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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2013 • hometownlife.com



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The ice sculptures may never be this big again, but organizers of the new Winter Fest hope to return to bigger ice in this year's festival.



New Winter Fest given go-ahead by commission

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

It's not going to carry the name and it's happening a week earlier than originally planned, but it is going to happen.

The Plymouth City Commission approved Monday the special event permit for Plymouth Winter Fest, set to take place Jan. 10-12 in down-

town Plymouth.

While it won't carry the name - former promoter Sam Walton still owns the Plymouth Ice Festival name - the new festival, being organized by James Gietzen of Northville-based JAG Entertainment, will feature the same focus: ice carving.

"The slogan is 'It's all about the ice' and we're hoping to bring back the bigger ice sculptures," said

Gietzen, a 2008 graduate of Northville High School. "The biggest complaint the DDA and chamber have gotten is there's no big ice, so we're trying to bring some back. I can't guarantee it'll be the biggest it's ever had, but I think it'll be bigger than it has been in recent years."

See WINTER, Page A2



Sarah Lenore said she still has that "small-town, hometown girl" attitude she developed growing up in Plymouth. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

STILL SMALL-TOWN

Local singer staying true to herself and her roots

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Sure, Sarah Lenore has traveled a long way from her hometown, to places like New York and Miami, while kick-starting her musical career.

But the 25-year-old Lenore has never really moved far from her roots, hanging onto the small-town attitudes she developed growing up in Plymouth, even as she edges into the fast lane of the recording industry.

Lenore, who grew up in Plymouth and still comes home to visit her parents and grandparents here, was back in town this week, headlining a charity event for Henry Ford Hospital. Though she now lives in Miami, Lenore brought back with her the hometown sensibility she says she's never let go.

"I love Miami," Lenore said. "But at heart, I'm completely a small-town, hometown girl."

Miami must agree with her, too.

She's the owner of a recording deal with Universal Republic/Cash Money Records, the New York- and Miami-based label that's home to Nicki Minaj and Lil' Wayne. She's working on her first single, which she expects to be released late this fall or shortly after the new year.

The bright lights

After spending a few years in Nashville trying to get noticed, Lenore is adjusting to life in the big city while taking aim at the big time.

"I love Miami, I love the weather and it's a very different culture," she said. "Miami opened my eyes (to new things)."

Before moving to Florida, Lenore tried Nashville for three years. A self-styled country/pop artist, she said she "took a lot of meetings" with recording industry folks in Nashville, but

See SINGER, Page A2

THE LENORE FILE

Who: Sarah Lenore
Where: Plymouth native now living in Miami

Age: 25

What: Signed a record deal with Cash Money;

released a video for *Motor City*,

headlined a charity event for Henry Ford Hospital.

Background: Daughter of Brian and Susan Wiercioch of Plymouth; granddaughter of Ann and Bill Wiercioch, also of Plymouth. Graduated from Mercy High School at age 16

Find her: On Facebook at Sarah Lenore Music; on Twitter @sarahlenore; and in numerous YouTube videos



Lenore

Residents rally for railroad 'quiet zones'

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

The sound of train horns sounding off is commonplace for many residents of Plymouth, but one man has had enough.

Resident Neil Lobron did some research on his own and called an informal town hall meeting Tuesday in the Plymouth District Library's Waldorf Room. Lobron spoke to about 40 residents for some 90 minutes, outlining the risks, potential resolutions and potential rewards if the city were to create "quiet zones" at the CSX crossings on the east side of the city.

"This has been done by 500 communities," Lobron said. "It's only been allowed since 2006. It's a thoughtful, reasonable thing to do. You balance safety and quality of life."

Quiet zone regulations increase safety measures and help restrict trains from sounding their horns at the full 96-110 decibels within a one-quarter mile of the designated railroad crossings. Lobron said studies show hearing loss begins at 70 decibels, especially with 608 train horn blasts going off in the city each day.

In Plymouth, there are seven train crossings Lobron has targeted to be grouped into three potential quadrants, including the crossings at Fair/Lilley, Ann Arbor Trail, Main, Farmer, Starkweather, Mill and Holbrook.

Safety benefit

He said the 2006 USDOT Federal Railroad Administration regulations were based off a study that took place nearby at Eckles Road, just south of Schoolcraft Road.

"The quiet zone regulations were based on something that was put up just a few miles away," Lobron said, noting the reflective traffic bollards that form a median between lanes on either side of the train tracks.

Lobron said a variety of methods could be used to implement

See QUIET, Page A2

Apartment plan gets preliminary OK

A plan by DevMar Development, LLC, to build 92 luxury apartments and two single-family homes along Plymouth Road moved one step closer to reality when the city planning commission gave unanimous approval to the preliminary plan earlier this month.

The project now must receive final approval from the planning commission and gain support

from the city commission.

Builders say Starkweather Station - named as an homage to Plymouth's earliest settlers, the William and Keziah Starkweather family - will bring modern construction and amenities to apartment living. The 5.76-acre site, located on the north side of Plymouth Road east of Holbrook, will consist of two four-story apartment buildings, two

homes, an open green space on which many large existing trees will be preserved, a walking path and a small park.

It's the latest development to come to Plymouth, where City Manager Paul Sincoc said plenty of building is going on. The list of buildings, he said, includes eight to 10 new homes,

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An artist's rendering of the complex on Plymouth Road near Holbrook.



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Salvation Army seeks volunteers

Now that school has begun, the Plymouth Salvation Army is kicking off a couple of its annual programs and officials are looking for help in doing so.

One of the programs the Plymouth Salvation Army is kicking off is its Youth Night. Starting at 5:30 p.m. each Tuesday, the Corps will offer a light dinner, character building activities (scouting program) and music classes. Youth Night is open to youngsters between pre-K and 12th grade. All kids can expect to participate in games, crafts, music, field trips and more.

Officials are looking for volunteers to assist in a couple of different ways.

The first one is the light dinner. "We serve very basic and easy to prepare items. Most items can just be heated up in the oven," said Sandy Kollinger, volunteer and special events coordinator for the Plymouth Salvation Army.

Officials are looking for two volunteers 4:30-6:30 p.m. each Tuesday to help prepare, serve and clean up for dinner - an estimated 30-35 meals.

The second program is the actual character building groups. Each grade-appropriate group already has a dedicated leader to "help transform the lives of our young people," Kollinger said. "As you can imagine, this can sometimes be a difficult task for just one person. We are looking for three volunteers that can assist the leaders in some of the groups."

Volunteers need to be over the age of 18 and pass the Salvation Army's criminal background procedures. Volunteers also need to commit to at least one time per month during the school year.

To volunteer or for more information, call Kollinger at 734-453-5464.

Canton suffers fifth Ford Road defeat

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton has lost out in its fifth attempt to win federal dollars to improve Ford Road, one of Michigan's most accident-prone and traffic-clogged thoroughfares.

Disappointed by the latest blow in a decade-long battle, Supervisor Phil LaJoy said local officials remain committed to finding a fix.

A move to turn Ford Road into a boulevard from I-275 to Sheldon has emerged as the preferred alternative from the Michigan Department of Transportation for easing traffic congestion and reducing crashes along Canton's prime retail corridor.

Fight continues

Undeterred by five rejections, LaJoy said local officials also will continue to seek other federal grants that could become available.

U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx just this month announced that 52 projects in 37 states would receive \$474 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation.

"The emphasis is trying to help communities become what they envision," he said.

Backed by two separate traffic studies by MDOT, Can-

ton has sought a fix to Ford Road traffic congestion for a decade or longer. Yet the community has been repeatedly snubbed for funding.

LaJoy has said it's time to stop studying the problem and resolve it. Canton had sought \$15.8 million from the latest federal program dubbed TIGER, or Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery.

Boulevard support

Earlier this year, MDOT project manager Gorette Yung said a decision to transform Ford Road into a boulevard had become the state's preferred alternative, though she said a project schedule wasn't known due to issues such as funding.

The plan calls for separating westbound and eastbound lanes of Ford Road by a grassy median, prohibiting left turns at intersections, adding turnaround lanes similar to those on Michigan Avenue and transforming Haggerty into a boulevard for 1,000 feet in both directions from Ford.

The plan also calls for adding a new westbound lane from I-275 to Lilley, a new eastbound lane from Haggerty to I-275 and paving Lotz Road between Ford and Cherry Hill.

dclcm@hometownlife.com

Share your favorite fall tradition

The school year has begun, leaves are starting to turn shades of red and orange and autumn is just days away. It's a special time of year for Michiganders. Fall festivals, harvest time at local farmers markets, cider mills and college football and much more.

What's your favorite fall tradition or memory? Share it with *Hometown Life Woman* readers and you could win a gas card or a gift card to Joe's Gourmet Market or Meijer to make more memories. Deadline to submit items is 5 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 1.

In August, we asked

readers to share their best resale shop find and the responses were fun to read.

We selected five "finds" in a random drawing for a \$10 gas card (so our readers could shop some more). They went to Sandra Kalagian of Livonia, Phyllis Hess of Plymouth, Michele Martin of Northville, Dar Cotham of Westland and Marsha Szmatala of Livonia.

Send your favorite fall memory to srosiek@hometownlife.com. Be sure to tell us your hometown and include a daytime phone number.

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PLAN

Continued from Page A1

along with several remodeling projects and expansions.

"Plymouth has developed as a place to be," Sincok said. "There are a lot of amenities and a great school system, good local services, there's just a lot of things happening. Those are the kinds of things people are looking for when they're looking for a place to live."

Mark DeMaria of DevMar Development has brought together a team that includes his development partner Burton-Katzman LLC - a Bingham Farms real estate development company with roots dating back to 1912 - and the award-winning architectural firm

Fusco, Shaffer and Pappas of Farmington Hills.

Robert Katzman, principal for Burton-Katzman, said his company is looking forward to working with DeMaria to create a modern complex that will offer young professionals and others looking for high-quality living accommodations as an alternative to the older structures in Plymouth.

"We've found there is a strong demand for luxury multi-family housing among young professionals, empty-nesters and young couples who aren't ready to commit to buying homes or condominiums, but who still want modern amenities that rival condo quality," DeMaria said. "They want high ceilings, quality building materials and high-end features."

"What they're looking for is all

of the amenities you might find in a new condo or loft development, but in an apartment setting," he added. "Many of these people are starting in their careers and aren't sure where their jobs or the market will take them. Multi-family housing is the perfect option for them."

Deciding where to build his project wasn't a difficult one for DeMaria.

"Plymouth is a great town," he said. "It's got a suburban-urban feel with a very walkable downtown - wonderful shops and restaurants. The community here is amazing. There are so many activities that draw people together, like the Plymouth Ice Festival, Art in the Park and so many concerts and events. There's even a farmers market here. It's just a great place to live."



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Preservation Park - Cady Boyer Barn
500 N. Ridge Rd. Canton, MI 48187

One robbery suspect sentenced, one facing trial

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

One suspect has been sentenced to probation for a robbery that occurred in June, when two men, one toting a weapon, forced their way inside an apartment near Lilley and Warren.

Justin Deontae Echols, 19, has been sentenced by Judge Michael Hathaway under the Holmes Youthful Trainee Act, meaning he can keep the crime off his record as long as he obeys court orders imposed on him.

Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Maria Miller confirmed the latest developments based on court records.

Echols had pleaded guilty in mid-August to a charge of unarmed robbery, Miller confirmed at the time, and authorities agreed to dismiss a more serious charge of armed robbery.

The plea stemmed from an incident that occurred June 22 at Pilgrim Village, an apartment complex on Lilley, north of Warren.

A male victim told police two men with their faces partially concealed knocked on his door and forced their way inside when he opened it. One had a weapon.

A second defendant, 21-year-old Aaron Nathaniel Bourdreux-Brown, still is facing trial, Hathaway's clerk said Tuesday. If convicted as charged, he could face penalties ranging up to life in prison.

Echols and Bourdreux-Brown already had two earlier charges of first-degree home invasion and larceny in a building dismissed during a preliminary hearing in 35th District Court. Canton police Lt. Craig Wilsher has said the robbery victim alleged the two men forced their way inside his apartment and robbed him about 7 p.m. June 22.

"One of them got into a struggle with the resident, while the other grabbed some items out of the apartment," Wilsher said.

No one was injured. The pair fled in a vehicle, but arrests were made following an investigation by Canton police and Michigan State Police.

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(313) 222-2238
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Echols



Bourdreux-Brown

Walmart tussle

A employee at the Walmart store on Ford Road east of Lotz tussled with a suspected thief during an incident that occurred about 5:40 p.m. Sept. 10, a police report said.

Police received a call about a fight in progress at the store after a loss prevention employee tried to apprehend a man who had allegedly just stolen a package of men's underwear by concealing it under his shirt, the report said.

The employee confronted the suspect as he started to leave the store. The suspect refused to comply, resulting in a confrontation as the two fell to the floor and began wrestling, the police report said. The underwear fell to the floor during the incident.

The suspect eventually broke free and fled in what was described as a green Pontiac Grand Am. He was described as a white male, 5 feet, 4 inches, 165 pounds, about 25 years old with brown hair. He was wearing a dark green shirt and blue jeans.

Stolen identity

A Canton man who lives on Doubletree, southeast of Warren and Beck, notified police to report he had been contacted by several financial institutions saying someone had tried to open accounts in his name, a police report said.

CANTON CRIME WATCH

The 49-year-old man told police about the incidents around 5 p.m. Friday. The man inquired with the financial institutions and was advised to file a police report. He had not yet suffered any monetary losses.

Fake money

Police went to the Extended Stay America southeast of Ford and Haggerty roads last Thursday after receiving a report of counterfeit money that an employee had found, a police report said.

A general manager had left work after collecting some money from paying customers. The next day, it was learned that another employee overnight had collected other money and placed it in the same envelope – including a \$50 counterfeit bill.

An employee contacted the room of a customer who was believed to have paid with the counterfeit bill. A woman who was the customer's girlfriend reportedly became upset that the suspect was being accused of a crime.

The incident remained under investigation.

Traffic arrest

Canton police arrested a 43-year-old Melvindale man who was wanted for warrants out of Wyandotte and Lincoln Park after officers made a traffic stop about 2 a.m. Friday, a

police report said.

Police spotted a 2007 Chevrolet HHR turn from northbound Haggerty onto westbound Van Born without coming to a complete stop for a flashing red light.

Police learned the passenger was wanted in Wyandotte for receiving and concealing stolen property and in Lincoln Park for marijuana possession and having narcotic equipment.

Canton turned the man over to Wyandotte police at I-275 and Eureka. The driver, meanwhile, was cited for a traffic violation and released.

Overnight theft

A 20-year-old Westland woman notified Canton police about 11 a.m. Friday after she said a 29-year-old man had stolen her cellphone and money when they spent the night together at a hotel on Ford Road.

The woman told police she checked her purse the next morning and learned the items had been taken. She told police she contacted the suspect and he admitted stealing from her.

An investigation led to Redford, where the suspect was located by police. The phone was retrieved and the woman told police she didn't want to prosecute.

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

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Debit deke

A woman told Plymouth Township Police her debit card had been stolen at a local fast-food restaurant.

The woman told police she'd gone through the drive-through window at the Wendy's on Ann Arbor Road. She handed the attendant her debit card and, while swiping the card, the attendant struck up a conversation with the victim. The victim then drove away without getting her debit card back.

According to police reports, she subsequently noticed fraudulent charges on the account and realized her debit card was missing. She canceled the card and filed a fraud report with her bank.

The victim then spoke with the manager at Wendy's, who subsequently reviewed security footage from the day the victim had eaten there. The footage showed the atten-

dant slipping the woman's debit card into her pocket.

The victim, citing the fact she'd gotten a new card and wasn't really out any money, declined to press charges.

Golf ball assault

The owner of Sparr's Greenhouse on Joy Road told Plymouth Township Police damage had been done to the greenhouse roof by someone apparently hitting golf balls onto the property.

According to police reports, the victim said three panes of glass on the roof had been broken and golf balls had also ripped holes in the plastic sheet that covers the glass.

Police talked to a neighbor, who admitted he hits golf balls in his back yard, but that he only hits them about 15 yards. The neighbor said he'd talk to others in the neighborhood to see if anyone had seen anything.

Stolen paychecks

A Plymouth Way resident told police someone had stolen several items from her car while it was parked outside her home.

She told police she got home from shopping around 4 p.m. Sept. 14 and had immediately gone inside with her groceries. She said she didn't go back out to the car that day and couldn't remember if she'd locked it.

When she went out around noon the next day, according to police reports, she saw the door ajar. She said someone had cleaned out the coin tray and had taken the contents of her center console and tossed them on the passenger seat. She said they'd also stolen two payroll checks with a total value of \$800.

The victim had no idea who might have stolen the items and police couldn't find any fingerprints.

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Brew, brats fundraiser benefits historical society

Beer enthusiasts and the 21-and-over crowd are invited to attend the fourth annual Brew, Brats & Bands at the Barn fundraising event 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21, at the Cady-Boyer Barn, located in Preservation Park at 500 N. Ridge Road in Canton.

Proceeds from this unique beer-tasting event will support the Canton Historical Society. Sponsors of this popular event include Canton Leisure Services, Holiday Market and the Liberty Street Brewing Co.

Admission includes seven drink tickets, each good for a four-ounce beer tasting sample. Attendees will be able to choose from more than 60 different craft and

specialty beers that will be available to sample. Brats with all the fixings will also be included with admission, as well as a keepsake beer tasting mug.

Musical entertainment will be provided throughout the evening by All Directions, playing popular rhythm and blues standards, and The Tabasco Cats, bringing their Dixieland Band sound to Preservation Park.

"You don't have to be a beer connoisseur to enjoy this event," said Gregg King, facilities maintenance supervisor and fundraiser organizer. "Not only do you get to taste a variety of Michigan craft beers, but you also get a chance to enjoy some great mu-

sical entertainment and all-you-can-eat brats all for a good cause."

Tickets are \$30 online or at the door and are available at www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org, in person at the Summit on the Park at 46000 Summit Parkway and the Canton treasurer's office at 1150 S. Canton Center Road, as well as the Canton Farmers Market at 500 N. Ridge Road. Designated driver tickets are also available for just \$10.

Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit the Canton Historical Society.

For more information on Brew, Brats & Bands at the Barn, visit www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org or call 734-394-5314.



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Secret cinema cancer fundraiser set for Sept. 26

A secret cinema movie event is being held to benefit a nonprofit founded by a former Canton resident who is battling cancer.

Scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 26, at the Canton Imagine Theater, the fundraisers for the Jill's Wish Foundation lead into Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The Jill's Wish Foundation was established by Jill Brzezinski Conley, who was diagnosed with invasive ductal breast cancer in 2009. After two years of remission, in 2011 her cancer had returned and was now stage 4 incurable breast cancer that metastasized in her sternum.

Jill's Wish was created to help patients and their families dealing with cancer minimize their financial struggles.



Conley

In honor of her devoted dog Honey Bear, Conley also established Jillybean's Barking Bones, an all-natural dog treat with

proceeds going to the Good Dog Therapy Foundation, an organization providing therapy dog service to people with health care needs.

Award-winning Australian photographer Sue Bryce heard Conley's story and was so moved that she flew Conley to Paris for a photo shoot and created a short documentary titled *The Light That Shines*.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. for a raffle and auction. The movie will begin at 7 p.m. with the local premiere of the 15-min-

ute documentary *The Light That Shines*. Immediately following will be the secret cinema movie of Conley's favorite dog family-friendly movie.

Tickets are \$5 per person and available at www.emagine-entertainment.com or at the Emagine Canton, 39535 Ford. All proceeds go to the Jill's Wish Foundation.

Conley was born and raised in Canton with four brothers, Steve, Shawn, Jason (her twin) and Jamie, and step-sister Joanna. She met her husband Bart while living in Las Vegas. The two were married in 2008, just seven months before her diagnosis. They moved to Louisville, Ky., and currently reside there.

For more on the Jill's Wish Foundation, visit <http://jillswish.org>.

Prison support group presents workshop

Hope 4 Healing Hearts, the support group for loved ones of incarcerated people, presents a workshop Staying on the Outside of Prison Bars.

The workshop will be held 6:30-8:30 Monday at Kirk of Our Savior, 36660 Cherry Hill, in Westland.

"After attending this workshop, you will have a better understanding of what families go through when their loved ones go to prison and even more about what happens after they come home," organizer Bonnie Hilberer said.

The presenter, Mr. "MG," just wants to help others, Hilberer said. He works his day job, then volunteers twice a month to meet with families in a support group in Oakland County. The group was created a few months ago and designed to provide a safe place for families to talk, share and try to understand why their loved ones often continue



A workshop hosted by Hope 4 Healing Hearts is designed to show what families of incarcerated loved ones deal with.

to struggle with life issues.

Hilberer said Mr. "MG" has spent the past 30 years "trying to encourage men and women to stay out of jail and prison, but many become repeat offenders, hurt their families emotionally and financially and just keep repeating the cycle."

Attendees will learn why many become repeat offenders and learn

the devastation it has on families. The workshop will also show how families cope.

"You'll learn you aren't alone," Hilberer said. "There are hundreds of people of all ages with broken hearts because their loved one is either doing 'time' or maybe living on the street."

For further information, contact Hilberer at 734-646-2237.

Folk society opens new season

The BaseLine Folk Society opens its 2013 season Saturday with featured performers The Folk Laureates.

BaseLine Folk Society, a group of talented musicians promoting and preserving the fine art of "traditional acoustical folk music," hosts performances at the Joanne Winkelman Hulce Center for the Performing Arts, the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, in Plymouth.

"Open mic" welcomes performers who can sign up 6:15-6:45 p.m., the third Saturday of each month through May. There are as many as 10 openings for open-mic performers to perform

two songs, original or cover.

The Folk Laureates have been performing since 2011. The group consists of Cathy Fitzpatrick, John Delle-Monache and Scott Ludwig. All have been involved in folk music since the 1960s. They have a wide range of entertaining material, both original and cover.

The host is Doug McClennen, singer/songwriter, story teller and guitarist and regular performer at Baseline. McClennen has been writing and performing for more than 30 years.

Tickets are \$5 at the door, including performers. Annual member-

ships are \$25 for individuals (free monthly admission).

BaseLine Folk Society is a nonprofit group. Learn more on Facebook with information, pictures, a schedule, etc. For more information, contact the group's president, Scott Ludwig, at BFSpresident@aol.com.

The JWH Center for the Arts is located on the east side of Sheldon, on the corner of Junction. It's just under a half-mile south of the traffic light at Sheldon and the M-14 exit, 200 yards north of North Territorial. Parking is in the building lot or on nearby residential side streets.

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Cash donations from the Canton group will be used to help offset insurance deductibles and other expenses for tornado-ravaged residents of Moore, Okla.

CANTON DONORS HELP OKLAHOMA VICTIMS

Relief supplies delivered to those affected by tornadoes

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

A partnership built out of generosity and concern for tornado victims in Oklahoma has resulted in the delivery of a truckload of relief supplies designed to get people back on their feet.

Earlier this summer, Canton-based MSA Delivery Service partnered with Canton Township officials and the Canton Chamber of Commerce, along with other businesses, churches and individuals, to take much-needed supplies to Oklahoma.

MSA driver Brian Jessel, who actually lives in Oklahoma, reported recently off-loading at the Powerhouse Assembly of God Church in Moore, Okla., all the blankets, towels, pillows, T-shirts, pajamas, socks, paper products, hair and dental care items, hygiene products, pet food, canned goods, cleaning supplies, books, baby products, etc., that everyone donated.



The Rev. Larry Hutcheson, pastor of the Powerhouse Assembly of God Church in Moore, Okla., welcomes the relief supplies delivered by MSA driver Brian Jessel.

Jessel called the Rev. Larry Hutcheson, Powerhouse pastor, and his volunteers – along with the Red Cross, which is assisting in the distribution of items – a “dedicated bunch of volunteers” and said donations will be appropriately dis-



Monuments were put up honoring tornado victims.

tributed to those in need.

Powerhouse Assembly of God is located a half-mile from where the tornado devastation occurred. Jessel told Canton volunteers that many of the distribution sites had already closed by the time the Canton donations arrived.

Marion Rozum, who organized the effort from the Canton end, said donors and local volunteers should be proud for reaching out and helping others.

“I once read, ‘You have never really lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you,’” Rozum said. “Thank you all for supporting this project. Sleep well knowing you made a difference. Whenever you can, support those who are trying to help others. One day it may be you who needs a helping hand.”

Rozum pointed out that, in addition to all of the relief supplies, cash donations were sent via St. Vincent de Paul at St. Thomas a’Becket Church to St. Andrew the Apostle Church in Oklahoma to help cover the deductibles on insurance claims and immediate person-to-person help.

“We have been assured that every penny has gone to help those in greatest need,” Rozum said. “A phone call asked us to pass on their gratitude.”

Volunteers helped distribute the supplies from the Canton donation to the Powerhouse Assembly of God.



Asian-Indian women’s group to host elder care summit

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Information on elder care will be the focus of a Saturday, Sept. 28, summit of the Asian-Indian Women’s Association of Michigan, to be held at Schoolcraft College’s VisTaTech Center in Livonia.

People from India began to move to the U.S. in large numbers in the 1960s and early 1970s, said Daksha Pandit, a board member and a founder of the association. They were studying and working, also raising families.

“We realized this is our home and this is where we’re going to be,” the Plymouth Township resident said. “Our parents were not here. This is the first time for us to learn these issues.”

People from the Indian community have aged and many need additional care. People from Indian descent face issues with dietary restrictions and language, with some older people not speaking English.

The second annual Leadership Summit of the AIWA will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, at Schoolcraft in Livonia. AIWA members will pay \$10, non-members \$20, which includes a Schoolcraft culinary arts lunch.

“We have some specific requirements to cater toward us,” said Pandit, who helped found the association in 2000. “For our children, this is going to be something totally new for them, too. We want them to educate themselves.”

Moving in with children is difficult, she said. “We need our own space and they should be part of it,” she said of the younger generation and challenges in elder care decisions.

Speakers include state Rep. Sam Singh, D-East Lansing, and Tina Abate Marzolf, CEO of the Area Agency on Aging 1-B. Oakwood’s Marcia Filek, resource manager for Senior Care Solutions, will also speak.

Exhibitors from independent living, assisted living, rehabilitation and nursing homes, home care, physical therapy and more will attend. Advance reservations are needed. For information, email aiwamich@gmail.com. The association has a website at www.aiwami.org.

Pandit’s mother-in-law is alive at 91 and lives in Texas with family. “They will need help with the language,” Pandit said of families with three generations here. “There is an immediate need right now.”

She said transportation is often arranged to take many seniors to Hindu temples and other houses of worship. “People do like to practice their religion wherever they live,” Pandit said. “There might be a religious factor. I think personally it is not going to be a big factor.”

Other Asian-Pacific organizations will also be at Schoolcraft for the summit, which is open to all regardless of ethnic group.

Pandit and others from her association are proud to present programs that help women and their families. The association also participates in the fall “Making Strides Against Breast Cancer” walk of the American Cancer Society in Ann Arbor. Members also give 10 percent of membership to breast cancer research efforts and do other volunteer work.

Pandit is retired from her public relations and advertising business and earned a degree in journalism from the University of Detroit. She’s mom to two.

Ramesh Verma of Novi is also pleased to see the summit. He’s commissioner for Asian-Pacific American Affairs, an appointment of the governor confirmed by the state Senate.

Verma noted the large baby boom population. “This needs more attention for our seniors,” he said.

jbrown@hometownlife.com

Changes are coming to the Dow Jones stock index

The stocks contained in the Dow Jones Industrial Average are going to change. The Dow, as it is more commonly known, contains 30 different stocks. The goal of the Dow is to reflect a broad overview of the U.S. economy. Changes are not frequent, but they do happen in order for the index to continue to represent a broad picture of the U.S. economy.

The recently announced change will affect 10 percent of the components of the Dow. Alcoa, Bank of America and Hewlett Packard are the stocks that are leaving, while Goldman Sachs, Nike and Visa are being added as new stocks to the Dow.

The Dow is the most famous stock market index, but it is



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

certainly not the only one. In fact, there are all sorts of indexes, such as the Standard & Poor’s 500, the Russell 2000, NASDAQ 100, MSCI World and the MSCI EAFE. There are indexes that measure just about anything from small to large companies, both domestic and international. In addition, there are indexes that track the fixed-income market.

The bottom line is that there are indexes for every type of investment you can imagine. The questions investors have is whether there is one index that they can use to measure how

their portfolio is doing.

It would be nice if we could look at our portfolio and compare it to one index to determine performance. Unfortunately, it doesn’t work that way.

Every stock or fixed-income index measures something different and there is no one index to rely on. In fact, many experts say that it is a fool’s game to even attempt to compare your portfolio to one index or the other.

Comparing your portfolio to an index is sometimes dangerous, because it assumes that you are 100-percent invested in the stocks in that index. Investors with a well-balanced and diversified portfolio hold a variety of elements, often not in that index.

Typically, a stock portfolio contains large, mid and small companies, both domestic and international. In addition, it’s not unusual for an investor to have a position in emerging market funds and even in something such as global real estate. Because a well-balanced and diversified portfolio has so many different asset classes, one index does not adequately reflect the portfolio.

Generally, the fixed-income side of a portfolio also contains a variety of different fixed-income investments, such as U.S. treasuries, corporate bonds and international bonds. Once again, one index would not suffice as an adequate measure for the portfolio.

It’s important for investors

to recognize that the goal is not to match or beat an index, but rather to achieve individual goals and objectives.

In addition, one must factor in the risk you’re willing to accept. Indexes don’t factor in risk, which is a critical component to portfolio construction and performance.

Never forget that, as an investor, it is your individual goals and objectives and risk tolerance levels that you must constantly monitor – not whether you beat the index.

Good luck!

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



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IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

Canton store offers soaps that soothe

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

Valganics: Valganics Handcrafted Soap is good quality, hard bar soap using traditional plant oils such as 100-percent extra virgin olive oil, coconut oil, sustainable palm oil and castor oil and natural colorants.

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

Valganics: To help others who are suffering and can't use store-bought soaps.

Observer: Why did you choose Canton?

Valganics: I live here.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Valganics: Not only are my soaps of good quality, I add artistic abstract designs to them that also make them attractive gifts.

Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

Valganics: My soaps are sold in a few local retail locations and I experiment with adding new scents.

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Valganics: I see the natural bath and beauty market growing. People are seeking alternatives due to allergy and sensitivity issues.

Observer: Any advice for other small-business owners?

Valganics: Understand your market, be sensitive to your market's needs, be informed about your product and share information with your customer base.

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

Valganics: Expand the number of retail locations that carry my soap and grow in the area of doing special orders for special occasions such as weddings, showers, party gifts, etc.

VALGANICS HANDCRAFTED SOAP

Business name: Valganics Handcrafted Soap

Your name and title: Val Ristovski, founder

Your hometown: Canton

Business opened when: January 2012

Number of employees: 1

Hours of operation: Home-based business

Your business specialty: Handcrafted cold-process vegan soap

Business phone and website: 810-919-6850; www.valganics.com



Val Ristovski founded Valganics Handcrafted Soap in Canton in January 2012.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON CHAMBER CHAT



New digs

Bella Mia recently hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony at its new location at 448 Forest Ave., in downtown Plymouth. Cutting the ribbon is owner Arlette Stobbe, who was joined by three of her ever-fashionable associates and a handful of Plymouth Chamber representatives.

Ladies Night

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts its annual "Ladies Night Out," set for 5-9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26.

The event is designed as a night for ladies to enjoy an evening on the town with friends. Ladies get a chance to visit the participating stores and enjoy shopping, gifts, samples, prizes and refreshments. Several restaurants will also have special drinks, appetizers and more.

Participating stores this year include Agio Spa, Basket Krea-tions, Beauty Haven, Bella Mia, Bohemian Home, Candy Trail, Core Sport Pilates Fitness Studio, Creatopia, Dazzling Daniela, Dearborn Jewelers, Genuine Toy Co., Gigi's Mode, Hands on Leather, Haven, Home Sweet Home, Kilwin's, Little Black Heart/Bed & Gift Boutique, Lolaryan, Maggie & Me, Magnolia, Merle Norman, Old World Olive Press, Opndohr, Painting Escapes, Paw-sitive Pet Massage/Jill Andra Young Photography, Salon/That's Awesome, Simply the Best, Sun & Snow Sports and Tranquiltea.

Back by popular demand, "Mr. 48170" will again be handing out roses to the first 500 ladies, courtesy of Ribar Floral.

"Last year was such an overwhelming success that you won't

want to miss out this year," chamber executive director Wes Graff said.

For more information, visit www.plymouthmich.org or call 734-453-1540.

Ribbon cutting

Joy Fitness Studio hosts a ribbon-cutting ceremony at noon Friday, Sept. 20, at its Canton location, 433657 Joy Road.

The public is invited to attend and welcome Joy Fitness Studio to the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

For more information, call the chamber at 734-453-4040.

Ribbon cutting, part deux

Max & Erma's hosts a grand re-opening celebration and ribbon cutting Thursday, Sept. 26.

The eatery, located at 2240 N. Canton Center in Canton, will host activities 2-9 p.m. Space is limited, so restaurant and chamber officials are suggesting RSVPs to Joe at 734-981-3370.

Golf scramble

The second annual Try Tami's Tri-Golf-Run-Bike event is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 29, at Hickory Creek Golf Course.

The event is a nine-hole golf scramble, 5K walk/run and 20K bike. RSVP by Sept. 24 by visiting trainwithtami.com. Cost is

\$65 and proceeds benefit local community youth organizations.

Business awards

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts its annual Business Awards Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 2, at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton.

The luncheon honors the Business Person of the Year and Ambassador of the Year, along with chamber members celebrating 10-, 25-, 30-, 35- and 40-year anniversaries as chamber members.

Cost is \$25 for members. RSVP by calling 734-453-4040. Atchinson Ford Sales, Inc., is the event's major sponsor.

First Friday Club

The Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts its October First Friday Club meeting at 8:15 a.m. Friday, Oct. 4, at the chamber office, 45525 Hanford.

The meeting is an opportunity for one-on-one networking in a small group setting. This networking event is limited to 10 separate businesses, plus a sponsor. Participants should bring business cards, fliers, etc., to share with the group. Participation in this networking event is limited to once per quarter. The event is sponsored by Showroom of Elegance.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

Calico Critter

Genuine Toy Co. celebrates its fourth annual Calico Critter Day 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21.

Visitors can bring a camera to have their pictures taken with the Calico Critter mascot, Mrs. Fisher Cat, and enter to win a Cozy Cottage play set. Visitors also receive a free glitter tattoo with any \$20 or more Calico Critter purchase and can check out the 2013 holiday-limited edition Santa & Mrs. Claus and Deluxe Village House gift sets.

Cookbook launch

Old World Olive Press is getting ready to launch its collaboration cookbook with the Twice Baked Twins titled *The Judy and Joy of Pasta*.

The Twice Baked Twins are 2012 Food Network Challenge winners, identical twins, national television personalities, food bloggers and authors of the *Judy and Joy* cook-

book series. Officials said this new partnership and cookbook will benefit The Pink Fund and Breast Cancer Awareness.

Visitors can meet the Twice Baked Twins from noon to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, during their Michigan book-signing tour in Plymouth at Old World Olive Press on Forest Avenue.

National Coney hiring

National Coney Island is bringing a new restaurant to Canton in October and the eatery is looking to hire some 70 people for the new spot.

The new restaurant (opening in early October) will be located at 44567 Michigan Avenue (the former Big Boy site on Ford Road just east of Canton Center Road). The restaurant will sport a new menu featuring all the NCI favorites, plus some unique menu items and chef-driven specials. National Coney Island

officials said they're looking to hire experienced management with minimum two years experience.

Visit one of the NCI locations to fill out an application. Candidates may also email hiring@nationalconeyisland.com.

Skin care seminar

Clearly You of Canton sponsors "Clarisonic 101 - Take your Skin Care to the Next Level," 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 25.

Clearly You Professional Skin Care Center invites members of the community to attend a free educational event to learn more about the Clarisonic Skin Care Brush systems and Opal infusion system. Refreshments provided, goodie bags for the first 25 guests.

RSVP to 734-453-7475. Clearly You is located at 44633 Joy Road, Suite 100, just west of Sheldon. Visit www.clearlyyouonline.com for more information.

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Listen @ the Library

Date/Time: Saturday, Sept. 21, 3 p.m.
Location: Canton Public Library, 1200 N. Canton Center
Details: The Chamber Music Society of Detroit opens its 2013-14 Listen @ the Library series with a piano program featuring CMSD President Steve Wogaman. The popular family series, which consistently attracts large multigenerational audiences, will expand this year to 11 concerts taking place at the Novi, Canton and Bloomfield Township public libraries. All concerts run approximately one hour and are open to the public free of charge. These informal performances are notable for the consistently high artistic level of the artists and ensembles and feature accessible, interactive programs.

Contact: For more information on the Listen @ the Library series, call the Chamber Music Society of Detroit at 248-855-6070 or 248-737-9980, ext. 2.

Islam night

Date/Time: Thursday, Sept. 19, 7-8:30 p.m.
Location: Canton Public Library, 1200 N. Canton Center.
Details: The Canton Public Library hosts the program "Islam: An Abrahamic Faith" with Aiyub Palmer and Kashif Siddiqui. Admission to the event is free and refreshments will be served.

Senior Brigade town hall

Date/Time: Monday, Sept. 23, 10:30 a.m.
Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main in Plymouth.
Details: State Rep. Kurt Heise invites residents of the 20th District to a Senior Brigade town hall forum to discuss phone and mail scams from the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division. "Local issues are at the core of a state lawmaker's role and set of responsibilities," said Heise, R-Plymouth. "That's why I'm hosting town halls on issues that really matter to residents of the district, issues that help improve the quality of life for all of us." All residents are invited to come to the town hall to gain more information about this issue and others affecting senior citizens.

Health expo

Date/Time: Oct. 5, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Location: Livingword Church, 46500 N. Territorial in Plymouth.
Details: Livingword Church partners with Oakwood Hospitals for a health fair, featuring vendors from the University of Michigan. Free blood sugar screenings and blood pressure checks will be offered; cholesterol checks will be available for a \$10 cost. There will



Stadium seating

The Michigan Philharmonic Brass Quintet looked bigger than life Saturday. The quintet was asked to perform the national anthem, as well as the theme from "Star Wars," at Comerica Park in Detroit for the Tigers game Saturday.

also be a nutritionist on hand for free counseling. Admission to the event is free to the public.

Plymouth-Canton AAUW Book Sale

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 19, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: West Middle School, 44401 Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth. The sale will be part of the Delta Kappa Gamma craft show.
Details: The purpose of the American Association of University Women is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. Proceeds will benefit the Plymouth-Canton Branch scholarship fund. The group is now collecting gently used fiction and non-fiction books, children and adults (please no encyclopedias, textbooks or damaged books).
Contact: For more information or to donate books contact Becky Copenhagen at 734-981-6023 or bgcopenhagen@yahoo.com or Shirley Zaetta at 734-455-6366 or szaetta@wowway.com.

ACA town hall

Date/Time: Wednesday, Sept. 25, 6 p.m.
Location: Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center
Details: State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, hosts a town hall meeting on the Affordable Care Act. Special guests Jenita Moore, director of policy for the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services, and Don Hazaert, director of Michigan Consumers for Health Care, will join Slavens at the event. "As the new health insurance exchange opens Oct. 1, many people

still have questions about what the law means for them," Slavens said. "I'm hosting this meeting to reach out to my constituents and give them the information they need to benefit from and fully comply with the law."
Contact: For details, call 517-373-2575

Genealogy workshop

Date/Time: Saturday, Sept. 28, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main in Plymouth.
Details: The Plymouth Historical Museum will hold the sixth in a series of genealogical workshops to help family historians of all levels research their American ancestors. This seminar features Amy Johnson Crow and Laura G. Prescott, both genealogical speakers on the national level. Crow is a genealogical content manager with Ancestry.com. Prescott is a professional researcher, writer and speaker. She offers a unique mix of history, genealogy and technology to find answers and ancestors. Her specialties include online resources, working with manuscript collections and fitting technology to genealogy. She is a consultant at Fold3.com and past president of the Association of Professional Genealogists. There is limited seating and the event is filling up rapidly. The fee for the day, \$40, includes the four lectures, lunch and the option of touring the museum's special exhibit, "B4TV," during lunch and the afternoon break. Tickets are available at the Plymouth Historical Museum or on its website at http://www.plymouth-history.org/events/Genealogy-Seminar_ET119.html?SortBox=201309.
Contact: For more information, call the museum at 734-455-8940.

Diesel Club luncheon

Date/Time: Thursday, Oct. 17, 11 a.m.
Location: Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft in Livonia
Details: The Detroit Diesel Retiree Club hosts its annual luncheon and business meeting. It's primarily a social club that provides information to its members about items which may impact all retirees of Detroit Diesel Corporation from GM, through the current ownership. Guests enjoy social interaction beginning at 11 a.m., a buffet luncheon at 12:30 p.m. and brief business meeting with discussion on any topics of current interest to the attending guests. Cost to attend the lunch is \$23.

Contact: For information on the luncheon and preregistration contact Robert Pavol, membership director, at 734-455-2668, email jrpavol64@prodigy.net or John Leidlein, president, 313-863-8850, e-mail dieseljml@aol.com.

Delta Kappa Gamma craft show

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 19, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: West Middle School, 44401 Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth.
Details: Delta Kappa Gamma, an international society of women in education that provides scholarships for Plymouth-Canton students pursuing a degree in education, hosts its 29th annual craft show. Juried crafters will display handmade jewelry, pottery, clothing, seasonal decor, metal sculptures, gourmet foods and more. The event will also offer drawings for several prizes, including two handmade Amish quilts, a golf outing at Fox Hills Country Club, tickets to a 2014 Detroit Tigers game, a gift package to 932 Penniman Bed and Breakfast and gift certificates to fine local restaurants. Also, the American Association of University Women will join the craft show with a used book sale. Breakfast and lunch items will be available in the cafeteria. Admission is \$2.
Contact: For more information, contact Debbie Cortellini at dbcortellini@comcast.com or Alice Chrenko at dachrenko@hotmail.com.

Raku workshop

Date/Time: Friday, Sept. 20, and Saturday, Sept. 21
Location: Village Potters Guild, 340 N. Main, Plymouth
Details: The Village Potters Guild hosts its second Raku Workshop. Participants will choose from an assortment of styles of pottery priced from \$10 to \$30 and will glaze their piece or pieces. The pots will then be kiln-fired while the person is there to watch this dramatic process and then go home with a finished piece. There is a \$10 registration fee. Pottery demonstrations and sales will be included in this fun family and friends event.
Contact: Register by calling the Guild

at 734-207-8807.

Medicare/Medicaid counseling

Date/Time: Wednesday, Oct. 2, 1-3 p.m.
Location: United Home Health Services, 2200 N. Canton Center Road, Ste 250, Canton
Details: United Home Health Services offers free counseling with a certified MMAP (Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program) counselor. The counselor can help you understand your Medicare/Medicaid eligibility and the various plans, apply for Medicaid, research and enroll in Medicare Part D Drug Insurance, understand Medicare supplemental plans, find pharmaceutical assistance programs, identify and report Medicare/Medicaid fraud and abuse and explore long-term care insurance options. No appointment necessary.
Contact: United Home Health Services at 734-981-8820 or visit the MMAP website at www.mmappinc.org/pages/about.html.

Mom 2 Mom

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 19, 8:30 a.m. to noon
Location: St. Edith's Church, 15089 Newburgh in Livonia.
Details: The MOPS of St. Edith hosts its biannual Mom-to-Mom Sale, featuring 74 tables of gently-used maternity, baby and kids clothing, toys and furniture. Early Bird Admission at 8:30 a.m. is only \$2 and regular admission is \$1 from 9 a.m. to noon. St. Edith & St. Kenneth MOPS supports mothers of young children in a supportive and caring environment.
Contact: For more information, please visit www.stekmops.org or on Facebook at St. Edith St. Kenneth Mom-to-Mom Sale.

Seeking crafters

Date/Time: Saturday, Dec. 7
Location: Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main in Plymouth
Details: The Plymouth Historical Museum is accepting applications for its annual Juried Craft Bazaar. Applicants are required to submit three to four photos of craft items for judges to determine participants as there is a limit of crafters to five per category. Table rentals are \$30 each and most are eight feet wide, although there are some space variations available. Space is tight, so vendors will need to limit their display area to the size of the table or an equivalent space. The museum is offering free admission that day for both museum patrons and bazaar shoppers. Crafters are requested to donate an item for the museum's raffle.
Contact: The application is available at www.plymouthhistory.org/cm/dpl/downloads/events/117/craft_show.pdf. Crafters not accepted for the bazaar will receive a full refund.

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST • 12 p.m. - Jones'n • 2 p.m. - Chris Canas Band
 4 p.m. - Randy Brock Group • 6 p.m. - Rick Stel Project • 8 p.m. - The Zydeco Heccats
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OUR VIEWS

Internet sales tax

Legislation will help level business playing field

When it comes to shopping, we have always encouraged readers to do it locally, whether it's for a hammer, pair of shoes or piece of furniture. It's part of our fundamental purpose listed every week on our editorial page. But those local retailers are at a disadvantage in the marketplace.

The Main Street Fairness Act, legislation introduced earlier this year in Lansing, will, if passed, help contribute to the success of the mom and pop stores that make up the bulk of our community.

We hope the state Legislature acts quickly to pass this legislation, a small step in leveling the playing field among stores in the community with online retailers.

Currently, online retailers don't have to collect sales taxes if they don't have a physical presence — such as a brick-and-mortar store or office — in the state. Some web-based companies collect the tax on a voluntary basis, but not all do. And that's the rub for state Rep. Eileen Kowall, R-White Lake, who is sponsoring the legislation.

"Our bricks-and-mortar businesses in our community employ our family and friends and neighbors," Kowall said. "They are getting harmed by the unlevel playing field this creates."

The legislation would essentially shift reporting responsibilities from individuals to companies, which would be required to collect and submit the tax under state oversight.

In 2011, only 107,900 people reported untaxed online purchases, paying about \$6 million in sales tax as part of their tax returns. The state Department of Treasury estimates that total represents only 1.4 percent of the total amount due. The department also estimates Michigan has lost \$204 million to \$249 million in sales tax revenue each year since 2011 because Internet retailers aren't collecting sales taxes.

That amount is expected to grow to \$272 million in the 2014 fiscal year, which begins Oct. 1.

Factoring in all other remote sales — which include catalog and other types of mail-order sales — the amount increases to \$491 million in 2014.

In addition, a 2012 report by Lansing-based Public Sector Consultants stated the online sales tax loophole has a significant negative impact on job makers, too. The study found that closing the online tax loophole would lead directly to the creation of as many as 1,600 new jobs and increase investment in Michigan's economy in the form of sales at brick-and-mortar retail outlets by as much as \$126 million per year.

These are the businesses that pay local taxes, hire local employees and give



Allene Holman checks out the candle holders at Fragments in Highland last week. Store staff said they sometimes see people taking photos of price tags at the store, possibly to compare prices online. HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

back to their communities.

Kowall first introduced this legislation last year, but the Legislature never acted on the measure. This time around, it appears elected officials will consider the measures. It was scheduled for a hearing Wednesday in the state Tax Policy Committee. Whether the measure will be passed at the state level is still up in the air. Ari Adler, spokesman for Speaker of the House Jase Bolger, said the measure is something that seems better addressed at the federal level.

A House fiscal analysis of the bill agreed, indicating the impact would be far greater if passed at the federal level. Unfortunately, that doesn't appear to be happening any time soon. While the U.S. Senate passed legislation, it appears the U.S. House won't approve the measure, at least for the time being.

Correcting this loophole is a no-brainer, which is why Gov. Rick Snyder is among the governors in calling on Congress to act.

Not everyone, besides online retailers themselves, thinks taxing online retailers is the right move.

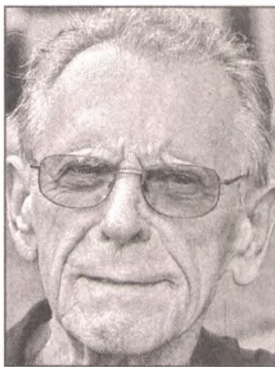
Critics of the national initiative are calling it a money grab by states that should be focused on reducing spending. Opponents say it's unfair to require online companies to pay sales taxes in all 9,600 state and local jurisdictions that levy a tax.

Ultimately, an online sales tax bill simply requires businesses to collect taxes that, legally, are already owed. That's only fair and the state Legislature and Congress should send the bills to the governor and president, respectively, for their signatures. Michigan's passage of such a law will be another step to show federal officials the importance of its passage.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What is the thing you most look forward to about the fall?

We asked this question at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.



"Beautiful colors. ... It's time to smoke some hot dogs and some marshmallows — over an open fire in an apple orchard."

William Parent
Plymouth Township



"The colors, I think, of the trees."

Eleanor Parent
Plymouth Township



"Shopping. Clothes. I love my leathers and my boots. ... I love the leaves."

Leha Alexander
Plymouth Township



"Probably the cooler weather. Definitely fall colors."

Maria McElmeel
Canton Township

LETTERS

Smart about meters

Our Canton officials will have to carefully consider both sides of a complicated issue: DTE's smart meters.

Canton residents organized and attended a recent township board meeting to express their concerns. DTE provided their position. Our leaders will have to take into account all of the facts, then choose whether to side completely with DTE or Canton residents, or determine a reasonable and fair compromise.

I am not sure a compromise will work, but Canton officials will try to be fair to both groups.
Will Barwick
Salem High School

Separate agendas?

What is happening with the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees?

First, Treasurer Ron Edwards refuses to disclose township financial information as requested by fellow trustee Bob Doroshewitz at a public board meeting.

Weeks later, the board votes to secretly borrow money for recreation projects (despite their previous high-intensity campaign arguing the urgent need to cut costs in regards to police and fire services). Now the board rejects Doroshewitz's proposal for an ethics ordinance which would offer some transparency and accountability in limiting gifts from vendors.

It seems that the fearless four — Reaume, Edwards, Arnold and Conzelman — have their own agenda. Did they need to be reminded of the need for transparency and that they are elected officials to represent the voters in Plymouth township?
Gloria Kulpa
Plymouth

Salvation Army thanks

Thanks to strong community support, this year's Back 2 School Blitz (the sixth annual) was a tremendous success. More than 360 new backpacks were stuffed by volunteers, quite literally, with more than \$10,000 worth of school supplies, all

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

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

donated by private donors, service clubs, churches and other organizations and supported by the Plymouth-Canton and Van Buren school districts.

The Back 2 School Blitz not only supplies K-12 students with school supplies, each child received a gift card to Payless Shoes for new shoes and donors provided more than 100 packs of new socks and underwear to the Plymouth Canton Clothing Bank.

Programs such as this are only possible by the continued support of the community and we sincerely thank you, as always, for your continued support

Laurie Aren
The Salvation Army
Plymouth Corps

Common Core foes lack facts

When you attend all the hearings (this was my third) and read the commentary from those in favor and those opposed, you quickly discover that the supporters of the Common Core and the Smarter Balance Assessment provide factually accurate information that is verifiable via many sources.

Those opposed — including state Rep. Tom McMillin, R-Rochester Hills, New York University professor Diane Ravitch and University of Arkansas education professor Sandra Stotsky — provide opinions that do not

stand the test of fact checking or verification.

The verifiable evidence supporting adoption of the Common Core curriculum standards is overwhelming; the opposition is strong in their emotion, but incredibly void of factual support.

McMillin and others repeatedly assert that we will be unable to change the standard because the National Governors Association "owns" them. The NGA copyrighted Common Core for good reason. Just what is a standard? It is a standard because it is consistent, you can rely on it as a guide, a common resource upon which to build and continually improve. Think Underwriters Laboratories, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, the ISO Series of Business Standards and the communications standards for the Internet.

Common Core as written is copyrighted to protect the integrity of the standard and avoid one of the major problems standards are intended to correct: inconsistent and wildly variable expectations.

Michigan and 45 other states adopted the Common Core and agreed not to infringe the copyright. Standards do not inhibit in any way creativity, imagination and the insatiable curiosity and diversity each child brings to the classroom.

They will enable a meaningful response to the question that should be asked of any conclusion: "Compared to what?" With Common Core in place, accountability will finally mean something.

Just imagine what navigating the interstate highway system would be like if each community along its route were allowed to provide signage of its own design and not the familiar, and standard, green and white signs we all use today.

Standards work; they increase quality, effectiveness and lower costs.

Isn't that what we all want from our system of education?
Chuck Fellows
South Lyon

OUR VIEWS

Be a part of the process: Register and then vote

It may have slipped by unnoticed to many that Tuesday was Constitution Day, a time set aside to honor the document that formed the United States of America. The freedoms we hold dear are part of the document, its Bill of Rights and the 17 amendments that have been added since it was signed by our Founding Fathers.

One of the freedoms it guarantees is the right to vote. As written, the Constitution didn't determine voting qualifications; that was left to the individual states. But over time, through amendments and legislation, such as the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the right to vote has been clearly established. Men and women of all races, religious beliefs and economic status and who are age 18 by election day are eligible to vote.

This brings us to Tuesday, Sept. 24 — National Voter Regis-

tration Day. It's not the deadline to register to vote, but a day that has been set aside to remind people to take the necessary steps to be eligible to vote this year, including filling out the needed registration forms.

It goes without saying that voting is one of our most sacred freedoms, but in 2008, when America elected its first African-American president, some six million people didn't vote because they missed a registration deadline or didn't know how to register.

In Michigan, there are really only three requirements to register to vote:

» Applicants must be 18 years of age by Election Day.

» They must be a U.S. citizen.

» They must be a resident of the city or township in which they wish to register.

While the idea of National Voter Registration Day is to get

as many people around the country as possible registered Sept. 24, the actual deadline to register to vote for Michigan's November general election is Monday, Oct. 7.

And there are several ways to sign up. People can register by mail, at their county, city or township clerk's office or by visiting any Secretary of State branch. They can get information about registering to vote or even check their status as a registered voter by visiting the Secretary of State's website at www.michigan.gov/SOS.

Voting is an important part of the freedoms we have as Americans. It's one that should be exercised in each and every election. If you're registered to vote, great. If you aren't, don't wait another day. Register and then get out and be a part of what makes us the land of the free.

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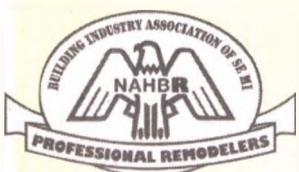
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2013-14 PLYMOUTH WHALERS PREVIEW



Plymouth goalie Alex Nedeljkovic (No. 39), shown during last season's playoffs against London, is looking to follow up his outstanding rookie season. RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS

All systems go

New-look Whalers primed to follow Vellucci's winning blueprint

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

No matter that Plymouth Whalers standouts such as Stefan Noesen, Rickard Rakell, Garrett Meurs and Vince Trocheck won't return to the Compuware Arena ice in 2013-14, all getting closer to careers in the National Hockey League.

There's a pretty good chance you can add Tom Wilson's name to that impressive list.

Still, the Whalers figure to once again have plenty of talent, desire and the main constant over the Ontario Hockey League team's 22-year run of consecutive playoff berths — Mike Vellucci at the helm.

Returning veterans such as average defenseman Nick Malysa and 17-year-old forward Matt Mistele do not discount that last point on the eve of the season, which begins Friday night at

London.

"We have a lot of new guys this year; about half the team is new," Malysa said. "But it doesn't change anything. We're still going to play the same system, we're still going to play the same way."

Just 'Whalers hockey'

Malysa described "Whalers hockey" in matter-of-fact fashion: blocking shots, getting the puck in deep, playing the body.

"That's not going to change," he said. "We still have something to finish that we started last year."

According to Mistele, who led the Whalers in goals last season with 34, the loss of NHL-bound players won't sidetrack the team from the new mission at hand.

"We're not worried," Mistele said. "We've got a great team. It's a young team, but we're going to be one of the hardest-working teams. Vellucci will make sure of that and the older guys will make sure the younger guys understand the tradition to make the playoffs." All Vellucci, Whalers presi-



Nick Malysa (No. 4) is back for another season on the Plymouth Whalers' blue line. RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS

dent, general manager and head coach, does every September is flip to the start of a fresh chapter. The book itself is the same.

"We like to add to it (playoff streak) every year and it's a goal every year," Vellucci, the OHL coach and executive of the year,

See WHALERS, Page B3

BOYS SOCCER

Rocks solid in 2-0 victory

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

It appears to be a seamless transition for the Salem boys soccer program as former coach Ed McCarthy, who has stepped aside to become a part-time assistant, has passed the torch to former Rocks player Scott Duhl.

Salem, boasting a veteran cast, improved to 6-0-3 overall and 4-0 in the KLAA's Central Division on Monday with a 2-0 victory over visiting Livonia Stevenson.

"It's been good," said Duhl, a 2000 Salem grad who played at Western Michigan University. "This group in particular, being an older group, they're kind of set in their ways a little bit. I think their aggressiveness and desire is so high that sometimes they are almost over the top in critical of each other and demand a lot of guys. For me, taking over this group, a really talented group, I'm fortunate."

Fortunate was the word on Salem's first goal as senior Brady Cole scored with 25:41 left in the first half off an assist from fellow senior David Schroeder to make it 1-0.

But officials missed an apparent offsides call, which would have nullified the goal.

But there was no mistake about the Rocks' second goal as Nick Massey drilled a shot from 25 yards out into the upper left corner over the outstretched arms of Stevenson goalkeeper Mike Bolin with 16:04 remaining in the first half to make it 2-0.

Stevenson, meanwhile, thought it had the equalizer with 23:57 remaining, but Jake Plisko's shot was wiped out by an offside.

But this time the officials may have gotten it right.

"From my angle I couldn't

See SOCCER, Page B3

Canton 7th at Grosse Ile

Buoyed by another outstanding performance from Canton senior girls golfer Kelsey McDougall, the Chiefs finished seventh out of 18 teams at Saturday's Grosse Ile Invitational.

Stoney Creek captured the championship, tallying a 341 at par-75 Grosse Ile Country Club.

In second was Grosse Pointe South (355) while Canton placed seventh with 372.

McDougall finished eighth out of the 88 golfers, with her score of 85. Other Chiefs and their scores included Alyce Krumm (93), Chloe Luyet (96), Rachel Pisano (96) and Madelyn Mans (102).

Heroes on Hines races Oct. 5

Wayne County Parks will sponsor its first Heroes on Hines half-marathon and 5-kiloeter races Saturday, Oct. 5, with proceeds going toward the creation and maintenance of the First Responders Memorial to be erected at Hines Drive and Haggerty.

The half-marathon starts at 8 a.m., followed by the 5K at 8:30 a.m. The event is sponsored by Running Fit and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

The cost is \$34 (5K) and \$59 (half-marathon) if registering through Oct. 3. Visit heroesonhines.com.

Hole-in-one club grows

» Bruce Palen of Livonia Sept. 7 aced the 305-yard, par-4 No. 9 hole at the Fox Hills Woodlands Course.

» Carl Schultz, of Plymouth, last month scored his first hole-in-one, sinking his tee shot at the 174-yard, No. 8 hole at the Meadowbrook Country Club Men's Invitational.

Golf and triathlon

PGA professional Tami Bealert will be staging a 5-kilometer run-walk, 20K bike and nine-hole golf scramble at 9 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 29 at Hickory Creek Golf Course. The cost is \$75.

For more information, visit TrainWithTami.com or call 734-731-0238.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Chiefs tee off early on Patriots

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

A fast start by Canton's heavy hitters propelled the Chiefs Tuesday to a three-set sweep over visiting Livonia Franklin.

Canton romped to a 25-14 win in the opening set before following up with 25-13 and 25-22 victories to take the KLAA South Division varsity girls volleyball matchup.

With the win, the Chiefs improved to 6-2-0 overall and 2-0 in the KLAA South while the Patriots dropped to 4-3-1 overall and 1-1 in the division.

"Our starting lineup did a good job tonight moving the ball around," Canton head coach Steve Johnson said. "We were able to run a bunch plays off serve-serve and get it to our hitters tonight."

Franklin head coach Desiree McMahon lamented early struggles from the service stripe and inconsistency in other areas.

"The first two sets we struggled to get

our serves in and connect," McMahon said. "We definitely need to work on our blocking more, but by the third set we were stepping up into it and our serves were going in."

"We were connecting with our setters and our hitters. It's a process."

McMahon did note Canton's hard-hitting lineup, however. "They definitely have a lot of potential on that team."

Strong up front

Hammering home plenty of points for Canton were southpaw-swinging right-side hitter Sasha Cucuz (11 kills) and junior Haley Diedrick (six kills) — with on-a-tee sets provided by a trio of setters.

Senior Chelsea Janice orchestrated the early success, with all nine of her assists in the first two sets.

Later on in the match, senior Rachel Buzenberg (15 assists, nine in the third set) and

See SPIKERS, Page B4



Canton's Sydney Torres (No. 3) tries to get the ball past the outstretched arms of Livonia Franklin's Jessica McNally (No. 14) and Mikayla Sinkiewicz (No. 12). BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Longtime A.D.'s grateful for added help at the Park

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

A lot has happened at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park since 2007 budget cuts dropped the heavy load of overseeing athletics at three high schools into the laps of incumbent athletic directors Sue Heinzman and Tom Willette.

"When Tom Willette and I took over the three schools in 2007 we did so at the height of the recession," wrote Heinzman in a weekend e-mail to the Observer. "The school board was making cuts to all departments and athletics was no different."

Heinzman, and Willette, now have the chance to exhale.

That's because the same school board is making the athletics department whole — and then some.

The green light was given to

Superintendent Dr. Michael Meissen to hire a third A.D. as well as an athletics administrator who will oversee programs across the entire district.

The long-awaited decision brought a thumbs up from Heinzman, who spoke on behalf of Willette in the e-mail. Both long-time A.D.'s also are getting title changes to assistant principal of athletics.

"The decision to add a dedicated assistant principal who is in charge of athletics in each of the schools is a positive," Heinzman noted. "Adding a district person we hope will assist with securing funding for facilities, improve communication for athletics and activities, and setting policy for the district."

"... It will provide clarity and consistency for all activities as well as athletics and we believe this will also be a positive for

the district."

Heinzman and Willette each will be an A.D. (actually, they will be named assistant principals in charge of athletics) either at Canton, Plymouth or Salem. Another person will be hired for the third school, along with the K-12 administrator.

"We have not been told that the district has anyone specific in mind" for the two new positions, Heinzman continued. "Each of us will remain at one of the schools, which has yet to be determined."

She said administrative postings for the positions should be out within the next couple of weeks from the district's human resources department.

Until then, it will be business as usual with Heinzman and Willette teaming up to make sure the many sports and curricular activities at the Park

continue to run smoothly.

And despite some bumps in the road, particularly over the past year, the tandem has plenty to point to with pride.

Since 2007, they implemented the addition of competitive cheerleading, boys and girls bowling, boys and girls lacrosse, ninth grade pom pon.

"We also absorbed the responsibility of covering ice hockey which we did not have to do when there was a district person assigned," Heinzman stressed. "Working so close together these last few years we have a good grasp on what needs to be done with the challenges of three schools sharing facilities."

"This too will be an asset moving forward as we have seen where we can improve on working collectively."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Report prep scores

Coaches are encouraged to report varsity results to the Observer. Send emails to Plymouth-Canton Observer sports editor Tim Smith (tsmith@hometownlife.com) or call him at 734-469-4128.

Please help your athletes get the recognition they deserve. Deadlines for information are 10 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays. Information that does not make the print edition will be published at www.hometownlife.com.

Lutheran Westland gridgers lose in final seconds

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

A monster defensive effort turned to horror Saturday afternoon for host Lutheran High Westland in its Michigan Independent Athletic Conference football opener.

The Warriors kept Sterling Heights Parkway Christian off the board until the final six seconds when quarterback Noah Allen scrambled 21 yards for a touchdown to give the Eagles a dramatic 7-0 victory.

The game-winning TD was set up when tight end Philip Lapinski threw a double pass and hit Cole Kasperowicz for 31 yards putting the ball down on the Lutheran Westland 22.

"We always have something and we always try to find the perfect time," Parkway coach Todd Francis said of the

trick play. "This was the perfect time with us and a minute left ... we were just trying to do anything we could to find a victory."

Meanwhile, Lutheran Westland coach Paul Guse had an inkling the game-winning play was coming.

"We saw that on film," he said. "Kids react to what they see. We talked about it. We just didn't react the way we should have."

Parkway regained possession of the ball with just 45.1 seconds left. The Warriors had been forced to punt, unable to make a first down after taking a pair of successive illegal procedure calls.

"We had to make sure that we were able to score right away," said Francis, whose team improved to 3-0 overall. "We had a little bit of

time. We had a nice pass that Phil threw to Cole, and Cole made a great catch. But to be honest with you, our defense just played solid. They kept us in the game. We're very proud of our defense. It was a great win, we're excited."

Parkway limited Lutheran Westland to 114 total yards, including just 62 on the ground (in 29 attempts).

But the Warriors had chances to get on the board.

Travis Fry recovered a Parkway fumble at the Eagles' 34 on the opening kickoff, but the Warriors couldn't capitalize after gaining just four yards and taking a pair of costly penalties.

Caleb Richter then intercepted a Parkway pass early in the second quarter and returned it 59 yards down to the Eagles' 11, but once again

the Warriors turned the ball over on downs.

"First half, first-and-goal on the 11 and we couldn't do anything," said Guse, whose team slipped to 0-3 overall. "It's really frustrating. Give Parkway credit. They took us out of our comfort zone, which is running the ball. First-and-goal and didn't score. We didn't take advantage and that's the name of the game and we didn't do it."

In the two previous games, Lutheran Westland had rushed for a combined 515 yards.

But against Parkway, the Warriors made just five first downs. Quarterback P.J. Guse was 9-of-19 passing for 52 yards.

"We're not built to throw the ball," Paul Guse said. "We just have to keep working at it and getting in sync in our

passing game. We still have to run the ball, so ... We've got to look and see what they took away inside against our running game. We ran a little spread, but it wasn't any more effective than what else we did, so we kind of went back to what we're comfortable with."

Parkway had the better scoring opportunities, especially in the third quarter when they missed field goal attempts of 42, 45 (blocked by Jacob Davenport) and 31 (bad snap) yards.

The Warriors, meanwhile, also came up short on a 35-yard field goal try with only 6:13 to go.

"Our guys played smash mouth football," Francis said. "They got low. They made blocks and they made tackles, and they went after them. They did a real good job against these guys."

Parkway had 294 total yards with Allen accounting for 168. The Parkway QB was 7-of-21 passing for 93 yards and had 75 yards rushing on 18 attempts.

Teammate Nathan Schick added 74 yards rushing on 15 carries.

Davenport and Nathan Abbott paced Lutheran Westland's defense with 25 combined tackles and two sacks.

"Forty seven minutes and 54 seconds were a 0-0 game," Guse said. "They're not down. Obviously they're not happy, but they know they played a tough football game today and they know it could have gone either way. We need to clean some things up. We can't keep taking penalties late in the game like we did."

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PREP FOOTBALL GRID PICKS

Week 4	Emons	O'Meara	Smith	Wright
Last week	10-3	11-2	7-6	10-3
Overall	31-10	31-10	23-18	27-14

All games start at 7 p.m. unless noted

Friday, Sept. 20

Game	Emons	O'Meara	Smith	Wright
Garden City (2-1, 2-0) at Clarenceville (3-0, 1-0)	Garden City	Garden City	Garden City	Garden City
Thurston (1-2, 0-1) at Fordson (2-1, 1-0)	Fordson	Fordson	Fordson	Fordson
Redford Union (0-3, 0-2) at Romulus (1-1, 0-1)	Romulus	Romulus	Romulus	Romulus
Franklin (1-2, 0-1) at Plymouth (3-0, 1-0), 6:30 p.m.	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth
Wayne (0-3, 0-1) at Churchill (0-3, 0-1)	Churchill	Churchill	Churchill	Churchill
John Glenn (2-1, 1-0) at Canton (3-0, 1-0)	Canton	Canton	Canton	Canton
South Lyon (1-2, 0-1) at Stevenson (2-1, 1-0)	Stevenson	South Lyon	Stevenson	South Lyon
Salem (0-3, 0-1) at Northville (2-1, 1-0)	Northville	Northville	Northville	Northville
Farmington (1-2, 1-1) at Oxford (1-2, 1-1)	Oxford	Oxford	Farmington	Oxford
Harrison (3-0, 2-0) at Bloomfield Hills (0-3, 0-2)	Harrison	Harrison	Harrison	Harrison
Ferndale (0-3, 0-2) at N. Farmington (2-1, 1-1)	N. Farmington	N. Farmington	N. Farmington	N. Farmington
Luth. West. (0-3, 0-1) at Oak. Christian (1-2, 0-1)	Luth. Westland	Luth. Westland	Luth. Westland	Luth. Westland

JV Steelers upend Redskins, 42-27

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

There was no stopping Plymouth-Canton Steelers junior varsity running back Carson Miller Saturday afternoon.

The West Middle School seventh-grader sprinted past the host Dearborn Heights Redskins for five touchdowns to lead his team to a 42-27 victory in a pivotal Western Suburban

Junior Football League contest.

In addition to his running exploits, Miller also booted three two-point extra points for the winners.

Miller was aided by the crushing blocks of Steelers offensive linemen Luke Fisher, Nick Downs, Zack Sweet and Tyler Overaitis.

The Steelers were bolstered in the second half by strong running from Darian Moore, Ethan Rottell and Cole Moyer, whose paths were paved by strong blocking from Jack Gregory, Jeremiah Penick, Mason

Hackney, Cooper Donlin, Gage Wheatley and Ben Vetter.

The Steelers' defense was spearheaded by outstanding efforts from Jason Perko, James Hanson, Liam Radomski, Ben Bennett (fumble recovery), Drew Poet, Jake Cain and Logan Walkley (interception).

Following a bye week, the Steelers will host Belleville on Sept. 28 at 2 p.m. at Central Middle School.

The varsity and freshmen Steelers also registered victories. Details were not available at press time.



Plymouth-Canton Steelers running back Carson Miller ran for five touchdowns in his team's victory over Dearborn Heights on Saturday. JON VESPAZIANI

ewright@hometownlife.com

LEGAL NOTICE 1954 PA 188 PROCEEDINGS NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING Charter Township of Plymouth Wayne County, Michigan

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that as a result of Petitions of property owners within the Township signed by the record owners of land whose front footage constitutes more than 50% of the total front footage of the hereinafter described Special Assessment District and the Township Board of the Charter Township of Plymouth proposes a road paving project on Ridgewood Drive and to create a Special Assessment for the recovery of the cost thereof by Special Assessment against the properties benefited therein.

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested, that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth has tentatively declared its intention to make the hereinafter described improvement:

The proposed improvements shall consist of milling, and/or pulverization, and/or removal of the existing bituminous road with the placement of a new bituminous pavement surface and/or cross section, as well as miscellaneous driveway and drainage work, which may be needed to facilitate the replacement of the asphalt road pavement. It is understood that this is primarily a road improvement project and therefore any drainage problems existing prior to the project will not be corrected except where said modification is necessary to protect the life of the road pavement. Existing water problems, such as standing water, etc., outside of the roadway will not be resolved by this program. It is further understood that this alternate, if permitted by the County of Wayne, could be subject to special conditions dependent upon the findings of the soils investigation report, existing subsurface conditions, etc. The project commences at the north right-of-way line of North Territorial Road and proceeds northward on Ridgewood Drive for approximately 2130 feet to the south right-of-way line of M-14 Expressway.

That it has further been tentatively determined that the following described lots and parcels of land will specially benefit from said improvements and will constitute a Special Assessment District against which the cost of said improvement shall be assessed:

The district limit for frontage along Ridgewood Drive consists of parcels numbered R-78-031-99-0001-000, R-78-031-99-0002-000, R-78-031-99-0003-702, R-78-031-99-0003-701, R-78-031-99-0004-000, R-78-031-99-0005-004, R-78-031-99-0008-000, R-78-031-99-0009-001, R-78-031-99-0009-002, R-78-031-99-0010-000, R-78-031-99-0011-000, R-78-031-99-0012-000, R-78-031-99-0013-000, R-78-031-99-0014-000, R-78-031-99-0016-000, R-78-031-99-0018-000, and R-78-031-99-0019-000 located in the Northwest ¼ of Section 27, T.1S, R.8E, and R-78-015-99-0002-000, R-78-015-99-0003-000, R-78-015-99-0004-000, R-78-015-99-0005-000, R-78-015-99-0006-000, R-78-015-99-0007-000, R-78-015-99-0008-000, R-78-015-99-0009-000, R-78-015-99-0011-001, R-78-015-99-0015-001, R-78-015-99-0016-000, and R-78-015-99-0017-000 located in the Southwest ¼ of Section 22, T.1S, R.8E of Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth shall meet on Tuesday, October 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, for the purpose of reviewing said proposed Special Assessment District, and hearing objections to the improvement, creation of the Special Assessment District, and the assessment thereon. All persons may then and there appear and make any objections they may have to such improvement and assessment. Appearance and protest at the hearing is required in order to appeal the amount, if any, of the special assessment to the state tax tribunal. An owner or party in interest, or agent thereof, may appear in person at the hearing, or may file an appearance or protest by letter. All parties or agents appearing in person at the hearing for purposes of protest should request the appearance be entered into the record of the meeting.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the plans, specifications, estimates of cost and recommendations of the engineer for said proposed Special Assessment District have been filed with the Township and are available for public examination at the office of the Township Clerk. The estimate of costs of such construction is in the approximate amount of \$284,000.00.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that periodic redetermination of costs for the proposed Special Assessment District may be necessary and may be made without further notice to the record owners or parties in interest in the property.

Nancy Conzelman, Clerk
Charter Township of Plymouth

YOUTH FOOTBALL

Canton Lions excel across the board

The Canton Lions youth football teams enjoyed a big day against the Belleville Cougars.

The varsity won 25-0 to improve to 2-1. They scored first with a long touchdown run by Matthew Steeple. Quarterback Noah Brown and center Max Mulvaney led the offense and assisted in carries by Jalen Williams, Nick Krone, Rubin Williams and Michael McMullen and catches by Adam Stepek.

The throws were on target and allowed touchdown catches by Alex Azzouz, who also threw a touchdown to Ryan Cassidy.

The Lions' defense wowed spectators with tackles in the backfield by Chase Meredith, a blocked punt by Colin Troup and tackles by Zach Beadle, Kyle Petruski, Bradley Tyszkiewicz, Jaydon Johnson, and Mulvaney.

JUNIOR VARSITY LIONS:
The Canton Lions JV improved to 2-1 with Saturday's 33-13 win. Justin Reynolds began the attack with a touchdown run on the opening kickoff. He was instrumental in the win with three touchdowns, an interception and multiple tackles.

A touchdown by quarterback DJ Harding and extra points by Kameron Arnold added to the score.
The offensive line — including Michael Abughannam, Blake Popsy, Jack Mulvaney, Christopher Little, Seth Humm and Nick Azzouz — held off the defensive efforts of the Cougars and added a 30-yard reception by Dalion Humphrey, a 20-yard catch by Arnold and runs by Kamoni Cummings and Tywane Williams.

FRESHMAN LIONS:

The Canton freshman Lions had a strong game against the Cougars, winning 45-28. Leading the way to Saturday's win was a strong running game, led by Malcolm Clements, Justin Johnson, Radwan Mheisen, Xavier Walker, Spenser Korroch, Daniel Baldwin and Marco Johnson.

During the first quarter, Spenser Korroch recovered a fumble and then Darrell Johnson scored a touchdown. Ray Anderson scored the next touchdown. With two extra points by Kobe Kyle, it was 14-0 after one quarter.

The second quarter began with Belleville scoring following a Canton fumble. But Anderson and Kyle (following a fumble recovery by Ryan Okunowski) upped the lead to 26-7 at halftime with TDs.

Scoring two TDs in the second half for Canton was Darrell Johnson, with Preston Long also scoring.

JUNIOR FRESHMAN LIONS:
In their third game of the season Saturday, the Lions' junior freshman team shutout the Cougars, scoring four touchdowns. Strong blocking by the offensive line, led by center Mohammad Beydoun, helped to pave the way for two long touchdown runs by running back Kristopher Easley. Running back Caleb Williams scored the Lions' third TD.

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JACOB'S LADDER

Ex-Chiefs goalie Dugan seizes junior hockey chance

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Even when things didn't always go smoothly as a goalie for the Canton Chiefs' varsity hockey team last winter, Jacob Dugan kept his nose clean and kept on working to get better.

By persevering and not giving up, the 2013 Canton High School graduate not only finished his prep career with dignity, he caught the attention of Michigan Ice Dogs coach Jeff Price.



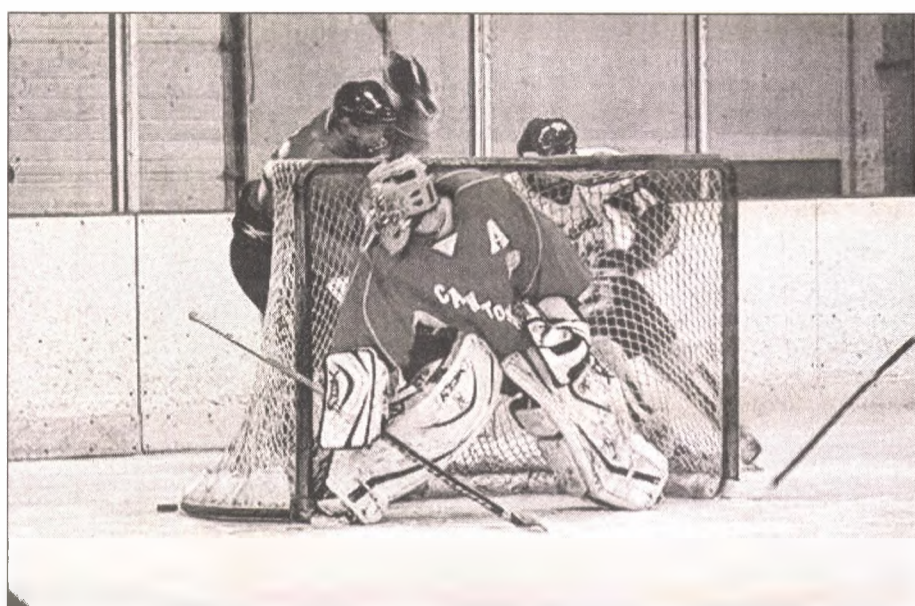
Dugan

Long story short, the 18-year-old Dugan is now beginning his rookie season with the Ice Dogs of the Midwest Junior Hockey League.

"This opportunity is massive for me," said Dugan, who really credits his experience in 2011-12 with the Canton Chiefs junior varsity prep team for his continuing transformation. "I get to continue playing hockey after high school which is something that not many get to do."

Dugan signed a deal to play for the Ice Dogs following a few months of summer conditioning skates with the squad. The team is based out of Farmington Hills Ice Arena and is currently gearing up for the 2013-14 regular season.

It was fitting that the person who guided Dugan through some rough patches as a high school goalie introduced him to the Ice Dogs — namely, John King, one of the JV team's coaches and step-



Goaltender Jacob Dugan watches the action behind the net during a 2011-12 game of the Canton junior varsity boys hockey team.

father of one of Jacob's then-teammates, Brandon Zachs.

"During my junior year at Canton, John took a liking to me and has been somewhat of a guide through the paths of my hockey career," Dugan noted. "... My junior varsity season was the season that I feel I showed the most growth as a goaltender."

"I entered the season as an underdog having only been playing ice hockey since my ninth grade year and once the season was over I was one of the best goaltenders in the league."

In his corner

Having only originally donned the goalie pads as a high school freshman, Dugan's progress between the pipes has been nearly as quick as his style of stopping pucks.

In 2010 he suited up for the Livingston Lightning, followed by the Henry Ford Hurricanes in 2010-11. Both of those were Midget A teams.

Still unsure about his net minding ability entering his junior year of high school, he played

on the Canton JV squad that was coached by King, Tom Stahl and Adam "Teddy" Lazorka.

"That season's coaching staff was fantastic," Dugan continued. "... (They) were all incredibly supportive and knowledgeable about the game."

Certainly, he was greatly encouraged along the way by his mom, Marti Dugan.

But the way King and the other coaches believed in him continues to have a lasting impact, something MWJHL shooters could soon learn for themselves.

Of course, Dugan did not make the jump from the JV to the Ice Dogs. He had to get through the roller-coaster ride of his senior season, spent with the Canton varsity team.

He had a difficult first appearance for the Chiefs, giving up four goals in relief as Canton lost 9-0 to Plymouth.

"After a few poor appearances I sat most of the rest of the season only playing clean up crew (in) hopeless games," Dugan said. "Though there was a

silver lining — the hardships of that season developed my mental strength, showing me that the real reason I play hockey is because it is a love of mine.

"It pushed me on and off the ice to be a better person."

Even his varsity coach, Jeremy Majszak, tipped his cap to Dugan.

"I wish Jacob Dugan a lot of luck," Majszak said. "He truly loves the game and works very hard to better himself."

Case in point, Dugan is taking classes in engineering at Schoolcraft College by day and playing for the Ice Dogs by night.

He hopes he'll continue to rise as a goalie, perhaps moving up the chain in junior hockey or joining a college program someday.

It must be of some comfort that his new team sports the same color scheme as his old one. "As of now the Ice Dogs is my home where I will bleed the red and white once again for the next six months," he said.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

BOYS SOCCER ROUNDUP

Park teams all victorious

Salem continued to roll with Tuesday's 4-0 varsity boys soccer victory over South Lyon East at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Scoring for the Rocks (7-0-3 overall, 5-0-0 in the KLAAs Central Division) were Nick Massey, Andriy Pelekh, Matt DeMoss and Connor Cole.

Drawing two assists was William Benintende with single helpers to Massey, Pelekh and Cole. Sharing the shutout were goalkeepers Collin Hewett and Chad Wind.

PLYMOUTH 1, CHURCHILL 0: Alex Decker's goal midway through the second half enabled the Wildcats (3-7-1, 3-1-1) to earn a KLAAs South Division victory Tuesday at Livonia Churchill (4-5-1, 2-3).

Plymouth goalkeeper James Gibbs posted the shutout, while Churchill's Colton Robison made five saves.

CANTON 8, WAYNE 0: Sophomore Mathew Causley notched a hat trick and added one assist Tuesday as the host Chiefs (9-0-2, 5-0) invoked the mercy rule against Wayne Memorial (1-7, 0-5) in a KLAAs South Division match.

Griffin Parks had a goal and two assists, while Cody Widlak and Carter Schenk each contributed a goal and an assist. Finishing off the scoring were Ammar Chishti and Dominick Murphy with a goal each.

Sharing the shutout were goalkeepers Jay Krebs and Andrew Loehnis.

Lady Ocelots win in 2 OTs

The nationally-ranked Schoolcraft College women's soccer team recorded a huge victory on the road Sunday, pulling out a 2-1 double-overtime win at Cincinnati State.

The No. 14 Lady Ocelots (5-0 overall) broke a 1-1 tie with only 48 seconds remaining in the second OT when Kelly McKay tallied the game-winner, her fourth of the year, on a header off a cross from Tiffany Gates.

"I think our level of fitness and team depth played a big role in the win," said Schoolcraft coach Deepak Shivraman, whose team improved to 5-0 in NJCAA Region XII.

"It's exhausting to play 90 minutes and then two overtime periods, not to mention all of the pressures that come with the situation."

Cincinnati State, ranked No. 18 in the latest NJCAA Division I poll, scored on a penalty kick by Julie Martin in the 55th minute to take a 1-0 lead, but Schoolcraft's Jessica Perry tied it in the 67th minute on a blast from 20 yards out off an assist from Samantha Jarrett.

"I am hoping that the resilience and composure taught our players that we can play at a high level with a great degree of pressure," Shivraman said.

"These types of games will certainly help strengthen our team as relates to focus, confidence, and mental toughness."

Schoolcraft goalkeeper Tara Gessler made four saves, while Kelsie Lee had 15 stops for Cincinnati State (4-1 overall, 2-1 NJCAA Region XII).

SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

tell, but the linesman was pretty adamant that guy was like a yard offsidess and he (Plisko) was behind him," Duhl said. "But any time you get the (first) call you'd be upset about not getting the same call for yourself."

That second goal proved more than enough for the Rocks, but they couldn't add to their lead as Stevenson sophomore keeper Austin Kaczmarek kept it a two-goal margin by making four spectacular one-handed saves.

"I thought we played much better in the sec-

ond half and I liked our energy," said Stevenson coach Ken Shingledecker, whose team dropped to 4-4 overall and 2-2 in the KLAAs Central. "And there's really no quit with this group, which is good."

"We got a big week. We play right away tomorrow (vs. Novi) and we're just trying to get the sophomore (Kaczmarek) in as much as we can. And he's been excellent. Every time we put him in he plays really well. We'll go back to Bolin tomorrow and those two guys are both capable of getting the job done, no doubt."

There was a lot to like about Rocks' performance — except their finishing.

"We were able to get on the ball a lot," Duhl said. "I would feel more comfortable telling you what I didn't like, which is the decision making in the final third. We were right on the edge of the box 40 times tonight and we chose to dribble when we should have been passing. And we were passing when we should have been shooting."

"We got it wrong a lot, but we scored a really good second goal. I think first goal actually was offsidess. I'm pretty sure our guys even think so. I've said this all year — we move the ball really well, but it's all about the final product. That's the difference in any game." Duhl also singled out

three unsung players who made it possible for senior goalkeeper Collin Hewett to post the shutout.

"I thought our two center backs — Jordan Salhani and Alex Price — were good," the first-year coach said. "We actually had a new pairing and these two guys playing together. But I thought they did a pretty good job."

"It's a work in progress. Even moving Walid (Kandah) into the center field is more of a calming presence in the game. I thought those three guys did a really good job defending them, and playing out of it, so we could connect and keep the ball a lot."

Facing the Central Division's three toughest teams this week was a tall order for an inexperienced Stevenson squad which played six sophomores.

"We're young, we're injured and they (Salem) are pretty good," Shingledecker said. "I do kind of like where we're going, though. The scoreboard says 2-0 and the first goal was a tough deal, and I thought maybe could have been offsidess ..."

"We just have to continue to get better. We're just getting healthy. We got Billy Werthman back since the first one. It's good to have him back today. It's a chance to move Gino (D'Orazio) out

of the back. And I thought Gino really responded in the midfield and gave us some life in there. Things are starting to come. We have some guys still out hurt that hopefully will get back. It's not a finished product, but we'll get there."

Meanwhile, Duhl is comfortable with the way the season has unfolded thus far.

"I think it's good," he said. "I think these guys are comfortable with me and I'm comfortable with a lot of them. I think it's been a smooth transition."

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WHALERS

Continued from Page B1

said before a recent practice in his office at Compuware. "But it's not just to make the playoffs. We want to win our division first and foremost, then the conference. That's our goal."

"I talked to the guys the other day. People are saying we're young, we're rebuilding. We don't rebuild. We're just ready to go and we're ready to fight for the championship."

Early optimism

Vellucci and the Whalers don't rebuild, they reload. Yet it would be impressive if they even came close to the special season they enjoyed in 2012-13. It all begins Friday at London, followed by the home opener, set for 7 p.m. Saturday against Erie.

"We're young, but we're skilled and we're big, so I'm excited about it," Vellucci said. "There's a lot of guys who have been here for the last year or two that are going to get increased ice time and here's your chance to make the most of it."

Plymouth finished the

regular season with the West Division championship and 93 points, sparked by the mid-season acquisition of Trocheck, who finished the season with 109 points (59 in 28 games with Plymouth) to lead the league.

The team reached the third round of the playoffs before ultimately falling to regular-season champion London in a hard-fought, overtime-filled conference final.

Vellucci does have a roster featuring a number of players who saw important minutes in 2012-13.

Up front, the team probably will be led by left wing Ryan Hartman, who netted 23 goals and assisted on 37 others on the top line with Trocheck. Hartman won't be at Compuware for a while longer as he remains with Chicago's NHL camp.

On defense, he still has Malysa, Gianluca Curcuruto (nine goals, 38 assists, 47 points) and Connor Carrick (12 goals, 32 assists, 44 points) to provide a mix of muscle, grit and blue-line firepower. Carrick also will likely be a late arrival, still in camp with the Washington Capitals.

"Then you got Josh

Wesley, who just came over from the U.S. (Developmental) Program," Vellucci said. "He's young and his dad is Glen Wesley that played in the NHL for 20 years."

Rounding out the defense will be Alex Peters, Mitch Jones (Rochester), Mathieu Henderson and Yannick Rathgeb.

"We have eight very good defensemen," Vellucci said. "It's going to be tough to find them all ice time."

Net presence

The defense will have one of the OHL's top goaltenders behind it in acrobatic Alex Nedeljkovic, who during his rookie season took over the No. 1 job last year around the time the Whalers took off. He went 19-2-1-1 and posted a 2.28 goals-against average and .923 save percentage in 26 outings.

"It's a big year for Alex, but he's a great goalie," Vellucci said. "He's got that great demeanor and so we expect big things from him."

Fighting for the top backup spot are returnee Riley Corbin and 2013 draft pick Zach Bowman. The latter appears to have the inside track, following an outstanding training camp.

Where the team will look different will be up front.

Forwards Trocheck (50 goals, 59 assists, 109 points), Meurs (32 goals, 33 assists, 65 points), Noesen (25 goals, 28 assists, 53 points) and Rakell (21 goals, 23 assists, 44 points in just 40 games) won't be back. Also gone is center Mitchell Heard, who tallied 17 goals in 36 games.

All are at NHL camps and at the least will be sent to the American Hockey League.

Right wing Cody Payne (24 goals, 21 assists, 45 points) was traded over the summer and fan favorite Wilson (23 goals, 35 assists, 58 points) could stick with the NHL Capitals. If not, Wilson would again lace them up for the Whalers.

Their loss will be felt by those back for another season, such as Mistele.

Opportunity knocks

"All those guys were amazing last year," Mistele said. "Obviously, Trocheck had 109 points. That's a pretty big spot to fill. No one can really fill those shoes."

"But I mean, hopefully, I want the best for Willie (Wilson) and if he comes back, he comes



Matt Mistele (No. 22) led the Plymouth Whalers in goals in 2012-13 with 34. RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS

back. But if not, guys like me and (Zach) Lorentz and (Carter) Sandlak and (Connor) Chatham, we've got to step up and put more pucks in the net."

Vellucci also is pumped up to see what his new forwards can do. He said first-year player Chatham is destined to be a first-round NHL draft choice in 2014.

"We got (Victor) Crus-Rydbert, the Swedish player," he said. "He's been very impressive so far. And (Francesco) Vilardi, who we traded for, is a '96 first-year

player. He's got a lot of skill."

Sandlak (Belleville Bulls last year) is an overage power forward who Vellucci said "plays the game like I like my players to play — tough, hard-nosed, but he has a lot of skill and can puck the puck in the net."

Meanwhile, abrasives forwards Danny Vanderwiell (four goals, 10 assists, 14 points) and Connor Sills will be looking to move up the depth chart.

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GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY



Canton's varsity girls cross country team finished second Saturday at the Sparta Invitational. From left are team members Olivia McIntee, Jessica Siegler, Maddison Johnson, Kate Cotham, Alyssa Bradley, Anna Gorzalski and Samantha McGrath.

Canton girls 2nd at Sparta Invitational

Canton's varsity girls cross country team came oh-so-close to capturing Saturday's Sparta Invitational, but the Chiefs still were happy to finish second. Topping the eight-team field in the Varsity Girls Blue division was Grand Rapids Forest, with the top five fin-

ishers amassing a total time of 1 hour, 41:25.01 seconds. The Chiefs were not far behind, coming in with a total of 1:42:26.89 seconds. Members of the squad included Olivia McIntee, Jessica Siegler, Maddison Johnson, Kate Cotham, Alyssa

Bradley, Anna Gorzalski and Samantha McGrath. Rounding out the remaining teams were third-place Rockford (1:43:01.20), Holland West Ottawa (1:45:14.86), Lowell (1:48:46.10), Greenville (1:55:08.77) and Holland (1:56:54.77).

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

PCA nearly pulls off upset; 'Cats win in 3

For a while Tuesday night, it looked as though host Plymouth Christian Academy might put one of the few blemishes on Oakland Christian's record this volleyball season.

PCA won 25-19, 25-22 in the first two sets and had a 22-21 lead in the potential clincher before the visiting Lancers rebounded for a 25-22 win to keep the MIAC match alive.

Oakland then went on to win 25-11, 15-12 for the 3-2 match victory, improving to 20-2 overall for the season.

"I think they (Eagles) got a little overconfident because the first two games I think they felt very secure," PCA head coach Katie Decker said. "We got off to quick leads, we came out firing and swinging."

"I think there was a little bit of our inexperience that showed at the end. We got overconfi-

dent and it got away from us."

For the Eagles, now 5-3-2 overall, leading the attack with 13 kills each were senior Rachael Fuller and freshman standout Olivia Mady.

Others chipping in were junior libero Callie Morby (21 digs) and senior middle blocker Jen Malcolm (18 assists, five blocks).

Wildcats sweep

In the words of Plymouth varsity volleyball coach Sarah Marody "everyone contributed" as the Wildcats swept a three-set match over visiting Westland John Glenn on Tuesday night.

But topping the list was Shayla Smalls, with five kills, six aces and 17 assists to lift Plymouth (8-4 overall, 1-1 in the KLAAs) to the 25-15, 25-20, 25-23 victory.

"Shayla's precise and consistent serving in the third game sparked our

offense and helped to secure the win," Marody said.

Olivia Beyer (14 kills, 14 digs) and Emily Burkman (five kills, 10 digs) "provided timely and crucial hits" to stop Glenn serving runs.

Dani Barile added 10 assists along with 14 digs while Haylee Weber (nine digs) and Aleah Rogalski (seven digs) played well on defense.

Rocks fall short

Salem lost in three sets last Thursday to Novi, 14-25, 25-27, 14-25, but head coach Amanda Nies saw positives in defeat. She said Kelly Idsbarski played a strong match at libero with 22 digs while Tess Ganich was a force with 10 kills, 10 assists and six digs. Audrey Boike collected seven kills.

"Our passing is just way too inconsistent," Nies said. "Without it we can't do much."

PREP CROSS COUNTRY

Rocks look to halt struggles

The Salem girls cross country team is going through a bit of a rough patch, but Rocks head coach Dave Gerlach knows a turnaround is just around the corner.

Salem finished 19th with 511 points at Friday's Spartan Invitational at Forest Akers Golf Course, but bounced back a bit Saturday with a 12th-place showing at the Holly Invitational.

At Springfield Oaks Park, with a largely junior varsity lineup, the Rocks tallied 269 points led by Sierra Bowden (21:28), Erin McCann (22:00) and Kati Binsfeld (22:03).

Others to finish were Katy Robeson (22:39), Karissa McCarthy (22:41), Marlo Sharpe

(22:50) and Brianna Esien (22:03).

Toledo Whitmer won the event with 77 points.

"This group was aggressive today and stepped up," Gerlach said. "I saw some good things today and athletes making positive steps toward varsity."

At the Spartan Invite, Anya Cho and Kayla Hughes were the top performers with times of 19:14 and 19:59. Natasha Stevenson (20:03), Elizabeth Tripp (20:45) and Emily Marcero (21:10) were next in line.

Winning the invite with 98 points was Northville.

Salem boys win

Salem's boys cross country team defeated

South Lyon East 19-44 on Tuesday, sparked by senior Donovan Drouillard, who finished first with a time of 17:29.

It was Drouillard's first individual victory, coach Steve Aspinall said.

Also scoring were junior Noah Engerer (third), senior Brendan McCann (fourth), junior Jason Rogers (fifth) and junior Nabil Ahmed (sixth).

"There were a number of personal bests, including from many younger guys," Aspinall said. "I was particularly happy with the performance of freshman Alex Kroll, who ran a new personal best by over a minute to finish as our No. 9 runner on the day."

Lady Ocelots go 3-4 at tourney

The Schoolcraft College women's volleyball team got off to a tough start Tuesday in its Eastern Conference opener in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

Host St. Clair County CC improved to 16-4 overall and 4-1 in the conference with a 25-17, 25-11, 25-23 triumph over the Lady Ocelots.

Schoolcraft (8-10, 0-1) got a team-best 20 digs from Megan Wright, while Katie Summers

was the top attacker with seven kills.

Ajsha David added five kills and dished out 14 assist-to-kills.

Over the weekend, Schoolcraft finished 3-4 in the Shannon McBride Tournament held in Kirtland, Ohio.

On Saturday, Schoolcraft fell to No. 20-ranked Sinclair (Ohio) CC, 20-25, 15-25, St. Clair County CC, 22-25, 20-25; and Lorain County (Ohio) CC, 25-20, 18-25, 8-15, while defeating

Lake Michigan, 25-18, 25-18.

On Friday, the Lady Ocelots posted victories over host Cuyahoga (Ohio) CC, 25-8, 27-25; Notre Dame College (Ohio), 25-18, 25-22, while falling to Genesee (N.Y.) CC, 19-25, 25-12, 12-15).

Schoolcraft returns to action at 7 p.m. Thursday at home when it faces MCAA Eastern Conference foe Flint Mott CC.



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SPORTS BRIEFS

MU senior gets honor

For the first time in his career, Madonna University senior Abdul Ibrahim was selected Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Men's Soccer Offensive Player of the Week (Sept. 9-15).

Ibrahim, a native of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia (Lisgar Collegiate) scored a goal and had an assist as MU snapped a

three-match losing skid with a 2-0 win Saturday at Taylor University (Ind.).

Ibrahim assisted on Ryan Williams's goal during the seventh minute and scored his second goal of the season in the 87th minute.

Crusaders take 12th

The Madonna University women's cross country team featured all 10

runners setting season-best marks to claim 12th place out of 29 teams Saturday at the Knight Invitational hosted by Calvin College in Grand Rapids.

Junior Bianca Kubicki (Canton) posted a top-30 finish among the 316 runners in the field with a time of 18:57 on the 5-kilometer course. Freshman Karlie Gallagher (Livonia Stevenson) was next for MU in 19:18.

SPIKERS

Continued from Page B1

junior Carleigh Vela (seven assists in the third set) took over.

"We don't have just one player they can go to," Johnson said. "But we always have somebody that's hot that night."

"Most of the time it is Sasha but it could be (Kayla) Buford, (Lauren) Shornak or Haley Diedrick."

Buford was a thorn in the Patriots side with her perfectly timed blocks, finishing with four to lead Canton.

Helping finish off Franklin in the second set was Diedrick, with a four-point service run helped along by timely blocks by Shornak and Buford.

The Chiefs built a 12-6 edge in the clincher, with Vela strong at the stripe with five points including an ace.

It was 17-10 following a Buzenberg-to-Diedrick power slam, but Franklin tried to chip away after that and did cut the deficit to 23-21 following an ace served up by libero Kelly Newton.

That was about as close as the Patriots would get, however.

Despite the fact the final outcome wasn't in

Keeping the play alive for Canton on Tuesday is Kayla Buford (No. 11), while Livonia Franklin's Jessica McNally watches. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

doubt for much of the evening, Johnson still saw some wrinkles in the blocking department he'd like to see ironed out.

"I think they were getting up in the air a little too soon and not holding back," Johnson said. "It could be communication. I'd like that to improve a little more."

Leading Canton in defensive digs were ju-

niors Megan Roy and Sydney Torres, with nine each. Adding seven was Shornak.

Top contributors for Franklin included Newton (13 digs), Bailey Goldberg (three aces, 12 assist-to-kills), Mikayla Sinekiewicz (18 assist-to-kills) and Sarah Cramton (four kills).

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RELIGION CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER BIBLE STUDY

Time/Date: 7 p.m. second and fourth Thursday of the month, beginning Sept. 26

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: Catholic author and apologist, Gary Michuta leads a study of 1 and 2 Peter. Attendees should bring their own Bibles
Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 200 or www.livoniastmichael.org

BIBLE STUDY

Time/Date: 10:30-11:45 a.m. Tuesdays and 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays

Location: St. Priscilla Church, 19120 Purlingbrook, Livonia
Details: Tuesday session began Sept. 10 and focuses on Prophets and Epistle to the Philippians/Epistle of James. Thursday session begins Sept. 26 and includes Acts of the Apostles and Epistle to the Romans
Contact: 248-476-4700

CATHOLICISM PROGRAM

Time/Date: 9:30-11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 23-Oct. 28

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: An in-depth study of the program, "Catholicism: The New Evangelization" by the Rev. Robert Barron. Barron's series has been seen on many PBS stations. Registration for the program is required and study guide materials cost \$25
Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 207, or e-mail swilliams@livoniastmichael.org

EUCHE NIGHT

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Mass, followed by games, Saturday, Sept. 21

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: The church's singles group for ages 30-60 will attend Mass and play euchre. Board games also will be available. Event organizers ask attendees to bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Soft drinks and coffee will be provided. Participants may bring alcoholic beverages. The event will be held in the convent basement. RSVP by Sept. 18
Contact: catholicisngles@livoniastmichael.org

FILM

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Sept. 27

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market, Farmington Hills
Details: "Thou Shalt Laugh," is a film about seven Christian comedians and their stand-up routines. Admission is free. A dinner of fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, and green beans will be offered for a free will donation. Call the church to reserve a dinner spot
Contact: 248-553-3380

GRIEF WORKSHOP

Time/Date: 7-8:45 p.m. Thursday, from Sept. 26-Nov. 21, excluding Oct. 31

Location: Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia

Details: The eight-week workshop, "From Grief to New Hope," is free and open to anyone grieving the death of a loved one. Call the church for registration information
Contact: 734-427-1414

GRIEF SHARE

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sundays, Sept. 22-Jan. 5, 2014

Location: Faith Community Church, 14560 Merriman, south of Five Mile, Livonia

Details: This nondenominational program features Christ-centered, biblical teaching that focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. The DVD seminar features nationally-respected grief experts and real-life stories of people, followed by a small group discussion. Registration fee is \$15, which will include a workbook.
Contact: Pastor Roger Wright at 313-682-7491

MOM2MOM SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28

Location: St. Timothy Presbyterian Church, 16700 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Admission \$1, strollers after 10 a.m.
Contact: sttimothycusa.org

MOM2MOM SALE

Time/Date: 8:30am - noon, Saturday, Sept. 28

Location: Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia

Details: \$2 early bird admission; \$1 after 9 a.m., strollers after 10 a.m. Tables available to rent.
Contact: betsy.everett@gmail.com

NEW SUPPORT GROUPS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Sept. 26

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills

Details: One workshop is "Hope for Tomorrow" and is a grief support for those struggling following the death of a loved one. Topics include: roller coaster of emotions, tasks of mourning, grief's effect on the whole person, a "new" normal, and more. The second workshop, "Through the Fire," is a divorce/separation recovery covering topics of good grief and feelings, handling guilt, dealing with stress, co-dependency, forgiveness, children of divorce and more. Space is limited. Call the church office to register
Contact: 248-553-3380

PRAYER LIFE PROGRAM

Time/Date: 8:30-10 a.m. Saturdays, Sept. 21-Nov. 16

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: Oremus, a study program about Catholic prayer, explores practical steps for building an authentic prayer life based on genuine conversations with God rather than rote recitation of the prayers. Registration is required and there is a \$15 fee for study materials

Contact: 734-261-1455, ext. 207; livoniastmichael.org

QUILT SEWING BLITZ

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21, 28 and Oct. 3 and 12

Location: Timothy Church, 8820 Wayne Road, at Joy, in Livonia

Details: Quilts will be constructed for Lutheran World Relief. Instruction in cutting and sewing will be available
Contact: 734-427-2290; www.timothythelutheranchurch.com

YOUTH AND RELIGION

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19

Location: St. Aidan Parish, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: The Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Office presents a program on youth and faith for anyone interested in the religious lives of youth. The session will consider the role parents and family play in raising youths in the Catholic faith; what can be done to nurture faith; and what the National Study on Youth and Religion says about Catholic youths. RSVP to the church
Contact: 734-425-5950; www.staidanlivonia.org

OCTOBER BLOOD DRIVE

Time/Date: Oct. 14

Location: K of C Council Monahan Hall, 19801 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Donors will receive free Guernsey Ice Cream instead of the traditional juice and cookies. Call to make an appointment to donate blood
Contact: Dan at 734-591-3237

CONCERT

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 6

Location: St. John Lutheran Church, 23225 Gill Road between Grand River and Freedom Road, Farmington

Details: The Birmingham Concert Band opens St. John's concert series. The band will present "A Musical Passport," under the direction of Jason Rose. Admission is free. A free-will offering will be collected
Contact: The Rev. Lauren Kirsh-Carr at 248-474-0584; pastorlkc@gmail.com

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Oct. 5

Location: Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Kim-Char Meredith, Chicago-based recording artist, will perform. Meredith sings both secular and faith-based music. She has performed everywhere from coffee houses to convention centers and has opened for Melissa Etheridge. Suggested donation is \$15. Tickets are available at the church
Contact: 734-421-1760

GUEST SPEAKER

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 3

Location: St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 44800 Warren Road, Canton

Details: Hear Gary Michuta speak on "Mary, the Mother of Jesus." Michuta is a contributor to "The Catholic Answer" magazine and is a frequent guest on EWTN's "Deep in Scripture" and "The Journey Home." His latest book is "Making Sense of Mary." Free admission, open to all faiths and child care will be available. Light refreshments will be served. Call church office to register
Contact: 734-455-5910

Time/Date: Noon-1 p.m. Oct. 12

Location: Madonna University, located at Levan and I-96, in Livonia

Details: The Rev. Bernard Luedtke will lead the praying of the rosary. The event is held in conjunction with America Needs Fatima, a group that promotes rosary prayer.
Contact: 734-591-0360

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 15 and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 16

Location: First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial, west of Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: This fundraiser for a youth mission trip to Appalachia will include household items, clothing, jewelry, books, toys and much more for sale. Bag sale starts at noon on Wednesday.
Contact: 734-453-5280

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Oct. 11 and 9 a.m.-noon, Oct. 12

Location: The Birmingham Temple, 28611 W. 12 Mile, on the south side of the street, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Farmington Hills

Details: The sale will include a specialty boutique, house wares/household, electronics, toys, books, home decor, linens, shoes, clothing, furniture, sporting goods and more. Cash only. Items will be marked up 20 percent on opening day. A bag sale will be held on Saturday
Contact: 248-477-1410

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

Men's Bible study
Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.

Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township

Contact: John Shulenberg at 734-464-9491

New Life Community Church
Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 am. Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m. Sundays

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville
Contact: 734-846-4615

Our Lady of Loretto
Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Scripture study
Contact: 313-534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel
Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. the

Location: School library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Catholic author and Bible scholar, Gary Michuta, leads a study of Peter.
Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 200, or www.livoniastmichael.org

Ward Presbyterian
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays

Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville

Details: Learner's Bible study is held
Contact: 248-374-5920

FAMILY COMMUNITY MEAL

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday

Location: The Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal
Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

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BAKER, BRIAN C.
 Age 52 of Plymouth, September 12, 2013. Loving husband of Sally. Beloved father of Melanic, and Sarah. Dear son of William and the late Ann. Dear brother of Cathy (Bob) Regan, David (Sandy) Baker, and Jim (Stacey) Baker. Visitation Saturday 10 AM until the 12 Noon Memorial Service at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Rd (btwn Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. Memorials may be made to Angela Hospice, or ALS of Michigan. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

GENRICH, BRUNO FRANCIS
 September 11, 2013. Age 87, beloved husband of the late Rose Marie. Loving father of Patrick (Jan), John (Jodi), Ann Marie (Mark) Rockov, Richard (Adriana), Ronald (Gail), David (Betsey), Michael (Mary), Bruno (Diana) and Julie (Jim) Dillon. Also survived by 24 grandchildren. Resting at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, 42600 Ford Road (west of Lilley) Thursday, 1-9 p.m. Rosary 7 p.m. Instate Friday, 10 a.m. at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church, 555 Lilley Road (S of Cherry Hill) until time of Mass at 11 a.m.

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

Garden City native reveals his life, hometown through sketch comedy

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Garrett Fuller loves Garden City, so it's no surprise the 28-year-old sketch comedian and improviser references his hometown on stage.

"I have a couple of different ones about Garden City," said Fuller, describing the stories that underpin his current show at Go Comedy! Improv Theater in Ferndale.

"After being in the community so long, I've become synonymous with Garden City. It's a thing people bring up to me all the time. I must talk about it a lot. When people drive through Garden City, they'll text me and say, 'Hey, I was in your hometown.' I'm proud of my city. I love where I come from."

Fuller, who grew up in Garden City, but now lives in Livonia, is half the comedy team that makes up "An Evening with Fuller & Lark."

Bryan Lark of Ferndale shares the stage with Fuller for 70 minutes, beginning at 8 p.m., Thursday-Friday through Oct. 4 at the theater, located at 261 E. Nine Mile, east of Woodward. Tickets are \$15 and are available online at www.gocomedy.net or at the theater box office beginning at 6 p.m., Wednesday-Sunday.

The pair tells personal stories in the form of monologues, sketches and songs. Some of the



Garrett Fuller (left) of Livonia and Bryan Lark of Ferndale make fun of themselves through song, sketches and monologues at Go Comedy!

material came out of improvisation and some from writing individually or in collaboration. For Fuller, the two-man show is a culmination of his work in the Detroit-area improv community.

"I've always wanted to do my own show. I love being part of a resident cast but I always wanted to write my own stuff, create my own thing. Bryan is my best friend, so we've always had a

million ideas through the years that we always wanted to put on stage, and this is the show that made all those ideas come to fruition."

Decade of experience

Ten years after starting classes at Second City in Novi, where he and Lark met, Fuller, a Garden City High School graduate, considers himself a "weathered veter-



Garrett Fuller (left) of Livonia and Bryan Lark of Ferndale mix monologues, songs, and sketches in a new show at Go Comedy.

an" of the improv stage. "For years and years I was the kid, the young guy. Everyone was older than me. Now that I'm 10 years in, there are all these young people around."

Rather than view the up-and-coming crop of improvisers as competition, Fuller welcomes the chance to share the stage with them.

"If someone is good, you really want to play with them on stage more than you would want to beat them. In a stand-up comedy environment you would feel competition because it's you against them."

Improv theaters

Fuller performed in student shows while taking classes at Second City. He also improvised at Improv Inferno, in Ann Arbor; at Planet Art in Hamtramck where he's still a member of the home team; and at Go Comedy! where he is a former resident cast member.

"I still perform there all the time, every single week," he said, referring to the Ferndale venue.

"I teach there but I'm not on the resident cast any more because when the kids were born I wanted to be home

more," he said.

Fuller is a stay-at-home dad for his twin 3-year-old boys. He said they inspire much of his writing.

"I never thought my comedy would come from my children, but nowadays 90 percent is from my life. I can pull humor from my everyday situations."

When the show ends, Fuller hopes to move on to bigger opportunities. He and his wife are making plans to move to New Jersey, where she grew up. She's interviewing for jobs there, so that he can "make a run" at New York City.

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ARTS, CRAFTS GALLERY @ VT

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, during public performances and by appointment, through Sept. 29

Location: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: Nicholas Wilson shows paintings and half-screen-printed wood box panels in this mixed media show called "Technology and the Immortal Condition"

Contact: 734-394-5300; cantonvillagetheater.org

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Sept. 28.

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: Terry Lee Dill's solo exhibition, "Dimorphism" consists of elaborate drawings in black ink and gold leaf. For the past 20 years, Dill conceptualized fantastical buildings as metaphors of his

daily life. His work shows hints of Dr. Seuss, M.C. Escher and Erich Mendelsohn.

Contact: 248-344-0497; <http://www.northvillearts.org>

FILM PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 20 and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 21-22

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "Despicable Me 2," admission \$3

Coming up: "The Way Way Back," 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 27-28 and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 29

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

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Sept. 27 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Sept. 28

Location: 17360 Lahser, north of Grand River Avenue, Detroit

Details: "The Graduate," with Anne Ban-

croft and Dustin Hoffman, along with the Pink Panther in "The Pink Panther;" \$5 admission

Coming up: Vincent Price film festival with "Diary of a Mad Man" and "The Raven," 8 p.m. Oct. 4; "House of Wax," 2 p.m. Oct. 5; "The Masque of the Red Death" and "The Tangler," 8 p.m. Oct. 5. Tickets are \$5 per show or \$13 for all three shows.

Contact: 313-537-2560

HISTORICAL PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday and Friday-Sunday

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: The current exhibit, B4TV, highlights leisure activities that families and individuals engaged in before television. The exhibit runs through Nov. 10. Admission \$5 for adults and \$2 for students 6-17

Contact: www.plymouthhistory.org; 734-455-8940

MUSIC

BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21; open mic and featured musicians perform the third Saturday of the month through May

Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: Featured performers are The Folk Laureates; host is Doug McClennen; several open mic spots will be filled. Open mic performers sign up from 6:15-6:45 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Annual memberships are \$25 for individuals and include free monthly admission

Contact: Scott Ludwig at BFSpresident@aol.com

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF DETROIT

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5

Location: Seligman Performing Arts Center, 22305 W. 13 Mile, at Lahser on the campus of Detroit Country Day School in Beverly Hills

Details: Emerson String Quartet performs of Mozart, Britten and

See GET OUT!, Page B7

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Reunited band's first CD is hard rockin' 'Joy Ride'

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Reuniting after a 30-year hiatus and then recording a first CD is like "riding a bike" says Skid Marx, bass guitarist for the rock band, The Seatbelts.

Marx, a Redford Township resident, and fellow musicians, guitarists Rick Mills of Royal Oak and Chris Flanagan of Ferndale, drummer Tony Bojanic of Grosse Pointe and singer Greg Upshur of Stockbridge released *Joy Ride*, a collection of 13 songs on CD, last month and will "rock the finish line" at the Detroit Women's Half Marathon and 5K, Sunday, Sept. 22 on Belle Isle in Detroit. The concert is free.

"It came fairly simple, but also it was refreshing, it was new, something we hadn't done in all that time," said Marx, referring to the CD re-

recording. "Some of the songs on the CD are 30 years old. They had never gotten recorded. We updated them as far as the drum and guitar sounds and changed the arrangements on some of them."

Other bands

Marx left the band a year after it formed in 1977 and although other members stayed together until the early 1980s, The Seatbelts didn't record until now.

After leaving The Seatbelts, Marx joined the band, Flirt, which performed through the late 1980s, disbanded and reunited in the 1990s and again in 2003. He's still plays with Circus Boy, a punk rock band.

Other former Seatbelts members were busy working with other bands, including The Cubes and 3-D Invisibles over the past several years.

Reuniting

In 2010 four of them happened to attend the same benefit event. They talked about jump-starting The Seatbelts.

"I contacted Greg, we talked about it and within a month we had our first show."

The band has worked steady gigs ever since, drawing fans from age 19 to 50-plus to its performances.

"I call it Detroit rock," said Marx, describing the band's sound. "It's not classic but it's got a Detroit 1960s feel to it. Sometimes I call it dance-oriented rock because a lot of people dance to it. It's fun to see that in a bar, people getting up to dance."

Catch The Seatbelts on Oct. 26 at the Bullfrog Bar and Grill in Redford Township.

For more about the band visit Facebook.com/seatbeltsdetroit.



The Seatbelts will "rock the finish line" with a free concert at the Detroit Women's Half Marathon, Sunday, Sept. 22 on Belle Isle. CYBELLE CODISH

GET OUT!

Continued from Page B6

Beethoven. Single tickets range from \$30-\$60, and student tickets are priced at \$15-\$24

Contact: www.chambermusicdetroit.org or call 248-855-6070

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. last Tuesday of the month — except December

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge No. 1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: The Russ Miller Quintet performs at the next show on Sept. 24. Miller plays flute and saxophone; Charlie Miller is on trumpet; Cliff Monear is on keyboard; Jeff Pedraz on bass; and Dave Taylor on drums. 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 email to plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

LAS VEGAS SUPERSTARS

Time/Date: Doors open at 7 p.m.; show starts at 8 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 22

Location: Straight Farmhouse, 6221 Merriman, between Ford Road and Warren Road, Garden City

Details: Impersonators will sing tributes to Dean Martin, Barbra Streisand, Paul Anka, Johnny Rivers and The Everly Brothers. Admission is \$20, cash only. Includes free pizza and pop

Contact: Larry James at 734-788-1525

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN

Time/Date: 7:30-10 p.m. every Monday

Location: 884 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: Open mic for music and poetry; come and show your creative side.

Saturday featured artist: The Skinny Raccoons, Sept. 21; Seth Abram, Sept. 28. Featured performer concerts start at 8 p.m.

Contact: 734-454-0178

SENATE THEATER

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 22

Location: 8424 Michigan Ave., Detroit

Details: Justin Stahl of Indian-

apolis, Ind., will play a pops concert on the theater's historic Wurlitzer organ. Tickets are \$15 at the door for non-members.

Coming up: Bob Milne and Bob Seeley, veteran piano players, perform "Piano Ragtime and Boogie Woogie Blast!" at 3 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 29. Tickets are \$15.

Contact: 313-894-0850

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: Songwriters Anonymous Showcase, Sept. 20; The Boogie Woogie Kid Matthew Ball, Sept. 21. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks accepted

Contact: 734-464-6302

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: Impersonators Rob Garrett and Sharon Owens perform tributes to Neil Diamond and Barbra Streisand. Tickets are \$27, available from cantonvillagetheater.org or by calling 734-394-5460. Tickets also are available at the door beginning an hour before show time

Contact: 734-394-5300

VIVACE SERIES

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28

Location: The Birmingham Temple, 28611 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: The David Glukh International Ensemble performs improvisation, Yiddish classics, klezmer, and masterpieces by Tchaikovsky, Verdi and Puccini. An afterglow will follow the concert. General admission is \$23; members, seniors and students under 18 pay \$20.

Contact: Joyce Cheresh at 248-788-9338 or Ann Sipher at 248-661-1348

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

AIRPORT OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 28

Location: Canton-Plymouth Mettetal-Airport, 8550 N. Lilley, Canton

Details: Dozens of aircraft on display, including vintage airplanes; model airplane demonstrations; airplane and helicopter rides; food and beverages available

Contact: 734-459-0012



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Back-to-school season marks the start of the most delicious extracurricular activity: bake sales. Cookies and brownies are two of the most popular bake sale items, and this year, they'll taste even better with a flavor twist. The McCormick Kitchens have developed easy cookie and brownie recipes – including one that combines the two – to make sure your treats are the talk of the table.

“Our new Choco-Mint Crownie recipe combines a vanilla-rich chocolate chip cookie with a cool peppermint brownie,” said Mary Beth Harrington of the

Spice up goodies with flavor twist

McCormick Kitchens. “They’re easy to make — just add a splash of peppermint extract to your brownie batter, pour into a pan, spoon chocolate chip cookie dough flavored with pure vanilla on top and bake.”

Other easy recipes from the McCormick Kitchens take brownies and chocolate chip cookies from bake sale favorites to bake sale stars. It’s as simple as adding extracts to brownie mix or folding in tasty ingredients like cinnamon and cocoa to your favorite made-from-scratch cookie recipe.

For more delicious bake sale ideas, visit McCormick.com.



CHOCO-MINT CROWNIES

Prep Time: 20 minutes
Cook Time: 40 minutes
Makes: 24 servings

- 1 ½ cups flour
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup (1 stick) butter, softened
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- ½ cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 3 teaspoons pure vanilla extract, divided
- 1 package (12 ounces) miniature chocolate chips
- 1 package (family-size) fudge brownie mix
- ½ teaspoon pure peppermint extract

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Mix flour, baking soda and salt in medium bowl. Set aside. Beat butter and sugars in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add egg and 2 teaspoons of the vanilla; mix well. Gradually beat in flour mixture on low speed until well mixed. Stir in chocolate chips. Set aside.
2. Prepare brownie mix as directed on package, adding remaining 1 teaspoon vanilla and peppermint extract. Spread in greased 13- by 9-inch baking pan.
3. Bake 15 minutes. Drop cookie dough by tablespoonfuls on brownie, covering the top evenly. Batter will spread during baking.
4. Bake 20 to 25 minutes longer or until cookie top is golden brown. Cool in pan on wire rack. Cut into bars.

CINNAMON CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

Prep Time: 15 minutes
Cook Time: 8 minutes
Serves: Makes 5 dozen or 30 (2 cookie) servings

- 3 ½ cups flour
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 ½ cups butter, softened
- 1 ½ cups granulated sugar
- 1 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- 1 package (12 ounces) semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 cup coarsely chopped walnuts

1. Mix flour, cinnamon, baking soda and salt in medium bowl. Set aside. Beat butter and sugars in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add eggs and vanilla; mix well. Gradually beat in flour mixture on low speed until well mixed. Stir in chocolate chips and walnuts.
2. Preheat oven to 375°F. Drop by rounded tablespoons about 2 inches apart onto ungreased baking sheets.
3. Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool on baking sheets 1 minute. Remove to wire racks; cool completely.

RASPBERRY BROWNIES RECIPE

Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 30 minutes
Serves: Makes 24 servings

- Brownies:**
- 1 package (family-size) fudge brownie mix
- 4 teaspoons McCormick Raspberry Extract
- 2 teaspoons McCormick Raspberry Extract
- 1 container (16 ounces) chocolate frosting

1. Prepare brownie mix as directed on package. Stir in raspberry extract. Spread in greased 13- by 9-inch baking pan.
2. Bake and cool as directed on package.
3. Meanwhile, for the frosting, stir raspberry extract into chocolate frosting. Spread over cooled brownie. Cut into squares

CHOCOLATE CHUNK MOCHA COOKIES

Prep Time: 20 minutes
Cook Time: 10 minutes
Makes 4 dozen or 24 (2 cookie) servings

- 2 cups flour
- ½ cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- ½ cup firmly packed light brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 4 teaspoons McCormick Pure Coffee Extract
- 6 ounces semi-sweet baking chocolate, coarsely chopped
- 1 cup chopped walnuts

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Mix flour, cocoa powder, baking soda and salt in medium bowl. Set aside. Beat butter and sugars in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add eggs and coffee extract; mix well. Gradually beat in flour mixture on low speed until well mixed. Stir in chocolate and walnuts.
2. Drop by rounded tablespoons about 2 inches apart onto baking sheets sprayed with no stick cooking spray.
3. Bake 8 to 10 minutes or just until cookies are set. Cool on baking sheets 2 minutes. Remove to wire racks; cool completely.

CITY BITES

Fabulous food tasting

Livonia — Tickets are still available for Schoolcraft College Foundation’s signature food and wine event, Culinary Extravaganza, which runs 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 22, at the Vis Ta Tech Center, located on the main campus, 18600 Haggerty. Tickets are \$50 per person — of which \$20 is a charitable contribution — and will include food and drink sampling from approximately 50 restaurants, pastry shops and beverage vendors; a silent auction; a raffle with cash prizes and a demonstration by Master Chef Jeff Gabriel and expert vintner, Lee Hershey on healthy food and wine pairing. Football fans won’t miss any of the action at the

Detroit Lions-Washington Redskins — the televised game will be featured along with pub-style fare in one area at the event. Proceeds from Culinary Extravaganza benefit student scholarships and the culinary arts department at Schoolcraft College. For tickets, call 734-462-4689 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation.

Heated competition

Plymouth — The Great Lakes Regional Chili Cook-off and Motorcycle Show could be your ticket to a cash prize, trophy and bragging rights for best in red chili, chili verde or salsa.

The 18th annual event is set for Sunday, Oct. 6 in downtown Plymouth. Chili cooks can register to participate

in the Cook-off online at www.greatlakeschili.com. Fees are \$40 for the red chili category, \$25 for chili verde, \$20 for salsa and \$40 for a “People’s Choice” competition. In addition to the competitive cooking, a motorcycle show will run from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; live bands will perform beginning at noon and children’s activities will keep little hands busy from noon to 5 p.m.

The public will get a chance to sample chili throughout the day. Samples will cost \$1 each. All money raised from the event goes to Habitat for Humanity and Penrickton Center for Blind Children. For more information, contact Annette Horn at 734-776-9669 or GLRChili@sbcglobal.net



Chef Jeffrey Gabriel of Schoolcraft College will demonstrate healthy and wholesome food at the upcoming Culinary Extravaganza. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Preventing kitchen fires focus of annual safety effort

The National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) annual awareness campaign, Fire Prevention Week, will be held Oct. 6-12. The nonprofit fire safety organization is encouraging the public to prevent kitchen fires. The kitchen is the leading area of origin for home fires and most kitchen fires are caused by cooking. On average, there are roughly 3,000 reported kitchen fires per day in the United States.

The Fire Prevention Week website is the central portal for information and resources to help families, teachers, community leaders, and fire officials spread the word about fire safety.

The site includes fire safety tip sheets, fire statistics, a family safety checklist, Sparky the Fire Dog activities for kids and public service announcement videos. Videos on the site include "Sparky's Kitchen Rules," a fire safety song for kids, and safety tips from Sparky's Aunt Dottie.

Visitors can also test their knowledge of fire safety with the Fire Prevention Week Quiz, a fun, interactive resource that lets families see how well-prepared they are for an emergency. Quiz-takers can review their results and compare them with others via Twitter and Facebook.

Continuing for 2013 will be the Sparky's Wish List Campaign. The program, now



GETTY IMAGES

in its second year, is designed to help fire departments connect with their local communities. Fire departments across the country have registered for public safety education materials they need in their communities. Individuals can then help their local fire department prepare for Fire Prevention Week by fulfilling the wishes.

NFPA offers these important fire safety tips:

» Be alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.

at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

About Fire Prevention Week

NFPA has been the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week since 1922. According to the National Archives and Records Administration's Library Information Center, Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record. The president of the United States has signed a proclamation proclaiming a national observance during that week every year since 1925. Visit www.firepreventionweek.org for more safety information.

About the National Fire Protection Association

NFPA is a worldwide leader in fire, electrical, building, and life safety. The mission of the international nonprofit organization founded in 1896 is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education. NFPA develops more than 300 codes and standards to minimize the possibility and effects of fire and other hazards. All NFPA codes and standards can be viewed at no cost at www.nfpa.org/freeaccess.



Robert Meisner

Check fine print, rights on 'fees'

Q: I just entered into a listing agreement and noted in the fine print that the brokerage firm has a right to take an "administrative fee" over and above the commission. Is that something that is unusual?

A: Apparently, a number of real estate companies are now charging this "administrative fee" in addition to a commission to cover alleged expenses with respect to the closing. My view on behalf of our many real estate clients is that fee should not be charged given the nature of the commission that is being paid by you, presumably six percent in a residential closing. Obviously, other types of brokerage firms will offer a commission at less and/or will waive the administrative fee if you ask. Most people don't even recognize or realize that there will be a fee until the closing since it is generally in small print in the listing agreement and not emphasized by the realtor. I would suggest that you bring it to the attention of the realtor at this point, and in the future carefully review your listing agreement before you sign it or have an attorney review it who has experience in dealing with realtors who impose this brokerage fee.

Q: A developer promised to provide to our association a certain tract of land before the first unit was sold to be used as a common area. However, the developer then sold the land to the city without us receiving any compensation. Do you think we have a claim against the city and/or the developer for what they did?

A: Obviously, you have a claim against the developer if it breached your declaration or master deed as the case may be. Also, based on similar facts out of the Tennessee appellate court, the city was found to have been required to compensate the HOA for taking open space that was to be provided to the association by the developer. The fair market value of that open area was to be determined at a separate hearing. Accordingly, your association should immediately retain capable legal counsel to pursue not only the developer, but the city for just compensation.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling, and Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95 plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. "Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and barnesandnoble.com. He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$2.20 for tax, shipping and handling. Call 248-644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Career Seminar

Keller Williams Realty will hold a free Career Seminar, explaining the \$50,000 income guarantee, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, at 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100 Plymouth.

For more information, contact Mary Beth Kaljian at 734-459-4700 or mb@marybethk.com.

Seminar

The Meisner Law Group announced that Robert M. Meisner will conduct a four-week course Tuesdays in October from 7-9 p.m. covering "Introduction to Successful Condominium Operation."

This seminar is designed for board members and officers, managers, developers, and association members living in or working with a

condominium, subdivision, cooperative, or community association. Explore the many legal issues involved in the successful operation of an association. Cost is \$95 (\$85 per person when two or more enroll from the same organization). For registration information, contact The Meisner Law Group at 248-644-4433 or 800-470-4433, via email at: bmeisner@meisner-law.com, or visit the seminar page on the website: meisner-law.com.

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures. Many sellers are misinformed or not sure about how the procedures work. Organizers will also discuss the internal workings of short sales and the differ-

ent steps involved.

Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. Thursdays at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon.

Additional parking across the street in back. Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Seminar on Tuesdays, Thursdays

A free seminar on government-insured reverse mortgages is offered by Colonial Mortgage Corp. on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 2 p.m., held at various locations.

RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96.

Email Georgia@adddvalurealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. each first Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership.

Any questions or concerns, call Wayne Koehler at 313-277-4168.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of June 3-6, 2013, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

613 Aylesbury Ct	\$450,000
46564 Bartlett Dr	\$237,000
7262 Burgundy St	\$198,000
8726 Columbia Cir	\$70,000
50467 Coolidge St	\$230,000
41980 Echo Forest Ct	\$340,000
1697 Fern Ct	\$172,000
6753 Foxthorn Rd	\$85,000
50246 Grant St	\$214,000
7591 Green Meadow Ln	\$153,000
50135 Hanford Rd	\$270,000
39612 Hillary Dr	\$140,000
45223 Lemont Rd	\$173,000
49136 Manhattan Cir	\$280,000
6592 Marshall St	\$235,000
44250 Postmill Ct	\$200,000
45066 Rector Dr	\$140,000
5938 Runnymede Dr	\$135,000
45037 Seabrook Dr	\$287,000

208 Sheffield Ct	\$200,000
43479 W Arbor Way Dr	\$63,000
43530 Westminster Way	\$146,000
43961 Yorktown St	\$198,000
GARDEN CITY	
2009 Arcola St	\$59,000
30571 Brown St	\$98,000
28449 Cambridge St	\$54,000
1825 Inkster Rd	\$43,000
28908 James St	\$50,000
28950 Leona St	\$100,000
27514 Windsor St	\$84,000
LIVONIA	
9970 Doris St	\$86,000
15496 Edington St	\$240,000
11684 Farmington Rd	\$116,000
17151 Fitzgerald St	\$195,000
9046 Hartel St	\$171,000
11735 Hunters Park Ct	\$253,000
36547 Ladywood St	\$240,000
32472 Maryland St	\$123,000
30291 Minton St	\$130,000
37712 N Laurel Park Dr	\$162,000
20190 Pollyanna Dr	\$270,000
16724 Savoie St	\$212,000
9929 Shadyside St	\$48,000
27989 Terrence St	\$189,000

18215 Wayne Rd	\$235,000
NORTHVILLE	
19736 Dearborn Ct	\$98,000
48134 Four Seasons Blvd	\$110,000
48134 Four Seasons Blvd	\$895,000
49418 N Glacier	\$258,000
47178 Red Oak Dr	\$520,000
17676 Stonebrook Ct	\$640,000
39504 Village Run Dr	\$271,000
113 Walnut St	\$155,000
16306 Westminster Dr	\$362,000
16452 White Haven Dr	\$240,000
PLYMOUTH	
140 Burroughs St	\$240,000
45899 Litchfield Dr	\$360,000
11488 Mona Ct	\$219,000
12085 Nicholas Ln	\$272,000
349 Red Ryder Dr	\$275,000
9657 Russell Ave	\$171,000
9311 S Main St	\$310,000
1372 Sheridan St	\$380,000
744 Starkweather St	\$365,000
11403 Waverly Dr	\$211,000
REDFORD	
17302 Denby	\$2,000
15583 Gaylord	\$33,000
18264 Gaylord	\$30,000

17686 Glenmore	\$64,000
19930 Inkster Rd	\$12,000
25306 Ivanhoe	\$4,000
26780 Joy Rd	\$17,000
14260 Marshall Dr	\$171,000
14244 Mason Dr	\$151,000
9609 Norborne	\$82,000
17361 Sumner	\$60,000
18803 Wakenden	\$74,000
9583 Winston	\$55,000
WAYNE	
4654 Niagara St	\$40,000
31447 Tyler St	\$38,000
WESTLAND	
941 Barchester St	\$84,000
37517 Barkridge Cir	\$55,000
35208 Cherry Hill Rd	\$35,000
6565 Chirrewa St	\$84,000
625 Larchmont Ct	\$127,000
31715 Mackenzie Dr	\$113,000
29134 Manchester St	\$26,000
5909 Morley St	\$120,000
5775 N Wayne Rd	\$105,000
8325 Opal Dr	\$199,000
471 S John Hix St	\$88,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of May 13-17, 2013, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS

22830 Shagbark Dr	\$450,000
BINGHAM FARMS	
23357 Old Orchard Trl	\$450,000
BIRMINGHAM	
679 Ann St	\$250,000
1863 Bowers St	\$185,000
915 Chapin Ave	\$582,000
972 Chesterfield Ave	\$640,000
419 Pilgrim Ave	\$1,083,000
327 Southfield Rd # 13	\$127,000
515 W Merrill St	\$700,000
3599 Wabeek Lake Dr W	\$240,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
1753 Huntingwood Ln # D	\$75,000
30 Scenic Oaks Dr N	\$835,000
536 Whitehall Rd	\$440,000

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

1302 Ashover Dr	\$140,000
2709 Aspen Ln	\$261,000
5600 Crabtree Rd	\$245,000
5906 Eastmoor Rd	\$1,560,000
5690 Forman Dr	\$799,000
7285 Hiddenbrook Ln	\$1,038,000
5550 Kenmoor Rd	\$215,000
1834 Ledbury Dr	\$255,000
1985 Lone Pine Rd	\$509,000
1163 Lone Pine Woods Dr	\$615,000
3875 Quarton Rd	\$222,000
4502 Ranch Ln	\$600,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	
6031 Birchcrest Ln	\$399,000
3170 Edgewood Park Dr	\$550,000
3426 Edgewood Park Dr	\$913,000
3321 Fox Blvd	\$80,000
2975 Ivy Hill Dr	\$312,000
160 Liza Ln	\$265,000
3278 Mandrake St	\$62,000
FARMINGTON	
32800 W Eight Mile Rd	\$61,000

FARMINGTON HILLS

21939 Crescent Ct	\$220,000
36111 Crompton Cir	\$300,000
37756 Emerald Forest Dr	\$295,000
28382 Kendallwood Dr	\$130,000
39172 Kennedy Dr	\$330,000
30954 Oak Valley Dr	\$225,000
29623 Sierra Point Cir	\$125,000
36445 Valley Ridge Dr	\$257,000
32005 W 12 Mile Rd Unit 308	\$40,000
27555 Westcott Crescent Cir	\$169,000
FRANKLIN	
32580 Romsey Rd	\$275,000
MILFORD	
916 Bird Song Dr	\$109,000
3400 Cooley Lake Rd	\$244,000
315 Crystal St	\$130,000
1383 General Motors Rd	\$480,000
1679 Hunters Lake Dr	\$476,000
1175 Marjorie St	\$160,000
521 Napa Valley Dr	\$289,000
201 Noble St	\$120,000

921 Panorama Dr	\$130,000
948 Riverstone Ct	\$250,000
607 Tower Ridge Ct	\$260,000
523 Union St	\$187,000
613 Village Ln	\$103,000
NORTHVILLE	
19777 Hayes Ct	\$275,000
653 River Park Village Blvd	\$164,000
21653 Welch Rd	\$275,000
NOVI	
30131 Brightwood Dr	\$290,000
30142 Brightwood Dr	\$273,000
21926 Chase Dr	\$495,000
28337 Clymer Dr	\$84,000
28364 Clymer Dr	\$91,000
28370 Clymer Dr	\$89,000
28382 Clymer Dr	\$88,000
39972 Crosswinds	\$115,000
22128 Edgewater	\$82,000
22739 Foxmoor Dr	\$387,000
40488 Lennox Park Dr	\$225,000
29710 Lilley Trl	\$290,000
22747 Shadowpine Way	\$172,000

24668 Thatcher Dr	\$400,000
44180 Winthrop Dr	\$265,000
28304 Wolcott Dr	\$116,000
28310 Wolcott Dr	\$87,000
SOUTH LYON	
54933 Brentwood Dr	\$331,000
23533 Bristlecone Ct	\$423,000
437 Cambridge Ave	\$140,000
54899 Grenelife Cir W	\$357,000
25450 Meadow Ct	\$305,000
24844 Ravine Dr	\$2,000
SOUTHFIELD	
15937 George Washington Dr	\$125,000
19123 Kenwood Dr	\$106,000
22815 Glenwick Dr	\$160,000
19717 Melrose Ave	\$70,000
15662 Mount Vernon St	\$60,000
30555 Old Stream	\$152,000
WHITE LAKE	
2000 Kingstone St	\$310,000
532 Woodstone Ct	\$430,000

HOMES

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Homes

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Office hours M-F 9a-5p Sat 9a-1p
Offer expires 09/30/2013 EHO
*Some restrictions apply

GARDEN CITY: Lg 1 & 2 bdrm, appl., heat/water free. \$560-\$600 + \$350 Security. 734-464-3847, 734-513-4965

LIVONIA: Middlebelt & 5 Mile Lg 2 bdrm apt. 1st floor entry w/laundry room. New Stove/ refr. \$750/mo 248-521-1978

NORTHVILLE: Country property, lg upper level apt., updated 2 bdrm, heat/water incl. \$1,100/mo. 248-349-3944

Westland: Super cute updated 2 bdrm, C/A, bsmt, appl., deck, new paint, carpet, hwd, w/wood. 734-646-4957

Northville: Spacious 3 Bdrm 2 Bath Great location 6 Mile/ 275' M14. Patio, yard, garage. W/D hookup. No Pets \$1150 (330) 806-2815

Mobile Home Rentals

It's RAINING DEALS! FARMINGTON HILLS OWN OR LEASE \$575/MO OR LESS
• Site Rent Included
• 2 1/2 bdrm, 2 full baths
All Appl. • We Finance
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248-231-0801
www.LVHomes.net

Rooms For Rent

CANTON CONDO in good area \$650 includes utilities. Must be professional & responsible. 248-915-5946

CANTON-GARAGE FOR RENT
6 months \$200/mo. 1 year, \$175/mo. 734-320-7500

CHAUFFEUR/DRIVER
FT, luxury transportation company. Must have chauffeur license & clean record. Drug screen. Drivers without previous exp in this field will not be considered. Must be able to work on weekends. Resume: rmsedan@aol.com

CLERK TYPIST CUSTODIAN SEASONAL LABORERS
City of Farmington Hills
See web site: www.fhgov.com

CUSTODIAN - PART TIME
16-32 hours per week
Ward Church. Further info at www.wardchurch.org/careers

Customer Service
Storage facility.
Permanent, PT, includes Sat. No insurance/benefits.
1 Clerical/2 General Labor.
Fax resume: 734-721-0390

DRIVER/GREETER
Part-Time position available. Looking for dedication with the skills necessary to serve our client family needs. Applicant must have great communication/people skills, self starter, solid work ethic, friendly demeanor and good driving record.
Send resume to: vermeulen@comcast.net
Fax Resume: 734-409-2356
Email: vermeulen@comcast.net

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

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Housecleaning

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

Moving & Storage

A1+ Movers A+ Service
Lic. & Insured. Efficient for only \$50/hr. 866-633-7953

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Residential repainting, work myself. Free estimates (248) 225-7165

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Homes For Rent

LIVONIA: 3 bdrm 1400 sq. ft. no bsm. remodeled 2 car gar. large lot, Livonia Schools. \$850/mo. 248-563-1733

BRAND NEW HOMES JUST ARRIVED!
FREE RENT UNTIL NOV 1st ONLY \$398 moves you in!
Beautiful 3 bed, 2 bath homes! Homes starting at 1,456 sq ft as low as \$1,099/month
Beautiful 4 bed, 2 bath homes! Homes starting at 1,568 sq ft as low as \$1,199/month
South Lyon Schools
Large Clubhouse, Swimming Pool, Large playground, pet friendly!
Homes equipped with smart appliances, C/A plus full size W/D
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Help Wanted - General

CUTTING MACHINE OPERATORS
International Specialty Tube is seeking individuals for 2nd & 3rd shift for cutting machine operators in a union plant. Qualified applicants must possess a high school diploma or equivalent able to work overtime as needed and must be able to pass a pre-employment basic mechanical skills test and drug screen. Machine operator exp preferred. IST is an EOE. We will be taking applications now through
Sept 20 at 600 MI Elliot, Detroit, MI 48211 Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm

DIRECT CARE WORKER
FT & PT positions avail. Must be CLS TRAINED. Starting wage \$7.61/hr. Fully trained wage \$7.86/hr. Benefits for full-time employees (734) 524-1361

DIRECT CARE WORKER, PT
Positive attitudes a must. Must have clean driving record. Start at \$7.61/hr. 734-394-5620

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HOME WEEKLY & BI-WEEKLY
EARN \$900-\$1200/WK
BC/BS Med. & Major Benefits. No Canada, HAZMAT or WVI.
SMITH TRANSPORT
877-705-9261

Drivers
Competitive wage package! \$14 to start. Part time morning & afternoon hours. Guaranteed 4 hour Day Benefits & Paid holidays. MUST have CDL with CBPS Endorsements. Apply online at: www.durhamcharterservices.com
Or in person:
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Redford, MI 48239
(313) 242-4403
EOE

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Prefer dump truck experience for local asphalt paving co. 248-667-9673

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Large Clubhouse, Swimming Pool, Large playground, pet friendly!
Homes equipped with smart appliances, C/A plus full size W/D
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Help Wanted - General

PARALEGAL
Southfield Law Firm specializing in personal injury has an immediate opening for an experienced PARALEGAL. The ideal candidate should have knowledge in preparation of pleadings, interrogatories and experienced with Michigan No Fault.
Individual must be computer literate with extensive client contact. The position is permanent, full-time with salary and benefits.
Email resume to: sloveace@lawfirmofbernstern.com
No phone calls/faxes please

PROJECT ENGINEERS
Needed by our Auburn Hills Michigan Engineering Center to design and develop cold rolled automotive chassis springs considering durability aspects. Design and develop cold rolled automotive chassis springs considering package requirements unique to side load canceling coil coiled springs in the environment of McPherson strut applications. Design and develop cold rolled automotive chassis springs considering manufacturing limitations unique to cold forming. Candidates must have a Bachelor's in Mechanical Eng or foreign degree equiv. and 2 yrs exp. Compensation commensurate with knowledge & experience. Send resumes to C. Sullivan, Ref. SBMEC, Mueba, Inc., 6800 Industrial Road, Florence, KY 41042

SERVICE TECH REPRESENTATIVE
Lincare, the national leader in respiratory services and equipment is conducting interviews for a Service Tech Rep. Responsibilities incl. deliver demo and respiratory equipment to patient's homes doing the set up and instruction, some computer work, follow ups, and ordering. Application must be an EMT/MA, have basic computer skills, a clean driving record, be able to lift 60 pounds, and human relations skills. Lincare provides competitive wages, benefits, and the potentials in the industry of advancement. Send resumes to: swebber@lincare.com

TEACHING ASSISTANT
Preschool. With experience needed immediately. Call: 313-541-5887

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CUSTODIAN - PART TIME
16-3

BUY & SELL
hometownlife.com

Garage/Moving Sales

LIVONIA: Household decor items, small appliances, drill press, hydraulic motor pump & much more. Sept. 19, 20 & 21, Thurs-Fri 9-4, Sat 8-1, 14742 Fairway, 48154

LIVONIA: Huge Annual Sub Sale, btwn Wayne/ Newburgh. Enter sub from Ann Arbor Tr or Joy. Sept. 19-21, 9-5. Over 20 families. High chairs, stroller, collectible dolls/bears, stained glass chandelier, mirrors, more.

LIVONIA: MOVING SALE: 14900 Cavell, S. of 5, W. of Inkerster. Sept. 20, 9-6. Household items, appliances, furniture, games, misc. items.

LIVONIA: Moving sale. Sept. 19-22, 9-5pm. 33455 Richland, 48150. Furniture, tools & household goodies.

LIVONIA Silver Village Senior Community Garage Sale. Sat. Sept. 21, 9am-3pm. 33780 Lyndon, 48154.

MOVING/GARAGE SALE!!! Sept. 18-21st, 9am-4pm. Kids' clothing, toys, furniture, appliances, pool table, air hockey. Much more! Rain or shine, covered areas. 19979 Edgewood, between 7 and 8 mile, west of Gill. tbrown@envoyvtg.com

NORTHVILLE: 2 houses, 231 & 247 West St. Bring your lunch we got lots of nice things. Sept. 19-21, 9-5. 3 streets W of Sheldon, 2 bks N of Main.

NORTHVILLE: Baby Adoption Fund Raiser. 9-21 & 9-22, 9-5pm. 45092 Byrne Dr. Huge Christmas Villages & access, bake sale, various other items!

NORTHVILLE: Moving Sale! Antiques, Toys, Sports Equipment. Sept. 19-22, 9-5. No Early Sales! 7839 Curtis Rd, Northville (Salem), At Willow Greenhouse

NORTHVILLE Subdivision Garage Sales N Beacon Woods. Friday, Sept. 20, 9am-3pm, Sat., Sept. 21, 9am-12noon. S off 8 Mile, between Beck & Taft Rds. Furniture, misc household decorative items, children's clothes.

NORTHVILLE TWP. Villas of Northville Hills Condo Sub Sale. Sat. Sept. 21, 9-3pm. 5 Mile & Sheldon. Many participants. 185 Units. Furniture, Antiques, Household, etc.

OAKBROOK VILLAGE NORTH SUB

Drexel Heritage bdrm set, pictures, glassware, dishes, collectibles, washer/dryer. Sept. 19-22, 10-5. 436 N. Oak Dr., Commerce.

PLYMOUTH-3 Family-Gov Bradford E. of Sheldon, in Trailwood. Thurs-Sat., 9-4pm. Misc. items, kid's stuff, bike, PS2, dishes, books, tools, clock repair, floor scrubbers.

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www.hometownlife.com
oeads@hometownlife.com

DEADLINES: Fri. at 4 pm for Sunday. Tues. at 3 pm for Thursday.

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Garage/Moving Sales

SOUTH LYON: 5820 Five Mile Rd., W. of Pontiac Trail. Sept. 19-21, 10am-6pm. Furniture, household items, clothes, misc.

SOUTH LYON ESTATE SALE: Sept. 19-21, 10-4pm. 12073 Shenandoah Dr., Centennial Farms, Rushton & 10 Mi Rd. Lots of great items!

SOUTH LYON: Sept. 26-28, 9-5pm. 12091 & 13003 Pembroke Circle (Pembroke Crossing), S of 10 Mile, W of Rushton. Huge sale: furniture, appliances, much more!

WAYNE GARAGE SALE: Sat.-Sun., 9-7 Tools & misc. 34851 Glover St., Van Born and Wayne Rd.

WESTLAND/MOVING SALE Everything must go! Sept. 19, 20, 21 (Thurs-Sat), 9am-4pm. Lots of household items, glassware, serving pieces, electrical & carpenter tools, furniture. 7500 Carrousel, 48185

WESTLAND: Abbey's Condo Sale! Sept. 19-21, 9am-4pm. S of Ford Rd. on Carlson, btwn Newburgh & Wayne Rd. Misc. plants, clothing, seasonal!

WESTLAND: BROOKFIELD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION SUB SALE Sept. 19-21, 9-4pm. Located on Cherry Hill & John Hix Rd. Permit 130037

WESTLAND ESTATE SALE: Thurs-Sat, Sept. 19-21, 10-4pm. 32734 Parkway, 48186. 50 years of treasures! No reasonable offer refused.

WHITE LAKE: Moving/Estate Sale. Sept. 19-21, 9-5pm. 975 Golden Dr. Oak bar with chair/stools, patio furn, tools, quilts, paintings & household.

Baby & Children Items

AMERICAN GIRL DOLLS (2) Nellie & Josephina, outfits, books, AMERICAN GIRL DOLL HOUSE (24X24X41H) & FURNITURE \$400. (734) 673-6420

Household Goods

Adjustable bed base queen sized, raise both head and foot with wired remote, wall higger with hardware for headboard. New \$1100 Asking \$450. Call 734-983-0490

BED - QUEEN, PILLOW TOP MATTRESS SET NEW, in plastic, only \$200. Call: 248-622-6856

BEDROOM FURNITURE Oak, dresser & mirror \$135; nightstand \$40; bureau \$90. Like new. Must sell! 248-921-4321

DINING ROOM TABLE Maple drop leaf, seats 8, by Tell City Chair Co of Indiana. Call (734) 260-9859

Electric/Powerlift Chair Makes into bed/with remote/beige color. almost new \$900. (248)685-3826 LonKB@comcast.net

LIFT CHAIR, good cond., \$75. Tablesaw, \$45. Antique Singer Sewing Machine, in cabinet, \$65. 248-446-5894

TABLE: 44 in round solid oak, \$125. 6 solid pine chairs, \$45, executive office chair, leather fabric, \$35. 248-685-1601

Pools Spas & Hot Tubs

SPA COVER: Fits 78 by 78, brand new, half price - \$150. Call: 313-820-9711

Misc. For Sale

Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens Novi, MI
Glass Front Niche/Eye Level in the Oak Chapel. Interment/Mausoleum Rights for 2 and Interment Services Mon-Fri. Space #North-1 #17 Asking \$2500. (313) 706-0823

Musical Instruments

CLARINET (ARTLEY) Very Good Condition. Asking \$400. 734-455-7683

Sporting Goods

SHUFFLEBOARD: Championship line, 22 ft. Fits in most basement windows, like new. \$3000. (734) 455-8989

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WANTED: Old Fishing Tackle & related items. Successful Deer Hunter. Patches. Call Bill: (734) 890-1047

WE PAY CASH for unused, unexpired diabetic test strips. For Charitable Organization. Call: 734-475-1307

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OLD TOWN CANOE: Wood- en, grade AA #17 model, 17 ft. Completely restored. \$3,000. For details: 248-646-3348

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FORD F-150 S/CREW 2004 XLT, full power, cloth, fully inspected & warranted! \$12,988
DEALER
855-314-6440

FORD F-150 S/CREW 2011 Lariat, 4x4, moon, Nav., 14,000 miles! Flawless Condition. Ford Certified! 1.9%
NORTH BROS.
855-667-9860

FORD RANGER 2007 Super Cab, 4x4, matching cap. Fully inspected & warranted!
NORTH BROS.
855-667-9860

Mini-Vans

Dodge Grand Caravan 2010 SXT, full power, one owner, extra clean. \$14,659. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

Vans

FORD TRANSIT CONNECT 2012 XLT, auto, full power, only 9000 1 owner miles. Hand-capped accessible! Ford Certified! 1.9%
NORTH BROS.
855-667-9860

Sports Utility

CHEVY EQUINOX LTZ 2012 Leather, full power, alloys, 20,000 1 owner miles, factory warranty applies.
NORTH BROS.
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CHEVY TRAIL BLAZER 2008 LT, 2WD - 1 owner, 50,800 miles, loaded, sunroof, running boards. Exc. Cond. \$11,000/best. 734-895-5539

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DEALER
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FORD ESCAPE XLT 2009 4WD, XLT Pkg., full power, ony 50,000 careful owner miles. Ford Certified! 1.9%. \$15,988
NORTH BROS.
855-667-9860

Mercury Mountaineer 2004 V8, AWD, Premier Pkg., leather, moon, fully inspected \$6,988.
DEALER
855-314-6440

Sports & Imported

JAGUAR XJ6 L 2000 Loaded, moon, Black on Black. Only \$6,976. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

LEXUS RX 330 2005 Moon, leather, full power, one owner, extra clean. \$14,536. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

MERCEDES 2007 CLS63, AMG, black w/black interior, 27,000 miles, loaded, mint cond., stored winters, \$39,000. 248-390-8111

SUBARU LEGACY 2008 25i, AWD, a/c, low miles, \$13,997. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

SUBARU Legacy GT 2006 Red sports sedan. Well maint, loaded, orig owner, 159k miles, all maint records. Avg. 20 MPG, auto trans, non-smoker, AW drive, leather moon roof, 160W stereo-six CD changer, spoiler, Heated Seats, rocker trim, newer rims. Brakes & rotors 1 year old. No rust, new tires. 313-801-8064

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CADILLAC STS 2006 Leather, chrome, 66,000 miles! Priced to Sell! \$10,888
NORTH BROS.
855-667-9860

Chevrolet

CHEVY CRUZE LS 2011 Auto, a/c, power wind, & locks, one owner, 4 door. \$12,979. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

CHEVY IMPALA LT 2009 Leather, moon roof, alloys, fully inspected & warranted.
NORTH BROS.
855-667-9860

CHEVY IMPALA LT 2012 Auto, a/c, full pwr., alloys, moon roof, factory warranty, \$17,888. \$1 #P21633
NORTH BROS.
855-667-9860

COBALT 2007 Sedan, silver, 4 door, automatic, radial tires, PLUS snow tires, 73,500 mi, non-smoking, 4 cyl, air/fm CD. \$7900. 734-231-5133

Dodge

DODGE CALIBER 2011 "Uptown Edition" leather, alloys, full power, factory warranty applies! \$15,988.
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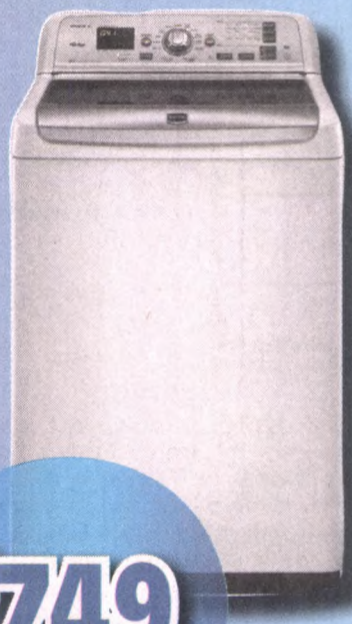
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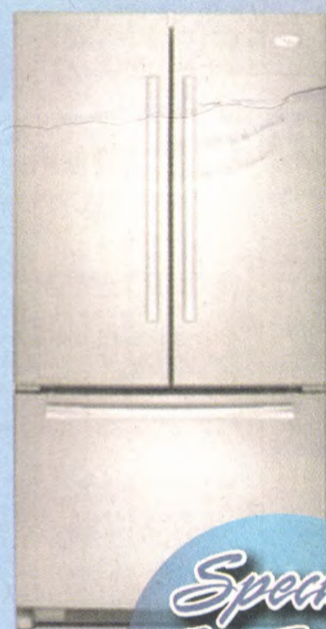
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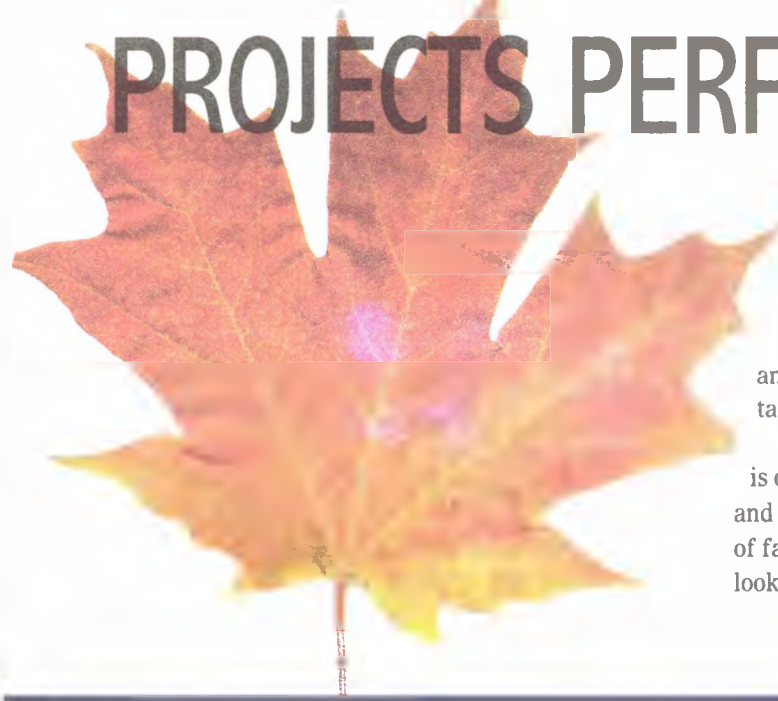
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HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS PERFECT FOR FALL



Home improvement projects can add value to a home and do-it-yourselfers know the sweat equity that goes into such projects can give homeowners a greater sense of pride in their homes. But no two home improvement projects are the same and homeowners should know that certain projects are best tackled during certain times of the year.

Fall is a great season to work on your house, as the weather is often at its most agreeable once the summer heat has gone and before winter weather arrives. The following are a handful of fall-friendly home improvement projects for homeowners looking to improve their homes.

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HUMIDIFIER CHECKUP

It is important to clean and maintain your whole-house humidifier.



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COMING NEXT MONTH



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Clean humidifier every year to remove mineral deposits

Q: Every winter, in an effort to clean my humidifier (AutoFlo), which is attached to my furnace, I encounter a lot of white mineral deposits. This is very difficult to clean, especially the fan portion. Are these deposits



Lon
Grossman

dangerous in case they get circulated in the air? What is the usual life of these humidifiers? Perhaps I need a new one. Any suggestions?

A: You can purchase any one of several humidifier cleaners available at hardware and home centers.

All the ones I've used contain either hydrochloric acid or phosphoric acid as their main ingredient to cut through and remove the mineral deposits.

Obviously, you should follow the manufacturer's owner's guide for cleaning yours or any humidifier. In your case, turn off the water and the humidistat. Open the unit by removing the two screws on the front. You can then lift out the drum and cylinder. If the media pad is heavily corroded with minerals, discard and replace it with a new foam pad. The plastic drum, fan and float assembly can be cleaned with an old 1 to 2-inch paintbrush or plastic brush. The cleaning should be done while you wear a long-sleeved shirt, rubber gloves and eye protection. Pour about two cap fulls of whatever it says on the brand you use in a plastic bucket or laundry tub, along with the prescribed amount of warm water (i.e.: two cap fulls per half gallon). Allow the solution to work its magic and when your humidifier and parts are clean, rinse them thoroughly. Dispose of the cleaning solution by carefully pouring it down the toilet.

Depending on the hardness of your water, most people can get away with this type of cleaning at the end of the heating season when they turn off the humidifier.

If your water is hard and you get a lot of lime and mineral accumulations, consider adding water treatment products periodically to the inside of your humidifier. They help reduce the lime and scale buildup in the unit.

Also, if you don't turn off and clean your humidistat at the end of the heating season, you're looking for trouble.

First, if you have air conditioning, by leaving the humidifier on, you are reducing the efficiency of the air condi-

tioner's dehumidification. Second, if you don't turn it off and clean it, the unit will become corroded and useless.

Finally, if neglected, the stagnant water in the reservoir turns into pond scum that is loaded with bacteria that could lead to Legionnaire's disease.

So you see, it's important to clean and maintain your humidifier periodically.

A lot of HVAC contractors will try to sell you a new pass-through humidifier. They are healthier since they have no reservoir where water can stand and breed bacteria. There is no reason to replace your system as long as it's working properly and maintained.

Q: The second floor of my bungalow is very cold in the winter. My plan is to install a couple of those in-the-duct-work fans to force the air upstairs. What's your opinion or suggestion?

A: Your plan, while potentially full of hot air, won't work. More than likely, the attics above and on the sides of those upstairs rooms need insulation. Inadequate insulation will literally suck any heat right out of the rooms as fast or faster than it can warm the rooms.

The insulation in the attics should be a minimum of R-49, which is usually at least 12-18 inches deep. Another thing to check in the attic is any existing duct work. The duct work should also be properly and thoroughly insulated so it won't lose conditioned air through conduction in the attic before it even gets to the rooms.

I'm not done yet. You should also make sure the upstairs rooms or hallway have enough cold air return duct work. Inadequate cold air returns could be a factor in not enough heat.

The reason I am cold to your idea of in-duct blower booster fans is that they work great for homes with one room far from the furnace that never gets enough heat. The fan is wired into the furnace blower and when the furnace comes on, the 12-volt booster pulls or re-directs a little more heat from the system to the room that really needs it. In your case, it's the entire second floor. If you follow my suggestions, you'll be cool as a cucumber.

Lon Grossman of Bloomfield Hills is president of Technihouse Inspections Inc., a southeast Michigan residential and commercial inspection company. Email your questions to him at drdiy@comcast.net. Call 248-855-5566. Visit his website www.technihouse.com. Follow Lon's Blog at <http://drdiy.wordpress.com/>.

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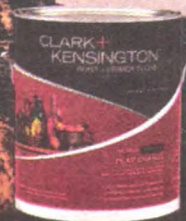
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Keeping an organized garage yields benefits

Garages are coveted by homeowners across the country, offering a space to park a car and protect it from the elements. But many people do not park a car in their garage, only to find the garage becomes a home to clutter.

Garages tend to become the official catch-all of a home. When an item cannot be crammed into a hiding space elsewhere, it often ends up dumped into the garage, where it joins the long list of other abandoned items. It can be easy to let garages become a wasteland because everything put inside a garage is behind a closed door. That mess can quickly build up. Reclaiming your garage requires energy, time, organization and a plan.

Organizing a garage will take some time. An entire weekend or two consecutive days may be necessary, depending on the level of disarray. Taking everything out of the garage and going through the sorting process may take the most time. When sorting, separate any broken items, which can immediately be put at the curb for trash pickup. Examine things that you have not used in some time. If you haven't missed it, there's a good chance that you can discard the item or donate it. Create separate piles for donations and trash.

Move the items that will be kept into a separate pile. After all of the trash and donations are removed from the premises, then you can look at what is remaining and begin planning out a more organized storage system.

There may be things in the "keep" pile that are



Even a home that looks neat from the outside may be housing a disorganized mess behind the garage door.

simply out of place in the garage and may be better stored elsewhere. Think about which items can be moved to a basement or attic because of their infrequency of use, such as holiday decorations, suitcases and collectibles. You may prefer to move lawn and garden items out of the garage and into a shed in the backyard.

After completing the sorting process, look at the

garage as a blank space and measure out the room that you have. This will provide an empty canvas as a starting point. To maximize the amount of space you have as a work area or a place to park your car, invest in as many tools as possible to utilize vertical space. Shelving, hooks and cabinetry will take things off of the floor, while storage units with doors can hide items that lack aesthetic appeal. Rolling tool caddies and cabinets can keep all tools neat and in organized drawers so you're never hunting and pecking for a tool again. A cabinet that has a lock and key can be utilized for dangerous chemicals that need to be kept out of the hands of children and away from pets. Think about how the garage will appear from the curb when the door is raised and create a design that will be functional and neat.

Take the opportunity while the garage is empty to give walls and floors a fresh coat of paint and improve the lighting in the garage. A brighter garage makes for a better work station.

For those who can use a little extra help, there are professional garage organization companies that can come in and install custom cabinetry and work surfaces. This is an option if you desire a high-end garage.

When putting items back into the garage, label where everything is stored until you become accustomed to the new organization. This way you'll be able to find everything easily.

Organizing a garage can be tedious, but the reward is ultimately worth the effort.

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PROJECTS

Continued from Page 3

Roof repair

Whether you're repairing or replacing the roof, fall is a great time of year to dust off the ladder and get some work done on your roof for a variety of reasons. First and foremost, fall is ideal for roof work because you won't have to be up on the roof with the summer heat bearing down on you. This can make the project move along more quickly, which is especially beneficial if you are paying laborers to work on the roof. The fewer hours workers are fixing your roof, the less you will be paying in labor costs.

In addition, fixing up the roof in the fall ensures those winter storms, be it rain or snow, won't find their way into your home via leaks. A leaky roof in winter is hard to fix, as the roof surface could be treacherous in the winter and winter winds can make it dangerous to be up on the roof at all.

Addressing leaks in the fall can prevent damage to your home's interior, which can mount up if a leaky roof is not addressed until the following spring.

Window work

When the weather outside gets frightful, poorly insulated windows can allow cold air into the home. That often has a trickle-down effect on finances, forcing you to turn up the thermostat in an attempt to offset the cold air pouring into the home. Whether you need your windows replaced or simply need to patch up any leaks, a proactive approach to leaky or older windows in the fall can save you from unnecessarily high heating bills come winter. Addressing leaky windows also makes a home more comfortable for its inhabitants.

Fall is the ideal time to address a home's windows because the temperature outside tends to be pleasant. This means you likely won't have to make much of an effort to offset the elements, plus open windows in the fall won't make your home's interior very hot or cold like they might if you were to tackle the project during the summer or winter.

Fixing the floors

Wood flooring is a hot commodity for many homeowners. But not all flooring can be added to a home at any time of year. That's because certain types of flooring employ adhesives that need



Fall is an ideal time of year to tackle home painting projects.

temperatures inside the home to be within a certain range and that range is often within 70° to 80° F, which makes fall a great time to install such floors. Colder temperatures can make it difficult for the flooring to dry and bond, which will prove problematic down the

road. What's more, many people entertain friends and family come late fall and into the holiday season and it can be difficult to do so if you are busy installing new flooring.

Painting projects

Painting is another home improvement project that seems tailor-made for fall. A fresh coat of paint or a new color scheme around the house can give a home an entirely new look and feel. But paint can be pungent and the aromas may last if it's applied at a time of year when it can't dry while the windows are wide open. Paint fumes inside a home can make the home uninhabitable, but painting at a time of year like the fall, when you can keep the windows open during and after the project, can help air the home out.

But interior painting isn't the only painting project homeowners can tackle in the fall. Many exterior paints are temperature-sensitive and need the temperature outside to be above 40° F. Paint that freezes won't dry properly and homeowners might be left with a costly and unsightly mistake on their hands. Fall temperatures tend to be amenable to both interior and exterior painting projects – just be sure to check the weather forecast before making your first brush stroke.

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Fire safety tips for your family

No one wants to believe a house fire could impact their family, but they occur more often than people think. According to the NFPA, home fires kill an average of seven people every day and caused \$11.6 billion in property damage during 2010. One of the most important tools in keeping your family safe is a working fire alarm.

In a recent survey by Omnibus, more than 50 percent of people reported removing the batteries from their home's smoke alarms. A working smoke alarm can make all the difference in whether a family has the critical time to escape a home fire.

On average, families have less than three minutes from the time the first smoke alarm sounds to escape a fire. That's why it's so important to keep a working smoke alarm on every level of your home and outside each sleeping area and to have an escape plan in place for your family.

Other essential home fire safety guidelines include:

- » Test alarms once a month.

- » Keep extra Energizer batteries on hand for fire alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

- » Install a fire extinguisher in or near kitchen.

- » Keep flashlights with fresh batteries at your bedside for help in finding the way out and signaling for help in the event of a fire.

- » Develop and practice emergency escape plan.

- » Participate in the "Change Your Clock Change Your Battery" campaign. Each year when you change your clocks for daylight saving time, change the batteries in your home's smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

When you change your clocks for daylight-saving time, change the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors, and remind your friends, family and neighbors to do the same. To download your escape grid or get more information, visit facebook.com/energizerbunny.

— Courtesy of Family Features



A working smoke alarm can make all the difference in whether a family has the critical time to escape a home fire.

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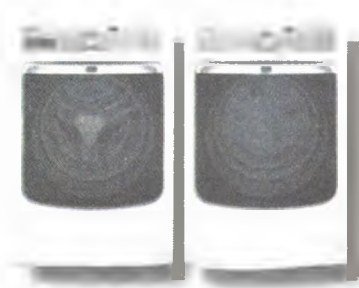
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Volunteering builds strong communities, improves lives

The opportunities to help your community are endless. It's as easy as linking your talents with causes you are passionate about or that have affected you personally.

With so many charitable causes and organizations, it's easy to find a volunteer opportunity that's perfect for you. According to research conducted by the Corporation for National and Community Service, those who volunteer have lower mortality rates, reported more self-worth and had fewer cases of depression. And the positive benefits don't end there. Volunteering also promotes the feelings of accomplishment and personal fulfillment rarely found in other activities.

Though the list of volunteer activities is vast, here are a few that can be found in most communities:

» Give blood: Due to accidents or illnesses, thousands of people are in need of blood each day. Organize or participate in a blood drive at your church, social group or school. You can also volunteer at the local bank within your community.

» Build homes: Do you enjoy using your hands and being outdoors? Organizations, such as Habitat for Humanity, utilize volunteer labor, material donations and monetary support to build and rehabilitate houses for families in need of decent shelter. To support this cause, M&M's brand



Organizations, such as Habitat for Humanity, utilize volunteer labor, material donations and monetary support to build and rehabilitate houses for families in need of decent shelter.

has created the M'Prove America movement, and will provide more than \$500,000 to help build Habitat homes across the country. The brand

is also rallying Americans to donate their time and talents to help build Habitat homes.

» Adopt a family: Natural disasters

wreak havoc on communities, destroying homes and lives. Many organizations help families who've lost their homes and belongings by providing assistance with clothing, personal hygiene products and other necessities to get them back on their feet. Such organizations also look for assistance during the holidays to ensure children and parents aren't forgotten during the season of giving. Get a group of friends together and consider adopting a family in need.

» Help at food bank: Hunger has become a national epidemic, touching lives in almost every region of America. Many volunteer opportunities are available for this worthy cause. Consider helping at a food kitchen to serve the hungry directly, box up food shipments for other banks or start a food drive competition with co-workers to see who can give the most.

A simple online search will point you in the direction of the perfect volunteer opportunities that fit your lifestyle. Many sites also offer interactive ways to show your pride and involvement in the cause. One such site has been designed for the M&M's brand partnership with Habitat for Humanity. To learn more about how you can get involved and pledge hours to volunteer, visit www.mproveamerica.com.

— Courtesy Family Features



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NOW IS THE TIME FOR OUTSIDE PROJECTS

Many improvements are conducive to cooler weather and can help avoid costly problems later

By Jill Halpin
Contributing Writer

Pay no attention to the summer-like weather – autumn will soon be here and now is the time to tackle your to-do list and spruce up your home and yard.

Home improvement experts advise starting as soon as possible to ready your home for winter and the fast-approaching holidays – or you may miss your perfect window of opportunity.

“Now is definitely the time” to take care of many outside projects, said Diane Koprince, a softscape designer at Domenico Brick Paving and Landscape in Birmingham.

Plan for spring

“Everyone wants their home to look nice when spring rolls around next year, but spring weather is iffy and everyone wants things done at the same time. You may end up having to wait,” Koprince said.

Planning and tackling outdoor projects now – such as installing paver bricks, repairing, or replacing concrete – can help you avoid unpleasant issues, especially if you have a graduation party, wedding or other event planned in 2014.

“If you take care of things now, it is already done for you next spring and ready to go,” Koprince said.

Projects such as updating or adding patios and walkways can be taken care of if the ground is warm enough to dig, Koprince said.

“One advantage of doing it in the fall is that patios can still be used until it snows. No one wants to use a fire pit in the heat of summer, so you can still get use out of it throughout the fall and have it ready to go in the spring,” she said.



Installing paver bricks and repairing or replacing concrete can help you avoid unpleasant issues come spring. GETTY IMAGES | COMSTOCK IMAGES

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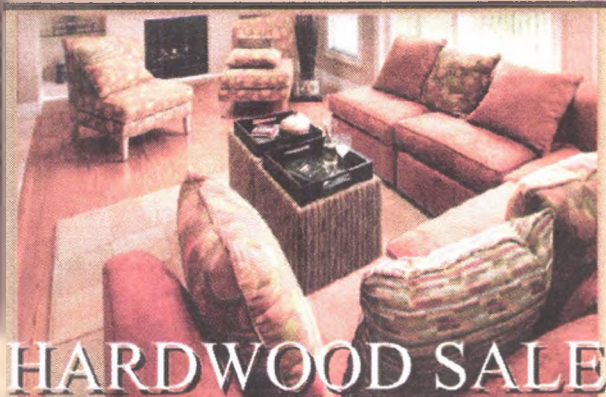
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Pruning helps a shrub maintain its shape and vigor. GETTY IMAGES

Pruning trees, shrubs can keep yard in shape

Pruning trees and shrubs is necessary to ensure they maintain their health and vigor. Trees and shrubs should be inspected annually to determine if they need to be pruned. Mature trees typically do not need to be pruned as frequently as young trees, which need pruning to establish branch structure. Trees and shrubs that go years without pruning can become overgrown and weak. In addition to promoting tree and shrub health, pruning pays a host of other dividends.

» Pruning removes dead or diseased branches. Pruning helps a tree or shrub maintain its shape and vigor by removing broken, dead or diseased branches that can be unsightly and make it more difficult for the tree or shrub to stay healthy. When broken, dead or diseased branches are removed, trees or shrubs look healthier and add aesthetic appeal to a property.

» Pruning trees and shrubs promotes growth of other plants. Trees and shrubs that go years without being pruned become overgrown, making it difficult for plants underneath or adjacent to them to grow in healthy. For example, grass beneath an overgrown tree might not get adequate sunlight, which it needs to establish strong roots so it can grow in lush and healthy. Pruning allows plants beneath the tree and

shrub and even those next to the tree and shrub to grow in nicely.

» Pruning can sometimes bring plants back to life. Shrubs that have gone years without being pruned can sometimes still be salvaged. In some instances, pruning such shrubs can restore natural and healthy growth.

» Pruning reduces risk of accidents. Overgrown trees can interfere with power lines, increasing the risk of accidents and power outages. In addition, overgrown trees tend to have larger, weaker limbs, which can prove hazardous and cause property damage during storms. Pruning overgrown trees reduces the risk of such accidents.

» Pruning can save money. Over time, overgrown trees might require professional assistance in order to be removed or pruned from a property. Homeowners who prune their trees as needed can save themselves the cost of a pricey tree service.

» Pruning adds curb appeal. A property littered with overgrown trees and shrubs hurts a home's curb appeal, giving prospective buyers the impression that homeowners might have been careless with regard to maintaining the whole house and not just the lawn. But trees and shrubs that are pruned and well-maintained can add to a home's curb appeal, something that goes a long way toward impressing prospective buyers.

Trim and prune

Trimming back or adding or removing large, overgrown shrubs can have a dramatic impact on the appearance of your home.

Koprince advises changing the shapes of outdated landscaping beds and moving them out and away from your home to create a fresh contemporary look.

According to John Steinkopf of Steinkopf Nursery in Farmington Hills, now is the right time to take care of those outside details like planting trees and reseeding or sodding your lawn.

"Fall is a really good time to plant trees and shrubs. The cooler, wet weather allows the trees to establish strong root systems," he said, adding that newly planted trees will go dormant, but continue putting out root

systems until the ground freezes.

"Get them in the ground now and let them establish as good root system before the cold weather hits."

He cautions against pruning trees in fall and advises waiting for much cooler, winter-like weather.

"If you wait until the trees go dormant in the cooler weather, there's less likelihood of exposing them to disease," Steinkopf said.

As for shrubs, the right time for pruning depends on the type.

"The rule of thumb is, if it blooms in spring, like azaleas or forsythias, don't prune it now," he said. Doing so will mean sacrificing flowers.

Prepare lawn

Autumn is also the perfect time to

See **PROJECTS**, Page 22

Preventing pests in every season

Weeds and insects don't have an off-season — neither should your commitment to a pest-free home.

Seasons come and go, but pests are active and potentially pose damage to health and property all year long. Protecting your family and home isn't a seasonal chore, but with the right proactive approach it doesn't have to be a daunting one either.

Many make it too easy for pests to become unwanted roommates or neighbors. When making your seasonal housekeeping list, add pest prevention to changing your smoke detector batteries, rotating ceiling fan blades and deep cleaning.

Whether you have mice looking for a cozy place to settle for the winter or mosquitoes scouting out standing water in the summer, use the following approaches to prevent pests from intruding on your family and home each season of the year.

Don't 'fall' behind

Fall is the time to inspect your property and protect it from pests looking for a winter home. Take an integrated approach to identifying, monitoring and preventing potential problems. The following tips will help with cooler weather preparation:

» Rake fallen leaves and clean out gutters, as pests can congregate in fallen foliage. As an added benefit, this may help improve your home's curb appeal. Numerous studies link landscaping and well-maintained lawns to property value increases of 11 to 15 percent.

» Don't transport firewood more than 10 miles away from your home. Invasive insects, such as the emerald ash borer, can hitch a ride and begin new infestations within their surroundings.

» Enjoy picnics or tailgating events, but keep all open food in sealed containers to prevent attracting ants, mice and other insects and rodents.

Lock it down in winter

Just like us, pests are looking for a warm home and good food as they hunker down for the winter months. Perform the following preventive activities around your home to keep your family safe and sound all winter long:

» Use caulk or concrete to repair all cracks, crevices and leaks no mat-



Use caulk or concrete to repair all cracks, crevices and leaks no matter how small. GETTY IMAGES | FUSE

ter how small. Mice can fit through cracks as thin as a pencil.

» Check for bed bugs, who may be hitchhiking in your suitcase while traveling for the holidays. Bites can be painful, irritating and may cause allergic reactions.

» Cover mattresses and pillows with dust-proof, zippered covers tested and rated for dust mites. Sheets and bugs can trigger asthma, cause dermatitis and transmit disease.

Spring cleaning

Warmer weather awakens weeds, insects and other pests, so incorporate pest prevention as a part of your spring cleaning. The following are easy ways to protect your home as temperatures begin to rise:

» Trim trees and brush, creating enough room to comfortably walk between your house and your shrubs. Branches can create a bridge into your home for pests and wildlife.

» Clean up yard debris that may



Take a proactive approach to protecting your yard from pests. GETTY IMAGES | BLEND IMAGES

have accumulated throughout the winter months, such as dead plants, weeds and fallen branches, as it can provide a place for pests to reside.

» Take a proactive approach to

protecting your yard from pests through the strategic use of approved and registered products. Consider a perimeter yard spray as the temperatures warm up to prevent unwanted pests, such as ticks, from creeping in to your family's play areas. Always read and follow label instructions before using products or hire a licensed lawn and landscape professional.

Summer protection

Poison ivy and pests, such as ticks and mosquitoes, are especially prevalent during the summer months and can cause Lyme disease, West Nile virus, Eastern equine encephalitis and severe skin irritation. Follow these tips to keep your family and pets safe during the active months of summer:

» Reduce your contact with mosquitoes that spread West Nile virus and Eastern equine encephalitis by covering up with long sleeves and pants, especially during dawn and dusk hours when mosquitoes are most active.

» Apply a repellent to your skin and clothing before you go on any outdoor adventure to deter ticks that can carry Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever. Inspect and properly remove ticks in hard to see areas that are attractive to them, such as inside the belly button, under arms, around ears, in hair and on the back of knees.

» Remember "leaves of three, let it be" to help identify poison ivy, oak or sumac, which can cause severe skin irritation and allergic reaction. If you find these weeds in your yard, do not use a mower or weed cutter for removal, which will cause it to spread. Instead, carefully treat the weeds yourself or contact a lawn care professional.

Proactive and preventative treatment is key to keeping pests under control. Properly treating for problems proactively or at the first sign of infestation will keep your home pest-free.

To learn more about preventing pest problems in your home, visit www.debugthemyths.com or follow the conversation on [Facebook.com/debugthemyths](https://www.facebook.com/debugthemyths) and [Twitter @DebugtheMyths](https://twitter.com/DebugtheMyths).

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Some of the best exercise a dog can get is to run around freely in an open space. Add in the opportunity to frolic with other dogs and you can have a day made in doggy heaven.

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Finding a dog-friendly play space

When people welcome a dog into the home, they try their best to offer proper care to the new pet. Food, companionship and veterinary visits are important components of dog care, but exercise must also be a priority. Finding a dog-friendly park or safe area for pets to play is essential to ensuring your four-legged friend is as happy as possible.

Dogs, particularly young dogs, need exercise to ward off any potential bad behavior. Dogs that have not had a chance to run or play and get their energy out may engage in destructive behavior, such as digging holes in your prized garden, chewing at the arms of the sofa or barking and whining.

See DOGS, Page 17

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DOGS

Continued from Page S16

The amount of exercise a dog needs depends on breed and age. Some sporting breeds that are used to being on the move all the time may need more than a guard dog who has grown acclimated to less time on the go. Puppies will generally need more exercise than geriatric dogs. In general, most dogs need 30 to 60 minutes of exercise per day, so that five-minute jaunt around the block isn't adequate. Therefore you have to plan for exercise another way, like taking a dog to the park or another place for socialization and exercise.

Some of the best exercise a dog can get is to run around freely in an open space. Add in the opportunity to frolic with other dogs and you can have a day made in doggy heaven. The trouble is, not all places allow pets and, if they do, they usually have leash laws. You'll have to find out which, if any, parks in the area allow off-leash fun for your pet.

For people with access to the Internet, finding a dog park or play space could be a few clicks away. Web-

sites like www.dogpark.com, www.doggoes.com and www.dogfriendly.com enable you to search your specific area to find locations that allow dog fun in the U.S. and Canada.

Another option is to investigate off-season beaches. The open space by the shoreline is a prime place to let dogs run. While dogs may not be allowed on the beach during peak beach season, once the season ends, the restrictions may lift. Check with the parks authority or another official before bringing a dog on the beach. You don't want to risk a fine.

Busy, working pet parents are increasingly turning to doggy day care options for their pets. These facilities enable you to drop off your pet for the day where they can exercise and socialize inside a contained indoor or outdoor space. These facilities may have strict requirements for dogs, including proof of updated vaccination records, before a dog is allowed inside. They also aren't free. But with different activities and courses, plus the opportunity to play with other dogs, many people rave about doggy day cares.

If you cannot find an off-leash place near your home, think about other ways to exercise your pet. Take him or

her along when you bike ride or go for a run. Hiking trails can provide a variety of sights and varied terrain that can stimulate a dog in many ways. Some dogs are water lovers and will enjoy a day splashing around in the pool, lake or stream. Tossing a ball around the backyard is another way to exercise your pet.

Keep in mind some guidelines when exercising a dog.

» Don't go out in extremely hot or cold weather or you risk injury or illness.

» Having a smaller dog does not necessarily mean the dog needs less time to exercise. Many toy breeds risk obesity because of lack of exercise in the home.

» A tired dog is often a well-behaved dog.

» If a dog is not prone to good behavior around other dogs, it's best to avoid these social situations. Otherwise, you can end up in a fight with another dog owner.

» Some dogs excel at agility training, which also can be a good form of exercise.

Don't underestimate a dog's need for exercise. Finding a safe place for your pet to run free is an essential component of good health.

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Create your dream GREEN kitchen

Today's newly remodeled kitchens boast more than just rich hues and shiny appliances – they have an eco-conscious ambiance that marries great style with respect for the environment.

Dreaming of a fresh, modern kitchen that is also eco-friendly and strikingly beautiful? Achieving this transformation is more attainable than you may think. Environmental lifestyle expert Danny Seo provides these helpful tips on how to add Earth-friendly updates to your kitchen:

Refrigerator

When searching for a new refrigerator, be sure to look for more than just the Energy Star label to ensure maximum energy efficiency. It is also important the new appliance fits your needs and the size of your kitchen. A larger refrigerator uses more energy. If the one you select is too big for your needs, you will be wasting energy and money.



With their rugged durability and timeless style, butcher block counter tops are making a huge comeback.

Blocked wood counter tops

With their rugged durability and timeless style, butcher block counter tops are making a huge comeback. Though typically made from cherry, walnut and oak, greener options, such as high pressure laminate designs made by Wilsonart, can contribute to US Green Building Council LEED accreditation as an eco-friendly material to use in your home. For more information on their new blocked wood designs – Old Mill Oak and

Truss Maple – visit www.wilsonart.com.

Flooring

For a more sustainable approach to kitchen flooring, there are several options available. If you love the hard, classic appeal of wood, look for reclaimed, recycled or sustainably sourced materials. Bamboo is also a beloved choice among eco-conscious remodelers for its biodegradable nature and high renewability.

“Going green at home can be overwhelming, so I always advise people to not sweat the small stuff and focus on the one room of the house where it matters the most: the kitchen,” Seo says. “Being kind to the planet in the kitchen can also be kind on your wallet over time, so it’s worth it to invest in sustainable upgrades.”

Back splash

Recycled materials are the star of the show when looking to add green touches to your back splash. There are three main types of recycled ma-

terials: ceramic, metal and glass. Old bottles and windows make up the materials in glass tile; old plates and clay vases are recycled to become ceramic tile; and those old soda cans become aluminum metal tile. All of these materials come in a variety of styles to fit the look of your kitchen.

Dishwasher

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, using an Energy Star labeled dishwasher is the most efficient use of energy and water, even more so than hand washing. When looking to update your dishwasher, pay close attention to the EnergyGuide labels, which include the annual estimated costs to run them. This can help you find the best fit for your family's needs.

A dream kitchen that is both eco-friendly and chic is easier to attain than you think. With a few changes not only will you be smiling, but so, too, will Mother Earth.

– Courtesy of Family Features

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Feed your children's minds with breakfast

It may be hard to believe, but it is time to say hello to the new school year. In preparation, attention shifts toward to-do lists filled with tasks such as buying school supplies, going clothes shopping and getting sports physical. What may not be on the list yet is making breakfast a priority. Why is breakfast an important addition to any back-to-school plan? Because this morning meal can help set kids up for success in the classroom.

Through research, it has been proven that when you feed a child's mind with a nutrient-rich breakfast, he or she will perform better in school. A recent report by the American College of Sports Medicine, American School Health Association, GENYOUth Foundation and National Dairy Council shows that kids who eat breakfast have better memory, attention and behavior and score higher on tests.

Not only does breakfast boost brain power, it also leads to improved nutritional status. This is because kids who skip breakfast don't typical-

ly make up for the nutrients they miss at other meals throughout the day. When it comes to building a nutrient-rich breakfast, low-fat and fat-free milk, cheese and yogurt are smart foods to include. Together, they deliver a unique package of nine essential nutrients in a variety of tasty and affordable options. By including dairy in the morning meal, families also put themselves on track to meet the 2010 Dietary Guidelines, which recommend three daily servings of low-fat and fat-free dairy foods for people ages 9 and older.

The bottom line is a healthy student is a better student. To feed your child's mind this school year, fuel them with a nutrient-rich breakfast made with dairy every day. Here are some simple tips:

- » Keep breakfast foods on hand, like ready-to-eat cereals, yogurts, white and flavored milks and fruit. Kids can help themselves before they head out the door.

- » Break breakfast boredom by eating foods like a ham and cheese



FROSTY ORANGE BANANA SIPPER

Servings: 1
Prep time: 5 minutes

1 medium banana, peeled, chunked and frozen
3 ounces frozen orange juice concentrate
1 cup low-fat milk
1 container (6 ounces) low-fat vanilla yogurt

Set milk in freezer 30 minutes before using. Combine all ingredients in a blender; blend until smooth and creamy. Pour into glass and enjoy.

sandwich or pizza.

- » Take advantage of the school breakfast program. It offers a nutritious and convenient option for students who are pressed for time in the morning.

- » Role model good breakfast behavior. When kids see that breakfast is a priority for adults, they will be

more likely to eat it themselves.

- » Mix up breakfast with milk. For example, prepare oatmeal with milk instead of water.

- » Use yogurt to whip up a smoothie or build a parfait for a simple kid-friendly breakfast

— Courtesy of Family Features

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Game-day pairings

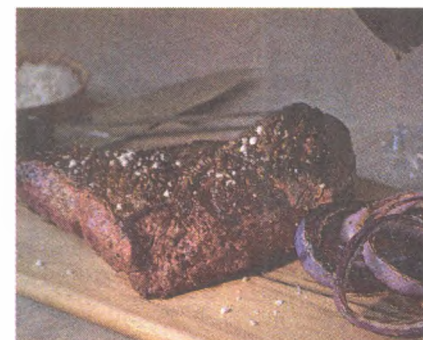
A winning combination for any game-day gathering includes savory grilled meats, good wine and your favorite fan friends.

With more than 30 years of culinary experience, Chef Dirk Yeaton has joined up with Murphy-Goode Winery. By pairing his barbecue expertise with its collection of wines, he has incorporated a sip and splash approach, both adding wine to recipes for flavor and pairing alongside grilled favorites. For the ultimate game-day feast, he offers his top tips:

» Always have your five barbecue essentials: salt, pepper, garlic, olive oil and, of course, wine.

» Grilling season is every season! If it's a nice day, fire up the grill for steaks, chicken kabobs or a leg of lamb. Colder weather? Try using the smoker – a slow-cooking technique for meats like pork and ribs.

A succulent grilled dish is not com-



plete until paired with a smooth wine, such as Homefront Red, which offers flavors of black cherry, raspberry and toasty vanilla notes. Try it alongside delectable dishes, like this Grilled Tri-tip with Portabella Mushrooms, the perfect addition to any game-day get-together.

– Courtesy of Family Features

GRILLED TRI-TIP WITH PORTABELLA MUSHROOMS

Recipe by Grill Sergeant Dirk Yeaton

Yield: 4 servings

1 inch butcher's twine
2 sprigs rosemary
3 sprigs thyme
1 thin wooden dowel or stick
2 teaspoons kosher salt
1½ teaspoons freshly ground black pepper
2 teaspoons rosemary, minced
2 teaspoons thyme, minced
4 cloves garlic, minced
¼ cup, plus 2 tablespoons olive oil
5 tablespoons Murphy-Goode Homefront Red
2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
4 medium baby portabella mushroom caps
4 medium red bliss potatoes
2 medium zucchini, quartered
2 teaspoons granulated garlic
1 teaspoon tamari soy sauce
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
2½-3 pounds tri-tip, trimmed
¼ pound butter, at room temperature
4 (6-inch) sourdough rolls, sliced lengthwise

Using butcher's twine, tie rosemary and thyme springs to wooden dowel.

In large shallow baking dish, add 1 teaspoon salt, ½ teaspoon black pepper, rosemary, thyme, half of minced garlic, ¼ cup olive oil, 2 tablespoons wine and 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar; mix to combine. Add mushrooms, potatoes and zucchini and toss in the marinade. Cover

with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 2 hours.

In small bowl, combine granulated garlic, 1 teaspoon salt, 1 teaspoon pepper, 2 tablespoons olive oil, 3 tablespoons wine, tamari and Worcestershire sauce. Mix well to combine. Pour 3 tablespoons of mixture over tri-tip and rub into meat. Cover and refrigerate. Set remaining marinade aside to baste tri-tip as it grills.

Preheat grill to medium-high. Remove tri-tip and vegetables from refrigerator and allow to sit at room temperature. Place potatoes in aluminum foil pouch. Place on grill over indirect heat; cook for approximately 40 minutes or until tender when pierced with knife.

Place tri-tip on grill over direct heat for 4 minutes, flip tri-tip and cook for 4 minutes more. Move tri-tip to medium-low heat area on grill and cook for 20 to 25 minutes or until internal temperature reaches 134°F. Remove tri-tip from grill, loosely tent with aluminum foil and allow to rest for 10 minutes before slicing against the grain.

In small bowl, add remaining minced garlic and butter. Stir to combine and spread garlic butter on sourdough rolls. Place sourdough rolls, portabella mushrooms (cap down) and zucchini on grill and cook until grill marks appear.

To serve, place steak medallions on plate, top with grilled portabellas and place potatoes, zucchini and sourdough rolls on the side. Pour remaining juice from steak over mushrooms and serve.

Colorful autumn additions are fun

A nip in the air and the changing color of leaves can only mean one thing – fall is around the corner. While dusting off your favorite sweaters and corduroys, don't forget to dress up your home decor as well. Here are some tips from Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores to bring the cozy charm of autumn into your home:

Pull in nature

This season is all about nature's bounty, so bring that celebration home. Pumpkins and gourds of every shape and color make inexpensive additions that brighten any tabletop or mantle.

Try transitional pieces

Situated right before the busy holiday season, some fall styles can be eased into both decorating schemes. Rich, wine-colored berries and bittersweet arrangements look wonderful for both fall and winter. Pine cones bring a rustic, warm vibe to both seasons.

Add new color trends

According to color experts, fall 2013 will be a season filled with vibrant purples, bright blues and dazzling greens. Watch as plum hues pop when paired with the traditional fall foliage of burnt orange, copper, gold and brown. Create your own glittering display with this Colorful Candle Ring, which features lively, on-trend hues certain to make your fall more glamorous.

– Courtesy of Family Features



Create your own glittering display with this Colorful Candle Ring.

COLORFUL CANDLE RING

*Some experience necessary
Crafting Time: 3-5 hours*

Supplies and Tools:

- 4 bags of decorative gourds
- 2 Styrofoam brand foam rings
- 1 package floral picks
- Spray paints: Purple Short Cuts; Gray Primer; Gloss Varnish; Krylon Purple, Island Splash and Peekaboo Blue
- Bottled paints in desired colors
- Paintbrush
- Glitter
- Glue
- Black gems filler
- Pillar candle
- Glass hurricane container
- 1 roll purple tulle
- Feather picks

1. Spray foam rings with Purple Short Cuts spray paint. Let dry.
2. Paint gourds in desired colors, some spray-painted, some brush-painted. If the gourd is orange or yellow, spray it with primer first, then the color. Otherwise, the orange or yellow will bleed through.
3. Break the ends off the floral picks if too long, dip both ends in glue then insert one end into the gourd and the other end into the Styrofoam ring, nesting closely together. Let dry.
4. Place glass hurricane inside the ring first to determine how to position the gourds. Remove the hurricane before proceeding to the next step.
5. Spray the finished ring with gloss varnish, sprinkle with glitter while still wet, and then spray again with gloss varnish. Let dry.
6. Add small tufts of tulle to fill any holes between gourds and to give a softer look around vase.
7. Embellish with several feather picks; glue in place.
8. Return hurricane to center, fill with black gems. Insert pillar.

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PROJECT SHOWN ABOVE FEATURED ON THE 2012 TOUR. Remodeler: Custom Design | Build Photographer: Steve Kuzma

PROJECTS

Continued from Page 12

turn your attention to your lawn. "It is a great time to seed or sod," Steinkopf said.

Although it depends on the weather, seeding is typically done until the second week of October, he said.

Be sure to take the time to add a good fall fertilizer to promote a strong root system that will result in denser, thicker grass come spring-time.

After you have taken care of your yard, turn some attention to the outside of your home.

Doors, roof, windows, siding and gutters are all items to address before the temperatures start to drop.

Not only is the condition of your roof important for energy efficiency, if you are thinking about selling your home, it is often the first things buyers look at, said Gary Wojcik, a Realtor with ReMax in Canton Township.

"The condition of the roof is the number one thing. It is extremely important," Wojcik said.



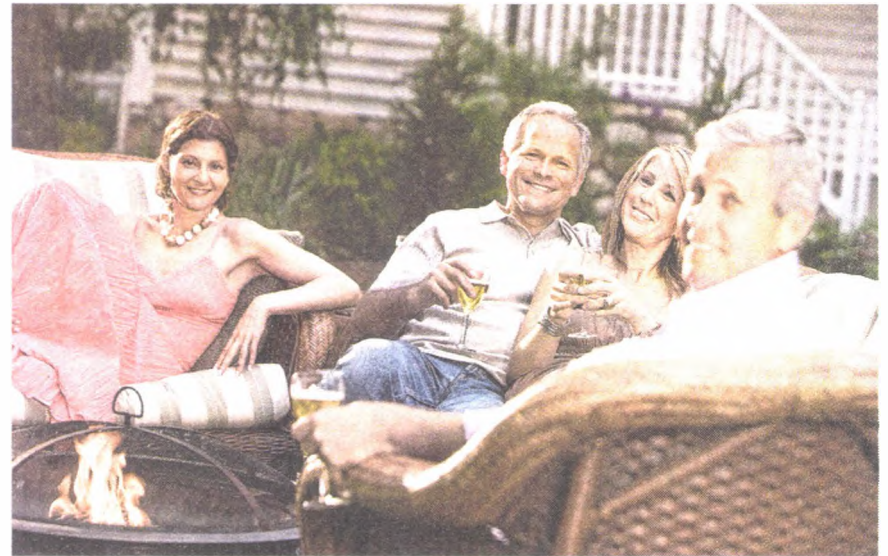
Adding gutter guards can prevent a trip to the roof to clean out fall leaves. GETTY IMAGES | COMSTOCK IMAGES

Check the roof

If you are concerned about the roof's condition, be sure to have it inspected for any loose or missing shingles that could cause problems with the onset of snow and ice.

Install gutter guards to keep out leaves now before they start to fall and clog your gutters, said Howard Ballard, manager of Siding World in Livonia.

"You want to install them before your gutters are full of leaves" or you end up having to pay for cleaning and installation, Ballard said.



A new a patio – if added in the fall – can be used until it is too cold and gives you a head start going into spring and summer next year. GETTY IMAGES | COMSTOCK IMAGES

Ballard said to check windows to make sure they are caulked against any leaks, as well as replace storm doors if necessary.

"If you need new windows or doors, now is the time to do it so that you can start saving on heating costs before the cold weather hits," he said.

The time is also right for repairing

or replacing siding on your house, Ballard said. Preventing any leaks can help with energy efficiency as well as protect your home against damages from snow, ice and rain.

"Absolutely, the sooner the better," Ballard said, "you want to have these things taken care of before winter begins."



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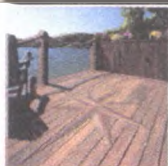
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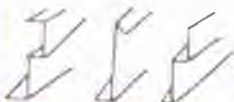
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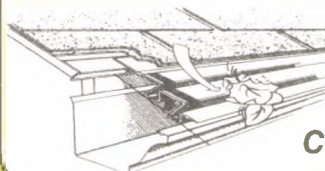
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