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TODAY'S NEWSPAPER

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2015 • hometownlife.com

Parents start online petition to stop district's schools of choice program

By Brad Kadrich
Correspondent

Last year's decision by the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education to open the door to 200 schools of choice slots to K-2 students turned out to be one of the

most controversial decisions in

recent years.

This year's recommendation to expand it to 300 students in grades K-3 is already following the same controversial pattern.

A group of parents has started an online petition to try to convince board members not to move forward with the administration's recommendation. Kristen Perkins is one of several parents behind the petition drive.

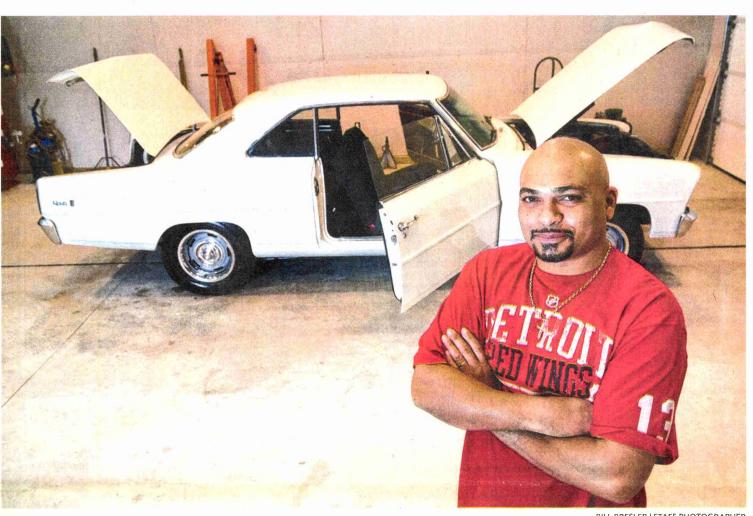
"I ... do not feel it is right for our community," Perkins wrote in a letter to board members. "I believe it will create further contention which is already lingering from the issue of redistricting and lack of school choice for in-district students. (Schools of choice) has the potential to increase our class sizes, which is certainly not beneficial to the students we currently have in our schools."

As the district began considering its budget issues for the 2015-16 school year, Michael Meissen, the district's superintendent, said the SOC option is designed "to increase school

enrollment during a period of significant enrollment de-

Meissen and his staff have estimated the district will lose some 400 students each year for the next five years, citing a falling Wayne County birth rate and competition primarily

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FROM SHELL TO SHOWROOM: NOVA HEADS TO AUTORAMA

By Matt Jachman Staff Writer

Even as a dust-covered shell that he had just rescued from a barn in southern Indiana, Tyson Humphries' 1966 Chevrolet Nova was turning heads. "Every gas station we'd stop at, 'Hey would you like to sell that car?' "Humphries said Monday as he recalled his trip back from Rising Sun, Ind., with the Nova. "It was like, 'Dude, I just got it."

Tyson Humphries and his 1966 Chevy Nova will be at Autorama starting Friday.

That was in 2000, when Humphries of Plymouth Township bought the Nova from a man in Rising Sun who had painted the shell, then given up. Today, hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars later, Humphries is getting ready to take his "dream car" to its third Detroit Autorama, a

show of nearly 1,000 hot rods

and custom cars that opens

Friday at Cobo Center.

Humphries' purchase of
the Nova came with a load of
assorted parts and, with those
– and plenty of others from
aftermarket suppliers – he has

See NOVA, Page A2

New chamber event to honor community efforts

By Matt Jachman Staff Writer

A new Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce event will honor local businesses and individuals for their volunteer efforts.

The chamber's inaugural business awards dinner is 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at Karl's Cabin. The event will feature a four-course made-in-Michigan menu and four awards designed to recognize community service by chamber members, said Wes Graff, chamber president.

"We hope this provides an annual platform to recognize outstanding companies who set the example for giving back to the community," Graff said. "All these companies clearly see a value in investing in the Plymouth community."

There will be business-of-

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FILE PHOTO
Greg Blackwood (right)
talks to Lt. Gov. Brian
Calley and Department
of Environmental
Quality Director Dan
Wyant during their
tour of Fraza Forklifts
last year. Blackwood,
president of Fraza, is
the winner of the
Plymouth Community
Chamber of
Commerce's first
legacy award.

Township plans appeal of DeHoCo court ruling

By Matt Jachman Staff Writer

Plymouth Township will appeal a judge's decision Friday that returned 190 acres of foreclosed former prison property in the township to the city of Detroit.

The township Board of Trustees voted unanimously for an appeal after a closed session following its regular meeting Tuesday. Officials said both the decision by Wayne County Circuit Judge Robert Colombo to set aside the 2011 foreclosure, as well as his rejection of the township's request for summary disposition of the case, will be appealed.

Supervisor Richard Reaume said township officials believe the foreclosure was proper. The township obtained the 190 acres as part of a parcel of 323 acres south of Five Mile and west of Ridge that it purchased in a Wayne County tax sale for about \$606,000.

"We feel the Wayne County treasurer did everything the Wayne County treasurer was supposed to do" regarding the foreclosure, Reaume said.

Detroit officials, however, claimed the city still owned 190 acres west of Johnson Creek and in 2013 sued the township, Wayne County and county Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz, seeking return of the property. In his decision Friday, Colombo agreed with the city's contention that is was not given proper notice of unpaid taxes and that state tax regulations forbid foreclosing on municipally owned property.

Detroit had sold the eastern 133 acres to a development company in 2006, but a lot split was not recorded until nearly two years later. Taxes on both parcels went unpaid and the county foreclosed on it.

Former prison

The site was once part of the Detroit House of Corrections, a city-owned prison that operated from the 1920s to 1986. Other parts of what was dubbed DeHoCo later became state correctional facilities,

which are also now closed.

The land is now part of what

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RULING

Continued from Page A1

state, county and local officials envision as the Michigan International Technology Center, a high-tech business park of about 800 acres in the Five Mile corridor, west of Beck. Reaume last week said MITC development efforts will continue.

Township attorney Kevin Bennett said Detroit was not seeking monetary damages from the township in the dispute. Bennett said the township's appeal will be an "interlocutory appeal" or one made before the original case is closed. Colombo's decision Friday did not resolve all outstanding issues in the

"You want to pre-

serve your right to appeal," Reaume said.

The supervisor said there are "so many unknowns" in the case, such as whether the township will be compensated if the 190 acres are returned to Detroit and whether back taxes will be paid with interest.

Reaume said that, parallel to an appeal, attorneys for the three parties will work together to see if a settlement can be reached.

David Szymanski. the deputy county treasurer, said Wednesday that no decision has been made on whether the treasurer will appeal Colombo's decision.

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CHAMBER

Continued from Page A1

the-vear awards in three categories - large, medium and small – plus a legacy award for an individual whose contributions of time and resources over time have helped the chamber's efforts, Graff said.

Greg Blackwood, president of Fraza Forklifts in Plymouth Township, is the winner of the first legacy award.

"He has put in countless hours in our two biggest fundraising events (the chamber's golf outing and its auc-

tion) and served two rotations on the board totaling 13 years, including a year as chair-man," Graff said. "He also is instrumental in providing auction items which have brought the chamber tens of thousands of dollars over the years."

The other honorees are:

» Hines Park Lincoln, large business of the year. Hines Park is a third-generation dealer and one of the top-selling Lincoln dealerships in the country. Graff said the company provides support to civic and charitable organizations across the spectrum and

is a big supporter of events like the downtown farmers market and the Friday night Kellogg Park concert series.

» Vermuelen-Sajewski Funeral Home, medium business of the year. The company, which has three locations, supports many local organizations, plus members of the Vermuelen family are members of the local Kiwanis and have served on community boards, Graff said.

» The O'Neill, Blausey, Hartsock Group of Morgan Stanley, small business of the year. Patrick O'Neill, senior vice president of the

financial advising firm, lives in Plymouth and is a former chamber chairman. Graff said O'Neill has taken a leadership role in many local organizations and "believes in investing back in the community where he has made significant personal investments in real estate" and is a trusted financial adviser.

A few tickets, at \$50 each, remain for the event. Call the chamber at 734-453-1540 for information. Karl's Cabin is at 6005 Gotfredson, Salem Township.

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NOVA

Continued from Page A1

restored it to near-show-

room condition. 'There was no interior," when he bought it, Humphries said as he showed off the Nova in his garage. "No glass, no motor, no trans." He had had project cars before, he said, but nothing that required as much work.

This is the first project I've taken on to this extreme," he said.

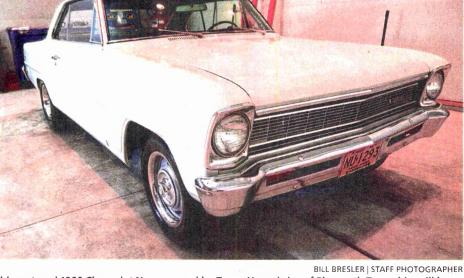
And the last as well, he added later. "This is a done deal right here," he said.

Humphries, a forklift mechanic for Ford Motor Co., did the restoration work himself, relying on mechanical skills he started learning as a boy and honed in high school and post-secondary vocational training.

Back in the day

The Nova provides a nostalgia trip, he said, reminding him of his late mother, who had a '67 Nova her brother bought for her, and of his uncle, who liked to tinker with racers and had a friend who would stop over with his car.

"It reminds me of growing up," Humphries said. Inspired by her



This restored 1966 Chevrolet Nova owned by Tyson Humphries of Plymouth Township will be seen at Autorama this weekend.

brother, his mother had a dream of doing some racing of her own, he said.

Now, lots of younger people don't recognize the Nova, but Humphries is glad to talk to them about it. When he was a kid, he said, cars like the Nova were "daily drivers" for a lot of people.

He'll occasionally take the car to a racetrack, not really to race - "It's not that fast" - but to "test and tune" in an appropriate setting.

"It gives you a chance

to go down the track," he said.

He's taken the Nova to local shows and cruises and twice before to Autorama. Sometimes, he'll drive it to work. "It's got to be weather permitting," he said.

Humphries picks up ideas and talks shop at car shows, not hesitating to ask for tips and details. "I always walk around (Autorama) just to see what people have done to their cars," he said.

He likes to return the favor, too, when showing off his own car.

"I like to be an inspiration to other people, because I used to be that guy," he said. "I still ask questions.'

The 63rd annual Detroit Autorama opens at noon Friday at Cobo Center in Detroit. For more information, go to www.autorama.com or call 248-373-1700. Discount tickets are available at O'Reilly Auto Parts locations.

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Brother releases heartfelt music to benefit cancer research

By Robin D'Angelo Correspondent

"Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love." - Mother Teresa

One year ago, 17-year-old Salem High School senior Sidarth Raghunathan wasn't aware of the lack of funding for certain types of cancers nor the impact of the disease when it strikes a young person unexpectedly. That is, until his 23-year-old brother Rohit was diagnosed with stage 3 testicular cancer.

"He was having back pain, but none of us expected it was cancer because it is so uncommon for his age," Raghunathan said. "As a result, he didn't get diagnosed until it was very advanced.'

A Seattle resident at the time, Rohit moved back to Michigan with his family and quickly began chemotherapy at the University of Michigan.



Sidarth Raghunathan worked on the CD with his music teacher Lauren Erickson.

"He lived with us for a few months and it really made me more aware of the struggles he was facing," Raghunathan said. "As I became more involved, I also became aware of how underfunded some aspects of cancer research are."

A flutist since the sixth grade, Raghunathan was already volunteering his musical talent at the same hospital, so when his brother began treatment, he decided to take it a

step further and raise money for cancer research by recording a CD of his music.

'Rohit actually used to play flute a long time ago, so he thought it was a very interesting endeavor. He helped me pick out my music," Raghunathan said.

Musician and flute teacher Lauren Erickson said she was introduced to Raghunathan when he came looking for flute lessons in eighth grade and has been teaching him ever

"What's been really cool is I've been able to watch him grow from an unsure voung boy into a very confident young man," she said. "He's committed – when he makes a decision to do something, he sees it through and he really cares about people a great deal.

"Was I surprised that he wanted to use his gift of flute to benefit others after his brother got cancer? Not one

bit. That is Sidarth. I was more than happy to work with him and see the project through to completion.

Creating the CD was both challenging and time-consum-

ing, Erickson said, but Raghunathan was entirely commit-

"First he had to learn the music and some of his song choices were challenging for him, so it took him a while to get some of the songs under his fingers," she said. "Secondly, we had to get

together and rehearse with other musicians. Along with me, he also had a pianist and a harpist that were involved. We not only had to rehearse, but schedule an actual recording session. So he was coordinating with all of us and a recording engineer and we had to contact two of the composers to get their permission for their music to be on his CD."

Raghunathan's Flute Journev consists of 11 songs and

includes Bach's Siciliano and Polonaise, Debussy's Deuxieme Arabesque, as well as Danse de la Chevre, Istanbul

and Capriccio. "The CD represents a lot of different time periods and different styles, some Baroque, some classical, some modern. I like all of them in

different ways," he said. The CDs are \$10 each, taxdeductible, and all proceeds to go benefit Indiana University Cancer Research, where Rohit underwent several operations.

Raghunathan said his brother had his final surgery several months ago and is now back at work in Seattle, where he plans to enter graduate school for a degree in biostatistics.

Erickson said when she received the final cut of the CD, she wept for joy.

Sidarth surprised me by showing up to his flute lesson with the final product and I just gave him a big high-five. We were all giggles," she said.

Family physician Fonde gave back to community, loved ones

By Julie Brown Staff Writer

It was a proud moment for Karen Rhea Fonde when at age 40 she received her medical degree from the University of Michigan Medical School.

Dr. Fonde died March 1 at age 65 of complications of Alzheimer's disease.

The Plymouth resident, who became a family medicine physician and U-M assistant professor, had earlier been a teacher. She and her husband, Joel Thurtell, had been Peace Corps volunteers in Africa.

That's what she really thrived on was basically being able to help people," Thurtell recalled of his wife. Dr. Fonde and her husband had a philosophy: "We're a team and we're going to get it done and she did," he said.

Dr. Fonde was valedictorian of her 1967 Ann Arbor High School class. She was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of U-M in Russian studies and was a health educator with the Peace Corps in northern Togo.

'I want to be a doctor'

"I think she always wanted to go to medical school," Thurtell said. "Karen had this drive to help people." Her mom had

been a nurse, but Dr. Fonde's reaction to that suggestion in girlhood had been, 'No, I want to be a doctor.'

Thurtell said,

"At that time,

Dr. Fonde

young women were not being encouraged to go into the sciences or medicine. In the late '60s, there was definitely that prejudice.'

Her undergraduate work at U-M found her intrigued with eastern Europe and Russian studies, as well as French language and literature. She was a presidential scholar and shook hands with President Lyndon Johnson at the White House. She was high school editor of the Ann Arbor News and, while studying at U-M, was an intern reporter at that newspaper.

She was joined by Thurtell in Togo while he was a U-M doctoral student. Dr. Fonde was a health educator in Togo for the Peace Corps, while Thurtell did school construction work.

U-M friends introduced the couple. "We got to be friends," Thurtell said. "I used to say we never really had a date.

Dr. Fonde and Thurtell were married in 1974. For three years, she taught at the Berrien County Juvenile Center, working with emotionally impaired students. After the couple's first son, Adam, was born in 1980, she decided to attend medical school. She and Joel had a second son, Abe, in 1983.

Dr. Fonde took a work leave when Adam was born, then worked for a time at a local chamber of commerce. Her duties there included job training and help employing an aptitude test, which she took.

"She came out really high in science," Thurtell said. "She sprang this idea on me that she wanted to go to medical school.

While studying science at

Western Michigan University to prepare for medical school, she won the Freshman Chemistry Prize at age 32. At U-M Medical School, she was inducted into Alpha Omega Alpha, the medical honor society. She received her M.D. from U-M in 1990 and graduated from the U-M Family Medicine residency program in 1993.

The couple bought a home in Plymouth in 1985, when Dr. Fonde started at U-M Medical School. "She had full confidence," her husband said. "As it turned out, she knew."

'She loved medicine'

She helped open a new U-M family medicine clinic in Ypsilanti, where she treated patients and taught until 2008. "She loved medicine. She really wanted to help people. That's why she went into family medicine," Thurtell said.

She liked the work with lower-income patients, he added. As a new doctor, she worked to help other physicians cope with the job's stresses.

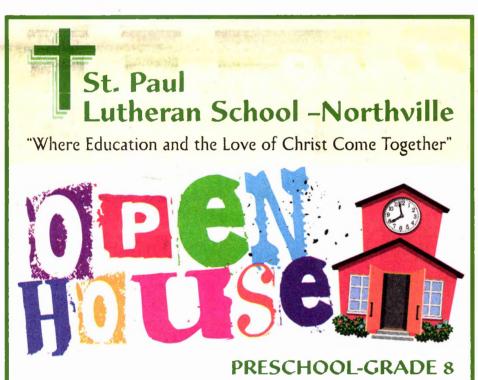
By 2008, she herself was a

physician in difficulty, with memory and cognitive problems that eventually were diagnosed as Alzheimer's disease. 'She had a rough time the last few years," Thurtell said of his wife's illness, which also impacted their family.

In addition to her husband and sons, Dr. Fonde is survived by two sisters, Julia Davis (Max) of Howell and Anne Potter (William) of Dayton, Ohio; and a brother, Charles Fonde (Linda) of Carmel, Ind.; a second brother, Mark Fonde (Stacey) of Ann Arbor, died a week earlier, Feb. 22.

Memorial visitation will be 6-9 p.m. Friday, March 6, at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth Township. Friends are also invited to gather with the family at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 7, until the 11 a.m. memorial service to be held at the Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw Ave.. Ann Arbor.

Memorials may be made to Arbor Hospice or Planned Parenthood.



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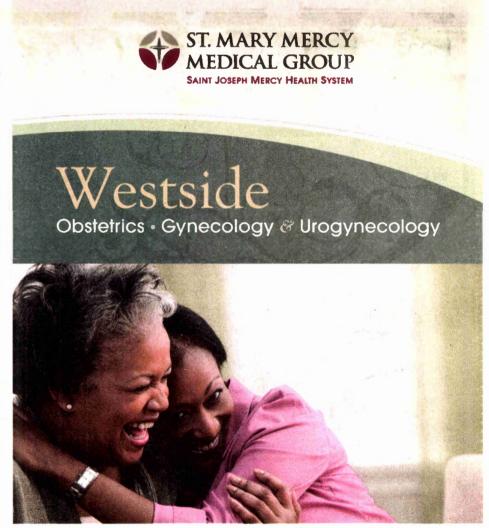
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CANTON CRIME WATCH

Man claims shooting threats made over dog

Amid threats he would be shot, a Canton man who lives in the Sherwood Village mobile home park told police he gave back a dog that had been given to

Police went to Sherwood Village, near Michigan Avenue and Haggerty, after a 48-year-old resident said a male suspect came to his door shortly before 9:30 p.m. Sunday and demanded he turn over a dog given to him earlier by a female neighbor.

A police report indicated the 33year-old suspect, described as having tattoos on his face, threatened to shoot the resident or return with a group of bikers to confront him. This happened even though the suspect apparently wasn't the owner of the dog.

The resident told police he turned over the dog to the suspect to diffuse the situation, though he said no gun was actually revealed. Another witness at the scene confirmed hearing threats involving a gun.

The police report didn't indicate what kind of dog was at the center of the dispute.

It did, however, reveal a tangled web that led up to the incident: One woman had given the dog to another woman, who in turn gave the dog to the resident who was threatened. It was the first woman's boyfriend who was accused of making the threats.

The suspect denied making the threats and told police he didn't even own a gun.

Wallet woes

A Romulus woman who illegally tried to shave \$2 off the cost of a \$12 wallet could now be facing hundreds of dollars in fines, police said

Employees of the Walmart store on Michigan Avenue, near Belleville Road, told police they saw the 33-year-old suspect remove the price tag, take the wallet to the cash register and tell a worker it was on sale for \$10

The incident happened early Monday morning.

Police learned the suspect had been involved in a similar incident in 2008 at another Walmart, though she wasn't charged. She denied the latest incident, but a surveillance video obtained by police apparently told a different story

and prompted authorities to issue her a citation for simple larceny.

Tax fraud

A 55-year-old Canton man who tried to file his tax return learned he had become a victim of identity theft by a savvy criminal who apparently beat him to the punch.

The man told police he learned what had happened in late February. He contacted police to document the identity theft as he worked with the Internal Revenue Service to resolve the problem.

Email hacker?

A 46-year-old Canton woman has accused her ex-husband of hacking into her email account and stealing real estate information she uses in her affiliation with a real estate company, a police report said.

The woman – who was the fourth wife of the suspect – said she has had no direct contact with him for over a year, yet she told police she suspected him of stealing personal information from her email account.

The woman told police she had reason to believe private information had been turned over to other real estate agencies in an attempt to deprive her of business, a police report said.

The woman, reportedly on leave from a teaching job, told police she wanted to file the police report to document her suspicions.

Neighbor troubles

A Canton man who confronted a couple in an upstairs apartment, claiming they were making noise, was warned by police to refrain from such behavior and to make any future complaints with police.

The warning came after the couple told police the man came to their door about 9 p.m. Monday, saying he lived downstairs and was upset over loud noises he had heard. The upstairs couple denied making loud noises.

The suspect was accused of putting his hands up in a boxer stance with the man who lived upstairs, though no fight actually occurred. The suspect told police the loud noises have been an ongoing issue.

- By Darrell Clem

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Police arrested a 45-year-old Canton Township man on a larceny charge Friday night after he took a purse and an iPhone belonging to a waitress at

Purse theft

the Courthouse Grille. The phone and the purse, plus the cash inside, were recovered and re-

The suspect was on his first day on the job as a dishwasher at the restaurant on Plymouth Road, but quit about two hours into his shift, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report. He later confessed to the larceny, police said, and said he left the dishwashing job because the workload was too great.

The theft occurred around 7 p.m. Friday. The victim said she had seen the dishwasher, shortly after he quit, near where she kept the purse and phone and that she later noticed her belongings were gone. She went outside and confronted the man as he left in a friend's car, pleading with him to return the purse; he was concealing something in his jacket, she told police.

The woman said she stood in front of the car until the driver appeared about to drive into her, then got out of the way. The suspect left; the waitress called 9-1-1.

Police went to the Canton address the suspect had provided on his employment application, but no one answered the door, police said. Mean-while, police found the purse in a Dumpster near that address and returned it to the victim, police said.

The iPhone was found in a pitcher of water at the Courthouse Grille, along with the waitress' identification and some credit cards, police said.

Police later located a second Canton address for the suspect, went to that address and arrested him. He had \$11 cash in a pants pocket, police said.

In his confession, the suspect said he had only taken the cash and that he planned to retrieve the purse later

from the Dumpster and mail it back to the waitress.

Shoplifting arrest

A 25-year-old woman was arrested on a retail fraud charge Feb. 23 when she tried to take dog food and beer from the Kroger at Ann Arbor Road and Sheldon.

The woman admitted to the theft, police said, and said she sold shoplifted goods to local gas stations and convenience stores. She had no money, she said, and was about to lose her home.

The incident occurred about 5:30 p.m. A Kroger security guard told police he confronted the woman after seeing her put two bags of dog food and four cases of beer in the bottom of a shopping cart and take it past the store's cash registers. Police were called.

The items had a retail value of \$107.54, police said.

Ditched car, pants-less driver

Police responded early Sunday to a report of a car in the ditch along I-275 near Ann Arbor Road, with a driver nearby who was intoxicated and wearing no pants.

The report was called in about 4:30 a.m. Sunday by a passerby. Police said the man was gone from the abandoned 1998 Saturn upon their arrival.

Wheels, tires stolen

The tires and wheel rims were stolen from a 2014 Ford Taurus late Feb. 26 or early Friday as the car sat in the driveway of a house on Jo Ann Lane,

The wheels and rims were reportedly worth \$4,000, police said. The incident occurred between about 8 p.m. Feb. 26 and 6:30 a.m. Friday; the Taurus had been left sitting on landscaping blocks.

- By Matt Jachman



Saturday, March 14th 11am



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Since 1963

Tuesday fire destroys Northville Montessori Center

By Lonnie Huhman and Cal Stone Staff Writers

The Northville Montessori Center on Haggerty Road was severely damaged by a fire early

Tuesday morning.
According to Northville Township Director of Public Safety John Werth, the fire department got the call of a fire at the location at 15709 Haggerty Road at 5:57 a.m. The first responding units got there at 6:06

Werth said firefighters were able to save the front of the building, but lost the whole back side. There were no reported injuries.

"Fully engulfed upon arrival, flames through the roof," Werth said of the scene encountered by first responders.

As of 8:30 a.m. firefighters were still at the scene. The cause is unknown at this time.

The Northville Montessori Center was established by Lynn Gall in 1976. It's a state-licensed, self-sufficient private school, offering an alternative in preschool and elementary pro-

grams. Typical enrollment at the center stands between 80 and 90 students. The present site was purchased in 1981 and the center began offering classes there in 1982. The campus is 5.3 acres in size and offers a large playground and a nature trail through the woods.

One parent's loss

Dr. Pat Moylan, a neuro psychologist who lives and practices in Northville, was saddened to hear the news. Both of her children - Hannah, 19, and Max, 26 - attended the school for 15

years. "It is a wonderful, marvelous place," Moylan said. "They really helped me raise my kids. As a single mom, it was always wonderful to

have a place like that." Moylan taught at the Washington Montessori Institute in D.C. and one of her students was Gall.

"I can say it was an exemplary school," Movlan said. "It's been run by Gall and her son Keith. He came back from California and took over running the school and



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Firefighters at the Northville Montessori, which was destroyed by an early morning fire Tuesday.

HELP REBUILD

Shortly after the fire, a fund was established for donations to help the school rebuild, buy classroom materials and rent temporary space in light of this disaster. Go to http://www.gofundme.com/nnuyfc.

Lynn still teaches there."

Both Moylan's children are adopted from South America. When she went there to adopt her daughter, Keith Gall house sat for her. Max stayed at his grandparents' house and Gall would bring the 6-yearold boy home every Wednesday so he could sleep in his own bed at least once a week.

"It's just a great place," Moylan said. "I always tell people, they helped me raise my children. It was like having a religious education without the religion. Highly moral."

Moylan said the Montessori concept of meeting children at their education level has been around for long time. Students spend three years together: ages 3-5; grades 1-3 (lower elementary); and grades 4-6 (upper elementary).

'Some kids even stay through eighth (grade)," Moylan said, adding that her son left after sixth and her daughter after fifth.

She said at Northville Montessori, there were around 20 students per class in the lower grades and 12-18 in the upper.

with two full-time teachers for those.

"Lots of individual attention," Moylan said. "Once in a while a kid was referred there. Some might be incredibly bright; others maybe have a health issue or an issue at another school. But a lot of parents who pulled their kids out then said, 'Maybe they should stay another year.

Moylan visited three Montessori schools in the area before choosing Northville's for her two kids. Max is now finishing up his nursing degree at Grand Valley State University and Hannah is studying at Central Michigan University.

She talked to her son about the fire and she said he was very sad. Moylan wanted to wait to tell her daughter because she knew she'd be upset, but she had already learned of it through a CMU classmate who also had attended Northville Montessori.

"Hannah told me that she felt like a part of her childhood died," Moylan

Moylan said the facility was a "very unassuming" place, adding that the township never allowed it to put up a sign so a lot of people never knew it was there. The original school was in a house, which was then added on to with four classrooms, a library and

an office. "Hopefully, it wasn't a total loss," she said.

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Know your rights when a collection agency calls

he other day when I listened to my messages, there was a call from a collection agency. The message said the normal stuff that I was seriously delinquent and if I don't immediately contact them and submit a payment, my credit rating

would be ruined. Normally, if I get a call like that, I know it's bogus and I don't return it. However, I thought for research purposes I would call and try to find

out the story. I contacted the collection agency and was given the name of the company that supposedly I owed money to. I recognized the company as my old cable provider. I had not used that cable provider for a decade. In addition, I never in the last decade have received an invoice from the company. When I was a customer, I used the automatic billing program.

I knew that I did not owe the money. I told the rather forceful person on the phone that I doubted the legitimacy of the bill and that before I would proceed further, I would need a copy of the original bill. Not surprisingly, I have yet to receive a



Rick Bloom MONEY

copy of the bill. I don't think I ever will.

There are legitimate collection agencies that attempt to collect debts on behalf of companies. Sometimes, however, these companies will buy old account receivables that companies have written off and attempt

to collect. Just because a collection agency contacts you doesn't mean it is legitimate. Even if the agency is legitimate, the debt may not be valid.

Remember, despite a company's threats and strong-arm tactics, you do have rights. Don't let a collection agency intimidate you into paying a debt that is not valid.

Collection agencies must comply with federal and state laws. These include things such as protection against harassing phone calls and phone calls that come all hours of the day.

If you are being harassed by a collection agency, keep a diary of information. Keep track of the name of the person who called you, the time and the content of the conversation and if any threats were made.

If you decide to pursue an action against the debt collection agency through legal or administrative action, having the

diary will be helpful. One threat that collection agencies make is putting something on your credit report to ruin your credit scores. Remember, when someone puts something on your credit report, you have rights. I recommend that everyone review their credit reports at least once a year.

Go to www.annualcredit report.com for a free copy by each of the three major credit reporting agencies - without strings attached.

We should all pay our bills. However, don't let a debt collection agency coerce you into paying a bogus debt.

Good luck.

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

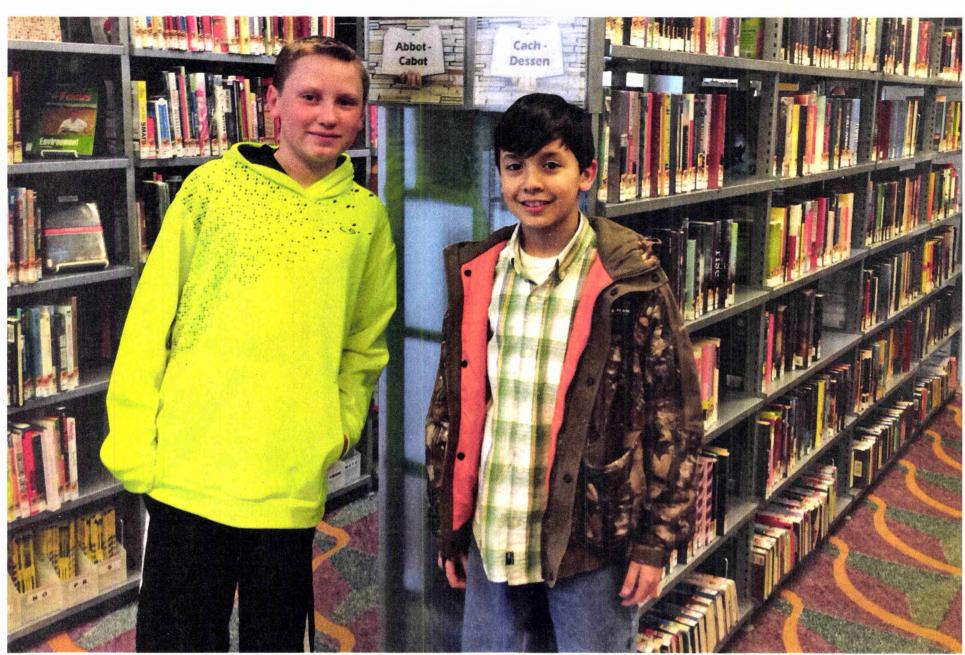


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JULIE BROWN Friends Seamus Kish, 11, (left) and Grayson Hammonds, 12, are sixth-graders at Central Middle School who like Mix It Up at the Plymouth District Library.

Plymouth-Canton students 'Mix It Up' at the library

By Julie Brown Staff Writer

Friends Grayson Hammonds, 12, and Seamus Kish, 11, both Central Middle School sixthgraders, were glad to show up March 2 at the Plymouth District Li-

"I'm probably going to play Minecraft first," said Grayson, a Plymouth Township resident, as he arrived with friend Seamus for the library's after-school Mix It Up program for middle school and high school students. "I like how you can make the Chromebook cases" with duct tape. "And food."

Plymouth resident Seamus added, "Sometimes he plays Uno and I

play my game."
Mix It Up is relatively new at the library in downtown Plymouth and usually runs 3-5 p.m. each Monday and Thursday. "All kinds of things," Amanda Seppala, a Wayne State University master's student in library science and PDL intern, said of what the

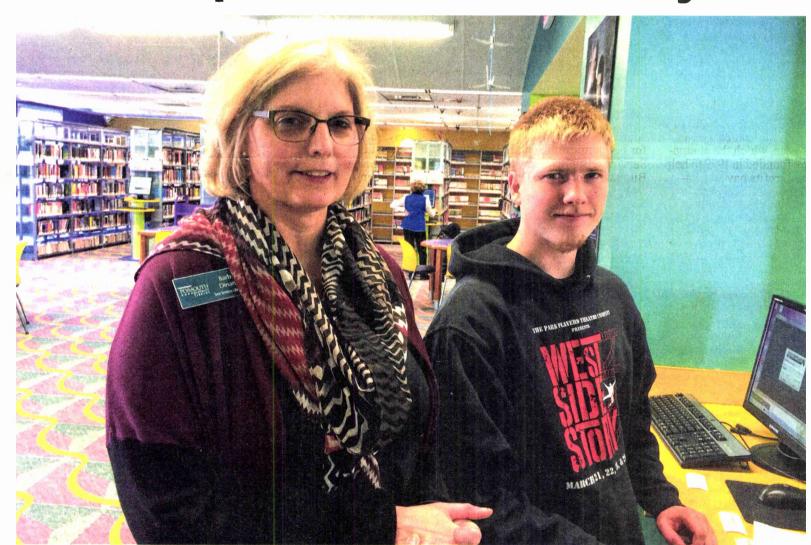
program entails. Snacks and card games, including Uno, are featured. Minecraft is a favorite, said Seppala, 26, a Ypsilanti resi-

dent. "It's a really cool video game. It's kind of like digital LEGOs," she said. "It's a super-pop-

ular game." A recent Thursday Mix It Up was busy, she said, with one session near a school break up to about 15 students. Mix It Up tends to draw more middle schoolers, including from Central Middle across the street from the library, as well as East and West middle schools, which also have walkers attend Mix It

Up.
"We try and have things for a wide variety of ages," Seppala said. Mix It Up is meant to be both educational and fun. Sessions are sometimes pre-empted by other library teen programs.

In March, students have movie-making equipment available to "make a YouTube video that looks at least semiprofessional," Seppala said. Some Dr. Seuss books were displayed







Amanda Seppala, a Wayne State University master's student in library science, gets some Mix It Up help from National Honor Society member Kevin Melcher, a Canton High School senior.

March 2 to start students with film ideas. They were also welcome to

create their own ideas. "I've got a stepbrother who just turned 16. I still remember it pretty well," she added of teen years. Seppala noted with a smile a recent ACT college admissions test workshop prompted a local parent to ask her when she would take the Kevin Melcher, 17, is

a Canton High School senior who lives in Canton. He was at the Plymouth library March 2 as a National Honor Society volunteer.

'It's really cool," Melcher said of Mix It Up. "I think it's a really good idea. It's a lot of fun.'

He was setting up Minecraft on computers in the Teen Zone. Melcher noted multiple students can play Minecraft together during Mix It

Up.
"We have different stuff every day," said Barb Dinan, teen librarian. March includes both Movie Madness and

April's focus is Minecraft, with May's music. The Community Federal Credit Union gave a grant for audiovisual equipment, Dinan said, adding the Friends of the Library are also great Mix It Up supporters.

Dinan, a Plymouth resident, showed duct tape cases for phones and tablets Mix It Up students made. A special Mix It Up will feature "Learn To Knit" with a library staffer 3-5 p.m.

Friday, March 6. "We just wanted to do something for kids casually," Dinan said. Student

suggestions are welcomed, such as one from a teen who played the Phase 10 card game over the holidays and that

JULIE BROWN

game was added. "It's been a huge hit," Dinan said.

Melcher played a spirited game of Uno with Seppala before the middle school students arrived. He's weighing his options for after graduation and will likely start at community

college. "I'm shooting for petroleum engineering," possibly at Texas A&M, Melcher said.

Seppala had checked a couple of library websites, including The Library Network, for her internship, part of her master's work.

"I love it here," she said. "This is a great library and it's a great internship program."

For more on Mix It Up and other PDL programs, go to plymouthlibrary.org.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Village Theater will host quilt exhibition

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is pleased to exhibit "Narrative Quilts: Works by Pauline Parker," a solo show of wall hangings and watercolors, through March 31.

Visual storytelling meshes with exuberant design in Pauline Parker's unique exhibition, featuring quilts and watercolors created between 1987 and 2003. Using a collage style of applique design to delve into epic themes from biblical narratives to women's tales to contemporary scenes, Parker portrays these timeless stories with a fantastical sense of humor.

Hailing from Alton, Ill., this lifelong painter currently calls Minneapolis home and is still a prolific artist working well into her 90s. As a student of the Art Institute of Chicago, Parker studied landscape painting in the 1930s and continued to create plein-air paintings throughout her life. Several of Parker's paintings have been shown at the Art Institute of Chicago; both her paintings and quilts have also been exhibited around the Midwest.

Sixteen narrative quilts will be on exhibit at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, as well as six



This is titled "Swan Lake."

framed watercolor paintings, which are also available for purchase. from her range of

Parker

work spanning 50 years. An opening reception will be held 7-9 p.m.
Thursday March 5, at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill and is free and open

to the public. This current art exhib-

it at the Gallery@VT is free and open to the public: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, one hour prior to and during public performances at the theater, as well as by appointment. The Gallery@VT is closed holidays. The gallery is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. For more information about this latest exhibit, call 734-394-5300 or go to www.cantonvillagethea-



This work is titled "Anita Hill."

Comcast makes donations to community groups

Comcast, the nationwide cable television, phone and Internet provider with a regional headquarters in Plymouth Township, announced Monday donations totaling \$275,000 to Michigan nonprofits.

The money is coming from the Comcast Foundation, which the company founded in 1999 to help nonprofits have a positive, sustainable impact on their communities.

The gifts support the foundation's three main goals: promoting service, improving digital literacy and building community leadership.

"The tireless work these nonprofits do is so incredibly important to our communities," Maria Holmes, director of community investment for

Comcast in Michigan, said in a press release. "We not only feel it's our obligation, but also embrace the opportunity to give back in the communities where our customers and employees live and work.

Awardees include the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Detroit, City Covenent Church in Detroit's Brightmoor neighborhood, the Cranbrook Institute of Science, the Grand Rapids Urban League and Focus: HOPE.

Comcast also supports community development through various local sponsorships, employee volunteerism and providing equipment and ser-

Spotlight Players to perform 'Casserole Casanova' at Canton's Village Theater

Spotlight Players will perform Casserole Casanova, a comedy with musical interludes, March 18-22 at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

Casserole Casanova follows the story of Roger, a recent widower who after the death of his wife begins receiving meals from the ladies in town who are concerned that he isn't eating properly. As the story unfolds, we discover that it is not Roger's nutrition they interested in. Each caller has a fantasy all her own, which she eventually reveals.

Casserole Casanova takes place in the Biltmore Studio Stage for six performances running March 18-22, with Wednesday and Thursday performances at 1 p.m., Friday and Sat-



The Spotlight Players are taking on the comedy "Casserole Casanova."

urday performances at 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday performances at 2 p.m. Seating for Casserole Casanova is general admission and doors open a half hour before

show time. Run time is 1:30, with a 15-minute intermission.

Tickets are priced between \$14 and \$16 each and can be purchased by calling the box office at

734-394-5300 or at www.spotlightplyers-

mi.org.
Tickets are also available for purchase at the box office one hour prior to show time.

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Greenmead hosts vintage wedding dress display

event showcasing antique and vintage wedding gowns and photos, will take place from 7-9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 19, at Greenmead Historical Park in Livo-

The gowns will be from the 1890s to 1974. The exhibits will include the wedding gown, shoes and wedding planning book from the 2002 movie "My Big Fat Greek Wedding."

Attendees will begin at the decorated Historic

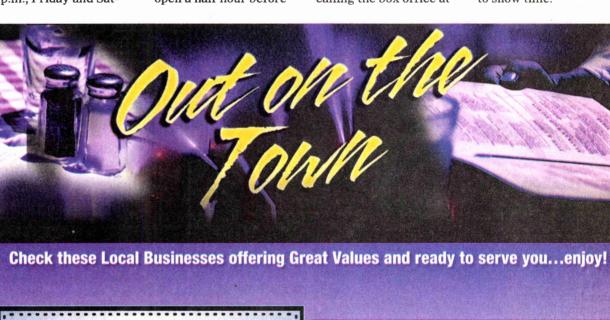
dealing with

Happily Ever After, an Newburg Church for a presentation of wedding music and traditions. followed by a "reception" at the Alexander Blue House featuring hors d'oeuvres, sparkling beverages, wedding cake and coffee.

There will also be door prizes from area busi-

Tickets are \$15 each, and must be purchased in advance.

Proceeds benefit Greenmead Historical Park, Call 248-477-7375 for more information.







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BUSINESS

Keep data safe, follow password etiquette

Pictures Entertainment hack became public in fall 2014, leaked emails and accusations of North Korean involvement dominated headlines. But the most egregious error of the fiasco was that a collection of employees had saved company passwords in a folder named 'passwords.'

Inside the Sony "passwords" folder were endless documents such as "YouTube log-in passwords" that were as descriptive as they were dangerous. The set-up was a data thief's dream and likely aided the crooks in acquiring data and compromising social media accounts.

It was also a reminder that even large corporations are sometimes oblivious to following



proper password etiquette. But if a multinational media conglomerate fails at properly developing and storing its passwords, what does that say about the general public? I'm led to believe many people do not treat their passwords with the extreme care they deserve.

If you fall into the category of someone who has neglected passwords over the years, follow these steps to lock down your computer, social networks and, most importantly, financial accounts.

Make your passwords

require employees to create passwords that are at least eight characters in length and include a letter, number and a character, so why shouldn't you do the same for personal accounts?

Some online banking sites or social networks already require certain measures like one number or one capital letter in each password. The more challenging you make your password by including numbers, capital letters and special characters, the harder it is for a hacker to compromise your account.

Change passwords regularly: You don't necessarily need to switch your passwords every 90 days like many people must do at work. But it certainly doesn't help to

for years on end, especially if the site has recently been hacked. For example, if you find that Facebook has a data breach (which it has in the past), change your password, just to be safe.

Use different passwords: Having one of your accounts unlawfully accessed due to a data breach is bad. Having all of them unlawfully accessed would be the worst.

Having different passwords for different sites may protect you if one password gets into the wrong hands.

Protect your email: Your email password is the most important password you will ever have. So take proper precautions. If someone gains access to your email, they can begin requesting "password reset notifications" for social networks, banking sites and more. In no time, someone could conceivably reset passwords and even email addresses, leaving you vulnerable and not in control.

Store passwords safely: It's safe to say you may have too many passwords to remember. If so, write them down on a piece of paper and put them in a safe or a safe place. If you store password reminders on your computer or phone, store them in a manner that you understand, but a thief will not. For example, avoid naming documents or folders "password" just as Sony

Use password managers: One tactic to help remember many passwords and also avoid

ately is to use a free password manager such as LastPass. The free service allows you to use one master password to log into the site. Then, as you log on to secure sites, it saves your old password and re-encrypts it to something much more secure.

LastPass will also change your passwords regularly for added safety measure. With Last-Pass, a consumer only needs to remember a master password - which should be strong and stored properly.

Be safe, not sorry, when it comes to passwords.

Jon Gunnells is a social media manager for a Detroit-based advertising agency. He can be reached at jonathan.

Canton library rolls out business-boosting series

Moving to help Canton business owners or entrepreneurs, the Canton Public Library has announced three programs in March in hopes of helping companies boost their bottom line.

They're free and attendees don't need to register. They don't even have to own a library

Here's the lowdown: » Business Research with ReferenceUSA.

It happens 10 a.m. to noon Monday, March 9. Through a series of case studies, Rick White, a training expert at ReferenceUSA, shows how to use this tool in practical business settings. It involves how to access

the database, how to create searches, how to manage the results and explore the features that make ReferenceUSA a unique tool for business research.

Topics include locating hard-to-find vendors, both locally and nationally; creating marketing lists; understanding community demographics; surveying locations for expansion; and conducting competitive analysis.

» Social Networking for Small Businesses

It's set for 7-8 p.m. Monday, March 23. Learn the basics and etiquette of social networking for small businesses. Content includes how to leverage social

networks to spur business growth while reducing marketing costs. The benefits, disadvantages and tricks of Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn will also be discussed.

» Where's it Hanging? Keys to Selling More Art

It's scheduled for 7-8 p.m. Monday, March 30, and should appeal especially to artisans, creators and crafters. The purpose is to think about art in business terms and to market creative works so they will sell. Issues explored include marketing art and engaging customers in a new and dynamic way.

United Way unveils book drive to encourage childhood reading

Plymouth Community United Way and Chuck E. Cheese in Canton have launched a month-long children's book drive at the restaurant on Ford Road.

The drive runs through March 31 and coincides with March is Reading Month.

Plymouth Community United Way is collecting books in an effort to get area children to read this summer to prevent what educators call the "summer slide" - when reading drops off.

Studies show that children, especially those from low-income families, lose up to two months of reading skills



Plymouth Community United Way

over the break.

Customers will receive 20 tickets for each new children's book that is brought into Chuck E. Cheese, the drop-off site for the drive at 42001

Ford Rd. Tickets can be used toward the purchase of prizes.

For more information, email randi.williams@pcuw.org or call 734-453-6879, ext. 7.

THE MOST IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIPS BEGIN



Under New Leadership, Mass Mutual Southeast Michigan **Seeks Growth Through Community Outreach**

Southfield, Mich., Feb. 22, 2015 - When Colleen Schueneman took over full leadership of MassMutual Southeast Michigan last summer, she immediately set about building relationships with different segments of the community.

Schueneman, the new General Agent, and a growing staff of financial professionals are intent upon building meaningful connections, whether it's meeting with leaders of the Detroit Economic Club, local African-American organizations, or the Belle Isle Women's Committee.

"The fact is, you need to build trust in a community before you can start doing business there," Schueneman said. "We have been working very hard to get our feet firmly planted

"We are very excited to have Colleen at the helm of MassMutual Southeast Michigan," said John Vaccaro, Senior Vice President and Head of USIG Sales & Distribution for the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company (MassMutual). "Colleen is an innovative and visionary thinker who will be a strong leader for her agency, as well as the larger community.'

For Schueneman immersion in the community has been a winning strategy. When she became Managing Director at MetLife in Chicago, Schueneman quickly realized that the company was not adequately serving the large multicultural community in the area.

Schueneman reached out to top leaders in the African-American community, invited them to a meeting, and just listened. The leaders told her they felt that the company had no presence locally, and that their constituents weren't being adequately supported or educated about financial matters. Schueneman continued to hold meetings over the next several months to hear about what they wanted and needed. From those conversations, Schueneman

Colleen Schueneman, CLF, LUTCF General Agent

MassMutual Southeast Michigan 28411 Northwestern Hwy., Suite 1000 Southfield, MI 48034 cschueneman@financialguide.com 248-208-2706

began to support various community groups, sponsored art and theater events, and backed educational events through the African-American Chamber of Commerce.

The goal was both to provide important support to the community and to recruit new African-American financial professionals.

Schueneman learned valuable lessons from that endeavor and is employing a similar approach to her leadership at MassMutual Southeast Michigan.

"We recognize that in general, the multicultural market is vastly underserved," Schueneman said. "Just as I did in the Chicago area, I am meeting with leaders in this community and just listening to what their needs are."

In her new position, Schueneman has spent considerable time meeting with leaders of the Michigan Black Chamber of Commerce.

"What came out loud and clear is that the community needs more education about basic financial planning, debt reduction, college funding, and the danger of overusing credit cards," she said. Schueneman is working to develop an educational series through the chamber on these topics.

In addition to multicultural groups, Schueneman also is reaching out to women and to Millennials. She has recently brought on five women for staff positions and another nine women as financial professionals. Schueneman has spoken at various women's organizations and events in hopes of recruiting more women.

"A lot of our top producers are women," she said. "The job is appealing to women because it offers a lot of flexibility and opportunities for development, growth and advancement."

Under Schueneman's leadership MassMutual Southeast Michigan also is reaching out to Millennials, both in terms of recruiting and to develop a younger clientele. She has spoken at college campuses and to alumni groups, and is using newer technologies, such as video conferencing and social media to reach this tech-savvy audience.

Overall, Schueneman is creating an innovative vision that brings MassMutual Southeast Michigan squarely into the 21st Century. She has created a one-stop shop at her agency, where clients can access an array of services under one roof.

She and her staff have also thrown themselves headlong into community service projects, including volunteering with Habitat for Humanity, Race for the Cure, and at Genesee Resources, a program that helps homeless women in the area. Schueneman also is active with The Make A Wish Foundation, Special Olympics, Ronald McDonald House, the Judson House, Jewish Vocational Services, Cal's Angels and WASCO Development of Girls, among other charities. Schueneman also serves on the Board of Trustees for the GAMA Foundation for Education and Research, where she develops research to educate future leaders in the financial services industry.

"I have been out and about in the community, building trust and rapport among people because that is the starting point," she said. "If you want to be engaged in the community, you also need to give back."

But for all the new relationships she is building, Schueneman's role as the new General Agent of MassMutual Southeast Michigan is a homecoming of sorts. A Michigan native, she has been in the financial services industry for nearly 30 years. Schueneman began her career as a financial services representative and has represented Prudential, Mutual of New York and MetLife, and headed her own firm before joining MassMutual. After spending 20 years in the Chicago area, Schueneman has returned to the area with her husband and three children. She is an avid golfer and sports enthusiast, and enjoys her time as a Fast Pitch softball coach.



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Knights of the road: UPS drivers honored for 25 years of safety

Several western Wayne County UPS drivers were recently lauded for 25 years of safe driv-

They are William Beveridge of Westland, Paul Cutsy of Westland, Thomas Haar of Canton, Bryan Laskowski of Livonia, Keith Michalak of Westland and Michael Wheeler of Livonia.

UPS recently announced 57 elite drivers from Michigan are





among 1,445 newly in-

ducted worldwide into

the Circle of Honor, an

honorary organization

for UPS drivers who

have achieved 25 or



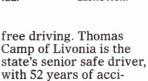
Cutsy



Beveridae



Laskowski Haar



safest driver among 102,000 drivers for UPS. There are 2,894 total UPS drivers in Michigan.

Globally, 7,878 active UPS drivers are members of the Circle of Honor. Collectively they've racked up more than 221,000 years and more than 5.3 billion safe miles during their careers. That's enough miles to travel to Mars and back 36 times.

"My thanks go to all

of them for their dedication and focus and for the countless lives they've saved," said Stefan Wilson, president, **UPS Great Lakes Dis-**

UPS's 102,000 drivers are among the safest on the roads, logging more than three billion miles a year and delivering more than four billion packages safely.

PCCS School Council to meet Friday

The Parent Community School Council, a group of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools parents who meet regularly to discuss district issues and hear from people from the district and the community, will meet at 9:30 a.m. Friday at the district's E.J. McClendon Building, 454 S. Harvey, in Plymouth.

On the agenda is a presentation from Don Soenen, one of the leaders of the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex group, which is pushing for the redevelopment of Central Middle School into a community recreation and cultural center. Central is closing as a school at the end of the year and the district last month reached a deal for the sale of the site to Mark Malcolm, who is buying it on PARC's behalf.

PARC activists hope to form a taxing authority that would help fund the complex, which is already used by many sports leagues, classes and community groups

The academy, planned for Tuesday, March 10, will feature ThinkFirst, a program of the National Injury Prevention Foundation. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital staffers will offer discussions, demonstration and educational materials about keeping adolescents safe in vehicles. away from potentially harmful medications and protected from concussions.

The academy, which is free, is 7-8:30 p.m. in the Canton High School media center, 8415 Canton Center Road, Canton. To register: http://community education.pccs. k12.mi.us/. The class number is 745. To arrange free child care, call 734-416-2937.

PETITION

Continued from Page A1

ly from charter schools. '(With) the corresponding increased perpupil revenue (SOC) brings, we're able to remain viable and support strong and innovative programs," Meissen

Perkins and other petition supporters have grown weary of hearing the funding argument.

"At what point do we stop relying on money generated from taking kids from other districts and start finding real solutions to the revenue

problem?" she wrote in her letter. "When do we correct the real issues that people are leaving our district (for)? It is very obvious that we are not as competitive as we should be.

more years of accident-

free driving. Michigan boasts 251

active Circle of Honor

drivers with a combined

7,015 years of accident-

The online petition (it can be found at https:// www.change.org/p/ school-board-membervote-no-on-school-ofchoice) had drawn nearly 220 supporters by Wednesday morning. There is also a Facebook page (https://www. facebook.com/groups/ 623476857782527/) regarding the effort.

Supporters calls schools of choice a "slippery slope."

Meissen disagrees, citing the success of the 66 students who entered the district this year as schools of choice students.

dent-free driving under

his belt, ranking him the

"We analyzed information about student attendance, behavior and achievement," Meissen said. "These results affirm what was believed, that this cohort of students – with their parents - are experiencing school success."

But Perkins believes the redistricting effort the board approved late last year was put forth to the community as a way to account for declining

She also believes the

district is being somewhat hypocritical in its pursuit of out-of-district students.

"Ultimately, we, as a district, condemn the charter schools for taking our students and reducing our revenue," Perkins wrote in her letter to the board. "Yet, by taking out-of-district students, this makes our district no better than the charter schools we condemn. The board is not OK with another district taking our students ... yet the board approves taking revenue from other districts that are facing similar budget issues? It seems to be an example of 'calling the kettle black."

Meissen points out the expanded schools of choice proposal is "in a preliminary and planning stage as we begin our budget develop-

But he believes the "key criteria for decision-making is the ability to fill open seats without additional staff."

"Our community is very engaged with our schools," Meissen said. 'This is our strength. We are in a growth mode seeking to maintain academic excellence, fiscal solvency and contemporaneous programming."

Wayne-Westland revamps alternative high school program

School district converting Tinkham into school of choice

> By Sue Mason Staff Writer

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools has decided to restructure its alternative high school program to make it more cost effective and bring in more students.

Housed at the Tinkham Educational in Westland, the high school has provided an alternative program for about 60 at-risk Wayne-Westland students. However, faced with a decrease in the availability of state atrisk money to run the program, Tinkham is being converted to a school of choice as of the 2015-2016 school year.

"The district has significant limited resources to run the program," said John Albrecht, assistant superintendent for Educational Services, "Tinkham has to become self-sufficient with the foundation allowance provided. The program simply must reduce costs.3

Over budget

In a presentation to the school board, Albrecht acknowledged that the state per-pupil funding isn't enough to run the program with costs exceeding revenue by \$654,000. That deficit is being covered by the

district's general fund and 31a at-risk money from the state, both of which have grown in the past few years.

As it is currently set up, Tinkham class sizes average about 15 students and there are more than 13 staff members. The district has a foundation allowance of \$7,251 per student and spends \$7,575 per at-risk student. At Tinkham, however, the figure is \$18,476 per student.

Tinkham has only 1 percent of the high school enrollment but receives the lion's share of at-risk funding. Of the 19 percent of at-risk money spent this school year on secondary support, the middle schools receive 28 percent, the high schools 28 percent and Tinkham 53 percent.

Building and central office administrators, members of the Tinkham staff and union leadership have been meeting since November to develop a plan for the school. The committee researched state and national alternative programs, and did site visits to local best practice

programs. The end result is a restructuring of Tinkham to service 16-19-year-old high school completers. As of the 2015-2016 school year, the program will be expanded to serve 200 students, have optimal class sizes for learning, focus on credit recovery and potentially offer

online learning. "We will define a mission and a vision and provide an education for the non-traditional student," Albrecht said. "We will define staff needs, rebrand the school, reimage it through public relations and market it to local and surrounding school districts through schools of choice."

Build up program

He added that the goal for the first school year is to build capacity and refine the instructional program.

'We will market, recruit, refer and retain students," he said. "We will evaluate our procedures several times during the school for effectiveness and modify as needed. The second year. our plan is to maximize operating capacity.'

The plan was wellreceived by the school board.

"I think it's very important to capture those students and to respect and understand the need of those alternative education resources to keep moving forward and creating more opportunities," Trustee Sally Madison said.

'Money aside, this looks like an exciting time to find new things that service our kids better," board President Thomas Buckalew said. "I envy that opportunity."

The district has already started making changes. As or last week it began accepting school of choice applications for the restructured Tinkham program. To register, students must be residents of Wayne Councompleted at the district's administrative offices at 36745 Marquette in Westland for residents of Wayne-Westland Community Schools. Non-resident Intra-County Schools of Choice applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-

serve basis beginning

April 27at the adminis-

trative offices.

Enrollment can be

Enrollment information is available online at the district's website at wwcsd.net/new-families, then click on "How to Enroll my Child." There also will be a link on the same page for non-resi-

For more information, call Wavne-Westland Community Schools at 734-419-2083 or visit the Instruction Department at the administrative offices.

CANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

THESE VEHICLES HAVE BEEN DEEMED ABANDONED AND WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION. THE AUCTION WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY MARCH 10TH AT 11:00AM AT 6345 HIX, WESTLAND MI, 48185. THE VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD AS IS, STARTING BID IS FOR TOWING AND STORAGE.

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AMOUNT

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OUR VIEW

Mandate results in few fines

The 2009 Congress sure made it sound simple: Require Americans to obtain health insurance or face a financial penalty. Of course, there is nothing simple about the Affordable Care Act's individual insurance mandate. Millions of Americans are being reminded of that this tax season.

If any member of your household was uninsured last year, filing taxes includes filling out a worksheet providing month-by-month details about coverage. More than 6 million Americans obtained insurance through exchanges created by Obamacare. The vast majority of them received subsidies in advance to pay for the coverage. Because those subsidies were based on projected income, people may have to repay Uncle Sam if they earned

for insurance requires filling out a form with 72 boxes.

Not complicated enough? Well, you might qualify for one of more than 30 exemptions to the penalty authorized by the federal government over the past few years. For example, if you're poor and your state chose not to expand Medicaid, you might be able to avoid the fine. If you're not exempted, the fee for being uninsured can be as much as 1 percent of your household income. It must be paid by April 15 and the penalty next year increases to as much as 2 percent of your household

(If you have questions about what to do, good luck getting a hold of someone at the Internal Revenue Service. Cuts to the agency's budget means there

more. And claiming tax credits may be no one to help when you call.)

While a single-payer health insurance system is looking pretty good right about now, the Obama administration can't create that on its own. So it's considering crafting more exemptions so more Americans can avoid paying penalties. The White House is concerned the complexities and fines will create additional frustration about the healthreform law.

People may certainly be frustrated. Health insurance and taxes were complicated enough before all this. However, the Obama administration should not work unilaterally to shelter Americans from un-popular aspects of ACA. The mandate is part of the current law. Penalties are part of the revenue intended to help pay for the law. Americans should pay them unless Congress revisits the ACA, nixes the mandate and finds a way to make up for the loss of revenue to the government.

That is certainly an idea worth considering.

Requiring Americans to purchase health insurance was a bad idea from the beginning. If people have access to affordable, comprehensive health insurance, they don't need to be forced to buy it. The mandate was a gift from Congress to private insurers. It doesn't get any better than the government requiring Americans to buy your product and even using public money to help them pay for it.

Many aspects of the reform law can work without the insurance mandate. Americans will be protected from unfair insurance practices. They will still have the option of buying affordable coverage, regardless of health problems. Adult children can remain on their parents' plans. Millions of poor Americans can be covered by Medicaid if they choose to sign up. And on and on.

For the past five years, the Obama administration has bent over backward to try to smoothly implement health-reform law. Yet its power is limited and lawmakers have refused to make even the simplest of tweaks to help. Until Congress is willing to revisit the law, the administration should follow it. Like it or not, that means enforcing the mandate and imposing penalties on the uninsured.

LETTERS

Clerk not helpful

When watching the video from the Feb. 10 Plymouth Township board meeting, something caught my attention that should cause every single township voter grave concern. Why? Because it affects you and your ability and potential rights as a voter. Are you listening now?

In short, Trustee Curmi was trying to find out why we didn't have a link on the township website to an absentee voter application that a person could download as a pdf, complete, and return to the clerk's office so they could expedite getting a ballot for an upcoming election. The clerk stumbled, but basically ended up saying that you could go to the state's website to download the application, mail it to the office of the clerk and they would send the ballot, although I think she said she would look into having a link put on the township site. Clerk Conzelman asked Trustee Curmi if he was going out of state and laughed, she mentioned overseas/military procedures brief-ly and said she could mail an application. In typical lawyer speak - none of these answered his question.

I called Trustee Curmi to tell him what he needs to do to expedite the process because you have to sign the application before you get the ballot. I then learned the deputy clerk had also referred him to the state's website.

Plymouth Township voters, if you need an absentee voter ballot, you can obtain one by writing a note to your township clerk. The address is 9955 Haggerty Road. You must state the reason you need the ballot and it has to be one of the six reasons allowed by law, most

generally because you expect to be out of town, are over 60 or can't attend the polls without assistance. In the note, you must also tell the clerk where you want your ballot sent and sign it. You can even fax it in at 734-454-1643.

It is their job to check your signature and immediately process your ballot. I strongly recommend you check with your clerk's office within a few days if you do not receive your ballot. That number is 734-354-3228 or 734-354-3224.

In this case, the person Trustee Curmi was inquiring for did not get to vote in the last election. That was one vote lost. How many others are we losing? Our clerk and deputy clerk have been in their jobs for over two years and they don't know this most basic provision of the law. They administer our elections. Do you care now?

Sandra J. Groth Plymouth Township

Not a fan of proposal

It appears that our esteemed politicians in Lansing have managed to fill the \$325 million hole in our current budget. This was accomplished by raiding the school aid fund, shorting the retirement system, slashing departments that help our neediest citizens and other cuts.

You might wonder how they plan to pay for the next \$532 million due starting Oct. 1 and continuing in each of the next 15 years, thanks to allowing corporations to double dip with tax credits plus tax cuts.

Well believe this, you won't hear a word until after the May 5 election is held to raise the

That ballot proposal is so poorly written and contains so many loopholes, it would take a scholar fluent in Mandarin Chinese to decipher it.

The defenders of this monstrosity claim the schools and local governments will benefit, along with our roads. To that I say, hogwash! That \$532 million shortage will come out of the general fund dollars that currently go to those entities and they will not gain diddly-

I hate being on the side of tea partiers who oppose the ballot proposal, but believe me, it's for entirely different rea-

Mine being I know these "sleight of hand" artists. I don't trust them and neither should you.

James Huddleston

Special political interest

The *O&E* reports that "Elected officials: Major funding increase needed to fix roads." It also reports on the need to preserve funds by opening up the bidding for the garbage/trash removal services (Waste Management). Another increased expense is the higher than expected cost of resurfacing some of our local roads.

Two years ago, Livonia saved about \$34,000 by calling off a primary election, thereby denying some residents the right to vote. Does anyone know how those election dollars are used today?

The concern of our elected officials seems to be identifying the source of more money (higher taxes, higher fees or perhaps more canceled elections) to meet the everyday needs of the Livonia community - its residents, businesses, shoppers and the people who work here.

I suggest that each one of us

- readers, voters and interested parties - should research the work of nonprofits such as the Mackinaw Center for Public Policy and the State Policy Network. They have identified millions of dollars (on the way to billions) at the state, county and local levels of government set aside for special political interests. Why not use these already collected monies to meet existing community interests?

Orville H. Kappen

Supports ballot proposal

The Michigan Townships Association supports the May 5 transportation funding ballot proposal and will encourage its members to do the same.

MTA's Executive Committee believes a funding increase is in the best interest of townships and the state as a whole. Townships already spend more than \$186 million a year on roads and bridges even though they aren't required to do so by

Quality roads are a critical driver for Michigan's economic prosperity and for the safety of our residents. MTA plans to work with other organizations in the coming months to actively support this proposal and ensure its approval

> **Linda Preston** 2015 MTA president Pokagon Township supervisor

Two hits on education

Public education in Michigan took a double hit in February - first from our governor's budget proposal and second from our state House. The governor announced an increase in funding to schools of \$75 per student. In what must be attributed to Tough Nerd Math, he didn't account for (or mention) the cuts on the other

side of the ledger. Novi, Livonia, Plymouth-Canton, and I'm sure many other districts, will see their funding cut by another \$25 per student this year.

The second hit came from the state House of Representatives through House Bill 4110. Given an opportunity to show support for our schools and let the School Aid Fund maintain a positive balance going into the next funding cycle, 62 House members, including one Democrat, voted to transfer \$500 million from the SAF to fill the \$456 million state general fund deficit. The gigantic state deficit was estimated well before the November elections, but the governor told us he balanced the budget in his reelection advertising. The House bill to empty out the School Aid Fund was supported by almost all Republican House members, including Novi's Kathy Crawford, Walled Lake's Klint Kesto and Plymouth's Kurt Heise.

Speaking of the November elections, it's often said "you get what you vote for." That's usually true, but not always. Gov. Snyder clearly won reelection, just as Gary Peters clearly won the U.S. Senate seat, replacing Carl Levin. The Michigan House is a different story. The Democrats didn't get "trounced" in November. They actually won more statewide votes than the Republicans. Democrats won 51% of the vote while Republicans won 49% of the vote, yet the R's took a 63-47 seat majority in the House. That's because our districts are so gerrymandered. In Michigan, the voters don't always get to choose their legislators - the legislators choose their voters.

Kathleen Hood

GUEST COLUMN

Fix Michigan's dangerous roads; vote yes on Prop 1

n May 5, you can vote to fix Michigan's unsafe and embarrassing roads

Lousy roads are hurting Michigan's economic recovery and are putting safety at risk for all. Fillings from my teeth are being rattled lose and front end alignments, blown tires and destroyed rims are as nearly a painful occurrence as filling my gas tank was when gas topped \$4 per gallon.

The May 5 ballot question, Proposal 1, hikes the state sales tax to 7 percent from 6 percent, while removing the sales tax from fuel sales and replacing the sales tax with wholesale fuel tax that would be spent on roads.

This change is expected to raise an additional and muchneeded \$1.2 billion a year for roads, \$300 million for public schools, \$100 million for mass



Tom Watkins

transit and about \$95 million for local governments. The proposal would fully restore the Earned Income Tax Credit for the working poor. All would greatly benefit the citizens of Michigan.

It is essential that everyone is aware of the benefits of the proposed gas reform tax, but also understands the ramifications if the proposal fails.

As citizens of Michigan, we have a vested interest in promoting the health and welfare of all. Supporting Proposal 1 does just that.

This proposal goes beyond simply fixing our crumbling, unsafe roads. Our children will be supported through additional funding for public education, many low-income families will benefit from the restoration of the Earned Income Tax Credit and our communities will prosper with a modest restoration in state revenue sharing. Investing in the people of this state is a wise investment.

Benefits if passes, consequences if fails

There is fear in the health and human services community that if Proposal 1 is voted down in May, the state Legislature may turn to reducing funding previously allocated to programs that help support some of the state's most vulnerable citizens - children with emotional disorders and those with serious mental illness, substance use disorders and intellectual and developmental disabilities. Cuts to vulnerable people to fill potholes should be avoided at all costs.

Clearly it is necessary to repair our crumbling roads, invest in public education and help stimulate job growth. However, mental health care for those most in need should not be collateral damage if the measure fails.

I am dedicated to ensuring the success of Proposal 1 and

will educate teachers, social service workers, mental health therapists, PTO groups, first responders, business leaders and anyone else who will stand still long enough to listen.

We need to fix our broken roads and bridges for obvious reasons - they are a mess. Yet failure to pass Proposal 1 could have devastating consequences to the people most in need of government's help: our children, our communities and people who work 40 hours a week, play by the rules and don't earn enough to escape poverty.

Leaders lead

Gov. Rick Snyder is to be commended for his leadership to push for funding that invests in our collective future as a state. We applauded all legislators, Republican and Democrats, who are supporting safe roads.

The plan and vision of Proposal 1 offers aid in so many ways to Michiganders. We owe it to ourselves to be educated on what supporting Proposal 1 means and the many lives that may be impact by the outcome. Put simply, Proposal 1 strengthens the great state of Michigan.

Increasing transportation funding is a crucial investment in moving Michigan forward and will produce continued economic growth, while putting people to work.

Better roads and a reliable transportation infrastructure are critical to a thriving economy. Investing in education, villages, townships, cities and the working poor pays dividends for us all.

Investing in people

To my friends in education and the health and human services community - and for all citizens of this great state there are positive and negative reasons to support the passage of Proposal 1.

A society that invests in itself prospers; ones that don't, remain in a rut.

Start to educate yourself about Proposal 1 at http://www.saferoadsyes.com/ and http://taxfoundation. org/blog/michigan-votersconsider-complex-tax-package.

Pass the word: Proposal 1 will fix much of what needs fixing in Pure Michigan.

Northville resident Tom Watkins served the citizens of Michigan as state superintendent of schools and state mental health director. He can be reached at tdwatkins88@gmail.com or follow on Twitter: tdwatkins88.



Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor

Grace Perry, Director of **Advertising**

Waza FC, area soccer community mourn coach

Farmington's Seamus Rustin earned love and respect of his youth players

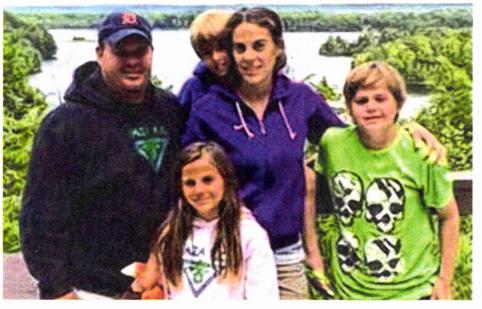
> By Dan O'Meara Staff Write

The Waza Football Club and soccer community are mourning the loss of Seamus Rustin and remembering him as a dedicated and caring coach, following his untimely death.

Mr. Rustin, 38, collapsed and died of a heart attack Monday evening at the conclusion of a U-13 boys soccer practice at a Redford elementary school.

A resident of Farmington and native of Dearborn Heights, Mr. Rustin was a full-time, professional soccer coach for 17 vears and worked for the Waza FC organization for 10 years.

"Anybody who knew Seamus knew he was a very strong-willed person who brought inspiration and energy to everything he did in life," Waza FC owner and director Mario Scicluna said. "He left a legacy for teaching youths to live like War-



Seamus Rustin is pictured with his family: wife Regilene and children Mila (front), Silas (right) and Lucian (rear).

riors and to be the best they can be. He wasn't for the faint-hearted. He gave you love and he gave you tough love. He inspired thousands of young people."

Former Detroit Rockers player Dan Diac, a Waza goalkeeper coach and head of the Olympic Development Program in Michigan, worked with Mr. Rustin for seven

"He was a very ded-

icated coach," Diac said. "He was very passionate about what he was doing. He was very professional, a demanding coach.

"He touched a lot of kids' lives and made those teams better. The kids loved him and respected him. He was a very committed guy, putting in extra time. He was always there for them. It's very sad.'

Mr. Rustin also was the director of the Waza FC Developmental Academy and the director of coaching for the U8-U12 age groups. He had recently completed training and received his U.S.

Soccer coaching license. In addition to being a professional coach, Mr. Rustin also worked in the family tile business and was a member of the Bricklayers and Allied Trade Union.

Mr. Rustin, who was married and had three

children, was a forward in his playing days. He helped Detroit Country Day High School win four state championships and he was a four-year starter at Madonna University.

"He came from the highest soccer pedigrees in Michigan and continued to educate himself," Scicluna said, adding that Mr. Rustin was an ambassador for the game. "He developed some of the best teams in the state at the younger ages that are going to compete for state cups."

Regis Bielski is one of Mr. Rustin's former players, adding they became "best friends and brothers ever since" and later worked with him in coaching.

"He treated everybody like family," Bielski said. "He made sure everything he taught was a life lesson. The end result was about being a good person, caring about family and always working toward a common goal.

"You always knew where you stood with him. He always let you know he loved you, but he was always pushing you to be better, to be what you should be."

Mr. Rustin was talking

to his players at the end of practice Monday when he was stricken. He had

no known medical issues. "It's a bummer for everybody," Diac said. Nobody saw it coming. That's why everybody

was caught by surprise." Scicluna said the players and their parents were receiving grief counseling and Waza members were helping to comfort them, too. All training sessions were canceled Tuesday in honor of Mr. Rustin.

A memorial service is planned for 2-5 p.m. Saturday, March 7, at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 19525 Victor Parkway, Livonia.

Mr. Rustin is survived by his wife Regilene and three children: Silas, 11, Mila, 9, and Lucian, 6. Waza FC has started an online memorial fund to assist the family with its needs.

People can contribute to the Seamus Rustin Family Memorial Fund at www.gofundme. com/nn3f4o. Waza also plans to have a dinner fundraiser at a future date and a soccer tournament in Mr. Rustin's honor later this year.

domeara@hometownlife.com

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

CHINESE NEW YEAR

Date: Saturday, March 7, 7 p.m. Location: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, at 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton Details: Celebrating a tradition that is thousands of years old, the Canton Commission for Culture Arts and Heritage Multicultural Committee will host the 2015 Chinese New Year Celebration Joining the festivities are a Peking Opera performance by Fang Shubo, the Canton Philharmonic Choir, the March Wind Choir and the Michigan Chinese Choir. Audience members will also enjoy beautiful duets by Yangtzee Melody Group and the Spring Group and the energetic sounds of the Desert Island Band. This special celebration will also include a Chinese fashion show, tai chi and a traditional Chinese instrumental performance by the Shangarila

Contact: For more information, go to www.CantonVillageTheater.org or call 734/394-5300.

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 achristen-

sen@cchnet.net **BRAIN NEUROBICS**

Date/Time: Second and Fourth Thursday 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

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

PAGAN HOURS

Dates/Times: Fourth Monday of each

month, 7 p.m.; fourth Saturday of each month, 10 a.m.

Locations: Monday, Panera Bread, 41950 Ford Road, Canton; Saturday Leo's Coney Island, 9624 Belleville Road, Belleville

Details: State Rep. Kristy Pagan, D-Canton, announces the schedule for her monthly coffee hours. Pagan invites residents to join her to discuss their thoughts and ideas about how she can best represent and address the needs of her constituents. Pagan encourages interested residents to sign up for her e-newsletter, which will provide updates of her work at the Capitol and in

Contact: To sign up, interested individuals should go to pagan.housedems.com. Residents can also contact Pagan in her Lansing office at 517-373-2575.

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

Contact: Email laurie.mayers@gmail.com

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DIVISION 1 BOYS HOCKEY PRE-REGIONAL



Salem goalie Dillon Phillips (left) celebrates with teammates Bailey Thompson and Nate West (right) after the Rocks tied the game late in the third

REDEMPTION

Rocks turn postseason tables on Wildcats, win 4-3 on Walker's OT goal

By Tim Smith Staff Writer

Late in overtime of Monday's Division 1 boys hockey pre-regional, the puck caromed off the right-wing boards in the neutral zone and Salem senior forward Liam Walker retrieved it.

Walker quick-footed his way around a Plymouth defender, who lost an edge and went tumbling. Then he zoomed in on Wildcats senior goaltender Jared Maddock.

After Maddock came up with a clutch stop, Walker extended out for the rebound and lofted his second shot over Maddock to give the Rocks a 4-3 victory at Arctic

Edge Arena. For Salem (12-10-4), the victory turned the tables on the KLAA South Division champion Wildcats (15-8-3) who in the 2013 and 2014 beat the Rocks in the pre-regional

in double OT each time. 'A nice pass (by junior forward Zach Goleniak) to Liam, a good individual effort," Salem head coach Ryan Ossenmacher said. "The goalie made a great save on the first chance and he followed up his play and buried the rebound.

"So good for Liam. He's played well for us this year. It was a total team effort.

Salem was scheduled to face state-ranked Northville on Wednesday. The winner of that game will move on to Friday's regional final at 8

"Our (defense) blew a tire, partial breakaway," Plymouth head coach Gerry Vento said. "Maddock made the first



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem players mob senior forward Liam Walker after his game-winning goal in overtime Monday against Plymouth.



BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

After going to the D1 state quarterfinals two years in a row, the Plymouth Wildcats are stunned their season ended in Monday's pre-regional.

save, which is all you can ask for. Give their guy credit, he stuck with it and got the rebound up and in.

"I thought for the whole game we carried the play; the puck was down there the whole overtime. But at the end of the day it doesn't matter, it's who puts the puck in the net."

Vento said the Plymouth-

Salem tilt at Arctic Edge

continued what is becoming an early March ritual. 'It's a great setting. It's what makes hockey at the Park great," Vento said. "It's a fantastic rivalry. It started since I got here four years ago and it just doesn't seem to

Following it up

This time, the only change was the team coming out on

Walker, who was mobbed by his teammates along the boards in the Plymouth zone after his game winner (at 7:02 of overtime), chalked up the goal to being persistent.

"Just getting it to the net, getting a quick shot and get-ting a rebound off," Walker said. "Just like practice, we play our rebounds. ... Just stayed with it, stopped and

shot it back in.' With a smile, Walker added that his team had a feeling the third time was going to be the charm: "We just had it in us that we weren't going to let them beat us three times in a

row, in overtime." Walker's goal touched off a wild celebration among the Salem faithful, too. Arctic Edge was overflowing with Plymouth-Canton Educational Park hockey fans, with those spectators unable to find seats in the bleachers lining the boards at each end of the

Maddock (16 saves) noted it was a brutal way for the season to end.

"It was just a bad bounce and it went their way," Mad-

See HOCKEY, Page B2

KLAA TITLE PREVIEW



MICHAEL VASILNEK **Plymouth senior Randall Aikins** (right) makes a move against Salem defender Calin Crawford.

Cats won't back down

Plymouth boys cagers set for Warriors in KLAA final

> **By Tim Smith** Staff Writer

As soon as Randall Aikin's through-the-lane buzzer-beater gave the Plymouth Wildcats a huge victory over Canton in early February, things began to change for coach Mike Soukup's team.

'That was the turning point where our leadership kind of (shifted), holding each other a little more accountable than they have in the past," said Soukup, whose varsity boys basketball team visits Walled Lake Western at 7 p.m. Thur day for the KLAA champi-

Plymouth (14-5) seemed to gain some steam with that victory over the KLAA South Division champion Chiefs and continued to shine during the Kensington Conference tournament with wins over KLAA Central Division champion

Salem and Livonia Churchill. Now, the Wildcats will try to topple the Warriors (18-1), led by senior forward Marcus Bailey and solid back court depth.

'Walled Lake Western's only dropped one game the whole vear." Soukup said. "I think it goes without saying that they're going to be a tough

"But I think we're jelling and rounding into a very good team at certainly a great time of the year."

Spearheading the Wildcats during their recent success have been senior forwards Deji Adebiyi and Josh Rey-

nolds and senior guard Aikins. Augmenting them have been junior wings Brent Davis and Armani Tate. Providing grit off the bench has been junior Pete Carravallah.

"We're not going to lose for

See WILDCATS, Page B3

CLASS A GIRLS BASKETBALL DISTRICTS

Petree's late triple lifts Rocks

Salem girls cagers nip Plymouth in closely contested district opener

By Evan Paputa

Among the bright lights of the win-or-go-home state tournament, there was pressure building between Plymouth and Salem.

In Monday's girls basketball district quarterfinal, things did not go according to the Rocks' script.

Despite the Rocks' struggles, with the game tied at 29-29, they held possession with 35 seconds to go. Jamyra Wilson dribbled the clock

down to five seconds before darting into the lane and dishing a pass to the right corner.

Freshman Lasha Petree was there to catch Wilson's pass and knocked down her fourth 3-pointer of the game with 1.8 seconds remaining to put Salem up 32-29. Salem held on to win after Plymouth's inbound pass to half court was deflected.

"They told me to get open out of the timeout and we were holding for the last shot," said Petree, who led all scorers with 14 points. "(Wil-

son) went in for the drive and got stuck, so I was open. She made a great pass and I shot and I made it.

According to Salem head coach Lindsay Klemmer, whose team improved to 17-4 overall, Petree is "a great shooter and an even better kid. There's so much to look forward to with her. She's one of those kids that if she's off, I tell her to keep shooting.

"I said to Jam, 'If they collapse and she's in the corner,

See ROCKS, Page B4



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

The player who made the game-winning shot, Salem freshman Lasha Petree (left) dribbles around Plymouth defender Elise Wehmer during Monday's Class A district contest.

D1 BOYS HOCKEY PRE-REGIONAL



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Watching the puck sail past the goal post are Canton goalie Nick Borg (right), Northville forward Anthony Solack (center) and Chiefs forward Marcus Cook.

Pesky Chiefs put late scare into Northville

Hat trick in third by Canton's Kiddle makes life uneasy down stretch for Mustangs

By Tim Smith Staff Writer

For the first two periods Monday night, Northville bombarded Canton senior goaltender Nick Borg, yet had only a paltry 2-0 lead to show for it.

And because Borg kept the Chiefs in the Division 1 boys hockey pre-regional at Arctic Edge Arena in Canton — not to mention Canton senior forward Tommy Kiddle scoring three goals in the final period - the No. 7-ranked Mustangs had to sweat out the conclusion of their 4-3 victory.

Northville improved to 16-7-3 and was scheduled Wednesday to play Salem, which won 4-3 in overtime earlier Monday over Ply-

Kiddle scored goals at 14:44 and 15:15 to suddenly make it a one-goal difference. The Chiefs pulled Borg for an extra skater and were one tip or deflection away from forcing

"We ran for 49 miles; we didn't run the full 51," Northville head coach Clint Robert said, referring to the 51 minutes a regulation high school game requires. "And I think e were thinking offensive we were up 4-1 and guys were looking to pad stats.

'Canton, to their credit, never gave up. They kept coming and coming and coming, crashing the net. They pushed harder than we did the last two minutes.

Canton head coach Brad Barath, whose team was outshot 48-22 (12 by Northville freshman defenseman Jack

Sargent), was proud of the way his team battled.

Barath cited how Borg, Kiddle and the rest of the Chiefs (4-18-3) performed with heart and hustle against a heavily favored opponent.

'He's a third-year senior captain on this team, I know he didn't want his season to end,' Barath said about Kiddle. "None of them wanted their season to end. It's unfortunate that we waited until the last eight minutes of the third period to really dig deep.

"Had we done that the whole game, it probably would have been a different story. But amazing effort out of the guys to score three goals like that in the third period against a top 10 team in Northville and make it a game like that.

As for Borg's acrobatics, which have been a nightly occurrence the past two seasons, Barath merely smiled and nodded.

"The game could have been 6-0 after the first period,"
Barath said. "He kept us in

Borg's counterpart, Northville's Chance Boutin, needed to make only 19 stops.

But one of them in the third was as big as they come as he waffle-boarded a dangerous shot by Canton senior forward Connor Wherrett. who broke in with 3:30 remain-

Dangerous unit

Northville's top scoring line of Jack Meacham, Nick Strom and Alec Morgan carried the Mustangs' offensive load.

Meacham tallied two goals

and two assists, while Morgan (one goal, two assists) and Strom (two assists) also were a major pain in Borg's side.

With Borg diving, sliding and thrusting his body in front of shots, the game remained scoreless until the 13:09 mark of the first. Strom took a slap shot from the right point that Morgan tipped home from the

Northville upped that edge to 2-0 with 6:31 to play in the second period, when Meacham

The Chiefs sliced that deficit to 2-1 when Kiddle redirected Wherrett's point shot with 12:34 remaining in the third period. Also assisting on the power-play goal was senior forward Cooper Rice.

That seemed to awaken the Mustangs, however, as Kevin O'Connell poked in the rebound of a Meacham shot just 1:23 after the Canton goal.

Meacham's second of the night, at 14:07, opened up a 4-1 Northville lead. But Kiddle and the Chiefs would not go

With 2:16 to play, Kiddle got one back. He got another back less than a minute later to give the Chiefs and their fans hope.

Assisting on both was se ior defenseman Hunter Schlampp, while sophomore blueliner Michael Testani also collected an assist.

But Canton could not maintain possession in the Northville zone with less than 30 seconds to play and that was

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HOCKEY

Continued from Page B1

dock said. "He just put home the rebound. He (Plymouth defenseman) lost an edge, it was unlucky and just gave him a lot of time.'

Absolutely huge

The game might not have even reached overtime if not for the stop Salem senior goalie Dillon Phillips (27 saves) made against Plymouth junior forward Alex Bump to thwart a breakaway with less than 10 minutes left in the third and the Wildcats up 3-2.

"I told our guys on the bench, 'There's your save." Ossenmacher said. "You need a goalie to make a save to keep you in the game and that was the save he made. ... If he doesn't make that save, who knows what happens.'

Moments before the Bump breakaway, a blast by senior forward Josh Smith rang off the crossbar behind Phillips.

Salem, still hanging in there, then went on the power play with about 3:30 to go in regulation.

Then came the power-play goal at 14:20 that kept the Rocks alive. Walker, stationed at the right point, slid the puck over to senior defenseman Noah Saad at the left point.

Saad took a stride toward the Plymouth net and uncorked a slap shot that beat Maddock, expertly screened by junior forward Zach Goleniak. Also drawing an assist was senior forward Noah Will-

"I didn't believe it," Saad

said about his shot hitting twine. "But I was happy we were back in the game and I was hoping for the team to score another one.

"I was hoping for a rebound so one of the forwards could put it in. But I'll take the goal."

In overtime, Phillips had to make yet another sensational stop with the season on the line. Phillips and a defenseman got their wires crossed behind the net and Plymouth's Ricky Covault retrieved the puck, staring at a half-empty

But Phillips dove desperately to his left to flag down the Covault shot.

"It was just a miscommunication between the two of us,' Phillips said. "It happens in hockey and you got to react to

Less than a minute later, Walker scored and Phillips skated the length of the ice to join the mob scene.

'Oh my God, it was the greatest feeling ever, skating the entire way down," Phillips said, smiling. "Luckily I didn't fall over with excitement. It was just amazing.'



BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER It's a collision course for Salem's Austin Marthaler (left) and Plymouth's Ricky Covault on Monday at Arctic Edge Arena.

Trading goals

The end of the game was dramatic. But there were twists and turns earlier, too.

Salem broke a scoreless tie with two goals early in the second, by senior forward Zach Newsom (from senior forward Rich Corso and junior forward Nick Callegari) and Goleniak (off a feed from

Walker). The Wildcats responded quickly, however. With just one second left on a Salem penalty, junior forward Jake Silvester knocked a rebound past Phillips. Drawing the assists were senior defense

man Jared Merandi and Smith. Plymouth then scored two more goals to go up 3-2 after two periods. Getting the equalizer with a roof shot was senior defenseman Ben Chafin (from senior Jake Zaborowski), while junior forward Zack Wiener ripped a high shot into the Salem net with 5.7 seconds to play in the peri-

Of course, the game wasn't over just yet. Rocks would find a way to draw even and ultimately prevail, to Vento's

"It's not only tough that it's one and done, but it's just unfortunate that there's no type of seeding yet in high school hockey," Vento said. "You look at our entire region, it's a meat grinder.

'We were looking at it, nine of the top 10 teams are going to be eliminated just between two regions before you get to quarterfinals.'

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OHL HOCKEY



RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS

Plymouth Whalers goalie Alex Nedeljkovic makes one of his 37 saves Saturday night against Ottawa's Travis Konecny. At right for Plymouth is defenseman Sean Callaghan. The Whalers wore specially designed uniforms to benefit the Michigan Humane Society on Pucks and Paws

Whalers keep gaining ground

Plymouth starting to gain serious momentum in OHL playoff chase

> By Tim Smith Staff Writer

Now the fun begins for the Plymouth Whalers.

With key defenseman Yannick Rathgeb finally back in the lineup after a lengthy absence due to injury, the Whalers have started to make a push in their quest for an OHL-record 24th consecutive playoff appearance.

Saturday night kept the ball rolling, as Rathgeb and the Whalers defeated Ottawa 3-1 before 2,906 at Compuware Arena for the inaugural Pucks and Paws Night.

Since Rathgeb returned Feb. 21, Plymouth (22-32-3-2, 49 points) has won three of four games and now trails eighth-place Saginaw and Windsor by just two points. "Yan certainly helps; he

gives us depth back there, Whalers head coach Don Elland said. "We're not running four (defensemen) all night long because the kids are

young.
"It's Yan's second year in the league and, let's face it, Yan played in the World Junior tournament and he's a good player. He helps us.'

Elland added that the Whalers, playing their third game in three nights, came away with five of a possible six points largely because of the Rathgeb-fortified defense.

"If we didn't have him and we're running short (on defense), it would have probably been a different result tonight," he said.

Rathgeb, playing in only his 25th game, said he is "pretty happy the way we played the last couple weeks. We're playing great hockey and we finally got a full defensive lineup.' That defense — back-

stopped by stonewall goaltender Alex Nedeljkovic, who was outstanding Saturday with 37 saves - might need to carry the load the remaining three weeks, however. One of Plymouth's top scor-

ers, right wing Connor Chatham (16-20-36), will be shut down for the rest of the season following Tuesday's game at Saginaw. Chatham has a wrist injury that will require surgery.

On a mission

The Whalers, wearing specially designed jerseys to benefit the Michigan Humane Society, played with energy and purpose, as they have during their recent stretch of solid hockey. A plus was getting a lead,

which forward Connor Sills took care of with just 3:56 left in the first period. Defenseman Mathieu Hen-

derson took a slap shot from the left point that Sills standing near the right post tipped past Ottawa goalie Leo Lazarev (25 saves). Also drawing an assist was forward Francesco Vilardi.

WHALERS CATCH SAGINAW

As of early Tuesday afternoon, the Plymouth Whalers were back to square one in the race for an OHL playoff spot.

Plymouth blanked host Saginaw 4-0 in a morning contest, with goalie Alec Nedelkovic making 34 shots and the Whalers getting goals from Mitch Jones, Sonny Milano, Will Bitten and Connor Chatham (in his last game of the season before undergoing wrist surgery at the behest of the NHL team that holds his rights, New Jersey).

Whalers head coach Don Elland, in a text exchange later Tuesday, joked that he "wished" the Devils would reconsider and let Chatham continue playing. But he confirmed that Chatham, who finished the season with 17 goals, had skated for the final time for Plymouth.

With the win, the Whalers and Spirit were tied with 51 points with eight games remaining for each team. Also tied with them, with a game in hand, is Windsor. All three will go down to the wire in the drive for the eighth and final playoff position in the OHL Western Conference.

Late in the second period, Compuware fans started chanting "we want two" and, within moments, the Whalers obliged.

With 3:11 remaining in the period, a centering pass by forward Ryan Moore (Troy) was buried by forward Math ew Campagna for his 22nd goal of the year. Plymouth played the 67s

even through two periods (shots were 22 each after 40 minutes), not showing any signs of fatigue until the third when Ottawa held a 16-6 edge in shots on goal. Although Ottawa turned up

the offensive pressure in the third, Nedeljkovic was ready.

Perhaps the Carolina Hurricanes prospect's best save came with about 6:45 left. when he kicked out a shot taken from the right circle by Evan de Haan.

His shutout bid finally was spoiled with 3:22 to play. Ottawa tallied a power-play goal, when Dante Salituro ripped a high shot home from the slot to make it 2-1.

Insurance goal

Ottawa then pulled Lazarev with two minutes left, looking for the equalizer. Instead, Vilardi pocketed

an empty-netter at 18:15 to seal the victory. Setting up the tally were forward Victor Crus Rydberg and defenseman Gianluca Curcuruto.

"Now that it's fun, it's contagious," Elland said. "And they know know if they keep playing this way, they got a good shot.'

Meanwhile, there definitely was a buzz in the building that's been missing too many times this winter.

"That (crowd) was good to see," Elland said. "Tonight they were all jacked up that there was a big crowd.



RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS

Deflecting Saturday night's first goal past Ottawa goaltender Leo Lazarev is Plymouth Whalers forward Connor Sills.

DIVISION 1 INDIVIDUAL FINALS PREVIEW

WITHIN THEIR GRASP

P-CEP wrestlers one great weekend away from reaching The Palace podium

By Tim Smith Staff Writer

The Palace of Auburn Hills awaits six stalwart wrestlers from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, who look to climb the mountain — and the podium - at the Division 1 individual state finals.

After months and months of endless battles on the mat, not to mention the demands of staying physically fit in the wrestling room, the dream is ready to unfold for the sextet: Canton's Ty Jasman, Plymouth's Hussein Youssef, Dylan Dwyer and Brandon Harris and Salem's Mitchell Gross and Roy Foster.

Of that group, only Jasman (36-6) arrives with a 2015 individual regional championship. He won in the 140-pound weight class Feb. 21 at Saline and will face Troy's Andrew Ellicott (29-8) in the first round.



Jasman

That doesn't mean he is the only Park wrestler with a good chance to finish with a state championship.

"At this point of the season, everyone is a

strong wrestler," Canton head coach Cory Mancuso said. "The wrestler that has the best weekend will be be the champion come Saturday

"The wrestler that prepares the best physically and men-tally will give himself the best chance to win."

Mancuso, however, said Jasman enters the finals with a strong desire to follow 2014 Canton champion Ben Griffin to the top of the podium.

'Ty is a senior; it is his final chance at this tournament,' Mancuso said. "So I expect he will go out there and leave it all on the mat and if he does that, then he will have no re-

The two P-CEP individual regional runners-up are Plymouth senior Youssef and junior Dwyer.

INDIVIDUAL FINALS WRESTLING SCHEDULE

When: Thursday through Saturday. Where: Palace of Auburn Hills. Who: Competing from the Park will be: Canton's Ty Jasman, regional champion at 140; Plymouth's Hussein Youssef, Dylan Dwyer and Brandon Harris; and Salem's Mitchell Gross and Roy Foster. Thursday: Round 1, 2 p.m. Friday: Round 2, 8:30 a.m.; Semifinals (Round 5), 7 p.m. Saturday: Round 6, 8:30 a.m.; Consolation Finals (Round 8), ap-

Youssef (42-9) is slated to open up against Davison junior Tanner Thomas (25-9).

proximately 11 a.m.; Finals (Round

9), 4:45 p.m.

'Hussein has wrestled most of the wrestlers in his bracket in some very close, good matches," Plymouth head coach Quinn Guernsey said. "Hussein wrestled very well at regionals and hopefully that will carry over to a solid weekend in Auburn Hills."

Guernsey said the favorite at 189 is Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's Nick Giese, who has beaten Youssef three times this season, including in the regional final.

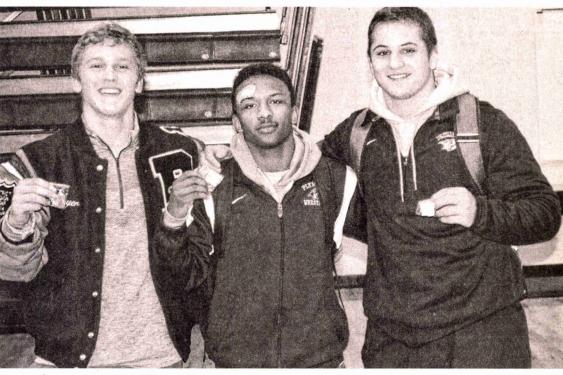
Dwyer steps into The Palace with a stellar 48-3 record and will go up against Flint Carman-Ainsworth senior Darian Vaughn (39-11).

'If Dylan wins, it will probably set up a quarterfinal match against Dan Shear from Walled Lake Central, who Dylan has split with in their two previous meetings," Guernsey said. "The favorite to win the weight class is Lincoln Olson from Davison, who is undefeated and going for his fourth state title.'

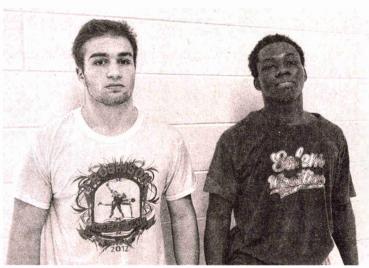
The Wildcats also will be represented by Harris, a 119pound senior with a 34-5 record. Harris was a fourth-place finisher at the Saline regional. despite battling an injury.

Wide open

According to Guernsey, the bracket is up for grabs and Harris is good enough to be in



Plymouth wrestlers (from left) Dylan Dwyer, Brandon Harris and Hussein Youssef proudly display their medals at the Feb. 21 Division 1 individual regional. All will compete this weekend at The Palace of Auburn Hills in the D1 individual state finals.



Getting prepped for the D1 individual state finals are (from left) Salem's Mitchell Gross and Roy Foster.

the championship mix.

Harris must knock off Grand Blanc senior Noah Gonser (52-3 and ranked No. 1 by Michigan Grappler) to get that quest off on the right foot.

"With that being said, Brandon will be looking at that match and all of his matches as winnable," Guernsey said. "The 119-pound weight class is probably one of the most balanced in the tournament.

'There are probably 10 or 12 wrestlers who are thinking they have a chance to win the tournament if they have a good weekend."

Also bringing championship aspirations to The Palace are Salem senior Gross and junior

Gross and Foster placed third and fourth at 189 at Saline. Gross (41-9) draws Lapeer's Jacob Perry (52-4) in the opening round, while Foster (44-12) will face Caledonia's Zane Gorby (47-1). "Mitchell and Roy have

tough first matches, but both are capable of placing very high this weekend," said Salem co-coach Jeremy Henderson, a 2006 state champion. "If one of them gets on a hot streak, you never know. Everyone at the state tournament is a very, very good wrestler, so they will both have to bring their best."

Henderson said Gross "wants a state title and I think if he leaves it all out there, it is definitely in his grasp.

'Roy is only a junior, but he has wrestled tough and improves every tournament he wrestles," Henderson added. "If Roy wrestles his best, I see him on the podium.

"I am very proud of both of these guys and can't wait for them to achieve their goals.'

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DIVISION 1 BOWLING REGIONAL

Chiefs roll to team regional championship

Canton boys grab team honors for first time; Criscenti, Macunovich win individual titles

> By Tim Smith Staff Writer

It doesn't matter what the setting is — team or individual. Canton's varsity boys bowling team continues to have a season for the record books.

The Chiefs won the Division 1 team regional championship Friday at Canton's Super Bowl and several members of the team followed up Saturday to qualify for the individual state finals.

"This is our first regional win (in team history) and it's kind of one of those things you hope happens in your four years of high school," Canton senior captain Aaron Madsen said. "It's something that I'll always remember.

"We were down a little bit early (Friday), but then we came back hard and stuck together as a team. That's been the key all year. It's the difference between this year and teams of the past."

Canton (4,231 pins) pre-vailed over Wayne Memorial (4,108), largely on the back of an outstanding final team

"The last game, we were only up three pins on Wayne Memorial, so we were thinking if we shoot about 1,000 for the last game, then we'd lead the tournament," Canton senior



CANTON BOWLING

The Division 1 boys bowling regional team champion Canton Chiefs include (kneeling, from left) Josh Criscenti, Jacob Peltz and Dominic Dimaya and (standing, from left) head coach Karl Brubaker, Aaron Madsen, Dave Madsen, Tyler Pozan, Mitchell Zelenak and Teddy Lang.

Josh Criscenti said. "And we had the best game of the tournament that any team shot, an 1,117 or something like that.

"We beat every team by 200 pins because of that game." Canton head coach Karl Brubaker said his team bounced back from a sluggish

"The (Baker) games weren't that great," Brubaker said. "But they got better as the day went on. It was a good day."

Leading the charge were Madsen, Criscenti, Jacob Peltz, Teddy Lang, Dominic Dimaya, Dave Madsen, Tyler Pozan and Mitchell Zelenak.

Meanwhile, the Chiefs qual-

ified three bowlers for the individual finals, spearheaded by regional champion Criscenti (1,378).

In second with 1,373 was Madsen, while senior Jacob Peltz tied for sixth with a 1,303

"It's really a great honor," Criscenti said. "(Friday) we just had a great last team game to give us the lead and (Saturday) me and two of my teammates also made the cut.

"It's just incredible how good of a season we've had so

In sixth Friday with 3,884 pins was Salem, whixh did not qualify for team finals just two years after winning it all.

"This was a competitive season; it was just a tough season," Rocks co-coach Kathie Hahn said. "We tied for first in the division with Canton, so we had a good season. But when it came down to (Friday), it was tough. There was a lot of good competition.'

Salem did have some individual success, as sophomore Mitchell Rusinek finished third with a score of 1,352.

'He did really well," Hahn said. "All my boys did really, really well today. They all showed up, but the bar was really high."

Individual girls

For the second straight season, Canton's Meghan Macunovich topped the field in the D1 girls individual region-

Macunovich, a sophomore, registered a total of 1,345 to edge Westland John Glenn's Julia Huren (1,333). She was



Macunovich

the lone girl from the Park to finish in the top 10 and thus qualify for Saturday's individual state finals at Sunnybrook Lanes in Ster-

ling Heights. "It feels real-

ly good. I'm glad I could accomplish the same thing two years in a row," Macunovich said. "Especially with last year, being a freshman, it was really exciting. And this year it's exciting that I can do it again."

She added that it helps that

she has had plenty of experience bowling in high-stakes tournaments.

'I've done a lot of other really competitive tournaments, so that helps, too," said Macunovich, whose average this season has climbed to 210 (it was 204 in 2013-14). "I can just play my individual game.

"I didn't do too great last year (at finals). I know I'll do better this year."

D1 TEAM REGIONAL Feb. 27 at Super Bowl BOYS TEAM RESULTS (top three qualify for states): 1. Canton, 4,231; 2. Wayne Memorial, 4,108; 3. Westland John Glenn, 3,985; 4. Farmington, 3,960; 5. Detroit Catholic Central, 3,938; 6. Salem, 3,884; 7. Saline, 3,790; 8. Belleville, 3,779; 9. Plymouth, 3,778; 10. Northville, 3,672; 11. Skyline,

GIRLS TEAM RESULTS (top three qualify for states): 1. Westland John Glenn, 4,141; 2. Belleville, 3,599; 3. Farmington, 3,536; 4. Mercy, 3,480; 5. Wayne Memorial, 3,285; 6. Northville,

D1 INDIVIDUAL REGIONAL Feb. 28 at Super Bowl (Top 10 boys and girls qualify for states) BOYS RESULTS: 1. Josh Criscenti (Canton), 1,378; 2. Aaron Madsen (Canton), 1,373; 3. Mitchell 1,378; 2. Aaron Madsen (Canton), 1,373; 3. Mitchell Rusinek (Salem), 1,352; 4. Joey Kryzwonos (DCC), 1,345; 5. Dylan Bentley (Belleville), 1,307; 6. (tie) Jacob Peltz (Canton), Mikio Osugi (Ann Arbor Skyline), 1,303; 8. Brian Martin (John Glenn), 1,296; 9. Jake Preiss (John Glenn), 1,270; 10. Bradley Melidosian (Belleville), 1,259; 17. Jordan Orzech (Plymouth), 1,197; 19. Tony Przytulski (Salem), 1,172; 23. Brandon Kwapis (Salem), 1,156; 25. Teddy Lang (Canton), 1,153; 26. Zach Gonyea (Salem), 1,151; 27. Tyler Pozan (Canton), 1,140; 35. Mitchell Zelenak (Canton), 1,094; 40. Keyis Nijmky (Plymouth) 1,069; 44. (fie) Shane

(Canton), 1,140; 35. Mitchell Zelenak (Canton), 1,094; 40. Kevin Shimko (Plymouth), 1,069; 44. (tie) Shane Rusinek (Salem), 1,068; fo. Bryce Smith (Plymouth), 1,044; 61. Lucas Meiers (Plymouth), 961; 62. Nick Ray (Plymouth), 955; 65. Donald Blevins (Plymouth), 940.

GIRLS RESULTS: 1. Meghan Macunovich (Canton), 1,345; 2. Julia Huren (John Glenn), 1,333; 3. Jessica Pate (John Glenn), 1,245; 4. Olivia Cabildo (John Glenn), 1,216; 5. Rachel Doran (Farmington), 1,194; 6. Ashlei Brooks (Mercy), 1,193; 7. Dana lles (Farmington), 1,192; 8. Emily Dietz (John Glenn), 1,183; 9. Allison Morris (Ann Arbor Huron), 1,179; 10. Victoria Perez (Belleville), 1,167; 15. Brynna Samuels (Salem), 1,065; 17. Rachel Lopez (Salem), 1,044; 20. Katherine Kehoe (Salem), 1,003; 35. Leah Boucha (Salem), 1,065; 17. Rachel Lopez (Salem), 1,044; 20. Katherine Kehoe (Salem), 1,008; 35. Leah Boucha (Salem), 934; 43. Megan Peldo (Canton), 913; 45. Jessica Jopich (Plymouth), 901; 46. Nicole Marshall (Plymouth), 899; 49. Maranda McMaster (Canton), 876.

WILDCATS

Continued from Page B1

lack of effort, I'm going to tell you that much," Soukup said, looking to lead the Wildcats to their first association crown.

"We're going to go in there and compete and let the chips fall where they may.

'It's certainly an opportunity. It's not our last opportunity (of the season) by any stretch of the imagination, but it's a

good opportunity." Win or lose, Plymouth still has the Class A state tournament to look forward to.

Regardless, it has been perhaps the most successful season of prep basketball at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park in recent memory.

On the boys side, the Chiefs and Rocks won their respective divisions and Plymouth garnered the conference title, with hopes of keeping things going in the hardware department Thursday.

Salem's varsity girls basketball team won the KLAA Central and then ran the table in the tournament. On Monday,

the Rocks knocked off Plymouth (KLAA South champ) in a Class A district opener.

"You can go back in the annals of history and see whether the Park had this much success in both boys and girls basketball," Soukup said. "I'd say probably never.

MEN'S JUNIOR COLLEGE BASKETBALL

THE WHOLE SHOOTING MATCH

Treys spark Ocelots to MCCAA crown

By Tim Smith

At Friday's practice, Schoolcraft College freshman forward Tyler Johnson pulled coach Abe Mashhour aside.

'Tyler's been so locked in lately and he's been shooting the ball absolutely terrific in practice," Mashhour said. "His comment to me yesterday was, 'Coach, this is the best my shot has felt all year.' So I told him, 'Hey, then just let it rip.' And he obviously did."

Howell alum Johnson certainly did, hitting four treys before Saturday's Michigan Community College Athletic Association men's basketball championship game was five minutes old.

That torrid stretch gave the Ocelots a 15-2 lead and - despite letting Lake Michigan College briefly get back into the game later in the first half Schoolcraft was more than able to bring home the title,

"I had 10 (triples) against Alpena a couple weeks ago," said Johnson, who finished with a game-high 23 points. "But when you hit the first one or two and see them go in, you can't really stop going. It feels good coming out of my hands and I let it go.

Schoolcraft (27-3, ranked No. 1 in the nation) now moves on to the NJCAA District 10 tournament next week. The team needs to win the district in order to qualify for national

"We talked about the different seasons and this season just ended and now it's time for the national tournament," said Mashhour, named MCCAA coach of the year. "We have to take care of business at districts to give ourselves a chance to go to the national tournament.

"They're great guys and I'm proud of them more for the kind of people they are than I am as to what they do on the basketball court.

Johnson's outside proficiency sparked the Ocelots to a 46-40 halftime lead.

But it was the inside game



Schoolcraft College players, coaches and family members celebrate after winning the Michigan Community College Athletic Association championship.

of freshman forwards Anthony Wartley-Fritz and Davon Taylor (Canton) and sophomore forward Javan Thomas that closed out the win and Schoolcraft's first MCCAA crown since 2008.

Needing to establish the inside game after getting jumper happy, Mashhour reminded his team both during in-game timeouts and at halftime to start working the ball down

Seconds into the second half, Wartley-Fritz (15 points, 11 rebounds) muscled in for a put-back. Following soon thereafter with layups were freshman forward Marcus Williams (seven points) and Thomas, who registered 18 points.

Then with 17 minutes left in regulation, Thomas stole the ball at mid-court, took a few steps and then floated through the air for a soaring slam that put the Ocelots up 54-42.

"It feels real good. I was just trying to get my team up so I could start a good run," said Thomas, whose return at mid-season ignited Schoolcraft's 16-game winning streak. "To motivate my team with that dunk. I felt the crowd, I felt my team, start to get excited, everything."

Mashhour said Thomas brings intangibles to the court that have help lift the Ocelots to another level.

"His energy is unmatched. He just plays with terrific energy and, obviously, around the basket he's very tough," Mashhour said. "You can't teach that kind of toughness or that kind of energy. That's just

how he plays the game."
Also chipping in eight points off the bench was Taylor, who made a couple of strong baseline moves.

'We're a good team. We play well together and I love it a lot," said Taylor, whose former Canton coach (Jimmy Reddy) and ex-teammates watched from the jam-packed bleachers, "We work well and I get a lot of playing time because I work hard in practice, so it's good. We can accomplish big things."

First, Schoolcraft had to get past Lake Michigan.

For a while, the MCCAA West Conference champion Red Hawks (21-9) were bent on spoiling things for the home

After Schoolcraft's early surge, Lake Michigan went on a 26-11 tear to knot things up at 28-28 with 7:45 left in the first

Both Alec Brown and Michael Bush hit three treys and finished with 15 points. Leading Lake Michigan with 16 points was Labradford Sebree.

Mashhour said it was crucial that his team got back to the game plan of getting points in the paint.

"That was the difference in the game, if you ask me," he said. "We started controlling the paint a lot better. To their

credit, they fought very hard, Lake Michigan did, they have a very, very good ball club there.

Meanwhile, Mashhour tipped his cap to his coaching staff of Michael Allie (Livonia Stevenson), Corey McKendry (Livonia Clarenceville) and Seth Coffing.

Both McKendry and Coffing came over with Mashhour from Henry Ford.

"Best staff anywhere and I really, really mean that," Mash-hour said. "Our assistant coaches are terrific; they've all been been successful high school coaches.

So if I miss practice, they're here to go from there. They have the head coach's mentality when we're game planning, which was very pivotal today.'

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Continued from Page B1

go ahead and give it to her.' We put Lasha in the corner for a reason.'

Plymouth head coach Nick Brandon gave credit to his team (17-4) for its efforts following the 50-30 loss to Salem in the Kensington Conference title game Feb. 24.

"You have to play 32 minutes against Salem and take advantage of your opportunities," Brandon said. "We came really close to doing both of those things, but fell just

'We didn't do that for 32 minutes, but I am so incredibly proud of my team and the way that they prepared and responded to last Tuesday's game and battled."

See-saw battle

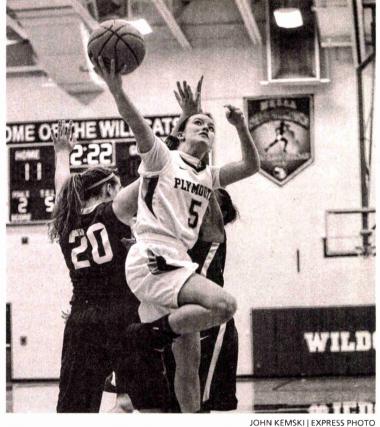
Salem led Plymouth since Petree nailed her first triple of the night 30 seconds into the second quarter, giving the Rocks a 10-9 lead. Salem wasn't able to build much of a lead from then until Plymouth regained the lead with 2:17 left in the game. The Rocks' largest lead of the night was seven and that lasted for only one possession late in the third quarter.

Both teams went back and forth in the final four minutes of the game. Cassidy Lewis cut the Salem lead to one with her 3-pointer from the left wing with 4:02 left.

After the Lewis triple, Plymouth went into its signature 2-2-1 press and forced two turnovers on the next two Salem possessions. Lewis followed the second turnover with a drive and lefty layup to give Plymouth a 27-26 advantage after trailing for 21 straight minutes.

Plymouth caused yet another Rocks turnover on their next possession as Hayley Rogers was called for traveling. The Wildcats responded with a Paige Slominski layup with 1:22 left to give them a 29-26 lead.

With the game on the line



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Plymouth senior Paige Slominski (front) soars toward the Salem basket Monday night, despite close defensive attention from Hayley Rogers (left) of the Rocks.

and Plymouth on a 7-0 run, Salem went inside the paint to find its answer. Petree dished to Shara Long (13 points) and she took one dribble to the basket. She scored and was fouled. After her free throw was successful, the game was tied at 29-29 with 1:03 remain-

"We ran an offense that got us cutting to the basket. That last one where Shara got the and one, that was the game right there," Klemmer said.

Plymouth ran through its offensive progressions before Slominski saw an opening to the basket. She took it, but her shot in the lane with contact rimmed out, giving Salem the ball for its final possession.

Lots to be proud of

Brandon will say goodbye to six seniors following a successful 2014-15 season that saw Plymouth capture its first division title in school history.

Kendall Rose, Slominski, Patti Begoske, Courtney Lavallee, Leah Kliczinski and Nadia Lengel were all instrumental in the turnaround of the Plymouth program, according to Brandon.

"They're an incredibly special group to me but, more importantly, to this program. These seniors have given everything they had in so many ways people don't see. People don't see early morning practices, summer workouts, weight lifting and our conditioning," Brandon said. "If people saw that, they would understand how special this group is and what they mean to the rebuilding of Plymouth basketball. They will be missed dearly. They are a coach's dream.

Lewis led Plymouth with eight points. Rose and Lavallee chipped in seven and six points, respectively.



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Schoolcraft's Ashley Bland (right), shown from a recent game, sparked the Lady Ocelots to Tuesday's district win.

Lady Ocelots stay alive in NJCAA district

By Tim Smith

Nothing is coming too easy for Schoolcraft College's Lady Ocelots.

The women's basketball team needed a furious comeback Tuesday at Delta College in order to knock off the host team 77-71 in an NJCAA district quarterfinal.

With the win, Schoolcraft (19-9) advances to play Macomb Community College at 3 p.m. Thursday, still in win-orelse mode.

Schoolcraft trailed 38-28 at halftime and fell behind by 14 points in the second half before coming to life. The Lady Ocelots hit 4-of-6 3-pointers following halftime to climb back into the proceedings.

Leading the way for Schoolcraft was freshman guard Ashley Bland (Wayne Memorial), who netted 30 points, including 10-of-23 from the field.

Also in double figures for the Lady Ocelots were guards Elise Tolbert (Birmingham

Seaholm) and T'era Nesbitt, each with 17 points.

Tolbert led Schoolcraft with 10 rebounds, while Nesbitt pulled down eight.

Chipping in eight points and seven boards off the bench was Breiana Allen, while Rikki Sherdt contributed five points and seven rebounds.

For Delta (15-12), Champagne Arthur and Dy'mond Perry scored 22 and 20 points, respectively.

ST. CLAIR 83, SCHOOLCRAFT 72: Schoolcraft's women's basketball team fell short in this key MCCAA tilt Feb. 25 against St. Clair. The defeat dropped the Lady Ocelots (18-9, 11-5) to third place, losing the tie-breaker in the process. Leading Schoolcraft with 20 points was Birming-ham Seaholm alum Elise Tolbert. Chipping in 18 was Ashley Bland (Wayne Memorial

MCCAA BOWLING TOURNEY: Schoolcraft's varsity men's and women's bowling team each finished second at Friday's MCCAA champi

onship.
On the men's side, the Ocelots tallied 6,875 pins, second to Muskegon (6,875). The Lady Ocelots (5,599) also were edged by Muskegon (5,773). Schoolcraft's Ben Iakes won the men's individual single title with a 624 series, while Ben Berger and Ricky Rutenbar were doubles champs. Schoolcraft's women's team featured individual singles co-champion Angela Rodriguez (596). Next up for both Schoolcraft teams are Friday's NJCAA nationals in Buffalo, N.Y.

FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Realtors recommend staging when putting a home on the market

Most homeowners know it is important to keep a home clean, bright and free from clutter while it is on the market for sale. But sometimes, Realtors say, taking the extra step to stage a home can make a difference in how a buyer values it and the price a seller might get for it, according to the National Association of Realtors 2015 Profile of Home

'Realtors know how important it is to have a home in the best shape possible when showing it to prospective buyers," said NAR President Chris Polychron, executive broker with 1st Choice Realty in Hot Springs, Ark. "At a minimum, homeowners should conduct a thorough cleaning, haul out clutter, make sure the home is well-lit and fix any major aesthetic issues. Another option is staging a home, which Realtors often suggest to sellers to help prospective buyers better visualize themselves in the home and could modestly increase the home's value for

both the buyer and seller."

The report, the first of its kind from NAR, found that 49 percent of surveyed Realtors who work with buyers believe staging usually has an effect on the buyer's view of the home. Another 47 percent believe that staging only sometimes has an impact on a buyer's view of the home only. Only 4 percent of Realtors said staging has no impact on buyer perceptions.

Realtors on the buyer side believe that staging makes an impact in several ways; 81 percent said staging helps buyers visualize the property as a future home, while 46 percent said it makes prospective buyers more willing to walk through a home they saw online. Forty-five percent said a home decorated to a buyer's tastes positively impacts its value; however, 10 percent of Realtors said a home deco-



GETTY IMAGES Most Realtors believe that staging has a positive impact.

30416 Scotshire Ct

27575 Spring Valley Dr

rated against a buyer's tastes could negatively impact the

home's value. From the seller side, a majority of Realtors use staging as a tool in at least some instances. Just over a third of Realtors (34 percent) utilize

staging on all homes, while 13 percent tend to stage only those homes difficult to sell, and another 4 percent will do so only for higher priced homes. The median cost spent on staging a home is \$675. Sixty-two percent of Realtors

representing sellers say they offer home staging service to sellers, while 39 percent say the seller pays before listing

Realtors representing both the buyer and seller agreed on two major points in the report - which rooms should be staged and the change in dollar value a buyer is willing to offer for a staged home compared to a similar not-staged home. Realtors ranked the living room as the No. 1 room to stage, followed by a kitchen. Rounding out the top five rooms were the master bedroom, dining room and the bathroom.

Realtors believe that buyers most often offer a 1 to 5 percent increase on the value of a staged home (37 percent from Realtors representing sellers and 32 percent from Realtors representing buyers). Additionally, 22 percent of Realtors representing sellers and 16 percent of Realtors representing buyers said the increase is closer to 6 to 10

'Working with a Realtor gives buyers, sellers and investors the advantage they need to succeed in today's market, as they know what buyers want and how to best market and stage a home for sale," Polychron said. "While many factors play into what a home is worth and what buyers are willing to pay for it, staging is an excellent tool that can be used to give a home a little extra push for sellers. Staging isn't used by every Realtor in every situation, but the impact it may have and the value it can bring is clear to both home buyers and sellers.'

The National Association of Realtors, "The Voice for Real Estate," is America's largest trade association, representing one million members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.

\$306,000

\$268.000 27564 Sloan St

Foreclosure could be an issue, so ask attorney

Q: Can a sale and leaseback be made instead of a mortgage so as to avoid the need to foreclose if the lessee defaults?

A: Not necessarily. Sale and leaseback arrangements may be deemed to be "equitable mortgages" which would still require the "purchaser/lessor" to foreclosure in order to obtain title to the property. When deciding

whether an equitable mortgage exists, courts look not only to the form of the transaction, but also to the circumstances that might



motivate the parties to disguise what is really a mortgage as a sale. You are best advised to consult with an attorney before entering into such a transaction.

Q: I have a problem with a nearby coal burning dump spewing black smoke which drifts into my yard. Is there anything I can do about this?

A: Probably, yes. You may have a cause of action for a "private nuisance" which is defined as one affecting a single person or limited number of people in their enjoyment of a private right, not common to the public. Depending on the extent of the problem, it could also be deemed to a "public nuisance." A public nuisance, by contrast, affects an entire neighborhood or considerable number of people. In a public nuisance case, however, a private party plaintiff, as opposed to a municipal entity, must prove "special injury" to their person or property; this is, damage which is different in kind, not degree, from the general public, in order to prevail. You are best advised to consult with an attorney before undertaking such a

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buving, 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. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real of Oct. 6-10, 2014, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

\$260,000

\$330,000 \$325,000 \$565,000

\$187,000 \$540,000

\$130,000 \$370,000 \$113,000

\$260,000

\$415,000

\$770,000

\$825,000

\$145,000

\$270,000

\$435,000

\$381,000

\$215,000

\$355,000 \$318,000

\$65,000

\$775,000

\$160,000 \$340,000

\$625,000

\$215,000

\$243,000

\$290,000

\$535,000

BEVERLY HILLS
31780 E Bell Vine Trl
32420 Sheridan Dr
31526 Sunset Dr
20255 Wellesley St
BIRMINGHAM
1447 Chapin Ave
687 Emmons Ave
1796 Graefield Rd
525 Graten St
475 N Eton St Apt C2
1115 N Old Woodward
Ave Unit 58
1832 Winthrop Ln
1595 Yosemite Blvd
BLOOMFIELD HILLS
1215 Hidden Lake Dr
2199 Lancaster Rd
995 Stratford Pl
2625 Vhay Ln
705 Westview Rd
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP
2640 Bridle Rd
6529 Cathedral Dr
941 Dursley Rd
488 Fox Hills Dr S # A-6
1233 Indian Mound E
507 Kendry
7388 Lindenmere Dr
260 Manor Rd
4364 Meadowlane Dr
5631 Pebbleshire Rd
3647 Shallow Brook Dr
4296 Stoneleigh Rd
LIOBAI

J	KEAL ESTAI	LIKA
	1748 Timson Ln	\$378,000
	4041 W Maple Rd Apt	\$90,000
	E204	
	COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	£140.000
	4635 Alban St 1781 Applebrook Dr	\$149,000 \$50,000
	8634 Buffalo Dr	\$163,000
	730 Commercial St	\$103,000
	730 Commercial St	\$83,000
	8401 Hummingbird	\$340,000
	6157 Lochmore Dr	\$277,000
	1807 Luneta Ct	\$190,000
	4682 Newcroft St	\$149,000
	8609 Palomino Dr	\$95,000
	2168 Sunnybrook Rd 1600 Vanstone Dr	\$297,000 \$750,000
	FARMINGTON	\$750,000
	22163 Abington Dr	\$325,000
	23995 Colchester Dr	\$145,000
	33988 Glenview Dr	\$142,000
	32379 Leelane	\$178,000
	FARMINGTON HILLS	
	31142 Applewood Ln	\$318,000
	37816 Baywood Dr	\$258,000
	30384 Castleford Ct 31196 Country Way	\$260,000 \$110,000
	26860 Drake Rd	\$810,000
	27238 E Skye Dr	\$220,000
	37735 Eagle Trce	\$470,000
	22462 Haynes Ave	\$37,000
	28270 Herndonwood Dr	\$231,000
	35928 Johnstown Rd	\$259,000
	29438 Laurel Dr	\$114,000
	24521 Martel Dr	\$220,000
	22334 Nearbrook Ct 29628 Nova Woods Dr	\$371,000 \$260,000
	29449 Parkside St	\$290,000
	30945 Perrys Xing	\$265,000
	26270 Power Rd	\$315,000
	35036 Quaker Way	\$320,000
	25416 Ranchwood Ct	\$260,000
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	GARDEN CITY	

\$90,000	27575 Spring Valley Dr
	32542 Sprucewood St
	29498 Sugar Spring Rd
\$149,000	29498 Sugar Spring Rd
\$50,000	21956 Tredwell Ave
\$163,000	21652 Tulane Ave
\$103,000	33337 W 11 Mile Rd
\$83,000	HIGHLAND
\$340,000	1020 Beaumont Rd
\$277,000	3131 Bel Aire Dr
\$190,000	4510 Chevron Dr
\$149,000	2549 E Highland Rd
\$95,000	603 Fisher Rd
\$297,000	4728 Hickory Dr
\$750,000	LATHRUP VILLAGE
	26747 Bloomfield Dr S
\$325,000	28100 Goldengate Dr E
\$145,000	MILFORD
\$142,000	900 E Dawson Rd
\$178,000	1722 Hidden Valley Dr
	771 Milford Glen Ct
\$318,000	927 S Main St
\$258,000	706 S Milford Rd
\$260,000	2905 Shirley St
\$110,000	2950 Shirley St
\$810,000	NORTHVILLE
\$220,000	21282 Bridle Run
\$470,000	23192 Chelsea Ct
\$37,000	379 Welch Rd
\$231,000	NOVI
\$259,000	22249 Barclay Dr
\$114,000	24650 Bashian Dr
\$220,000	50917 Chesapeake Dr
\$371,000	25513 Dogwood Ln
\$260,000	41606 Hamlet Ln
\$290,000	41820 Independence Dr
\$265,000	24461 Kings Pointe
\$315,000	40648 Lenox Park Dr
\$320,000	26461 Mandalay Cir
\$260,000	41667 Sleepy Hollow Dr
	. •
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IE IRA	ANSACTIONS

\$200,000	2/304 3lUall 3t	\$300,000
\$165,000	40965 W 10 Mile Rd	\$131,000
\$175,000	48100 W Nine Mile Rd	\$600,000
\$130,000	23898 W Le Bost	\$150,000
\$180,000	29342 Weston Dr	\$230,000
\$162,000	44896 Yorkshire Dr	\$225,000
\$108,000	SOUTH LYON	
\$174,000	52689 Aspen Dr	\$459,000
	23851 Bayberry Ct	\$386,000
\$425,000	1347 Coach House Ln	\$345,000
\$303,000	22962 Fremont Dr N	\$604,000
\$625,000	27901 Galien Dr	\$352,000
\$195,000	999 Hidden Creek Dr	\$275,000
\$119,000	57611 Hidden Timbers Dr	\$365,000
\$100,000	23881 Maple Ct	\$366,000
	1016 Paddock Ln	\$208,000
\$160,000	24431 Ravine Dr	\$575,000
\$186,000	24891 Ravine Dr	\$600,000
	897 Stoney Dr	\$208,000
\$280,000	61130 Topsfield Ln	\$173,000
\$647,000	24884 Valleywood Dr	\$273,000
\$307,000	847 Westbrooke Dr	\$218,000
\$237,000	SOUTHFIELD	
\$122,000	28132 Brentwood St	\$70,000
\$161,000	24435 Connecticut Dr	\$85,000
\$218,000	17231 Coral Gables St	\$204,000
	23346 Grayson Dr	\$75,000
\$930,000	19151 Middlesex Ave	\$145,000
\$100,000	25140 Parsons Dr	\$175,000
\$222,000	20530 Secluded Ln	\$57,000
	28049 Selkirk St	\$83,000
\$435,000	WHITE LAKE	
\$118,000	2525 Blair St	\$256,000
\$580,000	8624 Brazos Ct	\$226,000
\$558,000	396 Dakota Ln	\$180,000
\$168,000	9039 Mandon Rd	\$127,000
\$200,000	8613 Newport Dr	\$320,000
\$265,000	10710 Oxbow Hts	\$200,000
\$280,000	8151 Springdale Dr	\$215,000
\$785,000	8774 Townsend Dr	\$305,000
\$250,000		

HOMES SOI

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 27-31, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

CALLIOIT	
43298 Candlewood Ct	\$248,000
7828 Capri Dr	\$250,000
1728 Christopher Dr	\$120,000
1374 Elmhurst St	\$150,000
378 Filmore St	\$135,000
47033 Glastonbury Dr	\$399,000
848 Kings Way	\$136,000
7398 Kingsbridge Rd	\$216,000
42483 Lilley Pointe Dr	\$U,000
45716 Morningside Ct	\$341,000
6850 New Providence	\$60,000
Way	
3902 Norwich Dr	\$129,000
1971 Peerce Ct	\$95,000
47736 Pembroke Dr	\$144,000
45091 Rudgate Rd	\$175,000
416 Stonehenge Dr	\$237,000
4211 Timberline Dr	\$235,000
345 Troon Ln	\$287,000

17964 Levan Rd

TE TRA	ANSA
	18741 Leva
\$125,000	38351 Mass
\$103,000	20461 Milb
\$68,000	9065 Newp
\$95,000	34054 Park
\$31,000	18546 Park
\$50,000	31520 Pem
\$99,000	31555 Pem
\$45,000	18612 Shac
\$100,000	16504 Surre
\$90,000	31119 W C
	19984 Wey
\$186,000	NORTHVIL
\$160,000	46605 Seve
\$237,000	42440 Brad
\$60,000	50241 Bria
\$80,000	50841 Briai
\$182,000	15993 Cog
\$139,000	561 Grace S
\$300,000	39825 Rock
\$155,000	370 S Roge
\$240,000	45457 Tour
\$182,000	43762 Wab
\$215,000	20209 Woo
\$118,000	PLYMOUT
\$252,000	9044 N She
\$243,000	1174 Palme

ACTIONS	-WAY	NE COUNTY	
Levan Rd	\$208,000	101 S Union St	\$280,000
Mason St	\$98,000	376 W Spring St	\$177,000
Milburn St	\$150,000	REDFORD	
Newport Way	\$113,000	14336 Beech Daly Rd	\$122,000
Parkdale St	\$155,000	25959 Dover	\$101,000
Parklane St	\$200,000	26013 Fordson Hwy	\$43,000
Pembroke St	\$155,000	13201 Hemingway	\$45,000
Pembroke St	\$139,000	18369 Macarthur	\$99,000
Shadyside St	\$143,000	WAYNE	
Surrey St	\$193,000	4214 Cadillac Ave	\$56,000
W Chicago St	\$130,000	35336 Elm St	\$134,000
Weyher St	\$150,000	33252 Gerald St	\$70,000
HVILLE		WESTLAND	
Seven Mile Rd	\$170,000	37155 Baker Dr	\$255,000
Bradner Rd	\$372,000	35636 Canyon Dr	\$135,000
Briar Ridge Ln	\$615,000	7370 Central St	\$33,000
Briar Ridge Ln	\$750,000	32302 Glen St	\$87,000
Cog Hill Dr	\$651,000	32720 Grandview Ave	\$95,000
race St	\$130,000	35797 Hunter Ave	\$78,000
Rockcrest Cir	\$183,000	29934 Lonnie Dr	\$114,000
Rogers St	\$610,000	7300 Mohawk St	\$65,000
Tournament Dr	\$715,000	6926 Mohican Ln	\$130,000
Wabeek Ln	\$625,000	492 N Bryar St	\$152,000
Woodcreek Blvd	\$435,000	5884 N Newburgh Rd	\$118,000
OUTH		254 S Byfield St	\$146,000
N Sheldon Rd	\$125,000	•	
Palmer St	\$246,000		

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. La-

fayette, downtown South Lyon. Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com for additional information.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Meetings are at 6-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

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

Any questions or concerns, call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-9091 or Wayde Koehler at 313-819-0919.

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 loca-

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 or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

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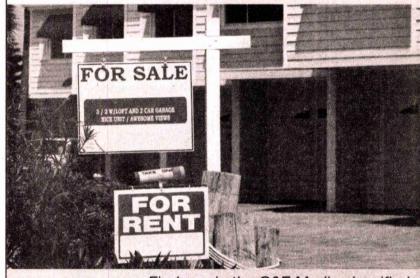
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MULTIPLE SEASONAL POSITIONS-PARKS

Canton Township is now ac-cepting applications for the following seasonal positions in the Parks Division: Park Ranger, Seasonal Laborer (immediate openings) and Seasonal Operator. To view the complete in posting the complete job posting and hiring process and to submit an application online visit the Canton Town Deadline date to apply: March 16, 2015 (EOE)

RECYCLE THIS **NEWSPAPER** SEEKING: Multi-Media Sales Representative | michigon

The Observer & Eccentric, part of michigan.com, a Gannett Company, is seeking a Multi-Media Sales Representative for our Milford/Highland/ White Lake territory who will be responsible for developing relationships and consulting with clients while providing an opportunity to contribute to the long-term success of a high growth and progressive company. Our ideal candidate will be an innovative, result driven, high energy, creative sales representative with the ability to think strategically and to assist clients by developing strategic, multi-media advertising campaigns.

Must be able to manage multiple priorities, requests, programs and be dedicated to exceptional customer service. Develop new business and grow market share by using a variety of customer centric sales programs and audience solutions. Make solid marketing presentations that sell the value, provide customer centric audience solutions and close the sale.

If you are seeking a position that will allow you to be a strategic seller working with a multi-platform, market leading team in a culture that thrives on creating and executing big ideas that provide solutions to benefit the prosperity of customers, then we encourage you to apply today to join our team!

Requirements:

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3+ years of related experience is required.

· A strong understanding of digital media platforms to include search engine

marketing, social media, online display, mobile & other digital solutions. Documented record of success in a goal-oriented, highly accountable

 Ability to conduct a needs assessment, identify marketing and advertising solutions for clients, develop proposals and experience in delivering sales

Technical proficiency in Microsoft Office especially PowerPoint and Excel.

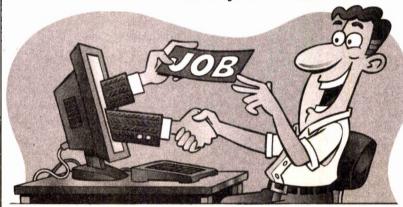
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This opportunity offers competitive compensation and benefits package including 401(k), health, dental, three weeks paid vacation, and more. If you meet the above criteria, we encourage you to apply for this position at: http://bit.ly/1vmiEhu. EOE

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> **BOB JEANNOTTE** BUICK, GMC

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> BUICK, GMC 734-453-2500 **BOB JEANNOTTE**

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BUICK, GMC

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734-735-3634



Sports Utility

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BUICK, GMC 734-453-2500 **BOB JEANNOTTE**

BUICK, GMC **GMC ACADIA 2011**

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GMC TERRAIN 2011

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GMC YUKON 2011 AWD, 4 dr., 1500 Denali, rear view camera, pking sensors, heated seats. \$35,995 **BOB JEANNOTTE** BUICK, GMC

> **BOB JEANNOTTE** BUICK, GMC

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Sports & Imported

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- Poker card 8 Diner
- sandwich Snitch
- 12 "A-Team"
- heavy 13 Mae West
- accessory
- 14 Stay 15 New Kodiak
- (2 wds.) - Speedwagon
- 18 Haystack find? 20 Inventory wd. 22 Buddy, in brief
- 23 Rock's Motley
- 27 White vestments
- 29 Mineral strata 30 Praying — 33 Stiff-coated
- dogs 34 Construct
- 35 Ear cleaner (hyph.)

- habitats
- town
- 51 Leather punch
- 54 Go right

- agreement
- Arith. term

42

- 36 Love, to Picasso 37 Palette
- selection
- 38 Unfreeze 42 Barracuda
- 45 Oklahoma
- 46 Grendel's foe 49 On even terms
- 52 Brownie
- 53 Charge ahead
- 55 Brand of soap pads 56 Big celebration

DOWN

- 1 Were in
- In that case
- Statement of belief
- ATLASES ITCOM DOESKINS ALOELAC ALOE MEND

8-25-12

7 And others

- 2 Hodgepodges
- - Fossil resins
- (abbr.) as land London radio 16 Voucher 19 Wanes 21 Apologize, "Iron Man" Gehrig 10 PC key maybe (2 wds.) 24 Wharf denizen
 - 25 Emma in "The Avengers" 26 Superman's

11 Cultivate.

- emblem 28 Found a perch 29 Slalom gear
- 30 Call --- cab 31 Jacket part 32 Prefix for
- "recent" 33 Two fives for -
- 35 Swigs 37 Phone response 39 Regular
- hangout 40 Familiar saying Corduroy rib
- 43 Billiard sticks 44 Personal identity
- 46 Tea holder 47 Lamb's mama 48 Bullring shout 50 Montreal's

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Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

WORDS

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DESTINY

EXOTIC

GREETINGS

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PROPOSAL RESTAURANT

ROMANCE

TRUFFLES VALENTINE

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Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

CUPID'S WORD SEARCH

U G G

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

Ε R D Υ

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CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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Search

Word

FISH FRY

The Ss. Simon and Jude Ushers Club serves fish fry dinner, 4:30-7 p.m. Friday, through March 27, at the church, 32500 Palmer, between Venoy and Merriman, Westland.

Fried and baked fish are available. Adult dinners are \$8.50 for fish and \$10.50 for a combination of fish and shrimp.

Grilled cheese with french fries (no roll) and macaroni and cheese dinners are \$6. Dinners include coleslaw, role, beverage and dessert. Carry-outs are available.

Stations of the Cross also will be held at 6:30 p.m. Friday through March 27

For more information, call 734-722-1343.

MARCH BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday, March 15 Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: Pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, milk, juice; cost is \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for children, 2-10

Contact: 734-425-4421

CHURCH MISSION Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m, March

Location: St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, located at West Chicago Road and Inkster Road, Redford

Details: Sponsored by the clustered parishes of St. Robert Bellarmine and St. John Bosco, topics include "Jesus, How Do We Come To Know You?" March

View Online

www.hometownlife.com

VAN CONANT

DARREL LEE

Son of the late Ivy and Myrtle

Van Conant, was born December

8, 1934 in Detroit, Michigan.

After awhile the family moved to a farm in Berville, MI. He

graduated from Capac High

School in 1953. He attended

Michigan State University until

the end of his Junior year. He

was accepted into the Wayne

State College of Medicine. After

one year at Wayne State, he

University and graduated with a

Bachelor of Science in Math and

Minors in both Physics and

Chemistry. After graduating from Michigan State University,

he taught math for 4 years in

Marysville, MI and Fremont, MI.

In Fremont, he met Linda Oppenhuizen. They were

married in 1963. He received his

Masters in Business Administra-

tion from Eastern Michigan University in 1973. During his lifetime he also worked for

Consumers Power, Burroughs

Corporation and Kmart Corpora-

tion. He is survived by four

children, Susan Gearns (Bill),

Pete (Sandy), Ruth Tarrow

grandchildren

away on March

Vermeulen-Sajewski Home, 46401 W.

three

Road,

Funeral

Presbyterian

(Roland) and Matt. As well as

Grayson, and Amelia. He passed

Visitation Friday 5-8 p.m. at

Beck) Plymouth. In state Saturday 10 a.m. until 11 a.m.

Northville, 200 E. Main St.,

Northville. Interment United Memorial Gardens. Memorials

may be made to the church or the

American Cancer Society.

Service

(Between Sheldon and

Church

Wade,

Funeral

First

of

Ann Arbor

returned to

Michigan State

22; "Come, Follow Me," March 23; "Reconcile and Forgive," March 24; "Become A People of Purpose," March 25. Reconciliation will be offered March 24 Contact: 313-937-1500

RELIGION CALENDAR

COMIC BOOK, CARDS

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 7

Location: Redford Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 10000 Beech Daly, between Plymouth Road and West Chicago Road, Redford

Details: More than 34 tables of comic books action figures. books and more. Tony Baratono, local actor and inventor, will be on hand. Admission is \$2; free for age 10 and under. Admission fee will be donated to the Methodist Children's Home in

Contact: 313-937-3170 **CONCERT**

Time/Date: 3 p.m. March 15 Location: Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia

Details: "Footprints in the Sand," with words by Joseph Martin and music by Joseph Martin and David Angerman, will be presented by the choirs of Newburg United Methodist Church and First United Methodist Church of Garden City, directed by Richard Lenz with Bey Ratcliffe accompanying

Contact: 734 422-0149 **CONCERT**

SINGERS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. March 19-21 Location: Trinity in the Woods, 26880 La Muera, Farmington

Details: "A Call to Peace," with reception to follow. Tickets, \$10 Contact: trinityinthewoods.org **DETROIT LUTHERAN**

Time/Date: 3:30 p.m. Sunday,

March 15

Location: St. Paul Lutheran Church, 21915 Beech Street,

Dearborn Details: Requiem for the Living, by Dan Forrest focuses on grace general admission and \$10 for

and redemption. Tickets are \$15 seniors and students, 12 and over. Children under 12 are admitted free. Buy tickets online at detroitlutheransingers.com or at the door Upcoming concerts: 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 22, at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 5885 N. Venoy, Westland, and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 22, at Cana Lutheran Church, 2119 Catalpa,

Contact: detroitlutheransingers.com

EVANGELIZATION SERIES

Time/Date: 7-8 p.m. Sunday-Tuesday, March 8-10

Location: Our Lady of Loretto, corner of Six Mile and Beech

Details: Deacon Alex Jones leads the series

Contact: 313-534-9000 GUEST SPEAKER

Daly, Redford

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday,

Location: St. Priscilla Catholic

Church, 19120 Purlingbrook, Livonia

Details: Catherine Lanni, author of A Call to Trust, will talk about her life-changing experience, St. Faustina, and the Divine Mercy Centers. Prayer ministers will be available for private prayer and books and religious items will be

Contact: 313-255-0455 **GUEST SPEAKER**

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, March 5

Location: St. Linus, 6466 N

Evangeline, Dearborn Heights

Details: Kelly Neito of Farmington, a former Miss America runner-up and creator of The Cross and The Light, a musical drama about the Easter story, presents "Ignite, Inspire and Evangelize." Free will offerings

will be accepted Contact: Marylou Janiga, 313-212-1888

JEWS FOR JESUS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday,

Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton Details: Alexander Adelson will present "Christ in the Passover" Contact: 734-459-3333; office@connectingwithGod.org **LENTEN SERVICES**

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday,

Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 3003 Hannan, Wayne Contact: 734-728-3315

LENTEN SERVICES

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, through March 25

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford Details: Theme is "I Tell You The Truth." Free treats after the service

Contact: 734-968-3523, 313-532-

SPRING CARNIVAL/OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Saturday,

Location: Concordia Lutheran School - South Campus, 9600 Leverne, Redford

Details: Tour the classrooms, meet administrators and faculty members, and parents of students. Prospective students can enjoy carnival games, book fair,

Contact: 313-937-2233; www.concordials.org

VBS PREVIEW

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 7

Location: Ward Church, 4000 Six Mile, Northville

Details: Publisher exhibits, four sessions of 28 workshops, curriculum displays, lessons and demonstrations, along with eight tables of used Christian books, CDs DVDs, and children's materials. Morning refreshments and lunch included. . Registration \$55. Students, teen through college, pay \$20. Visit iceaOnline.org

Contact: 248-557-5526 **VESPERS**

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sunday, March 8

Location: St. Gregory Palamas, 14235 E. 11 Mile Warren

Details: The second of five Vespers services sponsored by The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit. Services conducted by members of the Clergy Brotherhood of St. John Chrysostom of Metropolitan Detroit. The Orthodox Choir of Metropolitan Detroit will sing responses during the service. The homilist will be the Very Rev. Radomir

Serbian Orthodox Church, Contact: Richard Shebib, at 248-345-9346 or pascha-

Obsenica, pastor of St. George

books@sbcglobal.net **APRIL RUMMAGE SALE**

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 17

Location: Salvation Army, 9451 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: Rent a table or space and sell your own stuff; tables are \$20. Proceeds to Older, Wiser

and Loving Senior Group Contact: 734-453-5464, Ext. 22

ONGOING Men's Bible study

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m. Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township

Contact: John Shulenberger at 734-464-9491

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

Daly, Redford Township

Location: Six Mile and Beech

Details: Scripture study Contact: 313-534-9000 **FAITH COMMUNITY**

WESLEYAN Time/Date: 4-5 p.m. every Saturday

Location: 14560 Merriman,

Details: This informal class

includes fellowship, discussion and question and answers. All ages welcome. Bibles available if you don't have one

Contact: pastor Tom Hazelwood at 734-765-5476

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. last Saturday of the month Location: Canton Christian Fellowship, 8775 Ronda Drive,

Canton **Details**: No documentation needed

Contact: info@cantoncf.org

Passages Obituaries, Memories & Rememberances

How to reach us:

1-800-579-7355 · fax 313-496-4968 · www.mideathnotices.com

Deadlines: Friday, 4:00 p.m. for Sunday papers • Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. for Thursday papers Holiday deadlines are subject to change

BROWN, JANE

INGRID ERICKSON Age 72, March 1, 2015. Retired school teacher of Birmingham Public Schools. Until recently. member and flutist of Birmingham Concert Band. Ms Brown, a graduate of Dondero High School, class of 1960. She then graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor's of Arts degree in 1964, then later there she received her Master's of Education in 1979 Also held a Master's of Music from U of M. She is the grand-daughter of Wm. O. Hullinger, former owner of what originally was The Royal Oak Weekly Tribune, now The Royal Oak Daily Tribune. Both of Jane's parents were former Royal Oak District Beloved mother of Ingrid L. (Ray Andresen), Richard A., and Toby S. (Brooks) Hopkins. Dear sister of John A. (Martena) and James W. (Evelyn) Erickson. step-grandmother of; Samantha Jo and James M. Andresen, Memorial Gathering will be held Saturday, March 7th from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. memorial service and a dinner served thereafter at Royal Oak Elks Lodge, 2401 E. 4th St., Royal Oak. Memorials suggested to the Alzheimer's Foundation. Arrangements by Fisher Funeral Home, Redford Twp. (313) 535-

DISLER

RICHARD CHASE died at Botsford Age 85, Senior Community Commons Center in Farmington Hills, Michigan, on Sunday, February 8, 2015. Born November 18, 1929, in Canton, Ohio, he eventually moved to Detroit where he started a career repossessing cars for GMAC. Forty three years later, he retired as a GMAC executive, living in Livonia. He was a caring husband and father of three. He was a great mentor throughout all of his years. He was well known for his passion fishing and fished right through his last years, reeling in a big Muskie just last summer.

Richard was preceded in death by his wife, Anne. He is sur-Hunter of Plymouth, MI, Corey Disler of Tulsa, OK and William Disler of Livonia, MI. He is also survived by eight grandchildren. A small service was held at Botsford Commons. Private memorial gatherings will also be arranged with family and friends. He will be laid to rest at Roseland Memorial Gardens in Jackson, MI, right next to his wife, Memorial contributions are welcome and should be either mailed to Angela Hospice at 14100 Newburgh, Livonia, MI OT online

Angelahospice.org

May the memory of your loved onebring you peace.

FONDE,

DR. KAREN RHEA At 40, Karen Rhea Fonde achieved a longtime ambition: She walked across the stage at Hill Auditorium to receive her diploma as a medical doctor from the University of Michigan. Dr. Fonde loved teaching. She mother, humanitarian. healer, scientist, feminist, Peace Corps volunteer in Africa, and teacher in a juvenile home before she became a family medicine physician and assistant professor at UM. Dr. Fonde died March 1 of complications from Alzheimer's disease. She was 65. Dr. Fonde was valedictorian of her 1967 Ann Arbor High School class. She was a presidential scholar and shook hands with President Lyndon Johnson at the White House. She was high school editor of the Ann Arbor News and while studying at UM was an intern reporter at that newspaper. She was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of UM in Russian Studies and served as a health educator with the Peace Corps in northern Dr. Fonde and Joel

Thurtell were married in 1974. For three years, she taught at the Berrien County Juvenile Center. After the couple's first son, Adam, was born in 1980, she decided to attend medical school. But first, she and Joel had a second son, Abe, in 1983. While studying science at Western Michigan University, she won the Freshman Chemistry Prize at age 32. At UM Medical School, she was inducted into Alpha Omega Alpha, the medical honor society. She received her MD from UM in 1990, and graduated from the UM Family Medicine residency program in 1993. She helped open a new UM family medicine clinic in Ypsilanti, where she treated patients and taught until 2008. Dr. Fonde was to helping

physicians

2008, she herself was a physician in difficulty, with memory and cognitive problems that eventudiagnosed were Alzheimer's disease. In a family gathering, one could always locate Dr. Fonde by the sound of her infectious laughter. Long after she lost the power of speech, Dr. Fonde could still find things to make her smile. She loved her sons, her husband, her parents and siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. She loved to swim and ski, and enjoyed sailing around the family's island in McGregor Bay, Canada. In addition to her husband and sons, Dr. Fonde is survived by two sisters, Julia Davis (Max), of Howell and Anne Potter (William), of Dayton, Ohio; and a brother, Charles Fonde (Linda), of Carmel, Indiana; a second brother, Mark Fonde (Stacey), of Ann Arbor, died a week earlier, on February 22. Memorial visitation Friday 6-9 p.m. at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Friends are also invited to gather with the family Saturday 10 a.m. until

cope

presented a research paper on "The Resident in Difficulty." By

pressures of medicine

with

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and

may be made to Arbor Hospice or Planned Parenthood. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfh.com

the Saturday 11 a.m. Memorial

Service to be held at Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw Avenue, Ann Arbor. Memorials



JONES, PATRICIA G.

Age 72, February 28, 2015. Beloved mother of Jennifer Jones. Loving grandmother of Lily. Dear sister of Dale (Diane) and the late Gary Shomo. A Memorial Mass will be held at Gerald Catholic Church, 21300 Farmington Rd.,

Farmington, Saturday, March 7, at 11:00 a.m. Memorials may be directed to St. Gerald-St. Vincent de Paul. Please share a memory at www.rggrharris.com



MYERS, RODMAN N.

Beloved husband of the late Jeanette P. Myers. Cherished father of Jennifer Myers (Chris) Grabenstein and Rodman Jay (Patricia) Myers. Loving grandfather of Rodman John Myers and Sarah Clare Myers. Dear brother of Helen (the late Gilbert) Gilbert and the late Julian (the late Patsy) Myers. SERVICES WERE HÉLD TUESDAY AT THE IRA KAUFMAN CHAPEL. 248-569-0020. INTERMENT AT BETH FI EL MEMORIAL PARK. www.irakaufman.com

RAUB, BETTY

Of Wayne passed away peacefully in her home March 2, 2015 at the age of 88. Loving wife of the late Joseph. Beloved mother of Lynn (the late Mike) Neveu, Andrea (John) Collum and Jodi (Rick) Loftis. Proud grandmother of four and great grandmother of five. Arrangements by Husband Family Funeral Home in Westland (734)331-3349. Final rites through cremation per her

REDICK, JOYCE C. Age 79, March 2, 2015, Beloved wife of the late Darrell D. Dear mother of Darrell E. and Dale (Mimi). Loving grandmother of Drew (Samantha), Niki (Dan) Bobek, Dave, Jonathan and Danielle. Dear great-grand-mother of Iris. Beloved sister of Clarence Jennings. She will be dearly missed by her niece, nephew and many family members. Visitation Friday 10 a.m. followed by the 1 p.m. Funeral Service at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd., Garden City (between Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill). Memorials may be made to the family.

www.santeiufuneralhome.com Santeiu Funeral Home

> May you find comfort in family & friends

share a memory, please visit vermeulenfh.com

WHITEFIELD, CONNIE

A resident of Novi and former resident of Milford, died on February 28, 2015 at the age of 75. She is survived by Art, her beloved husband of fifty-six years; her mother, Clara and George Goodling; sons, Derek Whitefield and Gary Dahle, Greg and Debbie Whitefield, Jeff and Theresa Whitefield, and Curt Whitefield; grandchildren, Corinne, Brett, Collier, Taylor, Cailee, Sydney, Colton, Jason, Whitefield: and Bryan; great-grandchildren, Nolan, Amanda, Caleb, Grace, Brecken, Elizabeth, Kaylin; and many dear friends. Visitation will be held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty St., Milford, on Wednesday, March 4 from 6-9 p.m. and on Thursday, March 5 from 2-9 p.m. A Funeral Service will be held at Harvest Christian Church, 24400 W. Seven Mile Road, Detroit, on Friday, March 6, at 11 a.m. with Pastor Bob King officiating. A luncheon will follow at the church. Burial Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock. Memorials may be made in her name to the family. For further information please phone, 248-684-6645, or visit w ww.LynchFuneralDirectors.com.

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Geology for the masses: Roamin Club auctions rocks, fossils, for the whole family

By Sharon Dargay Staff Writer

If you're looking for a family activity that rocks, head to Schoolcraft College this weekend for the Roamin Club's annual auction.

"The children's area is wonderful. There's all sorts of cool stuff for kids," said Lisa Rad-wick, a Canton resident and longtime club member. "It's a different kind of activity to do if you have little kids. It's a really good family event and a great thing to take kids to."

Kids will find glittery minerals, shark's teeth, fossil shells, pretty rocks, jewelry, animal carvings, and more as they browse silent auction tables in the children's area.

"Most kids pick up stones and rocks at some point. If you have a kid who's interested in that, you can give them a couple of bucks and they can have a great time. Bids might start at 10 cents and go up in five-cent increments. They might bid up to 25 cents and for that price they are getting some cool stuff," Radwick said. "For them, it's like a game. Did they win it? Did they get it?'

While youngsters look for bargain-priced treasures, their parents can scout adult tables or bid on live auction items. Roamin Club, a group that focuses on collecting and studying rocks, minerals, fossils and lapidary arts, buys hundreds of items from wholesale dealers for its annual auction. All of the items are identified and many were found throughout the world.

Everyone is looking for something different. There are people who are interested in the healing power of crystals.



A rock hunter bids in the silent auction while a line of other bidders wait their turn.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

They assess specimens differently from the people who want a pretty show piece in their home," Radwick said. "People come because they are interested in crafts or jewelry. There are people who are interested in specimens to put in their collection."

The show runs 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 7, and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, March 8, in the VisTaTech Center, at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Admission is free. Three auctions are held every hour.

Roamin Club, sponsored by Livonia Parks and Recreation and founded in 1967, started the auction to fund a scholarship at Schoolcraft. Proceeds buy rocks and minerals for the auction, in addition to sustaining the scholarship fund.

Something for everyone

Todd Gall, club treasurer and a Northville resident, said attendees can expect to find both common and unusual items at the auction.

"A few years ago, one of our members brought in a sculp-

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily

Location: I-696 service drive and

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

Wild Winter Weekend: Ice cream

and hot cocoa will be available for

purchase at a discount. Event includes

animal arts and crafts, face painting,

animal enrichment activities, talks by

the zoo's expert keepers and a winter

March 7-8, at the Ford Education

Center. Free with zoo admission

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Friday and during public events,

Contact: 248-541-5717

GALLERY@VT

through March 31

ings by Kate Paul

FESTIVAL

day, April 19

Contact: 248-344-0497

safari scavenger hunt, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-

Location: Village Theater at Cherry

Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton Details: "Narrative Quilts: Works by

Pauline Parker," is a solo show of wall

Contact: 734-394-5300; cantonvilla-

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

6-28; artist reception runs 6-9 p.m.

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

CALL FOR ENTRIES

REEL MICHIGAN FILM

film festival screening is June 20

Theatre in downtown Northville

Details: The Festival is accepting

form is available at northvillear-

Details: "the mystery lesson," paint-

Time/Date: Entry deadline is April 17;

Location: Screening at the Marquis

Michigan-made or Michigan-themed

thouse.org/special-events/reel-michi-

Contact: reelmichigan@gmail.com

Time/Date: Submission deadline is

March 21; art show reception is Sun-

Westland Library meeting room, 6123

Location: Art will be displayed at

Central City Parkway, Westland

Details: The club seeks original art

work, including oils, watercolors,

acrylic, pastels, collage, photo art,

pottery and more. Submit up to three

entries for \$30; \$5 for each additional

piece. Submit photos for judging on

CD or flash drive. Download an entry

form at threecitiesartclub.org.

THREE CITIES ART CLUB

short films, less than 20 minutes. Entry

Time/Date: Noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday-

Friday, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, March

hangings and watercolors

ANIMALS

DETROIT ZOO

Woodward, Royal Oak

ture that had geodes in it," Gall said. "There is carved stone, like goblets and cups, things like that. Mortar and pestle made out of stone. We've had a few carvings of birds.

'One thing I knew we've got is pyrite dollars or suns. Pyrite is called 'fool's gold.' It looks like a sun burst and a lot are silver dollar size. Those are pretty interesting and I know we have a couple of those. We have thousands of items. The one thing I like about the auction is there there is stuff for all budgets. If you've only got a



Ammonite fossils

few dollars you can get some-

Radwick said even the live auction items are reasonably priced, with bidding that starts as low as \$10 and as high as \$20-\$30.

Young fossil hunters

Both Radwick and Gall said they are most interested in fossils. Gall remembers looking for Petoskey stones in state parks with his family when he was a kid. As an adult, he went to the club's annual auction and took a geology class.

"Somewhere along the line I joined the club," he said. "It's been 20 years at least.'

Radwick, who has loved fossils since attending summer camp as a kid, also joined the Roamin Club after attending its auction. She has been a member since the early 1990s and greets attendees at the auction.

"There are kids there we've seen grow up at the auction,' she noted. "There are adults that started coming as kids with their moms.'

In addition to the auction, the club takes field trips to rock-hunting sites, and offers workshops. Visitors are welcome. Find Roamin Club on



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

McLaughlin's Alley is Maureen Paraventi (left), Rebekah Poxson, Stuart Tucker, Norm Andresen, and Tina Paraventi. The band will play Saturday, March 7, at Barefoot Productions in Plymouth.

Sing along to Irish tunes at McLaughlin's Alley concert

McLaughlin's Alley band returns to Barefoot Productions in Plymouth for an evening of Irish music, 8-10 p.m. Saturday, March 7.

The concert will include rousing numbers like Whiskey in the Jar and Goodbye Mrs. Durkin, a particular favorite of the band, as well as the poignant Fields of Athenry and the playful Gypsy Rover.

Singing along is encouraged, and lyrics to some of the songs will be projected onto a

McLaughlin's Alley consists of Maureen Paraventi of Redford on vocals and flute; her sister, Tina Paraventi, on vocals and guitar; Stuart Tucker on drums, Norm Andresen on bass and Rebekah Poxson on vocals and ukulele. The band is known for its rich harmonies and lively performances. The McLaughlin's Alley repertoire includes rock and pop covers and original songs, but its roots are in Irish music. The Paraventi sisters originally formed an acoustic duo playing Irish music in local pubs. They called their act the McLaughlin Sisters, after their mother's maiden name, before expand-

ing the duo into a full band. "The great thing about this music is that you don't have to be Irish to enjoy it," said Maureen Paraventi. "Its appeal is



McLaughlin's Alley will perform Saturday, March 7, at Barefoot Productions in Plymouth.

universal, because it tells stories and strikes emotional chords that resonate with everyone. It either has you laughing out loud or crying in your beer."

This is the band's second performance at Barefoot Productions, 420 N. Main, Plymouth, and will raise money for the theater.

The band's CD also will be available for purchase in the

Tickets are \$20. Buy them at the door or at justgobarefoot-

For more information about McLaughlin's Alley, visit: www.mclaughlinsalley.com.

GET OUT! CALENDAR

COMEDY

Contact: Marilyn Meredith at 313-231-

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday, March 5; 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday,

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road,

Details: Ron Feingold; 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-

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-

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 5-6 and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Saturday, March 7

Location: Fourth and Troy streets in downtown Royal Oak

Details: Shane Mauss: tickets \$10 Thursday, \$18 Friday-Saturday Contact: 248-542-9900; info@Com-

edyCastle.com **VILLAGE THEATER**

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Saturday, March 14 Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road,

Details: Second City Touring Company: tickets are \$25 per person Contact: 734-394-5300; cantonvillagetheater.org

HOME IMPROVEMENT EXPO

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 7, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday,

March 8

Location: Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton

Details: Live broadcast from Joe Gagnon "The Appliance Doctor" from 1600 WAAM; how-to workshops on a variety topics; live wood carving demonstrations; a hands-on children's' project center; and multiple raffles throughout the weekend, including wood projects made by Canton Construction along with the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters. Free

Contact: canton-mi.org/940/Canton-Home-Improvement-Expo

FILM MJR CINEMA

parking and refreshments

Time/Date: Saturday-Sunday through

Location: Westland Grand Digital Cinema 16, 6800 N. Wayne road, Westland

Details: Free children's film festival with Box Trolls, March 7-8; Annie, March 14-15, Night at the Museum, March 21-22, and Book of Life, March 28-29. Tickets are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Free for children 12 and under; parents pay \$1. Call theater for show times

Contact: 734-298-2657 **PENN THEATRE**

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:20 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, March 7-8; and 7 p.m. Thursday, March 12

Location: 760 Penniman, Plymouth Details: Into the Woods; admission \$3 Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. March 6, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. March 7; vintage fashion market, 1-9 p.m. Saturday

Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Avenue in Detroit Details: Breakfast at Tiffany's; \$5

Contact: 313-898-1481 HISTORY

KELSEY MUSEUM Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, and 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through May 3

Location: 434 State St., Ann Arbor Details: "Death Dogs: The Jackal Gods of Ancient Egypt," will explore the mysterious ancient Egyptian jackalheaded gods associated with death and the afterlife. The exhibition features approximately 40 artifacts, some never before displayed.

Contact: 734-764-9304 **PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

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

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth Details: "Creative Hands: Busy Hands" is the new exhibit, which runs through June 14. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2

for ages 6-17 Contact: 734-455-8940

MUSIC BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: Sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m.; show runs 7-9:30 p.m., third Saturday of the month through

Location: Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: \$5 at the door. **Contact**: BFSpresident@aol.com **CHINESE NEW YEAR**

CELEBRATION

Time/Date: 6 p.m. reception; 7 p.m. show, Saturday, March 7 Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton **Details:** Event includes performances by Fang Shubo, the Canton Philharmonic choir, the March Wind Choir, the Michigan Chinese Choir, Yangtzee Melody Group, the Spring Group. \$2 at the door

Contact: 734-394-5300; CantonVillageTheater.org

FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

MAPLESYRUP

sweetens dinner fare, drinks, desserts

March is maple syrup time — and there are plenty of ways to celebrate.

Start by checking out what it takes to turn sap into syrup, 1 p.m., 2 p.m. or 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday this month, beginning March 14 at Maybury Farm, 50165 Eight Mile, Northville; 248-374-0200.

Kensington Metropark, also offers a trip to the sugar bush and sugar shack, noon-3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday through March 29, at the park, 4570 Huron River Parkway, Milford; 248-684-8632. Cost is \$5 for adults; \$3 for seniors and children, 3-12.

Next, find out what it takes to tap a tree and make your own maple syrup.

You'll learn to identify a maple tree, collect sap, boil it, taste it and you'll receive materials to help you get started at home, at "Maple Sugaring in Your Own Back Yard," 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m. March 8 and 22, at Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills. Cost is \$7 per person or \$21 per family of four. Pre-regis-

tration is required at http-s://re-creg.fhgov.com or by calling 248-477-1135. Finally, after you've produced your own maple syrup — or bought it from the market — it's time to cook.

According to the Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association, maple syrup contains phenolic compounds, a source of antioxidants, commonly found in products such as blueberries, tea, red wine and flaxseed. It's

also a source of naturally-occurring minerals, including calcium, manganese, potassium and magnesium.

The Michigan Maple Syrup Association suggests glazing carrots with maple syrup, butter and a pinch of dry mustard. Or bake acorn squash with 2 tablespoons maple syrup, salt and pepper. Try blending a small amount of maple syrup with commercial marshmallow cream for a sundae sauce.

For more on cooking with maple syrup, including links to cook books, visit www.mi-maplesyrup.com or vermontmaple.org.

VERMONT MAPLE **CHUNKY BEEF STEW**

Serves 6

1/4 cup of flour Salt and pepper to taste

2 cloves chopped garlic

1 large onion, sliced 1 stalk of chopped

1½ pounds beef, cut into half- inch cubes 1 19-ounce can of

tomatoes

½ cup dry red wine ½ cup pure maple syrup

4 medium size potatoes, cubed

2 large carrots, sliced

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Combine flour, beef and seasonings in a plastic bag and shake to coat beef. Sauté garlic and onion together in 1 tablespoon of olive oil until tender. Combine all ingredients into a casserole dish, pour in ½ cup of water, cover and bake for four hours. Also works well in a slow cooker.





SUGARHOUSE STEAMER Serves 1 2 tablespoons pure maple syrup **Pure granulated**

maple sugar Whipped cream Viennese coffee (prepared instant or with an espresso machine)

Steamed or scalded

Pour the maple syrup into the bottom of a mug. Add coffee and pour in the milk. Top with whipped cream and a generous sprinkling of granulated maple sugar. Enjoy!

MAPLE AND MUSTARD ROASTED **ROOT VEGETABLES**

Recipe by Jolinda Hackett, vegetarian food expert at vegetarian.about.com

Yields 6 servings 1/4 cup maple syrup

2 tablespoons Dijon mustard

1/2 teaspoon garlic powder

2 tablespoons olive oil ½ teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon pepper

½ cup coarsely chopped onion or 20 pearl onions, peeled

5 cups coarsely chopped or sliced veggies of your choice; turnips, parsnips, rutabaga, carrot, potato, yams, beets and/or golden beets.

Preheat oven to 425 degrees.

Toss veggies and onions with the olive oil, salt and pepper on a baking pan. Roast in oven for 20 minutes, then remove and re-toss on baking sheet. Cook 15 minutes more. Toss again. Cook

another 15 minutes. Combine maple syrup, Dijon mustard and garlic powder in a small bowl. Drizzle the maple mixture over potatoes and veggies and mix to coat well.

Cook again until veggies (beets and potatoes will take the longest) are soft and glaze starts to caramelize and brown a bit. Serve and enjoy!

MAPLE HARVEST CUSTARD

Yields 7 servings.

8 egg yolks

½ cup pure maple syrup 1½ cups pumpkin puree (not

pie filling) ¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon

½ teaspoon ground ginger

Pinch ground allspice Pinch ground nutmeg 2 cups half and half

Preheat oven to 350 de-

arees. In a large bowl, using an electric mixer, beat egg yolks in with the maple syrup. Add pumpkin

and spices, mix until blended. Heat half and half over medium heat until

tiny bubbles form around the edge. Stirring constantly,

gradually add half and half to pumpkin mixture. Pour into large shallow glass baking dish or divide into heat-proof custard

cups. Place cups or dish in a larger pan of hot water and bake in a preheated oven for 30 minutes or until knife blade inserted near center comes out clean. Remove from water and let stand 30 minutes. Serve or refrig-

erate up to one week. Before serving, heat one cup of maple syrup in a sauce pan until it boils. Continue to heat syrup until it becomes thick. Pour over custards

Tip: For variation, use cooked, pureed winter squash instead of

CITY BITES

Vegetarian cooking

Plymouth — Learn to integrate plant-based cooking into holiday meals through Better Living Seminar's class, 2:30-5:30 p.m. March 15, in the gym at Metropolitan Seventh-day Adventist, 15585 N. Haggerty. Local chefs who previously worked with the annual

Holiday Tasting Extravaganza in Plymouth will demonstrate recipes for the Easter table. Fitness trainers, dietitians and physicians also will answer questions. Tickets are \$35 per person or \$50 for two. Attendees will receive all recipes from the demonstrations, a full meal and tastings. Register by noon March 11 and pay at the door. Reserve

at veggieholiday.com or email holidaytastiang@gmail.com or call 248-446-

Cooking with McCargo

Livonia -- Chef Aaron McCargo will share dialysis-friendly cooking tips and recipes in honor of National Kidney Month, 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, March 18.

at Fresenius Medical Care, 32423 Schoolcraft; 734-525-0780. In addition to McCargo's cooking demonstration, the event will include kidney-friendly food and refreshments, clinic tours and talks about nutrition and fitness. McCargo is host of Big Daddy's House on the Food Network. For more, see ultracare-dialysis.com.





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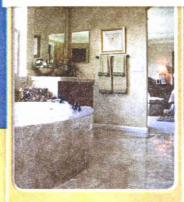
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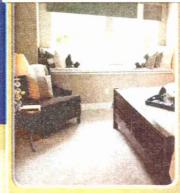
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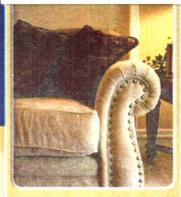
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Dr. Eric Seiger

BY SALLY RUMMEL

She eats right, she works out and takes care of herself every day. She wants her face to reflect this same youthful vitality that the rest of her body shows.



A patient is prepped for a mini-facelift at the Skin & Vein Center in Fenton. Dr. Eric Seiger is assisted by nurse Amy Sowers and Dr. Kate Johnson.

old woman, who asked to 95 percent of my patients are remain anonymous, is in the women. The results will last pre-op area of the Skin and between five and 10 years, Vein Center in Fenton for "The depending upon the patient." Hour Lift," a mini-facelift procedure that's becoming Hour Lift and a regular facelift more and more popular.

about 15 years, but they've the facial muscles, rather than become much more mainstream moving the facial muscles. The now since makeover shows on areas primarily improved by a TV began to glamorize them facelift are the jowls, cheeks about 10 years ago," said Dr. and neck. There's a huge Eric Seiger, board certified difference in recovery time dermatologist and cosmetic and price. "It's the difference surgeon. "It's not a 'taboo' between a three-day recovery thing anymore."

Dr. Seiger estimates he has said Dr. Seiger. done between 2,500 and 3,000

That's why one local 69-year- this surgery is about 58, and

The difference between The is that The Hour Lift involves "We've been doing these for cutting the skin and tightening and a two-week commitment,"

The price is also a huge of these procedures, on women factor in a person's decision as young as 24 and for a couple to undergo this procedure. who was each 86 years old. A full facelift will cost "I'd say the median age for between \$6,000 and \$15,000 -



depending upon the scope of good as I feel inside. I want to \$2,900 because I want looking not covered by insurance.

want to look 20 years old again. I just want to look in the mirror and be able to look as for our success."



the procedure. I only charge feel refreshed," said Dr. Seiger.

For the 69-year-old patient young to be affordable to who was waiting for her everyone. These are elective procedure, The Hour Lift was cosmetic procedures and are not only for her own selfesteem, but also for her success in the "The number one thing that business world. "A youthful patients say to me is, 'I don't appearance validates your professionalism," she said. "This is how we get measured

Thinking about having 'The Hour Lift'?

Here's what to expect:

Q: What happens before the procedure?

A: Prior to surgery, you may be given a medication to help you relax. Local anesthesia is then administered to minimize discomfort.

Q: How long does the procedure take?

A: One to 1 1/2, hours.

Q: What actually happens during the "One Hour Lift?"

A: Dr. Seiger makes a short incision and gently lifts the tissue under the skin, removing the excess skin and tightening the muscles. He then drapes the overlying skin, leaving the patient wrinkle-free with a firm, more youthful jaw line.

Q: What can I expect during recovery?

A: Post surgery, patients wear an ice-containing head garment for 24-48 hours. They are likely able to shampoo and wear make-up the day after surgery. Sutures will be removed in six to eight days, resuming normal activities within three days.

Q: Does it hurt? Will I bruise or swell?

A: Approximately 85 percent of patients experience no bruising. There is minimal pain, controlled with oral medication.

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> > 1-810-629-9200

GARDEN CITY • FENTON • STERLING HEIGHTS www.skinandvein.com

Q: How long will the results last?

A: Look five to 10 years younger, with results lasting usually five to 10 years.

Q: Can I talk to anyone who has had the procedure?

A: The Skin and Vein Center can arrange for a contact with someone who has had the procedure and agrees to speak to prospective patients.

Q. Can I travel to one of your locations to have this done?

A. Absolutely! People come in from all over the state and country. Expect to spend one night locally after the procedure and you will need someone to accompany you.

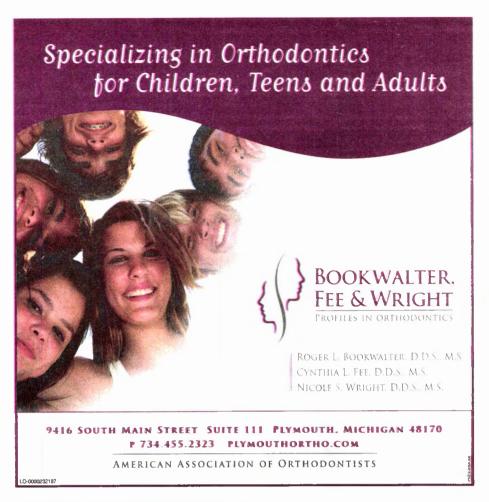
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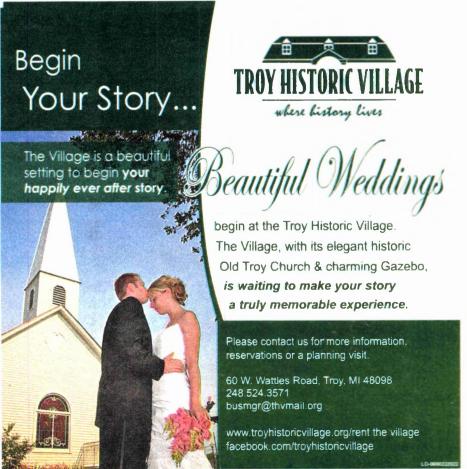














GETTY IMAGE

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woman

EDITORIAL

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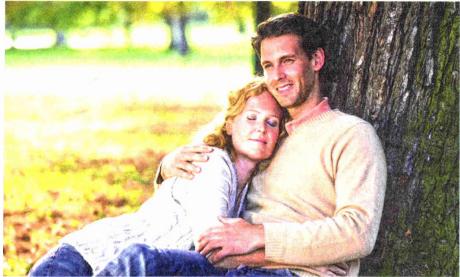
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An engagement photo shoot should be fun and reflect the personalities of the couple. A few simple strategies can ensure couples' shoots accomplish both of those things.

Make your engagement photo shoot a success

ngagement photos vary, depending on the couple. Often reserved for save-the-date cards and now commonly used to spruce up wedding websites, engagement photos can range from formal shoots in which couples are dressed to the nines to more laidback shots featuring couples in more everyday attire.

When planning an engagement shoot, couples should give themselves carte blanche with regard to style, as the photo shoot need not follow many of the more accepted rules that the wedding itself will ultimately adhere to. Once couples have settled on a style for their photo shoot, there are additional ways to ensure the session is a success.

- » Find a photographer who shares your sensibilities. Photographers can vary greatly in style and an engagement photo shoot will be most successful when couples find a photographer whose style matches the theme they are looking for with their photo shoot. You likely would not hire a nature photographer to photograph a basketball game, so don't hire someone who specializes in posed shots if you want your photos to be more lively and spontaneous. Before you hire anyone, ask for samples of each photographer's work to be certain you're getting someone who has experiencing shooting the type of photos you want to take.
- » Solicit ideas from the photographer. Some couples already know exactly where they want their engagenent photos to be shot and which poses hey want to be arranged. However,

many couples have little or no experience with professional photo shoots and such couples should solicit ideas from each photographer they are considering hiring. A skilled and/or seasoned photographer should propose several ideas. Be wary of photographers who offer little input, as you may ultimately be dissatisfied with their work once the shoot has come and gone.

» Avoid studio shots. Many couples prefer their engagement photos be taken somewhere they have a personal connection to, such as the sight of their first date or a park they frequently visit. Studio photo shoots might provide the best lighting, but couples have no connection to such spaces and, down the road, they may regret not taking the photos in someplace that's a little more meaningful.

In addition, a photo shoot outside the studio affords couples and their photographer more opportunities to experiment and improvise, which can produce a wider array of shots than a studio photo shoot is likely to deliver.

» Don't forget candid shots. Candid shots make the photo shoot more fun and loosen couples up a little bit. Many engagement photos will never be seen by anyone other than the photographer and the couple he or she is shooting, so don't be bashful during candid shots for fear of being embarrassed down the road. Have fun with the candid shots and your other photos are likely to come out better as a result.

- Metro Creative Connection

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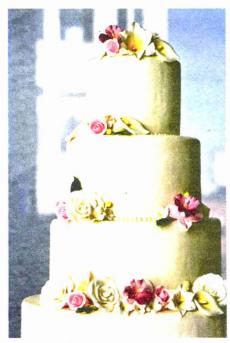
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Cake-cutting etiquette and guidelines

The presentation of the wedding cake marks the culmination of the day's festivities and a final symbol of a happy couple's new partnership. Many people eagerly await the cake as much as they may anticipate catching a glimpse of the bride in her beautiful gown. While the cake in all its finery can be a beautiful sight to behold, a cake can only last so long before its fate as a delicious dessert is sealed.

As is the case with many wedding traditions, there is some established etiquette with regard to cutting and serving wedding cake. If you plan on putting your cake on display, be sure it is made with a frosting and filling that can endure room temperature. Certain creams may sour if not refrigerated and you do not want anyone becoming ill. If you have your heart set on perishable fillings, keep the cake refrigerated and then have the big reveal right before it is cut.

The cake cutting usually comes near the end of the wedding reception. Schedule the cutting so that older guests or young children can leave without feeling as if they would be



The cake-cutting ritual at weddings has withstood the test of time and many couples still prefer to present the cake with fanfare and excitement

offending anyone.

The emcee of the evening typically announces the cake cutting and the band may play a quirky tune or revisit the wedding song while the first slice is being cut.

A bride should hold the cake knife with her right hand, while the groom places his right hand over hers before they proceed to slice down together. If the cake has a foam or cardboard support, be careful not to cut through it. Use a cake server to grab the first piece.

Traditionally the newly betrothed will feed each other a bite of the cake to symbolize their first meal as a couple. Couples can feed each other a small amount, taking care not to spill any. Many couples no longer embrace the once-popular tradition of smashing cake in each other's faces, but whether or not couples follow this tradition is up to them.

Some couples like to serve their parents a piece of cake. Traditionally the bride should serve the groom's parents and the groom the bride's parents.

If there is a groom's cake, guests may prefer a slice of both cakes. Guests may also want to take home a slice of the groom's cake. Tradition states that a piece of the groom's cake should be presented to an unmarried woman attending the wedding. The woman is not expected to eat the cake, but rather to put it under her pillow. Superstition held that this tradition would help an unmarried woman find a husband. Make arrangements for proper packaging of the groom's cake, so guests can take home a slice if they so desire.

The waitstaff typically handles the slicing of the cake. The uppermost tier is reserved for the couple to save, while the remainder of the cake will be served.

Recognize that not all guests like cake, but it's better to err on the side of caution and have a cake that will feed all of the guests. You also may want to offer a dessert bar for guests who prefer another type of sweet treat. However, this is a luxury, not a necessity.

- Metro Creative Connection



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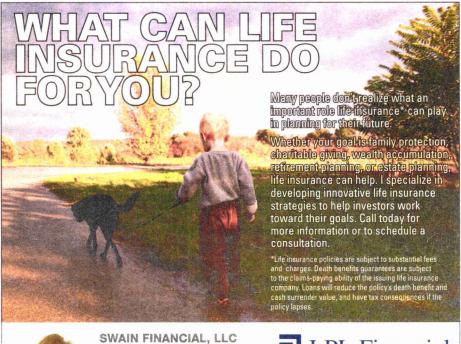
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Popular and modern first dance songs

couple's first dance as man and wife is a cherished wedding tradition. While the first dance can help set a positive tone for the reception, it also can negatively impact the festivities if a poor song is chosen.

Couples may feel pressure to choose the perfect song. Yes, this is a song that the couple has selected to represent their love for each other, but it also should be one that will speak to the masses and can be thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Couples want to avoid a song that does not seem to fit with the festivities. For those couples who need a little musical inspiration, turn to many of the modern hits you're bound to hear on the radio, which may help you to shine in that first dance.

» Thousand Years by Christina Perri: Twi-hard fans enjoyed this romantic song during the pivotal wedding scene between Bella Swan and Edward Cullen in the popular "Twilight" movie Breaking Dawn. Couples looking to recreate the magic of these star-crossed lovers can embrace Perri's delicate tone and tender lyrics.



GETTY IMAGES/CREATAS RF

» All of Me by John Legend: It's been hard to escape this popular love song by R&B artist Legend. An ode Legend wrote to his wife, this song has quickly become a popular choice for a couple's first dance.

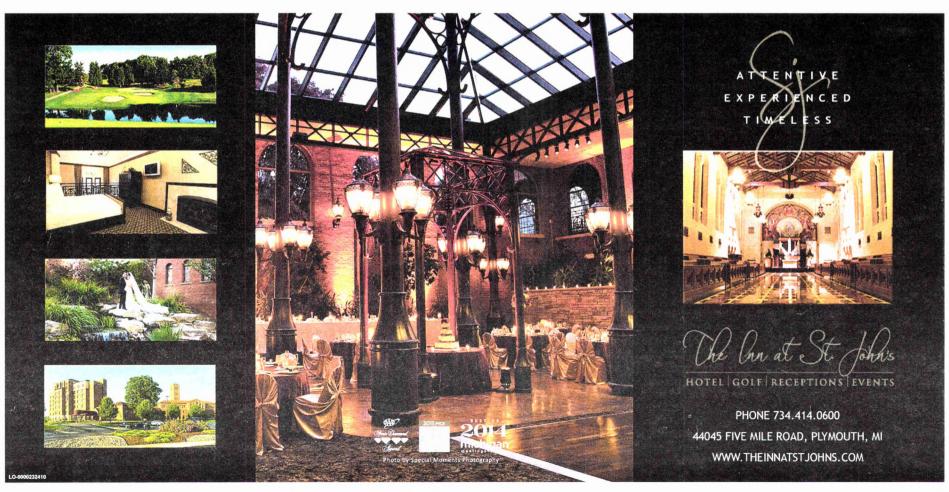
» I Choose You by Sara Bareilles: This peppy song by singer/songwriter Bareilles is a good choice for couples who prefer being non-traditional. It's faster paced and less sentimental than many other wedding songs. » Better Together by Jack Johnson: Johnson is known primarily for his soft rock and acoustic guitar work blended with catchy lyrics. Also an accomplished surfer, Johnson's work is enjoyed by many, but may be especially prized by couples who want to their reception to be a laid-back affair full of fun and whimsy.

» I Won't Give Up by Jason Mraz: Another acoustic ditty, this song has a country influence and talks about not giving up and staying in a relationship for the long haul.

» I Don't Dance by Lee Brice: Speaking of country influences, couples who want a little twang in their first dances can choose Brice's breakthrough hit. Romantic lyrics about spinning his partner around in circles despite not liking to dance illustrates what one partner will do for the other when in love.

Couples can make that first moment on the dance floor a special experience by choosing modern classics for their first dances.

- Metro Creative Connection





How to build a wedding registry

any once-popular wedding traditions have fallen by the wayside. But one wedding tradition that has withstood the test of time is the wedding registry. Couples about to tie the knot still build a wedding registry so their guests know what to buy them as wedding gifts. This saves guests the trouble of agonizing over what to buy the couple getting hitched and also ensures that couples won't receive two or more of the same item.

Building a registry can be fun, as couples can act like kids in a candy store and add items they might otherwise not be able to afford. But there is a method to building a registry that can ensure the process of giving and receiving gifts is comfortable and convenient for everyone involved.

- » Choose a national chain. Many stores will allow couples to establish a registry, but it behooves couples to choose a national chain or chains for their registry. A local boutique store might sell several items you would love to have, but that store may only be accessible to guests who live nearby, plus such stores may be more expensive than larger national chains that can afford to charge less for similar products. Choosing a national chain ensures all of your guests will be able to access and purchase a gift from your registry and make those purchases without breaking the bank.
- » Choose a store with an online presence. When choosing a store for your registry, it also helps to choose a store with an online presence that's user-friendly. Ideally, pick an online retailer you have already had positive experiences with. This not only will make it easier for your guests, but also for you should you decide to return items down the road.
- » Choose more than one store. You also want to choose more than one store when building a registry. Some guests will prefer to shop in-store rather than online, so you want to give them some options so they don't have to drive far and wide to find the lone brick and mortar store for your registry.
- » Visit the stores and do your homework. Though some stores allow you to develop a registry entirely online, it still helps for couples to visit the store together and build their registries in the more traditional way. Visiting a store as opposed to browsing the store website allows you to touch and feel products, which can give you a more accurate



Building a registry can be a fun activity for couples about to tie the knot. But there are some guidelines to follow to make the process go smoothly for guests and couples alike.

idea of their quality. In addition to seeing the products in person, read online reviews of products before putting them on your registry so you can ensure you're getting quality items.

- » Choose items that vary in price.

 Many couples are sheepish about putting expensive items on their registries. That's not surprising, as the cost of attending a wedding, especially one that features lots of out-of-town guests, can be substantial. But some guests, such as the bride and groom's parents and siblings, may want to give a more high-end gift, so don't be afraid to include items in a range of prices, from the inexpensive to the more costly, on your registry.
- » Don't abandon the registry after your big day. You won't end up getting everything you include on your registry, but that doesn't mean you should just forget about those items that never made their way into your home. Many retailers offer couples significant discounts on items from their registries that were never purchased and those discounts may extend for as long as a year after the big day. Revisit your registry after the wedding to see if you can find great deals on those items you never received and continue to do so until the registry expires.

- Metro Creative Connection



Preserving wedding memories takes on new meaning when couples explore the growing trends in wedding videos.

Modern trends in wedding videography

couple's wedding day is often a whirlwind for the bride- and groom-to-be. Happy couples hope to remember every little detail, but that can be difficult when so much is going on. That is why many brides and grooms hire videographers to preserve the memories of their weddings.

Couples who fail to capture their ceremony and reception on film may feel like they missed out once their big day has come and gone. As a result, a professional videographer can be a wise investment.

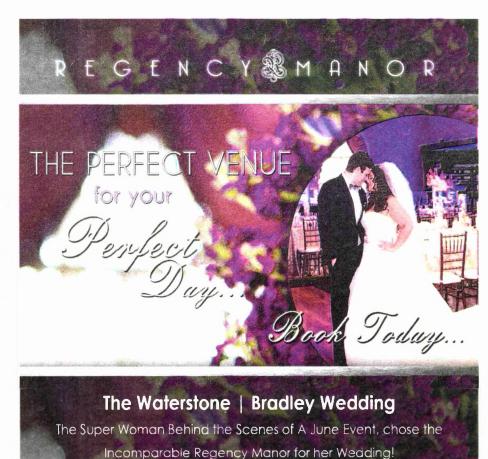
Today's wedding videos have come a long way from their poorly produced predecessors. Gone are the potentially cheesy soundbites and elevator music. Many of today's videos are artfully edited and highly cinematic productions that could have couples wishing they were viewing videos in theaters. The following are some wedding video trends popular among today's couples.

- » Brief clips and highlights: Few people want to sit through their entire wedding day frame-by-frame. Montages of key elements of the day are much more popular than a chronological unfolding of the ceremony and reception. Some videographers like to show snippets of what's to come at the start of the wedding video, then go into more extensive segments later on.
- » Special filters or film: Filters and lighting effects can give a wedding video an entirely different feel. For example, filming in 8mm can lend a grainy touch to the video and make it seem ethereal or even part of a home movie collection. However, few people

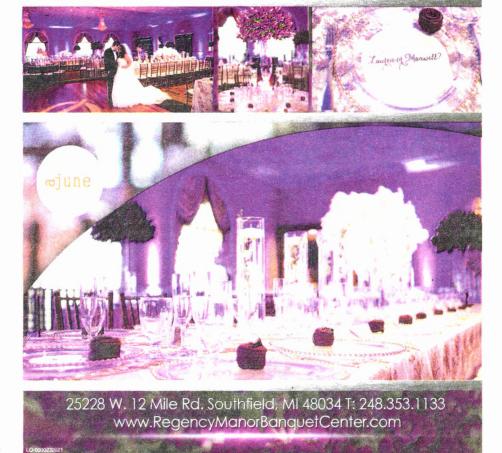
want the stark reality of a high-definition camera that highlights every flaw.

- » Film chapters: Dividing segments of the video into different chapters allows viewers to fast forward to the parts they want to see and pass those they can skip. This saves the hassle of having to watch the video in its entirety.
- » Cinematic styling: Instead of a stationary camera on a tripod, this method of filming incorporates different angles and close-up shots to give the video a modern feel. It's shot more like a movie than a documentary, allowing viewers to feel as though they're really experiencing the event.
- » Artistic, indie feel: Film buffs may want a wedding video that breaks the mold. Ask videographers to create something that would fit in at the Sundance or Tribeca film festivals.
- » Same-day editing: Want to revisit the ceremony at your wedding reception? Some videographers will edit portions of the ceremony and preparations for the big day in the time between the ceremony and reception. This gives all guests, including those who may not have been able to make the ceremony, the chance to view the nuptials.
- » Unobtrusive technology: This trend relates to the equipment used to capture wedding memories rather than the actual finished product. No one wants their view of the ceremony or reception to be marred by a big, bulky camera. Smaller video cameras enable videographers to seamlessly blend in and perhaps capture shots that larger cameras could not.

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Katherine Florkowski and Joshua Crook are showered with bubbles as they leave their wedding ceremony Oct. 25, 2014. Parents of the bride, Ron and Dawn Florkowski, reside in Livonia. The groom, son of Sarah and Joel Crook, is from Jacksonville, Ala. The wedding was held in the gazebo at Ashpoint Park, in Columbus, Ohio. The bride graduated from Ohio State University and dances professionally through the Fred Astaire franchise. The groom is a pilot with Republic Airlines. The couple currently resides in Miami, Fla.

ELSIDA KONAKCIU

John and Christina Klein were married May 31, 2014. John, 28, and Christina, 26, grew up in St. Clair Shores. The high school sweethearts who dated for six years exchanged vows in front of family and friends in Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. A reception followed on the water at MacRay. Christina used makeup artist Sharlen Danial.

Area brides and grooms share special day

The *Observer & Eccentric* asked area brides and grooms to share a wedding photo with *Woman* readers. Here are few of special moments from weddings celebrated in 2014.

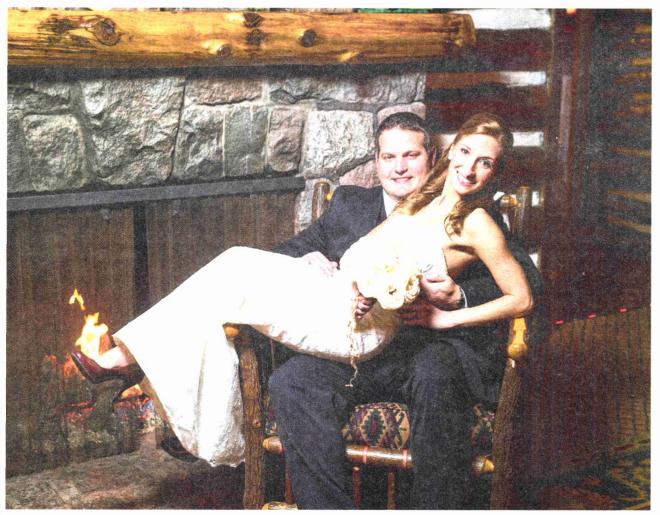


JEN PROUTY PHOTOGRAPHY

Claire and Alexandre Guérin were married Nov. 8, 2014. The bride is from Ann Arbor. The groom is from Paris, France.



N DROLLTY DU



ANDREW POTTER PHOTOGRAPHY

ca and James Colaianne of Canton celebrated their wedding Nov. 22, 2014, at Fox Hills Golf Course – The Fox issic venue in Plymouth Township. Writes Erica: "This photo captures the mood of our wedding – warm and nfortable in an elegant rustic setting." Erica and James grew up in Wayne.

Claire Guerin of Ann Arbor shares a happy moment with her bridesmaids before her marriage to Alexandre Guerin of Paris, France, Nov. 8, 2014, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Dexter. The reception was at Zingerman's Cornman Farms in Dexter. "What I loved about this wedding was that despite the cold and freezing rain, we were still able to capture such beautiful images. It didn't matter what the weather or the setting, it was all about how in love these two are and how they were surrounded by love from their family and friends," wrote Jen Prouty of Jen Prouty Photography of Plymouth.



MEG DARKET PHOTOGRAPHY

Laura and Lance **Bessent** were married Sept. 13, 2014, at Historic Greenmead in Livonia. The couple lives in Clawson.

Area wedding venues offer something for every couple's style

By Greg Mullin

Staff Writer

Choosing a venue can be the most daunting — and priciest - part of wedding planning.

These days, the options are vast, yet certain dates are still at a premium.

So where does a couple begin?

Christi Henderson, owner of Livonia-based Events by Chris, recommends deciding on a venue

"I always recommend that couples don't get set on their date until they actually pick their venue,"

she said. "They have to pick the venue because so many places are completely booked out for a year.'

Still, many couples choose the wedding date first, said Melissa Sicheneder, event planner for Berkley-based Flourish Event Design.



Christi Henderson



Melissa Sicheneder

"Some people choose the date first, because it's important to them — it's their parents' anniversary or grandparents' anniversary or the day that they met," she said. "Some people don't stray from that date, so they'll find a venue that's available on that

Luckily for brides and grooms, the area is teeming with options — from banquet halls and golf courses to concert halls and barns, just to name a

"Our community has a lot to offer," Henderson said. "Probably more so than most.

"Just about anyplace that you really have a passion for, you can end up getting married there.

Finding what you want

"There are so many options," Sicheneder said. "I think the venue depends on the time of year. If you really want an outdoor wedding, you really have to take in the factor of the weather and guests traveling. If you're having a holiday wedding, you have to think of the airfare and the hotels.

"It depends on your guests and the feeling that you want them to have," she added.
What should couples look for in a venue?

"A place that provides value in terms of the charming historical ambiance they may desire for their wedding ceremony at a reasonable price," said Susan Broihan, business manager at Troy Historic Village. "You're looking at a combination of what you desire and how you picture your wedding ceremony to be, versus how much you can spend.

With wedding-planning reality TV shows and wedding-specific magazines, many brides and grooms are well-prepared before their first visit to a

See VENUES, Page 12

VENUES

Continued from Page 11

venue.

"We have really educated consumers these days," said Kim Weak, accounting manager at Burton Manor Banquet and Conference Center in Livonia. "So they just need to make sure that the venue that they pick doesn't have any hidden costs — make sure what their sales tax is, what their gratuity is and make sure that those items are clearly defined."

Local offerings

No matter how lengthy a couple's guest list is, there's a venue in the area to match.

For smaller events, Troy Historic Village offers a unique setting, Broihan said.

"Our venue is definitely geared toward a more intimate wedding, because our 1837 built church has a maximum guest capacity of 110 people," she said. "We also have a charming gazebo on the Village Green that is available for an outdoor wedding. It's a traditional setting, with 10 historical buildings within the village that we encourage guests to tour through either prior to or after the ceremony."

Larger venues remain busier than ever.



Sydney Bogg's

POPULAR LOCAL WEDDING VENUES

- » Bakers of Milford 2025 S. Milford Road, Milford; 248.685.3300
- » Burton Manor Banquet and Conference Center 27777 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia; 734-427-9110
- » The Diamond Center 46100 Grand River, Novi; 248-348-5600
- » 59 West 786 Highland Road, Highland; 248-889-3004
- » Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center 8768 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth; 734-453-7272
- » Garden City Historical Museum Grande Parlour 6221 Merriman Road, Garden City; 734-838-0650
- » Greenmead Historical Park 20501 Newburgh Road, Livonia: 248-477-7375
- » Hellenic Cultural Center 36375 Joy Road, Westland; 734-525-3550
- » Italian American Banquet Center of Livonia 39200 Five Mile Road, Livonia; 734-953-1137
- » Joy Manor 28999 Joy Road, Westland; 734-525-0960
- » Laurel Manor 39000 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia; 734-462-0770
- » Longacre House 24705 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills; 248-477-8404
- » Northville Hills Golf Club 15565 Bay Hill Dr., Northville; 734-207-8336
- » Regency Manor & Banquet Center 25228 12 Mile Road, Southfield; 248-353-1133
- » Roma Banquets in Garden City 32550 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City; 734-422-4550.
- » Summit on the Park 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton; 734-394-5460
- » The Community House 380 S. Bates St., Birmingham; 248-644-5832
- » The Henry Ford 20900 Oakwood, Dearborn; 313-982-6001
- » The Inn at St. John's 44045 Five Mile Road, Plymouth; 734-414-0600
- » The Townsend 100 Townsend St., Birmingham, 248-642-7900
- » The Woodlands of Van Buren Golf Course 39670 Ecorse Road, Wayne; 734-729-4477
- » Troy Historic Village 60 W. Wattles Road, Troy; 248-524-3570
- » Walnut Creek Country Club 25501 Johns Rd, South Lyon; 248-437-7337
- » Wayne Community Center 4635 Howe Road, Wayne; 734-721-7400
- » Wayne Tree Manor 35100 Van Born Road, Wayne; 734-728-3020
- » Westland City Hall Grand Ballroom 36300 Warren Road, Westland; 734-713-3888

At the Hellenic Cultural Center in Westland, three wedding receptions can be held simultaneously.



"We have three large halls; they each accommodate 200 people. We can accommodate about 700 people altogether — so we're a large venue," Manager Liza Randazzo said. "We offer everything in-house. We do all of our catering on-site. We offer excellent food, a full bar. We have linens, chair covers, pretty much everything.

"We're super-friendly. We're very accommodating. I just think what we have to offer is pretty unbeatable."

And at Burton Manor, wedding receptions of up to 2,000 guests can be arranged, although most average 150-200 guests.

"We can hold up to four wedding receptions," Weak said. "We have six banquet rooms and we can hold close to 2,000 people. We can customize any menus. We have great entry-point pricing, but we can customize any menu for anybody that wants something a little higher-end."

Trends

Many wedding ceremonies and receptions are taking place at historic barns that have been re-purposed into ornate, yet rustic, wedding venues.

"I swear, I'm the barnyard queen (lately)," Henderson said. "You get married on-site, you do everything in one place. For some of the renovations at these barns, they've put over a million dollars into them to make them wedding venues. They're everywhere."

Sicheneder has noticed trends among her recent customers, too.



GETTY IMAGES | HEMERA

"I've actually been seeing a lot more non-traditional venues such as the Henry Ford Museum, concert venues like the Royal Oak Music Theatre," she said. "There's also a cool venue called the Ford Piquette (Avenue) Plant, where Ford first created automobiles; it's a museum during the day, but when you rent it out for weddings, you can walk around the floor and look at the cars. So if the groom is a huge automobile fan, it's the perfect venue for that.

"I had a bride get married at the Gem Theatre (in Detroit) in the fall. I feel like a lot of Detroit venues are starting to pop up that are really unique. It kind of gives that old-Detroit feel."

The often-blissful climate and scenery of autumn in Michigan has also become a favorite of brides and grooms.

"Fall has become very popular. September, October and early November are very popular right now," Randazzo said. "Those are the hot months where the dates are hard to find and, of course, you're going to pay more. If you're looking for a bargain, you definitely want to book in January, February or March."

Budget

Couples are spending more for weddings than ever before, an average of \$29,858 (excluding honeymoon), according to The Knot 2013 Real Weddings Study, which surveyed nearly 13,000 U.S. brides and grooms who married in 2013.

"When you choose a venue, it's important to know everything that it includes so you're not surprised," Sicheneder said.

"Price is such a huge issue," Henderson said. "Determine your budget and who's going to help with what. It's nice to dream, but if you don't have the money, it's probably not such a good idea."

A toast to the bride

Tips and sips for the perfect bridal celebration

hether it's an engagement party, bridal shower, the reception or post-wedding brunch, professional event planner Alison Hotchkiss knows a thing or two about creating memorable bridal celebrations. As the founder-owner of Ali-



Alison Hotchkiss

son Events and author of The Destination Wedding Planner: The Ultimate Guide to Planning a Wedding From Afar (Chronicle Books), she's produced stunning weddings all over the world. Whether you enlist the help of a planner or do it

yourself, Hotchkiss' tips on entertaining will help you make your bridal celebration picture perfect.

» Bubbles add a festive, celebratory note to any bridal celebration. Try Cupcake Prosecco sparkling wine from Italy. It's crisp and refreshing – an affordable alternative to pricey French champagne, yet equally delicious.

» Food doesn't have to be complicat-

RECIPES, PAGE 17

ed to be remarkable. The finger foods here are varied and flavorful, but they're not hard to make.

To satisfy all guest preferences, have three to five appetizers including chicken, beef and fish plus two veggie options (ideally one being vegan or dairy free).

» A signature drink is a fun way to welcome guests and get the party off to a great start. The Prosecco Ginger Cocktail is delicious and memorable. Serve it in unconventional glassware and garnish with Persian cucumber "swizzle sticks" for even more impact.

» A popular alternative to the traditional sit-down meal at engagement parties or showers: food stations with a range of different foods offered at each. Pair a different wine with each station to create maximum variety and enjoyment as guests taste and mingle.

» Factor in overall ambiance and the vibe you want for your wedding or

event. Lighting is key. And when it comes to candles, more is more.

» Flavored vodka is another big trend right now. Look for vodkas infused with such exotic flavors as vanilla frosting, devil's food cake and more. And don't be afraid to mix spirits with wine: A favorite concoctions is a blend of lemony Cupcake Chiffon Vodka with muddled blackberries, fresh mint, sparkling grapefruit water and a splash of Cabernet Sauvignon.

» It's not only more fun to serve bite-sized cupcakes at your wedding, but they offer more variety and unexpected flavor combinations than a traditional cake.

» Be sure to have a good assortment of non-alcoholic beverages on hand as well such as bottled water, soft drinks and more to prevent dehydration and ensure that guests drink responsibly.

For more tips from Hotchkiss for creating a bridal event to remember, go to www.cupcakevineyards.com.

– Family Features



Alison Hotchkiss recommends three to five appetizers including chicken, beef and fish plus two veggie options (ideally one being vegan or dairy-free).



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Opt for timeless beauty on your wedding day

hen it comes to your wedding day makeup, now is not the time to follow the trends. You don't want to look back 20 years from now and have your makeup give away the year you were married. If I only knew then what I know now. I was married in 1992 – it's obvious.

Create a long lasting base

You can opt for traditional or airbrush foundation but, either way,



you need to make sure your skin is as even and flawless as possible. With traditional foundation, layering is a key factor in making it last down the aisle, through the receiving line and all the way to tossing the bouquet.

Airbrush makeup has become more popular these days and I would say this is one trend you may follow. Airbrush foundation is applied via air compressor, giving a fine, airspun finish to the skin. The trick here is not overdoing it and making sure you use the correct powder to set it. A setting spray helps any foundation stay in place as well.

Sculpt your face

Although contouring and highlighting have been made popular in recent years by the Kardashians and the like, it's not a new trend. I started working in the mid-'90s in television, where I learned the art of shaping the face due to the high key lighting in the studio.

This has now crossed over to the mainstream and is becoming more widely used off of the TV or movie set. My advice: If you are going to experiment on your own, do not overdo it. A little goes a long way and blend, blend, blend. Stripes on your nose are never a good look – especially on your wedding day, where it will be immortalized forever by your photographer and all your friends and family. If you are (and you should be) hiring a pro, any makeup artist worth her weight in



Ashlee McKinley with her mother and grandmother.

brushes should know how to appropriately contour.

Through the eyes of love

Your eyes are a very personal thing, literally and figuratively. From soft shimmer to deep smokey – anything goes on your wedding day, but keep it close to your comfort zone. My best advice is, whatever your night-out look is, take it up a notch. You want to be a polished version of yourself. This is not a good day for a complete makeover. Again, you want to look back in years to come and not question who is standing next to your husband in the white dress.

Lashes, lashes, lashes

I've said it before and I'll say it again – every bride needs extra lashes on her wedding day. Whether it's a full strip or a few flares to add some outer corner volume, lashes enhance the eyes in a really good way. A fuller lash line brightens and intensifies your eyes and completes any classic beauty look.

Practice makes perfect

If you are hiring a makeup artist, please take the time to have a trial.

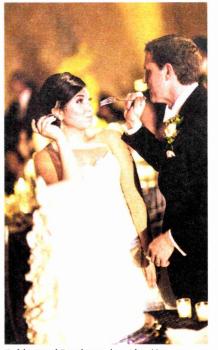


ASHMUN PORTRAIT ART

Vicky Malliaras of Grosse Pointe Woods chose a classic look with neutral colors, a smokey eye and lots of lashes. Makeup artistry by Barbara Deyo.

Neither of you wants to be figuring things out on the fly when you are more than likely under a time crunch and nerves are in high gear.

Be sure to communicate and



Ashlee and Brock cut the cake. Her makeup still looks great – 10 hours later.

bring pictures of looks that you like and images of yourself all dolled where you feel good about yourself. Everyone's definition of "natural" is different and, after all, there are so many different types of clowns. How can we possible know which one you don't want to look like?

Touch-ups

Please designate a bridesmaid to remind you to touch up your lipstick and powder your nose. You can thank me later for that one when you are looking at your photo album 20 years from now.

Barbara Deyo, owner of Deyo Studio for face and body is an internationally acclaimed makeup artist, having groomed the faces of Paul McCartney, Bob Seger, Kerry Washington, Shaun Robinson and Erin Cummings. Barbara Deyo has been named Best of the Best by BRIDES Magazine, Allure, Hour, Real Detroit and WDIV and making brides beautiful for over 20 years. Deyo Studio is located at 576 N. Old Woodward Ave, 2nd floor in downtown Birmingham. Contact her at 248-203-1222 or go to www.deyostudio.com.

Charitable gift makes a unique wedding favor

amper your wedding guests with a special keepsake they can treasure. After all, you want to thank each and every one of them for sharing in your special moment. It's also a fun way for them to remember the celebration long after the wedding day is over.

Here are a few ideas to spoil your guests:

» Place a small silver bell at each place setting and then observe the tradition of kissing your new spouse each time one rings.

» Fill favor boxes or organza bags with a sweet treat, such as Jordan almonds or pillow mints.

» Small silver frames can do doubleduty as wedding favors and place card holders.

» Greet guests at an outdoor wedding with ornate fans to keep them cool.

» Encourage your guests to kick up (or off) their heels by providing a basket of cute flip flops for danc-

Another memorable gift is to honor your guests with a donation to a charity that is special to you and your fiancee. Announce your gift on a handcrafted tag attached to a beautiful candle. The decorative candles can be clustered around the centerpieces at the reception or simply used as the centerpiece itself. To find more wedding ideas, project guides and supplies, go to www.joann.com.

- Family Features

CHARITABLE GIFT WEDDING FAVOR

Some experience necessary Crafting time: 1-2 hours

Supplies and tools: Pillar candle Cork roll Cardstock, green & brown Kraft paper or brown paper grocery bag Green ribbon Jute cord Small wood beads Flower punches in a variety of shapes & **Upholstery tack** Adhesive dots, large Straight pins **Scallop-edge shears** Scissors Mini hole punch



Recycled papers, such as old books, sheet music, newspapers, postcards, memorabilia

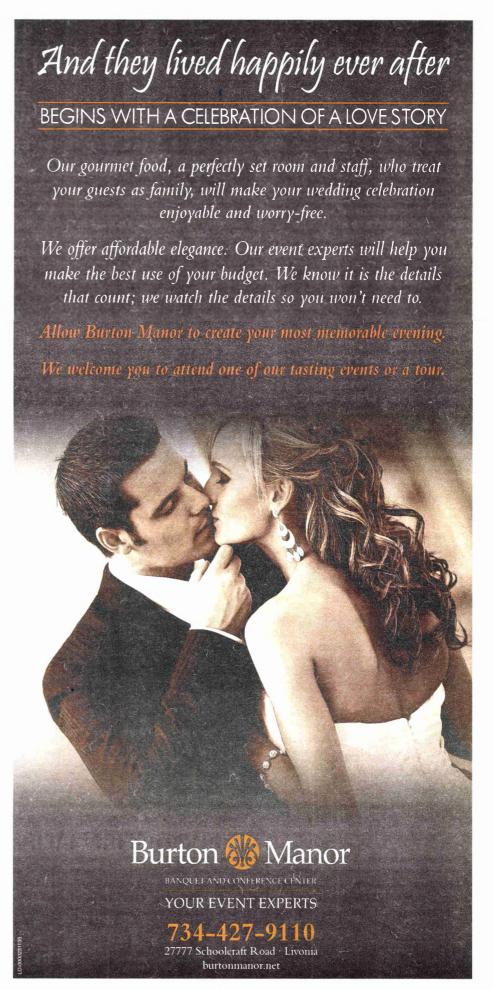
1. Punch five flowers using flower punches in different shapes and sizes. Use a variety of recycled papers for a vintage appearance. With an upholstery tack, pierce all layers of flowers; set aside.

2. Cut green cardstock strip 3-inch wide and ½-inch longer than circumference of candle. Cut both long edges and one short end with scallop-edge shears. Punch mini holes in each scallop. Wrap around candle, overlap and secure with adhesive dots.

3. Cut a strip of cork 1%-inch wide and the same length as green cardstock. Cut one end of cork strip with scalloped edge shears; attach to candle with 3 straight pins, at the scalloped end.

4. Print the donation message on brown cardstock. Cut out in a tag shape and mount on a slightly larger green cardstock tag. Scallop the green cardstock end, punch a hole at the narrow end of the tag and on each of the scallops. Tie ribbon once around cork and knot at the front. Tie cord around cork several times, string on the tag and tie in a knot. Press layered flower with upholstery tack into cork, over knots.

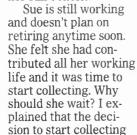
5. Tie two more lengths of jute around flower and knot. String a few small wood beads over the ends of some of the cords, and tie love knots to secure.
6. Trace a 5-inch circle on the back of green cardstock. Cut a petaled flower, using the circle shape as a guide. Using the green flower as a template, cut two more 5-inch flowers from recycled paper. Attach these to each other with adhesive dots, ruffling, wrinkling and distressing the edges. Cut a smaller green flower, slightly larger than the circumference of the candle. Cut the edges with scallop-edge shears and attach to the top of the stack of flowers, with the candle centered in the middle.



Do the research before deciding when to collect Social Security

few weeks ago, my good friend Sue called me to get my opinion on if she should start collecting her Social Security. She recently celebrated her 66th birthday, which made

her eligible to collect her full benefit.





Social Security isn't that simple anymore.

Here are the facts needed to answer her question:

- » She was eligible to collect her Social Security benefit and earn unlimited income without reducing her benefit.
 - » She is single.
 - » She was divorced.

» She wasn't retiring for a few more years.

» The extra income would be nice, but she really didn't need it.

Based on those facts, these are her

- 1. She could start collecting now at age 66. She would receive \$2,125 per month.
- 2. She could wait until she retires and then start collecting. Her benefit would increase 8 percent per year until age 70. If she waited until age 70, she would receive \$2,894 per month.
- 3. Because she was married for more than 10 years and has not remarried, she qualifies to receive benefits based on her ex-spouse. Collecting on an exspouse's benefit will have no effect on the ex-spouse or their current spouse's benefit. She can start collecting now based on the ex-spouse's benefit and delay starting her benefit until she retires.

When I explained option three, she couldn't believe it. She had never heard

of the ex-spouse benefit. I sent her off to the Social Security office to inquire.

She called me the other day to let me know what she had decided. Sue choose option three. She will be receiving \$800 per month based on the divorced spouse benefit. She will delay collecting on her benefits until she retires. Sue will be getting extra income now and a higher Social Security benefit later when she starts collecting on her benefit.

It's important that she asked before making her decision. Once you make the decision to start collecting your benefits, it typically cannot be changed. You may be able make a change within the first year, but you have to pay back all the benefits you have already received.

When should you file for Social Security benefits?

Sue had three options. Married couples have a lot more options to consider. Widowers have different options. Deciding when you start collecting Social Security isn't that simple anymore.

Look at what Sue would have given

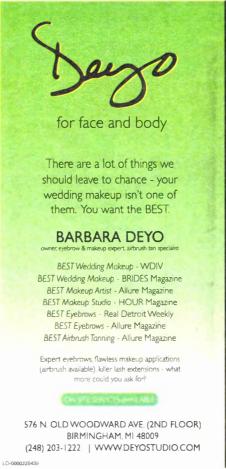
up. She would have locked in her benefit at \$2,125 for the rest of her life. Instead, she receives an extra \$800 a month now and, if she retires at age 70, she will lock in a benefit of \$2,894. By waiting until age 70, she will receive an extra \$769 a month for the rest of her life.

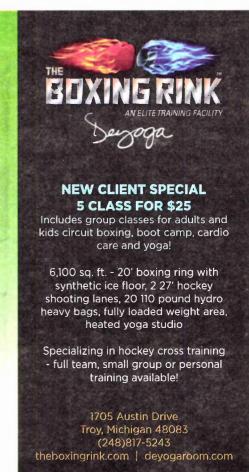
If you are considering retirement or collecting your Social Security, reach out to someone who can help you make an informed decision.

I am dedicated to walking your though the steps that you need to make to take control of your financial future and prepare you for a secure retirement. Now is the time to start focusing on your finances.

Paula Swain CFP®, is a financial consultant at Swain Financial, LLC, 1225 S. Main Street, Plymouth. Contact her at 734-738-6300. Securities offered through LPL Financial. The opinions expressed here are for general information and not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations. Consult with an adviser about your specific situation..







Continued from Page 13

PROSECCO GINGER COCKTAIL

Yield: 12 servings, 2 glasses per serving

1½ cups water

1 cup (6 ounces) crystallized ginger ½ cup sugar

% cup sugar 2 bottles (750 ml) Cupcake Prosecco, chilled

24 thin diagonal sliced seedless or Persian cucumber

Combine water, ginger and sugar in saucepan and bring to a boil. Simmer on low heat, uncovered, 15 minutes. Off heat let steep, covered, 30 minutes. Cool.

Purée in blender until smooth.

Add 1 tablespoon ginger puree to each champagne glass. Add chilled prosecco, and stir well with swizzle stick until blended. Garnish glass with cucumber slice.



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BEET PURÉE WITH SESAME FLAVORS

Yield: 12 servings, 2 pieces per serving

1 pound fresh golden or red beets, trimmed, peeled, cut into ½-inch pieces

24 endive leaves, thick ends trimmed, separated into individual leaves

3 tablespoons reduced sodium tamari or soy sauce

½ teaspoon toasted (dark) sesame oil

1/4 teaspoon grated fresh ginger

¼ teaspoon minced fresh garlic Salt to taste

Toasted white sesame seeds (garnish)

Place beets in a steamer and cook, covered, over simmering water, until tender, 15 to 20 minutes. Cool.

Place endive leaves in a large bowl.

Add water and a cup of ice and refrigerate until crisped, about 15 minutes.

Drain and pat dry with paper towels.

Place tamari or soy sauce in a small saucepan and boil gently until reduced to 1 tablespoon. Cool.

Puree beets, 1 tablespoon reduced tamari or soy sauce, garlic, ginger, sesame oil and salt in food processor until smooth and creamy.

Arrange endive leaves on a platter. With two teaspoons, place a mound of beet puree in the center of each leaf. Garnish with toasted sesame seeds.

Note: Canned or cooked vacuum packed beets can be used as a substitute.

SHRIMP FAJITAS SALAD ON CRISP FLOUR TORTILLA CHIPS

Yield: 12 servings, 2 pieces per serving

4 8-inch flour tortillas

1 ripe avocado, pitted and peeled
1½ teaspoons fresh lime juice

1 teaspoon finely chopped cilantro ½ teaspoon finely chopped jalapeño, or

½ teaspoon finely chopped jalapeño, o more to taste

6 ounces extra small (salad shrimp) cooked and peeled shrimp, chopped (about 1½ cups)

3 tablespoons finely chopped peeled ripe mango

2 teaspoons finely chopped cilantro

1 teaspoon finely chopped jalapeño

1 teaspoon fresh lime juice

2 tablespoons thin sliced green onion (scallion) tops (garnish)

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Use ruler to trim tortillas into 4 large 6-inch squares. Cut 24 2-inch squares from the squared off tortillas; discard trimmings. Spray baking sheet with nonstick spray. Arrange tortilla squares on pan and spray with nonstick spray. Bake until toasted golden and crisp, 10 to 12 minutes. Cool.

Purée avocado, lime juice, cilantro and jalapeño in a food processor until smooth. Set aside.

Combine shrimp, mango, cilantro, jalapeño and lime juice in small bowl.

Spread about 1/2 tablespoon avocado mixture in center of each toasted tortilla square. Lightly press a tablespoon of the shrimp salad in center of each. Garnish with scallion slices and serve.









» Wedding websites: Want to communicate fluctuating information about accommodations, your registry and more to your guests? The best way to give your friends and family all the pertinent details they need to help you celebrate is through a wedding website. User-friendly hosting sites can make creating your site easy, no matter the extent of your design skills.

Three wedding trends that are likely to last

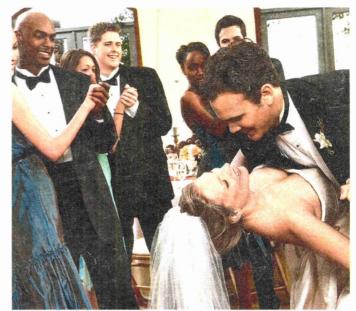
ho hasn't seen a lineup of baby blue tuxedoed groomsmen on the mantle of an older relative? While some matrimonial trends thankfully expire, there are some newer ones that may be here to stay.

Here are three worthwhile developments in the world of wedding planning that have taken hold in the past few years:

» Personal training: Many fitness clubs offer personal training packages for engaged couples. Working out together is a great way to get in shape for your big day and beyond, de-stress during a stressful period and start your marriage off on a healthful foot.



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While posed photography likely will never go out of style, many couples are opting for a more photojournalistic feel to their wedding album.

» **Photojournalism:** While posed photography likely will never go out of style, many couples are opting for a more photojournalistic feel to their wedding album. Whether sepiatoned, black and white or full color, wedding photos are taking on a more kinetic feel that can truly showcase a couple's personality.

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Clothes Mentor is looking to buy your 'gently used' Spring & Summer clothing and accessories, women's sizes 0-26. We are looking for skirts, dresses, athletic apparel, maternity clothing, light jackets, shoes, jewelry, designer handbags and accessories. No appointment is necessary, so turn them into cash TODAY!

What's 'in' this Spring?...

Patterns

Prints are in! Stripes, floral, black and white are all popular in both clothing and accessories.

Handbags

Handbags are the one thing that always fits! Keep on trend with structured leather totes, crossbody bags, and purses adorned with bold hardware

Dress to Impress

Be cool and comfortable in flowy maxi dresses and skirts, swing jackets, and fun statement pieces.

Footwear

Metallic and unique flats, sneakers, gladiator sandals, and rain boots will help to transform any outfit and make it your own.

*HAVEN'T SOLD TO US BEFORE?

No problem! We operate on a first-come, first-serve basis so you do not need an appointment. Stop by any day, at anytime up to an hour before close.

*WE KNOW YOUR TIME IS

VALUABLE which is why we have a computer-automated system to make the process as quick and efficient as possible. Our trained buyers will go through your items and select the pieces we would like



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