

# PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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## Legislators welcome Snyder's approach

By Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

Plymouth- and Canton-area state legislators Tuesday embraced Gov. Rick Snyder's vision for a "river opportunity" that would deliver human services more effectively and thus spread Michigan's economic gains to a greater portion of the population.

The Republican Snyder used his fifth State of the State message, before a joint session of the Michigan Legislature, to call for bringing more people into the economic mainstream and focusing on what he called the root causes of poverty, such as illness, disability and lack of education. The state's goal should be helping people, not furthering programs, Snyder said.

"We've sliced and diced people into programs. We've moved away from treating them as real people," he said. "Quite often we're addressing symptoms, we're not actually addressing causes."

The result, he added, tends to be inefficient programs that foster dependency on government.

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton Township, and Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, welcomed Snyder's message. Their districts both include Plymouth and Plymouth Township.

### 'Time to rethink'

"It is time to rethink the politics-as-usual formula of simply adding more government programs to address problems and start refocusing limited government resources on producing outcomes that truly benefit our citizens," Colbeck said.

"He wants to continue providing a high level of service that is more efficient and more accountable and has measurables attached to it," Heise said. "He can demonstrate he's done it in other areas of state government and



Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder applauds members of the military as he speaks Tuesday during his State of the State Address. ROD SANFORD | MICHIGAN.COM

See SNYDER, Page A2

## Enjoying the show



Lou LaRiche (left), founder of LaRiche Chevrolet in Plymouth, with son Scott LaRiche, took in the charity preview at this year's North American International Auto Show. For more on the charity preview, turn to page A9. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Commission updates, reprises 2014 goals

By Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

If the Plymouth City Commission's goals for the new year look familiar, it's because they are.

The commission Monday re-adopted, with some tinkering, five of last year's six goals, while also offering a status report on progress toward those goals made in 2014.

There was brief discussion during a commission study session and the five goals that members picked won overwhelming support, with three other goal candidates dropping out of the picture. The commission typically adopts five goals at the beginning of each year, but made an exception last year by choosing six.

"We rarely achieve a goal in a year. Most of them run over into another year," Mayor Dan Dwyer said.

The goals for 2015, along with the status of each, are:

- » To resolve the issues - primarily dividing legacy costs - remaining from the dissolution of the Plymouth Community Fire Department, which served the city and Plymouth Township from 1995 through 2011. This has been a commission goal for several years.

Officials from the communities met on the issue last year and the township passed on actuarial information from the state's Municipal Employees Retirement System that, township Supervisor Richard Reaume says, took more than a year to obtain.

"I won't be surprised if we're voting on this as a goal in 2016," Dwyer told commissioners.

- » To work with the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex organization to repurpose Central Middle School

See GOALS, Page A2

## City seeks help to calculate PCFD legacy costs

By Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

Plymouth will spend up to \$25,000 on professional services to help officials define the city's share of legacy costs stemming from a joint fire department it dropped out of three years ago.

The city commission voted unanimously Monday to hire outside help, such as actuaries and lawyers, to sift through detailed information on Plymouth Community Fire Department personnel, where and when they worked, when they might have retired, what their retirement benefits are and how much the city is on the hook for them.

The city and Plymouth Township shared the PCFD for about 17 years, through 2011, and have yet to settle the retirement bill. Complicating the picture is that personnel, now retired, from each community's fire department joined the

PCFD when it was formed in 1995, so not all of their retirement benefits are attributable to the joint department. Further, the department had a defined-contribution retirement plan when it began, then moved in 2005 to a defined-benefit plan, like a traditional pension.

"Coming up with a number is not going to be easy," said Mayor Dan Dwyer, who added he is confident the issue can be resolved.

### 'Move this forward'

"The city is going to have a professional assist them and I think that's a good idea," township Supervisor Richard Reaume said. "I think the city is now making an effort to move this forward."

Actuarial information presented to the city last year by the township will be the focus of the professionals' study. Reaume said it took more than a year and a half to get the information from Michigan's

Municipal Employees Retirement System because MERS was transitioning to another actuarial firm.

Township Treasurer Ron Edwards has calculated that the city owes about \$3.8 million - about \$1.3 million toward pensions and just over \$2.5 million for retiree health care - but city officials say they've never formally been presented with a number.

The city left the PCFD as of Jan. 1, 2012, to partner with the Northville City Fire Department in a cost-cutting move. The NCFD relies mainly on part-time, on-call firefighters; in Plymouth, the department has two stations, one next to city hall and the other in Old Village.

The PCFD this month readopted its former name, the Plymouth Township Fire Department, to reflect the change in service area.

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# Library staff aims for diversity in collection

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

A "Celebrate Martin Luther King Jr." family event Jan. 19 at the Plymouth District Library drew no participants.

"You do what you can," said children's librarian Dana Bussard, who had planned the event for ages 5-12 and their families. "This isn't the most diverse area. They have the day off (school) and maybe they should know why they have the day off."

Plans had been to view the "I Have a Dream" speech, followed by coloring of MLK-related pages, crafts activities and an MLK quiz page.

Bussard, a Livonia resident, noted there are many biographies on African Americans, including civil rights leader King, "ranging from very easy picture books

to more in depth. We have a civil rights section also" for youth.

Bussard purchases the library youth biographies. "It's a priority to make sure that's in there," she said of diversity. "You have to make sure to have a full collection" representing all cultures.

The Plymouth library hosted an African American storyteller four or five years ago. "He did a great job of getting the kids interested while he was telling stories," Bussard said. "In my mind, you don't have to be a different race to be interested in this."

She noted the summer reading program and winter break activities draw heavily and that some programming may conflict with other community activities.

Holly Hibner, adult services coordinator for

the Plymouth library, noted there are extensive reference materials on African Americans as well as Hispanics, Asians and those of other ethnic groups. "Name a person, we've got it," Canton resident Hibner said of extensive biographies.

"We make every effort to be diverse in our collections," Hibner said. "We absolutely would include diverse people and topics." She said there is a lot of good material to choose from.

Databases are available on those of different ethnic groups, useful for high school and college students writing reports or papers, she said.

Hibner's been in library science some 15 years. "It was fairly easy to get that stuff, even in '99. The print materials have been readily available for decades," Hibner said, adding newer technology has also come along with high-quality materials.

In walking by the library shelves, Hibner pointed out in reference the *Historical Statistics of Black America* volumes as well as the *Encyclopedia of African American History* sets.

There's much available on the U.S. Civil War. In the adult area that circulates, titles include *Black Firsts*, *African-American History* and *The African American Almanac*.



JULIE BROWN

"We make every effort to be diverse in our collections," said Holly Hibner, adult services coordinator for the Plymouth District Library. Hibner is a Canton resident.

ry and *The African American Almanac*.

Hibner, who does the science area purchasing, noted there are many biographies for adult readers on African Americans, both histori-

cal and contemporary.

The library also has extensive historical fiction that includes racial issues. The Contemporary Books group at the PDL recently discussed author Sue Monk Kidd's

*The Invention of Wings*, with chapters focusing on both the abolitionist Grimke sisters, as well as an 1800s slave named Hetty/Handful.

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## SNYDER

Continued from Page A1

now he's shifting his focus to social services."

He added: "We don't just want to spend more money or create more programs; it was about changing the way we do business."

Colbeck said he sees that as better approach to all state operations, not just human services, and that he's looking

forward to "streamlining" state government during his second term.

"We do that all the time in the private sector and I'd like to apply that philosophy in government," he said.

State Rep. Kristy Pagan, D-Canton, said the Legislature needs to focus on making Michigan's economy work for everyone and prioritize fully funding education in Michigan. She said massive tax breaks and incentives for big corporations, coupled with tax increases on seniors and working families, have caused Michigan's recovery to lag behind the rest of the nation.

"Since Gov. Snyder's first day in office, we have seen sweeping changes in tax policy that favor large corporations and the ultra-wealthy over Michigan's hard-working families. Four years later, we still have major shortfalls in Michigan's budget and our economy has been slow to recover," Pagan said. "We need to reverse our approach and create tax incentives that help working families. An economy that grows from the middle out is one that works for everyone."

Heise said he's particularly interested in the education components of Snyder's plan.

The governor called for boosting the percentage of third-graders who show reading proficiency (currently at 70 percent), increasing opportunities for skilled-trades training and building a "seamless system" that would include better career counseling, reduced higher-education costs and quicker pathways to post-secondary certificates and degrees.

### Call for specifics

He also said he would like to have heard specifics from Snyder on criminal justice reforms; Heise chairs the state House Criminal Justice Committee.

Snyder said he plans to deliver a special message on crime later in the year.

"He wanted to cover a lot of issues tonight. I'm willing to wait to have those discussions," Heise said.

Colbeck parted company with Snyder on the Legislature's proposal, passed during the lame-duck session last month, to raise more money to rebuild and maintain Michigan's roads through tax and fee increases and tax shifts.

The plan links a one-cent increase in the state sales tax, to be decided by voters in May, to the elimination of the sales tax on fuel and the in-

roduction of a new wholesale fuels tax. Snyder urged a yes vote on the ballot measure. Vehicle registration fees would also increase. The net result for roads, officials say, would be a \$1.2 billion funding increase.

"We need to do something, folks. It's timer to get it done," Snyder said.

Colbeck said he'll be urging a no vote and that he'll have an alternative plan, as he did last year.

"The more people find out about (the proposal), the less they're going to like it," Colbeck said. "We can fix the roads without increasing taxes."

Pagan said Michigan House Democrats have backed the plan, along with restoring the Earned Income Tax Credit to its former level and increasing funding for schools.

"Rebuilding our infrastructure to help businesses succeed while increasing education funding is a win-win for our state," Pagan said. "Fixing our roads will make our state more attractive to young families and new businesses and allow Michigan's economy to grow."

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## GOALS

Continued from Page A1

into a community center for sports, recreation and the arts or to at least preserve the property's green space as a city park.

Officials have met on the issue and the PARC organization and Plymouth-Canton Community School District officials are negotiating over the possible sale of the property. Central is slated to close at the end of the school year, with the opening late next summer of another middle school in Canton Township.

To develop plans to seek approvals, draw up traffic plans and figure out a cost structure and a funding mechanism for possibly implementing "quiet zones" at the city's railroad crossings. The no-train-horn zones would require added safety precautions at the crossings, such as wider crossing gates and raised traffic lane dividers.

Commissioners, led by Mike Wright and Dan Dalton, did extensive work on the goal last

year, meeting with engineers and CSX Railroad officials, examining different safety measures and studying the issue of insurance liability. The city is currently seeking bids for an insurance rider that would cover railroad quiet zones.

To expand public parking in the downtown area, wrap up the planned purchase of the former Saxton's Garden Center property and two adjacent parcels for public parking and develop a partnership with Patty and Mark Malcolm, owners of the former post office on Penniman, that addresses parking for the Westborn Market, expected to open at that site this fall.

Again, extensive work on the goal was done in 2014, most prominently the \$2.25 million offer for the Saxton's property, which could yield about 40 parking spaces in the short term and about 100 in the long term if developed as a parking lot. The deal is expected to close early this year.

The city in 2014 also reached an agreement with the U.S. Postal Service for the after-hours

use of the lot at the new postal station, at Penniman and Harvey, for public parking.

To secure funding, through a public safety millage voters will decide in February, to add police personnel in order to have a dedicated downtown bar and restaurant patrol, freeing up other officers to spend more time patrolling neighborhoods.

The commission last year voted to put on the ballot a 1.5-mill (\$1.50 for every \$1,000 of a property's taxable value) public safety tax that would raise up to \$708,000 a year and pay for new officers. The election is slated for Tuesday, Feb. 24. In the meantime, the city is adding at least one officer to the 15-officer force.

The sixth goal from last year - taking action on a dedicated road millage that's set to expire - was resolved in 2014 when commissioners decided to seek a new road bond issue either in fiscal year 2016-17 or in fiscal year 2017-18.

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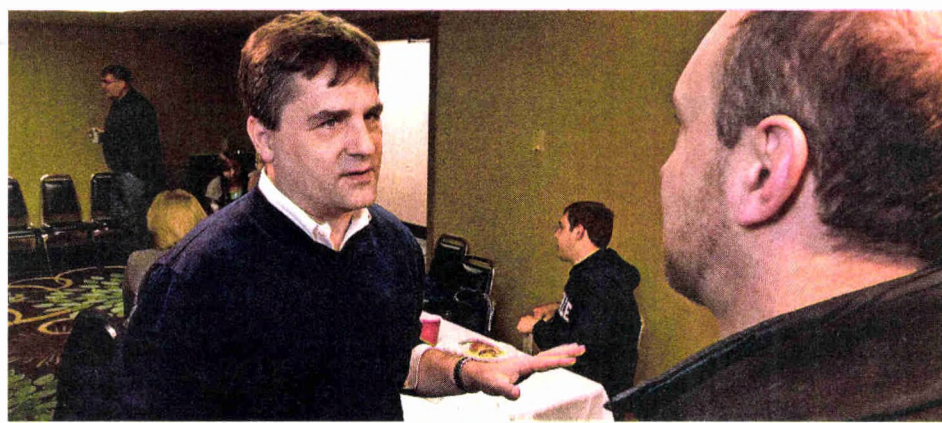
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# Gov signs Colbeck bill on free-market health care

State Sen. Pat Colbeck, R-Canton, believes the path to providing Michigan citizens with access to higher quality, lower cost health care has been cleared following Gov. Rick Snyder's signature into law of Colbeck's SB 1033 (Public Act 522 of 2014).

According to Colbeck, this legislation ensures that direct primary care services are not treated as insurance products by regulators.

The new law assures physicians who adopt a direct primary care service business model that the administrative burden associated with insurance regulations will not interfere with their treatment of patients. Physicians who offer direct primary care services provide specified services for a monthly subscription fee that usually vary between \$50 and \$125 per month.



Sen. Pat Colbeck believes the path to providing Michigan citizens with access to higher quality, lower cost health care has been cleared.

Typically, Colbeck said, these services include routine medical care such as office visits and basic tests and procedures. Consumers would also purchase a high-deductible health plan at reduced rates to cover those services not provided through their DPCS plan.

DPCS redirects the focus of health care away from government mandates, regulations and fee schedules back to the simplicity of the doctor-patient relationship. The enactment of this law comes on the heels of the release of a study of the impacts of DPCS by Seattle-based

Qliance Medical Management, LLC.

In this study, Qliance reports that the adoption of DPCS as a component of employer-sponsored health plans resulted in a 20-percent reduction in health care costs, increased patient satisfaction and better care. "The citizens of Mich-

igan will have greater access to high quality, low cost health care as individual physicians, finally free of the insurance and hospital system bureaucratic monopolies can innovate and deliver high-value healthcare," said Tom Valenti, founder and partner of Forthright Health.

"Kudos to Sen. Pat Colbeck and Gov. Rick Snyder for making SB 1033 law. This law enables direct primary care here in our state. This innovative health care delivery model will help solve Michiganders' health care costs and access challenges," said Matt McCord, M.D., with Docs4PatientCare.

The legislation is the centerpiece of Colbeck's "Exploit then Repeal" strategy regarding the Affordable Care Act. This strategy seeks to identify sections of existing law that can be ex-

ploited to promote free market health care solutions such as his patient-centered care solution. The adoption of this solution would "effectively nullify the need for the 159 new federal organizations erected between a doctor and patient under Obamacare," Colbeck said.

"As we pursue health care reforms, we need to protect the doctor-patient relationship," Colbeck said. "I do not want our citizens to be subject to the same anxieties around coverage or continuity of care that accompanied the rollout of Obamacare as we pursue its repeal. Patients enrolled in DPCS agreements at the time of the repeal of Obamacare will have no such anxieties."

For more information, go to the "Obamacare Alternative" section at [www.MorninginMichigan.com](http://www.MorninginMichigan.com).

## Canton Farmers Market hosts Winter Markets at Summit

The Canton Farmers Market returns with three special Winter Markets select Sundays in February, March and April at the Summit on the Park community recreation center.

The markets will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 8, March 15 and April 19, in the Banquet Lobby in the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton.

"We are excited to continue offering a marketplace for local goods during the winter season," Canton Farmers Market Manager Tina Lloyd said. "With our winter location inside the Summit on the Park, you can stay cozy while you shop."

The Winter Market is entering its second year in

the Summit Banquet Lobby after taking place in the indoor/outdoor setting of the Cady-Boyer Barn in previous years.

Featured vendors at the Winter Markets will include: Agricola, Bobilin Honey, Cakes by Penny, Cellar Door Soap Co., Classique Gifts & Bakes, Crunch Granola, Farmington Soap Works, Good Times Kettle Corn, Grace Savory & Sweet, Jen's Gourmet Dressings, JKM Soy Candles, Kapnick Orchards, Lula Bre's Sweet Eats, Pawla's Pantry, Prochaska Farm, Sarah's Gluten Free Falafel, Steinhauser Farm, U.P. Pasties, Zingerman's Creamery and more.

Items for sale include honey, apples, cider, greens, sauerkraut, coffee beans,

kale, jams, granola, pasties, pot pies, sauces, marinades, salad dressings, artisan cheese and bread, a variety of baked goods, hand-crafted soaps, kettle corn, soy candles, falafel, pasture-fed meats (beef, pork, chicken), garlic, gluten-free baking mixes, dog treats and more.

Chef Kristi Zebrowski will be cooking and presenting on the theme of "Simple Soups" at the Feb. 8 market. Zebrowski will be providing tips and recipes for making tasty soups with seasonal, local ingredients and offering tastings, too.

For more information about the Canton Farmers Market, go to [Cantonfun.org](http://Cantonfun.org) under the Programs tab or contact Tina Lloyd at [cantonfarmersmarket@cantonmi.org](mailto:cantonfarmersmarket@cantonmi.org).

## Pagan gets seat on key House committees

State Rep. Kristy Pagan, D-Canton, was appointed to serve on the House Appropriations Committee this week.

In that capacity, she will serve as Democratic vice chairwoman of the Appropriations Education Subcommittee and serve on the Appropriations Department of Community Health Subcommittee. In addition, she is a member of the House Oversight and Ethics Committee.

"A budget is a document of priorities and my priorities lie with the hard-working men and women of Michigan," Pagan said. "I want to see us invest properly in schools, infrastructure and small businesses to help make our state a better place."

The state's budget process began with the Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference. Revenues are down sig-



Pagan

nificantly from their previous estimate, meaning that the Appropriations Committee might soon consider a mid-year budget bill. Dur-

ing the budget process for the coming fiscal year, the committee will also have to work with a shortfall of more than \$500 million.

"We're facing a difficult road, but that doesn't mean that we should be cutting services that people depend on," Pagan said. "I plan to fight for a budget that is fair to working families and doesn't let big corporations off the hook."

Pagan was also named to the Oversight Committee, which examines state government and ensures departments comply with transparency laws.

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## CANTON CRIME WATCH

### Guns confiscated

Police arrested a 49-year-old Belleville man after a traffic stop revealed he had two rifles and a .45-caliber handgun, along with ammunition, in his 2003 Chevy truck, a police report said.

The incident unfolded shortly after 10:30 p.m. Jan. 15 after police noticed suspicious behavior by the driver, who passed a police car, pulled into a business parking lot on Canton Center and then abruptly drove off.

Police caught up with the driver at the Speedway gas station at Ford and Canton Center.

The driver admitted he didn't have a license and also told police he had a handgun in the back seat. Police also found two rifles, ammunition, a knife with a 5-inch blade and prescription medications.

Police also learned the suspect was a convicted felon and had a felony warrant out of Detroit for driving under the influence.

### Hit-and-run accident

Canton police took a 38-year-old Taylor man into custody after he allegedly was involved in a hit-and-run accident and then fled on foot before he was captured, a police report said.

Police received a call shortly before 3 p.m. Jan. 13 that a 35-year-old Redford man's vehicle was hit while he was driving south on Lilley by a suspect he then trailed to a residential area near Palmer and Sheldon, where a verbal confrontation ensued between the two, the report said.

The victim told police the sus-

pect, while fleeing from the accident, was weaving in and out of traffic and passing other vehicles to try to get away. The police report indicated a female in the suspect's vehicle had offered the victim money not to contact police.

Police ended up taking the woman into custody after she was found in possession of marijuana. She also conceded to police she had "psychedelic mushrooms."

Police cited the suspect for offenses such as reckless driving.

### Subway scene

Canton police cited a 22-year-old Toronto man for being disorderly following an incident that occurred shortly before 4 p.m. Friday at the Subway shop on Ford Road, west of Morton Taylor.

Witnesses noticed the man go into a restroom where the lights began flickering on and off. Employees managed to unlock the restroom door and found the suspect hunched over, refusing to stand up.

Police arrived and found the suspect with bloodshot eyes, a partially empty bottle of Southern Comfort and in an argumentative mood, the police report said.

The suspect allegedly tried to pull away from officers as he was being taken into custody. The police report also indicated that, in the police car, he was hitting his head against the divider between the front and back seats. He also reportedly struck his own head against a wall in the police department's booking room.

- By Darrell Clem

## PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

### Oatmeal incident

Police were called to the Red Olive Restaurant, on Ann Arbor Road west of Main Street, the morning of Jan. 12 after a customer complained about the consistency of his oatmeal.

No crime was committed, but the complaining customer felt threatened, a Plymouth Township Police Department report said, and called police after another customer confronted him about his arguing with

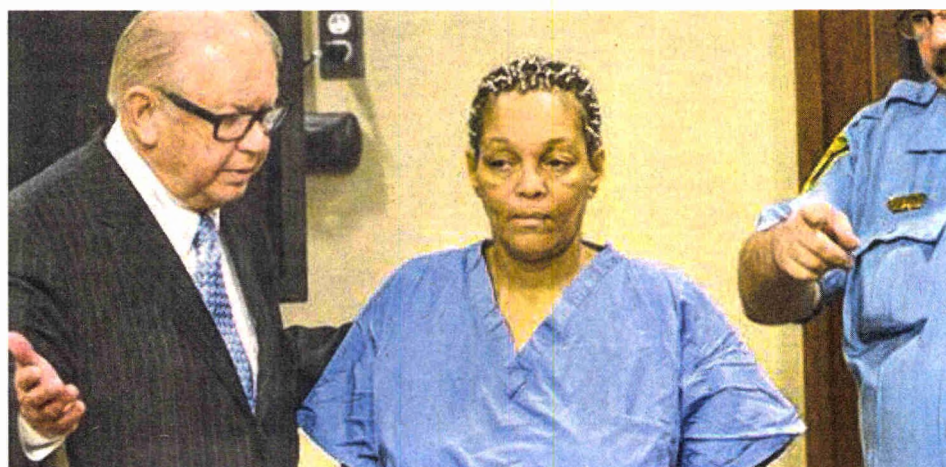
a waitress.

Both men are in their 50s. The incident occurred around 8 a.m.

The police report said the customer with the oatmeal didn't like the waitresses' response to his complaint and began arguing with her and that the other man then intervened.

"Both parties were calm upon arrival," the police report said.

- By Matt Jachman



FILE PHOTO

Tewana Sullivan, 50, of Detroit was found competent to stand trial after a hearing Jan. 15. She will return Feb. 5 to Livonia's 16th District Court for a preliminary examination.

# Slow cooker slaying suspect competent for trial

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

The woman accused of killing a Livonia woman at McNamara Towers with a slow cooker last fall has been found competent to stand trial.

A report filed with the 16th District Court indicates Tewana Sullivan, 50, of Detroit is competent to continue on in court to face criminal charges after being evaluated by a psychologist. She's charged with first-degree murder, accused of killing Livonia resident Cheryl Livy using a slow cooker near her apartment at the senior housing complex in the 19300 block of Purlingbrook.

Police say Sullivan, who knew Livy for several years, assaulted her using the kitchen appliance in October, which resulted in her death several days later.

A competency exam was requested by the prosecutor in November, with the attorney saying there appeared to be many "red flags" in Sullivan's medical history. Sullivan's attorney, John McWilliams, originally asked the court to not test his client for competency and preferred to move along in the court system on the case.

Sullivan appeared in court Jan. 15, only speaking when identifying herself

and thanking the court for allowing a family member to give her a winter coat for transfers between the jail in Detroit and the Livonia courthouse.

A preliminary examination in the case is scheduled to take place at noon Feb. 5 in Livonia's 16th District Court. McWilliams said he anticipates the preliminary examination to take some time, as it's expected testimony from the autopsy and other factors will be introduced.

"No doubt there will be extensive cross-examination," he said.

Sullivan remains locked up in the Wayne County Jail with no bond. If convicted, she faces up to life in prison.

Livy, 66, who grew up in Livonia, moved away from Michigan and came back to Livonia a few years ago, was known around the complex as a giving and quiet individual. Her daughters have set up a fundraiser to help cover costs for the family to return to Michigan for court hearings. That donation page can be found at [gofundme.com/gbwcvo](http://gofundme.com/gbwcvo). As of Jan. 15, more than \$2,300 had been raised, according to the website.

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Mother Mary DeSales  
Activity Center  
Celebrant:  
Fr. Ron Richards,  
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The Plymouth Community Arts Council is looking for sponsors for the Plymouth Uptown Players, an actor-centered experimental theater group that is made up of elementary and middle school children.

## Uptown Players offer sponsorship opportunity

The Plymouth Community Arts Council is seeking local community sponsorship for its Plymouth Uptown Players Youth Theatre Program.

The Plymouth Uptown Players is an actor-centered experimental theater group that is made up of elementary and middle school children, ages 5-13. Non-readers and special-needs actors are welcome as part of the casts.

"Although the city of Plymouth is a great supporter, we are not a city-funded organization," executive director Lisa Howard said. "Strong community partnerships have always been an essential part of the PCAC's nonprofit programming. Everything we do is paid for by memberships, tuition, grants and business sponsorships. One of our goals this year is to have a sponsor for each of our programs."

"These relationships not only help us to pur-

chase supplies and pay our amazing staff, but also provide local businesses a unique marketing opportunity," Howard added. "Partnerships show the community at large that Plymouth is a place that is dedicated to supporting the arts, as well. Our Summer Music In The Park concerts and Art Volunteer program would not exist if it was not for these generous organizations."

A one-year Plymouth Uptown Players sponsorship costs \$600 for two consecutive seasons, fall (September through December) and winter (January through April). Sponsors will get a full-color, full-page ad in the PUPS performance program for each of the two seasons. They will also have their business name mentioned in all social media and press announcements, on the Facebook page and website and on The "Home of the Plymouth Uptown

Players" sign in the lobby. Beginning with the fall 2015 season, PUPS sponsors will also have their business name printed on cast member T-shirts.

The PUPS program is a cooperative effort between the Plymouth Community Arts Council and Tipping Point Theatre. All children who audition receive a part. The program culminates in two plays performed on Tipping Point Theatre's professional stage in downtown Northville.

The winter 2015 production, directed by Sonja Marquis, is a musical adaptation of *Charlie & The Chocolate Factory* with Oompa-Loompas singing modern pop songs. The performances will be April 12-13 and are open to the public.

Businesses interested in sponsoring the PUPS Youth Theatre or any other PCAC program may email [lisa@plymoutharts.com](mailto:lisa@plymoutharts.com) or call 734-416-4278.

## New saving option invests in U.S. treasuries

As long as I have been in the financial world, I've encouraged people to save for their retirement.

Retirement is a brand new concept. After all, just think of what life expectancy was 100 years ago. Today, retirement is a major issue and something that everyone needs to be concerned with.

Over the years, there have been changes to the way one can save for retirement. There are now more tax-favored options than ever before. The newest retirement vehicle, which took effect this year, is myRA (My Retirement Account).

My Retirement Account is sponsored by the U.S. Treasury Department. It is similar (from a tax standpoint) to a Roth IRA in that you deposit post-tax money and the money grows and can be withdrawn tax-



**Rick Bloom**  
MONEY MATTERS

free. The rules with regard to withdrawals are also similar to a Roth IRA – the money has to stay within the myRA for five years and can be withdrawn after age 59½. However, like all tax laws, there are exceptions.

In order to qualify for a contribution to myRA, household income for those married has to be less than \$191,000. For single taxpayers, household income has to be less than \$129,000.

Unfortunately, you cannot send a check to open an account nor can you have a direct deposit from your checking account. The only way to open a myRA account is payroll deduction

through your employer. This is not an employer-sponsored plan and employers do not contribute money, nor will they administer the plan.

The maximum annual contribution to a myRA is \$5,500. In addition, the plan does have a little quirk. Once the value of your account exceeds \$15,000, then the money has to be transferred into a traditional Roth IRA.

You cannot save too much money for retirement. Therefore, no matter what type of retirement vehicle you start with, 401(k), myRA or a Roth IRA, the key is to start saving as soon as you can and as much as you can.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like him to respond to your questions, please email [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).

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Chris Curran of Allen Park scrapes paint metal parts on the wing where it attaches to the fuselage. SUE MASON



Restoration manager Ralph Koehler of Livonia (from left), Joe Kosek of Westland and Gene Blanchard of West Bloomfield look at how to remove a spoiler from the wing of a TG-3 glider that's being restored at the Yankee Air Museum. SUE MASON



The fuselage and starboard wing of the TG-3 sit on the trailer that was used to transport it. SUE MASON

# AIR MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS TAKE ON TASK OF RESTORING WWII GLIDER

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

There's a good reason Joe Kosek still carries the certificate he received when he completed advanced glider pilot training in November 1943 – on the back is his pilot's license to fly a single-engine plane and helicopter.

But at age 90, it's not likely he'll climb into the cockpit of a glider anytime soon, especially the TG-3 he's helping to restore at the Yankee Air Museum.

"I was 18 years old and a glider pilot in the Pacific," the Westland resident said. "I had 230 hours of training before I went overseas."

Kosek saw action in places like Burma and New Guinea and was in the Philippines waiting for the invasion of Japan when the war ended. Along the way, he was awarded three Bronze Stars.

But war stories are taking a backseat to restoring the two-seater TG-3, which was used to train glider pilots like Kosek. The goal is to have the glider restored to its World War II specs in time for the 2017 opening of the National Museum of Aviation and Technology at Historic Willow Run.

"We want to put it back to its original condition and paint it as it

looked in World War II – silver with a blue star on the fuselage," said Tony Pequeno, who works in artifacts and restoration management at the air museum. "It's a very, very big project. It sat on a trailer in a warehouse in St. Ignace for more than 20 years. There's a lot of damage to the wings."

### A new home

Paul Fullerton, manager of the Mackinac County Airport in St. Ignace, donated the vintage 1943 Schweizer TG-3 glider. MSA Delivery Service brought it by tractor trailer to the museum last September. It had been flown, but had spent more than 20 years stored on the trailer in a warehouse in St. Ignace.

"The original transportation frame for the glider isn't ideal for storage," said Chris Aldridge, who is handling the archival drawings for the plane. "There's been decay over the years and we have a structural failure of the wing. It wasn't stored well and that's taken a toll on the plane."

The glider is made of spruce, mahogany, pine and balsa wood and covered with linen. Kosek and fellow volunteers Chris Curran of Allen Park, Ralph Koehler of Livonia and Gene Blanchard of West Bloomfield are working on it three

days a week – Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

They have the cloth covering, spoiler and aileron removed from the topside of one wing. It will need new struts that are spaced about a foot apart along the 27-foot long wing, a new spoiler and a new Dacron polyester skin that will be hand sewn on and then shrunk by heating it to 225 degrees.

Pequeno estimates it will take six months to do and it could take even longer for the other wing, which "is in worse shape." That's why volunteers are being sought to work on the plane.

The museum is looking for volunteers that are skilled in carpentry work, plus RC modelers who do such work on a smaller scale. Bob Catalano, who works with Pequeno in collections, had new volunteers in last Wednesday. They took the second wing apart and have caught up with Kosek's team, he said.

Many of the volunteers are World War II veterans. Many helped build the museum's World War I French SPAD biplane using the original blueprints, but this restoration is an even bigger project and considering their ages – Blanchard said he's the baby at age 88 – "We're going to need backup on this project," Blanchard



Joe Kosek of Westland still carries the U.S. Army Air Force card he received in November 1943, certifying that he had completed the advanced glider course. SUE MASON

said. Curran is the "youngster" of the volunteer group. He's been a museum member for 20 years and operates out of the machine shop, welding and fabricating parts. He's been working on scraping paint off the metal parts on the wing's main spar, getting them ready to be taken off and sandblasted.

"I worked on the SPAD and the SPAD pedal car. I did the fabricating and painting," he said. "This

is what I love to do. Airplanes and history are my greatest loves in life. What better way to put the two together than to come here and help?"

The goal is to do both wings at the same time. Koehler sees Kosek as being a mentor for the new recruits. He "has the most knowledge about the plane."

"We have no idea how long this is going to take," he added. "We need young people who are responsible and willing to

### work." Documenting the work

Charlie Henley of Westland has been assigned to document the restoration. He already has snapped more than 100 photographs since work began in late December. He also maintains a log book of what's being done.

"After my wife died, I needed to find something to do," he said. "I'm having a ball out here. I was assigned to take photos for the collections department a year ago."

When the men are finished with the glider, it will be flyable like the SPAD, but it will never feel the wind over its wings. It will be in the air, however, suspended from the ceiling of the new air museum that is being built in a portion of the former Willow Run bomber plant.

People interested in helping with the restoration of the TG-3 can call Catalano at the Yankee Air Museum at 734-483-4030.

"Our current volunteers have really stepped up to the plate and have done an awesome job," Catalano said. "We haven't seen the volunteers this excited about a project in a long time."

smason@hometownlife.com  
734-674-2332  
Twitter: @SusanMarieMason

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**LIBRARY GARAGE SALE**

**Date/Time:** Thursday, Jan. 29, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Friday, Jan. 30, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
**Location:** Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main

**Details:** In preparation for the upcoming building repair project, the Plymouth District Library is cleaning out the basement and will be having a garage sale. Items for sale include all types of odds and ends, small pieces of furniture and building materials. All items are priced to sell, sold "as is" and on a cash-and-carry basis.

**Contact:** For more information, call the library at 734-453-0750, ext. 4, or go to plymouthlibrary.org.

**JAZZ @ THE ELKS**

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, Jan. 27, 7-10 p.m.

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

**Details:** Jazz @ The Elks happens the last Tuesday of each month; there is a \$10 donation at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres. Opening the new year will be Nuevo Jazz Detroit with Duncan Jones on keyboard, Don Lewandowski on bass, Patrick Fitzgibbon on vibes, Jerry LeDuff on congas and special guest drummer Dave Marcaccio.

**Contact:** For more information, call 734-453-1780, go to www.plymouthannarborelks325.com or email jazzattheelks@gmail.com.

**CRAFTERS WANTED**

**Date/Time:** Saturday, Oct. 17

**Location:** West Middle School, 44401 Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth

**Details:** Delta Kappa Gamma, an international society of women in education, will host its 31st annual craft show to help provide scholarships for Plymouth-Canton students. There are still openings for crafters who are interested in joining the event. Join DKG along with the AAUW used book sale and reserve a booth.

**Contacts:** For more information, contact Debbie Cortellini at debcortellini@comcast.net or call 734-451-1525.

**COACHES NEEDED**

**Date/Time:** Saturdays in spring and fall

**Location:** Bilkie Family Field, downtown Plymouth

**Details:** The Miracle League of Plymouth, the league providing opportunities for special-needs players to enjoy the game of baseball, needs volunteer coaches for its spring and fall seasons.

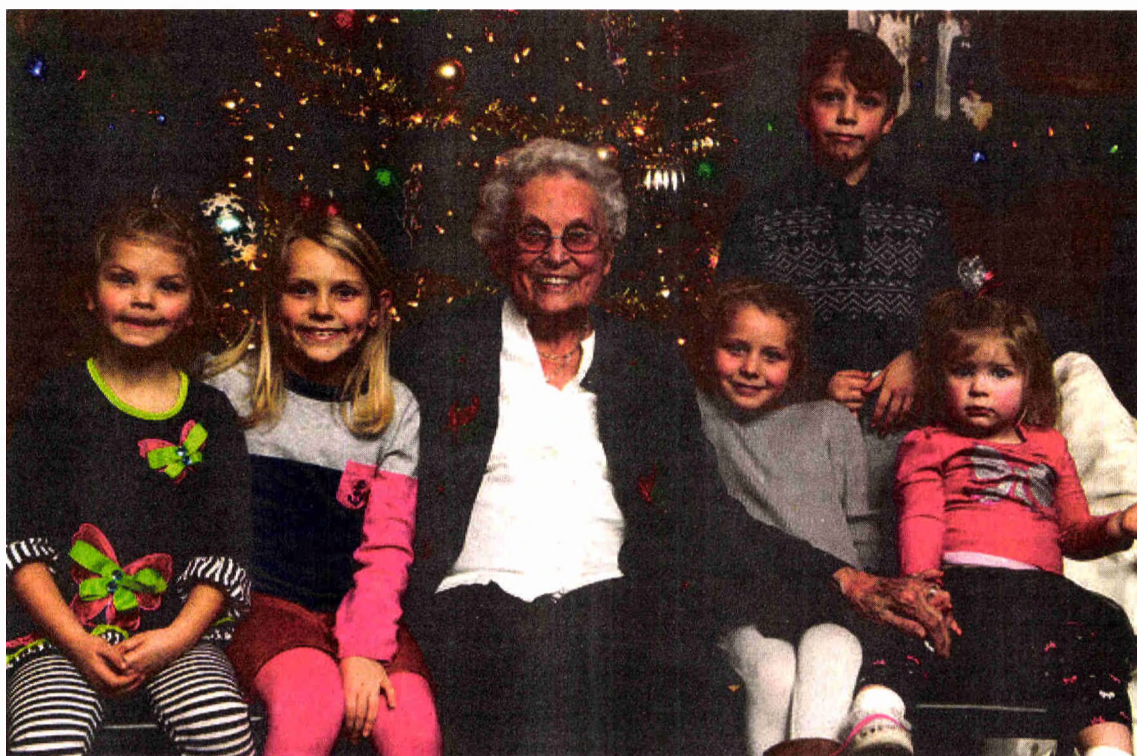
**Contact:** Anyone interested in donating their time or who has questions can contact Shari Bilkie via email at shari@miracleleagueplymouth.org

**BLOOD DRIVES**

**Dates/Times/Locations:**

» Thursday, Jan. 22, Gardner White, 39453 Ford Road in Canton, 11 a.m. to 7:45 p.m.

» Friday, Jan. 23, Central Middle School, 650 Church in Plymouth, 1-6:45 p.m.



MATTHEW REOCH

**Happy 100th**

Northville native Audrea (Kreeger) Kuhfeldt, shown here with five of her great-grandchildren, last month celebrated her 100th birthday. Audrea spent most of her life in the city of Plymouth and graduated from Plymouth High School in 1932. Her father, William Kreeger, was a carpenter/builder in the city of Plymouth. She attended business school in Detroit and graduated with a degree in business. She married Harold Kuhfeldt and had two children, Ellen (Kuhfeldt) Schroeder, a Plymouth-Canton Community Schools employee, and Kirk Kuhfeldt, who lives in Caledonia. Her grandchildren include Anne (Schroeder) and Dan Wilson, Nathan (Ingrid Grabow) Schroeder, Terri (Schroeder) and Ben Elder, Dayna Schroeder, Kayla Kuhfeldt and Travis Kuhfeldt. Great-grandchildren are Hannah Wilson; Levi, Bernadette and Great Schroeder; and Amelia and Ruth Elder. Audrea still loves to sew, quilt and crochet daily. She attends Peace Lutheran Church in Livonia. She celebrated her birthday with family at a party held at The Box Bar in downtown Plymouth.

» Monday, Jan. 26, Trinity Presbyterian Church, 10101 W. Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth, 1:30-7:15 p.m.

» Tuesday, Jan. 27, St Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 N. Sheldon, 1:30-7:15 p.m.

» Thursday, Jan. 29, Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Drive, Canton, 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

» Friday, Jan. 30, Canton Municipal Complex, 1150 S. Canton Center, 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

**Details:** January is Red Cross donor month and the American Red Cross is sponsoring a variety of blood drives. Appointments can be made, and walk-ins are welcome.

**Contact:** Donors can call 313-549-7052 or email Diane.Risko@redcross.org to set up an appointment.

**OLGC GALA**

**Date/Time:** Saturday, Feb. 7, 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** Italian-American Club of Livonia, 39200 Five Mile

**Details:** Our Lady of Good Counsel hosts "Women of Our Lady," the church's inaugural dinner-dance gala. Couples, families and singles are wel-

come to the family-style dinner, which features oven-roasted chicken and potatoes, vegetables and dip, green beans almondine and beverages. Dress code is after-5 attire; doors open at 6:30 p.m., dinner is at 7 p.m.

**Contact:** To register or for more information, email Marcella Corona at march1317@aol.com or call 248-305-7155.

**CLOTHING BANK**

**Date/Time:** Every fourth Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Location:** Canton Christian Fellowship clothing bank, 8775 Ronda Drive, Canton

**Details:** Canton Christian Fellowship sponsors a clothing bank every fourth Saturday. No documentation is needed. Drop-off is available from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each Wednesday. Canton Christian Fellowship is located on at Joy Road, west of Haggerty.

**Contact:** For more information, email info@cantoncf.org

**STONEFLIES SEARCH**

**Date/Time:** Feb. 14, 9 a.m.

**Location:** U-M Dearborn

**Details:** Friends of the Rouge is looking for volunteers Saturday, Feb. 14, who want to help look for stoneflies in the Rouge River. Valentine's Day was chosen this year as it falls during the time organizers say stoneflies hatch from the river and go looking for love. Searchers meet at 9 a.m. at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. No searching is done in Dearborn; volunteers carpool out in 10-12 teams to Rouge streams located around metropolitan Detroit.

**Contact:** Volunteers must pre-register by Jan. 30 on the FOTR website www.therouge.org or by calling 313-792-9621.

**ST. MICHAEL OPEN HOUSE**

**Date/Time:** Monday, Jan. 26, 6-8 p.m.

**Location:** St. Michael Lutheran School, 3003 Hannan Road, Wayne

**Details:** St. Michael Lutheran School (preschool through eighth grade) is hosting an open house to current and prospective students. Visitors can take a guided tour of the school, meet with teachers and learn more about a Christian education. St. Michael is a fully

accredited parochial school offering challenging academics and a wide variety of extra curricula activities.

**Contact:** For more information, call 734-728-3315 or go to www.stmichael-lutheran.org.

**PFLAG MEETING**

**Date/Time:** First Sunday of each month, 3-5 p.m.

**Location:** St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth

**Details:** Plymouth-Canton PFLAG meets for discussion, education and sharing. Founded in 1972 with the simple act of a mother publicly supporting her gay son, PFLAG is the nation's largest family and ally organization. Made up of families, friends and straight allies united with people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT), PFLAG is committed to advancing equality and societal acceptance of LGBT people through its threefold mission of support, education and advocacy.

**Contact:** Email laurie.mayers@gmail.com

**LIBRARY BAG SALES**

**Dates:** Jan. 23-26; Feb. 20-23; March 27-30

**Location:** Canton Public Library, 1200 N. Canton Center Road, Canton

**Details:** The Canton Public Library hosts several Bag Sales to benefit Secondhand Prose, the Friends of the Canton Public Library bookstore. Visitors can shop during the monthly sale and fill a big with books for just \$5.

**HOSPICE SUPPORT**

**Dates/Times:** First and third Thursday of each month, 10-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** Plymouth Coffee Bean, 884 Penniman

**Details:** Compassionate Coffee Club is an open and ongoing grief support group offering support and socialization for widows and widowers moving beyond the first year of loss. The program is sponsored by Compassionate Care Hospice and is free of charge, although a drink purchase is required for use of the space.

**Contact:** For more information, contact Ann Christensen, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement coordinator, at 888-983-9050 or email achristensen@cchnet.net.

**BRAIN NEUROBICS**

**Date/Time:** Second and third Thursday, January through May 2015, 11 a.m.

**Location:** Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty

**Details:** Wayne State University Institute of Gerontology designed the 10 free courses. Keep your brain alert and active with such topics as Memory Tricks, Food for Thought and Magic of Music. Courses taught by Waltonwood Cherry Hill.

**Contact:** To sign up, call the Plymouth Community Council on Aging at 734-453-1234, ext. 236.

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## Firm helps solve health care maze

By Matt Jachman  
Staff Writer

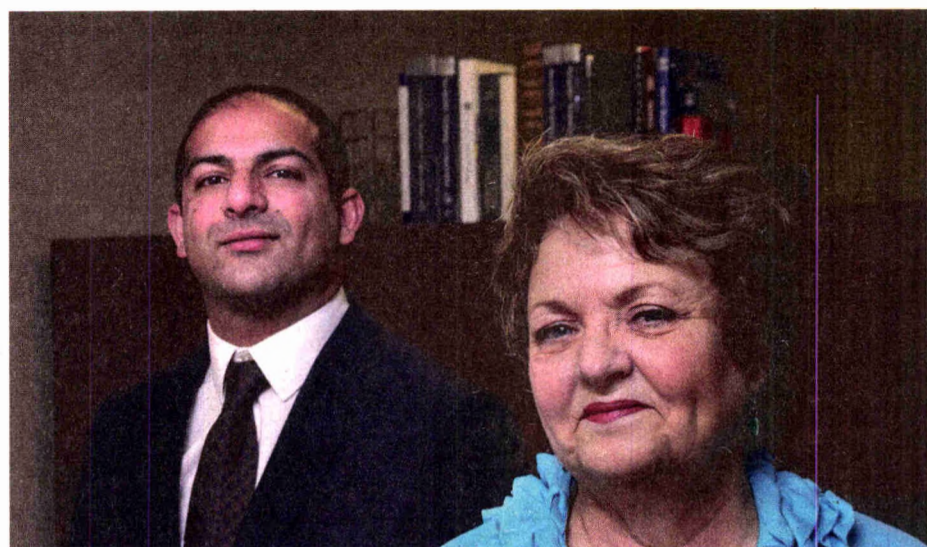
A new business in Plymouth advocates for seriously ill and injured people and helps them and their families navigate the complexities of the health care system.

Careforward Consulting matches patients and their loved ones with registered nurses who act as case managers by offering medical resources, helping to pick treatment options, accompanying patients on visits to doctors and otherwise overseeing their care, whether at home or in a hospital or another medical facility.

The idea, the founders say, is to give patients a stronger voice in their treatment and relieve the people close to those patients of part of the burden of looking after someone with a lot of medical needs, while also maintaining jobs and normal family lives.

"We're used to coming into difficult situations, complicated situations," Deborah Johnson, director of case management, said Monday in the Careforward Consulting offices.

Case managers, Johnson said, are experienced nurses who know how to talk to doctors, get to the bottom of medical issues, review the



Sanjay Sharma (left) and Deborah Johnson of Careforward Consulting in Plymouth.

appropriateness of prescriptions and use their professional and people skills to work with the dynamics of their patients' families toward the best medical outcomes.

"They know the ins and outs of the crazy medical system that we have," she said.

### Individual approach

The service is primarily for people who have suffered debilitating injuries in traffic crashes and for elderly people who may have multiple conditions and whose mobility might be limited, but the company

accepts a range of cases and offers everything from a one-time consultation that leads to a set of recommendations – which the patient and his or her family can accept or reject – to a long-term care plan with regular followup and review.

Johnson compared the health care system to an assembly line, saying that case management is an alternative to one-size-fits-all. "We need an individual approach," she said.

Automobile insurance in Michigan will pay for case management for accident-related injuries, Johnson said, but

health insurance doesn't typically cover it.

Careforward Consulting builds on the concept on which Johnson, a nurse for more than 40 years, based her own case-management business, simply called Careforward, for 15 years.

It's a service, say Johnson and Sanjay Sharma, the president and chief executive officer, that has the potential to save patients and insurers millions over the long term by negotiating prices, finding less costly but effective treatments and keeping patients out of hospitals and nursing homes. It's

also a service, they said, that health care policy increasingly recognizes.

"This'll be some kind of standard practice in the future," Sharma said. Health insurance companies, they said, often employ case managers, but their job is to cut the insurer's costs, not advocate for the patient.

Sharma, who has a master's degree in business administration, has been involved in several health care-related businesses, including one that provides private-duty nursing for people in their homes. He turned to Johnson for medical expertise – and to his mother, Kusum Sharma, a doctor and a former professor and researcher at Wayne State University. Kusum Sharma has also worked as a consultant for her son's firm.

Careforward offers an appealing situation for nurses, Johnson noted, because it gives them more flexibility and is less intense than, say, working a hospital floor for an eight- to 12-hour shift. The company is accepting resumes, she said.

The Careforward Consulting phone number is 844-237-7664.

mjachman@hometownlife.com  
734-678-8432  
Twitter: @mattjachman

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Business mixer

Ribar Floral in Plymouth sponsors its monthly Business 2 Business mixer 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, at Kickers All Star Grill, 46555 Michigan Ave., in Canton.

There are no fees and no groups to join for this event, designed as "just business to business mixing." Participants are encouraged to bring business cards for exchanging with fellow business owners in the Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Livonia and surrounding areas.

For more information, call 734-455-8722 or email ribarfloral@aol.com

### Top weddings

A Moment Forever just won the Best of Weddings Award 2015 from the Knot.com, a wedding website, according to information provided by the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority.

Store officials said the honor "comes from positive reviews and votes from brides who voted for us. We won this last year as well." The business is best known for low-priced, high-quality, Chiavari chairs.

A Moment Forever will be at the whimsical Occasions bridal show Sunday, Feb. 8, at The Inn at St. John's, where it will be featuring services to local brides-to-be.

For information, go to [www.amomentforever.net](http://www.amomentforever.net).

### Points of light

Points of Light, the world's largest organization dedicated to volunteer service, announced it has recognized Monroe Bank & Trust for its corporate volunteer program – MBT ENLIST – with The Daily Point of Light Award. The award recognizes individuals and organizations that work to tackle the unmet needs of their community through volunteer action.

MBT founded ENLIST (Employees Now Linked in Service Together), its corporate volunteer program, in 1984 to support and assist community organizations and nonprofits by encouraging employees to volunteer their time and talents to make a positive difference in the communities served by the bank. ENLIST volunteers serve 365 days a year throughout Monroe, Wayne and Lenawee counties, providing much needed manpower and expertise to schools, churches, nonprofit organizations and other community initiatives and events.

### Business expansion

The Michigan Economic Development Corp. announced Michigan Strategic Fund approval of three business expansion projects and two community development projects that will generate more than \$24.3 million and create 218 jobs.

LOC Performance Products, Inc., established in 1971 and headquartered in Plymouth, is a manufacturer of drive line and suspension systems for military and commercial applications. The company was recently awarded a \$161 million defense contract to restore lost mobility to the U.S. Army's Bradley Fighting Vehicle.

The company plans to make improvements at its facility in Plymouth Township, as well as acquire new equipment and machinery to accommodate the production work. The project will generate a total capital investment of more than \$12.1 million and create 95 jobs, resulting in a \$600,000 performance-based grant. Plymouth Township has offered support to the project in the form of property tax abatement.

## Canton TCC among stores resurrecting phones

Residents of Canton can now bring their liquid-damaged phones back from the dead.

TCC, the largest Verizon premium wireless retailer in the U.S., announced it is rolling out drying technology from

Redux in nearly 300 TCC stores, including its location in Canton at 46540 Michigan Ave.

Redux removes all moisture from wet cell-phones and returns them to working condition. The revive process has been

successful in recovering devices damaged by many perils, including the toilet, pool, washing machine, mud, beer, wine and more.

For customers who choose a more proactive approach, Redux will be

offering a deeply discounted membership program in the future.

"Everyone thinks their phone is fried when it gets wet and that just simply isn't the case," said Reuben Zielinski, co-founder of Redux. "This new technology will remove 100 percent of the moisture from wet electronics, allowing many mobile device users to recover their hardware investment and precious data."

In order to ensure a successful recovery when a device is damaged, customers should follow these steps:

- » Do not plug the device in
- » Turn off the device immediately
- » Remove the battery (if possible)
- » Contact 844-REVIVE1 (844-738-4831)

Upon a successful revive, the device will maintain its existing life expectancy.

The process typically takes less than one hour. For devices in which users cannot remove the battery, the battery's state of charge can play

a factor in the phone's ability to be revived.

"Redux saves customers money by eliminating the cost to replace devices," said Scott Moorehead, president and CEO of TCC. "The typical cost of purchasing a replacement device is between \$300 and \$700 on top of a deductible of \$100 or more, if the customer has insurance. But what's even more important to most customers is the ability to recover their data and Redux enables them to save potentially irreplaceable information, such as contacts, photos, videos and more."

To learn more about Redux, go to [www.redux.com](http://www.redux.com). Consumers can also find more information about the company at [www.facebook.com/getredux](http://www.facebook.com/getredux) and [www.twitter.com/getredux](http://www.twitter.com/getredux). To learn more about TCC, go to [www.TCCRocks.com](http://www.TCCRocks.com). Consumers can also find more information about the company at [www.facebook.com/tcctalk](http://www.facebook.com/tcctalk) and [www.twitter.com/tcctalk](http://www.twitter.com/tcctalk).

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## PLYMOUTH-CANTON CHAMBER CHAT

### Kickoff breakfast

Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce Chairman Mike Ritter, Supplemental Benefits Exchange and the chamber's Board of Directors are sponsoring the annual Chamber Kickoff Breakfast 7:30-9 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, at The Inn at St. John's.

Chamber officials will present their 2015 plan for the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce.

The highlight of this year's Kickoff Breakfast is the debut of the chamber's new community promotional video. Officials will also introduce the Board of Directors, highlight upcoming events and provide opportunities for members to volunteer.

Last year's breakfast attracted 140 members, making it one of the best networking opportunities of the year. The cost to attend this event is \$5, which includes a

### plated breakfast.

Reservations must be made by Friday, Jan. 23. For more information or to RSVP, contact the chamber at [terri@plymouthmich.org](mailto:terri@plymouthmich.org) or call 734-453-1540.

### Business workshop

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts its January workshop, "How to Expand and Build Your Business in 2015."

The workshop takes place 8-9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27, at the chamber office, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail, in downtown Plymouth.

There is no cost for this hands-on workshop designed for participants to work in small groups for each person to refine a strategy to grow and service their client base in 2015. The interactive session will be facilitated by local business consultant Tom Borg.

For more information, call the chamber at 734-453-1540.





NAIAS Chairman Scott LaRiche uses a selfie stick with his phone to get a good shot with Michigan Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, GM CEO Mary Barra and Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan.



Scott and Dawn LaRiche of Northville pause for a photo at the North American International Auto Show Charity Preview.



Yelena and Derek Terenzi check out a plug-in hybrid from Mercedes Benz.



The Ford GT draws a crowd.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Area residents part of Auto Show preview that raises \$5.3M for metro charities

It was a night of heavy metal last Friday at the North American International Auto Show's (NAIAS) Charity Preview — and not just on the cars. Over 13,000 patrons went all-out bling this year



Julie Yolles

SOCIAL SCENE

with top trends of silver and gold head-to-toe sequins, lace overlay gowns and navy as the new black.

What glistened the most was the unprecedented \$5.3 million that was raised for nine children's charities: Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan, Boys Hope Girls Hope of Detroit, The Children's Center, Judson Center, and The Detroit Institute for Children, Think Detroit PAL, March of Dimes, Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation, and the DADA (Detroit Auto Dealers Association) Charitable Foundation Fund, a fund of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.

The \$5.3 million brought the amount raised for children's charities to more than \$100 million over \$50 million of which was raised in the last 10 years alone.

"The NAIAS is the pinnacle of auto shows all over the world," said NAIAS Chairman Scott LaRiche, a Northville



Ginny and Michael J Thorp try some of the interactive features at Ford Innovation Park.

resident and co-owner of Lou LaRiche Chevrolet in Plymouth Township. "It's all about family, teamwork and hope."

And LaRiche's family was front and center at the Charity Preview Ribbon-Cutting ceremony, including the patriarch, Lou LaRiche, who was the NAIAS Chairman 30 years ago.

What did Lou say about his son taking center stage and following in his footsteps?

"It's a father's dream come true. I am so proud," said Lou LaRiche following the ribbon-cutting.

The glamorous guests sipped champagne and strolled among the cars and trucks from 6-9 p.m., followed by a standing-room only concert by the Steve Miller Band.

NAIAS continues through Sunday, Jan. 25. For show hours and ticket information, go to [naiaa.com](http://naiaa.com).



Ford CEO Mark Fields and General Motors CEO Mary Barra were part of the kick-off event.



Sarah Hubbard, Robert O'Meara, and Andrea Cascarilla, all of Lansing, posing with a Cadillac engine.



Betsy and Randy Bart of Ray Township, Allison Curtis of Commerce Township, Louise and Bill Horal of Brighton, Glenn Curtis of Commerce Township, Annette and David Lawrey of Grand Blanc, and Leigh Curtis and Brian Voorheis of West Bloomfield enjoy the charity event.

# FOIA changes slash cost of public records

By John Wisely  
Michigan.com

Public records will become cheaper and easier to access under changes to Michigan's Freedom of Information Act.

Government agencies will not be allowed to charge more than 10 cents per page for copies of public records; they can face increased fines for delaying responses; and people seeking the records now can sue if they consider the fees to be exorbitant.

Dirk Milliman of the Michigan Press Association said the changes have been years in the making and involved compromise, but overall the new law increases transparency and access to public records.

"We are pleased with the end result as it addresses the two most major concerns expressed by our members with regard to FOIA in Michigan: costs and delays," he said.

The changes take effect July 1. Gov. Rick Snyder signed them into law last week, saying in a statement that the changes remind government workers that they "are working on behalf of our residents, who should not be discouraged from learning about how that government is serving them."

The law allows requesters who believe they are being overcharged for records to sue and ask a court to lower the fee. If the court concludes the public body arbitrarily and capriciously charged an unreasonable fee, the court must assess \$1,000 in punitive damages.

The new law also increases punitive damages from \$500 to \$2,000 on public bodies that arbitrarily and capriciously break the law by refusing or delaying the release of public records.

It also requires courts to fine public bodies \$2,500 to \$7,500 for willfully and intentionally failing to follow the law. The fines are paid to the state.

Michigan first passed its Freedom of Information Act in 1976, in the wake of the Watergate scandals in Washington. Many states and the federal government sought to increase access to public records then as a way to prevent future abuses.

Newspapers and other news media outlets routinely use the FOIA to access public records on government contracting, hiring, spending and other matters. The *Detroit Free Press* used the law to access records from the administration of former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick as part of the text messages scandal.

But the rights of access created under the law apply to all citizens, not just news media outlets. Residents acting on their own have used FOIA requests to uncover questionable dealings across the state.

Another change in the law requires governments to provide the records electronically instead of on paper if the requester seeks them in that format. It includes an exemption if local government lacks the technology to provide the records electronically.

# Changing culture, one dance at a time

By Aria McPeck  
Michigan.com

Jamie Nicholson of Hartland Township aims for nothing less than changing the culture at high school dances.

Nicholson heads up The Dance Project, which in its six years of existence has taught more than 4,000 students in four counties how to swing dance to today's popular music.

The Dance Project's next event will run 8-11 p.m. Saturday at Hartland High School. For those who don't know how to swing dance, the evening begins at 7:30 p.m. with a half-hour of instruction. Everyone from eighth grade on up is invited to the black-light affair, which costs \$10 per person and includes snacks and drinks as well as black-light accessories. Proceeds benefit Hartland High School's forensics team.

The Dance Project will also host a black-light dance for students in seventh grade and older 8-11 p.m. Jan. 24 at the Novi Christian Community Center. Swing dance instruction begins at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$10 and includes snacks, drinks and black-light accessories.

It all started years ago, when Nicholson took her daughter to her first homecoming dance. She still recalls the shock and dismay she felt when she saw students "freaking," or grinding their bodies together in a sexual way, on the dance floor.

"I thought it wasn't really dancing," said Nicholson, a high school math teacher by training. "I thought there's got to be something we could do. I had no idea that it meant I would be putting on dances, but I just knew something needed to be done. I spent eight months talking to people in the community and praying, trying to figure out what we could do to help kids."

The solution, she decided, was to teach them an alternative.

"Our mission is to give



Some of the more experienced members of The Dance Project enjoy swing dancing at Swinginfusion, held Monday nights at The Well Church in Genoa Township. Michael Perry and Megan Garvin (left) dance while Kristen Perlin and Ryan Bowman (right) twirl.

them exposure and training, so when they get to (the) homecoming dance, where the order of the day is still the grinding, now they know they have a choice," she said.

The Dance Project plays modern popular music at its events.

"It's the same music they listen to and that was all part of the intentional mission of the organization, so they can start to develop the skill set to swing dance to new music they like," Nicholson said.

More experienced dancers help newcomers learn the steps.

"At every dance we host, we offer a half-hour beginner lesson for anyone who wants to learn the steps," Nicholson said. "At that lesson, we have a large group of students who go around and help and support that lesson and offer personal guidance if it's needed and they stay throughout the dance. What's so cool about the kids is they have so much fun, they can't help but teach it to other people, because the more of their peers who are swing dancing, the more fun they have."

The organization's influence now extends beyond the events it sponsors. Nicholson said

she's impressed at the leadership students have shown.

Locally, the Hartland Consolidated Schools district now has swing dance clubs at both the middle school and high school levels. Brighton High School has two swing dance clubs and students can earn a varsity letter in swing dancing.

The Dance Project's effects are being felt outside Livingston County as well.

"Milford (High School) has a club after school and Davison High School and the International Academy. ... These were all clubs started by students who came to our dances and became so excited about swing dancing, they wanted to bring it back to their school," she said.

Another example of student leadership involved a former participant who went to a college that didn't allow dancing in any way, shape or form.

"He convinced the board at that university to (allow) dancing because they could do swing dancing to popular music," Nicholson said.

Besides giving the student participants credit for the success of

the program, Nicholson said adult participation is important, both for bringing younger kids to the dances to expose them to swing dancing and for helping out at the dances.

"We encourage families with younger kids to come as part of exposing them to the dancing," she said. "That's really important to us, not only to have the kids involved, but in order for us to effectively run the program and the organization, we do need to have those adults involved as chaperones, bringing refreshments, doing decorations and registrations."

Six years ago, while she was getting started, did Nicholson ever think The Dance Project would have taken off like it has?

"It was a fun idea to think about," Nicholson said. "Wouldn't it be great if it went all over the world? Not because I wanted to be famous or anything, but my heart just goes out to these kids, and I still have a vivid picture in my mind of that first dance, and I want so much more for our teenagers."

To learn more about The Dance Project and its upcoming events, go to <http://www.thedanceproject.info>.

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# 17 area teens vie for state Distinguished Young Woman honor

The Distinguished Young Women of Michigan Scholarship Program will be holding the 57th annual program at 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24, at Saline High School.

Seventeen contestants from around the state will compete for thousands of dollars in college scholarships and the chance to represent Michigan at local events throughout the state and at the national finals in Mobile, Ala. The DYW scholarship program is based on academics, leadership, physical fitness and talent.

At the state program, contestants will perform an opening number and compete in a performing arts talent routine, a physical fitness routine and self-expression. Contestants are also evaluated in based on academics and an interview.

"This is an amazing group of smart and talented young women and we are excited to have them showcase their talents at this year's scholarship program," said Angela Bobo, Distinguished Young Women of Michigan state director. "We invite the public to come and support these accomplished young women."

A final performance by the current Distinguished Young Woman of Michigan, Alysse Blight, will also be part of the event. Blight was the second runner-up at the Distinguished Young Woman of America national program last June and received more than \$14,000 in college scholarships. She also was the overall talent winner out of 50 contestants, performing a high-energy



Members of the Distinguished Young Women of Michigan's Class of 2015 are (back row, from left) Kimberly McGrath, Sarah Anderson, Shawna Pelowski, Haley Roux, Pallavi Prabhu, Anna Waldron, Dominique Denson, Miya Williams, Kendall Stasser and Madeline Rayner and (front row, from left), Victoria Riley, Allison Learman, Emily Harke, Colette Lanzon, Erica Kennedy, Kendra Rocha and Vivian Zhong.

baton twirling routine.

Competing this year are: Kendall Stasser and Dominique Denson from Wayne/Westland; Colette Lanzon and Victoria Riley from Plymouth/Canton; Kimberly McGrath, Emily Harke and Haley Roux from Irish Hills; Pallavi Prabhu from Washtenaw County; Miya Williams from Inkster; Anna Waldron and Vivian Zhong from Oakland County; Kendra Rocha from Livingston County; Erica Kennedy from Genesee County; Shawna Pelowski from Brandon;

Allison Learman from Saline; Sarah Anderson from Bay County; and Madeline Rayner from Marshall.

In the talent portion, Lanzon, the Distinguished Young Woman of Canton, will be performing a violin solo to the selection, *Daylight* by Maroon 5. Riley, the Distinguished Young Woman of Plymouth, will be performing a jazz dance to the song *My Strongest Suit*, written by Elton John and Tim Rice and performed by Aida. Stasser, the Distin-

guished Young Woman of Wayne-Westland, is a senior at John Glenn High School and has been dancing for the last 11 years at Planet Dance. In the talent portion of the state program, she will perform a contemporary solo to the song *Explosions* by Ellie Goulding.

Denson, the Distinguished Young Woman of Westland, is a senior at Livonia Franklin High School and has been dancing since the age 3. For the talent section, she will perform a con-

temporary dance to *To Love You More* by Celine Dion.

Williams is the Distinguished Young Woman of Inkster and has achieved academic excellence as an honor student at Wayne Memorial High School in Wayne. For the state-level talent section, she will perform a rendition of *True Colors*.

Tickets to the event can be purchased at Saline High School for \$18 or by contacting the Michigan State Committee at email Michi-

gan@distinguishe-dyw.org. All proceeds go toward scholarship awards.

The Michigan State Program is part of the Distinguished Young Women of America, which is the largest and oldest scholarship program for high school seniors in the country. Since it first began in 1958, more than \$90 million in college scholarships have been awarded. For more information on the scholarship program, go to [www.distinguishe-dyw.org](http://www.distinguishe-dyw.org).

## Volunteers needed for FOR's annual stonefly hunt

Friends of the Rouge is looking for volunteers Saturday, Feb. 14, who want to help look for stoneflies in the Rouge River.

Valentine's Day was chosen this year as it falls during the time when stoneflies hatch from the river and go looking for love. Check out a YouTube video of one "drumming" for mates.

Searchers meet at the University of Michigan-Dearborn at 9 a.m. No searching is done in Dearborn; volunteers carpool out in 10-12 teams to Rouge streams located around metro Detroit.

Volunteers must pre-register by Jan. 30 on the FOTR website at [www.therouge.org](http://www.therouge.org) or by calling 313-792-9621.

Winter stoneflies hatch from streams in winter and are sensitive to pollution, making them good indicators of water quality. Friends of the Rouge volunteers

have been looking for stoneflies every winter since 2002.

Last year, 81 volunteers participated and found stoneflies at 11 of 33 sites.

All were found on tributaries to the middle and lower branches of the Rouge, including Johnson Creek in Salem and Northville and Fellows and Fowler Creeks in Canton.

As the Rouge River improves, it is expected that these sensitive creatures that provide food for fish should be found in more locations.

Volunteers must dress for the weather and be prepared to be out in the cold for several hours. Only trained team leaders go in the water; volunteers search through samples on the bank. Children 5 years and older are welcome when accompanied by a participating adult and when dressed for the weather. Groups of up to six people can be accommodat-

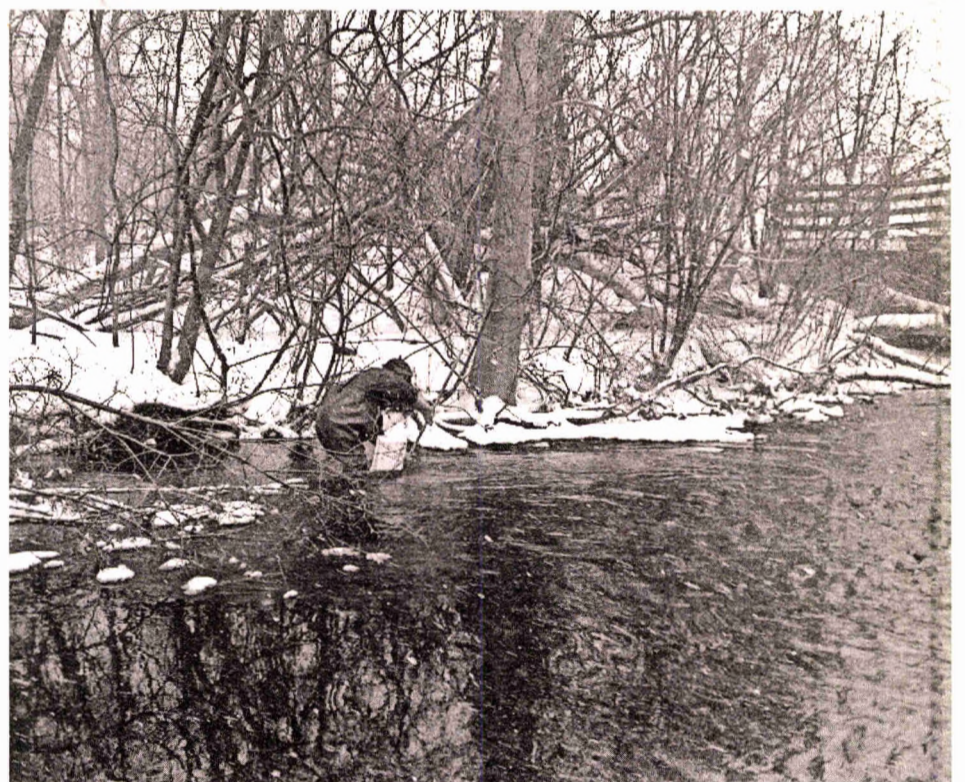
ed.

The annual Winter Stonefly Search is part of a long-term monitoring program coordinated by Friends of the Rouge. It is supported in partnership with Wayne County Department of Public Services. A report on the results from the Fall Bug Hunt held Oct. 25, 2014, was just completed.

Friends of the Rouge is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting restoration and stewardship of the Rouge River ecosystem through education, citizen involvement and other collaborative efforts, for the purpose of improving the quality of life for the people, plants and animals of the watershed.

The Rouge River covers 466 square miles in three counties and 42 communities in metro Detroit.

Additional information is available at [www.therouge.org](http://www.therouge.org).



A team leader looks for samples during the Friends of the Rouge stonefly search last year.

**CITY OF PLYMOUTH PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED USES OF 2015-2016 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS**

Pursuant to Federal guidelines, the City of Plymouth is announcing its objectives and possible uses for developing projects using Year 2015-2016 Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

**OBJECTIVES:**

- To provide benefits to senior citizens.
- To provide benefits directly to persons of low/moderate income and/or areas in which at least 51% of the residents are of low/moderate income.
- To maintain a high level of performance in the management of all CDBG funded programs.

**PROPOSED YEAR 2015-2016 PROJECTS:**  
 The City anticipates receiving approximately \$62,787.24 in CDBG funds for the contract year 2015-16, and has identified the following potential projects and corresponding estimated allocations for use of these funds:

1. ADA and/or Public Facility Improvements	\$44,578.94
2. Public Services- Senior Transportation	\$11,929.58
3. Administration/Planning	\$ 6,278.72
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$62,787.24</b>

**PUBLIC HEARING:**  
 Citizens are invited to comment on the proposed projects listed above, and to suggest other projects. All projects must meet one of the Federal CDBG objectives. A public hearing for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed uses of 2015-2016 CDBG funds, and additional suggestions for use of said funds, will be held at the Plymouth City Commission Meeting on Monday, February 2, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the Commission Chambers at Plymouth City Hall, 201 S. Main St.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC  
 City Clerk

Publish: January 22, 2015  
 Posted at the following locations:  
 Plymouth Cultural Center- Bulletin Board Main Entrance  
 Plymouth City Hall- North Entrance and South Entrance  
 Plymouth Downtown Development Authority Office- Front Window  
 Observer & Eccentric Newspaper- Published Thursday January 22, 2015

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## OUR VIEW

# Help young people achieve their dreams by mentoring

It's an observation that has been used so often, it has lost some of its impact. But it is still as important today as it was in 1996, when First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton coined it. Yes, it takes a village to raise a child, but it also takes people willing to give of their time to make that happen.

This is National Mentoring Month. For 14 years, January has been set aside to recognize people who serve as mentors and issue a call for more people to get involved in helping our youth become productive members of society.

The roads young people follow today are filled with pitfalls that can lead them astray. In January 2014, MENTOR published The Mentoring Effect, the first-ever nationally representative survey of young people on the topic of mentoring. The report shows that "quality mentoring relationships can play a powerful role in providing young people with the tools they need to make responsible decisions, stay focused and engaged in school, achieve academic and personal goals and reduce or avoid risky behavior like skipping school, drug use and other negative activities." The report also shows one in three young people will reach adulthood without such a powerful asset.

President Barack Obama, in proclaiming January as National Mentoring Month, noted that, "In a nation of limitless possibility, every child deserves the chance to unlock his or her potential. When young Americans have the support they need to make the most of themselves, they can achieve their dreams and strengthen our country, which has always moved forward by extending ladders of opportunity to the next generation."

Those "ladders of opportunity" are available in our communities through local programs like Youth Assistance, which works with young people who are having difficulties within their families, in school and in the community. In many cases, young people are referred to these programs by the police, courts, schools, parents or guardians and other agencies.

Mentoring has many benefits for all involved. According to the Federal Mentoring Council, the potential is there for better academic performance and better school attendance. Mentoring also has been linked to improvements in youths' perceptions of parental relationships and better prospects for moving on to higher education.

And the benefits of mentoring go beyond that. According to the National Mentoring Partnership, many mentors say that the rewards they gain are as substantial as those for they assist. Mentoring is a shared opportunity for learning and growth.

Being a mentor doesn't require advanced degrees or special skills, just a few basic qualities — a sincere desire to be involved with a young person; respect for young people; being an active listener; having empathy; seeing solutions and opportunities; and being flexible and open.

The NMP notes that: "Good mentors are willing to take time to get to know their mentees, to learn new things that are important to the young person and even to be changed by their relationship. Accept the challenges and rewards of mentoring a young person and experience the benefits that will last each ... a lifetime."

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor may have said it best: "When a young person, even a gifted one, grows up without proximate living examples of what she may aspire to become — whether lawyer, scientist, artist or leader in any realm — her goal remains abstract. Such models as appear in books or on the news, however inspiring or revered, are ultimately too remote to be real, let alone influential. But a role model in the flesh provides more than inspiration; his or her very existence is confirmation of possibilities one may have every reason to doubt, saying, 'Yes, someone like me can do this.'"

Be that person who can make a difference. Become a mentor. There's a young person out there waiting for someone just like you.

# MENTORING WORKS



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## OUR VIEW

# Do more than 'think warm thoughts' to protect from cold

Oh boy, last week was a cold one. It took some thermal underwear and an extra pair of socks to keep warm with temperatures in single digits last week and the wind chill hitting minus-20 degrees.

Part of the joy of living in Michigan is that it is a four-season wonderland. Cold weather is great for area ski hills making snow and for the fishermen who want to set a shanty over a favorite fishing hole.

But the cold is dangerous and everyone needs to be smart when sending kids out the door or going out themselves.

The Michigan State Police agency offers these tips to stay safe in cold weather.

» Stay indoors, if possible. If you must go outside, wear protective gear — such as hats, mittens and gloves — in addition to a warm coat. Always protect your lungs with a scarf.

» Watch for signs of frostbite, which include loss of feeling or pale appearance of fingers, toes or face.

» Watch for signs of hypothermia, which include uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, drowsiness and exhaustion.

» Understand the hazards of wind chill. As wind speed increases, heat is carried away from a person's body more rapidly and could lead to severe hypothermia.

» Remove clothing if it gets damp or wet. Wet clothing can make you more prone to hypothermia.

» Weather-proof doors and windows to trap heat inside your home.

» Check heating units. Poorly operating or damaged heating units can release carbon monoxide gas. Test carbon monoxide detectors for proper operation and battery life.

» Check on family, friends and neighbors who are at risk and may need additional assistance.

» Watch pets closely and keep them indoors



MSU student Mack Gibbs wears heavy duty fleece as he walks across campus in the cold last winter.

when possible. Animals can suffer from hypothermia, frostbite and other cold weather injuries.

» Check and restock your emergency preparedness kit. If you don't have a kit, make one.

» Minimize travel. If travel is necessary, keep a full tank of gas and an emergency preparedness kit in your vehicle. Put warm clothing — such as gloves, blankets and hats — in your kit in case you become stranded.

If you are going to head out, don't forget to check road conditions. The MSP encourages drivers to go to [www.michigan.gov/roadconditions](http://www.michigan.gov/roadconditions) and [www.michigan.gov/drive](http://www.michigan.gov/drive). If you are stranded, do not leave your vehicle. Stay with the vehicle and wait for help.

Like it or not, these bitter cold days are part of what make Michigan special. And remember, the days are getting longer and spring really is just a little more than two months away.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Voter turnout consequences

It appears the proverbial chickens have come home to roost. According to published reports, the current state budget is at least \$350 million out of whack, with a projected \$500 million shortage in the next fiscal year.

None of this should come as a surprise. You don't give big business billions in tax cuts and then lavish them with more by way of tax credits. Just one corporation that claimed these credits in December cost our state \$224 million.

That amount alone would have funded 20 percent of the new tax hike that will be on the May ballot. I wonder why this information only came out after the Republican victory in November.

But, you know, I don't blame the right-wingers in Lansing. They have shown time and again who they are and the pain they can inflict on the general public.

I blame the very people who have been harmed and decided to stay home and sit on their butts last Nov. 4. By doing so, they not only allowed these people to remain in office, they let them increase in numbers.

I guess you can prod, cajole, warn, alert, beg and plead all you want, but like the old saying goes, "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink" or in this case make him vote.

James Huddleston  
Canton

### Preserve Starkweather

Wednesday evening at Crawford's Kitchen in Old Village, a forum was held to enable a discussion for the "potential" of re-purposing the now-closed historic Starkweather School, erected in Old Village in 1926.

The presentation provided by Mark Manuck from Curtis Building was very well-attended by Old Village business owners and residents, Plymouth City Commission members, Plymouth Preservation Network and individual Plymouth historians and many long-time concerned residents. Perhaps the greatest living Plymouth historian — and definitely the most interested — in attendance was Daniel Sabo, great-great-grandson of Karl Starkweather.

Mr. Manuck presented two sketches depicting the Curtis vision: (1) construction of 23 single homes to be built on the property to the rear of the school and (2) a sketch "mock up" of what perhaps Starkweather could appear as if in fact the school could be re-purposed and Mr. Manuck transitioned it into a multi-unit apartment complex.

Mr. Manuck voiced his "honest and sincere" desire to retain Starkweather now despite his planning for demolition when he entered purchase negotiations

with the Plymouth-Canton school board. He was also very emphatic his business decision would depend solely on the outcome of a building structural feasibility study slated to commence in March.

Mr. Manuck stated that if he could not "reasonably retain" Starkweather, he would simply demo the building to provide more building lots for his development. In return for Mr. Manuck's efforts to re-purpose Starkweather, he requested the audience and Plymouth friends to positively support the Curtis Building project, to attend Plymouth city building and commission meetings and attend the many "special" meetings he will be requesting.

While it remains alarmingly unclear and even the negotiations suspiciously clouded to many how this historic mainstay of a rich Plymouth culture could be discarded by the Plymouth-Canton school board for bargain-basement pricing, there remains considerable hope that Curtis Building "will do everything in Mr. Manuck's power" to re-purpose Starkweather.

Again, the feasibility study is paramount, but it was reported by several in attendance with that kind of knowledge and expertise that, in their opinion, it looked favorable to them. I have received email from Mayor Dwyer that he and the city commission are "standing 100 percent behind saving and re-purposing Starkweather." Also recently, the city commission authored and published an official city document proclaiming and casting its support for re-purposing Starkweather.

That is huge for the citizens of our community as there are many grants, tax advantages and political leveraging that can play out during this transitioning of our historic Old Village.

Further details of the forum and future key meetings can be viewed at the Plymouth Preservation Network website and Facebook pages. Get involved folks, let's not let another Daisy Air Rifle mistake occur or a have Mayflower Hotel just vanish.

Jerry Norquist  
Plymouth

### Passing the buck

I see were our elected reps are going to do their best to hold down the middle class by trying to lower their wages and benefits.

I think we should pay them part-time wages since they never work a full week and when it comes to making hard decisions they pass the buck to us.

Clement Skiba  
Canton

### A great hometown

A short time ago, I wrote an op-ed in support of the four elected officials named in a recall campaign in Plymouth

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We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:  
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**Fax:** 313-223-3318  
**Email:** [bkadrich@hometownlife.com](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com)

Township. Since that time, my name has been tossed around, rather negatively, on social and written media.

One of my neighbors, a recall organizer, even made copies of the piece, along with a rebuttal and mailed them to the households in my subdivision. I find this amusing since several homes in our subdivision don't subscribe to the *Observer*, but now they, too, have seen my piece. I'm kind of flattered that my opinion had made such an impact on a few people.

I have been vilified because I failed to mention I am an employee of the township. One person threatened to "expose" my appointments. I will save that person the trouble. Yes, I am on the Plymouth Township payroll. I serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals, as well as sidewalk inspector, a part-time, on-call position.

Last year I grossed a grand total of \$1,555 from both appointments with no benefits; less than one-third came from the ZBA appointment. "Follow the money," stated that person. Come on, this a mere drop in the bucket of my total taxable income from other employment. To infer that I can be bought for 1,500 bucks is a bit insulting, but very humorous. I am also a taxpayer in the township and wrote my piece as such.

I have been criticized because I'm unable to attend board meetings. For the past several years, job and other commitments have taken most of my evenings, especially Tuesdays. Minutes and videos of the meetings make it possible for citizens unable to attend board meeting can keep up with what goes on, however.

So in this time of divisiveness I would like to say I am proud to be a citizen of Plymouth Township. I feel we have one of the best, if not the best, communities to live in. There are great improvements happening all over the township, all the time.

Ms. Arnold, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Reaume, Ms. Conzelman, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Curmi and Mr. Doroshewitz — thank you all. It is your hard work, diligence and commitment to our community that makes it what it is.

Harry Jachym  
Plymouth Township

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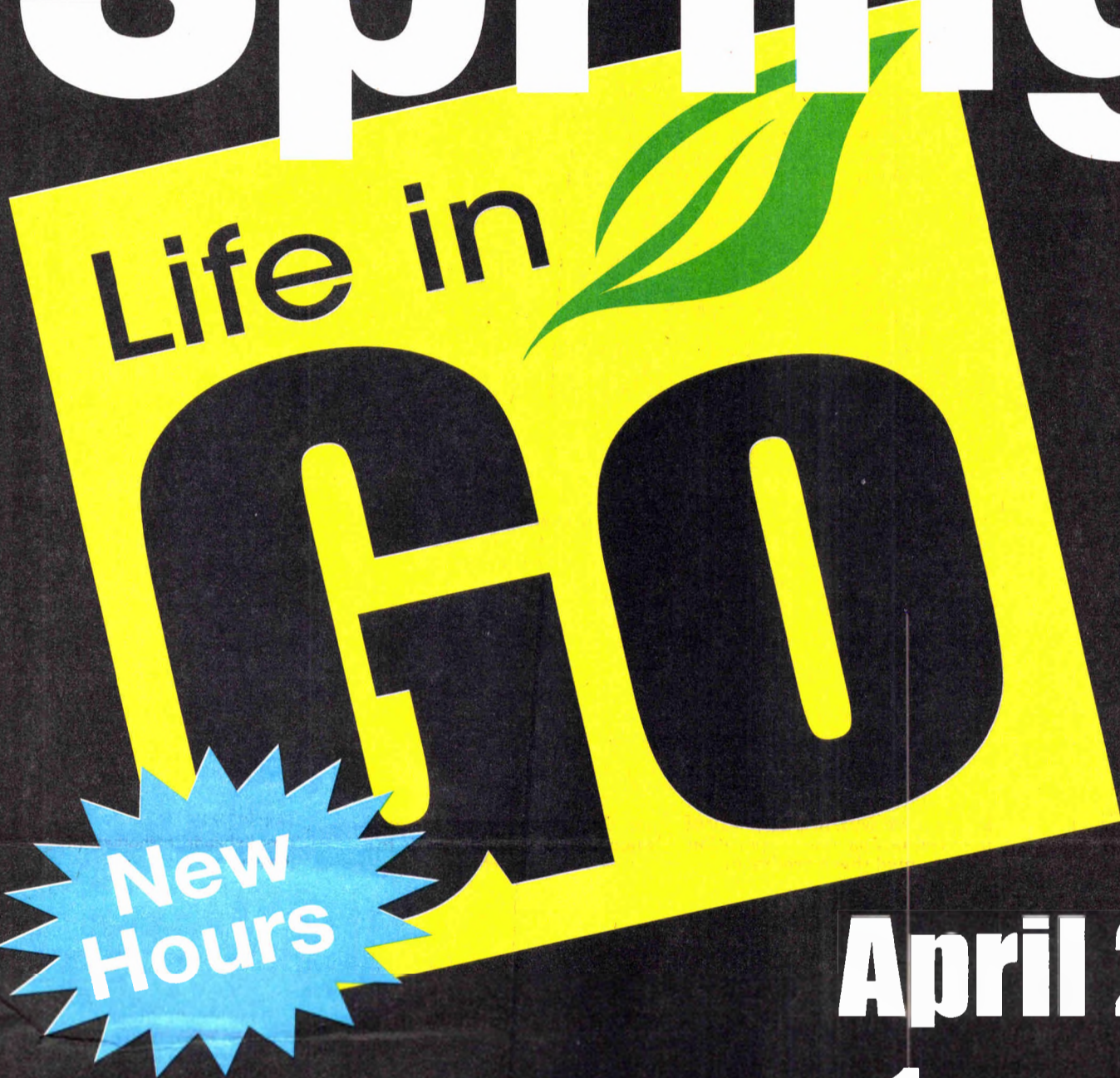
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ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

## WHALE OF A COMEBACK



MANDY GETSCHMAN | PLYMOUTH WHALERS  
Victor Crus Rydberg (left) of the Plymouth Whalers scores the game-winning goal Monday afternoon against Saginaw Spirit goalie David Ovsjannikov. Plymouth scored three unanswered goals in the third period for a 3-2 OHL victory at Compuware Arena.

### Crus Rydberg's game-winning goal caps Plymouth's rally in third period against Saginaw

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

For most of the first two periods Monday afternoon at Compuware Arena, the Plymouth Whalers did not seem interested in putting up much of a battle against Saginaw.

But then Whalers goalie Alex Nedeljkovic put a jolt into everybody watching the Ontario Hockey League game — including his own teammates — with a sensational sliding save with about three minutes to go in the second period, with Plymouth already down 1-0.

That save set the tone for a frantic third period.

Plymouth tallied three unanswered goals within a three-minute span to win 3-2 and rock the 1,847 fans on hand for the Martin Luther King Jr. Day matinee. Two of Plymouth's goals were scored by center Victor Crus Rydberg.

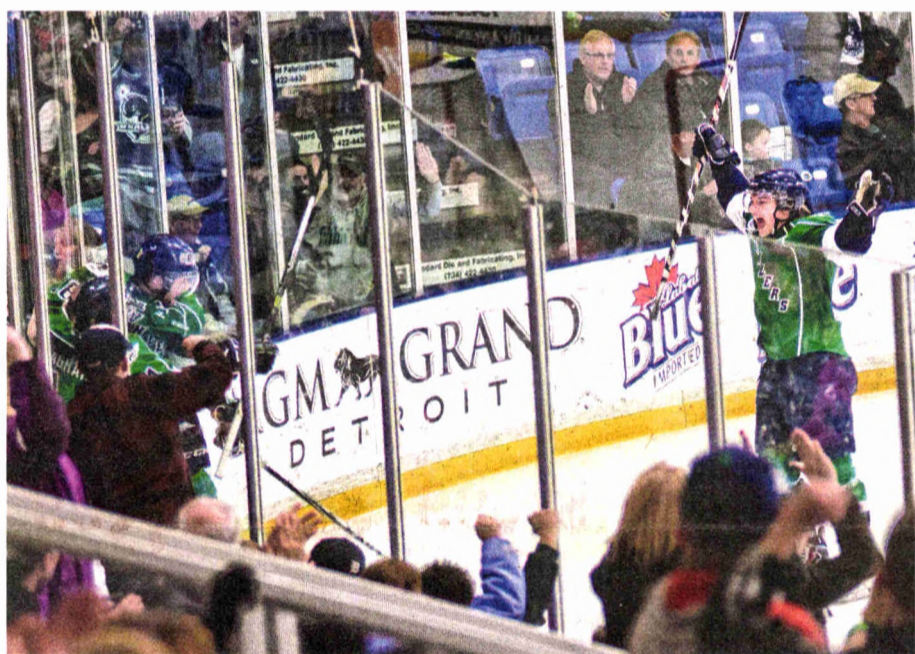
Nedeljkovic (28 saves) also had to come up with several clutch stops in the final seconds after the Spirit pulled their goalie to preserve the win.

"The bench went crazy," said Whalers general manager Mark Craig, who Monday coached the team in the absence of suspended head coach Don Elland. "You saw the guys stand up and I don't think they sat down the rest of the game."

"Amazing what a good goaltender can do with a great stop and how it can turn the game for you."

**Momentum changer**

Having lost his goalie stick, Nedeljkovic went into full desperation mode trying to deny a close-in scor-



MANDY GETSCHMAN | PLYMOUTH WHALERS  
Plymouth Whalers players and fans celebrate what turned out to be Monday's winning goal against Saginaw at Compuware Arena.

ing chance by Saginaw's Devon Paliani.

On the play, Vladislav Kodola sent a pass from the low slot over to Paliani, standing near the left post with a half-empty net staring back at him.

Nedeljkovic slid across the crease in a flash, then just as quickly thrust his right leg pad in front of the Paliani one-timer.

That play shook the cobwebs out of Compuware, quiet for much of the afternoon. The fact Saginaw outworked and outshot Plymouth 12-5 in the first period had a lot to do with

that.

Yet despite the Carolina Hurricanes prospect's dazzling stop, Saginaw still enjoyed a lead after two periods thanks to a first-period goal by Kodola.

Saginaw (19-22-1-1, 40 points), currently sitting in eighth place in the OHL Western Conference — and the team the Whalers (15-24-2-1, 33 points) need to catch to make the playoffs — then took a 2-0 lead at 1:04 of the final period when Artem Arte-

See WHALERS, Page B4

COMPUWARE FANS REACT

## SINKING IN

Dejected Plymouth Whalers fans trying to cope with team's sale to Flint group

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

For quite some time, Plymouth Whalers season ticket holders Scott and Denise Merryfield knew the 2014-15 season would be it for their favorite hockey team.

Still, when the hammer finally came down last Wednesday — with the announcement by owner Peter Karmanos Jr. that he was selling the OHL franchise to a Flint group — the Plymouth residents reacted with sadness and even a bit of anger.

Of course, the Merryfields and other devoted Whalers fans weren't so mad that they stayed away from Compuware Arena for Monday afternoon's game against Saginaw.

"I didn't bring my cow bell to ring today," Denise Merryfield said between periods of the Whalers-Saginaw contest Monday afternoon. "I'm so mad about this. I always brought it to the games, but not anymore."

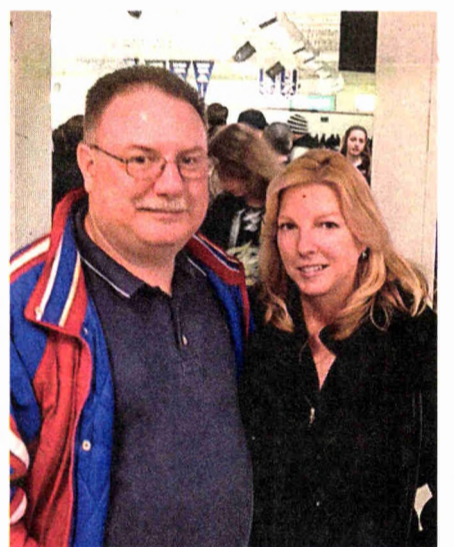
For 10 years, the Merryfields have been season ticket holders, much of that time watching from center ice seats in Section 113, a few rows in front of the press box.

They have loved watching future NHL stars such as James Neal, Tyler Seguin, Tom Wilson and others skate for Plymouth. Current players with a chance at the big time, such as goaltender Alex Nedeljkovic, also make games fun to watch even during this lame-duck season.

But they haven't been thrilled about what has transpired the past couple of years, especially with the ongoing "Are the Whalers moving?" saga.

"It's been disappointing," Scott

See FANS, Page B4



TIM SMITH  
Scott and Denise Merryfield of Plymouth, shown during Monday's Whalers game at Compuware Arena, are very disappointed that the OHL team is moving to Flint. They have been dedicated season ticket holders for a decade.

PREP WRESTLING

## Tough Wildcats show promise

Four Plymouth grapplers undefeated at Lowell's Gary Rivers Duals

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Saturday's showing in the Gary Rivers Memorial Duals at Lowell wasn't perfect for Plymouth's varsity wrestling team.

But Wildcats head coach Quinn Guernsey sees plenty of

positives coming out of the 2-2 performance against some of the state's top teams that should help down the stretch.

For starters, Plymouth boasted four undefeated wrestlers in Dylan Dwyer, Collin Reed, Hussein Youssef and Michael Jordan, while Sterling Schiftar came oh-so-close to joining the list.

"We are a little beat up right now, down three starters, and that gave a lot of freshmen an opportunity to get some experience in intense

matches against quality competition," Guernsey said. "That should help us down the road as they get older."

"I was pleased with how the team wrestled. We weren't flat and our fundamentals were better than they have been recently."

The Wildcats held their own against a field of five ranked teams, defeating Belding (36-27) and Stevensville Lakeshore (45-31).

See WRESTLING, Page B4



PLYMOUTH WRESTLING  
Defeating one of his opponents Saturday in the Gary Rivers Memorial Duals is Plymouth's Sterling Schiftar (left). He went 3-1 on the day.

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PLYMOUTH CHRISTIAN BASKETBALL

# Eagles can't make up deficit

PCA's 26-point fourth not enough in 70-51 defeat

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer



During Tuesday night's first half, host Plymouth Christian Academy didn't get much of anything going against Novi Franklin Road Christian.

By the time the Eagles did, they were well behind the Warriors in the MIAC Blue Division varsity boys basketball match-up — trailing 35-14 at halftime and 59-25 after three quarters.

PCA first-year head coach Dino Mattei had called out his team at halftime and there was improvement in the second half. Of course, it didn't change the outcome as Franklin Road still coasted to a 70-51 victory.

"For whatever reason, they beat us back. We didn't get back on defense," Mattei said about what the issue was in the opening 16 minutes. "They had a lot of easy layups, so to me it just was a matter of heart."

"They (Eagles) came out with a lot more heart in the second half, so I'm proud of them for that."

**Coming to life**

Where PCA (2-6 overall, 1-3 in the MIAC Blue) really came to life was in the fourth quarter, when the Eagles stepped up the defensive heat and wound up with several steals that led to points.

PCA outscored the Warriors by an impressive 26-11 in the fourth, scoring more points in the quarter than they had tallied the first

three. "We're going to take that positive (winning the fourth) and we're going to ride that for a while," Mattei said. "We just have to keep doing that."

The Eagles trailed 70-40 with about three minutes to go in the game and then scored the final 11 points of the night, including a pair of buckets within seconds by junior Luke Yakuber.

After scoring a field goal, Yakuber swiped the subsequent in-bounds pass and went in for a high glasser. He also was fouled on the play; his add-on free throw cut the deficit to 70-47.

Yakuber wound up with 14 points, including seven in the final quarter.

Also big in the fourth for PCA were senior Michael Slater (12 points, six in the fourth) and senior Joseph Fannelli, registering four of his six points in the final quarter.

Other Eagles of note in the second half were senior Lucas Albrecht and freshman Matthew Malcolm. Albrecht scored seven points after the break, while Malcolm added three.

"He needs to get bigger and stronger, but he's 14," Mattei said about Malcolm. "He's going to be very good. I said it earlier, he's probably going to be the complete package when he's done. That will be fun to see."

**Pushing the pace**

For Franklin Road (3-6), junior Joshua Betcher scored 22 points and junior Austin Hearn tallied 18 points and 10 rebounds.

The Warriors also were sparked by junior Joshua Bause (nine points, 11 boards) as Franklin Road took advantage of an edge in size around the basket.

"The size difference definitely was a factor," Mattei said. "They're big and they can shoot. They're just a very good team."

"And even when we had good inside position for rebounds, they were going over the top of us, so I don't think we were physical enough."

Warriors head coach Glynn Blackwell said he has been trying to get his team to "put more ball pressure on the opposing team and then we're trying to get easy baskets by advancing it."

Mattei now is hopeful that the Eagles will come out of the gate with more urgency Friday night, in a big MIAC Blue game against host Allen Park Inter-City Baptist.

**FRANKLIN ROAD 47, PCA 37 (GIRLS):** Visiting Plymouth Christian Academy fell behind early Tuesday to Novi Franklin Road Christian and dropped the MIAC Blue Division varsity girls basketball game.

Leading PCA (3-7, 1-4) was Aliyah Pries, who registered 15 points and grabbed nine rebounds.

Also strong for the Eagles was Danielle Witkowski, who scored six points and had 20 rebounds — 12 on the defensive end.

**BAPTIST PARK 49, PCA 33 (GIRLS):** On Friday night, Plymouth Christian Academy's varsity girls basketball team trailed from start to finish in this MIAC Blue Division match-up.

It was a costly loss as Lydia Chapel — who led the Eagles with 11 points (all in the first half) — fractured her hand and will be lost to the team for at least six weeks, likely ending her season.

Scoring eight and six points, respectively, for PCA (3-5, 1-3) were Aliyah Pries and Robin Albert.



Plymouth Christian Academy senior Abby Wyman (seated, left) recently signed to play volleyball at Montreat College in North Carolina. Seated next to Abby is her mom, Teri Wyman. Standing are PCA athletic director Nathan Yates and superintendent Caryn Huntsman.

PCA PLAYER READY FOR COLLEGE CAREER

# Eagles' Wyman signs with Montreat College

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

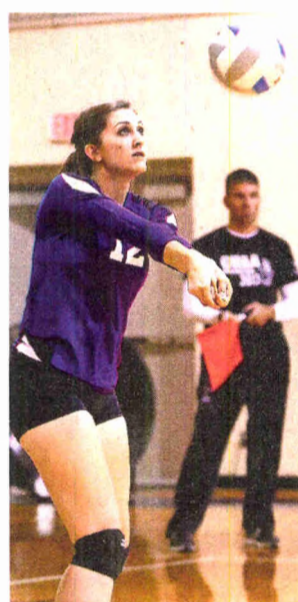
Abby Wyman sure made the most out of her one year in Canton.

The 17-year-old Wyman transferred last summer from South Carolina to Plymouth Christian Academy and proceeded to star as a middle hitter for the Eagles varsity volleyball team.

And recently, the daughter of Mike and Teri Wyman signed her national letter of intent to play college volleyball next fall back in the Carolinas — this time, North Carolina, at Montreat College.

"We are excited to have Abby join our family here at Montreat," said her future coach, Kristy Kamer. "We're looking forward to seeing what she can do for us on the court."

With PCA, she did plenty, sparking the Eagles to a 28-6-2 record. She also was team captain, team MVP and a Class D all-state honor-



Abby Wyman bumps the ball up for PCA during a 2014 contest.

able mention pick.

Abby Wyman, in an email to the *Observer* about her college signing, said she first wanted to play volleyball at a major university such as Clem-

son. But then she remembered visiting Montreat with her mom for volleyball tournaments when the Wymans lived in South Carolina.

"I've been back several times over the years to watch Montreat volleyball," Wyman wrote. "So when I decided I wanted a small college, I contacted the coach and she invited me to a tryout right away."

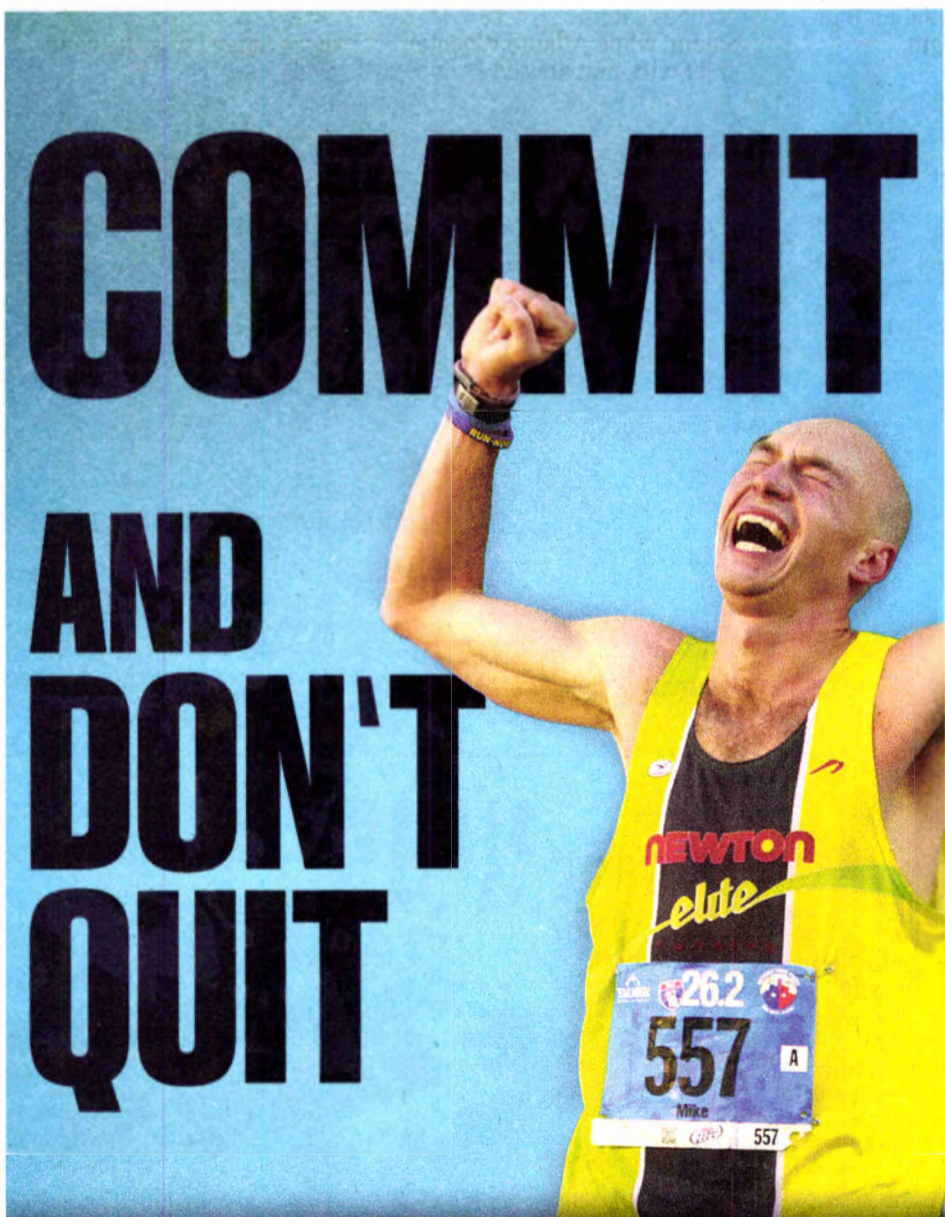
"I went down in November for the tryout and she offered me a spot on the team that day."

Montreat is a Christian liberal arts college located in the mountains east of Asheville, N.C.

"The campus and scenery are beautiful," Wyman wrote, adding that she will pursue a degree in cyber security (a new major offered there).

Wyman, actually born in Livonia, moved to South Carolina when she was a baby.

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DEXTER FRESHMAN-SOPHOMORE MEET

# Young Canton, Salem tankers excel

The annual Dexter Freshman-Sophomore Invitational took place Saturday, providing youngsters from the Canton and Salem boys swim teams a chance to bask in the spotlight.

Coaches also relish the opportunity to see how well their ninth- and 10th-graders get after it against intense competition.

Park swimmers scored highest in the 500-yard freestyle. Finishing second was Salem's Phillip Collingwood, with a time of 5:12.34.

In sixth was teammate Noah Fleming (5:32.28), while Canton's Liam Deppong registered a time of 5:45.92, good for ninth.

Both teams scored spots in the top 10 in each

of the three relays.

In the meet-opening 200 medley relay, the Canton quartet of Kyle Amick, Richard Ling, Tristen Shao and Daniel Mullen finished fourth with a time of 1:50.52.

Not far behind in 10th place was Salem's Kevin Amell, Miles Angell, Abraham Soto and Teddy Dowswell (2:00.75).

The 200 free relay featured Salem's Lucas Sheedy, Noah O'Donnell, Collingwood and Fleming (sixth, 1:40.71) and Canton's Derek Goderis, Jemal Vaunado, Liam Deppong and Caleb Moraw (seventh, 1:41.56).

In the 400 free relay, Canton's tandem of Caleb Styles, Ethan Shimones, Mullen and Shao came in fifth (3:43.37), while Salem's Fleming, Lucas

Sheedy, Soto and Collingwood placed sixth (3:44.12).

Other top 10 finishes by Canton and Salem:

**100 FLY:** The Chiefs placed three swimmers in the top 10 in the, including Shao (fifth, 58.27 seconds), Mullen (eighth, 1:00.71) and Ling (10th, 1:00.83).

**100 BACK:** Canton's Shao (1:01.10) and Amick (1:03.03) took fifth and ninth place, respectively.

**100 BREAST:** Finishing sixth was Salem's Collingwood (1:10.26).

**200 FREE:** Canton's Mullen finished sixth with a time of 1:56.17.

**200 IM:** Placing 10th was Canton's Ling (2:19.52).

**50 FREE:** Vaunado came in 10th with a mark of 24.73.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

**Salem coaching vacancies**

Salem High School has several open coaching positions. Those include varsity girls soccer, varsity boys lacrosse and varsity volleyball.

Email Brian Samulski at [brian.samulski@pccsk12.com](mailto:brian.samulski@pccsk12.com) if interested in applying.

**She made the cut**

An article in the Jan. 15 *Observer* reported about Plymouth-Canton-Educational Park bowling teams and how they fared at the annual Plymouth-Canton-Salem Tournament.

One bowler who was not included in the article but should have been, Salem's Katherine

Kehoe, was eighth in the high series standings with a 175-190-365 scoreline. We apologize for the unintentional omission.

**Canned food drive**

The Plymouth Wildcats varsity boys hockey team is hosting a food drive Saturday, Jan. 31, at Arctic Edge Arena in Canton to support Plymouth Community United Way.

Plymouth will host Salem in the game, which will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Those who bring non-perishable food items to the game will receive a \$1 discount on the price of admission.

All food items will be distributed via PCUW to local food pantries.

Arctic Edge Arena is located at 46615 Michigan Ave. (south side), west of Canton Center Drive.

**Heart check event Jan. 31**

From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, Plymouth High School is hosting a free screening to high school students as part of Beaumont Health System's Student Heart Check program.

Students will have their blood pressure checked and electrocardiograms and echocardiograms will be performed.

For more information, call 800-328-8542 or Beaumont event coordinator Jennifer Shea at 248-551-5707.



GIRLS BASKETBALL

# All Park girls teams prevail

Salem, Canton, Plymouth girls enjoy winning night

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Tuesday night proved to be a great one for all of Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's varsity girls basketball teams.

Salem's physical defense stymied visiting Novi, as the Rocks earned a 41-27 victory.

Elsewhere, Canton also won thanks to strong defense, defeating Livonia Churchill, 36-30.

And Plymouth won for a seventh game in a row, routing winless Wayne Memorial, 58-5.

Following is a closer look at those games:

**SALEM 41, NOVI 27:** Freshman Lasha Petree had an excellent game for the Rocks, as she scored 11 points to pace her team to a KLAACentral Division victory.

Also chipping in for division-leading Salem (6-4, 4-0) was senior Shara Long, who registered nine points and nine rebounds — including six on offense.

Salem head coach Lindsay Klemmer said her team led 17-16 at halftime, only to fall behind early in the third quarter.

"For the rest of the third quarter, both teams exchanged buckets as the intensity also picked up," Klemmer said, adding that her team did go up 28-24 entering the fourth.

Down the stretch, the Rocks took it to the Wildcats with a 7-0 run that sealed the deal.

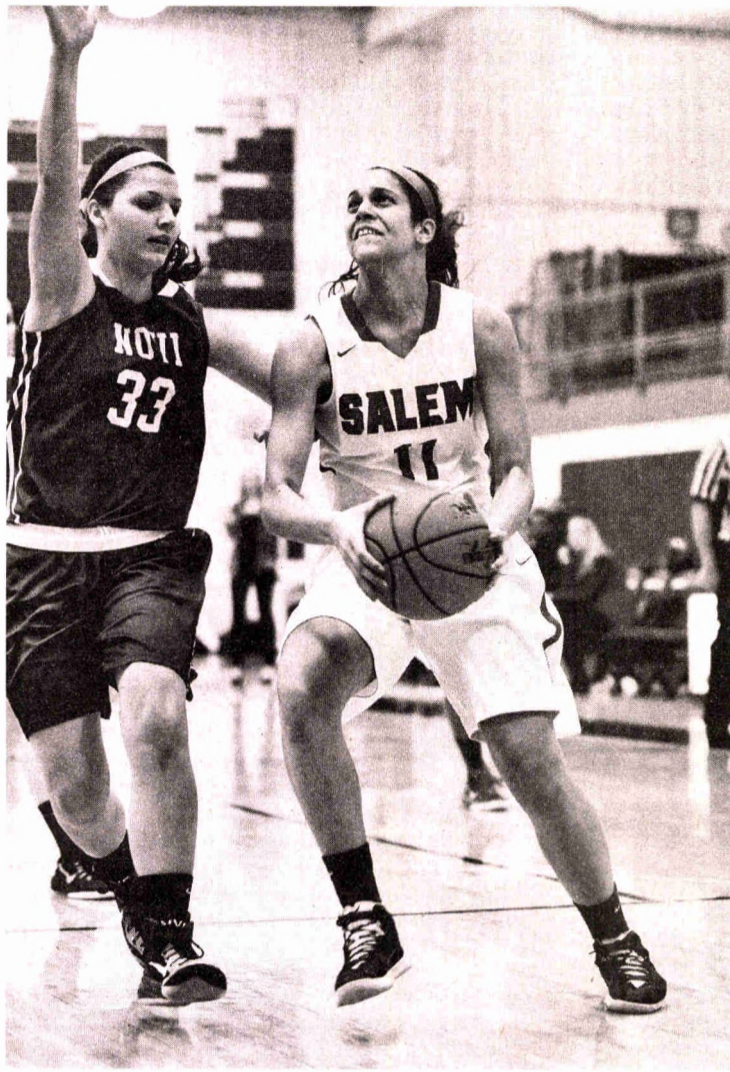
Novi (5-4, 1-3) only hit one basket in the fourth.

**CANTON 36, CHURCHILL 30:** On a night when the shots wouldn't drop for visiting Canton, the Chiefs threw a defensive straightjacket over Livonia Churchill in a KLAASouth Division game.

"We really played tenacious defense tonight," Canton head coach Kevin Palmer said. "We really got after it and forced a lot of turnovers."

"We didn't shoot the ball too well (16 percent first half; 34 percent for the game), but we found a way to grind out and win a game."

Palmer credited the work turned in by junior Natalie



Salem freshman Lasha Petree (right) works her way Tuesday toward the Novi basket.

Winters (eight steals, five rebounds) and senior Alexa Lagola (five points, six steals) as having a big impact on why Canton improved to 5-5 overall and 3-1 in the division.

"Natalie Winters had just a phenomenal game for us," Palmer said. "She was one of our big spark-plugs."

"Also a lot of credit goes to Alexa Lagola. Her forced turnovers led to a lot of baskets for us."

Leading Canton's offense was Madison Archibald, with 10 points. Adding eight points was Erin Hult, while Alanna Brown tallied seven.

Churchill dropped to 6-4, 1-3 with the loss.

**PLYMOUTH 58, WAYNE 5:** Last week, Plymouth lost senior post player Leah Kliczinski to an apparent knee injury.

No worries. The injury just meant more minutes for other

players in Tuesday's lopsided KLAASouth Division win over Wayne Memorial.

Plymouth improved to 8-2 and 4-0 in the division.

"Tonight gave us a great chance to get some players some significant playing time that work so hard and really deserve it," Wildcats head coach Nick Brandon said. "It was nice, too, to get a glimpse of our future."

Brandon cited the efforts turned in by junior post Elise Wehmer (a career-high 10 points, along with six steals), junior point guard Maren Wisniewski (four steals, along with a trey) and junior wing Jordyn Chouinard (eight points, also a career high).

Helping the cause was junior point guard Hannah Badger, who scored eight.

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BOYS BASKETBALL

# Salem drops KLAACentral showdown against Novi, 77-65

By Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

In a game of runs and spurts, Novi had a few more in its first-place KLAACentral Division boys basketball showdown Tuesday night against visiting Salem.

The host Wildcats trailed 33-28 at halftime, but came out with a 10-0 run to start the third quarter and wound up shooting 63.6 percent from the floor during the second half to earn a 77-65 victory.

With its sixth straight victory, Novi improved to 7-2 overall and 4-0 in the division.

For Novi coach Brandon Sinawi, the halftime message was direct.

"I challenge my kids every time at halftime, whether we're up or whether we're down, to do something better than we have before," Sinawi said. "Salem turned it over and we turned it into points and that was big."

Salem (7-3, 3-1) committed turnovers on its first three possessions to start the second half and the Wildcats turned them into six quick points and added two more baskets without an answer to make it 38-35.

Salem, however, came with a 10-2 run of its own and regained the lead, going up 45-42 with 2:49 left in the third quarter on Jon Swift's basket.

But the Wildcats responded with another 10-point run and wound up outscoring Salem 24-12 in the third to gain control, 52-45.

The Rocks then were unable to get closer than four the rest of the way, with the dagger coming with 3:14 left when Novi junior point guard Kam Hankerson, who led all scorers with 24 points, converted a steal into a dunk to make it six-point cushion, 64-58.

Naji Ozeir, a 6-5 junior forward, added 20 points and a team-best 12 rebounds for the victorious Wildcats.

Jake Lenders and Jake Stropes each scored 14 to lead Salem, while Allante Wheeler and Swift contributed 13 and 11, respectively.

"That's a good basketball team and they definitely have a lot of weapons," Salem coach Bob Brodie said of the Wildcats. "One guy is down a little bit, the next guy picks him up. They hurt us all around tonight, especially in transition."

"They got a lot of run-out baskets on us because we didn't get back real well. They killed us on the glass. They beat us two-to-one on the boards."

Novi shot a blistering 21-of-33 in the second half using



Salem's Jake Lenders, shown from last season, continues to provide strong all-around play for the Rocks.

its bread-and-butter play. "We didn't do a very good job on the back side helping out with that," Brodie said of the pick-and-roll. "We knew it was coming. It's one thing to know it, but it's another thing to execute it. (Novi) did a nice job with that. That's a big body (Ozeir) to handle."

Salem returns to KLAACentral play Friday at home against South Lyon East.

"We got to bounce back the next game," said Brodie, whose team shot 41.3 percent from the field (24-of-58) and 55.5 percent from the foul line (15-of-27). "We still have one more game in the first round and got to do it all over again. It turns around very quick in this league. It's matter of a week or two, then all of a sudden you're done."

"We got to regroup and learn from it, not give up as many easy baskets and rebounds and see what we can do from there."

Meanwhile, Novi goes Friday to Livonia Stevenson, where Sinawi was the head coach.

"First place is nice, but we can't act like the top dog because teams are going to run for us the second time around," the first-year Novi coach said. "It's a tough conference. Moving forward we just have to be consistent."

**PLYMOUTH 62, WAYNE 54:** Josh Reynolds and Brent Davis tallied 19 and 17 points, respectively, to spearhead the visiting Wildcats (7-2, 2-2) in a KLAASouth Division tilt.

Canton contributing 10 points for Plymouth was Chris Walls.

**CANTON 49, CHURCHILL 43:** Host Canton continued its dominant early season with this Tuesday win over visiting Livonia Churchill. The Chiefs improved to 9-1 overall and 4-0 in the KLAASouth Division, while the Chargers dropped to 6-4, 2-2.

JEANNE CARUSS INVITATIONAL

# Chiefs vault to the top of 18-team field

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

The defending gymnastics state champion Canton Chiefs are used to a challenge.

They got another one Saturday from hard-charging Farmington United, but managed to prevail to win the Jeanne Caruss Invitational at Lakeland High School.

Canton head coach John Cunningham said the Chiefs "used four nines on vault," their last event, to propel them to the invite title with 144.9 points.

Farmington wasn't far behind, with 142.125, which Cunningham noted "was as close as the competition could come to our strong effort."

Canton followed up that victory with a 142.675-135.7 dual meet win Tuesday over visiting Livonia Red to extend the Chiefs' dual meet winning streak to 52.

At the 18-team Caruss Invite, the Chiefs led by just two-tenths of a point entering the final event.

Canton then scored 37.35, led by Allison Kunz. She finished second in Division 1 on vault with a 9.55.

Stephanie Cox registered a



The Canton varsity gymnastics team won Saturday's Jeanne Caruss Invitational, edging Farmington United.

9.35 to take third in D1 vault, while Jana Hilditch's 9.1 was good for sixth. In D2, Hailey Hodgson scored a 9.35 on vault (second place).

Kunz also tallied identical 9.55 scores to win on uneven parallel bars and finish third on floor exercise.

For good measure, she came in third on balance beam (9.325) and finished first in the D1 all-around with a 37.975 score.

Seventh in D1 all-around (34.725) was Cox, who finished

fifth on floor (9.25).

Also helping the cause was Hilditch, who came in third on bars (8.95) and eighth on beam (8.7).

Hodgson placed in every event. In addition to vault, she scored 9.15 on floor (second), 8.675 on beam (10th), 8.4 on bars (10th) and 35.585 to take third in the all-around.

Another Canton gymnast to make an impressive mark was Sarah Plant, who hit her personal best on vault with an 8.75.

SCHOOLCRAFT BASKETBALL

# Ocelots' offense cooks, 125-89

Five players reached double digits Saturday as visiting Schoolcraft College rolled to a 125-89 men's basketball victory over Henry Ford Community College.

The Ocelots (15-3, 4-1 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association) had a manpower advantage because Henry Ford finished the game with four players — starting guard Lloyd Harris left late in the first half due to injury.

Schoolcraft led by a wide margin (60-39) at halftime.

Ja'Christian Biles paced the Schoolcraft attack with 33 points, while Javon Thomas (24 points) and Marcus Williams (19 points) both had a big day.

Adding 12 points each were

Canton alum Davon Taylor and Ronald Booth.

Henry Ford (5-9, 0-4) was led by John Merriweather's 33 points.

Schoolcraft will travel to face Delta College at 7:30 p.m. Monday.

**SCHOOLCRAFT (WOMEN) 70, HENRY FORD 62:** Also Saturday at Henry Ford, the Lady Ocelots rallied in the second half to earn a big conference win.

Trailing 35-29 at the break, Schoolcraft (12-5, 4-1) turned up the offense to the tune of 41 points, giving up just 27 in the meantime.

Wayne Memorial alum Ashley Bland had a big game for the Lady Ocelots with 25 points and 15 rebounds.

Elise Tolbert (Birmingham Seaholm) scored 13, while Sara Gammons and T'era Nesbitt each added 12 points.

Another key contributor for Schoolcraft was Rikki Sherdt, who grabbed 13 rebounds (nine on the defensive glass).

The top scorer for Henry Ford (7-8, 1-3) was Kenyanna Austin, with 31 points. Chipping in with 12 was Sydney Holmes.

Next up for the Lady Ocelots is Monday's road game against Delta (5:30 p.m.).

# Madonna University women rout Lourdes, 79-60

The 24th-ranked Madonna University women's basketball team led for all except 28 seconds Saturday en route to a convincing 79-60 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference triumph over host Lourdes University in Sylvania, Ohio.

The Crusaders, who improved to 12-6 overall and 11-1 in the WHAC (one game behind Davenport), got 17 points apiece from senior forward Rachel Melcher and junior

guard Michele Hayes.

Sophomore guard Justice Dean (Garden City), who nailed three triples, finished with nine points, as did junior center Erin Menard (Livonia Churchill).

Hayes also had seven assists, while freshman Lindsey Hernden grabbed a team-best six rebounds.

Madonna led 39-22 at the half and by as many as 22 in the second half (77-55) while

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

holding the Gray Wolves to 37-percent shooting from the floor.

MU shot a blistering 55.8 percent from the field (29-of-52) and 16-of-27 from the foul line (59.2 percent).

Jesse Fidler led Lourdes (6-14, 2-10) with 13 points, while Jessica Durr came off the bench to added 11.

Men's game

Missed free throws (12-of-24) were the reason Madonna University dropped its third straight WHAC men's basketball game Saturday to host Lourdes University in Sylvania, Ohio, 58-53.

Zach Steinmetz paced the victorious Gray Wolves (11-9, 7-5) with 17 points and 11 rebounds. E.J. Blackwell and Jake DuPree chipped in 15 and

14 points, respectively. Julian Johnson added 10 points off the bench.

MU, which couldn't hold a 24-20 halftime lead, got 10 points apiece from sophomore Khalil Malone and senior Shaun Duncan. The two guards also combined for 12 rebounds with six apiece.

The Crusaders (7-13, 3-9) shot only 36.5 percent from the floor (19-of-52) and were out-rebounded 40-31.

## SAULT LIONS CLUB HOCKEY SHOWCASE

## Wildcats perfect at Soo Showcase

## Plymouth parlays strong defense, goalkeeping to sweep pair

A dominating team effort Sunday guided Plymouth's varsity boys hockey team to a 5-0 road victory over Sault Ste. Marie.

Coupled with a 2-1 victory Saturday over Hancock, the Wildcats swept the two games they played in the annual Sault Lions Club Showcase at Pullar Stadium.

"It was a great defensive effort all weekend and both of our goalies came up big when they had to," Plymouth head coach Gerry Vento said.

Plymouth (11-3 overall) opened the scoring Sunday when defenseman Derek Szczepanik redirected a pass from defense partner Jake Zaborowski 7:53 into the first period for his sec-

ond goal of the season.

The Wildcats outshot the Blue Devils 27-10 in the first two periods, but Sault goaltender Jacob Schopp kept his team close.

Plymouth broke open the game in the third period. Senior forward Andrew Jossey tipped in a Zaborowski shot on the power play at the 6:15 mark, then fired in a wrist shot 1:48 later. Jossey leads the team with 10 goals.

Senior forward Parker Lazorka (second of

season) and junior forward Alex Bump (eighth of season) added insurance goals later in the period. The Wildcats outshot the Blue Devils 17-5 in the third and 44-15 in the game.

In his varsity debut, junior goaltender Trevor McManus stopped all 15 shots he faced to earn the shutout.

In Saturday's game, the Wildcats held off a third-period rally to top the Bulldogs, a highly-ranked team in Division 3. Senior forward Josh

Smith scored in the first period (sixth of the season), and junior forward James Baldwin (third of the season) tallied in the second to build a 2-0 lead heading into the final period.

Hancock carried the play in the third and cut the lead early in the third. But senior goalie Erik VandenBosch made several tough saves to preserve his fourth win of the season.

Plymouth returns home Saturday to play Division 3's top-ranked

team, Cranbrook, in a 5:30 p.m. contest at the Arctic Edge.

**SALEM 6, CANTON 1:** Saturday at Arctic Edge Arena, the Salem Rocks scored three power-play goals in three attempts and skated to a KLAAs South Division victory.

Evan Newell, Noah Willer and Matt Schaumberger each had a goal and an assist for Salem, while Zach Newsom, Liam Walker and Marty Mills also had a goal each.

Collecting three assists was Noah Saad, while Zach Goleniak tallied two helpers. Making 29 saves for the win was senior goalie Dillon Phillips.

The lone blemish on Phillips' record was a second-period goal by Canton's Connor Wherrett, on a play set up by Tommy Kiddie and Hunter Schlamp.

Salem improved to 8-4-2 and 4-2-2 in the KLAAs South; Canton dropped to 3-7-2 and 0-5-2 entering this week.

## Penguins on the ice



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

PCS Penguins defenseman Gabrielle Godre (right) skates away from a Livonia Ladywood player during Tuesday's Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League game at Arctic Edge Arena. The D2 Penguins lost 3-1 to the D1 Blazers.

## WHALERS

Continued from Page B1

mov scored.

## Down, not out

Perhaps because the team still had extra confidence knowing Nedeljkovic was in top form, the Whalers were not down after the Artemov goal.

And it only took 2:43 to get it back, when Crus Rydberg finished off a great individual effort to beat Spirit goaltender David Ovsjannikov. Collecting the lone assist was Nedeljkovic, who sent the puck up to Crus Rydberg.

"That was a good play by Ned," Crus Rydberg said. "I just saw the lane and tried to skate as hard as I could. I saw the (defenseman) was standing around a little bit, so I just tried to skate by him and tried to shoot."

"It just tipped his stick. Yeah, I was lucky that went in."

There was nothing lucky about the tying and winning goals, however.

With 14:53 to play in the third period, forwards Nicholas Caamano and Mathew Campagna hooked up for the equalizer. Campagna roofed a shot from the right circle.

Then came the go-ahead tally with just over 13 minutes remaining.

Forward Sonny Milano chipped a pass to linemate Carter Chatman, who in turn found a wide-open Crus Rydberg in front for the finish. The goals were Crus Rydberg's sixth and seventh of an injury-hampered season.

"Victor played a great game," Craig said. "Victor's playing real well for us. Ever since he got back from the broken thumb, he's been one of our best centers. He's played hard, he's played physical."

Crus Rydberg said the team talked during the second intermission about coming out with extra energy to "get momentum of the game. And then they got a crapy goal to make it 2-0. But we stayed positive."

The Whalers enjoyed a 20-10 edge in shots during the third period and wound up with a 36-30 advantage for the game.

"We just talked about the things we had to do," Craig said when asked about his between-periods pep talk. "We reinforced that we had to forecheck, we reinforced that we had to finish checks and we reinforced that we were the better team."

"And if we played hard and outworked them, good things would happen for us. And it did."

**BRIEFLY:** The win was Craig's 30th as a coach in the OHL and his first since coaching the Windsor Spitfires in 1984-85. He also coached Plymouth's 7-1 triumph Saturday over Sudbury.

Craig had to step behind the bench for those two games because Eiland was slapped with a two-game suspension (as was Plymouth defenseman Mitch Jones) stemming from an altercation in Friday's loss against Sarnia.

Jones came off the bench to fight a Sarnia player early in the second period and was thrown out of the game.

Both Eiland and Jones will return in time for Friday's game at Niagara. The Whalers then host Guelph at 7 p.m. Saturday.

Before the Sudbury game at Compuware, a moment of silence was held for former Whalers team photographer Walt Dmoch, 48, who died Jan. 14.

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## FANS

Continued from Page B1

Merryfield said. "The team on the ice hasn't been that good and it looked like the ownership hasn't really cared a whole lot about how good they were going to be this year because they wanted to get rid of the team."

"It's been tough, this year and last year."

## They'll miss it

Merryfield added that he and his wife remembered coming to games early during their stint as season ticket holders when tickets were hard to come by.

"They've been very good on the ice over the years," he said. "Drawing (crowds), they used to be very good. About eight or nine years ago, this place would be packed."

Denise Merryfield said she'll miss going to Compuware for a "great night out" surrounded by hockey-loving friends.

"I think they're all disappointed, too," she said about those friends in Section 113. "We don't know what we're going to do now. We kind of feel betrayed, we really do."

The Merryfields said they might sample the new USA Hockey development teams next season at Compuware.

"We're going to come and check it out, definite-



TIM SMITH

Longtime Plymouth Whalers fan David March of Brighton says it is a shame the OHL team is leaving.

ly," Scott Merryfield said. "We live five minutes from the arena, so we're going to definitely be checking it out and seeing what the quality of play is."

But they won't be traveling to Perani Arena to watch next year's as-of-now unnamed Flint team, which will include current Whalers players. The sale of the Whalers to IMS USA Inc. is pending OHL approval in February.

## 'Heartbroken'

Brighton resident Dave March will at least make the trek to Flint next winter, but he is just as saddened about the Whalers leaving town. He is not a season ticket holder, but he has attended anywhere from 10-30 games a year for the past decade or so.

"I'm heartbroken. This is a great family atmosphere at these

games," said March, who graduated from Canton High School in the 1970s. "It's been so much fun. I really enjoy the Red Wings, too."

"But this is closer for my family and the hockey's just as good, in my opinion."

March said he thought lack of media coverage in the Detroit area hampered the Whalers' chance to go toe-to-toe against the area's NHL and college teams.

"It's too bad the Detroit papers didn't follow them closer," March said. "The high school station (that carries Plymouth games, 88.1 The Park) is not that powerful."

Patrick McLaughlin of Bloomfield Township attended Monday's game with 6-year-old nephew Connor McLaughlin. It was Connor's first Whalers game.

"It's sad to me because it's close, it's good hockey," McLaughlin said. "Flint's not too far, but it will be a change. It will be sad to see them leave here to go up there, but I think we'll follow them still."

For what it's worth, Connor nodded and smiled when asked if he liked watching the Plymouth-Saginaw game.

"It's very fan-friendly," McLaughlin said. "And for somebody who is just getting his feet wet into this game, this is perfect."

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## WRESTLING

Continued from Page B1

Plymouth dropped a 44-27 decision to Battle Creek Lakeview and fell 45-20 to Grandville (No. 6, Division 1).

Individual achievements carried the day for the Wildcats.

Guernsey said Dwyer "beat a couple more quality wrestlers, state qualifiers last season"

and has upped his season record to 25-0.

"Collin wrestled well all day getting four very tough wins," Guernsey said. "Hussein looked his best all season dominating his competition. Mike continues to be a beast to have to wrestle. A lot of teams don't want to challenge him."

Schiftar "had a great day of wrestling. He was one 15-second scramble away from going 4-0. Something clicked for

him a couple weeks ago and he has been on a tear ever since."

Also coming up big was Ethan Shulaw, who was "the most aggressive he's been since opening weekend. Hopefully that keeps going."

Plymouth was slated to face Livonia Churchill in a KLAAs South Division dual Wednesday.

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## Heed Mich. court ruling on right of way

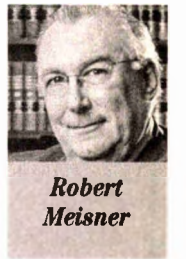
**Q: We have been maintaining a strip of land within a platted right of way of the street since we planted some railroad ties and many years have gone by with no one removing it. We heard there was a recent case that discussed those issues and are you aware of anything?**

**A:** Yes, a very recent decision from the Michigan Court of Appeals, which was published and therefore sets precedent indicated that the platted right of way in that particular case was within the scope of the "public highway" provisions of the Michigan Statute, and therefore, the expenditure of public funds on a road in a dedicated right of way is sufficient to constitute public acceptance of the roadway, even when the municipality never improved certain strips of land within the right of way. Therefore, I believe, depending upon the facts of that case, you may have a difficult road to hoe. On the other hand, each case is factually intensive and you should get an opinion from a knowledgeable real estate lawyer.

**Q: I am hearing a lot about the obligation to allow emotional support dogs and animals in condominiums. Are you aware of any action by HUD to deal with this claimed discrimination?**

**A:** Yes. Federal Fair Housing Law makes it unlawful to refuse to make reasonable accommodations and policies or practices when such an accommodation may be necessary to afford a person with a disability equal opportunity to use and enjoy his or her home. This includes refusing to grant waivers to "no-pet" policies for individuals with disabilities who use assistance or support animals. That is the decision of HUD in a recent case out of Puerto Rico, where the association was ordered to pay \$20,000 in damages plus a \$16,000 civil fine for refusing to allow a resident with disabilities to keep his emotional support dog. Consult with your attorney whenever there is an issue such as this.

**Robert M. Meisner** is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. Visit [bmeisner@meisner-law.com](mailto:bmeisner@meisner-law.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.



Robert Meisner

## Insurance pros: Renter's policy provides critical coverage

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

A few weeks ago, a metro Detroit family lost their possessions in a fire, and didn't have renter's insurance. The Westland community has also been hard hit by apartment fires recently. Local insurance pros emphasize that such policies are vital for apartment dwellers or those in condos or homes who rent—and aren't all that expensive.

Your possessions will be covered in the event of a fire or theft, they say.

"Critical, yes, the word I use is critical," said Jeff Juenemann, owner of Juenemann Insurance in Westland. "It's

just part of common-sense living. You spend your money and you protect yourself from bad things that happen."

Juenemann, a Northville Township resident, said a renter's policy runs in the area of \$200-250 a year, with significant discounts applying for those who also have a corresponding auto policy. "You're living in an apartment building with six kitchens, six people doing silly stuff," he said. "It's going to protect you for a theft, it's going to protect you for a liability."

Liability examples include a slip and fall on the property or a dog bite. Juenemann noted often larger apartment complexes now require renters

to show proof of insurance "because they want their tenants to have liability. Who's the next person who's going to get sued?"

He sees procrastination among renters who intend to get coverage but delay, rather than lack of awareness. Juenemann noted mortgage companies require homeowners to have coverage and the Michigan Secretary of State dictates auto insurance coverage.

"Nobody forces you to buy renter's insurance," he said.

Agreeing is Karen Nemier, co-owner of Kennedy Nemier Insurance Agency in downtown Plymouth. "Your lender's going to force you to buy

insurance" for a car with a loan, she said, adding the same is true for a home with a mortgage on it. "People procrastinate or they don't want to spend the money on it."

Nemier, a Plymouth Township resident, said renter's policies can run as low as \$10-\$15 a month. "Very easy to obtain," she said of renter's insurance.

"The landlord will not cover any of your possessions," she said, citing as examples a fire or water damage. "You have to replace those items yourself. It's very inexpensive coverage."

[jcbrown@hometownlife.com](mailto:jcbrown@hometownlife.com)

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 25-29, 2014, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

#### BEVERLY HILLS

17181 Beechwood Ave \$290,000  
15856 Birwood Ave \$235,000  
19630 Warwick St \$343,000

#### BIRMINGHAM

1280 Buckingham Ave \$509,000  
809 Emmons Ave \$615,000  
303 Greenwood St \$530,000  
1055 Lincoln Ct \$220,000  
1986 Northlawn Blvd \$675,000  
1992 Northlawn Blvd \$660,000  
648 S Bates St \$840,000  
400 Southfield Rd # 7 \$340,000  
1875 Stanley Blvd \$620,000  
711 Suffield Ave \$1,825,000  
1004 Wimbleton Dr \$490,000  
1774 Yosemite Blvd \$590,000

#### BLOOMFIELD HILLS

1635 Mark Hopkins Rd \$675,000  
1196 Rolling Acres Dr \$185,000  
536 Barrington Ct \$540,000  
4420 Exmoor Cir \$428,000  
774 Kingston Ct \$200,000  
1040 Stratford Pl \$410,000  
1750 Tiverton Rd Unit 29 \$144,000

#### BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

3190 Berkshire Dr \$276,000  
1155 Covington Rd \$980,000  
7155 Holiday Dr \$265,000  
1820 Hunters Ridge Dr \$270,000  
839 Jonathan Ln \$855,000  
2634 Plum Brook Dr \$188,000

315 Wilshire Dr \$844,000  
1262 Woodcrest Cir \$333,000  
42160 Woodward Ave \$158,000  
42160 Woodward Ave Unit 79 \$140,000

#### COMMERCE TOWNSHIP

6163 Birchcrest Ln \$440,000  
9005 Commerce Rd \$595,000  
4941 Knollcrest Ct \$429,000  
4958 Ledgewood Dr \$685,000  
5148 Parkgate Dr \$425,000  
567 Sherbrooke St \$100,000  
5940 Strawberry Cir \$424,000  
6105 Strawberry Cir \$286,000  
141 W Beechdale St \$140,000  
2095 Warbler Ct \$350,000

#### FARMINGTON

36545 Lansbury Ln \$226,000  
23090 Lilac St \$94,000  
33709 Oakland St \$295,000

#### FARMINGTON HILLS

29912 Beacontree St \$240,000  
38387 Churchill Ln \$192,000  
36255 Crompton Cir \$275,000  
29635 Eastfield St \$155,000  
30219 Fink Ave \$167,000  
28143 Forestbrook Dr \$225,000  
31740 Franklin Fairway St \$486,000  
39217 Geneva Dr \$286,000  
28223 Harwich Dr \$393,000  
33607 Heirloom Cir \$70,000  
26050 Hidden Valley Dr \$237,000  
29629 Middlebelt Rd \$218,000  
34000 Northwick St \$229,000  
22065 Ontaga St \$136,000  
22121 Ontaga St \$136,000  
31482 Orchard Crk \$80,000  
20845 Parker St \$190,000  
28315 Peppermill Rd \$200,000

24174 S Duncan Cir \$140,000  
38194 Saratoga Cir \$178,000  
35546 Springvale St \$255,000  
22085 Tredwell Ave \$135,000  
30615 W 11 Mile Rd \$115,000

#### FRANKLIN

27340 Willowgreen Ct \$635,000

#### HIGHLAND

3258 Oakridge Dr \$110,000  
3545 Tara Dr \$175,000

#### LATHRUP VILLAGE

27770 Evergreen Rd \$76,000  
17580 Lincoln Dr \$135,000

#### MILFORD

721 Atlantic St \$223,000  
435 Cabinet St \$210,000  
515 Knight St \$200,000  
140 Our Land Ln \$180,000  
155 Peters \$305,000  
480 Rowe Rd \$265,000  
826 Squire Ln \$128,000  
930 W Maple Rd \$300,000

#### NORTHVILLE

48205 Nine Mile Rd \$500,000  
100 E Eight Mile Rd \$249,000  
300 Ely Dr \$185,000  
21487 Equestrian Trl \$250,000  
847 McDonald Dr \$558,000  
21128 Rosewood Ct \$1,300,000

#### NOVI

25953 Arcadia Dr \$670,000  
21882 Chase Dr \$490,000  
22651 Chestnut Tree \$244,000  
44512 Copland Ln \$456,000  
46294 Cordoba Dr \$485,000  
42741 14 Mile \$200,000  
51125 Hallfield St \$318,000  
24548 Knollwood St \$190,000  
27062 Maxwell Ct \$295,000

24466 Riverview Ln \$253,000  
27300 Victoria Rd \$300,000  
23245 W Le Bost \$208,000

#### SOUTH LYON

24867 Carriage Ln \$97,000  
51923 Copperwood Dr N \$425,000  
158 Eagle Way \$217,000  
121 Elm Pl \$198,000  
1209 Hackney Ct \$330,000  
58475 Holland Dr \$272,000  
54365 Meadow Ct \$405,000  
57165 Meadowcreek Cir N \$451,000

#### WESTLAND

24542 Padstone Dr \$75,000  
20854 Parkwoods Dr \$300,000  
786 Pepper Dr \$207,000  
61451 Rolling Acres Dr \$226,000  
61451 Rolling Acres Dr \$230,000  
60648 S Lyon Trl \$315,000

#### SOUTHFIELD

20140 Alhambra St \$160,000  
22500 Avon Ln \$94,000  
28755 Glasgow St \$46,000  
18861 Lincoln Dr \$140,000  
17264 Maryland St \$192,000  
21550 N Tuller Ct \$89,000  
29791 Rambling Rd \$89,000  
20165 Rodeo Ct \$110,000  
27139 Selkirk St \$124,000  
5000 Town Ctr # 1906 \$210,000

#### WHITE LAKE

10361 Elizabeth Lake Rd \$160,000  
10695 Oxbow Lakeshore Dr \$390,000

#### DR

691 Oxhill Ct \$173,000  
891 Pembroke Dr \$377,000  
9026 Tackles Dr \$230,000  
8096 Trenton Dr \$335,000

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 15-19, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

#### CANTON

7434 Andover Dr \$500,000  
1698 Christopher Dr \$119,000  
194 Dunhill Way St \$356,000  
1584 E Lakeview Ln \$203,000  
44748 Forest Trail Dr \$238,000  
7096 Foxridge Dr \$269,000  
46085 Gainsborough Dr \$230,000  
41432 Haggerty Woods Ct \$173,000  
39760 John Dr \$132,000  
42543 Lilley Pointe Dr \$88,000  
4038 Norwich Dr \$141,000  
41969 Old Bridge Rd \$164,000  
659 Pheasant Woods Dr \$333,000  
1950 Preserve Cir W \$180,000  
42420 Proctor Rd \$182,000  
3078 River Meadow Cir \$240,000  
423 Robert Ct \$305,000  
1822 S Tannytown Rd \$82,000  
42005 Saratoga Cir \$165,000  
44411 Savery Dr \$72,000  
4349 Southbridge Dr \$137,000  
437 Stonehenge Dr \$245,000  
50076 Tottenham Ct \$485,000  
41215 Westfield Cir \$188,000

#### GARDEN CITY

33635 Kathryn St \$106,000

#### LIVONIA

30200 Seven Mile Rd \$195,000  
9227 Adams St \$155,000  
14379 Alexander St \$155,000  
14916 Alexander St \$140,000  
35956 Ann Arbor Trl \$60,000  
11012 Arden St \$200,000  
37354 Bennett St \$265,000  
29180 Bretton St \$200,000  
32267 Camborne Ln \$365,000  
27430 Dover Ave \$170,000  
10021 E Clements Cir \$121,000  
16203 Fairlane Dr \$155,000  
20275 Fremont St \$190,000  
19353 Hardy St \$167,000  
30651 Hathaway St \$130,000  
9344 Hix Rd \$155,000  
14507 Ingram St \$150,000  
14959 Knolson St \$165,000  
36927 Lancaster St \$240,000  
9435 Lathers St \$124,000  
18530 Loveland St \$158,000  
18636 Manor Ln \$286,000  
11200 Middlebelt Rd \$50,000  
28971 Minton St \$126,000  
37844 N Laurel Park Dr \$175,000  
14314 Park St \$162,000  
29650 Richland St \$154,000  
33979 Roycroft St \$213,000  
9610 Shadyside St \$164,000  
31778 Summers St \$145,000  
36467 Sunnydale St \$219,000  
37028 Vargo St \$203,000

14045 Westmore St \$232,000  
16822 Yorkshire St \$305,000

#### NORTHVILLE

15958 Augusta Ct \$800,000  
16809 Carriage Way \$159,000  
16185 Country Knoll Dr \$315,000  
19806 Irongate Ct \$124,000  
16481 Lincoln Dr \$380,000  
42734 Lyric Ct \$126,000  
50376 Mulberry Ct \$310,000  
49439 N Glacier \$360,000  
39425 Springwater Dr \$191,000  
41672 Sunnydale Ln \$320,000

#### PLYMOUTH

349 Adams St \$320,000  
305 Arthur St \$450,000  
9106 Cobblestone Cir \$403,000  
40859 Newport Dr \$105,000  
10783 Red Maple Dr \$350,000  
362 Red Ryder Dr \$310,000  
9295 Saddlebrook Ct \$428,000  
801 W Ann Arbor Trl \$875,000  
51000 Weston Dr \$393,000

#### REDFORD

19468 Beech Daly Rd \$36,000  
19478 Beech Daly Rd \$35,000  
14134 Brady \$102,000  
12101 Centralia \$50,000  
10013 Farley \$80,000  
13949 Farley \$117,000  
15220 Garfield \$15,000  
26802 Lyndon \$140,000  
8987 Mercedes \$83,000  
20082 Olympia \$18,000

12159 Rockland \$39,000  
24935 S Sylbert Dr \$35,000  
12317 Woodbine \$80,000

#### WAYNE

4574 Cleveland St \$72,000  
4520 Howe Rd \$18,000  
35021 Winslow St \$83,000

#### WESTLAND

33170 Ann Arbor Trl \$78,000  
7543 Arcola St \$105,000  
639 Autumn Ridge Dr \$203,000  
6751 Chirrewa St \$48,000  
34486 Fairchild St \$20,000  
35026 Fairchild St \$42,000  
29948 Gladys Ave \$100,000  
39101 Hayward Dr \$275,000  
32033 Hazelwood St \$50,000  
33484 Hiveley St \$66,000  
7708 Manor Cir \$54,000  
4746 Matthew St \$5,000  
1933 Mel Ct \$30,000  
639 N Harvey St \$66,000  
7246 N Hawthorne St \$124,000  
5901 N Karle St \$56,000  
6950 N Wayne Rd \$325,000  
6346 Pembroke Dr \$135,000  
8062 Pickering Pl \$195,000  
36665 Rolf St \$115,000  
1738 S Berry St \$93,000  
266 S Carlson St \$130,000  
917 S John Hix St \$98,000  
36315 Schley Ave \$55,000  
1671 Shoemaker Dr \$55,000  
2001 Stockmeyer Blvd \$125,000

### REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

#### Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures.

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

Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email [june.quantum@gmail.com](mailto:june.quantum@gmail.com) for your reservation or additional information.

#### Seminar each Tuesday, Thursday

A free seminar on government-insured reverse mortgages is offered by Colonial Mortgage Corp. at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday and at 2 p.m. each Thursday at various locations.

RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

#### Free foreclosure tours

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

Email [Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com](mailto:Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com) or visit [FreeForeclosureTour.com](http://FreeForeclosureTour.com).

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1st Choice Mortgage Lending	138560	(734) 459-0782	3.5	0	2.75	0
AFI Financial	2431	(810) 588-4424	3.5	0	2.625	0
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	3.5	0	2.75	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	3.875	0	3.25	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	3.625	0	3	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	3.5	0	2.75	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	3.375	1	2.75	0
Group One Mortgage	107716	(248) 282-1602	3.625	0	3.25	0
Zeal Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	3.75	0.25	3.125	0

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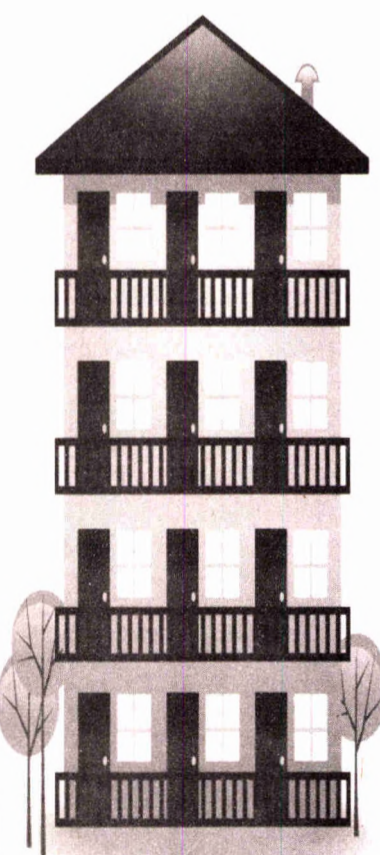
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Royal Oak • Southfield  
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**Estate Sales**

**BLOOMFIELD HILLS** Fri. 1/23 & Sat. 1/24 9am-5pm Bed-room sets, Dining sets, furniture, lamps, dishes & lot of misc. 6111 Thorncrest Dr.

Highland - Estate Sale Jan. 15-17, 10-4PM 1659 Apolo Dr., Vintage furn. tables, misc. bdrm sets, dishes, crafts.

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Or in person: 504 W. Eight Mile Northville MI 48167 (248) 465-2070

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**PERFORMANCE SPRINGS INC.** 57575 Travis Road New Hudson, MI 48165 Phone: 248-486-3372 Fax: 248-486-3379 [Larry@psisprings.com](mailto:Larry@psisprings.com)

**WAREHOUSE**

**MJS PACKAGING** has a full-time position at our Livonia Warehouse. Hrs Mon-Fri. 7:30AM-4PM. Prior warehouse & forklift exp. and able to lift 50+lbs. Self-motivated and ability to work individually & as team member. Shipping & receiving experience a plus. Competitive starting pay & benefit package.

Email: [lrees@mjspackaging.com](mailto:lrees@mjspackaging.com) or fax to: 734-744-4174

**Help Wanted - General**

**MEDICAL BILLING SPECIALIST** Farmington Hills office seeks individual with 2-3 yrs experience in computerized medical billing, A/R and insurance reimbursement experience. MUST have worked with Allscripts Pro (A4) billing software. Qualified candidates send resume & salary requirements [rhone@ucmpc.com](mailto:rhone@ucmpc.com) or fax: 248-957-7997

**Urgent Care**

**Part-Time/Seasonal Help**

- LINE COOKS
- CASHIERS
- FEMALE JANITORIAL AFTERNOON SHIFT

Apply in person: 33152 W. 7 Mile Rd. Livonia Or send resume/salary history: [liviomismarket@yahoo.com](mailto:liviomismarket@yahoo.com)

**Part-Time/Seasonal Help**

- LINE COOKS
- CASHIERS
- FEMALE JANITORIAL AFTERNOON SHIFT

Apply in person: 46100 Grand River Novi MI Or email: [dthomas@suburbanshowplace.com](mailto:dthomas@suburbanshowplace.com)

**TAX PREPARER** Farmington Hills based accounting firm seeking exp'd. tax preparer for seasonal help. Experience with Ultra Tax required. Pay based on experience. Email resume to: [jobsearch8606@gmail.com](mailto:jobsearch8606@gmail.com)

**Help Wanted - Office Clerical**

**Office Administrator Position** \$13/hour, 35 hr/wk. Send resume to [lumc777@lumcnorthville.org](mailto:lumc777@lumcnorthville.org) attention SPRC Chairperson.

**OFFICE ASSISTANT** Full-Time. Fast-paced Landscape co in Canton. Must have office exp. Customer Service, Word & Excel skills a must. Resume: [Office.Reliable.Land@gmail.com](mailto:Office.Reliable.Land@gmail.com)

**Office Manager** Part-Time for year-round, private school in Farmington Hills. Must be highly competent, organized & professional. See full job posting on [CareerBuilder.com](http://CareerBuilder.com) Keyword 2470129 or email resume: [RHMAFH@yahoo.com](mailto:RHMAFH@yahoo.com)

**CASH IN with O&E Media's CLASSIFIEDS 800-579-SELL**

**Help Wanted - Medical**

**Caregiver/Home Health Aides** Must be caring & dependable. Hiring in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties. Open Interviews Thurs, Jan. 29, 2-7pm 28200 Orchard Lake Suite #111 Farmington Hills

**SENIOR HELPERS** (248) 865-1000 or email resume to: [hr2601@seniorhelpers.com](mailto:hr2601@seniorhelpers.com)

**Food - Beverage**

**COOKS** Afternoon/Evening Shifts Experience Preferred **Stella's Black Dog Tavern** 734-207-9656

**PERSONALS**

hometownlife.com

**Personals**

Please help save a life. Canton father of two in dire need of an O+ Kidney. Call or text 734-502-4513. We need your help!

**Lost - Goods**

**Reward: \$75** Location: Livonia K-mart Date: 1/17/15, 8 PM Missing: Blue-Gray Backpack 2 Math-Statistics Textbooks 1 Portable External Hard-drive Contact: 3136056754 (313)605-6754 [jmensds-cole@peoplepc.com](mailto:jmensds-cole@peoplepc.com)

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# Doctors Without Borders benefit in Redford expands music lineup

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Mick Gavin will mix it up musically for his sixth annual Doctors Without Borders benefit next month in Redford.

Bluegrass and Americana folk bands, Spanish dancers and a Scottish music trio will join the usual lineup of Irish music makers at 5 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall, 25300 Five Mile.

"It's going to be quite different," said Gavin, a Redford resident who plays and teaches Irish fiddle music. "We have a huge variety this year. We have a huge lineup and it's an all-volunteer force. I think this is a great melting pot of music."

Gavin recruited the Corn Potato String Band for the benefit after attending a few of their concerts. The trio plays old time American and Appalachian music and will release its second CD, *Corn Potato String Band Volume Two*, on Valentine's Day.

"The first time I saw them, I said, these guys are really good," Gavin recalled. "We've both played at parties, but we have never actually joined forces. This would be our first time. This is something I've never had before (at the benefit) but I'm a big fan of good bluegrass music."

## Multi-instrumentalists

Aaron Jonah Lewis, who grew up in Oak Park, created the band two years ago with Lindsay McCaw, an Iowa native, and Ben Belcher, who lives in New Hampshire. Belcher plays guitar, banjo and fiddle; McCaw calls square dances, does puppetry, and plays fiddle, banjo, guitar, accordion and piano; Lewis plays fiddle, banjo, mandolin, guitar and bass.

Lewis started taking violin lessons at age 4, taught himself to play banjo and guitar by age 12, and spent his last two high school years at Interlochen Center for the Arts.

"When I was in high school I didn't really respect folk or bluegrass. Then I met a guy after high school who dragged me kicking and screaming into it and I never looked back," Lewis said. "I've played with dozens of groups. I was taught by 100 different teachers, from old recordings and from people I met and spent time with. It's an ancient tradition and I'm honored to be a part of it."

Corn Potato String Band came together when a friend of a friend needed a band to perform at the American embassy in India. Lewis had played with McCaw and Belcher separately in the past and brought them together to form his trio.

"I united two different musical partners who hadn't met each other," Lewis said. "It happened pretty naturally."

## Musical treasures

In the past two years, the group made two CDs, and toured India, Ireland, England,



The Corn Potato String Band, with Aaron Jonah Lewis on fiddle and Lindsay McCaw on guitar, will perform at the Doctors Without Borders benefit, Feb. 7, in Redford.



El Alma Española specializes in flamenco, classical and regional dances of Spain. They'll dance at the Doctors Without Borders benefit in Redford.

## DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS BENEFIT

**What:** Sixth annual fundraising concert for Doctors Without Borders, an organization that delivers emergency medical aid to people affected by conflict, epidemics, disasters or exclusion from health care

**When:** 5 p.m. to midnight, Saturday, Feb. 7

**Where:** Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall, 25300 Five Mile, Redford  
**Details:** Performers will include Kenneth MacLeod and the Rankin family; Finvarra's Wren; The Corn Potato String Band; Behind The Times; The Connor O'Neil's Session Group; Highland Piper Terrence Bradley, Crossroads Ceili with Mick, Michael and Sean Gavin, Colleen Shanks, Kelsey Lutz, Frank Kennedy, Ray Maguire; Colin Paige and Eddie McGlinchey; El Alma Española; Susan O'Rourke and Zig Zeitler; The Ardan School of Irish Dance; and The Anne McCallum Set-Dancers

**Admission:** By donation. Make checks payable to Doctors Without Borders.

**Contact:** 313-537-3489

and the Netherlands. Their tour in March-April will begin and end in the Detroit area and will include a barn dance in Kalamazoo and the Ark in Ann Arbor.

"We have two original tunes which we don't play too often. That's not our focus. We really are into digging up buried treasure of old tunes that people may not have heard, and to keep them alive and share

them with everyone."

Behind The Times, another acoustic trio that plays bluegrass, country and old time music and El Alma Española, a Spanish dance troupe, also are set to perform at the benefit. Irish music performers include Connor O'Neil's Session Group, Crossroads Ceili, Finvarra's Wren, and Susan O'Rourke and Zig Zeitler, among others.



Behind The Times blends influences from bluegrass, country, jazz, and popular favorites to create original songs. The acoustic trio will perform at the Doctors Without Borders fundraiser.

Gavin and fellow Irish musicians founded the benefit in response to the earthquake in Haiti in January 2010. The event raised \$9,000 for Doctors Without Borders in its first year.

"The musicians said you should do it again," Gavin said. "We just kept doing it and giving (donations) to Doctors Without Borders. It's getting better and better by the year."

## Redford woman's play gets top honors at Canton festival

*Such a Small Word*, a play by Maureen Paraventi of Redford, took first place in the Audience Choice Award at the third biennial Canton One Acts Festival, presented by TLC Productions.

The festival, Friday-Sunday, Jan. 16-18, brought eight new works to the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton. Local actors, including Paraventi, and directors staged the plays, which were submitted by authors in Michigan, five other states, and Australia.

The second-place winner was *Press Pray* by Seth Freeman of California. Third place went to *Car Talk* by Elaine Alexander of North Carolina.

Another of Paraventi's plays, *Ruin Porn*, will be staged at the Women's Playwriting Festival, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 20-21, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22, at Two Muses Theatre, located inside the Barnes & Noble Bookseller, 6800 Orchard Lake Road, south



LYLANNE MUSSELMAN

Maureen Paraventi of Redford shows off her first-place Audience Choice Award for her play, "Such a Small Word," which was staged at the Canton One Acts Festival, Jan. 16-18.

of Maple, West Bloomfield. Each day features different plays. Admission is \$10 at the door. A \$15 festival pass is available for three days at [twomusestheatre.org](http://twomusestheatre.org). Or call 248-850-9919.

For more about TLC Productions, visit [tlcprod.wordpress.com](http://tlcprod.wordpress.com).

— By Sharon Dargay

## GET OUT! CALENDAR

### ANIMALS DETROIT ZOO

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily

**Location:** I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

**Details:** Admission is \$14 for adults 15-61, \$10 for senior citizens 62 and older, and for children ages 2-14; children under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5. Detroit Zoological Society members get free admission and parking

**Wild Winter Weekend:** Celebrate African American history with an African drum lesson, hear stories by Kenyan naturalist and Detroit Zoo education specialist David Gakure, enjoy live entertainment, arts and crafts, games and educational experiences, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 7-8. Free with zoo admission

**Contact:** 248-541-5717

### ARTS AND CRAFTS DIRTY SHOW

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 12-14 and Friday-Saturday, Feb. 20-21

**Location:** Russell Industrial Center, 1600 Clay Ave. Detroit

**Details:** Exhibit of erotic art, with an appearance by John Waters at 8 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 12. Tickets are \$30 general admission, \$45 seated, \$75 VIP

**Contact:** [dirtyshow.org](http://dirtyshow.org)

### GALLERY@VT

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday and during public events, through Feb. 28

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

**Details:** Art work and essays on Martin Luther King, Jr., by students in the P-CEP Arts Academy

**Contact:** 734-394-5300; [cantonvillageheater.org](http://cantonvillageheater.org)

### NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

**Time/Date:** Noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6-27

**Location:** 215 W. Cady, Northville

**Details:** Ninth annual Member Exhibition features more than 70 works of art in all media. Opening reception, 6-9 p.m. Feb. 6

**Contact:** 248-344-0497

### COMEDY JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22; 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 23-24

**Location:** 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

**Details:** Stewart Huff; tickets are \$12 for show only or \$25 for show and a

dinner on Thursday; \$16 for show or \$29 for show and dinner, Friday-Sunday

**Open mic:** Each comedian gets five minutes of stage time. Open mic begins at 8 p.m. every Tuesday. Call the box office Tuesday through Thursday, to get on the performer list

**Contact:** 734-261-0555; [catchthefun-ny.com](http://catchthefun-ny.com)

### LAUGH IT OFF

**Time/Date:** 10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6

**Location:** Brady's Tavern, 31231 Southfield Road, Beverly Hills

**Details:** The show will feature Jeff Ford, Amit Jain, Michael Joseph Klink, Khurum Sheikh, Tom Massey, Greg Shur, Joey Derderian, Andrew Acker and Jane aka CC Dynamite with her puppet. \$8 if booked in advance by email or \$10 at the door

**Contact:** [artactivity@hotmail.com](mailto:artactivity@hotmail.com)

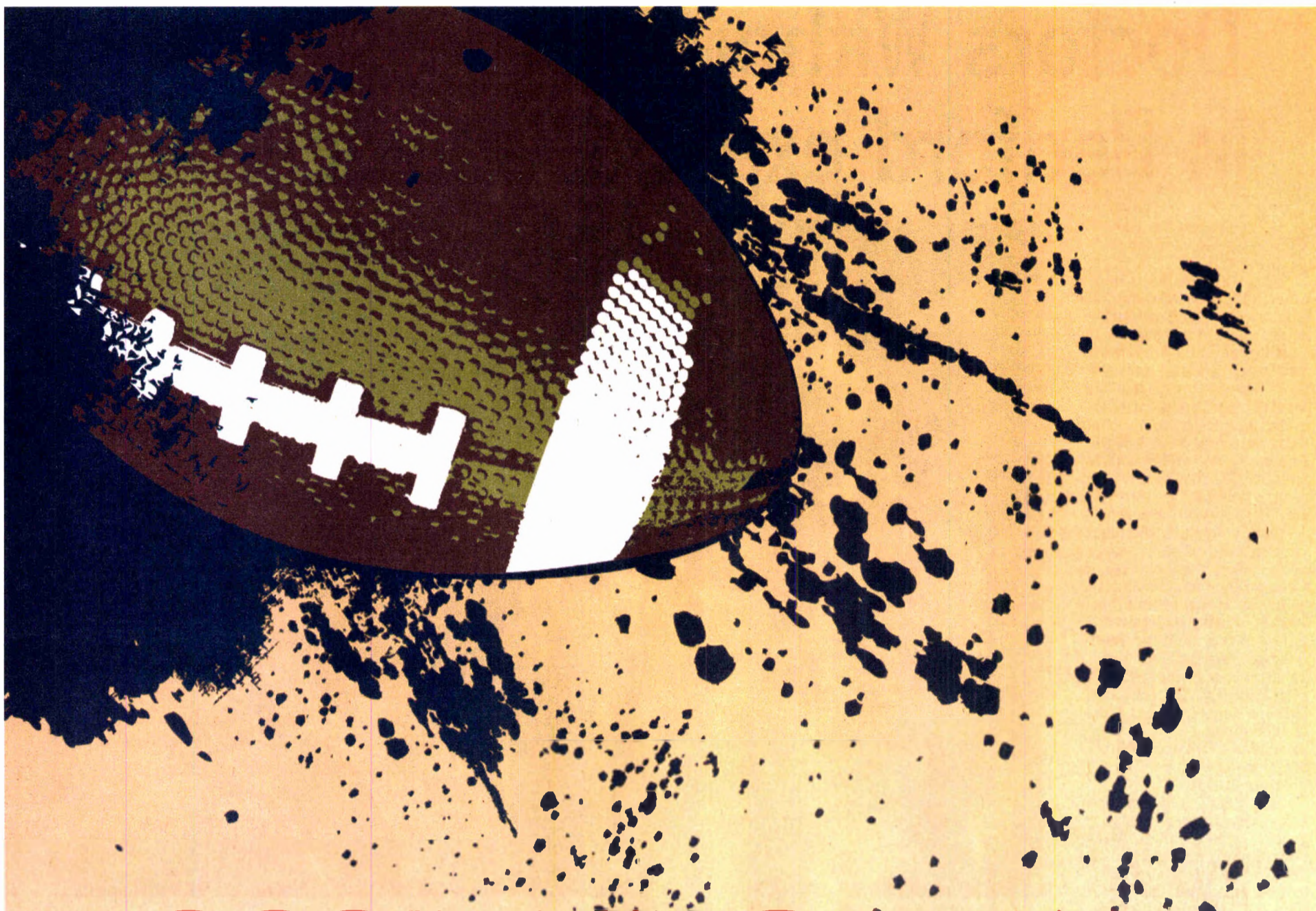
### MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Jan. 22-23; and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24

**Location:** Fourth and Troy streets in downtown Royal Oak

**Details:** Bill Dwyer; tickets \$10 Thursday, \$18 Friday-Saturday

**Contact:** 248-542-9900; [info@ComedyCastle.com](mailto:info@ComedyCastle.com)



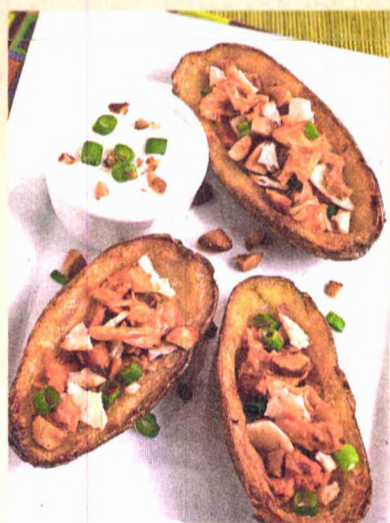
## SCORE BIG WITH GAME DAY SNACKS

The game is on, and your home is filled with friends decked out in those familiar colors, ready to cheer their team to victory. Now there's only one more thing you need to make this game day gathering great — a feast of delicious, easy-to-enjoy goodies.

Make sure to include delicious dips and dippers in your game day spread. Add variety and color with sliced up carrots, bell peppers and broccoli to serve alongside crackers and other crunchy dippers.

Get in the game with these recipes and more by visiting [www.bluediamond.com](http://www.bluediamond.com).

*Courtesy of Family Features*



### BLAZIN' BUFFALO POTATO SKINS

*Servings: 6-8*

3 pounds small russet potatoes  
Olive oil cooking spray  
1 cup shredded reduced-fat or regular Monterey Jack cheese  
1 cup shredded rotisserie chicken  
¼ cup buffalo wing sauce  
½ cup crushed Blue Diamond Hint of Sea Salt Nut-Thins  
½ cup chopped Blue Diamond Smokehouse Almonds  
½ cup light sour cream  
¼ cup sliced green onion tops

Preheat oven to 450°F and line baking sheet with foil. Rinse potatoes and pat dry; pierce with fork or sharp knife. Place in large microwave-safe bowl; cover and microwave on high for 15 minutes or until potatoes are soft when gently squeezed. Remove and let cool slightly.

Cut in half and scoop out potato leaving ¼-inch rim of potato inside skin. Place on prepared baking sheet and spray both sides of potato skins liberally with cooking spray; bake for 15 minutes to crisp.

Sprinkle equal amounts of cheese into each skin. Stir together chicken and wing sauce and spoon over cheese. Top with nut chips and almonds and bake for 5 minutes more. Add dollop of sour cream to each and sprinkle with green onions. Serve with additional wing sauce, if desired.



### HONEY DIJON PRETZEL CHICKEN TENDERS

*Servings: 3-4*

1 package (about 1 ¼ pound) chicken tenders  
1 egg, whisked  
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard  
1 teaspoon garlic powder  
Salt and pepper  
1 cup crushed pretzels  
1 cup crushed Blue Diamond Honey Dijon Almonds

In small bowl, coat raw chicken with egg, mustard and spices. Let marinate in refrigerator for 20 minutes.

Preheat oven to 375°F. Mix pretzels and almonds, and spread on large plate in even layer. Coat each chicken tender in pretzel-almond mixture, then place on greased baking sheet. Bake for 20 minutes, or until chicken is cooked through.



### BACON AVOCADO DIP

*Servings: 1 cup*

1 large avocado, peeled and mashed  
½ tomato, seeded and chopped  
½ cup Blue Diamond Jalapeño Smokehouse Almonds, chopped  
¼ cup diced red onion  
3 strips cooked bacon, roughly chopped  
2 tablespoons sour cream  
1 teaspoon minced garlic  
Juice of ½ lime  
Salt and pepper, to taste

In small bowl, mix all ingredients. Serve with tortilla chips or your favorite flavor of Nut Thins.



### GRAB N' GO POPCORN BALLS

*Servings: 12*

1 tablespoon canola oil  
½ cup popcorn  
6 tablespoons butter  
1 (10-ounce) bag mini marshmallows  
¾ cup Blue Diamond Oven Roasted Sea Salt Almonds  
½ cup chocolate chips  
Sea salt, for garnish

In large Dutch oven, heat oil and popcorn over medium heat. Cover with lid, shaking pan occasionally to coat kernels. Once you hear first pop, continue shaking pan until popping slows down and all kernels have popped. Set aside.

In large saucepan, heat butter over medium-low heat, until melted. Add marshmallows and mix until fully melted. Add cooked popcorn. Gently stir until popcorn is evenly coated with marshmallow mixture. Add almonds and chocolate chips, and continue to stir until incorporated into mixture. Remove pan from heat, and let cool for few minutes. Sprinkle with sea salt. Moving quickly, mold popcorn-marshmallow mixture into balls with hands. (Washing hands with water will help ensure mixture won't stick.) Place balls on parchment paper, and let cool. Store in airtight container or bag.