 20,000 marshmallows will be dropped from a helicopter to thousands of children below, who scramble to collect these goodies and trade them in to receive a prize. Children will be divided into age groups, to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to fully participate.
Contact: (734) 261-1990

Historical

GREENFIELD VILLAGE

Time/Date: April 27-28, May 4-5 and 11-12
Location: 20900 Oakwood Blvd, Dearborn
Details: Tickets are on sale now for "Day Out with Thomas: The Go Go Thomas Tour 2013," which gives youngsters a chance to climb aboard Thomas the Tank Engine and take a 25-minute ride. The event includes Thomas-related activities, such as storytelling and arts & crafts. Train rides depart every 30 minutes, from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Tick-

ets are \$11.75 for members, 1 and older and includes free admission to Greenfield Village. Ticket prices for non-members are \$11.75 for children, 1-4; \$27.75 for youth, 5-12; \$33.75 for adults, 13-61; and \$32.75 for seniors, 62 and up
PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM
Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday, through June 9
Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: New "Made in America" exhibit highlights America's contributions to industry, with a special

emphasis on Michigan-made products. Visitors will find iconic American-made products throughout the Museum's "Main Street," including a 1931 Ford Model A pick-up truck belonging to Margaret Dunning, the Museum's major benefactor. Other notable items include eight pedal cars from the collection of Greg Gladki of Westland. Many more items from the Museum's collections are scattered throughout the exhibit, giving visitors a full sense of American ingenuity. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students, 6-17
Contact: (734) 455-8940

Don't be left behind...Call 734-582-8363 today to learn more about advertising in OUT ON THE TOWN!

Smashed Potato Bar

Yield: 4 servings

2 pounds potatoes, washed and quartered
1/2 cup milk, warmed
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
1/2 cup plain yogurt or light sour cream
Sea salt and fresh ground pepper to taste

Place potatoes into a soup pot and add water until they are completely covered. Lightly salt water and place over medium high heat. Cook potatoes for 15 to 25 minutes until they are soft, but not falling apart. Carefully drain the water and return them to the pot they were cooked in.

Kids can: Use a potato masher to achieve desired texture, being careful not to work the potatoes too much. They also can add milk, butter and yogurt to mashed potatoes. Stir ingredients to combine. Taste mashed potatoes and season them with salt and pepper. Add any extra flavorings or toppings and serve warm.

Chef Justin's tips: Use a combination of purple, yellow and red potatoes to make multi-colored mashed potatoes. Leave the skin on the potatoes for extra nutrients. Don't over-mash the potatoes; overworking can cause them to become gummy.

Potato Bar toppings:

- Low fat yogurt or low fat sour cream
• Chives/scallions
• Cheese
• Bacon bits
• Fresh herbs
• Sun-dried tomatoes
• Lemon



Mashed Potato Bar

Potato and Green Bean Salad

Yield: 10 servings

1/2 pound green beans, washed, ends trimmed and cut into thirds
2 pounds potatoes, washed, peeled and diced large
1/2 cup low-fat mayonnaise
2 lemons, juiced
1/4 cup olive oil
3 bell peppers, seeded and diced small
1 cup fresh parsley, chopped fine
1 red onion, diced small
Sea salt and fresh ground pepper to taste

Kids can: Snap the ends off the beans and break them into thirds.

Fill medium-sized mixing bowl halfway with ice and water; set aside.

Fill large-sized stock pot 3/4 full with lightly salted water. Bring to rolling boil over medium-high heat.

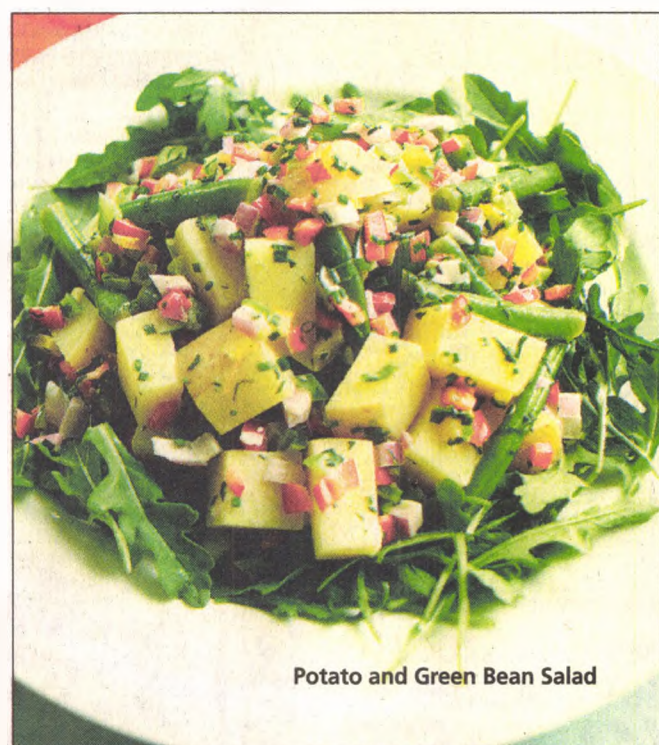
Add green beans to boiling water and let cook for 2 to 3 minutes. Using a hand strainer, remove green beans from boiling water and place into the ice water to stop them from cooking. After the green beans have cooled down, remove them from the ice water and set aside.

Carefully add cut potatoes to same boiling water green beans were cooked in. Cook potatoes in boiling water for around 15 minutes, depending on size. Once tender, drain and rinse with cold water.

Kids can: In large mixing bowl, combine mayonnaise, lemon juice and olive oil. Stir the mayonnaise mixture to combine. Add all of the rest of the ingredients to the bowl and lightly stir to combine all flavors. Taste and adjust seasoning with salt and pepper. Keep potato salad cold in the refrigerator and stir before serving on favorite greens.



Chef Justin Timineri



Potato and Green Bean Salad

Pass the potatoes, please

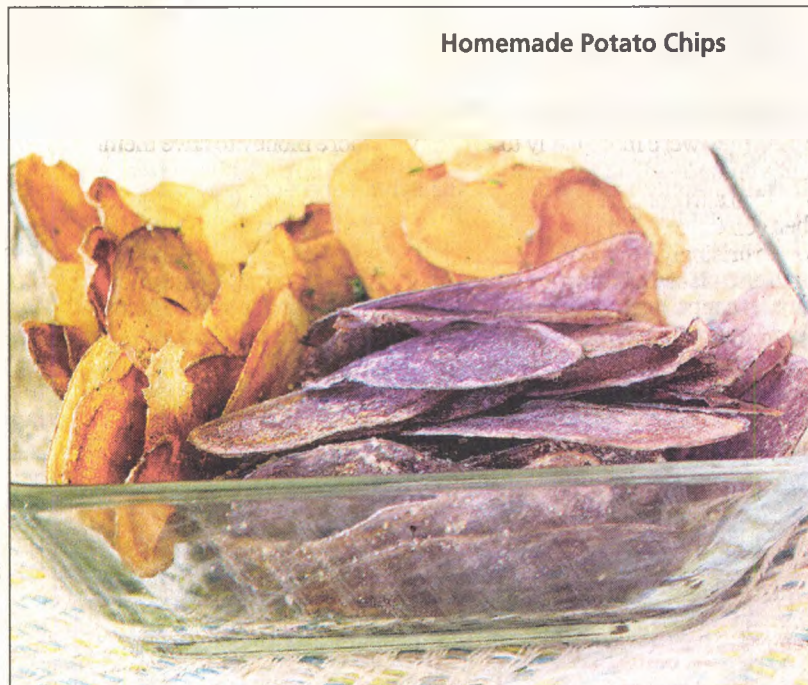
French fries are one of a kid's favorite things to eat. But there's a whole lot more that can be made from delicious, nutritious potatoes.

"There are so many different kinds of potatoes that can be flavored in just about any way you like," said Chef Justin Timineri, executive chef and culinary ambassador, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. "Get the kids into the kitchen with you and experiment with making potato dishes the whole family will enjoy."

Potatoes are a good source of potassium (for your muscles and growth), vitamin B6 (to help fight illness and help your nerves function), and fiber (for digestion). Most of the nutrients are right under the skin — leave the skin on whenever possible.

You can find more recipes that will have the kids saying, "Pass the potatoes, please!" at http://bit.ly/flpotato.

Homemade Potato Chips



Roasted Campfire Pockets

Yield: 4 servings

20 fingerling potatoes, sliced thin
1 large onion, sliced
2 bell peppers, sliced
2 cups mushrooms, sliced
2 tablespoons fresh herbs, chopped fine (basil, oregano, thyme, rosemary)
2 tablespoons olive oil
Sea salt and fresh ground pepper to taste
4 skinless, boneless chicken breasts

Preheat an outdoor grill for medium-high heat, or an oven at 375°F. In medium sized mixing bowl combine potatoes, onion, bell peppers, mushrooms, herbs and olive oil. Stir ingredients to combine and season lightly with salt and pepper.

Make 4 12- by 12-inch squares of aluminum foil and lay them out to be stuffed. Place a chicken breast in the middle of each foil square, and lightly season with salt and pepper. Evenly distribute vegetable mixture on top of each chicken breast. Fold each packet so that a tight seal is formed and all the food is contained.

Grill packets, or bake them in the oven, for 20 to 30 minutes until internal temperature of chicken reaches 165°F. Remove packets from heat and let cool slightly. Open packets carefully as hot steam may rush out.

Kids Can: Help slice veggies and stuff their pockets with their favorites.

Homemade Potato Chips

Yield: 4 servings

4 medium fingerling potatoes, unpeeled (mixed colors)
1 tablespoon olive oil
Pan release spray
Sea salt and fresh ground pepper to taste
Additional seasonings (see below)
Special equipment needed: French mandolin

Preheat oven to 425°F. Rinse and dry potatoes. Slice potatoes as thin as possible with a mandolin.

Place sliced potatoes in medium sized mixing bowl and rinse several times with warm water. Lightly squeeze and dry potatoes.

Kids can: Place sliced potatoes back in a dry mixing bowl and add olive oil. Toss potatoes to make sure they are evenly coated with the oil, using a little more oil if needed.

Lightly spray a cookie sheet with pan release spray. Lay sliced potatoes in a single layer on cookie sheet. Place cookie sheet in oven and bake for 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown and crispy.

Remove cookie sheet from oven and let cool slightly. Use a thin spatula to remove potato chips from cookie sheet into a mixing bowl.

Kids can: While they are still warm, season chips with their choice of seasoning, a favorite dried spice mix such as Greek, Cajun or barbecue.



Roasted Campfire Pockets

In-law suites, storage space among abode buyers' top picks

Purchasing a home is an important life decision, and many factors can influence the home choices buyers make.

The National Association of Realtors 2013 Profile of Buyers' Home Feature Preferences examines the features buyers prefer when it comes to purchasing a home, as well as the differences in preferences when it comes to factors such as region, demographics and household composition. The survey captures buyers who purchased a home between 2010 and 2012.

"Deciding where to live comes with a lot of options, but buyers quickly realize that some features are more important than others when it comes to choosing the right house for them," said NAR President Gary Thomas, broker-owner of Evergreen Realty, in Villa Park, Calif. "Buyers need to have a clear idea of what features are important to them and know where they are willing to compromise; in this respect, Realtors can bring buyers home. Realtors visit hundreds of homes with buyers each year, and have a unique understanding of what buyers value in their local markets."

Geography and demography strongly influence what buyers value in a home. The typical recently purchased home was 1,860 square feet and was built in 1996. Repeat buyers, buyers of new homes, married couples and families with children typically purchased larger homes. First-time buyers and single women tended to buy older homes. The typical buyer purchased a home with three bedrooms and two full bathrooms. Slightly over half of the homes purchased were on a single level.

Southerners tend to buy newer homes; they were more likely to want a home less than five years old and in a wooded lot with trees when compared to other regions. Not surprisingly, buyers in the South also placed a higher importance on central air conditioning.

While more than three-fourths — 78 percent — of all buyers purchased a home with a garage, garages were more popular among new-home buyers, Mid-

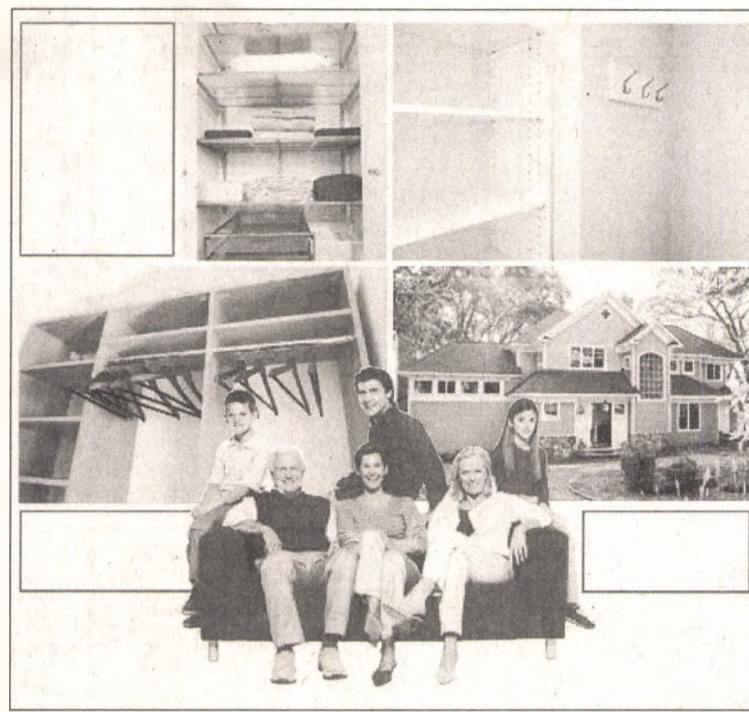
westerners, and suburbanites. Forty-one percent of homes purchased had a basement, but this feature was more popular among buyers in the Midwest and Northeast. Northeastern buyers also value hardwood floors more than people in other regions. Southerners typically bought the largest home at 2,000 square feet. Those in the Northeast followed closely behind with a typical home purchase of 1,850 square feet.

Among buyers 55 and older, 42 percent considered finding a single-level home very important, compared to just 11 percent of buyers under age 35. Single women also placed higher importance on single-level homes, while single men wanted finished basements. Both single men and married couples placed higher importance on new kitchen appliances.

Among all 33 home features in the survey, central air conditioning was the most important to the most buyers; 65 percent of buyers considered this feature very important. The next most important feature was a walk-in closet in the master bedroom; 39 percent of buyers considered this feature very important. Closely behind was having a home that was cable-, satellite TV-, and/or Internet ready, as well as an en-suite master bathroom.

When it came to actually buying a home, among buyers who considered central AC and cable-, satellite TV-, and/or Internet ready very or somewhat important, 94 percent bought a home with these features. The next most common feature was an eat-in kitchen; 89 percent of buyers who thought this was important purchased a home with an eat-in kitchen.

Buyers value some features so much that they are willing to spend more money to have them. Sixty-nine percent of buyers who did not purchase a home with central AC would be willing to pay \$2,520 more for a home with this feature. Sixty-nine percent of buyers who did not purchase a home with new kitchen appliances would be willing to pay \$1,840 more for a home with this feature. A walk-in closet in the master bedroom was the third most common feature on



which buyers would spend more. Sixty percent of buyers who did not purchase a home with a walk-in closet would be willing to pay \$1,350 more for a home with this feature.

The features on which buyers placed the highest dollar value were waterfront properties and homes that were less than five years old. Thirty-two percent of buyers would be willing to pay a median of \$5,420 more for a home on the waterfront, and 40 percent of buyers would be willing to pay a median of \$5,020 more for a home that was less than five years old.

The rooms that buyers were willing to pay the most for were a basement and an in-law suite. Thirty-three percent of buyers would be willing to pay a median of \$3,200 more for a home with a basement, and 20 percent of buyers would be willing to pay a median of \$2,920 more for a home with an in-law suite.

When it came to rooms that buyers want in a home, 55 percent of buyers thought it was very important to have a living room, although buyers in the Northeast placed more importance on a home with a dining room. Buyers aged 55 and older placed more importance on a bedroom on the main level of the house. Buyers aged 35 to 54 placed more importance on a laundry room, while those with children placed more importance on a family room.

The two most common rooms buyers were willing to spend more for were a laundry room and a den/study/home office/library. Sixty-three percent of buyers who did not purchase a home with a laundry room would be willing to pay \$1,590 more for a home with this room. Forty-four percent of buyers who did not purchase a home with a den/study/home office/library would

be willing to pay \$1,920 more for a home with this room.

Although 97 percent of recent buyers were satisfied with their home purchase, there are always features buyers would like that they don't have, said NAR Vice President of Research Paul Bishop. "Most satisfied homeowners still said they would like more or larger closets and storage space. In addition, nearly half of recent buyers would prefer a larger kitchen, and two out of five would prefer a larger home overall."

Within three months of a home purchase, 53 percent of buyers undertook a home improvement project. The typical buyer spent \$4,550 on various projects. Remodeling the kitchen was the most common home improvement project; 47 percent of buyers undertook a project in the kitchen. Bathrooms were a close second at 44 percent. Forty-one percent of buyers who made home improvements added or replaced lighting, and 37 percent added or replaced appliances soon after becoming a homeowner.

In October 2012, a sample of households that had purchased any type of residence real estate during 2010 to 2012 and still owned the property was surveyed. The survey sample was drawn from a representative panel of U.S. households monitored and maintained by an established survey research firm. A total of 2,005 qualified households responded to the survey. Households were sampled to meet age and income quotas representative of all home buyers drawn from the 2011 NAR Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers.

The 2013 Profile of Buyers' Home Feature Preferences can be ordered by calling (800) 874-6500, or online at www.realtor.org/producers/nar/research. The study costs \$14.95 for NAR members and \$49.95 for nonmembers.

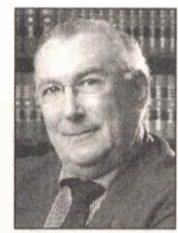
Co-op has legal status

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: Does the co-op have a right to decide who is buying the cooperative shares unlike a condominium?

A: So long as the co-op is not violating any laws such as human rights violations, they have the right to determine who will be shareholders with them. Remember that Barbra Streisand and Richard Nixon were denied co-op membership in New

York because the co-op was concerned about the paparazzi that would be hanging around trying to take pictures. Of



Robert Meisner

course, the co-op board must exercise sound business judgment and must weigh the fact that the shareholder that is trying to sell will be upset if they nix the sale. On the other hand, the co-op might have a right of first refusal as well.

Q: I am wondering if we, as a homeowner, have an obligation to disclose that there was a murder/suicide in the home which we have purchased, assuming we want to sell it. I know that it is of concern to some prospective purchasers. What do you think?

A: While each case has to be decided on its facts, and depending upon the individual state's law, in a recent case out of the Pennsylvania Superior Court, the court basically said that the fact that a murder once occurred in a house falls into the category of homeowner-buyer concerns best left to the term caveat emptor, i.e., let the buyer beware. The decision went beyond considering whether a combined murder/suicide should be disclosed, essentially holding no psychological defects need to be disclosed because they are not considered under state law. It has also been argued that this court's opinion could apply to such diverse circumstances as a past rape on the property, a sex offender living next door, or even a high crime rate in the neighborhood. In any event, caution being the better part of valor, you may want to consider discussing it with your lawyer before issuing a disclosure statement.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and author of *Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track*, second edition, available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping/handling. He also wrote *Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium*, \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping/handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 26-30, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

378 Sylvan Dr \$415,000	15645 Fitzgerald St \$124,000	44727 Erik Pass \$200,000
6820 Tiffany Cir \$258,000	29033 Grandon St \$95,000	1100 Fairground St \$185,000
46903 Torrey Hills Ct \$257,000	18760 Hillcrest St \$104,000	9420 Hillcrest Dr \$300,000
46919 Torrey Hills Ct \$321,000	16353 Levan Rd \$190,000	656 Jener Pl \$405,000
46989 Torrey Hills Ct \$258,000	8954 Melvin St \$72,000	575 Kellogg St \$245,000
822 Torrey Hills Dr \$260,000	9735 Newburgh Rd \$125,000	575 N Evergreen St \$166,000
46836 Wareham \$380,000	36657 Pinetree St \$123,000	11798 Parkview Dr \$193,000
GARDEN CITY	14663 Richfield St \$123,000	43025 River Bend Dr \$160,000
32711 Alvin St \$66,000	30919 Robert Dr \$110,000	986 Roosevelt St \$240,000
2049 Deering St \$16,000	14119 S Livonia Cres \$156,000	10064 Wolfriver Dr \$130,000
31454 Dover St \$105,000	20018 Southampton Dr \$275,000	REDFORD
28642 Elmwood St \$63,000	10289 Wayne Rd \$37,000	26027 Cathedral \$60,000
29105 Hennepin St \$30,000	10333 Wayne Rd \$110,000	14125 Centralia \$77,000
31904 Hennepin St \$140,000	18411 Westmore St \$135,000	13520 Dixie \$41,000
6161 Lathers St \$28,000	NORTHVILLE	9094 Fenton \$50,000
32750 Maplewood St \$42,000	41999 Baintree Cir \$242,000	11740 Nathaline \$38,000
28509 Marquette St \$35,000	19421 Cardene Ct \$134,000	20411 Norborne \$25,000
33746 Marquette St \$125,000	40683 Coachwood Cir \$437,000	13930 Royal Grand \$74,000
6736 Schaller St \$110,000	300 E Cady St \$225,000	9301 Virgil \$27,000
LIVONIA	605 Grace St \$475,000	WESTLAND
20005 Angling St \$159,000	19410 Malvern Ct \$110,000	34129 Arrowhead St \$67,000
28713 Bayberry Park Dr \$130,000	15972 Morningside \$146,000	30615 Burlington St \$60,000
8968 Beatrice St \$59,000	39626 Muirfield Ln \$255,000	34031 Caseville Ct \$12,000
14012 Blackburn St \$184,000	19520 Northridge St \$74,000	6794 Chirrewa St \$90,000
32904 Bobrich Ct \$170,000	18020 Stonebrook Dr \$516,000	7512 Culpepper Ct \$55,000
11861 Cavell St \$120,000	PLYMOUTH	36563 Hiveley St \$60,000
16266 Fairway St \$220,000	12257 Chandler Dr \$443,000	443 N Sybal St \$82,000
17900 Fairway St \$174,000	48071 Colony Farms Cir \$158,000	8410 Rickie Ln \$80,000
14308 Farmington Rd \$128,000	8889 Corinne St \$90,000	34416 Shellye Ct \$135,000
16926 Farmington Rd \$110,000	776 Deer Ct \$123,000	33013 Woodworth Ct \$50,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 5-9, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

4518 Brightmore Rd \$540,000	29747 Sierra Point Cir \$125,000	25317 Sutton Ct \$50,000
199 Barrington Rd \$190,000	29970 Southbrook St \$171,000	39847 Village Wood Ln \$42,000
3741 Thornbrier Way \$370,000	30901 Woodstream Dr \$189,000	24874 White Plains Dr \$319,000
1245 Whitmore Rd \$145,000	Lathrup Village	28194 Wolcott Dr \$87,000
2493 Wildbrook Run \$269,000	18720 Roseland Blvd \$94,000	SOUTH LYON
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	28901 Southfield Rd \$160,000	25800 Belladonna \$218,000
6117 Birchcrest Ln \$381,000	MILFORD	1021 Fountain View Cir \$84,000
3252 Edgemere St \$186,000	30782 Artesian Dr \$200,000	24351 Glenwood Dr \$40,000
1912 Hampshire Ct \$295,000	1220 Old Milford Farms \$295,000	61130 Saddlecreek Dr \$313,000
4051 Hawthornwood Dr \$250,000	312 Riverbend St \$257,000	61155 Serene Ct \$195,000
5958 Lochmore Dr \$210,000	178 Turnbull Ct \$226,000	22950 Valerie St \$140,000
FARMINGTON	4239 Windmill Farms \$465,000	24790 Valleywood Dr \$328,000
23091 Lake Way \$55,000	NOVI	SOUTHFIELD
22736 Power Rd \$80,000	45615 Bristol Cir \$232,000	23311 Cornerstone Village Dr \$57,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	43120 Emerson Way \$267,000	29295 Murray Crescent Dr \$125,000
30646 Charleston Ct \$121,000	21810 Greendale Dr \$300,000	20291 Rodeo Ct \$70,000
30823 Country Ridge Cir \$230,000	44521 Gwinnett Loop \$180,000	19776 W Nine Mile Rd \$40,000
38456 Darbyshire \$122,000	44543 Gwinnett Loop \$171,000	WHITE LAKE
28900 Drake Rd \$159,000	27552 Harrington Way \$45,000	620 Farnsworth Rd \$86,000
30055 Kimberly Ct \$230,000	27568 Harrington Way \$45,000	8498 Huron River Dr \$104,000
29511 Mullane Dr \$160,000	41617 Monterey Dr \$180,000	668 Red Bank Dr \$270,000
21437 Riverwalk Ct \$240,000	22854 Penton Rise Ct \$290,000	
21770 Ruth St \$49,000	41782 Primrose Dr \$123,000	
21785 S Brandon St \$90,000	27468 Sloan St \$235,000	

HOMES apartments.com HomeFinder

LIVONIA - Open House Sat. 3/23 1-4pm. Meticulously maintained home in private sub. 4 bdrms, 2.5 baths, 2153 sq. ft. \$254,900. View listing: www.forsalebyowner.com Listing ID: 23835631 rmtfj@yahoo.com

WESTLAND: HOLIDAY PARK CO-OP 2 story townhouse, 3 bedroom, 1 and 1.5 bath, hardwood floors. Close to amenities. Membership required. \$41,000 + \$288 monthly. Call: 734-425-3090 ext. 309 AT232129

Manufactured Homes

MONTHLY PAYMENT \$617* FULLY REFURBISHED 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1350 S.F. HOME ALL NEW APPLIANCES INCL. WASHER/DRYER CENTRAL AIR. MEDALLION HOMES AT NORTHVILLE CROSSING. 888-685-0265

\$599/Month* 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Home For Sale • All Appliances • Shed • Central Air Academy/Westpoint Canton, MI

888-658-5659 www.academywestpoint.com

It's all about results! Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weeklies Newspapers 1-800-579-7355 www.hometownlife.com

Manufactured Homes NORTHVILLE \$1090 per month* for a BRAND NEW 4 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2138 S.F. home with all appliances including washer/dryer, plus central air w& shed.

RENTALS apartments.com HomeFinder

DETROIT: 7 Mile & Telegraph area. 1 bdrm Cozy Upper. \$400/mo. + Sec. Dep & Ref. Super clean. (313) 657-8125

FARMINGTON AREA Adult community, quiet country setting, heat/water incl. \$540/mo. (734) 564-8402

FARMINGTON HILLS ANNIE APTS. \$100 sec. dep. If qualified FREE HEAT! 1 bdrms from \$500. 9 Mile/Middlebelt 248-478-7489

WESTLAND Hickory Woods Apts. \$224 MOVE IN! 1st Month's Rent 1/2 Off!

REDFORD 1/2 Off 1st Month's Rent Large 1 & 2 bdrm. C/A, storage Tons of closet space \$300 Deposit*

WESTLAND Great 1 bedroom \$490 per month Call for details 734-721-6699 EHO

WESTLAND: Livonia Schools 1 bdrm apt, immediate occupancy, \$520/mo + up. Paul & Assoc. (734) 779-9800

CLASSIFIEDS WORK! 1-800-579-7355 www.hometownlife.com

Duplexes WESTLAND/NORWAYNE - 3 bdrms, \$600/mo plus 1 mo sec. Very clean, blinds, nice kit., no pets. References req'd 734-729-8526

Homes For Rent FREE RENT UNTIL MAY 1st 2013! \$398* MOVES YOU IN!

WESTLAND: 3 bdrm duplex, fenced, very clean, carpeted, \$650/mo. 313-418-9900

FARMINGTON HILLS OWN OR LEASE \$575/MO OR LESS

Office Retail Space HAMBURG: 4000 sq.ft. Prime frontage on M36. Open floor plan w/additional offices or storage. 2 bathrooms. \$1500/mo. 248-486-0354

Commercial - Industrial SOUTH LYON: 2500 sq.ft. Incl wireless internet, heat & electric. High ceilings, plenty of power \$1500. 248-486-0354

SERVICES hometownlife.com

TILE ~ STONE Installed \$1.50 sq. ft. up. Kitchen, bath. 248-667-1739

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

\$398 MOVES YOU IN! Free Rent until May 1st, 2013. BRAND NEW HOMES IN CANTON Beautiful 3 Bed/2 Baths homes with all appliances Starting at \$729 Call us today! (888) 272-3099 Academy/Westpoint 42021 Old Michigan Ave. • Canton *Offer valid on select homes only. Expires 3/28/13 WAC www.academywestpoint.com

Drywall COMPLETE DRYWALL SRV. Plaster Repair. All jobs welcomed! Lic/Ins. Free Est. 30 yrs exp. Mark: 313-363-6738

Electrical FAMILY ELECTRICAL City cert. Violations corrected. Service changes or any small job. Free est. 734-422-8080

Hauling - Clean Up A-1 HAULING Move scrap metal, clean basements, garages, stores, etc. Lowest prices in town. Quick service. Free est. Wayne/Oakland Central location. 248-547-2764, 248-559-8138

Housecleaning QUALITY CLEANING SVC. 20 yrs. exp. Insured. Commercial & Residential. Call Peggy: 734-751-2330

Moving & Storage A1 A+ Movers A+ Service Lic. & Insured-Efficient 3 men, \$75/hr 866-633-7953

Paint Decorating Paper FRANK'S PAINTING SERV. Residential repainting, work myself since 1967. Free estimates. (248) 225-7165

Roofing Leaks • Roof Repairs • Flashings • Valleys • Halls • Wind Damage • Ins Claims Member BBB 30 yrs exp. Lic/Ins. Call: (248) 346-4321

Want to clean out your house? PLACE AN AD & LET THE CLASSIFIEDS DO YOUR WORK! Call us at: 800-579-7355

JOBS careerbuilder.com

Help Wanted - General ACCOUNTING: Contractor in Livonia looking for part-time help

AUTO SALES Gordon Chevrolet is looking for an exp'd Auto Salesperson for our Used Car Dept. sales team.

BOOKKEEPER Experienced in all phases of computerized accounting.

CLERICAL/PAYROLL Quickbooks & Excel experience preferred, Farmington area. Call: (248) 476-4120

Customer Service Representative GARDNER WHITE

MARKETING & ADMISSIONS For Assisted Living Facility. Experienced only need apply.

METRO DETROIT AREA GOURMET MARKET Accepting applications for the following positions:

SALES SUPERVISOR Looking for outgoing, competitive Sales Supervisor who is well organized and has excellent communication skills.

REACH even more potential employees with an Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Recruitment Package!

PARALEGAL Downtown Detroit Defense trial law firm seeking an experienced Paralegal (3-4 yrs exp) with superb computer and organizational skills.

DRIVERS - OTR PICK-UP TRUCK DRIVER To deliver auto parts, mileage & benefits. Call Wiles Enterprises: 734-572-8600

Independent Contractors Needed Twice a week Thursday mornings & Saturday afternoons Western Wayne County Area Deliver The Observer Newspapers to homes in Western Wayne County. Must have vehicle, valid driver's license & insurance. Please call 734-582-8690 for more information

Help Wanted - General INSTALLERS SIDING, GUTTERS & WINDOWS Large contracting company looking for Hard Working Dependable Individuals, experience preferred.

JOE'S PRODUCE GOURMET MARKET OPENINGS!! is currently taking applications for openings:

LABORER - Hard Work Underground repairs and back truck work. Exp req'd. CDL preferred. Full time, seasonal. Call 734-953-8646 Email: bruce@mwmaint.com

LEASING CONSULTANT For retirement community in Westland. Enthusiastic, pleasant, energetic, a real go-getter. Training provided.

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR Wildwood Apartments Westland. Qualified candidate must have previous supervisory experience, valid driver's license & pass background check.

MARKETING & ADMISSIONS For Assisted Living Facility. Experienced only need apply.

METRO DETROIT AREA GOURMET MARKET Accepting applications for the following positions:

SALES SUPERVISOR Looking for outgoing, competitive Sales Supervisor who is well organized and has excellent communication skills.

REACH even more potential employees with an Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Recruitment Package!

PARALEGAL Downtown Detroit Defense trial law firm seeking an experienced Paralegal (3-4 yrs exp) with superb computer and organizational skills.

DRIVERS - OTR PICK-UP TRUCK DRIVER To deliver auto parts, mileage & benefits. Call Wiles Enterprises: 734-572-8600

Help Wanted - General PARTS MANAGER Manage busy parts department taking calls locally & nationwide from municipal & contractor customers.

PROPERTY MANAGER Full-Time, for metro Detroit area apartment community. Apartment community management exp required.

RESIDENT MANAGER Needed for senior citizen property in Farmington Hills. Previous management exp a must.

SALES REPRESENTATIVE Must have a valid driver's license in good standing & dependable transportation.

Send resume and salary expectations to h@dohensupplies.com and reference: Parts Mgr01

MARKETING & ADMISSIONS For Assisted Living Facility. Experienced only need apply.

METRO DETROIT AREA GOURMET MARKET Accepting applications for the following positions:

SALES SUPERVISOR Looking for outgoing, competitive Sales Supervisor who is well organized and has excellent communication skills.

REACH even more potential employees with an Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Recruitment Package!

PARALEGAL Downtown Detroit Defense trial law firm seeking an experienced Paralegal (3-4 yrs exp) with superb computer and organizational skills.

DRIVERS - OTR PICK-UP TRUCK DRIVER To deliver auto parts, mileage & benefits. Call Wiles Enterprises: 734-572-8600

Help Wanted - General VET ASSISTANT CAT CLINIC FULL-TIME Experience required. Must adore cats! Apply in person at: 38437 Grand River Farmington Hills

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE Must have a good attitude & solid work ethic. 3 yrs exp. Must be capable of maintaining records timely & accurately.

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE! Northville/Novi We're looking for customer-centric, energetic, aggressive account executives who can follow a solutions-based strategy of sales with clients, have a proven ability to close sales and can think big to take their place in our Northville/Novi territory, as part of our Advertising team with Observer & Eccentric Media.

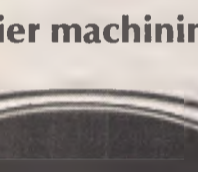
College degree or equivalent work experience in field sales. Proven sales track record. Have impeccable communication skills. Outstanding computer skills. Digital sales experience a plus.

We offer base + commission and benefits in a work environment that is stimulating and fast-paced along with opportunities for career growth with Gannett Co. Inc.

Email resumes to lvernon@hometownlife.com Attn: Sales EEOC

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA A GANNETT COMPANY

TOOL AND DIE MACHINISTS Your Job Your Future at the premier machining facility



Day Shift CNC Lathe & CNC Mill Wire & Conventional EDM Surface ID & OD Grinding & Finishing

A minimum of 5-7 years experience is required for all positions and must do own set-ups and control adjustments. We offer competitive wages and a full benefit package.

Apply in person between 8AM-4:30 PM at: Die-Namic Inc. 7565 Haggerty Rd. Belleville MI 48111 Or fax resume to: 734-710-3223 or email to: sthompson@die-namic.com

EEO - M/F/D/V

Table with columns: Lender, Contact Info, 30 Yr. Pts., 15 Yr. Pts., Other. Includes lenders like 1st Choice Mortgage Lending, Accurate Mortgage Solutions, AFI Financial, Ameriplus Mortgage Corp., etc.

Need to rent that house or apartment? Place an ad with the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weeklies and have it rented in no time. 800-579-7355

TO PLACE YOUR AD 1-800-579-7355 MICHIGAN AD NETWORK SOLUTIONS CLASSIFIED. Includes sections for ADOPTION, MEDICAL, EDUCATION/TRAINING, ATTEND COLLEGE ONLINE FROM HOME, AIRLINE CAREERS, and HELP WANTED.

