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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2014 • hometownlife.com

City disputes fire department retirement tab

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Plymouth Township Treasurer Ron Edwards dropped a \$3.8 million bombshell on Plymouth officials last week.

The city, according to Edwards, owes the township about that much for legacy costs related to the fire department the communities shared for nearly 17 years. That's some \$1.3 million toward pensions, Edwards said, and just over \$2.5 million for retiree health care.

Edwards announced the

numbers during the township Board of Trustees meeting Tuesday and city officials, who had met with township Supervisor Richard Reaume on the issue earlier this month, say they were surprised by them.

"If there's new information that's occurred in the last two weeks, we haven't seen it," City Manager Paul Sincock said. Reaume couldn't provide a number at a Sept. 9 meeting, he said, but did bring actuarial data the city had sought.

"I don't think we owe them nearly that much, but until we

come to consensus" about the figure should be calculated, "it's hard to formulate any number," Mayor Dan Dwyer said.

Edwards says the figures are from actuaries and based on data about retirement obligations owed to firefighters who were in the Plymouth Community Fire Department when it served both communities. The partnership began in February 1995 and was dissolved at the end of 2011, when the city joined with the Northville City Fire Department in a cost-cutting move.

The 1995 creation of the PCFD took firefighters from each community, so some retirement costs are not attributable to both communities together. Complicating the picture is the fact the PCFD had no pension plan until 2005, when the township adopted such a plan, over the objections of city officials.

The department and the employees had previously set money aside for retirement in a defined-contribution plan, like a 401(k). The PCFD has since returned to a defined-contribution plan, rather than

pensions.

Dwyer said city officials will examine the data Reaume provided earlier this month and also come up with a figure for legacy costs. He said meetings with Reaume have been positive and that he expects they will continue that way.

"There is stuff like that you've got to resolve and I'm confident that, sitting down with Richard, we'll be able to find a way to do that," he said.

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The eight candidates for the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education – Tom Kelly (from left), Estelle Oliansky, Amy Fava, Drex Morton, Kate Borninski, Don Turner, Michael Siegrist and Kim Crouch – answered questions for 90 minutes Wednesday at a League of Women Voters candidate forum.



Heise Smith-Tyge

Campaign fundraising: Advantage to Heise

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

The Plymouth area's representative in the Michigan House of Representatives has a fundraising advantage of more than 15 to 1 over his challenger in the state House 20th District race.

Incumbent Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, raised \$163,491 and spent \$146,336 so far during the current election cycle – defined as the period since the last election for the office in November 2012 – according to reports his campaign filed with Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson.

That compares to fundraising of \$10,785 and spending of \$2,385 by his opponent, Democrat Nate Smith-Tyge, also of Plymouth Township, whose campaign organization dates only from early this year.

In addition to Plymouth and Plymouth Township, the 20th District, affected by redistricting based on the 2010 U.S. Cen-

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See CAMPAIGN, Page A2

School board candidates face each other in forum

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

The eight people running for the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education had a chance to educate more than just voters Wednesday at a candidate forum at Plymouth City Hall.

They also took part in what could be a pretty good civics lesson for local fifth- and sixth-grade students.

The candidates – six running for two

six-year terms and two vying for a four-year seat – not only answered questions submitted by adults in the audience, but also fielded several probing questions from the students.

The forum was sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County.

Civics lesson

Vanessa Williams, past president and current member of the Ypsilanti chapter

of Jack and Jill of America, an organization hoping to provide children constructive educational, cultural, civic, health and social programs, said she wanted to show kids "the direct impact of education."

"The general public does not often place a high priority on participation in local school board elections," said Williams, who said some 98 percent of the

New museum patio honors Plymouth people, history

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

A new brick-paver patio at the Plymouth Historical Museum is providing a foundation for future building improvements.

The patio of about 350 square feet was installed Tuesday in front of the museum's porch on Main Street. It includes about 90 dedicated bricks engraved with the names of their purchasers or of local people or institutions they wanted to commemorate.

There's even a brick from

the original Daisy Air Rifle factory – built in 1888 as the Plymouth Iron Windmill Co. – and another from when Main Street was paved with bricks, in 1908.

The museum, executive director Elizabeth Kerstens said, has two extra pallets of bricks and will be offering them for engraving and adding them to the patio on an ongoing basis.

The money, Kerstens said, will be used to replenish the building reserve fund, which was wiped out by recent repairs to the museum's freight

elevator, which is used to move heavy or unwieldy exhibit items. The elevator needed a new hydraulic jack at a cost of about \$60,000.

"Now we're going to have to start again," Kerstens said.

The engraved bricks are \$100 for a 4- by 8-inch size, or \$250 for an 8- by 8-inch square. They can be ordered through the "Donate Now" link on the museum's website, www.plymouthhistory.org.

"There are a lot more bricks that can be sold," Ker-

See PATIO, Page A2

Rocks royalty



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Homecoming queen Megan Davis and king Evan Parker are Rocks royalty for 2014. The seniors were crowned Friday night at halftime of the Salem vs. Northville football game. For game coverage, see page B1.



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CAMPAIGN

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... includes part of eastern Canton Township, Northville Township and part of the city of Northville.

Despite the fundraising gap, Smith-Tyge expressed confidence in his campaign plan – as did Heise in his. Both agreed that retail politics will play a big role in the outcome.

Door to door

“We are doing a lot of door-knocking, a lot of phone-calling, going to events,” said Smith-Tyge, who is working toward a Ph.D. in education at Michigan State University and is the director of MSU’s student food bank. “Everything is related to being in direct contact with voters.”

“Ultimately, the race is about shoe leather,” said Heise, an attorney and former director of the Wayne County Department of Environment, who is vying for a third two-year term. “It’s about knocking on doors and putting out signs and meeting people.”

The reports show that Heise loaned his own campaign \$100,000 since last December and that the campaign had paid all but \$5,000 of that back as of Aug. 25, the closing date for the most recent statement. Reports also list some expenses that Heise paid for out of pocket, such as for campaign signs and consulting services, as loans from the candidate.

“Obviously I’m not going to put fifty thousand dollars of my own money in,” Smith-Tyge said. “We’re going to do what we need to do to

be successful in the district.”

Heise said the loans show his campaign is largely self-financed. “I don’t think that’s a bad thing,” he said.

PAC money

Heise also benefited from more money from political action committees than Smith-Tyge, including \$1,200 from the Michigan Credit Union League Action Fund, \$1,550 from the Realtors PAC of Michigan and \$1,750 from the Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Michigan PAC.

The largest cumulative donations to Smith-Tyge’s campaign were \$1,500 from the Northville Democratic Club and \$1,000 from the Plymouth Democratic Club. A lot of Smith-Tyge’s money was from individuals who gave \$100 or less.

Heise pointed out that many of Smith-Tyge’s supporters are outside the 20th District, especially from Traverse City. The reports show 24 individual donors, who gave a total of \$2,125, with a Traverse City address. Smith-Tyge is from Traverse City.

He defended the donations.

“Traverse City is not exactly a liberal bastion, so I think it’s an indication of the kind of support I have ... from across the spectrum,” he said.

Smith-Tyge has other individual donors from outside the area as well, including from Ann Arbor, Ludington and Jacksonville, Fla. Heise’s donors include people from Grosse Pointe Farms, Brighton and Arlington, Va.

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Plymouth ghosts get chance to tell their tales

Participants get the chance to meet and greet some of the characters from Plymouth’s past at Riverside Cemetery during the Plymouth Historical Museum’s Plymouth Ghosts Cemetery Walk.

During the walk, set for Saturday, Oct. 25, visitors will hear the tales of Plymouth’s ghosts, such as Civil War soldiers Charles Dobbins and Henry Robinson, Plymouth’s first village manager Bethuel Noyes and Plymouth milliner Maud Vrooman Brown. Walks begin from near the mausoleum in Riverside Cemetery. Parking is available in the cemetery. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be sold about 3:30-6:30 p.m., prepared by members of “Just Hearse ‘N Around” based in Hell, Mich.

Cider and doughnuts, provided by event sponsor Courthouse Grille of Plymouth, will also be available. Walks begin at 4 p.m., with small groups departing every 15 minutes.

The walk lasts 60-90 minutes and involves some walking over uneven ground, so please wear sturdy walking



Kristen Mrozek portrayed Ellen Shattuck in the 2013 Plymouth Ghosts Cemetery Walk.

shoes. Bring flashlights for later tour times. Tour times will be assigned upon purchase.

Call 734-455-8940 for more information. The last three tour times (7:15 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 7:45 p.m.) have sold out.

Tickets are \$10 per person in advance or purchase a Friends of the Plymouth Historical

Museum membership and receive up to two free tickets.

Tickets can be purchased on the museum’s website at www.plymouthhistory.org/events/Plymouth-Ghosts-Cemetery-Walk-at-Riverside-Cemetery_ET45.html?SortBox=201410 using Paypal or at the museum

during open hours. Tickets are \$15 at the cemetery and will not be sold online the day of the cemetery walk.

The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, one block north of downtown Plymouth.

For more information, visit the website or call 734-455-8940.

FORUM

Continued from Page A1

fifth- and sixth-graders associated with the chapter come from the Plymouth-Canton area. “We can teach children that as voters we have a voice in who runs our schools and how they are run them. If at 10 and 11 years old they can appreciate the direct impact as current consumers of education, hopefully they will hold the importance of civic participation as a value when they become voters and/or as candidates for these positions.”

The questions from the kids were among the more impressive and popular among the candidates. They tackled issues like diversity – “How can we make sure more teachers look like me?” one African-American student asked – and technology.

Other issues

One student asked if iPhones and iPads should be issued to all students “for learning purposes only, of course,” drawing chuckles from the candidates and the crowd.

The question was pertinent because the district is rolling out its 1:1 technology initiative

this year. Candidates generally agreed the use of technology was a good thing.

“Technology is a tool, but I’m concerned with having everything right here,” said candidate Tom Kelly, holding up his own iPhone. “There’s a difference between technology and teaching.”

The rest of the questions came from the audience and covered topics one might expect at a school board forum, ranging from the district’s decision earlier this year to become a limited schools-of-choice district to the board’s role to prayer in public schools (all eight said

teacher-led prayer has no place, though students should be allowed to pray privately if they desire).

Plymouth Township resident Sue Osborn said she came specifically to hear whether common core standards would be discussed. While that subject never came up, Osborn said she still found the forum “helpful.”

“Rather than just seeing a name, you can attach a face and an attitude to it,” Osborn said. “A voter can be a better voter if they become informed.”

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PATIO

Continued from Page A1

stens said.

The new patio replaces an old concrete patio; three teakwood benches for it, also paid for by donations, are on order and are expected this week.

“Another big project is finally done,” Kerstens said.

The pavers were engraved by Inch Memorials of Northville and the patio was installed by Reliable Landscaping of Canton Township. The cost totaled around \$8,000.

The brick-paver fundraiser was started last winter, before the freight elevator stopped working, as a way of boosting the building reserve. Repairs on the elevator, which had not been working for months, were completed Sept. 3.

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The Plymouth Historical Museum’s new brick-paver patio was installed in front of the building Tuesday. There are about 90 dedicated, engraved bricks in the patio and more will be added, in batches, as they are purchased.

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10/10 - Laura Rain (9pm)
10/11 - Jesse James Band (9pm)
10/17 - Hippie Chick (9pm)
10/18 - Double D (9pm)
10/24 - Rout 10 (8:30pm)
10/25 - Party of 3 (8:30pm)
10/31 - (TBD - 9pm)
11/1 - Yankeeville (9pm)

October Food & Drink Specials
Sundays - Burger & 16 oz. Draft Beer - \$7
Mondays - Sloppy Joes - 2/\$5 (Bucket of Beer Specials)
Tuesdays - Tacos - \$1 (Margaritas - \$5)
Wednesdays - Pasta Dinner w/Salad - \$6 (Wine - \$5/ Glass)
Thursdays - Coneys - 2/\$3 (Bucket of Beer Specials)
Fridays - Fish & Chips - \$8.50 (Martinis - \$6)
Saturdays - Daily Specials

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Plenty of family-friendly activities are scheduled to take place in The B.L.O.C.K. parking lot, located behind the Canton Administration Building at 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188.

Party-goers are encouraged to tour the Teen Center and check out all of its amenities, including: foosball, video games, computer lab with internet, The B.L.O.C.K. café, lounge, quiet study room, pool table, and more! Light refreshments will also be served, including pizza, pop, chips and veggies.

This event is free and open to the public. Overflow parking will be located at the Canton Public Library lot. If inclement weather is possible, participants are asked to call 398-5570 to confirm if the event will be held.

For more information, visit www.cantonfun.org or call 734/398-5570.

Ladies Night Out boosts businesses, offers fun

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Mirjam Beemueller of Plymouth brought her daughter Loreen, almost 4, to downtown Plymouth on Thursday evening.

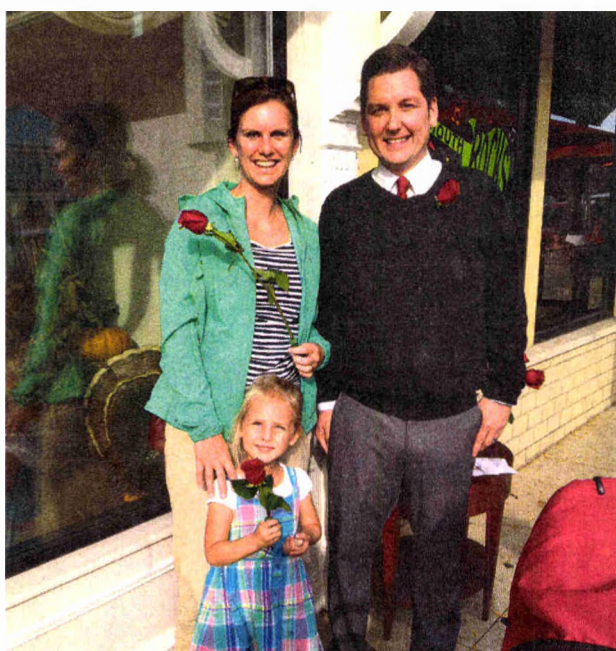
"I told her today is a special day for girls," Beemueller said of the downtown merchant/restaurant Ladies Night Out, done with the help of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce.

Women and girls streamed into Plymouth that evening for shopping, dining and fun. Beemueller hails from Schweinfurt, Germany, originally, with her husband working for an auto supplier.

"There are many Germans living here," she said. "This is actually a downtown area like we are used to. We walk so much. It's really nice for pedestrians."

Night for roses

She likes Northville, too, but especially Plymouth. Beemueller and her daughter were getting their red roses, from Ribar Floral, handed out by chamber volunteer Sam Plymale of Plymouth. Plymale works for the Plymouth Downtown Development Au-



Sam Plymale distributes red roses during Ladies Night Out to Mirjam Beemueller of Plymouth and her daughter Loreen, almost 4.

thority.

"It's really nice," Beemueller said of Ladies Night Out. "I think it's good the ladies are appreciated because the moms have so much to do. I'm curious what my husband will say when we come home with red roses."

Down the street on Forest, Opndohr owner Scott Smith of Westland noted he's been there

two years, selling vintage and antique goods, and had his Penniman Gallery previously, some 30 years in Plymouth retailing.

"Oh, I love it," Smith said of the women's event. "It's exciting. We always have a great time. Ladies Night is fun. We love it. It's a good time to showcase our stores. It's not always about dollars. It's about



Elle Dare, who owns Genuine Toy Co. with her husband, was glad to welcome Ladies Night Out shoppers.

customer experiences."

Good friends

Smith finds the Plymouth retailers good friends. "Plymouth is always evolving," he said. "If we remain stagnant, Plymouth wouldn't be Plymouth."

The restaurant scene has increased in recent years, he noted.

Smith was joined by Marian Partington of Livonia, a sales staffer

and artist with work in the store.

Elle Dare owns the nearby Genuine Toy Co. on Forest with husband Charles. The Plymouth residents have had that business just over five years.

"They're important," Elle Dare said of the promotional events.

"We like to be part of the community and involved. So we love the events."

'Pamper night'

She finds the event good as "just kind of pamper night" with its flowers. Girls and women are primary customers at the toy store, although men in their 20s often buy the board games.

"It's primarily moms and grandmas," Dare said.

"It's exposure," she said of the Sept. 25 event. "It's just fun to be open and see everyone coming through. We love them."

Plymouth resident Teri Fry, event manager for the Plymouth chamber, noted the event's longevity and success. "I think it's a good time of year," Fry said. "Summer's over, kids are back in school. It's kind of a wind down fun thing before the cold hits."

Posters, the chamber website, Facebook and business promotional efforts got the word out, Fry said. "They get it out to all their customers, kind of a rolling communication," she said.

The 36 stores (including salons) and participating restaurants kept women and girls coming that evening.

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Women's Giving Circle hosts motivational speaker

Motivational speaker Kelli Gilpin is the featured guest at Giving Hope Women's Giving Circle annual program 5:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8, at The Village Theatre at Cherry Hill.

"Unlock Your Personal Charisma and Let Your Light Shine" is a program designed to highlight ways to increase one's ability to project personal power and influence in all areas



Gilpin

of life.

Organizers said this will be an interactive program with a little

something for everyone from working women to stay-at-home moms to recent grads or recent retirees.

In addition to being a motivational speaker, Gilpin is life coach and author. She is an expert on money negotiations, authentic selling and personal power and influence.

Gilpin has also served as a consultant to numerous Fortune 500 exec-

utive teams.

Registration and a reception will begin at 5:30 p.m., with the program beginning at 6:15 p.m. Ticket price is \$20. To register, go to the Canton Community Foundation website at www.cantonfoundation.org and click on GH icon. Proceeds from the event will be used for grants to local women and children's charities. Founded in 2006, the

Giving Circle was born out of the belief that there are women in the greater Canton and Plymouth communities who together can make a meaningful impact on the lives of women and families in need.

To date, more than \$46,000 has been granted by the Circle to local women and children through organizations such as First Step, the Plymouth-Canton Com-

munity Clothing Bank, the Salvation Army, Starfish Family Services and the Detroit Area Diaper Bank.

In addition, more than \$10,000 has been raised for emergency needs such as a new furnace for a family and car repairs for a single mom of three.

For additional information or to register, call Beth Meade at 734-495-1200.



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Central Middle hosts 'Pink Out' game for cancer research



MICHAEL VASILNEK

The staff-voted Susan Kraft Perseverance Award honors a student or staff member who has shown perseverance through a tough time.

The Central Middle School basketball team is sponsoring a breast cancer "Pink Out" game 3:30-5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2, in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The team hosted a similar game last year and raised more than \$300 to donate.

"We would like to raise money again this year to donate to the Susan G. Komen Cancer Foundation to help fund cancer research," Central Middle School Principal James Hunter said. "We would be selling drinks (water and soft drinks), snacks (chips and candy) and small souvenirs (pom poms and bracelets) at the game."

The girls will be wearing pink socks and pink hair accessories and the Central student body is also being asked to wear pink attend the game. The team has sold more than 100 "Pink Out" shirts to the student body and staff to wear on game day to support the cause.

NJHS and the Central cross country team are working on getting all members to attend the game to support their fellow classmates.

The gymnasium will be decorated with pink balloons and pink ribbons. Everyone who comes to the game can write their name on a ribbon and hang it up in the gym.



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Last year's "Pink Out" game to raise money for cancer research earned more than \$300.

There will also be a donation jar at the entrance table for any donations people would like to make.

All proceeds will be added up and an announcement will be made to let the student body know how much money was

raised.

Proceeds will be donated to Susan G. Komen in the name of Central Middle School staff member Susan Kraft.

The staff-voted Susan Kraft Perseverance Award will be given at half time to honor a

student or staff member who has shown perseverance through a tough time.

"We all know that breast cancer has directly affected us as a school, family and community," Hunter said. "We would like to show our support."

Literacy council opens new office, needs more tutors

The Plymouth-Canton Community Literacy Council has moved to a new office inside the Starkweather Academy at Fiegel.

"We are excited about the move, because it puts us in closer contact with the people we serve," said Amy D'Urso, program coordinator for the CLC.

Founded in 1985 as an offshoot of the Plymouth-Canton Community School District's adult and alternative education program, the Community

Literacy Council provides free tutors to adults with literacy skills below a ninth-grade level.

Some of the tutors work one-one-one with a student, while others volunteer as part of a small conversation group or as a teacher's assistant in a classroom for adult English language learners at the Starkweather Academy at Fiegel.

Now that the new office is open, the CLC is hoping to increase its number of literacy tutors in the coming months.

While the CLC currently provides one-on-one tutors for approximately 47 adults in the area, the number of students waiting for a tutor grows daily.

"We typically have at least 20 students on our waiting list at any given time," D'Urso said. "Reducing the time students spend on the waiting list has become a key goal for the CLC."

Volunteer literacy tutors do not need any prior experience. Tutors receive comprehensive training using the nationally

recognized LitStart training model before volunteering in a setting of their choice for just 1½-2 hours each week. The next training class, which includes about 12 hours of instruction spread out over three days, will be held on the following dates:

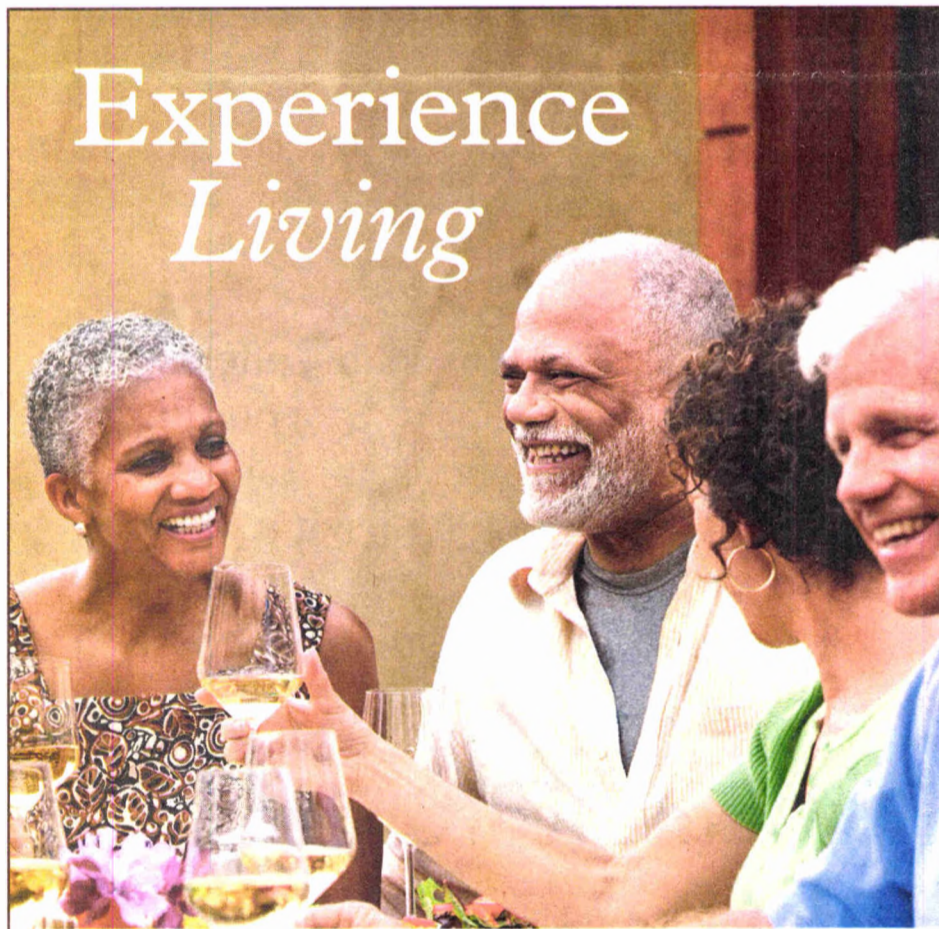
» 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16
» 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18

» 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 23

In an effort to defray the cost of training additional tutors, the CLC, a nonprofit organization, plans to host a number of fundraisers throughout 2014-15. The first

fundraiser involves a "bottomless" pancake dinner scheduled 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 9, at Scrambler Marie's in Canton. In addition to unlimited pancakes, the dinner will include two strips of bacon and a drink for \$8 per person. Advance reservations are required and can be made online at <http://www.plymouth-cantonliteracy.org/> or by calling the literacy council at 734-589-0011.

For more information about ways to get involved, or to sign up to be a tutor, visit www.plymouthcantonliteracy.org.



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14707 Northville Road, Plymouth, MI 48170
734-453-2600 | SeniorVillages.com



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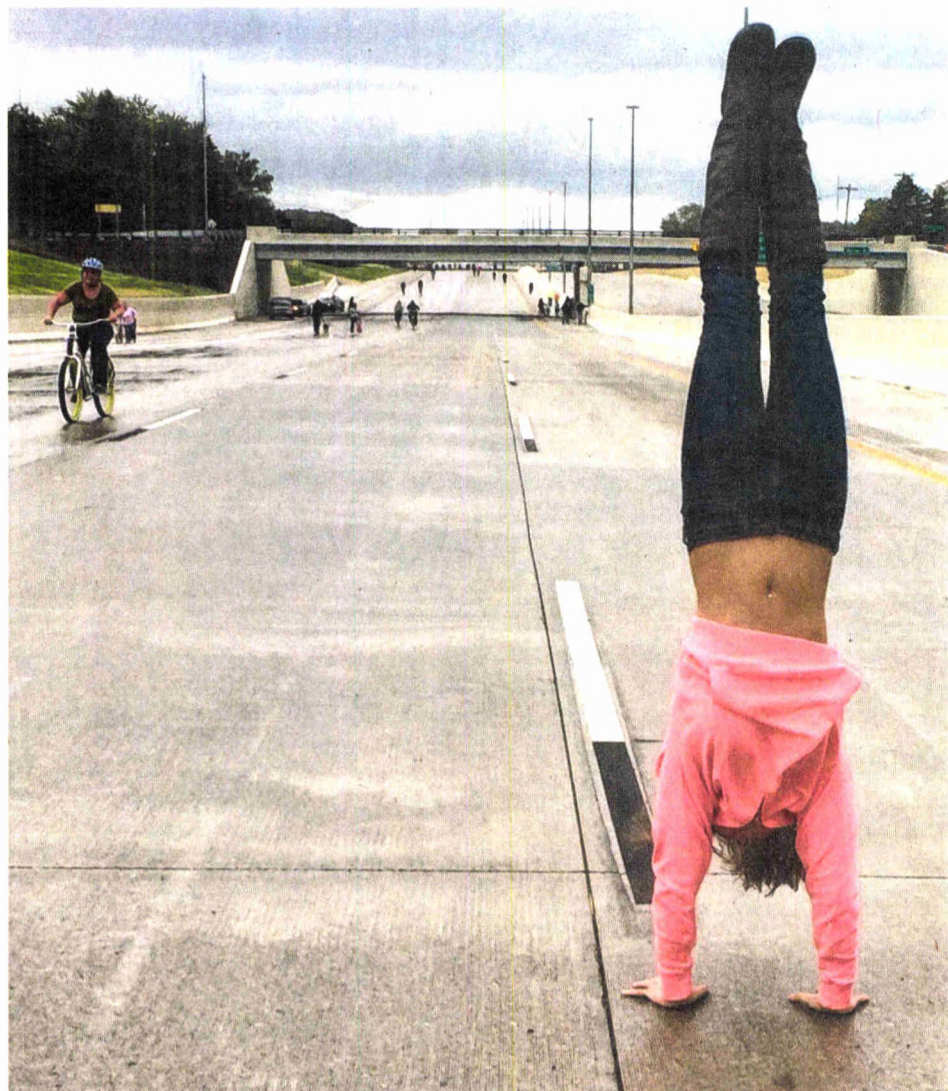
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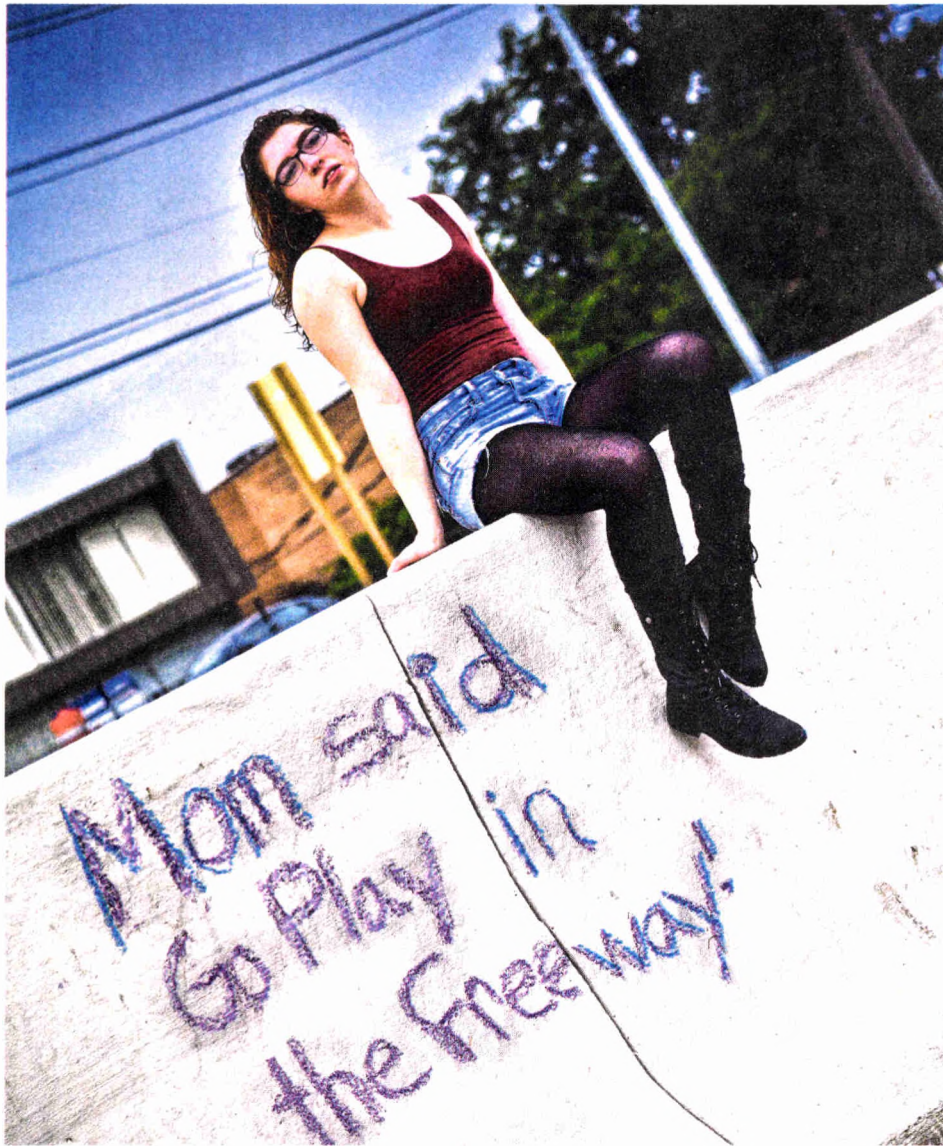
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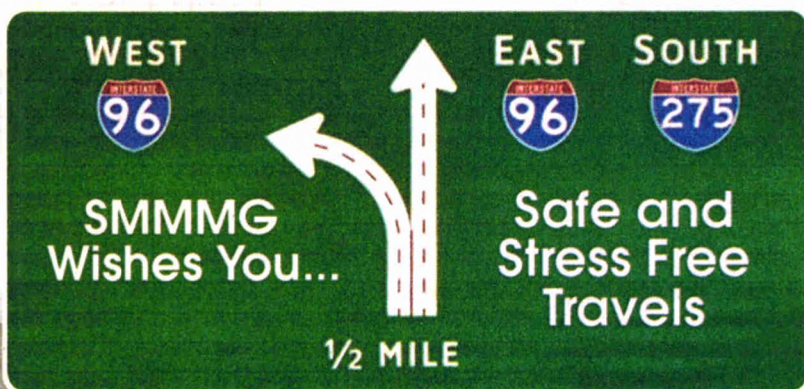
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Colbeck health bill passes state Senate committee

Legislation sponsored by Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, to assert that Direct Primary Care Services should not be treated as an insurance product was this week reported out of the Senate Insurance Committee.

The purpose of SB 1033 is to assure physicians who convert their practice to a Direct Primary Care Service model that the administrative burden associated with insurance regulations will not interfere with their treatment of patients.

"When was the last time you went to a doctor's office and knew how much the visit was going to cost before going there?" Colbeck said. "Physicians who provide Direct Primary Care Services simply provide specified services for a specified monthly subscription fee. This transaction model is commonplace in most consumer purchases, but not in health care, at least not yet."



FILE PHOTO

Legislation sponsored by Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, to assert that Direct Primary Care Services should not be treated as an insurance product was this week reported out of the Senate Insurance Committee.

el is commonplace in most consumer purchases, but not in health care, at least not yet."

On Tuesday, the Senate Insurance Committee, chaired by Sen. Joe Hune, R-Fowlerville, heard testimony on behalf of SB 1033 from Dr. John

Blanchard, Premier Private Physicians; Dr. Matt McCord, Docs4Patient Care; Tom Valenti, Forthright Health; and Annie Patnaude, Americans for Prosperity. Written testimony was submitted by Dr. Lee Gross of Epiphany Health Care and Dr. James Grant of the Michigan State Medical Society.

Colbeck said the promotion of Direct Primary Care Services is important because this service delivery model "has been proven to improve care while significantly lowering costs."

"It is a sad commentary on today's administration-intensive health care system that it has strayed so far from actually caring for patients that it is now possible to improve care by actually cutting costs, not by spending more," Colbeck said.

DPCS redirects the focus of health care away from government mandates, regulations and fee schedules back to the simplicity of the doctor-patient relationship, Colbeck said. It is estimated that 50 percent of the time a primary care physician spends working is actually spent on overhead activities that detract from patient care.

"Widespread adoption of this care model could potentially turn the tide on primary care physician shortages in our state," Colbeck said. "It would yield an effective doubling of the capacity of current primary care physicians and expand access to care in rural communities. Doctors would finally be able to spend more time with individual patients and effectively put an end to 'fast food' health care." The Senate Insurance Com-

mittee also reported out the Health Care Compact (SB 993) sponsored by Sen. Jim Marleau. This compact simply allows member states to receive federal funds for health care programs in the form of block grants and returns the regulatory authority over health care programs to the states.

In addition, Colbeck introduced Senate Concurrent Resolution 23, which was assigned to the Senate Health Policy Committee for further consideration. SCR 23 formally requests the federal government to remove restrictions on the deployment of DPCS by the states.

"These three pieces of legislation are a great start to Michigan's battle to restore low-cost, high-quality health care for all of our citizens," Colbeck said.

Large crowd expected at Canton fire station outing

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Hundreds of families are expected to turn out for a Canton fire station party where children can spray fire hoses, dress up in firefighter gear, watch a crash-scene simulation and, most likely, see a rescue helicopter land.

Fire Chief Joshua Meier said it's all part of an open house scheduled for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4, at Fire Station No. 1, 1100 S. Canton Center, south of Cherry Hill.

A crowd of 1,500 packed last year's event as families toured the fire station, a fire safety house and got an up-close look at how Canton's first responders do their jobs. It all happens on the eve of National Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 5-11, intended to promote fire safety.

"It helps us get our message out and talk about how to prevent fires and make homes safe," Meier said.

"It's an effort to reach out to the community. We welcome anybody to come and check out the fire department."

And it's free, even the fire safety fun bags for children and the hot dogs and popcorn.

A survival-flight helicopter from the University of Michigan Hospital is expected to land, though officials haven't been able to pinpoint a precise time.

"It's all dependent on if they get a (real emergency) call," Meier said.

Firefighters plan to use their Jaws of Life-type equipment to demonstrate how they extricate victims from vehicles during serious accidents.

"We'll be removing a door and possibly a roof," Meier said.

The open house gives the fire department an opportunity to interact with local residents during a time that is less stressful than a real emergency, such as a fire or medical run.

And who knows? It just might inspire future-generation firefighters.

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Children get to spray a fire hose during the fire department's open house.

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Dad surprises daughter at school after deployment in Iraq

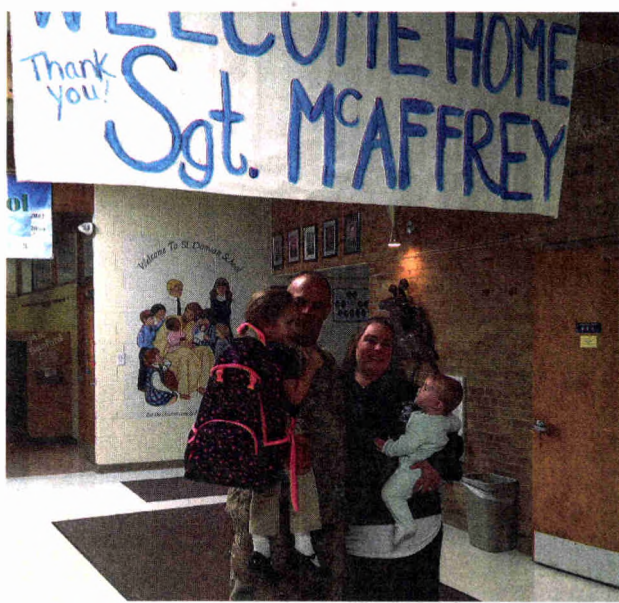
By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Having spent nearly a year in Iraq with his National Guard unit, Sgt. Levon McAffrey was excited to surprise his 4-year-old daughter Coraline as she left her preschool class Wednesday afternoon at St. Damian Catholic School in Westland.

"I'm excited to get to see her. I'm nervous because I don't know how she will react," said McAffrey, a Westland resident. "We were able to Skype (while he was in Iraq), but she would normally hide from the camera. Or if she was on camera, it was all about her."

McAffrey didn't need to be nervous. McAffrey and his wife Jaline stood just out of sight as Coraline walked down the hallway from her class.

McAffrey stepped into view just as his daughter walked under a welcome home banner



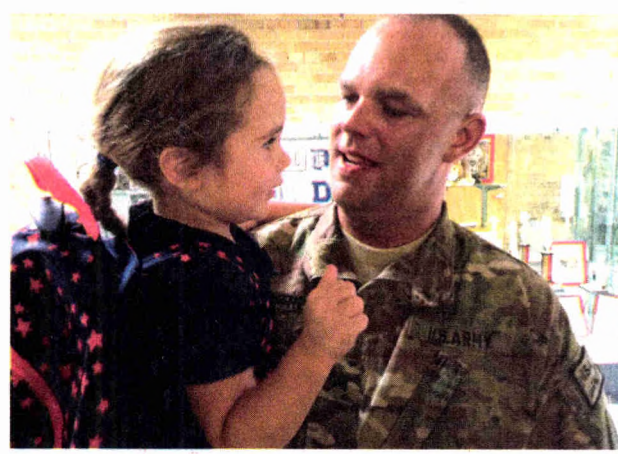
Under a banner welcoming him home at St. Damian Catholic School in Westland is Sgt. Levon McAffrey, his wife Jaline and daughters Coraline, 4, and Venelope.

and Coraline ran into his arms.

"You've gotten so big. I got a hug this big from you for a year," McAffrey told his daughter who, when asked, said

she knew her father was home.

Hugging her father, Coraline was a bit shy as cameras captured the moment, but soon she started talking. She



Coraline McAffrey talks with her father, National Guard Sgt. Levon McAffrey, who just returned from a deployment to Iraq. He surprised the preschooler at St. Damian School in Westland.

wanted her father to take her to the park.

A Livonia Franklin High School graduate, McAffrey, 36, is part of the National Guard 146th Transportation Unit that returned Tuesday night to its home base in Midland. Coraline had spent the night at a friend's home and went straight

to school, so she didn't know her father had arrived home.

On his return, McAffrey also got to meet the newest member of the family — 7-month-old Venelope, who was born during his deployment. Levon and Jaline, 31, have been married six years.

"This is the first time we've had a parent returning from the military at the school," St. Damian Principal Jacqueline Majeske said. "We made a banner for him (McAffrey)."

Now that he is back from his deployment as a mechanic, McAffrey will return to working as a mechanic as a civilian employee for the National Guard.

He has also volunteered to take over St. Damian's third- through sixth-grade robotics club.

"It was so surprising. We were looking for a volunteer and he told his wife he would do it," Majeske said.

McAffrey isn't worried about his lack of experience with robotics.

"I'm a mechanic. How different can it be?" he said.

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This year's Maybury Farm Corn Maze encompasses 10 acres of corn.

Maybury Corn Maze offers guests a 10-acre challenge

Looking for a place to get lost? Try the Maybury Farm Corn Maze.

This year's corn maze encompasses 10 acres of thick, very tall corn. When you hear the bell, your journey will begin with a hayride to the corn maze, where you are dropped off and then you are on your own to weave your way through.

The challenge: While winding your way through the maze, find all eight of the wooden animals that are hidden throughout. Complete this challenge and you can enter to win four tickets to this November's Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus Built to Amaze.

Once completed, another hayride awaits to take you back to the farm, where you can enjoy cider, doughnuts and snacks that are available.

Want an even bigger challenge? See if you can complete the corn maze in the dark. The Maybury Farm Corn Maze is open until 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights for those who are brave enough to find their way through with just the stars to light the way.

The Maybury Farm

Corn Maze is open 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, noon to 10 p.m. Saturday and noon to 7 p.m. Sunday through Nov. 2. The last wagon leaves for the maze one hour prior to close.

Group tours and bonfires for 15 or more are available. Call 248-374-0200 to reserve a date.

The corn maze costs \$7 per person and includes a hayride and admission to Maybury Farm. Children age 2 and under are free. All of the proceeds from the maze are used to pay for the winter feed bills for the farm's animals.

Maybury Farm is operated by the Northville Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. A historic farm, it provides interactive educational opportunities for the public. Maybury Farm is at 50165 Eight Mile, west of Beck Road and Maybury State Park, in Northville. Enter at the Maybury Farm sign, not the state park. Parking is free.

For more information, visit www.northvillecommunityfoundation.org or go online to the Maybury Farm Facebook page.

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

The leadership team of the Wayne Memorial High School JROTC Zebra Battalion was on the receiving end of an award presentation at the Wayne-Westland school board meeting last week.

Cadets Douglas Chuong, Jesse Medlen, Nicholas Parraghi, Jonathan Dennis and Nicole Rodgers were awarded the General Douglas MacArthur Foundation Leadership Award.

Established in 1987, the award recognizes officers who embody the beliefs of duty, honor and country of Gen. MacArthur. He spoke those words in a speech before cadets at the U.S. Military Academy in 1962, telling them that "Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be."

"The JROTC isn't a military recruiting program," Wayne Memorial Principal Kevin Weber said in introducing the cadets. "JROTC promotes graduation and citizenship and teaches discipline and being successful in school. We have cadets who have gone on to attend West Point, the Citadel, University of Michigan and Michigan State."

"Our cadets participate in service learning and do community service," he added. "They support activities around town and contribute thousands of hours to the community."

The Zebra Battalion Leadership Team has made a name for itself with several top five finishes in the national Leadership Bowl in the last five years. This year, the team placed 19th in



Wayne-Westland Superintendent Michele Harmala congratulates Cadet Jesse Medlen on receiving the Gen. Douglas MacArthur Foundation Leadership Award. Also receiving the honor were cadets Douglas Chuong (from left), Nicholas Parraghi, Nicole Rodgers and Jonathan Dennis.

the nation at the Leadership Bowl.

The competition began in November 2013 and included 1,700 JROTC programs from

all 50 states, American Samoa, Guam, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Asia Pacific and Europe. The Wayne Memorial team advanced through

two rounds of competition and was named the seventh Brigade Champion, which earned it a spot in the national competition in June in Washington, D.C.

Only 40 Leadership Teams are selected to advance to the Leadership Bowl. The teams were selected based on their knowledge of the JROTC curriculum, the leadership tenets from Gen. MacArthur and Gen. George C. Marshall, their understanding of JROTC Leadership theory and their ability to translate those tenets and theories to scenario-based questions.

"They know the art of leadership and the JROTC curriculum," Weber said.

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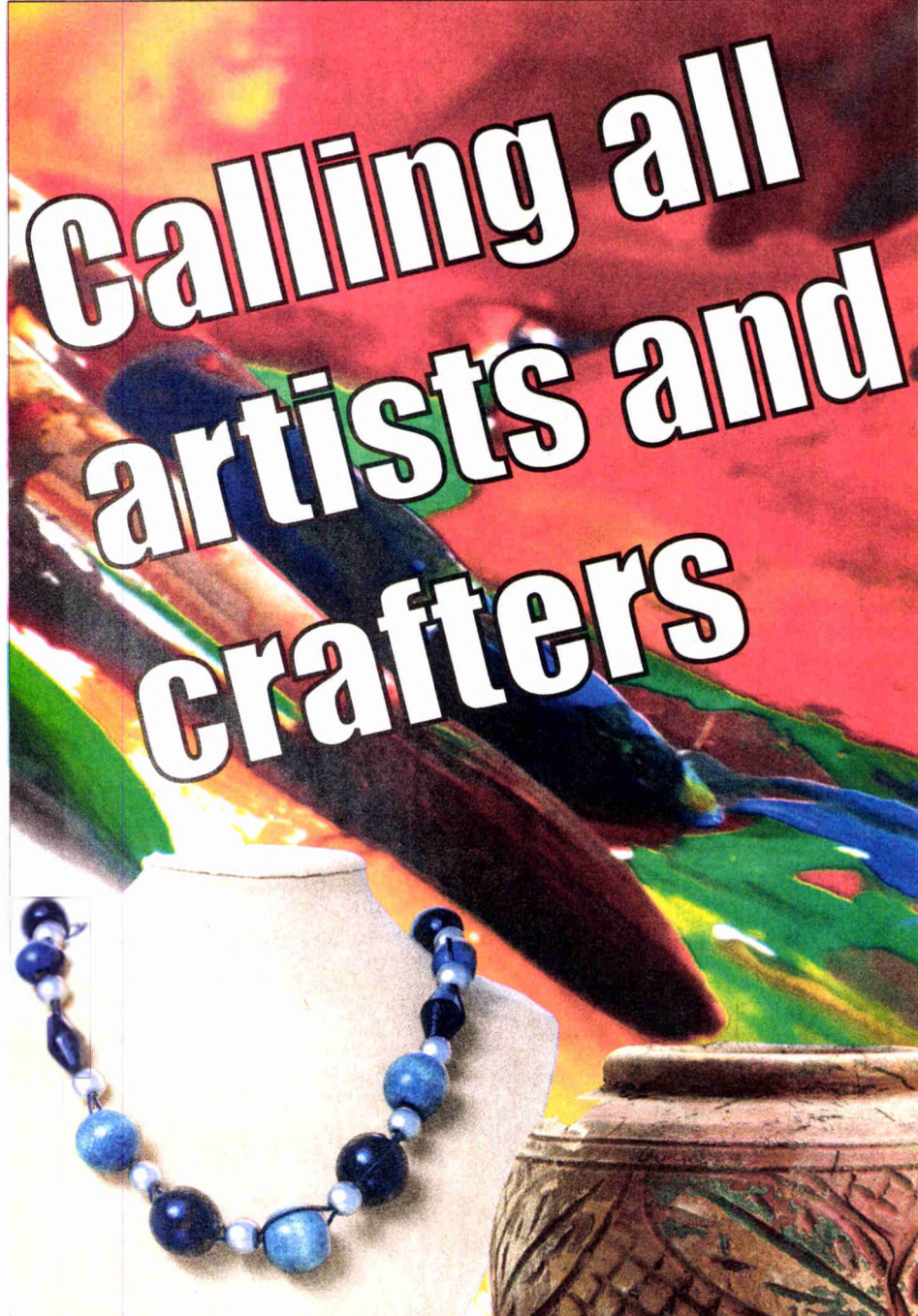
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Local dealer sponsors event to raise money for students

Hines Park Lincoln in Plymouth is partnering with the Plymouth and Canton chambers of commerce, along with the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority, to hold its first "Live in Your Moment" event, focusing on raising money for both the Student Citizen Scholarship for students of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and Plymouth's "Music in the Air" summer concert series.

Hines Park Lincoln will transform downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park into a luxury lounge with

live entertainment 3-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2, to celebrate the arrival of the new 2015 Lincoln MKC crossover, as well as the entire Lincoln lineup.

For every test drive of two new Lincoln vehicles, including the 2015 Lincoln MKC crossover, \$50 will be donated directly to the scholarship fund and to support the annual concert series sponsored by the Plymouth DDA.

Those who test drive vehicles during the "Live in Your Moment" event will be invited to enjoy

live music, refreshments and hors d'oeuvres created by some of Plymouth's favorites from Fiamma Grille and The Sardine Room.

"The event is a way for those in the Plymouth and Canton communities to be treated to a night of luxury and fun, while helping two great causes," Plymouth DDA director Tony Bruscatto said.

For more information, contact the Hines Park Lincoln communications department at LiveInYourMoment@hinespark.com.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

CHURCH CONCERT

Date/Time: Sunday, Oct. 19, 4 p.m.

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

Details: The First United Methodist Church of Plymouth presents tenor Lonnie Reed in a recital that will include works by Handel, Schumann and spirituals. Reed is pursuing a master's degree in vocal performance at the University of Michigan. Prior to the concert and at the intermission, students from the Music@First Fine Arts Academy, which is part of the music ministry at First United Methodist Church, will perform. Admission is free; a free-will offering will be received to benefit the Music@First scholarship fund and the CROP Walk.

Contact: Call Marcia Van Oyen at 734-453-5280 or email marcia@pfumc.org

SACRED DRAMA

Date/Time: Friday, Oct. 10, 7 p.m.

Location: 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City

Details: Canales Academy presents "An Evening of Sacred Drama," when three Biblical stories will be brought to life through the compositions of Michael Canales. The audience will witness dance, hear glorious singing and see beautiful costumes. The event will be followed by a champagne reception in the dining hall. Tickets are \$20 per person. Half of the proceeds will go to Good Hope Lutheran Church, the other half will go to Canales Academy.

Contact: Call 734-427-3660.

FIRE OPEN HOUSE

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 11, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: Plymouth Fire Station No. 1, 9911 Haggerty, Plymouth

Details: The Plymouth Community Fire Department hosts its popular Fire Safety Open House. The event, free to the public, will feature the Fire Safety House for kids, free food, fire station and apparatus tours and demonstrations of how to use a fire extinguisher, vehicle extrication and how to handle a stove fire.

AAUW BOOK SALE

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 18, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: West Middle School, 4441 Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth

The Plymouth-Canton AAUW hosts a book sale as part of the Delta Kappa Gamma craft show. Admission \$2. The purpose of the American Association of the University Women is to advance equality 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: To donate books contact Becky Copenhaver at 734-981-6023 or bgcopenhaver@yahoo.com or Shirley Zaetta at 734-455-6366 or szaetta@wowway.com.

JAZZ @ THE ELKS

Date/Time: Tuesday, Sept. 30, 7-10 p.m.

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Jazz @ The Elks presents Interlochen- and Juilliard-trained Walter White and his Quartet. Walter White plays trumpet, Jeff Trudell (son of Johnny Trudell) on drums, Gary Schunk on keyboard and Ralphie Armstrong on bass. There is a \$10 donation at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres.

Contact: For more information, call 734-453-1780 or email plymouthchefs1780@yahoo.com.

DKG CRAFT SHOW

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 18, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: West Middle School, 44401 Ann Arbor Road (at

Sheldon), Plymouth

Details: Delta Kappa Gamma is an international society of women in education that provides scholarships for Plymouth-Canton students pursuing a degree in education. Its biggest fundraiser for scholarships is its annual craft show. More than 65 juried crafters will be featured, displaying unique jewelry, hand-crafted soaps of natural ingredients, seasonal decor, gourmet foods, hand-painted scarves, pottery, unique pet supplies and more. The event will include a surprise drawing every hour as well as a drawing for several big prizes, including a hand-stitched quilt, a round of golf at Fox Hills and at Pheasant Run, a 932 Bed & Breakfast certificate, framed Tigers memorabilia, a \$50 gift certificate from Focal Point, two \$25 gift certificates to Vanessa's Flowers and many local restaurant gift certificates. The American Association of University Women, which also provides scholarships to students, will again join the show with its annual used book sale. Admission is \$2.

Contact: Debbie Cortellini at debortellini@comcast.net

ADOPT-A-ROAD CLEANUP

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 4, 9 a.m.

Location: Geddes Road, between Sheldon and Beck

Details: Volunteers are needed to help clean up Geddes Road between Sheldon and Beck. Volunteers must be at least 13 years old, bring their own work gloves, grabbing tools, etc. and dress appropriately for weather. Look for the special green tubs along the roads for bags and visibility vests at several locations. Just sign in, put on a visibility vest (for your safety), grab some bags, gather litter and trash, tie bags and leave them for pickup along the roadside. Wayne County employees will come at a later time to pick them up. For required community service letters, which are available after participation, please request them in advance and be sure to sign in on the sheet included in the supply tub. Supply tubs will be located at Beck and Michigan Avenue, Beck and Geddes, Geddes and River Meadows, Geddes and Sarah Ann and Geddes and Sheldon.

Contact: To volunteer, contact Greg Greene via email at ggreene@dotbiz@aol.com, call 734-855-6192 or go to www.ggreene.biz for instructions.

TUTOR TRAINING

Dates/Times: Thursday, Oct. 16, 6-9 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 18, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursday, Oct. 23, 6-9 p.m.

Location: 39750 Joy Road, Plymouth

Details: The Plymouth-Canton Community Literacy Council provides volunteer tutors to adults with literacy skills below a ninth-grade level. Interested volunteers are invited to attend the October training session consisting of 12 hours of training spread out over the course of three days. Once trained, volunteers spend just 1 1/2-2 hours/week helping in a setting of their choice. Some volunteers work with a student one-on-one, while others help in a small conversation group or assist in an adult classroom. No prior experience is needed. Register online to reserve your spot in the training class today.

Contact: For more information or to register to become a tutor, visit <http://www.plymouth-cantonliteracy.org/get-involved/tutoring>

WOMEN'S EXPO

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct. 4, 2-4 p.m.

Location: Midwest Tai Kwan Do, 584 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth

Details: Midwest TKD hosts a free Health & Wellness Expo for girls, women and seniors. Dr. Kavitha Chinnaiyan will talk women's heart health as the keynote speaker at 3 p.m. Vendors include experts in health, dermatology, chiropractic, massage, yoga, counseling services, senior care, nutrition,

education and fitness and safety programs.

Contact: For more information, call 734-459-4183.

QUARTER AUCTION FRIENDZY

Date/Time: Wednesday, Oct. 8, 7 p.m. (doors open at 5:30 p.m.)

Location: Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Canton Newcomers & Neighbors hosts a Quarter Auction Friendly. Bring your quarters and come early to see the 50 auction items up for bid. One quarter is worth up to \$49 during bidding. Auction item values range from \$25 to \$150, so the bids are one to six quarters per paddle. There will be special drawings and door prizes. There is a cash bar and food available for purchase. It's just \$5 per person and includes your first bidding paddle.

Contact: For more information, go to cantonwomen.com or contact Kristina Wittner at 734-787.9954 or kwittner@ymail.com.

MEDICARE/MEDICAID COUNSELING

Date/Time: Thursday, Oct. 9, 1-3 p.m.

Location: United Home Health Services, 2200 N. Canton Center Road, Ste 250, Canton

Details: United Home Health Services offers free individual counseling with a certified MMAP (Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program) counselor who will help you understand: Medicare/Medicaid eligibility, transitioning from employer coverage to Medicare, plan options, assistance programs, drug insurance, and Medicare/Medicaid fraud and abuse identification and reporting. Medicare plan enrollment and subsidy application assistance also provided.

Contact: Heather Pinage, 734-727-2063. Please specify you are requesting an appointment for the United Home Health location. For MMAP information visit www.mmapinc.org/pages/about.html

ONE-STOP OPEN HOUSE

Date/Time: Wednesday, Oct. 15, 5-8 p.m.

Location: Canton Public Library, 1200 Canton Center

Details: To help current and new residents integrate into the community, the Canton Newcomers & Neighbors Club has created Canton Resident One Stop Open House. A lineup of Canton leadership organizations and Canton Township direct service departments will be on hand to answer questions and provide more information. The police department will provide safety tips and Leisure Services will have information on the free, quality of life aspects of living in the township. The Partnership for the Arts, Canton Community Foundation, Canton Moms 4 Community, Historical Society and the Canton Public Library will be on hand. The event sponsor, Community Financial Credit Union, will provide an interactive experience for children to learn money management.

Contact: For more information, go to cantonwomen.com or contact Linda Obrec at Obrec@wowway.com or 734-945.6685.

FIRE STATION TOURS

Dates: Oct. 5-11, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Location: Plymouth City Hall fire station

Details: The city Fire Department celebrates Fire Prevention Week by hosting a daily open house at the City Hall Fire Station. Firefighters will be on hand from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 5, and from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday, Oct. 6-11, to give tours of the station and provide fire prevention information. The department is also now scheduling tour groups for Fire Prevention Week. The department has tours geared to both youngsters and adults, so all groups are welcome.

Contact: To schedule a tour time during Fire Prevention Week, call the city Fire Department at 734-453-1234, ext. 280.



A group of western Wayne County leaders gathered at the Leadership Banquet to better connect with local business leaders. Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey stands in the middle.

Western Wayne County economy is poised to boom

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Remembering the common bonds they share as neighbors, leaders from around western Wayne County gathered Thursday night for the second annual Western Wayne Business Leadership Banquet.

Held at the Ford Motor Co. Conference and Event Center in Dearborn, the banquet is the brainchild of the Conference of Western Wayne, a nonprofit, non-partisan advocacy group, and the Livonia Chamber of Commerce, as well as a handful of other local chambers.

The event's goal is to build stronger relationships between the business community and political leadership in a region that contains some 700,000 residents and 54 percent of the county's tax base.

"It's a little bit different than other communities and organizations, when you consider the fact that we are a bipartisan organization, that we try to reach consensus on everything that we do and we look to do things that are good for all western Wayne communities," said Redford Township Supervisor Tracey Schultz Kobylarz, chairperson for the CWW.

The CWW

The CWW is a consortium of 18 western Wayne County communities, which meets monthly to discuss issues such as legislation, transportation, public safety, substance abuse prevention, community and economic development, employment and the environmental health of the region.

Elected leaders from the cities of Belleville, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster, Livonia, Northville, Plymouth, Romulus, Wayne and Westland and the townships of Canton, Huron, Northville, Plymouth, Redford, Sumpter and Van Buren comprise the board of directors.

"Our main goal is to better represent the people in our communities and western Wayne

County as a whole," Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey said of the CWW. "We set aside our differences and come to the table unified in taking on common challenges and problems that we have, which is what people really want to see more of."

Northville Township Supervisor Robert Nix agreed and said the banquet was a great way to establish more relationships between the private and public sectors. "There are a lot of outstanding leaders here tonight, so this is an important gathering for us," Nix said. "It's critical that local businesses and government work together for this community. What a banquet like this does is gets us better connected."

Brighter future

With 350 people in attendance, speakers at the banquet included Mary Kramer of *Crain's Detroit Business* and David Sowerby, CFA vice president, portfolio manager at Loomis, Sayles and Co. Both emphasized the positive changes happening in metro Detroit and specifically western Wayne County. Among a variety of

topics, Kramer cited western Wayne businesses as being some of the most innovative in the state.

One company cited was Gentherm, which is in Northville and makes climate control technology for automotive interiors. It was No. 2 on *Crain's* Fast 50 list, which came out last month. The list is the fastest-growing companies in a five-county region in southeast Michigan. Six are from western Wayne.

Sowerby, the featured speaker, talked about how Michigan is looking market-wise. From his point of view, things are looking better.

He said the state tax climate has improved, there is better state and local fiscal discipline, the auto industry is seeing some profits, there is greater entrepreneurial risk-taking and low inflation is yielding a low cost of capital.

In simpler terms, he said, "I feel a lot better about business conditions locally than I have in a long time."

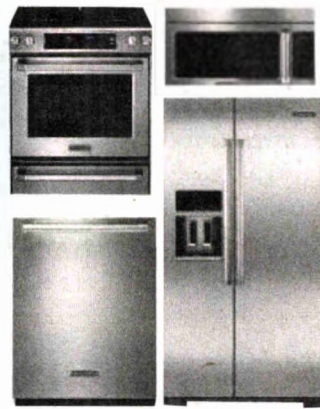
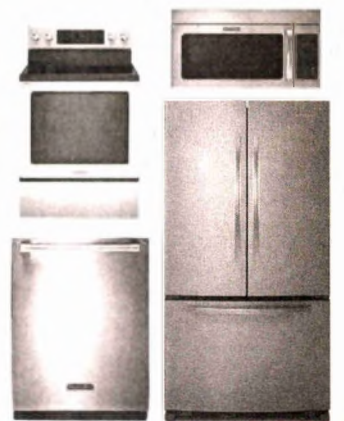
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THIS IS WHERE I LEAVE YOU (R) 11:40, 2:00, 4:25, 6:50, 9:10 FRI/SAT LS 12:00

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Plymouth Christian's Abby Wyman (No. 12) battles in the front row against Lutheran Northwest's Jacqueline Baughman.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PREP VOLLEYBALL

SOARING EAGLES

Newcomer Wyman, holdover Mady lead impressive PCA to win

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The pieces of the puzzle are fitting in nicely for Plymouth Christian Academy's varsity volleyball team.

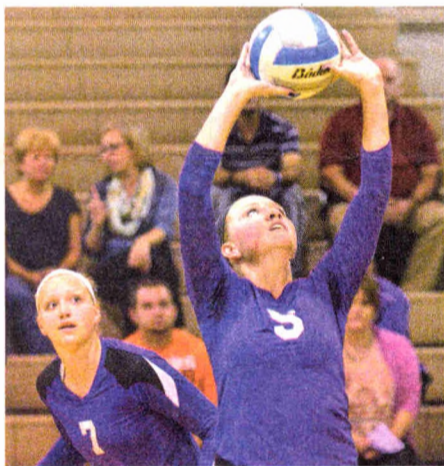
PCA's three-set victory Thursday night over Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest demonstrated that point quite emphatically.

Of course, the Eagles knew they would have last season's freshman sensation — outside hitter Olivia Mady — back for 2014.

What PCA head coach Katie Decker did not know was that a talented outside hitter would arrive on the scene, having transferred from South Carolina.

That player, Abby Wyman, was one of several standout players for the Eagles during Thursday's 25-20, 30-28, 25-20 triumph over the visiting Crusaders.

"Abby's very refined, she's one of those girls that grew up playing club," Decker said about Wyman. "She's been



Maintaining sharp focus on the ball while setting for a PCA teammate Thursday is Raina Postma (No. 5).

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

playing since she was, like, 8 years old. She knows her stuff, her fundamentals are strong.

"She's got some power behind her and she's a great leader, which is exactly what we needed this year. That was a huge blessing to get that dropped in our lap this year."

Her stamp was all over the PCA win, whether slamming home perfect sets or blocking Lutheran Northwest scoring attempts.

She also authored an important series of serves in the opening set, which turned a deficit into a comfortable lead. It was 9-7 Crusaders when Wyman stepped up to the service stripe and she reeled off 10 points in a row — including two aces.

Top of their game

Wyman tallied eight kills and three blocks, along with five aces for her new team, which is now 10-3 overall and 3-0 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Blue Division.

"It was a very good team effort, everybody seemed to step up and

See EAGLES, Page B3

PREP FOOTBALL WEEK 5

Magical night hits sour note for Rocks

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Before Salem's homecoming game Friday night against Northville, several players from the 1974 state championship team took a bow.

Undoubtedly, that pregame introduction, as well as the large "blue out" for homecoming, fired up the 2014 Rocks — who gave the Mustangs all they could handle.

But largely because of the power running of Northville senior tailback P.J. Schnepf (24 rushes for 84 yards and three TDs), there wasn't a miracle finish or a first victory for the Rocks and their faithful fans to celebrate as the Mustangs won 23-20 in overtime.

"I had two touchdowns during (regulation) and in overtime I just had a lot of confidence and trusted all my linemen," Schnepf said. "Just follow them, go right behind them and pound it in."

Schnepf's winner almost didn't happen, however.

The Rocks came within a couple of yards of winning in regulation, when senior kicker John Kwiecinski's 46-yard field-goal attempt fell just short. Salem might have gotten closer for the try if not for an untimely illegal procedure penalty.

"All those little things add up," said Salem head coach Kurt Britnell, whose team fell to 0-5 overall and 0-3 in the KLAA Central Division. "John had a great kick, just missed it. That's not on him."

From there, the game went into

See ROCKS, Page B3



Trying to scramble away from Northville's Anthony Arena (No. 45) is Salem quarterback Alex Nicholson (No. 18).

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS

Not only does Danny Vanderwiel plan on producing more for the Plymouth Whalers in 2014-15, he expects to be a go-to guy for younger players needing advice about the OHL.

OHL HOCKEY

LETTER-PERFECT LEADER

Whalers' Vanderwiel eager to ramp up role on, off ice in '14-15

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Now the skate's on the other foot for Plymouth Whalers forward Danny Vanderwiel — and he doesn't mind one bit.

The 19-year-old from Illinois is now one of the leaders of the Ontario Hockey League team, entrusted with not only being a solid performer on the ice, but showing the new kids at the rink how things get done around Compuware Arena. And that mission applies

whether the front of Vanderwiel's jersey is emblazoned with a captain's 'C' or assistant captain's 'A.'

"Definitely to start out the year, I've been trying to lead by example for the younger guys and for all the veteran guys on the team as well," Vanderwiel said recently. "Even if I don't have a letter, I'll still try to be a leader on the team."

"It's my fourth year in the league and I'm an older guy on the team. So I still just want to

be a leader and have that presence in the locker room and on the ice."

Just make a play

Already, the fast-skating, hard-checking Vanderwiel (6-0, 200) is taking Plymouth rookie center Will Bitten under his wing.

"I just try to get through to them that they're here for a reason," Vanderwiel said. "They're good at hockey and

See VANDERWIEL, Page B4



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Two up, two down for Canton Lions

The Canton Lions football teams had a mixed bag of success Sunday against the Westland Meteors, with two wins and two losses all told.

In the varsity contest, the defense wasn't able to stop the Meteors in a

48-0 setback. There were some bright spots, as Desmond Dewberry and Jimmy Gibbons both had strong showings on offense, with the majority of the carries.

Despite the Westland barrage, Canton defenders Dewberry, Andrew

Atallah, Joe Kaceli, Blake Pospy and Cameron "Deuce" Wilborn stood out for their play. The varsity squad will fight for their first win of the season when they face the Westland Comets on the Lions home turf this weekend.

Junior varsity

A 70-yard swing pass resulted in a touchdown for Lions junior varsity's Sheldon Lyall and that was but one of several outstanding plays for the Lions offense in a 27-12 victory over the Meteors. Running back C.J. Brown had three touchdowns.

The Lions' defensive standouts were Spenser Korroch and B.J. Nichols.

The junior varsity Lions will try to continue their undefeated season Sunday when they face the Westland Comets.

Freshman

The Lions freshman team was stifled in its match-up with the Meteors, falling 47-0. Despite a strong Canton Lions defense, the Meteors scored four touchdowns in the first half, and were allowed only two extra points. A third-quarter sack by Tyler Klabunde pushed the offense back to second-and-29, but the Meteors still managed to reach the end zone.

Other key defensive plays were made by Jeffrey Shipp, Luke Rayborn, Aaron Alexander, Derik Watson, Gavin Bobby, Daniel Baldwin and JaMarcus Barnes.

A bright spot for the



CANTON LIONS
Canton Lions junior varsity running back Caleb Williams (right) scores one of his two touchdowns last Sunday against the Westland Meteors. Giving blocking support are teammates Noah Simpson, Diego Hernandez-Ramirez and Brynden Millet.

Lions came courtesy of special teams, with a 19-yard kickoff return by Ryan Goodson.

The freshman Lions, with a current record of 1-2, plan to regroup and come back strong in their meeting with the Westland Comets at home next week.

Junior-freshman

The Lions junior-freshman team moved to 3-0 with its latest victory over the Meteors. The Lions offense wasted no time setting up a 63-yard touchdown run by Caleb Williams on the first play

of the game. Later in the first half, quarterback Oronde Patterson II completed a pass to Kristopher Easley, who ran the ball in for a second touchdown (25 yards).

With strong blocking by Bralen Willis and Diego Hernandez-Ramirez, the Lions offense continued to dominate as Williams took one more trip to the end zone (50 yards) in the second half of the game.

The Lions defense was led by Kyle Kyle, Devin Kaigler and Aaron Pryce, with strong tackling in the backfield.

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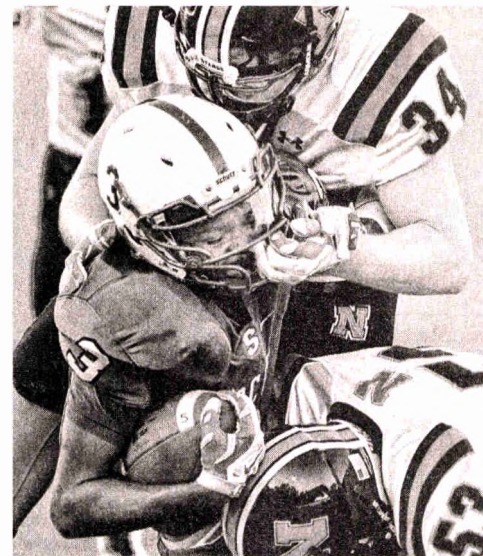
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ED WRIGHT
Canton's Nolan Gilo stiff arms Westland John Glenn's Javaughn Burns during a first-half reception Friday night. Gilo hauled in the game-winning two-point conversion with 5:21 left.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Salem's Calin Crawford (No. 3) gains some tough yards Friday night against Northville's Alec Coppock (No. 34) and Andrew Farah (No. 53).

ROCKS

Continued from Page B1

overtime, with each team getting a crack from the 10-yard line.

Salem had the ball first and the Rocks lost 3 key yards on first down and had to settle for a 30-yard field goal from Kwiecinski to make it 20-17.

"Those little things have been haunting us all year," Britnell said. "Just like that big run we had on the other side and get that holding call and it brings us back. And even in overtime, we get a negative play and that puts us off schedule."

"I know they (Mustangs) were wanting to go to overtime, they were happy with the 10-yard field with those big horses."

Bread and butter

Indeed that was the case, as the Mustangs (4-1, 2-1) didn't waste time with their chance. Schnepf bulled ahead for 8 yards on the first play, setting up his game-winning plunge from the 2.

Schnepf said he just ran behind "the best and biggest linemen on our team, run the power, you know? That's our bread and butter."

Salem led 10-3 at halftime, but Northville's offense came out with a sense of urgency to open the third quarter.

"We simply asked them (offensive linemen), 'Do you want to put it on your backs?'" Mustangs head coach Matt Ladach said.

"They're the strength of our team and they were fired up with the opportunity and that's exactly what we did."

Ladach added that it doesn't hurt to have someone like Schnepf biting off 4 or 5 yards a pop right down the field.

"He's a tough kid. He did everything that we asked of him," Ladach said. "He had a great night and I'm very happy for him as an individual and for all of our players as a

team." The Rocks were the better team in the opening half, with strong defensive plays turned in by sophomores Jason Arnold (10 tackles for the night), Trevor Nowaske (seven tackles) and senior Devin Cameron (seven tackles).

And Salem got on the board first, when junior running back Deston Langford (19 carries, 66 yards) burst through the middle for a 9-yard TD with 10:27 to go in the second quarter.

Sparking that scoring march of 62 yards in 10 plays were big running plays by junior quarterback Alex Nicholson, who scrambled for 12- and 13-yard gains. Junior running back Calin Crawford then had a 22-yard gain around left end to set up Langford's score.

Northville got on the board with 5:21 left in the half, when Jake Moody nailed a 35-yard field goal.

The Rocks, however, answered in the final minute of the second quarter, when Kwiecinski connected on a field goal from 30 yards.

Inspired by the halftime chat, the Mustangs had an instant spark to open the third quarter when Terrell Cunningham bolted up the middle for a 51-yard kickoff return.

Northville then went the remaining 38 yards on six runs (all by Schnepf), who punched it in from 4 yards out to make it 10-10 with 9:12 to go in the third quarter.

The Rocks then regained the lead with 8:35 left in regulation, when Nicholson (6-of-10 passing, 163 yards) and senior Joey Miazek collaborated on an 85-yard TD pass. Miazek caught the ball near midfield and sprinted down the sideline the rest of the way.

Northville responded on the next series with another Schnepf touchdown (from the 4-yard line) to deadlock things again.

A pass interference call against Salem aided the drive.

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Late gamble enables Chiefs to edge John Glenn, 22-21

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Not long after Westland John Glenn's homecoming king and queen were announced Friday night, Canton's football team trumped the Rockets' special night with a late, high-stakes deuce.

Chiefs sophomore running back Marcus Sanders bolted up the middle for a 20-yard touchdown run with 5:21 play, cutting his team's deficit to 21-20.

Instead of opting for the more conventional point-after kick, Canton coach Tim Baechler rolled the dice on a do-or-die two-point conversion and was rewarded when senior quarterback Greg Williams lofted a soft spiral into the corner of the end zone to Nolan Gilo, who secured the ball to give the Chiefs a 22-21 victory.

Williams was Houdini-like on the game-winning possession as he twice completed fourth-and-five passes — one to Gilo, the other to Jakob Wickens — to keep the drive alive.

Canton stuffed the Rockets' final drive of the night and walked off the field with a heart-pounding one-point victory to improve its record to 4-1 overall and 3-0 in the KLA South Division.

"I knew before that last

drive even started that if we scored, we're going for two," Baechler said. "We had a few kicking and snapping problems in our last game and even though we were two-for-two tonight on extra points, I thought we were a little slow, a little shaky."

"I can live with me making a bad call. I can't live with them making a bad snap or a bad hold."

On the game-winning conversion, Williams faked an inside handoff and rolled right with a pair of Rockets in hot pursuit.

"I love that play because it gives him the run-pass option," Baechler said.

The result was a bitter pill to swallow for the Rockets, who battled the Chiefs toe-to-toe from the opening kickoff.

The Rockets struck first when Jaylen Smith swept around right end for a 6-yard touchdown with 10:07 left in the first quarter.

Canton countered quickly, tying the game at 7-7 on its next possession when Sanders capped a five-play, 66-yard drive with a 14-yard scoring sprint.

John Glenn regained a 14-7 advantage 3:59 before halftime when quarterback Brenden Wetmore hooked up with Jaron

Flournoy on a 49-yard TD strike.

It took the Chiefs just one play the next time they touched the ball to score the equalizer, thanks to Sanders' 64-yard TD run.

It appeared John Glenn senior captain Andre Brown was going to be the night's hero when he blocked Williams' punt with 11:52 left in the game, giving the Rockets the ball at the Chiefs' 14.

Three plays later, Wetmore hit Brown with a 14-yard scoring pass to put the Rockets in front, 21-14.

But the Chiefs answered with one of their patented grind-it-out drives, with a couple of fourth-down heroics to spice things up.

"They're a better football team than us," Baechler said. "They're bigger, faster and stronger than us and their defensive scheme was very good against us tonight. This was a nice win for us."

PLYMOUTH 28, FRANKLIN 7: Visiting Plymouth bounced back from a loss to Livonia Churchill with this KLA South Division victory Friday night.

Quarterback Deji Adebiji was a catalyst for Plymouth (4-1, 2-1) with an 18-yard TD run and touchdown tosses of 48 yards (to Cameron Stella) and 26 yards (to Kalen Dunham).

Also scoring for the Wildcats was Anthony Kenney, on a 30-yard run. Kenney had a big night, gaining 103 yards in 12 rushes. Stella also was a key factor (10 carries, 98 yards).

EAGLES

Continued from Page B1

everybody was just on their 'A' game tonight," Wyman said. "Before the game, we all got really excited, we were in the locker room and do a certain rap."

"And we came out here and kept that intensity. We just fought for everything, even when we got down (on the scoreboard) and even when one of the players (Danielle Witkowski) got hurt."

Witkowski injured an ankle during the middle set and was replaced by senior Kelsey Williamson (six digs) for the rest of the night.

"The nice thing is we've got a lot of skill on the team, we got a lot of depth," Decker said. "If somebody gets hurt, like Danielle Witkowski tonight, we had someone who could fill in for her."

Immediately after Witkowski left the match, PCA players lost focus and let a 15-12 advantage turn into an 18-16 lead for Lutheran Northwest.

At that point, Decker called a timeout.

"She just said everything's going to be all right," Wyman said. "Just keep going out there and playing like we have been playing."

The Eagles eventually drew even at 21-21 thanks to Williamson's three-point service streak (with two of the points scored on Wyman spikes).

Yet the Crusaders were in position to win the second set, up 28-27, with Karli Sugg serving.

PCA got the clutch defensive side-out, however, when sophomore middle hitter Aliyah Pries (five kills) hammered home a set from senior Raina Postma.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Bumping the ball for Plymouth Christian is libero Divna Roi (No. 8). There to help her if needed is Grace Kellogg (No. 3).

That made it 28-28 and sophomore libero Divna Roi followed up with two service points to cap the victory.

Hammer time

Mady made her mark, as usual. She led the Eagles with 14 kills, jumping up and slamming perfectly teed-up sets from Postma (28 assists).

Late in the third set with PCA up 23-20 and looking to hold off the Crusaders and finish off the win, Postma softly floated the ball Mady's way.

The headband-wearing Mady catapulted herself high in the air, double-pumped her arm in windmill fashion and drove the ball almost through the floor on the other side of the net.

"That was a great set and I just love to jump really high," Mady said, smiling. "So I saw it and hit it super hard."

All that was left for PCA to finish off the victory was freshman outside hitter/defensive specialist Grace Kellogg's ace.

She registered five kills and eight digs.

"You won't see anyone hustle harder than her," Decker said. "Grace works hard no matter what, she's the one you always see diving. She's definitely brought up the level there."

Another stalwart Thursday night was Roi (seven digs). She showed an uncanny ability to keep volleys alive, even launching long return shots.

"You know what, our libero from last year (Callie Morby) got injured," Decker said. "Callie's been going to physical therapy trying to recover and my first thought was 'What are we doing to do?'"

"So I used one of my DS's who was also a freshman last year (Roi). She kind of was forced to step up and really take ownership of a big role on a team and she's done an excellent, excellent job so far."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Jumping up to serve during Thursday's game is PCA sophomore Olivia Mady.

PREP ROUNDUP

Sluggish start can't derail Salem spikers

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Quicker starts would be fine with Salem varsity volleyball coach Amanda Nies, but she's more than happy with how her team is finishing matches.

Such was the case Tuesday night, even when the Rocks topped Livonia Stevenson in the first two sets (27-25, 25-23).

By the time the night was over, Salem won 3-1 over the Spartans, wrapping up the win with a 25-12 victory in the fourth set (after dropping the third by a 25-22 score).

"The girls started very slow and not until the fourth game started to pick it up," Nies said. "We had about 12 errors per game, which is way too many.

"We were just giving points away instead of having them earn them. We really need to work on communication and keeping momentum on our side of the court."

One of the standouts from start to finish was Hannah Moote, with 15 kills.

"She really carried us offensively and got momentum going for our team," Nies said.

Tess Ganich tallied 11 kills, 11 digs and five aces for Salem (3-1 in the KLA Central), while Drew Smiley (11 digs), Kelly Ldzbarski 14 digs), Sara Soltis (44 assists) and Audrey Boike (eight kills) were solid contributors.

Two nights later, the Rocks were more consistent throughout with a sweep over South Lyon East (25-14, 25-19, 25-16) to improve to 4-1 in the division.

Ganich (16 kills, 17 digs), Smiley (10 digs), Michelle Dierker (six kills), Emma Merlington (five kills), Laurie Wylie (18 assists) and Soltis (24 assists) led the way.

» **Canton's** spikers needed four hard-fought sets Tuesday



Getting a step ahead of South Lyon East's Adam Caruso (left) during Tuesday's dual meet is Salem senior Jason Rogers (right).

to dispatch Livonia Churchill.

"We were challenged last night and even though we came away with a victory, we still have to do a better job playing through adversity," Canton volleyball head coach Steve Johnson said.

Sparking the Chiefs were Megan Roy (28 digs, four aces), Lauren Schornack (26 digs, six kills), Annie McDougall (11 kills), Haley Diedrick (19 digs), Carleigh Vela (14 assists, four aces), Alyssa Burke (11 assists), Courtney Kurkie (eight kills), Chloe Homco (eight digs) and Emma Clark (six kills).

BOYS SOCCER: Salem's varsity boys soccer team rolled to an 8-0 mercy win Tuesday over South Lyon East behind a three-goal night by Nick Massey.

Chipping in with a goal and assist each were the Rocks (4-5-2 overall, 3-2-2 in the KLA Central Division) were Max Kummer, Jeremy Coleman and Adam Hall.

"We did a fantastic job of sharing the ball and being unselfish," Salem head coach Scott Duhl said. » **Canton** also had the offense going strong in back-to-back KLA South Division match-ups, routing Westland John Glenn 6-0 Tuesday and following up Thursday with a 5-0 blanking of Livonia Franklin. Many players contributed for the Chiefs (13-0-1 overall, 8-0-0 in the KLA South) in both victories. Against the Rockets, the Chiefs were sparked by Sam DeJoy and Matthew Causley (two goals each), while Hunter Olson tallied one goal and two assists. Scoring off a corner kick with a nifty header was Sam Belcher. Collecting one assist each were Jack Zemanski, Jimmy Walkinshaw and Andrew Murphy. Splitting goalkeeping duties for Canton were Jay Krebs and Andrew Loehnis. The momentum rolled into Thursday against Franklin. Jason Ren spearheaded the Chiefs' attack with a goal and two helpers. Also scoring were Olson, Causley, Walkinshaw and

Bailey Riegal. Zemanski and Mohamad Miri each registered an assist.

Strong defense was turned in by midfielders Kyle Mettlich and Ammar Chishti, along with defenders Belcher, Chris Dooley, Murphy and Nick Wendel as Canton chalked up its sixth straight shutout.

Goalies Dylan DaSilva and Loehnis shared the shutout.

» **Plymouth Christian** followed Tuesday's 2-0 win over Southfield Christian with Thursday's 6-2 rout of Howell Home Schools.

Lucas Albrecht scored five of the Eagles' goals against Howell and also had one of the goals against Southfield Christian.

» **BOYS CROSS COUNTRY:** Salem Tuesday bested South Lyon East 20-40, led by senior Jason Rogers, the overall winner with a time of 17:16. Rogers battled the top South Lyon East runner (second-place Adam Caruso, 17:23), pulling away during the last half-mile. Jason did a great job being aggressive from the start of the race and pulled in to the lead shortly after the mile mark. Salem head coach Steve Aspinall said.

Also scoring for the Rocks were senior Nabil Ahmed (third), senior Ethan Sanfilippo (fourth), junior Griffin

Skaff (fifth) and sophomore Alex Kroll (seventh). » **Plymouth** dropped a close 27-28 final Tuesday to Wayne Memorial, despite Matt Pahl's finishing as the medalist with a time of 16:26.

Jonny Dalton came in fourth (17:31), followed by Ethan Byrnes (sixth, 17:46), Matt Dottavio (eighth, 18:34) and Alex Zoltowski (ninth, 18:53).

» **GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY:** The story was sweeter for Plymouth's varsity girls cross country team, earning an 18-64 KLA South Division triumph Tuesday over Wayne Memorial.

Coming in first overall was Plymouth sophomore Annie Bonds (20:59), followed by senior Hailey Foster in second place with a time of 22:25.

Finishing strong for the Wildcats were junior Marianne DeBrito (fourth, 22:53), freshman Madelyn Rush (fifth, 23:01) and junior Charlotte Clark (sixth, 23:09).

"I was really happy to see Madelyn get a scoring spot today," Plymouth assistant coach Alice Ahearn said. "She has a lot of potential to become a cross country force in this division. I'm excited to see her progress."

» **Pack running** was key for Salem in a 15-48 victory Tuesday over South Lyon East. The Rocks (3-0 in dual meets) had virtually the entire top 10 in stockpiling points for the KLA Central triumph.

For Salem, Lauren Arquette was medalist, finishing first in 19:55.

She was followed by teammates Shekinah Johnson (second, 20:31), Sierra Bowden and Paige all were able to finish in front of the third John Glenn runner and really score the meet for us.

"I was worried when I saw the number of sick and injured girls, but the rest really carried the day for us."

» **GIRLS GOLF:** Despite some good individual performances, Canton dropped consecutive dual matches to Livonia Stevenson and Northville. On Tuesday at par-35 Fox Hills, Stevenson earned a 180-200 win.

But Canton's Madelyn Mans (and Kristen Szabelski of the Spartans) were co-medalists with a score of 44.

Alyce Krumm registered a 49 for the Chiefs, with other finishers including Lauren Luyet (52), Caroline Jones (55), Meghan Meredith (60) and Avery Ralston (62).

In Wednesday's match-up against the Mustangs, the Chiefs fell 185-218.

Medalist was Northville's Katie Childers, with a 41. Canton's scorecard included Krumm (48), Meredith (53), Ralston (57), Luyet (60), Molly Mundorf (64) and Caroline Jones (71).

The Chiefs dropped to 3-4 overall with the loss.

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VANDERWIEL

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that's what they're here for. Like Will Bitten, he was a little worried about looking off (ignoring) the older guys in practice.

"He goes, 'I don't want to look off the older guys,' so he passed it to them. I kind of pulled him aside and said, 'Bits, you're here to play hockey. If you see a hockey play, just make the play, don't worry about looking off the older guys.'"

Vanderwiel remembers when he had the same tendency when he was a newcomer with the Whalers in 2011. He also remembers which veteran helped him adjust.

"Probably Alex Aleardi," he said, referring to the Farmington Hills native now playing in the Carolina Hurricanes farm system. "I looked up to Alex Aleardi a lot. He helped me out a lot my rookie year.

"He was always talking to me about basically the same stuff I tell Bits. That was one thing that helped me out a lot. Just make my plays, don't get too frustrated, don't get too upset if things aren't going your way."

The adjustment isn't confined to the rink, either.

He won't settle

After all, any 16-year-old kid who joins an OHL team undoubtedly faces culture shock — living away from home for the first time, playing against bigger, stronger, older players.

They all have the same dream of being drafted by a National Hockey League team and turning professional some day.

For Vanderwiel, an aggressive player who is continuing to work on being a more ac-



Danny Vanderwiel, in action last season, expects to take his game to the next level this year for the Plymouth Whalers.

complished finisher around the net, he isn't going to stress too much about how many goals and assists he racks up merely for the hope of being noticed by big-league scouts. Last winter, he netted six goals and eight assists in 57 contests.

"Not really too worried about the draft," he said. "It's my fourth year in the league and I want to have a strong year on the team, be a leader and, obviously, win an OHL

championship.

"But I don't really want to set a number (of goals) that I want, because I just don't want to get that number and then settle for it. I'm just going to put as many in the net as I can."

Whether Vanderwiel chips in goals or prevents them with his prowess as a penalty killer, Whalers first-year head coach Don Elland will be thrilled.

"I've been really happy for

Danny that's he come back and taken on a leadership role," Elland said. "He has worked hard and done everything we've asked. He's been great with the young guys, he's been great helping me with my transition.

"I don't know when it will happen, but eventually I think all this hard work is going to pay off."

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Busy PCA harriers capture MIAC Jamboree

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

A string of very competitive races in a 10-day period recently didn't bother Plymouth Christian Academy's cross country program.

And the Eagles saved the best for last, capturing the championship of the season's first Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Jamboree, held Tuesday at Nankin Mills.

"All (PCA team) members scored in the top 14," Eagles head coach Jennifer Lemieux said. "Ann Arbor Greenhills was second. Our boys are on a roll."

PCA tallied 43 points, besting Greenhills (56), Southfield Christian (third, 97), Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest (fourth, 106), Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett (fifth, 113) and Lutheran Westland (sixth, 119). Ten squads took part.

Returning senior Joe Fanelli — who also plays PCA boys soccer this fall — finished third overall with a time of 18:36.60.

Also in the top 15 for the Eagles were freshman Seth Windle (fifth, 19:02), junior Gareth Matson (10th, 19:19.8), sophomore Ian Hay (11th, 19:44.4) and junior co-captain Paul Chamberlain (14th, 19:54.9). The busy stretch began Sept. 13, when PCA took fourth place (110 points) at the prestigious Holly Invitational.

Everybody on the team earned individual medals, led by Windle (11th, 18:56.52), sophomore Ben Fuller (17th, 19:12.92), junior co-captain Gareth Matson (22nd, 20:07.24), Chamberlain (25th, 20:13.75) and freshman Phillip Morby (35th, 21:08.44).

Dearborn Divine Child captured the Holly Invite with 25 points.

On Sept. 16, PCA placed second to Greenhills at the Oakland Christian Small School Invitational. Fanelli and Windle again placed in the top 10.

Then came the Novi-Detroit Catholic Central Invitational on Sept. 20, with PCA placing fourth with all team members scoring medals.

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Two goals by Campagna spark Whalers in opener, 5-0

Some of the top Plymouth Whalers made it back from their respective NHL camps just in time for Friday night's OHL season opener at London.

And everything went about as well as possible for Plymouth, registering a 5-0 victory behind two goals from newcomer Matthew Campagna and a 28-save shutout by goalie Alex Nedeljkovic.

Also lighting the lamp for the Whalers (1-0-0) were Josh Wesley (in the first on the power play to open the scoring), Victor Crus Rydberg and Liam Dunda.

Campagna scored successive goals at 8:39 (on the power play) and 18:12 of the middle stanza to make it 3-0.

Just 1:02 after his second goal, the Whalers went up 4-0

on Crus Rydberg's even-strength marker (assisted by Connor Chatham and Bryce Yetman).

Capping off the scoring midway through the third was Dunda, from Crus Rydberg and Alex Peters.

Crus Rydberg (one goal, three assists) and Chatham (two assists) had very productive openers for the Whalers.

They helped spark an offense that fired 39 shots toward Knights netminder Tyler Ward.

Also chipping in with two assists from the blueline was Peters, with single helpers collected by Cullen Mercer and Gianluca Curcuruto.

The Whalers were set to open at home Saturday against Erie.

Speaking up: First Step asks that men take a stand against domestic violence

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

First Step is looking for a few more men to sign onto its 100 Men Campaign by Sept. 30.

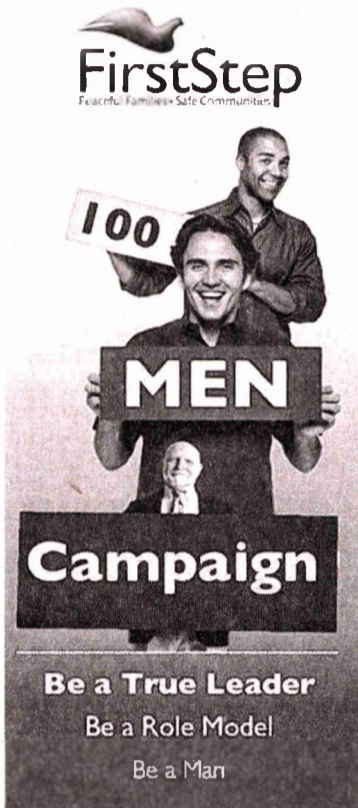
The Wayne County-based organization that helps victims of sexual and domestic violence, raised approximately \$18,000 and recruited 18 men since the campaign began on Sept. 1.

Another 80 participants, contributing \$100 each, would put the campaign on target by the month's end, although Theresa Bizoe, associate director, says the project is about much more than fundraising.

"We believe domestic violence is not specifically a woman's issue," Bizoe said. "We're hoping more men feel compelled to do something and to provide support."

First Step lists the Campaign participants on its website and in a newsletter and encourages them to help spread the word to other men. A few contributors shared their views via videos posted on the site.

Bizoe said First Step began planning the 100 Men Campaign last year, well before NFL running back Ray Rice's



assault on his girlfriend — now his wife — drew national attention to the issue. The Baltimore Ravens player was suspended

indefinitely this month after TMZ Sports released a video showing him punch his then-fiancée in a casino elevator earlier this year.

Personal experience

Jerome Espy, a First Step board member and chair of the 100 Men Campaign, said that although the Rice incident was "deplorable," it was a family tragedy that compelled him to get involved in First Step. Espy's aunt was killed during an act of domestic violence.

"That (Rice scandal) will pass and the media swirl move on from that topic to another. But there will still be women out there and some men, too, that won't get the benefit of a videotape to show what they are going through. They're still dealing with the problem," said Espy, who is married and the father of a son and a daughter.

"This whole issue is very important to me," he said. "This campaign is a way to be part of something that can make a difference."

Both he and Jonathan Dreyfuss, who designed a healing playscape and gardens for First Step's shelter, say men need to help change the culture of violence by speaking out.

"Men need to get engaged in the conversation. Men need to stand up and be that voice, to say no more, we're not going to stand by and be passive," said Dreyfuss, a Campaign member.

"When I was in college many years ago I knew a good number of women who were victims of sexual violence. I've maintained friendships with some of them and have seen the profound impact it has," said Dreyfuss, the father of two grown sons. "I think we have to be honest in terms of looking at the root cause, which is cultural — how men look upon women — and start in our schools with uniform programs, educating children."

Programs, services

Prevention is a part of First Step's mission and a key component of education programs that it presents to schools, community organizations, businesses and churches.

First Step also runs an emergency shelter, a 24-hour help line, offers crisis support and information and referrals. The hotline took 17,476 calls and First Step gave essential supplies to 16,817 families over the past two years.

"We would like men to feel like they are part of the solution," Bizoe said. "We want people to open their eyes and recognize the issue of violence and not be bystanders. That doesn't mean if you see something going on at a bar you should step in and get injured. But there are things people can do, including calling police, asking if the victim is OK, alerting the bartender, slipping the victim our hotline number."

"If we can teach people to stand up and do something, we can make changes."

First Step also welcomes male volunteers. They can serve as role models for youngsters in temporary housing, lend a hand with programs, maintenance and other services.

"Next week, we're installing playground equipment and both men and women will come out to volunteer," Bizoe noted of the effort beginning this week, Sept. 29. "We can use the help of men all over."

To join the 100 Men Campaign or to become a volunteer, visit firststep-mi.org.

Dedicated volunteers will add play equipment at domestic abuse shelter

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Jonathan Dreyfuss calls the new playscape at First Step "ground breaking."

"It's the most comprehensive healing playscape in the U.S. It is really a wonderful space," said Dreyfuss, who designed the environment for

the organization's temporary housing shelter for victims of sexual and domestic violence.

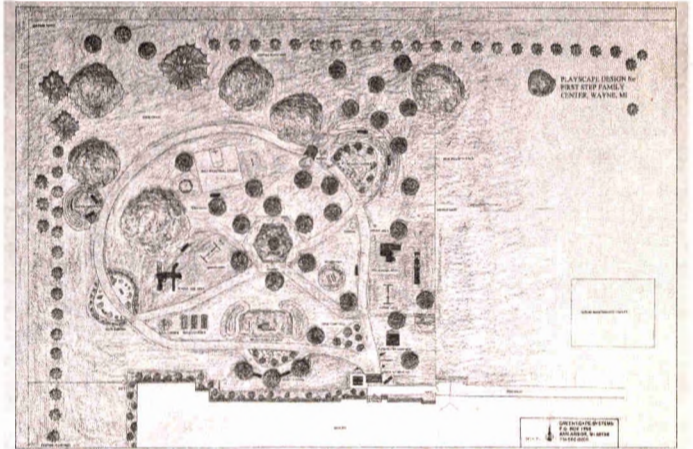
Volunteers will install play equipment at the site, where most of the concrete work has been completed, during the week of Sept. 29.

"We've been raising money for a little over two years," said Theresa Bizoe, First Step

associate director. "It's more than just a playground in a backyard. We've done a thorough design plan. There are elements for all ages. There are healing gardens for adult survivors."

A pavilion is at the center of the circular plan that also in-

See PLAY, Page B6



HEROES ON HINES HALF MARATHON AND 5K

Wayne County's
**2nd Annual
Heroes on Hines
Half Marathon and 5K**

Saturday, October 4, 2014
Half Marathon: 8:00 a.m.
5K: 8:45 a.m.
Hines Park in Plymouth Township, MI

Entry includes technical race shirt for all distances and a finisher's medal for half marathon distance

All proceeds will go towards the maintenance and upkeep of the First Responders Memorial (Hines Drive and Haggerty Rd.)

For registration and race details, visit www.HeroesOnHines.com

19th Annual GREAT LAKES REGIONAL CHILI COOK-OFF

...and Motorcycle Show

Kellogg Park in Plymouth Sunday, October 5, 2014 11 am – 5 pm

FEATURES:

- GLR Chili Bike Show
- Red Chili, Green Chili and Salsa competitions
- Restaurant Chili Challenge
- Dance Team performances
- Children's activity area
- MGM Grand Detroit Party in the lot behind E.G Nick's
- AND MUCH MORE

ALL activities will be donating net proceeds to local charities! Western Wayne Habitat for Humanity and the Penrickton Center for Blind Children!

General Electric bails out on appliance market

Some five years ago, I predicted that General Electric would sell their appliance division and so it has come to pass that Sweden-based Electrolux is going to take over the GE brand.

If you are an old guy like me, involved in the appliance industry, this is almost unbelievable. I've never had many issues with the quality of products produced by this company and I've seen many great appliances that performed well and lasted for years. How can a company so big with such a great reputation just close the door on the faces of the American consumers? Just maybe it has to do with the small profits earned by the appliance division. I hear that GE makes less than



Joe Gagnon
APPLIANCE
DOCTOR

3 percent of yearly earnings from its appliance sales. I guess when you make billions as a huge company, 3 percent is not worth the effort. Now, here we go again with a manufacturer selling to another producer of appliances located in another country.

Another Electrolux buy

Let's talk a bit about this foreign company which expects to rival Whirlpool with this acquisition and become the biggest player in its field. They also make some great products but not

all. I'll get into that a little later. When I was young, we used to call the refrigerator a "Fridge." That was because we owned a Frigidaire which was made by General Motors. Many people today still refer to it as a Fridge even after General Motors sold their appliance division to Electrolux. Is it possible if General Motors had kept hold of the appliance thing that this country wouldn't have had to bail out GM from bankruptcy? You see folks, it all has to do with money, doesn't it? What ever happened to the pride factor which includes many of the old-fashioned verbiage of quality and made-in-America, etc.? I wonder now what will happen to the quality of appliances. Will they

get better or much worse?

Dryer advice

The appliance repair technicians have always been able to tell a consumer which dryer to purchase. They know which brand is designed to be safer than others and they know which one has more lint build up inside the cabinet, which drum rollers last the longest and which needs fewer repairs. I wrote in my first book, "Don't base your buying decision on past experience with a 20-year-old appliance. Many of the top brands have been completely redesigned in the past few years and are no longer made with the quality you remember." This advice is still true today. Here's another

quote from the book. "Before you buy, stop by two or three independent contractors. Ask them which brands they service the least. Write down those names for further investigation." Now I'm going to give you some information that is public record and has been known for several years by guess who, a repair technician.

Electrolux agreed to settle a dryer fire lawsuit and reimburse customers. Consumers who purchased a Frigidaire clothes dryer from 2002-12 in the United States will receive \$1,300 if they had a fire start in their clothes dryer. The lawsuit, filed in federal court in California, claimed that a defect in the dryer's design allowed lint to accumulate near a heat

source, posing a serious fire risk. In addition to Frigidaire a number of other brands are covered under this lawsuit — White Westinghouse, Kelvinator, Gibson, Tappin, Crosley, and Kenmore. I believe it is too late to get involved in this lawsuit but it is never too late to write a letter of complaint if your dryer caught in the past 14 years. You will have to agree that Electrolux has produced some fine major home appliances but I can attest, the clothes dryer wasn't one of them. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m. Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can email your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twm1.rr.com.

RSVP to your high school reunion — you won't regret it

Perhaps you read an announcement in the *Observer & Eccentric*.

Perhaps you saw a listing on your local cable television bulletin board. Or, perhaps you received a mail or emailed invitation. By any means, "IT" came. "IT" was your official notice of your upcoming high school class reunion. It may be your fifth annual, or 10th. For many, it is their 20th or 30th. For fewer, it could be their 45th or 50th high school class reunion.

I have not seen much research on the psychology of high school class reunions. But I have attended several and can share my experiences and suggestions for your consideration.

August seemed to be a popular month for reunions. I received notice of mine several months prior from the "Planning Committee." This would have been the 45th-year class reunion of St. Francis DeSales (SFDS) High School in Detroit, graduating class of 1969. Instead, it was nicely set up as an "All Year Reunion" for any and all who ever graduated from my school, which was open from the 1940s through the mid-1970s. Approximately 150 former students from many of those years attended. Since I had brothers and sisters graduate from the same school, and because I had known, through playing (living) basketball from grade five-12, I also knew a lot of graduates prior to and after my class of 1969.

Pre-reunion issues

Some pre-reunion experiences included wondering who I would see and how recognizable they might be. I wondered if many or few would recognize or remember me. I hoped there would be name tags with year of graduating class and high school yearbook photo. I wondered about what to wear and whether or not to get a haircut. I wondered about those I would not see at the reunion for unknown reasons or because I knew they had passed away. I hoped that those former friends would be spoke about, or at least mentioned. I wondered how old I would feel given the amount of time since being with many of the attendees prior to graduation, and to turning 18 years old. I took comfort in the fact that I had kept up with my core group of buddies through attending previous reunions, get-togethers in between, and knowing that several of those folks would



Len McCulloch
OUR MENTAL
HEALTH

be there. My opinion is that these types of concerns are common among reunion goers in general.

My experience, like it is to most life events, was richly mixed. There was enjoyment, sadness, and curiosity. There was gladness that some questions I had about past people and events were answered. There were frustrations that some questions were not answered, nor asked. I was greeted by a rush of memories of information about long ago interactions with many friends from days in the classrooms, on the basketball courts, at the Friday night dances, and around the local neighborhood hang-outs of those days.

I observed that most other attendees were asking questions of each other, such as, "You are who?" Or they were introducing themselves and asking, "Do you remember me?" I found that other attendees enjoyed my recalls and I in turn asked for and enjoyed theirs.

Things to consider

Barring the unfortunate possibility that one was traumatically horrified by the experience of their years in high school which might be better left not revisiting, I suggest people RSVP and attend their high school reunion. I am glad I did. I would suggest that the event be seen as an opportunity to re-engage with people from the past in an atmosphere that is intended to be enjoyed. Sure, the road down Memory Lane can include re-experiencing the bumps and potholes — the negative feelings and memories. But, aren't all roads potentially difficult? Perhaps, one can consider the difficult parts as the price tag or toll charge for the positive and gratifying glimpse of times spent with people who played a role in our formative years. I suggest going to reunions, experiencing what you experience and look forward to "IT" again in the future.

Len McCulloch has authored his Our Mental Health column with the Observer & Eccentric for 15 years. His 200 publications to date are archived at www.farmlib.org. He is a proud graduate of the SFDS High School class of 1969. For consultation with McCulloch, call 248-474-2763, Ext.22.

Send school reunion information to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometown-life.com.

DEARBORN FORDSON HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES OF 1965

50th reunion is set for Aug. 7, 2015, at the Italian American Banquet Center, 39200 Five Mile, east of Haggerty, Livonia. Tickets are \$60 each. Deadline is April 11, 2015. Contact Virginia (Mariani) Koch at 734-981-4763, gimny6491@att.net, Rochell May-Bridge at 734-675-2680, wildchild48138@aol.com.

DETROIT CENTRAL HIGH CLASS OF 1954

60th reunion, 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, at Knollwood Country Club, 5050 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. Includes dinner and entertainment. For more information, call Elaine Cohen Bass, 248-626-0146, Marion Carel Kantor, 248-661-0507, or Sandra Rogers Brenner, 248-200-7783.

DETROIT EASTERN HIGH ALL CLASSES

Annual reunion set for 1-6:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 5, at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Warren. Cost is \$35 per person, which includes a meal. For more information, call Judy Elias Thun at 586-296-2949 or Nancy Germain Linhard at nancylinhard@comcast.net.

DETROIT SALESIAN CATHOLIC CLASSES OF 1963-66

Mass at Holy Rosary Church followed by dinner at a mid-town Detroit location, Nov. 8. Cost is \$35 per person. Reservations deadline Oct. 7. Contact Jim Moryc at 734-425-2666.

IMMACULATA HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1964

50th reunion set for Friday-Saturday, Oct. 10-11, at the Dearborn Inn. Meet and Greet, 5-8 p.m. Friday and luncheon, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. Call Julie Nounne McEvoy for more information at 734-427-2633.

LIVONIA STEVENSON CLASS OF 1974

40-year reunion, planned by Linda Armstrong, Kim Geiger and Jack Karbowski, 7 p.m. to midnight Nov. 29, Corsi's Restaurant, 27910 Seven Mile, Livonia. Includes dinner, photo booth, disc jockey, pizza. Reservations and payment with Karbowski, 313-530-9634; karblitski@yahoo.com.

OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1975

Save the date, Saturday July 25,

REUNIONS



ARCHIVE

It's time to reconnect with fellow graduates at a reunion party.

2015, at Embassy Suites Livonia, 19525 Victor Parkway, Livonia. Classmates may send their contact information to oak-park1975reunion@gmail.com, and to join the Reunion Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/810805715636204/>.

REDFORD THURSTON CLASS OF 1969

45th reunion is set for 6:30 p.m. Oct. 10, at Northville Hills Golf Club, 15565 Bay Hill Drive,

Northville. Tickets are \$45 and include dinner, dancing and cash bar. RSVP. Contact Jill Serbay at jserbay@gmail.com for more information.

ST. MARY'S OF REDFORD CLASS OF 1969

45th reunion planned for Saturday, Nov. 1, at the Monaghan K of C Hall, 19801 Farmington Road, Livonia. Contact Mark Coulter at 734-453-5423; mcoulter@gr-lakes.com.

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN CLASS OF 1979

35th reunion starts with an informal get-together, 7:30 p.m. to midnight Friday, Oct. 24, at Doc's Sports Retreat, 19265 Victor Parkway, Livonia. The reunion runs 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Oct. 25, at Joy Manor, 28999 Joy Road, Westland. Cost of \$65 per person includes dinner, open bar, dancing and disc jockey. Make checks payable to JGHS Class of '79 and send to JGHS Class of '79, 887 Eton Ct., South Lyon, MI 48178.

PLAY

Continued from Page B5

cludes a covered sandbox, two swing sets, a bridge that an Eagle Scout helped to build, a walking path, splash pad, basketball half court, a "springboard rider" for teens, and 11 play structures, including five pieces donated from a playground in Dearborn that had closed.

"We've gotten a lot of stuff donated. It would be a \$260,000 playground if we hadn't gotten the donations," Bizoze said.

Plants and grass seed will be added after play equipment is installed. "It's been well-documented as to the efficacy of spaces for healing victims. Research has been on-going for years. It originated with hospitals," Dreyfuss said. "They found patients required less medication

and were discharged earlier."

Dreyfuss planned four different healing gardens for the First Step play-cape. A water garden, rock garden and two formal gardens with different plantings will take shape on the site this fall.

"It's a place that is visually soothing, allows for reflection and is secure," he said, adding that victims of domestic violence often are "hy-

pervigilant," and fear their abusers may be watching them.

"I tried to design these spaces as a secure place, so that when they look out, they don't see hiding spaces, but positive visual cues that say, come out and relax."

First Step's personalized brick program helps fund building projects such as the healing play-cape. Visit firststepmi.org to find out how you can help.

Study says group nature walks improve mental health

Before you reach for an anti-depressant pill consider slipping into a pair of walking shoes to help ward off the blues.

According to a study conducted by the University of Michigan, group nature walks are linked with significantly lower depression, less perceived stress and enhanced mental health and well-being. The findings appear in a special issue of *Ecopsychology*.

Individuals who had recently experienced stressful life events like a serious illness, death of a loved one, marital separation or unemployment especially seemed to experience a mood boost after outdoor group walks.

"We hear people say they feel better after a walk or going outside but there haven't been many studies of this large size to support the conclusion that these behaviors actually improve your mental health and well-being," said senior

author Sara Warber, M.D., associate professor of family medicine at the U-M Medical School and member of the Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation.

"Walking is an inexpensive, low-risk and accessible form of exercise and it turns out that combined with nature and group settings, it may be a very powerful, underutilized stress buster. Our findings suggest that something as simple as joining an outdoor walking group may not only improve someone's daily positive emotions but may also contribute a nonpharmacological approach to serious conditions like depression."

Researchers evaluated 1,991 participants from the Walking for Health program in England, which helps facilitate nearly 3,000 weekly walks and draws more than 70,000 regular walkers a year.

"Given the increase in mental ill health and physical inac-



Participants in Botsford Hospital's monthly Walk with a Doc program cross a bridge along the trail.

tivity in the developed world, we are constantly exploring new, accessible ways to help people improve their long-term quality of life and well-being," Warber said.

"Group walks in local natural environments may make a potentially important contribution to public health and be beneficial in helping people cope with stress and experience improved emotions."

U-M's partners in the study were De Montfort University, James Hutton Institute, and Edge Hill University in the United Kingdom.

Ready to walk away those blues? Here's a sampling of upcoming group events:

» Sanford Vieder, D.O., will talk about emergency and trauma centers and will lead a nature walk, noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, at Heritage

Park, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile in Farmington Hills. The monthly "Walk with a Doc" event is sponsored by Botsford Hospital and is free. Snacks will be provided. Register at 877-477-3621, option 1.

» Livonia Walks is a Meetup.com group with 461 members that hikes and sometimes bikes trails in southeastern Michigan. The group plans to hike at 11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 12, at Proud Lake in Wixom. Join the group at meetup.com/Livonia-Walks/

» Friends of Maybury State Park will take to the trails for a fall color hike, 10-11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 4, at the park, which is located at 20145 Beck and Eight Mile in Northville. The group will meet at the concession stand in the park for the 1.5- to 3-mile hike along easy to moderate terrain; friendsofmaybury.org or 248-349-8390.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Upcoming

American Red Cross

Upcoming blood drives:

Canton — 1:30-7:15 p.m. Sept. 29, Geneva United Presbyterian, 5835 Sheldon

Farmington Hills — 1-6:45 p.m. Sept. 29, at the Farmington Hills Blood Donation Center, 31150 Haggerty

Livonia — 1-6:45 p.m. Sept. 29-30 at the Livonia Blood Donation Center, 36650 Five Mile, Livonia; 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Sept. 28, St. Aidan Catholic Church Activity Center, 17500 Farmington Road Call 800-RED CROSS to make an appointment.

Breast Cancer Month

Evita Singh, M.D., radiologist and medical director of Garden City Hospital's Center for Breast Care, will discuss lifestyle, breast health, mammogram guidelines and cancer prevention, at the Pampered Pink event, noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, at Westland Shopping Center's East Court, 35000 W. Warren Road, Westland. Pampered Pink is free and also will include lunch, massages, health screening, and prize



Monique Marks (left), vice chair for St. Mary Mercy's Motor City Miracle gala, David Spivey, St. Mary Mercy president and CEO, and Suzy Crossley, Gala chair, kick off the Oct. 4 event with a pre-party at the Garage in Northville.

drawings. 734-458-4259 or visit GCH.org.

COPD

The Breather's Club, for those touched by COPD, will meet 6-7:30 p.m. Oct. 7 at

Oakwood Healthcare's Cardiac Rehab Center, 22060 Beech in Dearborn. For more information, visit Oakwood.org or call Darlene Lingenfelter at 313-562-4132.

Gala fundraiser

St. Mary Mercy Hospital's 22nd annual gala, Motor City Miracle, is set for 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4, at Laurel Manor Banquet and Conference Center, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia. Cost is \$150 per person. Proceeds will support the Comprehensive Breast Center and the Helen Palmer Image Recovery Center. 734-655-2980 or st.marymercy.org/gala.

Gala fundraiser

Sweet Dreamzzz presents A Night to Remember, 7-11 p.m. Oct. 24 at The Roostertail, 100 Marquette Drive, Detroit. The event includes dinner, silent and live auctions and entertainment. Tickets are \$100 each. Reserve by Oct. 13 at sweetdreamzzz.org.

Gynecologic cancer

Presented by the Foundation for Women's Cancer, the 2014 Gynecologic Cancer Survivors Course runs 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital, 6777 W. Maple, west of Drake, West Bloomfield. Presentations on ovarian and uterine cancer by Henry Ford Health System physicians. Register at foundationfor-womenscancer.org or call 312-578-1439.

Healthy eating

Upcoming nutrition workshops and cooking demonstrations from Botsford Hospital and Busch's Fresh Foods Market:

» Dietitian Denise Cykiert teaches quick and easy recipes for the slow cooker, 6-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2, at Busch's Fresh Food Market, 33300 W. 14 Mile, West Bloomfield. Cost is \$5 and includes a \$5-Busch's coupon, recipes, and healthy eating tips. Register by calling or visiting the Guest Service Counter at the store; 248-539-4581.

» Busch's chef Rebecca Wauldron will show how to make the most of seasonal produce and dietitian Denise Cykiert will give tips on keeping recipes nutritious, 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, at Busch's, 37083 Six Mile, Livonia; 734-779-6100.

Hearing loss support

The Hearing Loss Association of America will present information on induction loops and hearing aide telecoils, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8, at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster, Garden City. For more information, call Tony at 734-664-3297.

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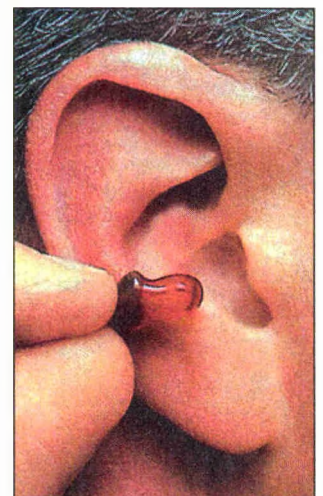
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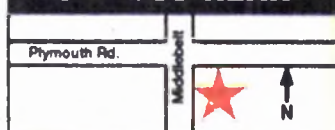
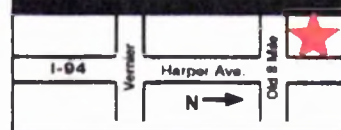
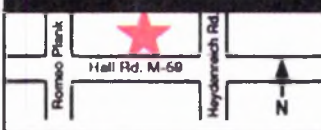
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2015 Lincoln MKC: Arrive in style

By Greg Mullin and Cars.com Staff

Ford's premium brand is entering the luxury compact crossover fray with the 2015 Lincoln MKC.

For the folks at Jack Demmer Lincoln in Dearborn, the move is a game-changer.

"It's a unique vehicle to Lincoln," sales manager Steve Hunsinger said. "It's a brand-new product for us, which is fantastic. The '15 MKC is Lincoln's new flagship for a new style and a new product to expand the Lincoln lineup and target additional customers."

"With our location in the heart of Dearborn and in the heart of Ford country, it's great to have the Lincoln line-up available, not just to Ford employees or retirees, but to the Dearborn market itself and Detroit," Hunsinger said. "And with our ever-increasing product lineup, our store is going to expand and it's going to grow. It's just a matter of time — as our volume grows, our clientele list will grow."

"It's a great day for Jack Demmer Lincoln."

The 2015 Lincoln MKC aims to compete with established luxury compact crossovers like the Audi Q5, Acura RDX and Cadillac SRX and somewhat smaller, new premium entries like the upcoming Mercedes-Benz GLA. The MKC compares favorably, Hunsinger says.

"It's the lowest price of the class, but equipment-wise, it's right up against the toughest competition head to head," he said.

A wide selection of inventory is available now — customers don't have to wait to drive home the model they desire.

Coupled with the seal of approval from A-list movie star Matthew McConaughey — who's appearing in a series of sleek, memorable TV commercials — the 2015 Lincoln MKC is a brand on the rise.

"It shows Ford's commitment to Lincoln and the Lincoln brand with this new product," Hunsinger says. "And tied in with the new spokesperson for Lincoln, it really shows that Ford is standing



The 2015 Lincoln MKC.

LINCOLN MOTOR CO.

with a commitment to the Lincoln brand and we're moving forward, which is fantastic.

"It's a nice feeling to know that we're not forgotten and we're expanding our product line to increase our clientele base."

Exterior

The MKC slots below the MKX in size and Lincoln stayed true to the concept car in styling the production version. The MKC retains the concept's prominent winged grille, sculpted body, menacing LED-accented headlamps and full-width LED tail lamps with wraparound lift gate.

Interior

Inside, a panoramic sunroof, leather seats with French stitching and real wood trim give the cabin an airy, upscale look. An 8-inch touch-screen

that uses Ford's Sync with MyLincoln Touch is front and center. Unlike many vehicles that use Ford's troubled multimedia system, the MKC's panel also features buttons and knobs for controlling audio and climate functions — a welcome sight.

Connectivity is a highlight. With the MyLincoln Mobile app, drivers can start, lock, unlock and locate their MKC. They also can use the app to call roadside assistance and check the vehicle's fuel level, tire pressure and battery charge.

Under the hood

Although the MKC shares a platform with the Ford Escape compact crossover, one of its powertrains is new. Under the hood is a turbocharged 2.3-liter EcoBoost four-cylinder. Lincoln says it's good for 275 horsepower; fuel-economy

figures are not yet out. The standard engine, however, is the Escape's turbocharged 2.0-liter; it makes 240 horsepower in this application. Lincoln hasn't confirmed the MKC's transmission, but we expect it to use the Escape's six-speed automatic. One item carried over from the concept version is the push-button shifter instead of an actual mechanical shifter.

Front-wheel drive is standard; all-wheel drive is an option and includes a new continuously controlled damping system. Drivers can select from Sport, Comfort and normal drive modes, and Lincoln says CCD continually monitors the road and adjusts the suspension according to the mode selected.

Safety features

The MKC is loaded with safety options, including a

blind spot warning system, collision warning with brake support, lane keeping system, cross-traffic alert and the class-exclusive park-out assist system. Rather than help guide the vehicle into parallel parking spots, the latter system helps steer the car out of a tight parking spot.

Value in its class

The MKC is a well-rounded luxury car with athletic looks and a driving experience to match, along with all the luxury goods buyers expect in the segment. Lincoln sold roughly 600 MKCs per month during its first two months on sale, May and June 2014. Cars.com's national inventory is quickly populating with MKCs and most run from \$40,000 to \$45,000, a price range in which the MKC should be a serious consideration.

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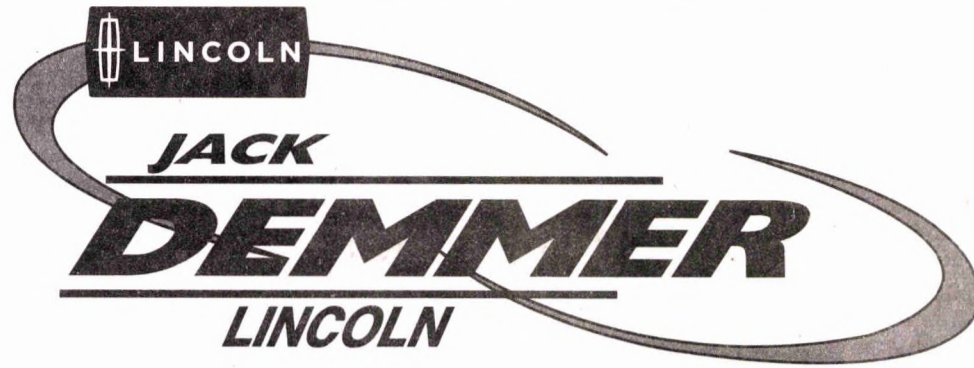
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<p>2011 Mercedes Benz C300 \$23,988</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">4Matic, Leather Interior, All The Toys! #P6470</p>	<p>2005 Ford E-350 \$8,988</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">12 Passenger Van, Fully Equipped #P6406</p>	<p>2011 Ford Fiesta SE \$10,988</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Automatic, A/C, Ford Sync, 1 Owner Clean CarFax! #P6393</p>	<p>2011 Ford Taurus SEL \$14,988</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Leather Interior, Won't Last At This Price! #400979A</p>
<p>2012 Ford Escape XLT \$17,994</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Power Options, Loaded, Low Miles #P6403</p>	<p>2013 Ford Fusion \$17,988</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Must See, Lot's of Options! #P6496</p>	<p>2013 Dodge Caravan SXT \$18,988</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Stow n Go Package, Dual Power Doors! #P6439</p>	<p>2014 Ford Mustang Convertible \$49,988</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Automatic, Extra Sharp! Priced To Sell! #P6443</p>

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\$1000 Competitive Conquest incentive available



Vin #3LFR602755

2015 LINCOLN MKZ

\$232

24mo/21,000 mile lease = \$232 + tax
Per Month, \$2962 Due at Delivery, Plus Tax,
Title, Plates, No Sec Dep.
\$1000 Competitive Conquest incentive available
\$500 RCL Renewal incentive available



Vin #1LEG609743

2014 LINCOLN MKS

\$319

24mo/21,000 mile lease = \$319 + tax
Per Month, \$2968 Due at Delivery, Plus Tax,
Title, Plates, No Sec Dep.
\$1000 Competitive Conquest incentive available
\$500 RCL Renewal incentive available



Vin #2LEBL18557

2014 LINCOLN MKX

\$327

24mo/21,000 mile lease = \$327 + tax
Per Month, \$2860 Due at Delivery, Plus Tax,
Title, Plates, No Sec Dep.
\$1000 Competitive Conquest incentive available
\$750 RCL Renewal incentive available



Vin #3LFR602648

2015 LINCOLN MKZ HYBRID

\$231

24mo/21,000 mile lease = \$231 + tax
Per Month, \$2962 Due at Delivery, Plus Tax,
Title, Plates, No Sec Dep.
\$500 RCL Renewal incentive available



Vin # 5LEEL08006

2014 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR

\$587

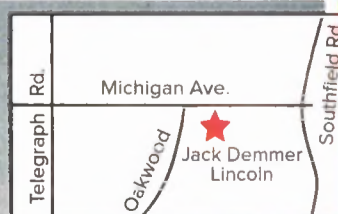
36mo/31,500 mile lease = \$587 + tax
Per Month, \$2916 Due at Delivery, Plus Tax,
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\$500 RCL Renewal incentive available



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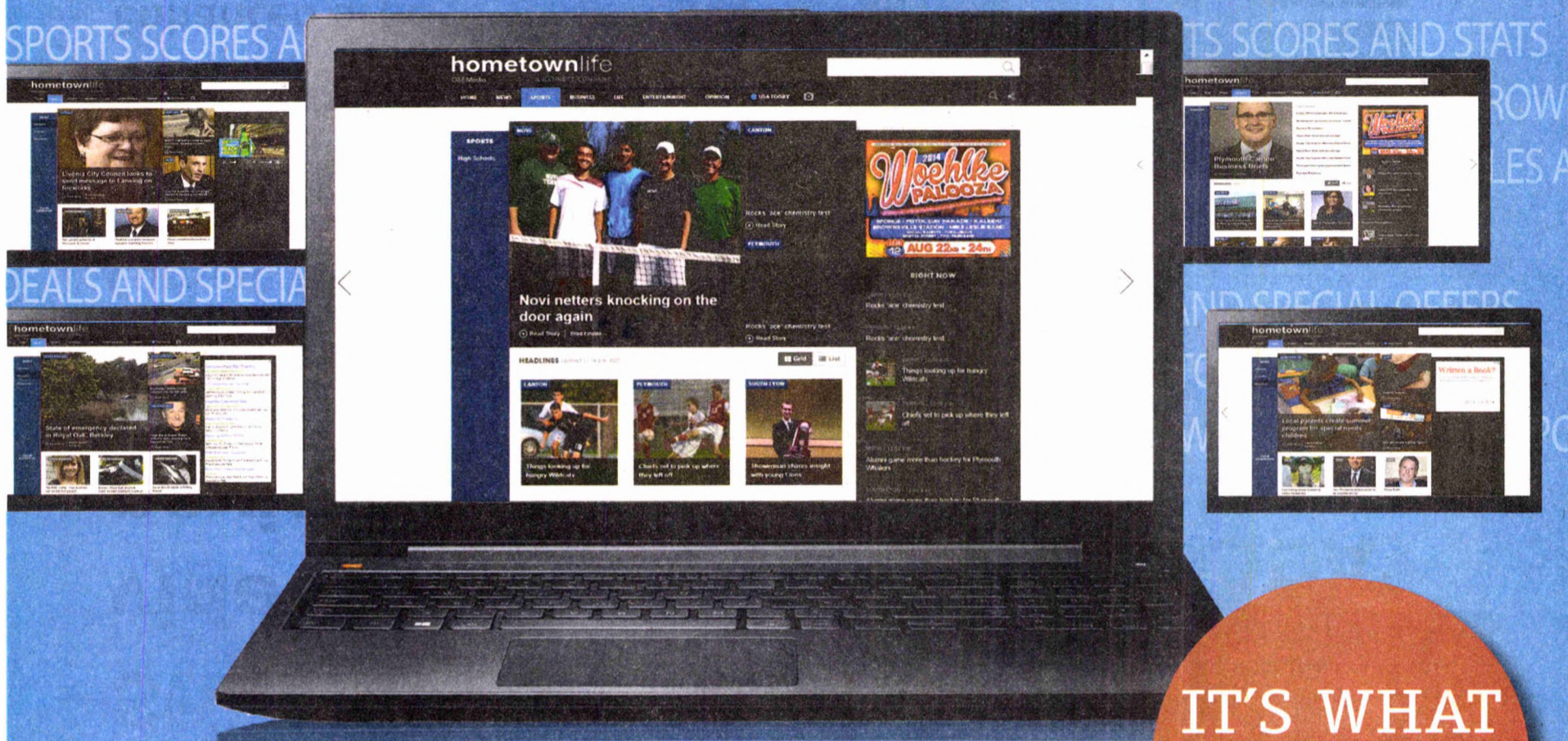
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