PLYMOUTH

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Beloved father Alan Prince Sr., with one of his adopted daughters, Connie Bingham

FATHER'S LOVE FOR 15

By Darrell Clem Staff Writer

Alan Prince Sr.'s 15 children always knew one thing - a father's love survives, even when his youngsters are victims of a deadly fire, debilitating illness, a devastating war or a horrific accident.

Prince, a Plymouth resident, raised two biological children and 13 adopted kids with a former wife, Judy, and then his current wife, Linda, while living in Canton. This Father's Day, in the year Prince turns 70, some of his family members wanted to surprise him with a tribute in the Observer, where some of their life experiences were

documented decades ago. Hanh Tonna of Belleville

was adopted by the Prince family after she was airlifted out of war-torn Vietnam in

"I never really had a father. (Prince) is the first father I ever had," she said. "He is the most amazing man. He helped me learn how to speak English. I would never be in the U.S. if it wasn't for him. He's the only father I've ever known."

Prince was father to another Vietnamese child, Danny Prince - no relation to Tonna - who developed polio early in life, but learned to cope with its effects. He was riding his skateboard near the family home in Canton when a neighbor backed out of a driveway, didn't see him

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JOANNA HANNUM Alan Prince Sr., joking around during a Christmas holiday.

puts brakes on quiet zone plan By Matt Jachman Staff Writer

City commission

Citing costs and potential liability issues, the Plymouth City Commission on Wednesday put the brakes on plans

for railroad quiet zones. After a 1½ years of research by commissioners and a citizens committee into hushing train horns, the commission voted unanimously during a special meeting to stop pursuing the establishment of quiet zones for Plymouth's seven rail crossings.

Federal law mandates that train operators sound horns at crossings except in designated quiet zones, which require additional safety measures, like extra crossing gates, nontraversable road medians and track side horns. Residents raised the issue with commissioners in late 2013 and the commission adopted researching the possibility as a formal goal in 2014 and this year.

Commissioner Dan Dalton, who authored a 10-page study of quiet zones, said the safety improvements would cost at least \$4.4 million, according to CSX Railroad, and an estimat-

ed \$50,000 a year to maintain. The safety measures installed, Dalton said, wouldn't



Plymouth officials have abandoned plans for railroad-crossing quiet zones after more than a year of study. Advocates pushed back on the decision during a special meeting Wednesday.

be up to city officials, but would be dictated by CSX, which owns the freight lines running through Plymouth, and the company providing liability insurance for the crossings.

Insurance concern

"I know this isn't what a lot of you want to hear, but these are the facts," Dalton said

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Health fund to laud local physician's legacy

By Julie Brown Staff Writer

Joel Thurtell of Plymouth Township is remembering his wife, Dr. Karen Fonde, with a memorial fund focused on family medicine

for underserved people. "Actually, it wasn't our idea,' Thurtell said of himself and the

couple's two grown sons. "It **Fonde** came from Family Medicine.

They proposed this fund." The Karen R. Fonde, M.D. Family Medicine Underserved Populations Fund will support medically underserved populations in the U.S and the world through focused initiatives, programs and hands-on experiences.

Fonde, 65, died this past March 1 of complications of Alzheimer's disease.

Fonde and Thurtell served as Peace Corps volunteers in Togo, Africa. She was also committed to the Ypsilanti Family Medicine Health Center and the Corner Clinic. This fund honors her tireless work and will carry on her dedication to helping the underserved in perpetuity, according to a statement.

"She had a way of connecting with patients and with people in general. She was a doctor because she wanted to help people," said Thurtell, a retired Detroit Free Press journalist. In 1993, Fonde helped set up the clinic in Ypsilanti after completing her residency. She had returned to school in mid-life to study to become a physician,

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Campers can learn about visual arts, theater, music and more at PCAC

By Matt Jachman Staff Writer

Young people can learn photography, take up the guitar or drums, catch the theater bug and create art in a variety of media at the Plymouth Community Arts Council this sum-

The summer camps and teen workshops, nine weeks of music, performance and visual arts - from photography to acrylic painting to making things with recycled and repurposed material - and even yoga, begin Monday at the

PCAC in Plymouth.

The nonprofit offers 43 different classes for artists as young as 5 and up to age 17. Most meet three hours a day for five weekdays; some camps last just four days and some classes, especially for younger artists, meet for two

hours a day.

Lisa Howard, the PCAC's executive director, said the camps are different than the art classes children take at school. There are no grades, no wrong answers and the artists' imaginations are the only limits, she said.

"Visual, hands-on art invites students to do things their way, to make the decisions, to change things as they go and come up with their own creative solution," Howard said. The theme for this year's

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graduating from medical school at 40.

"It seemed to me the logical thing was to serve people in underserved areas," Thurtell said. "That was something she thought was an important thing.'

The couple's two sons, one in Connecticut and the other in California, are "both really excited about the idea,' he added.

Fonde was a faculty member of the University of Michigan Department of Family Medicine from 1993 to 2010. An assistant professor, she was instrumental in the opening of the family medicine clinic at the Ypsilanti Health Center, where she saw patients and taught both residents and medical students for many years.

The Fonde fund has a

goal of \$100,000, with some \$10,000 already raised, Thurtell said. Information on making donations is available from Amy C. St. Amour, Department of Family Medicine, University of Michigan, 1150 W. Medical Center Drive, M7300 Medical Science I – SPC 5625, Ann Arbor, MI 48109. For questions or information, contact

Amy St. Amour at 734-615-2688 or astamour@med. umich.edu. "I really miss having

her here and being able to help her," Thurtell said of his late wife. "It's the kind of thing she would want to have done."

Thurtell is working on Karen's gardens, also a way to carry on her legacy and work. "It brings me closer to her," he said. "Those are things I think she would appreciate.'

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PCAC

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camps is "Create Your Own Extraordinary,' which will be printed on T-shirts available to campers.

New offerings

New classes this year include Harry Pottery, clay construction with themes borrowed from the popular Harry Potter novels; World Pottery, in which projects are inspired by cultures from around the world; Shark Week, featuring projects in different media that are inspired by the Animal Planet series of the same name; and Type & Graphics, in which campers will use typography and graphic design concepts to make their own paintings, drawings and posters.

Favorites from past



FILE PHOTO

Morgan Sokolowski and Julia Dajos work on monochromatic painting during a pop-art project in a Plymouth Community Arts Council painting camp last summer.

years include Experimental Art, a mixture of science and art; Build It!, in which campers create structures out of cardboard, paper, toothpicks and recyclables; and Musical Theater, which will give campers a look at stage blocking, vocal technique and group performance.

Instructors include

Howard, local visual artists Christina Evans and Denise Cassidy Wood, professional puppeteer Chase Woolner and more. Stage-oriented classes - Musical Theater, Theater Games and Performing Arts – are taught in partnership with the Tipping Point

Theatre in Northville. Camps are priced at between \$90 and \$140 each and there are different price levels for PCAC members and non-mem-

One June session of Harry Pottery filled up quickly, so a second session was added to the August lineup. Another class, Stop-Motion Animation Puppetry, is full and has a waiting list.

The PCAC will also be offering private instruction on the pottery wheel after camp for students ages 8-18. The council is currently taking names of interest students; instruction will be scheduled beginning in July.

For more information, go to the PCAC website, www.plymoutharts.com. The phone number is 734-416-4278.

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QUIET

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during the meeting, attended by about 30 residents, at the Community Cultural Center.

Dalton said the city. by altering crossing infrastructure with additional safety measures, would be assuming liability in case of acci-

"Anybody that puts their finger on that railroad, that's a liability issue," Dalton said.

Damages are capped at \$200 million per crossing, per incident, Dalton said, and insurance would cost at least \$200,000 a year, more than the city currently pays for all its liability coverage. The current insurer, he said, would not offer quiet zone coverage, so a separate policy, or rider, would have to be purchased.

Dalton also said horn noise wouldn't necessarily be reduced with quiet zones, as track side horns could replace train

Report blasted

The decision brought a strong reaction from several people at the meeting, with some suggesting costs had been exaggerated and quality-of-life benefits minimized.

"The report is very biased," said Jack Wilson, a candidate for the commission in the August primary and a citizen member of the quiet zone study committee. "The city has never been interested in quiet zones."

"I want the noise reduced," said Melissa Hirst, who lives near tracks in the area of Ann Arbor Trail and Lilley. "It is so one-sided I don't believe anything in it,' Hirst said of the report.

Some residents suggested the city work with other communities in Michigan where train horns are common to change state liability laws or mandate that coverage be provided by public insurance pools. Dalton had pointed out in his report several states that had provided governmental immunity for quiet zone accidents or had forced public insurers to provide quiet zone coverage, thus spreading the cost.
"I think there are a lot

of communities that would love to do this, but can't afford it," Mike Fisher said.

"If we partner up with other communities ... we can work together on this and get this done," said Mark Oppat, a longtime resident of Old Village who said train horn noise has "a significant impact (on) our quality of life.'

Oppat pointed out no commissioners live closer than four blocks from a railroad crossing and suggested safety concerns had been exagger-

'Financial decision'

Commissioner Mike Wright, who was a "champion," with Dalton, of the quiet zone study, said he could accept the idea that quiet zones, with their added safety measures, would mean safer crossings.

That's not the same as saying we would have a 100-percent guarantee that no accidents would occur," Wright said.

Other commissioners also defended their deci-

"For me, it's a financial decision," Commissioner Colleen Pobur

"We tried to get there. That's our job," Mayor Dan Dwyer said. "We didn't make it a goal to try not to do it.

Afterward, Oppat remained skeptical. "If any of these guys lived where we live. I

think it would be a dif-

ferent story," he said.

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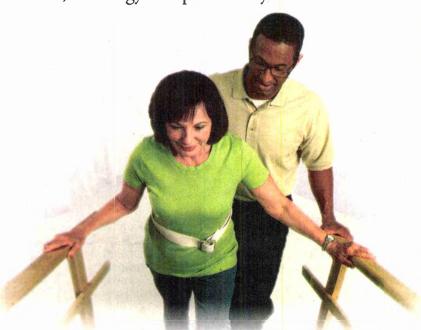


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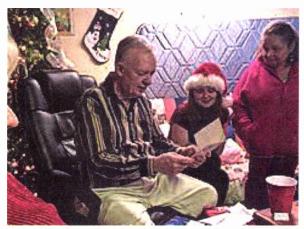
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JOANNA HANNUM

Alan Prince Sr., on a Christmas with his adopted daughter, Kathleen Johnson, and her daughter, Geneva.

FATHER

Continued from Page A1

and ran over him, killing him in 1983.

'We've been through a lot," said Connie Bingham, 43, of Fort Worth, Texas, one of Prince's adopted daughters. Bingham served in the U.S. military and has one daughter, Kiley.

Bingham had a brother, Tony Prince, who was only 6 years old when he died after the family's Canton home caught fire in June 1979.

Bingham said Prince has been a wonderful father through good times and bad.

"He has been the father that he didn't have to be," she said.
"He wanted to make my mom happy and save us kids from our broken homes. He's a very loving, helpful, trustworthy, awesome father. I miss him so much (living in Texas). I almost want to move back home because I miss him so much.

Prince and wife Linda serve on the board of deacons at Geneva Presbyterian Church and also serve as school guard crossings, the church's pastor, the Rev. Bryan Smith, said.

"They're very wonderful people," he said. Prince's spirit of giving back, it seems,

extends even beyond his family.

"He's a very gentle, loving man," Smith

JoAnna Hannum, who lives in Charlotte, Mich., was the oldest of five siblings welcomed into the Prince family. Hannum, 47, now has two daughters, 26 and 22, and is raising a niece and nephew in their teens.

Hannum said she has a close relationship with her birth father, but had only praise for Prince, who cared for her and her siblings.

"He's a very caring father," she said. "He became the father he didn't have to become with a lot of my siblings. He told them that he was going to give them a home and he stuck by that."

Hannum said some of the children the Prince family raised had mental and physical disabilities, including one child who used a wheelchair. She said those issues never deterred Prince from being a good father.

Hannum gave an example of how much Prince's love has meant

"I'm getting married next year," she said. "I want him to walk me down the aisle.'

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New Plymouth township parks director has scientific training

By Matt Jachman Staff Writer

A Livonia resident with an advanced degree in biochemistry will be Plymouth Township's new director of parks and grants.

Mike Mitchell, an aide to now-Supervisor Shannon Price when Price was

Mitchell

a Wayne County commissioner, starts the newly created job Monday. He'll be paid \$60,000 a year, plus benefits.

"His has a good knowledge of our community walking in the door," Price said Friday. "Residents already know him and feel comfortable with him.'

"Giving back to the community is one of the things I've always aspired to do and look to do more so in the future," Mitchell said.

Mitchell was Price's legislative director when Price was a county commissioner from 2013 until April, when Price was appointed supervisor. He then became the legislative director for Joe Barone, R-Plymouth Township, who replaced Price on the commission, but Mitchell said he will be leaving that job.

Scientific degrees

He comes to the township with an unusual background for a public servant, however. Mitchell has a bachelor's degree in chemistry and biology, a master's in human genetics and a Ph.D. in molecular cytogenetics, which Mitchell described as a specialty in biochemistry. He's taught at Wayne State University, done consultan ing work for a pharmaceutical company and co-founded a bio-research firm, among other endeavors.

He's also worked as a chemical and paint engineer for Ford Motor Co.

Mitchell will be researching grant opportunities, writing applications and helping other township departments apply for grant funding, Price said.

"We leave money on the table, because we don't have enough staff to do grants," Price said, adding grant funding Mitchell will win "will more than pay for his salary."

Job criticized

The appointment sparked a backlash by Price critics.

Trustees Bob Do-

roshewitz and Chuck Curmi, in May, had voted against creating the job.

"There isn't work for a full-time post when we have a few parks, an outsourced golf course and department heads that do a great job writing their own grant applications," Doroshewitz said Wednesday.

Curmi said it wouldn't be fair to comment on Mitchell as a new employee, but repeated his view that the job should be part time or the work contracted out.

"I just don't think it needed to be a high-level position," Curmi said. Though it had been

widely predicted, the supervisor's announcement Tuesday that Mitchell had been named touched off an outcry on social media, with many

calling the appointment politically motivated and a reward for a close Price ally.

Price pushed back

against that notion. 'Just because I know someone, I don't think that should preclude him, if he's the best person for the job," Price said.

"I don't want to be conceited, but I think everybody had a fair shake at this," Mitchell said. He said he and wife Diana Fibila-Mitchell would look at moving to the township when market conditions are right.

Mitchell said he's eager to engage township residents as he manages his department.

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St. Raphael Teacher of the Year challenges her students

By Sue Buck Staff Writer

With 11 students in her St. Raphael School classroom, Judy Rausch is in an enviable position to deliver one-on-one instruction.

Rausch, a second-grade teacher who just earned the St Raphael Teacher of the Year award, was honored recently by Superintendent Brian Dougherty of the Archdiocese of Detroit at a special recognition banquet attended by about 50 similar top-notch

The St. Raphael staff nominated Rausch, a Canton Township resident.

"My own peers nominated me," Rausch said. "This is the second year that this award has been given out.'

Staff noted Rausch's willingness to give her time to any committee and that the children look forward to coming

into second grade.
"I am very well-known in the classroom for challenging the children," Rausch said. "We have a very rigorous cur-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Students enjoy a math competition in Judy Rausch's classroom.

riculum here and I really shine at challenging the children and helping those along who need it one-on-one. I have been complimented for that. I'm firm, but each child in my classroom knows that I love them.

The motto of her classroom is: "We all work as a team to get to the goal."

There are several "centers" in Rausch's classroom where students can go for reinforcement and for review.

"Baby steps" lead the children to the point where they are comfortable trying her challenges. Rausch compares it to building a house from the ground up

"I build up to that challenge," she said. "This class is ahead of what a normal second grade would be. They love anything you want to show them. They have been a de-

lightful group to work with." Challenges work as long as children are guided, Rausch

Guiding children

The children, who learned how to keyboard and use clip art this year, used their new knowledge to present Rausch with a book about why they love her. They weren't shy about one thing, though.

"They didn't like homework," Rausch said. "They tell me that all the time.'

When Rausch speaks about her students, the language resembles one of a loving parent. It's hard for anyone to not be noticed.

love them," she said. "It's important that my children not only walk away with knowledge, but good self-esteem."

'My students know that I

Student Scarlett Wolfe said that Rausch is always ready for anything.

"Whenever we do science, she always makes it fun," she

Scarlett said they worked with Play-Doh and made dino-

saurs. "I like the one with the long neck," she said.

Brooke Leleniewski said that Rausch makes lessons come to life. "She helps us if we're stuck," she said.

Second grade is an especially formative year in a Catholic school because it's the time when the children prepare to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and their First Communion.

Rausch has taught for 30 years, 18 years at Št. Raphael. She started teaching at Sacred Heart in Muskegon Heights in 1979, followed by St. Anthony in Belleville in 1986.

Rausch, 58, grew up in Park Forest, Ill. Her husband Patrick's job led her to different locales. He works for Enterprise as a shuttler at Detroit Metro Airport. They have one son, Christopher, 26, a chemical engineer at BASF who just got engaged. The wedding is

July 9, 2016. "This was a great year," Rausch said.

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Madonna University signs agreement to become seventh partner of WCCCD

While it's not uncommon for students to transfer credits from a two-year college to a four-year college to earn a bachelor's degree, in many cases they have to attend classes at the four-year college. Thanks to agreements signed June 15 by leaders of Wayne County Community College District and Madonna University, WCCCD students will be able to complete a bachelor's degree, in aging studies or business administration, from Madonna University and do so at the WCCCD campus in Belleville. These articulation agreements make credit transfer seamless and eliminate any questions as to which courses apply to the higher degree.

Beginning fall semester,

WCCCD students may apply an associate of arts with certificate in gerontology to a bachelor of science in aging studies from Madonna or an associate of applied science or associate of arts in business administration to a bachelor of science in business administration-human resource management. Both programs will be offered at the Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center-West in Belleville.

Madonna President Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, Ph.D., said one of the core values of the Felician Sisters, who founded the university, is respect for the dignity of all people, including honoring each other's values - drawing a parallel between the two educational institutions work-

"We will make every effort to make sure these are enriching experiences for WCCCD students as they continue in their educational progress. We don't educate just one student at a time," she said. "We educate a family; we educate a neighborhood."

Curtis Ivery, Ph.D., chancellor of WCCCD, acknowledged that the partnership would benefit students and their education. "Thank you for this honor, privilege and opportunity," he said. "We have such respect for Madonna. You've been just a real beacon of what's right about higher edu-

This agreement makes Madonna University the seventh WCCCD university partner.



After signing the agreement to tranfer credits for two Madonna bachelor's degrees, WCCCD Chancellor Curtis Ivery and Madonna President Sister Rose Marie Kujawa seal the partnership with a handshake.

Atchinson Ford received the President's Award from Ford Motor Company, which is Ford's highest honor for customer satisfaction.







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Special-needs children score big in TOPPS soccer

By Ewa Omahen
Correspondent

A group of children with special needs, their parents and the organizers held a celebration May 31 to end another season of TOPPS soccer, a nonprofit and noncompetitive league for kids with disabilities. In spite of the rain and cold weather, the smiling kids and their proud parents enjoyed delicious pizza and treats and shared team spirit. Every child was handed a special trophy for participation and walked away feeling like a true soccer star.

It was the very first trophy our 13-year-old son with autism ever received and a new experience for us as a family to participate in team sports.

For the past several Sundays, 19 kids, three girls and 16 boys, ages 4-17, got to play soccer on the East Field in Hines Park. Families who participated live in local communities, including Northville, Novi, Livonia, Plymouth and Canton.

Some of the young players needed one-on-one assistance from their devoted parents and the coaches, while some learned the rules of the game with more independence. Some scored goals, while some kept missing the net. In the end, all walked away winners enriched by this experience and the new friendships made on a soccer field.

The parents came together these Sundays, cheering not only for their sons and daughters, but encouraging all the kids on the field to perhaps run little faster, kick the ball little harder and aim for the net. Ev-

ery child who participated felt appreciated and embraced. Everyone, parents included, got the taste of what it is like to be a part of a team.

Brooke Kreza and Brandon Ferguson have coached TOPPS soccer for the last few years. Brooke got involved and fell in love with the team for special-needs initiative while watching her own sister with autism participate in TOPPS soccer starting in 2003. Brooke shared that her parents coached the team for a few years. Eventually, she took over that responsibility on a voluntary basis in 2012, seeing the amazing outcomes for her sister and other participants.

Brooke is studying at Eastern Michigan University to be a special education teacher. She emphasized that the focus is not only on teaching kids the game of soccer, but also "things like patience, sharing, teamwork and a sense of accomplishment."

We are thankful for the experience and hope to add more trophies to the one our son received this past Sunday. TOPPS soccer is a worthy initiative that brings kids and families together in team spirit and sharing a oneof-a-kind experience. Brooke and Brandon embody the meaning of giving, sharing and contributing to make our community more inclusive for children with special needs and their families. TOPPS soccer is alive and well.

We look forward to more goals, sharing and celebrations during the upcoming fall season.

Ewa Omahen can be reached at ewa.omahen10@gmail.com



Brooke Kreza and Brandon Ferguson hand Patrick Omahen a trophy.



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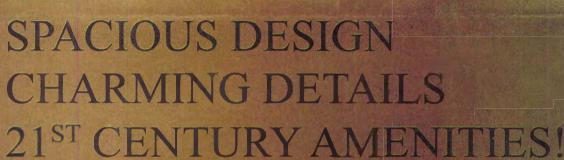
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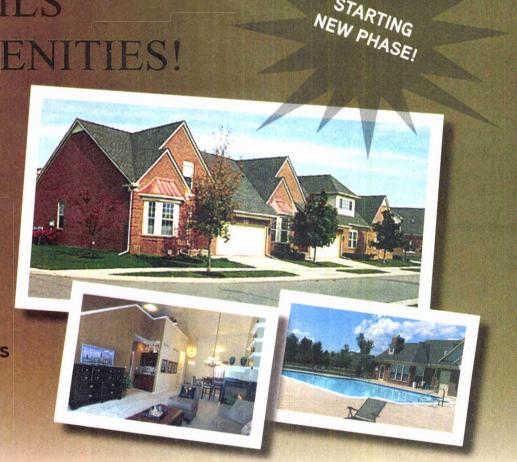
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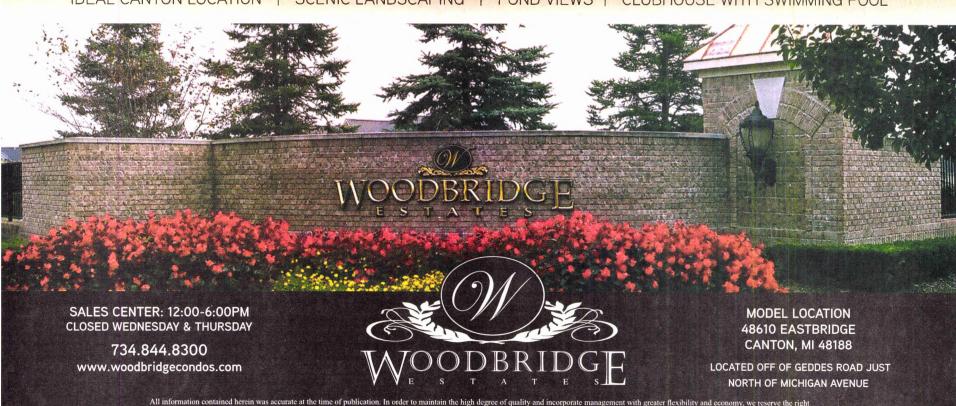


The Villas, Canton, MI

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Car enthusiasts invited to Lingenfelter events

Plymouth and Canton car lovers are encouraged to visit the Lingenfelter Cars & Coffee events at Lingenfelter Performance Engineering, 47451 Avante Drive, Wixom, at I-96 and Beck Road, 8-10 a.m. each Saturday through Aug.

Lingenfelter's North Engine Build Facility in Wixom will open its doors and parking to the public. Car lovers from near and far are welcome to stop and enjoy the company of others and to see the latest and greatest in performance cars from Lingenfelter Performance Engineering.

There is no fee to participate in the weekly events and refreshments are available. Updates on weekend special activities and featured cars from the Lingenfelter Collection will be posted on its Facebook page and website: www.lingenfelter.com.

Special guests are scheduled, including:

» June 20: Motor City Harley-Davidson and Brighton Harley-David-

» Aug. 1: Motor City Heat Car Show, sponsored by Detroit 5th Gen Camaro Club

» Aug. 22 — Battle of the Brands

Lingenfelter Cars & Coffee will be held rain or shine. For more information, go to www.lingenfelter.com.



Jeannie Gray of Canton joined Barb Brown of Taylor as she displayed her 1998 Calloway Camaro at the May 30 opening.

LANDING SAFELY

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 1

Location: General Purpose Room, Yankee Air Museum, 47884 D. St., Belleville

Details: Randy Hotton will talk about his adventures and misadventures while learning how to land on an aircraft carrier

Cost: Free

Contact: 734-483-4030 **MEETINGS CHANGED**

Time/Date: 3-5 p.m. second Sunday of each month, beginnina July

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

Details: PFLAG P-C has changed its meeting days. PFLAG P-C is committed to advancing equality and societal acceptance of LGBT people through its threefold mission of support, education and advocacy

FATHER'S DAY FLY IN

Time/Date: 7-11 a.m. Sunday, June 21

Location: Mettetal Airport, EAA 113 Aviation Center, 8550 Lilley Road, Cantor

Details: EAA Chapter 113's annual Father's Day Pancake Breakfast. Fly in or drive in for breakfast, aircraft rides and static displays. Proceeds help fund the EAA 113 Aviation Scholarship Program.

Contact: www.113.eaachapter.org

RUN WITH DAD

Time/Date: 8 a.m. Sunday, June

Randy Hotton will talk about his adventures and misadventures while learning how to land on an aircraft carrier at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 1, at the Yankee Air Museum

Location: Starts at Kellogg Park, downtown Plymouth

Details: The 36th annual Plymouth Father's Day Run. Offers quarter-mile fun run for little ones, a one-mile walk or run, a 5K, a 10K and the 10.3-mile MDG Triple, which allows the runner to be part of three events. Race proceeds benefit the YMCA's Annual Campaign, which drives its nonprofit mission of youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

Register: Go to the Plymouth Family YMCA website, at ymcadetroit.org/plymouth, and click the "Register to Race" button to begin the process online. Registrations are also accepted by mailing the forms to 248 S. Union, Plymouth MI 48170 or fax to 734-453-4191. Race awards include a \$1,000 cash award for the MDG Triple, plenty of medals for various finishes, as well as some other special prizes, including Detroit Tigers tickets. Contact: shegdal@ymcade-

PASSION FOR SHERLOCK

troit.org

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 24

Location: Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center, Canton Details: Scott Monty, editor-inchief, founder and co-host of I Hear Sherlock Everywhere, a website devoted to news and information about Sherlock Holmes in popular culture, will share his passion for Sherlock Holmes as a character and discuss the evolution of this

Contact: The library at 734-397-

beloved character in popular

BIG BAND

Time/Date: 7-11 p.m. Saturday,

Location: Plymouth Ann Arbor

Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Details: Big Band @ The Elks will feature The Dr. Pocket Big

Cost: \$10 donation, includes food

Contact: 734-453-1780 or go to www.plymouthannarbo-

CARS & CAFFEINE

Time/Date: 8-10 a.m. each Sunday

Location: Parking lot of Biggby Coffee, 44601 Five Mile, Ply-

Details: Car buffs and enthusiasts are invited to bring themselves, their families and their classic or hot-rod vehicles for a weekly gathering for talk and coffee

Cost: Free **JOINT REPLACEMENT**

SEMINARS Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. Thursday,

June 25 Location: Classroom 10 at St. Mary Mercy-Livonia, 36154 Five

Details: The Center for Joint Replacement at St. Mary Mercy Livonia offers free monthly educational seminars. Expert staff will answer questions.

ment procedures and available implant options. Contact: To register, 734-655-

discuss joint pain, joint replace-

FLOWERS ARE

FOREVER Time/Date: Noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 30 Location: Plymouth

Details: The Woman's National Farm & Garden Association, Trailwood Garden Club, will host the annual Flowers are Forever Garden Walk. Several gardens are featured. Complimentary

refreshments are offered. Perennial sale and master gardeners are available. Tickets: \$8 pre-sale; \$10 day of

walk; children 12 and younger tickets are half off; babes in arms are free. Strollers are not permitted. Tickets available from Garden Club members, Backyard Birds on Main Street, Saxton's Power Equipment Center on Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth and Sideways on Forest,

Contact: Kate Kerr at 734-455-6867

BLUES AND JAZZ @ ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month is Blues @ The Elks; 7-10 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month is Jazz @ The Elks

Location: Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor

Road, Plymouth

Details: The Elks offer live music and dancing

Cost: \$5 donation at door for blues nights; \$10 donation for

jazz nights Contact: 734-453-1780 or go to www.plymouthannarbo-

Call Mary Nicole marynicole@realestateone.com



Concern for kids prompts program on human trafficking

By Sue Mason Staff Writer

Linda Maylone can't stand the thought of any child being caught up in human trafficking.

United Methodist Women groups around the country have taken a strong stand against human trafficking and, as president of UMW at the First United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland, Maylone is bringing it to the forefront in the local commu-

She's on a mission to make people - from parents and first responders to emergency room personnel - aware of who the victims are and how they can help identify them and put an end to such a "horrific condition."

To get the word out, she and Carol Thomas are hosting a program on



United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland is hosting a program on human trafficking Tuesday, June 23.

human trafficking 6-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 23, at the First United Methodist Church, 3 Town Square, west of Wayne Road, in Wayne.

"I did some reading about it and I was so appalled that so many children are missing or have been lured into it." Maylone said. "It's not just the sex trade; they can be forced to work for no or little wages. It's a fair trade issue.

Children at risk

Human trafficking is the fastest growing

branch of organized crime in America today. The U.S. government estimates 400,000 American children are currently at high risk of sexual exploitation. According to Maylone, the Detroit area is No. 2 in the nation when it comes to human trafficking and it's in close proximity to Toledo, which is a "hot bed" for it.

Maylone teamed with Thomas after talking to Wayne Police Chief Al Maciag at community meeting he held at the McDonald's in Wayne. Thomas is in ministry with a group called Turn 180 that works to stop the tragedy of human trafficking. She will be the guest speaker, along with representatives of the FBI and local police.

Handmade jewelry and accessories made by women who have been

rescued from human trafficking will be available for purchase at the event. Proceeds will benefit Women at Risk programs.

Maylone is concerned that middle school and high school students are at risk of being dragged into human trafficking. The event will explain how human traffickers are able to infiltrate schools and single out individuals who may need someone to listen to them.

"They lure them in differently in the United States," she said. "It is especially important that our middle school and high school students, both males and females, understand how recruiting for prostitution rings can happen so easily in the school, with a 'new friend' who befriends them and starts giving

them things and slowly asking for small 'favors' in return.'

A church in Texas has set up a curriculum, Traffick911 that educates adults and youth about the plight of sex trafficking in America and equips them with practical ways to keep themselves safe. Down the road, Maylone would like to bring the curriculum to the metro area and run classes.

For now, she wants young people to be aware of their surroundings to avoid problems.

"I see so many young people out walking by themselves, headphones in, hoodie up, not aware of their surroundings. That really concerns me," she said.

smason@hometownlife.com Twitter: @SusanMarieMason

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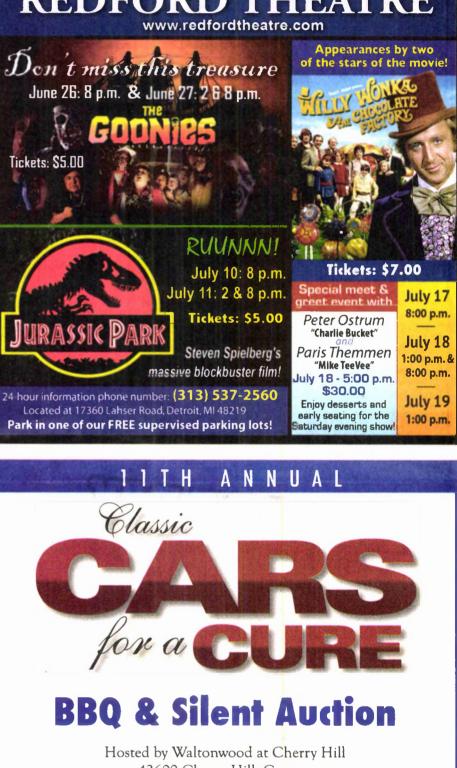
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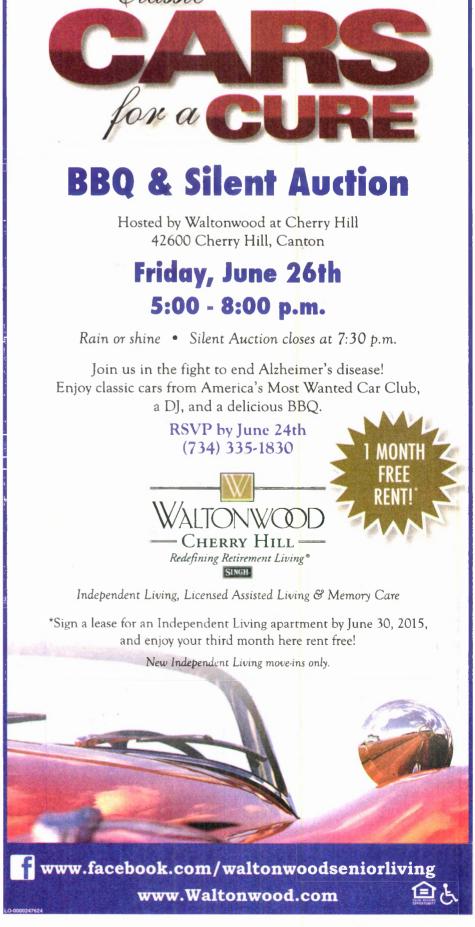
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Hard work and dedication lead to best GPA ever at CC

By Lonnie Huhman Staff Writer

Andrius Gobis, now a 2015 Detroit Catholic Central High School graduate, has no big secret to his academic success. Setting a goal and working hard helped him break one of the school's sacred records as he finished his high school career with the highest cumulative grade-point average in school history.

His final Catholic Central High GPA was 5.060, beating the record of Kevin Pilkiewicz, a 2001 grad with a 5.049 GPA.

This GPA is different than the traditional 4.0, which Gobis also earned. It's scored on a different scale based on the "weight" of certain courses. Some courses (such as honors courses and advanced placement) are calculated on a weighted 5.0 scale.

This big achievement has Gobis taking a moment to reflect before



JOHN HEIDER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER **Catholic Central senior Andrew Gobis** (left) receives the school's Dylan Award during its commencement exercises. The award is given to the student who maintained the highest cumulative GPA in his four years at CC.

he moves forward to college in the

"It was a goal I set out to do after reading about the record GPA," Gobis said. "I thought I might be able to beat it."

And he did, through a lot of hard work.

From late nights studying to

early starts headed to school and being involved in extracurricular activities and sports, Gobis was still able to put academics first and succeed by maintaining a strong work ethic.

He said much of his support and motivation to work hard came from his teachers.

"I thank all of my teachers, because without them I don't think I could have reached this goal," he

He specifically wanted to thank his two favorite teachers, Mr. Baker and Mr. Lemieux, who inspired his love for science.

"They made learning fun and interesting," he said. "I always looked forward to their classes."

In the fall, he's going to the University of Michigan, where he wants to continue learning about science and the different topics involved with medical research.

Ihuhman @hometownlife.com

Candle blamed for fire that displaced Canton family

By Darrell Clem Staff Writer

A burning candle that was left unattended is being blamed for a Canton apartment fire that destroyed a family's belongings and killed their cat and hamster.

Officials said the fire started the afternoon of June 8, while Kristy McDermid and her youngest child had walked from their Canton Gardens apartment to a nearby store. Her other four children were in school or away.

Deputy Fire Chief Chris Stoecklein said the fire was accidental and likely started from

a candle that "was burning all morning" on a table between two couches on the first floor of the two-story apartment.

McDermed's sister. Paula Smith, has said the family of six had to "start all over again" after their belongings were destroyed.

Smith has set up a Go Fund Me account to help the family. To help, go to www.gofundme.com/ wksd57g.

As of Friday morning, the account was showing \$1,485 had been raised toward a \$5,000 goal.

The fire happened at Canton Gardens, near Joy Road and I-275, on Canton's north side.





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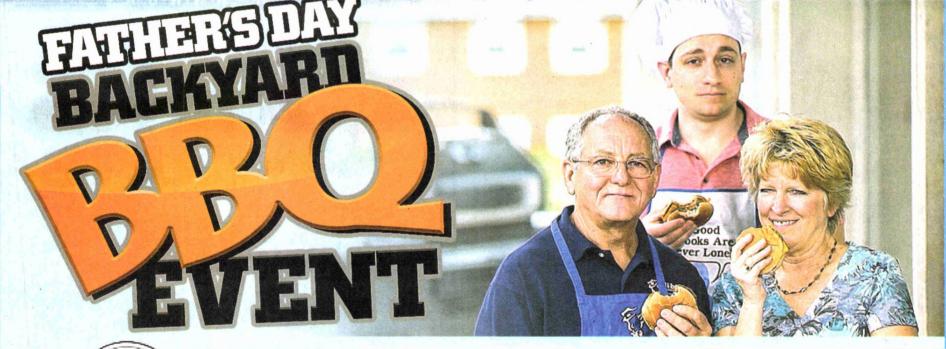
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Bond with Willow Run Bomber Plant at open house

The Yankee Air Museum is planning an open house the only way it knows how - enormously.

YAM has acquired the final assembly and rolloff portion of the historic World War II B-24 bomber plant in Ypsilanti Township and is inviting everyone from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 27, to see the massive struc-

"Restoration is underway and right now it's raw but it's beautiful," said Kevin Walsh, YAM executive director. "It's powerful, but it's humbling; it's exciting and challenging all rolled into one colossal space. Everyone needs to feel the reverence and awe this building inspires.

Walsh recalls his feelings when he first entered the huge building. He says the expanse of the bomber plant stirred his imagination and amazement to the ac-



The Yankee Air Force Museum is holding an open house June 27 at the former Willow Run Bomber Plant, home of the future National Museum of Aviation and Technology.

complishments of the Greatest Generation.

While the museum is just entering the next phase of fundraising to restore and furnish the building, Walsh said the experience of being inside the cavernous space while under construction helps people visualize the possibilities and then

become part of something fundamentally important to America.

He wants everyone to bond with the building and be part of shaping the next great destination in the region.

"This year is the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II and June 27 is the perfect opportunity for the public to visit, for the first time, the future home of the museum,' Walsh said. "All of the piping, duct work and scrap have been removed and the structure has been power washed inside and out. Construction on the new west and north walls is next.'

The historic Willow Run Bomber Plant was designed by the renowned Detroit architect Albert Kahn, who was the foremost industrial architect of his time.

'Saving the Bomber Plant has been a herculean effort undertaken with the same kind of urgency that was likely felt during the early years of World War II," said Ray Hunter, chairman of the board of the Yankee Air Museum. "We only had a year and a half to save this building from being lost forever. People contributed to this cause in so many different

ways. It's truly heartening to me to see the homage paid to parents and grandparents who sacrificed so much overseas and here on the home front.

Hunter added that there are many ways for people to get involved and everyone will learn more about the project June 27. People can expect to see some concepts of the stories that will be told in the exhibits and displays planned for the restored building when the Yankee Air Museum moves in to become the National Museum of Aviation and Technology

There will be a corps of women paying tribute to Rosie the Riveter by their work clothes and the explanations they offer on the work women performed more than 70 years ago at the historic site.

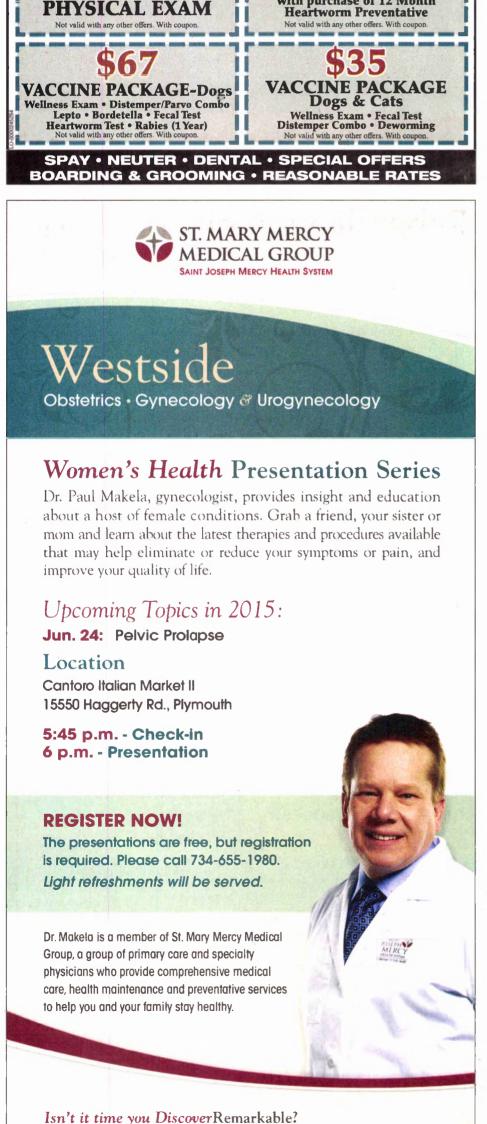
There will also be

literature available describing current fundraising activity and how the museum is shaping its mission to serve this community. Yankee Air Museum membership information will be available and the museum's volunteer coordinator will be signing up people who want to get more involved.

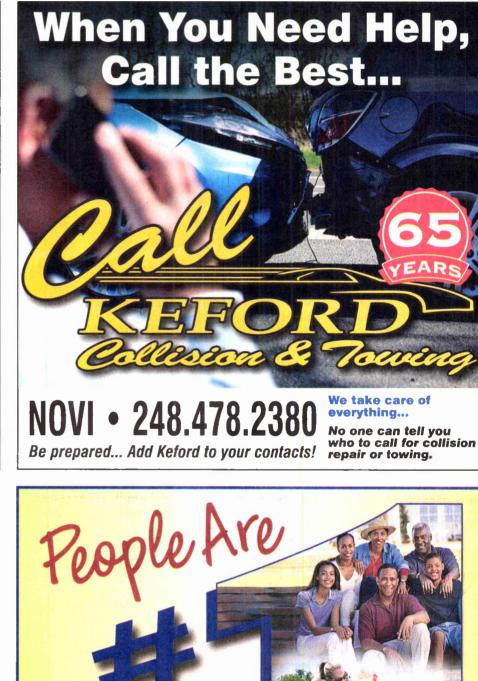
"There are many things people can do to help us save money on construction and reno-vation costs," Walsh said. "Imagine being part of something this big and this lasting; then join us on Saturday, June 27, and together we'll make history."

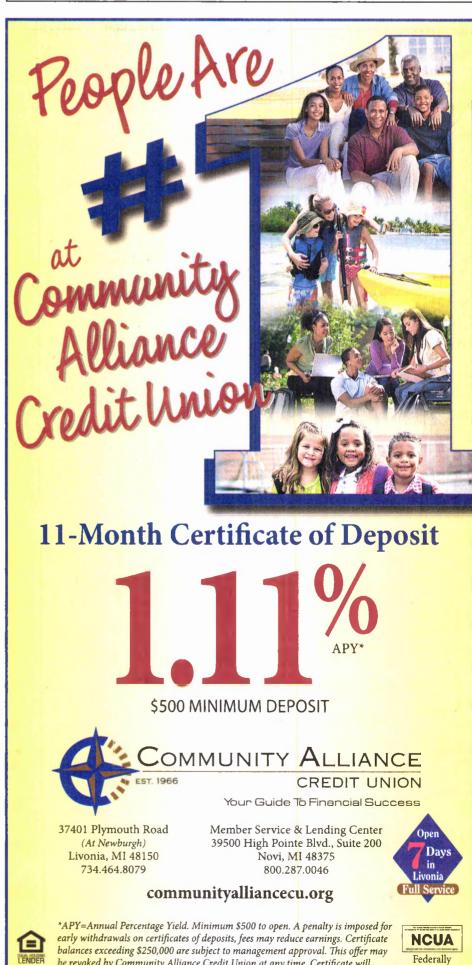
The Yankee Air Museum is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. For more information, go to www.vankeeairmuseum.org. For more information about the bomber plant, go to www.SaveTheBomberPlant.org.





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Friends help preserve Nankin Mills history

By Sue Mason Staff Writer

Say Nankin Mills and everyone knows that you're talking about the big white building at the juncture of Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive in Westland. The threestory structure dominates the landscape and serves as the headquarters of the Wayne County Parks System.

But there was a time that the grand dame of Hines Drive was in disrepair and about to be used for a practice burn.

That didn't happen, thanks to the late Westland residents Thomas Brown and Joseph Benyo, who sweet-talked a few friends into saving the building. The Friends of Nankin Mills is their legacy and the group now works tirelessly to support the preservation of the mill and the interpretive center housed in it.

"When I came on, Joe said don't listen to anybody, but the more I listened to him the more it was a gotcha," said Friends member Barb Polich of Westland. "Tom Brown said we need to find away to save the building; I thought it was signing up to help paint

"I pretty much got involved through Joe," added Jim Franklin, also of Westland. "I'd bring the kids here; they enjoyed it.

The Friends formed in 1988 and received a \$40,000 grant, thanks to Northville resident Nancy Darga, who, at the time, was chief of design for Wayne County Parks. But that wasn't near enough money for what

needed to be done.
"They were planning a parade for the Michigan sesquicentennial and it was going to come down Hines Drive and end here," said Friends president Denise Braun-Johnson of Livonia. "We talked about the condition of the building. The cedar shakes on the roof were falling off. It was in pretty bad shape and the county wasn't able to put money into the building."

Village Industry

The county had acquired the mill in 1948 from Clara Ford for \$1. It had been purchased by Henry Ford in 1918 and was one of his 20 Village Industries in Michigan and anchored one end of a string of seven mills that lined the Rouge River from Westland to Mil-

The Village Industry project aimed to preserve rural values and farming by providing workers with a stable source of income. It was in operation at Nankin Mills until 1948, when it was closed.

"It was a social experiment," naturalist Carol Clements said. "The men could farm and then come in and work in the slow season to make extra money. He was upset that the men were leaving the farms to go work in the factory in Highland Park.'

The mill has had many lives. Its history dates back to 1835, when construction began on a grist mill on the site. It wasn't completed until 1842 and it wasn't long after that it was destroyed by fire due to its use as part of the Underground Railroad, according to Clem-

"It's said that Marcus Swift used it as a safe house," Clements said. "The mill burned down around the same time his house burned down in 1843, because of his involvement in the antislavery movement.

The mill was operated by a water wheel and the mill race came from Nankin Lake at Farmington Road and Ann Arbor Trail. The water wheel was replaced by a more efficient turbine in 1887 When Ford acquired the mill, he installed a hydroelectric generator with the help of Thomas Edison. The generator produced more electricity than need to power the plant and the town of Pike's Peak was the bene-

"Henry Ford hooked up the houses across the street from the mill; it was like the first public utility," Clements said.

A new use

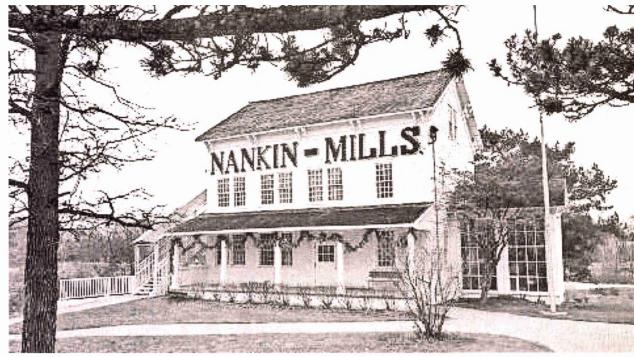
Nankin Mills was remodeled by Wayne County and reopened in 1958 as a nature center. Naturalist Mary Ellsworth oversaw the center that featured exhibits on history and live wild animals. It was in operation until 1980, when it was closed.

"It was sad," Clements said. "She had to get rid of everything, even the donated exhibits. Mary was a rehabilitationist. Some of the animals here couldn't be released into the wild."

The founding of the Friends of Nankin Mills, the group's partnership with Wayne County millage helped breathe new life in the mill, transforming it into a interpretive center that looks at the area's Native American history, the Underground Railroad and its use as a Village Industry.

The Friends have done numerous fundraisers like "An Evening with Henry Ford and Thomas Edison" to raise money and interpretive programs like Saturday's "First Families of Nankin Township." The group decorates the mill at Christmas and hosts the annual mill lighting in early December.

"The first time we decorated, we had to talk to the fire inspector,'



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER The Friends of Nankin Mills has helped preserve the historic landmark that was once slated to be torn down.



FILE PHOTO

Carol Clements (from left), a naturalist at Nankin Mills, Jim Franklin, Don Nicholson, Daryl Bailey and Eric Rasmussen were all smiles when they took delivery of the Model T that will eventually be in the Interpretive Center.

Polich said. "We wanted to know what to do. We didn't want to find out that we had burned the place down.

The Friends' wish list for the mill includes restoring a Model T for an interactive exhibit and researching and restoring the generator. The group has a check mark by the Model T. It purchased one in 2012 and is in the process of restoring it. The plan is to put the car in a blocked-off area on the second floor of the mill, where youngsters will be able to climb in, get behind the wheel and experience driving in its early form.

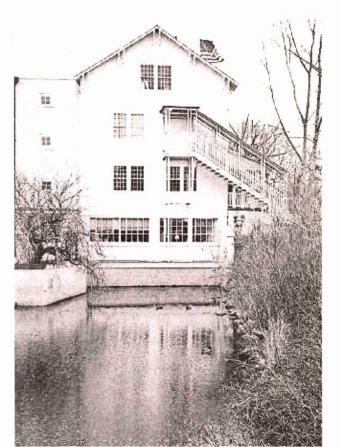
But the group's bigfriends. There are currently nine members and more are needed. People interested in joining can visit the Friends of Nan-

COMPLETE

kin Mills website, attend one of the events or send an email to Friends@nankinmills.org.

"Pretty much everything started in 1988, Johnson said. "Now we want to get known so people know what's going on at Nankin Mills.

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



BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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PLYMOUTH CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a proposal for Chromebook Cases

Specifications of the Request for Proposals (RFP) are available online at $http:/\!/links.pccsk12.com/techrfp\ .\ Technical\ questions\ should\ be\ directed\ to\ Elson\ Liu,$ Director of Integrated Technology Systems at techrfp@pccsk12.com. Sealed proposals are due to the PCCS E.J McClendon Educational Center located on 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI on or before 1 PM, Monday, June 29, 2015. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district

Board of Education PlymouthCanton Community Schools Kate Borninski, Secretary

Published: June 21, 2015

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Published: June 21, 2015

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2015-2016 BUDGET

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on June 23, 2015, at 7 o'clock p.m., at the E.J McClendon Educational Center, 454. S. Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan, the Board of Education of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools will hold a public hearing to consider the District's proposed 2015-

The Board may not adopt its proposed 2015-2016 budget until after a public hearing. A copy of the proposed 2015-2016 budget, including the proposed property tax millage rate, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

This notice is given by order of the Board of Education.

Katherine Borninski Secretary, Board of Education Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

heartlandnursing.com

16 charged as part of largest Medicare fraud takedown

A nationwide sweep led by the Medicare Fraud Strike Force in 17 districts has resulted in charges against 243 individuals, including 46 doctors, nurses and other licensed medical professionals, for their alleged participation in Medicare fraud schemes involving approximately \$712 million in false billings.

The charges were announced Thursday by U.S. Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch and Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell.

In the Detroit area, 16 individuals, including six doctors, a social worker, a pharmacist and two physical therapists, were charged with a variety of health care fraud and kickback schemes totaling more than \$122 million. The schemes involved services that were medically unnecessary or never rendered, including physician visits, hospice care, home health care and the billing but

not dispensing of pharmaceuticals.

In addition, law enforcement agents executed search warrants at eight locations and seizure warrants of 24 bank accounts related to the alleged schemes. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has moved to suspend 14 providers associated with the schemes.

Among the charges filed or unsealed:

Five individuals, two physicians and three owners of hospice and home health care companies, were charged in an indictment with conspiring to commit health care fraud for their roles in a \$58.3 million scheme to defraud Medicare by submitting fraudulent claims for home health care and hospice services that were medically unnecessary or not provided.

The companies, located in Livonia, are A Plus Hospice and Palliative Care, At Home Hospice and At Home Network

Inc., a home health care agency. The physicians who solicited and received kickbacks also submitted claims to Medicare for medically unnecessary physician services through their companies are Dr. Waseem Alam, Woodward Urgent Care, and Hatem Ataya. Those physicians prescribed beneficiaries medically unnecessary prescriptions, including controlled substances, for which Medicare also

Also charged were Shahid Tahir, 45, of Bloomfield, Muhammad Tariq, 60, of West Bloomfield and Manawar Javed, 40, of West Bloomfield.

Dr. Laran Lerner, 59, of Northville, a physician, and Mohamad Bazzi, 42, of Dearborn, a licensed pharmacist and pharmacy owner, were charged by complaint with an over \$24 million health care fraud scheme. Dr. Lerner provided medically unnecessary prescriptions for expensive pharmaceuticals for which

Bazzi's pharmacy, Advanced Pharmacy Services would bill Medicare, but not dispense. In addition, Dr. Lerner billed for unnecessary physician visits and referred beneficiaries for medically unnecessary home health care services through his clinic Greater Detroit Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation, located in Westland.

The defendants charged are Dr. William Binder, 58, Muhammad Zafar, 43, of Brownstown, Tariq Khan, 47, of Woodhaven and Ghulam Shakir, 43. Dr. Gerald Daneshvar,

39, of West Bloomfield was charged by indictment with his role in an over \$5 million conspiracy to commit health care fraud by referring nonhomebound patients for home health care services as well as billing for upcoded physician visits through Lake MI Mobile Doctors, PC ("Mobile Doctors"). The owner of Mobile Doctors and another physician employee

were indicted in the Northern District of Illinois in 2013 for their roles in the same scheme.

Dr. Rizwan Qadir, 52, of Bloomfield Hills was charged by complaint with conspiracy to commit health care fraud and to pay or received kickbacks in a \$19 million Medicare fraud scheme. Qadir paid patient recruiter Johnny Younan to bring him patients, for whom he would bill medically unnecessary tests and visits. Qadir also referred the beneficiaries for medically unnecessary home health care services.

Johnny Younan, 52, of Center Line was charged by complaint with conspiracy to pay or receive health care kickbacks to a physician, who would also prescribe Medicare beneficiaries controlled substances as an inducement to provide their Medicare information for

Celestine Brown, 50, of Ypsilanti a licensed social worker, was charged by

information with one count of health care fraud and one count of structuring in connection with her role in a \$3.8 million scheme to defraud Medicare through the submission of false claims for psychotherapy services that were never rendered. Brown submitted the false claims through her company CBC Services, located in Ypsilanti. Brown is also alleged to have then structured cash withdrawals from her bank accounts in amounts of less than \$10,000 to avoid reporting requirements.

Tamara Brown, 42, of Southfield was charged by complaint with her part in a \$1.3 million kickback conspiracy. The complaint alleges that Brown solicited and received kickbacks from two Detroit area home health care agencies, Cherish Home Health Services and Empirical Home Health Care, Inc., in return for providing patient referrals from a physician.

Vacation season: Take precautions before leaving town

chool is out, summer has arrived and many families will be taking a vacation. In today's high-tech world, it's important to take precautions before and

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during a trip.
In the old days, travelers were mostly concerned with pickpockets and other types of petty crimes. Unfortunately, that is no longer the case.

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Protecting sensitive information applies at home and when you travel. In fact, it applies even more when traveling, because thieves know that we all tend to put our guard down when we're on vacation.

Before leaving on a trip, it's a good idea to clean out your wallet. You don't have to take every charge card or other piece of information that you carry in your wallet while at home. Less is more. Obviously, you need some pieces of ID, such as a driver's license. My advice is limit yourself to two charge cards.

I also recommend that, before you go, you make a copy of your charge card, along with the emergency phone number for the credit card company. If something happens on your trip, you'll have the information to immediately contact your charge card company.

If you are taking a passport, make a copy of your passport, along with your driver's license. Don't keep the copies in your wallet. It is a good idea to leave a copy of these documents with someone at home. Notify your charge card company as to where and when you're going. This will also provide you a certain level of protection.

Before leaving for a vacation, do some research as to the current scams that are happening in the area that you are going. You'd be surprised how much aggravation vou could save yourself by doing a little homework. For example, those going to Europe this summer need to be aware of the friendship bracelet scam. In many cities, people come up to you and put a friendship bracelet on you. Of course, when you don't pay, all hell breaks loose.

Just like at home, be careful of Wi-Fi. The scam artists these days can very easily create a fake Wi-Fi hub and use that to gain access to your personal information and passwords. Don't make transactions containing sensitive business via any public Wi-Fi.

In the past, many vacationers used travelers checks. Today, that's not an issue be-

cause of ATMs, which are everywhere around the world. But beware which ATMs you use. Many scam artists set up bogus ATMs which, once again, are meant to obtain password and other sensitive information.

When I travel, I only use ATMs at financial institutions. Yes, I may pay a little extra in fees, but it's worth the protection. Vacations are meant to

relax and enjoy. However, that doesn't mean letting your guard down. Be careful. 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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The doctor examines the knee but finds no fluid or misalignment. Weight bearing knee x-rays reveal no abnormality. The doctor obtains an MRI but the images show no evidence for a meniscus tear, frayed ligament

There is a reason for the click, the patient is correct stating that something is wrong with the knee. The question is how far to pursue looking for an answer?

Ordering a CT scan or ultrasound will bring additional images, but not much more information about the knee. As is well known, the more information the doctor gathers the greater the chance of obtaining an abnormal result that either is a mistake or irrelevant to the patient's

Undertaking an exploratory laparoscopic examination of the knee is possible, but hardly reasonable as a surgical procedure carries many risks, and orthopedists, sensibly do not want to operate when they are uncertain if they will find a problem they can resolve.

Moreover, the fact that the click has not impaired the patient's activity or sleep means it is a viable option to wait and watch the patient through repeat examinations every 2-3 months. Either the problem will resolve itself or the click will worsen and in the process make its underlying nature known.

In medical practice, this policy of watchful waiting occurs often; it remains as useful an alternative today as it was hundred years ago.

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All connections to the water supply system or the sewer disposal system shall be made by and at the expense of the property owner or user so connecting, subject to any rules or regulations therefore now or hereafter established by the city, and subject to inspection and approval prior to use. A permit for such connection shall be obtained in advance from the city, and the property owner or user making such connection shall pay all inspection charges now or hereafter established by the city prior to the use thereof. Property owner is responsible for TAP compliance with ALL Federal, State or Local Rules, Regulations, or Laws. TAPS RESTRICTED

The term "tap" as used herein shall include any opening or outlet heretofore or hereafter made in the water system, for the purpose of withdrawing water therefrom for any use, public or private, either commercial or domestic, excepting fire hydrants. No taps shall be made to the system unless authorized by the proper city authorities.

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Mayor Daniel Dwyer Published: June 21, 2015

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If you have advanced macular degeneration that affects both eyes, here is some wonderful news: the FDA has approved a tiny implantable telescope that can improve your vision. The treatment has helped many people reconnect to the things in life they used to see and do like reading, watching TV, recognizing loved



A scene as it might be viewed by a person with age-related macular degeneration

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SECTION B (CP) SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2015 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA

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SPORTS

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HARD WORK PAYS OFF



ED WRIGHT

Redford Thurston graduate Desmond Martin is pictured running a drill during Wednesday's Detroit Lions minicamp at the team's Allen Park headquarters. Martin was signed as a free agent after a stellar college career at Wayne State.

THIS EAGLE HAS LANDED

ED WRIGHT Desmond Martin lines up in the backfield with **Detroit Lions** quarterback Matthew Stafford during Wednesday's minicamp session at the team's Allen Park headquarters.



Ex-Thurston gridiron star Martin on mission to make Lions' roster

By Ed Wright Staff Writer

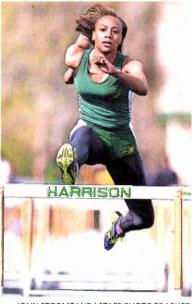
Here's where years and vears of hard work landed former Redford Thurston football standout Desmond Martin on Wednesday afternoon: directly to the left of Detroit Lions quarterback Matthew Stafford and just a few yards away from wide receiver Calvin Johnson during a seven-on-seven passing drill.

"I realize it's every young

football player's dream to get to this point," Martin said, smiling and wearing a Honolulu blue No. 40 jersey, moments after the middle practice session of the Lions? three-day mandatory minicamp ended. "But I also realize I'm not where I want to be yet."

The former Eagle and Wayne State University record-breaking running back ultimately wants to be on the

See MARTIN, Page B2



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Division 1 state champion Maya Roberts will continue her track career in East Lansing, running for the MSU Spartans.

WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

Big Ten will be Roberts' next hurdle

Harrison state champ Maya Roberts prepares for next challenge with Spartans

> By Dan O'Meara Staff Writer

Maya Roberts of Farmington Hills is hoping the same drive and determination that made her a state champion will take her to the top of the Big Ten Conference, too.

The recent Harrison High School graduate, who captured the Division 1 crown in the 100meter hurdles at the end of May, is headed to East Lansing and will join the Michigan State University team.

Roberts picked a winner, as the Spartans are the reigning Big Ten champions in women's track and field.

"There were a lot of other factors," Roberts said, adding she plans to study business and MSU has an excellent business school. "At first I wanted to go to the West Coast because of the weather. But I couldn't see myself going there.

"When I went to Michigan State, I thought, 'This is my school.' I liked the environment and it's a good school."

Roberts will continue to run the 100 hurdles, but she already

See ROBERTS, Page B2

PLYMOUTH GETS NEW COACH

All fired up to lead 'Cats

Ballard talks up challenges taking over girls hoop squad

> By Tim Smith Staff Writer

The first game plan Ryan Ballard drew up after being named Plymouth's varsity girls basketball coach was meet with every player for a 30-minute "get to know you" conversation.

"I was blown away by the high-character kids that the program has," the 31-year-old Ballard said during an interview Wednesday. "I'm talking 4.0 GPAs, they're all part of different organizations, they

get 30s on their ACTs, that's the

"Winning's not the most important thing when you're running a program, it's what you develop those kids into. I'm really excited to see what these kids grow into once they leave Plymouth High School. They're going to be doing great things for our society.'

Excuse the Plymouth resident for jumping ahead a few years, but he also is excited about what those players could accomplish on the basketball court.

Ballard, coach of now-closed Central Middle School's enormously successful girls basketball program in 2014-15 (the 'A'

See BALLARD, Page B4

MEET RYAN BALLARD

Who: Ryan Ballard, 31, Plymouth resident.

What: He recently was named head coach of Plymouth's varsity girls basketball team. Over the past three seasons, he was an assistant coach on the Wildcats' varsity boys basketball squad. Central: Ballard coached girls basketball the past two years at Central Middle School (which has now closed). His 'A' and 'B' teams, including eighth- and seventhgraders, won 24 straight games in

2014-15. Misc: A former basketball and football player at Flushing High School, Ballard is moving over from Central to Liberty Middle School, where he will teach sixthgrade language arts.



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Ryan Ballard intends to bring the same coaching style he had success with at Central Middle School over to Plymouth High School.

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Blue Jays soar to title



Livonia resident Andrew Kent threw a no-hitter in the championship game, an 8-0 victory over the Wildcats, to help lead the Michigan Blue Jays to the title at the 11U AA Memorial Day Classic USSSA Tournament hosted by Victory Park in Canton. Team members are (bottom row, from left) Matthew Williams, Drew Backus, Luke Brodde, Joshua Golab and Issac Smith, (middle row, from left) Connor Apligian, Alex Cardenas, Kent, Donovan Bergdoll and Mason McGuire and (top row, from left) coaches Mockeridge, Backus, Apligian and Brodde.

MARTIN

Continued from Page B1

Lions' 53-man roster, which won't be decided until the team's preseason schedule is completed in early September but he's well on his way.

After piling up 2,791 rushing yards (fourth all-time in school history) during a brilliant fouryear career with the Warriors, Martin acquired an agent, who hooked him up with a trainer, who worked the speedy 6-foot-1, 225pound running back into the kind of shape that convinced the Lions to sign him to a free-agent contract in April.

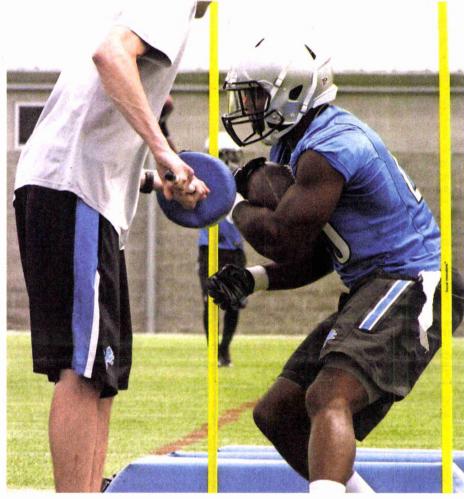
It hasn't taken Martin long to decipher the biggest difference between the college level and the NFL level.

"Oh, it's definitely the learning curve that is " Martin said involved "Everything is pretty short and limited in college, especially at the Division II level, so that everybody can understand it. At this level, the offenses are so advanced that you have to know this and you have to know

"Just one word in the play call can change a running back's assignment. There are about 30 different plays for every install. So you have to know the playbook and then go and regurgitate what you know when you go back out on the field."

Every move a Lions player makes - especially first-year free agents like Martin – are videotaped during every second of every session of practice, so missteps must be minimized to give yourself a fighting chance to make the roster, he noted.

"That's what this level is all about - evaluation



Desmond Martin displays his cutting ability during a drill Wednesday afternoon at the Detroit Lions mandatory minicamp.

and performance; they go hand-in-hand," Martin said. "Their evaluations of you can be good, but if you don't go out and per-

form, well ..."

The turning point for Martin arrived during a mid-April indoor workout for the Lions at the team's Allen Park headquarters.

"It was on a tryout basis, so the pressure was on," he said. "But I like being in a position where I have to prove myself.

"Now, it's like when I was a freshman at Wayne State – I'm at the bottom of the totem pole, having to prove to the coaches

that I can perform." Martin doesn't have to look far to find a perfect mentor during his summer workouts with the Lions. Former WSU running back Joique Bell went through a lot of what Martin is enduring these days before ultimately earning No. 1 running back status during the team's playoff run

last season. The undrafted Bell was cut by two teams before catching on with Detroit, with whom he's thrived.

"I talked to Joique in January and he kind of explained the whole NFL process to me," Martin said. "The number one thing he told me was no

matter what happens, don't get discouraged. Things are going to happen, but if you keep working, eventually it will work out for you.

"That's means a lot coming from him, because he's been through it all, getting cut, bouncing back, becoming a start-

Like many current professional players, Martin's path to the NFL has been filled with hardships and obstacles, but those have only made

him stronger, he said. 'I wanted to play Division I football coming out of high school, but I had a few grade issues," he said. "I saw Joique was leaving Wayne State to go to the pros, so I liked that opportunity because there was an opening and I thought I'd have a chance to play right

away. "But I ended up redshirting my first year there, which turned out to be a blessing because that's when I started transforming my body and getting it to where it is today."

Amazingly, Martin played running back for only one season at Thurston, where he rushed for 1,500 yards as a senior.

Among the honors he earned at WSU were the Serxho Guralec Ultimate Warrior Award, which goes to the program's top performers in the weight room, and an academic award that is presented to athletes with gradepoint averages between 3.0 and 3.5.

ewright@hometownlife.com

ROBERTS

Continued from Page B1

has begun transitioning to the 200 dash from the

At the Midwest Meet of Champions on June 13 in Ohio, Roberts won the hurdles in 14.3 seconds and was second in the 200 with a time of 25.1. She was slated to run the same events Saturday at the New Balance Outdoor Nationals in North Caroli-

"I think I'm a little better at the 200 than the 100, because I have more time between events," Roberts said. "I'm going to do that (combination) in college. I wanted to do (the 200) at the state meet, but that would have been too many events that day."

A new challenge?

With her ability in the hurdles and dashes, Roberts seems a potential candidate for the heptathlon, but that would mean greatly expanding her repertoire of events.

"No, they have the mile in there," she said. "Right now, I just want to work on my sprints. Maybe I'll do that later

"I'd have to learn more about the field events and I haven't done any of those. It might be a little late to try, but we'll see.'

Roberts' athletic background includes eight years of gymnastics, which she gave up in middle school, and one year of figure skating as a freshman at Mercy High School.

"When I got into track, I realized, 'Oh, I'm good at this,' so I started to do track instead," she said.

Long-term objective

Roberts set her sights on being a state champion in the 100 hurdles and her victory May 30 at Rockford High School was the culmination of three years of dedication to that goal.

She was a state qualifier as a sophomore and finished third as a junior, though she went into the meet with the fastest time. That served as motivation for the past year.

"I did summer track and took a couple months off; then I did winter track," Roberts said. "At the start of the high school season, I had been preparing almost the whole year for it. During the high school season, I practiced six days a week, so I was prepared."

After a prolonged and focused effort, Roberts wasn't nervous when she finally lined up to run her last race in a Harrison uniform.

It helped knowing she had beaten many of her fellow competitors.

"Usually, I'm nervous at big meets, a little," she said. "At this one, I was really calm. I knew the girls I was running against. I had run against them lots of times, so I was familiar with the people who were tops in the state. I think that made me a little more calm.'

Really fast time

The one thing Roberts could not have prepared for was the weather. It was raining and chilly. She was hoping for 80 degrees and sunshine like the day of the Algonac Relays.

That day, Roberts ran the hurdles in 13.55 seconds, which would have been a state record if it had happened in a regional or state meet. She also ran 11.6 in the

At the state meet, Roberts won the hurdles in 13.95, which is still the third-fastest time ever recorded in a state meet. The record is 13.66, set by Ann Arbor Pioneer's Candice Davis in 2003

"I did my best," she said. "It was good, but I was hoping for better. I actually wanted the state record. It was too cold and rainy to do that. I don't think anybody (performed that

One more race to run

Roberts didn't have long to celebrate her hurdles victory. That had to wait, since she also was in the final heat of the next event the 100 dash.

'I had to go and get my head right, because I had another race five minutes later," she said.
"It kind of helped me in the 100. I was happy and had a feeling of winning and I wanted to bring it to my 100.

"After I did the hurdles, I made sure I stayed down there (at the finish line) to stretch and get my breathing together, so I wasn't out of breath by the time I got back. I did my best to recover, so I wasn't tired when I got in the blocks again."

Roberts was all-state in the 100, too. She finished fifth with a time of 12.47. She would have liked to run the 200. That event was near the end of the meet, but she couldn't stay

"I had to drive home and get ready for the school prom," she said.

Roberts' goals for her first year at MSU are to make the Big Ten final and run a time of 13.3 in the 100 hurdles. A conference championship and a qualifying berth in the NCAA national outdoor meet would be a bonus.

domeara@hometownlife.com



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

One of Maya Roberts' practice drills involves "snapping" the trail leg down to clear the hurdle as quickly as possible.



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FIRST-TEAM DOUBLES Mackenzie Zierau, sr., Mercy Bridgette Conniff, jr., Mercy Maura Ehrlich, sr., N. Farmington

Eva Pitts-Rakowska, sr., N. Farming Arryn Dochenetz, sr., Stevenson

SECOND-TEAM SINGLES Myra Visser, sr., N. Farmington Bianca Ghita, soph., Salem

Amber Tseng, jr., Plymouth
Krissy Jackson, fr., Mercy
Hannah Pierce, jr., Farmington
Madison Markwardt, jr., Ladywood
Sarah Gamble, sr., Plymouth

SECOND-TEAM DOUBLES

Sara Hinrichs, jr., Mercy Abby Bush, fr., Mercy Teahn Horton, sr., Plymouth

Alexa Earls, sr., Plymouth

Madison Selinsky, soph.

N. Farmington Kaelyn Poirier, soph., N. Farmington Natalia Peurach, sr., Farmington

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Churchill: Triveni Arvikar, Madison

White, Kayla Gruich;
Franklin: Chelsea Williams,
Yasmeen Freeman, Carla Yanez;
Plymouth: Sweetha Duraiswamy,
Kara Hug, Emma Mullenax, Justine Ko;
Salem: Madison Kulik, Kylie Enright,
Ashley Henderson, Grace Martin;
Canton: Lasmine Naim-Henny, Liliy.

Canton: Jasmine Najm-Henry, Lily

amantha Miller; N. Farmington: Shannon Kenny, ouise Clarke, Pooja Kapadia; Mercy: Carly Demkowicz, Kaela srown, Emmie McCann, Chanel Taylor,

Nicole Meek, Megan Haase; John Glenn: Malaysia Martin; Wayne: Janae Strickland, Kendelle

Garden City: Jessica Liske, Courtney Cameron, Kaylee Tucker,

Redford Union: Abigail Walters.

Farmington: Isha Nadgauda,

Natalie Hay, Maddie Chimento, Jill

ALL-AREA GIRLS TENNIS

'Game, set, match' favors stellar players

SINGLES PLAYERS Arti Vaishnav, N. Farmington: Vaishnav played No. 1 singles for the Raiders



and earned a place on the all-area first team for the third consecutive year.

Arti Vaishnav North Farm.

The iunior standout was a Divi-

sion 2 regional champion. She was a quarterfinalist at the state meet and received an all-state honorable men-

"Arti never has an easy match at the flight she plays, with the schedule she has," coach Whitney Wasielewski said. "Yet she still managed to finish the season with 12 wins.

"Arti is a competitive and athletic player whom I can count on as a solid young lady to lead our team again next season.

Kathryn Dunleavy, Mercy: Dunleavy had another fine season for the Marlins at No. 1 singles and



Kathryn Dunleavy Mercv

League and Division 1 regional tournaments. She

is a repeat

member of

the all-area

first team.

a finalist in

the Catholic

She was

compiled a 15-10 record and advanced to the second round of the state meet, losing to the top seed and eventual finalist, Ava Thielman of Utica Eisenhower.

Dunleavy is ranked 22nd among 58 players listed in the Southeast Michigan Tennis Association's Girls 18 Division

"Kathryn has a great all-court game," coach Joe Stafford said. "She was our most committed player on and off the court.

She takes the ball early and looks to put a big hit on the ball each and every time. She has great strokes and looks to pressure her

opponent.

"She was a captain as a junior and set the tone for us. She was our best player all year. She went out there and played everybody tough. We're really proud of her and we look forward to her senior year.'

Chelsea Yu, Salem: All season long, the junior was a force at



for the Rocks, winnina 85 percent of her match-

No. 1 singles

Chelsea Yu Salem

Yu, who will be a co-captain in 2016, was the top seed in the KLAA Conference 'B'

Another highlight included winning the No. 1 singles flight at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Invitational.

tournament and won her

"She was also seeded No. 4 in the regional conference tournament, but lost in the semifinals to the No. 1 seed from (Ann Arbor) Huron)," coach Ty Moss said.

Kendall Payne, Franklin: The junior chalked up a fantastic 16-5 record playing

gles.

with a

range,

Armed

served that

has been

clocked in

the 90 mph

Payne bare-



Kendall Payne Franklin

ly missed qualifying for the Division 1 state meet as an individual. She is an extraordinary student, as well, as her 3.5 grade-point average testi-

"Kendall had a fantastic season," coach Rick Clack said. "She has an all-around tennis game with no weak spots for an opponent to key on. Her serve is one of her major weapons and she can locate it anywhere in the box.

'The good news for Franklin is that she has another year to make her game even stronger and that is exciting for us.'

Kaitlyn Rogosch, Churchill: Only a freshman, Rogosch enjoyed a success-



Kaitlyn Rogosch Churchill

În addition to winning her flight at the Division 1 regional, Rogosch

filled season

as the Char-

gers' No. 1

sinales

player.

registered victories against tough foes from Brighton (Maddie Miller), Farmington Hills Mercy (Kathryn Dunleavy), Novi (Erin Day) and Stevenson (Sam Cyrus), all of whom were fellow state qualifiers. She finished her first year of high school tennis with a 20-4 record.

"Kaitlyn is only going to continue to get stronger and has only just begun to start reaching her potential as a tennis player," coach Denise Berg-Grant said. "She is a combination of natural talent, athleticism and intelligence. I am excited to coach her and to be around to see just how good of player she will become.

Sheryl Carter, Harrison: Carter is a repeat mem-



Sheryl Carter Harrison

6-3 record. Carter was a Division 2 regional semifinalist. She didn't have the opportunity to compete for an OAA championship since the White Division tournament

ber of the

team. The

junior co-

captain

all-area first

played No. 1

singles and

compiled a

was rained out. 'It was a pleasure to coach her," coach Joe Ludwig said. "She really managed the girls well (as cocaptain) and was responsible in her position. She took the role very seriously. I look forward to having her on the team again next year.

"Sheryl has a really good

serve and she managed her points well. A strong forehand allows her to stay in an offensive-minded position. She usually moves her opponent around to find that opening to win the point."

DOUBLES TEAMS Mackenzie Zierau and **Bridgette Conniff, Mercy:** Zierau (senior) and Conniff (junior) combined talents to

become a

doubles

year.

team this

While

posting an

11-6 record

against

quality

competi-

tion, they

were Divi-

sion 1 re-

champions

and Catholic

gional

League finalists. In

the state

ment, they

lost a three-

set match to

Ann Arbor

tourna-

formidable



Mackenzie Zierau Mercy



Bridgette Conniff Mercv

Pioneer in the first round. Zierau was a state champion at No. 2 doubles in 2013, while Conniff was a state quarterfinalist the past two years at No. 3 singles.

"Mackenzie and Bridgette were the second- and third-best players on the team," Stafford said. "I decided to pair them up this year to give us a top-tier No. 1 doubles team.

They gave us a force at the top of our doubles lineup and they gave us two of the best ball strikers in girls doubles. They had a lot of great wins against top

"They gave us the strength at the top of our doubles lineup, pushed other girls into good spots and created a strong lineup

"I thought we had one of the best doubles lineups in the state. That's where you make the big run at

state, through the doubles." Maura Ehrlich and Eva

Pitts-Rakowska, N. Farmington: The all-senior No.

state meet.

and Pitts-

Rakowska

won the

Allegan

a 12-10

tournament

and posted

record. They

were named

to the all-

state first

coaches

team by the

association.

Ehrlich

team was a regional finalist and quarterfinalist at the Division 2

Maura Ehrlich N. Farm.



Pitts-Rakowska N. Farm.

"Maura and Eva had a very good season and finished with a very respectable record," Wasielewski said. "We have a very tough schedule, so a winning record is impressive. 'Maura and Eva were

the sixth-seeded team at the state tournament, where they earned two points before losing in the quarterfinals to the third-seeded team from Forest Hills Northern.

"Both girls were fouryear varsity players and will be truly missed in our program next year.

Arryn Dochenetz and Sam DiGiovanni, Stevenson: The



Livonia City

Tourna-

Plymouth

Invitational

Invitational.

netz and

Doche-

Arryn Dochenetz Stevenson



Sam DiGiovanni Stevenson

DiGiovanni helped Stevenproved tough to son advance to the Division beat this 1 state meet by reaching the spring, semifinal round at the reracking up a gional tournament. They 20-3 record capped an outstanding that inseason by winning their cluded opening match at the state first-place meet in Midland. flight fin-"Sam and Arryn really ishes in the

enjoyed playing together as their skills matched up beautifully," coach Don McCathney said. "They both enjoyed their last season of playing and it was very much evident in the way they played. They had a lot of fun on the court as they competed in every match.

SUMMER CAMPS

The Observer & Eccentric has partnered with Detroit Lions Youth Football Camp again for a chance to win a scholarship to an upcoming

football camp. The promotion is open to girls and boys ages 6-14. Youths can submit an essay of 50 words or less telling why they want to attend the camp.

Parents are asked to submit the letter, along with a photo of the youth, vouth's name, age, community of residence and phone number, to cbjordan@michigan.com with the subject line "Football Camp Contest."

All letters must be received by Monday. June 22, to qualify. The winners will be announced in a future edition of Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

Winners will have the chance to select from one of the following camp locations: Canton: June 29 through July 2, 8:30 a.m. to noon; Brighton: July 11-12, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; White Lake: July 20-23, 8:30 a.m. to noon.

Madonna volleyball

Madonna University will host a series of volleyball camps in the next three weeks.

The first is an advanced (elite) and gener-

Lions youth football al all-skills camp June i nai wiii de ioi lowed by a setters and hitters session 1 camp June 29-July 2 and a hitters session 2 and defensive camp July 6-9.

For camp information and registration, contact Madonna head coach and camp director Jerry Abraham at 734-432-5612 (office), 734-748-3128 (evening) or jabraham@madonna.edu.

To view or print a camp brochure, go online to madonnacrusaders.com.

Churchill football

The Livonia Churchill summer football camp for kids entering grades 3-8 will be held from 7-9:20 p.m. July 22-23 at the school's football stadium.

The fee is \$35 if registered before July 1 and \$50 after that date. All participants will receive a T-shirt.

All participants must bring cleats, running shoes and have a signed liability form.

For more information and a registration form, visit churchill.livoniapublicschools.org.

will be held from 9 a.m.

to noon June 22-25. The

Churchill boys

hoops The Livonia Churchill boys basketball camp

camp is for boys entering ninth-graders through 9 and the cost is \$50, which includes a T-shirt. For more information, call 734-744-2650, ext. 46194, or visit churchill.livoniapublicschools.org.

Churchill hockey

The Livonia Churchill hockey camp will be held 8-9:20 p.m. Aug. 3-7 and Aug. 10-14 at Eddie Edgar Arena. The cost is \$175.

For more information. contact head coach Jason Reynolds at JavRev48152@ gmail.com.

Churchill soccer

The Livonia Churchill soccer camp for boys and girls will be 9-11 a.m. June 22-26 at the school's turf athletic field. The camp is designed for kids ages 10-16.

The cost is \$49. Participants must be equipped with cleats or flats, shin guards and a soccer ball.

For more information, email mgrodzic@livoniapublicschools.org or rfriedri@livoniapublicschools.org.

Titans lacrosse

The University of Detroit Mercy men's lacrosse team will host the Titan Elite Camp June 29 through July 1 at Titan Field.

The camp is open to boys ages 14-18 (rising

graduating semors) are serious about taking their game to the next level and are looking for a highly competitive environment to improve their game.

The camp will take place on UDM campus and will be directed by the Detroit coaching staff, as well as other college coaches and play-

For players who are interested in playing at the college level, there is no better opportunity to vastly improve your game and receive exposure to the different aspects of NCAA Division I lacrosse.

The camp includes six-on-six field instructional sessions and practices, three film sessions, strength and conditioning introduction, classroom session on performance psychology, recruiting process Q&A and wall-ball seminar.

The cost is \$425 for those staying overnight on campus and \$350 for those attending the day camp.

Contact Detroit assistant coach Jeff Turner at lacrosseindetroit@gmail.com or jturnerj92@gmail.com.

Harrison volleyball

Harrison High School will host a girls volleyball camp July 21-23 in chool gyn

The cost is \$55 at the door. There is a family discount of \$50 per child for families with two or more attending the camp. A camp T-shirt is included.

The first session is 12:15-2:15 p.m. each day for girls who will be in grades 4-6. The second session will follow at 2:30-4:45 p.m. for girls in grades 7-9.

There will be an extra session 5-6 p.m. for additional instruction in hitting or setting. The fee is \$20 at the door. A completed and

signed concussion form is required. Go to www.farmington.k12.mi.us to find and print the form. Click on "Athletics" on the left and scroll down to "Con-

cussion Info. For more information, contact coaches Mike Love at 313-758-1185 or Sue Kendall at 248-505-

Stevenson hockey

The Livonia Stevenson Summer Hockey Camp will be held July 6-21 at the Eddie Edgar Ice Arena. The camp will include on-ice and off-ice sessions. The camp will be run by head coach David Mitchell, his staff and former Stevenson players. Camp will cover skill development, position development and scrim mages.

For more information and a summer camp packet, contact Mitchell dmitchel@livoniapublic

schools.org.

'Future Stars' baseball The Livonia Franklin High School "Future Stars" summer baseball camp will be held from 9 a.m. to noon June 22-25 on the Franklin varsity baseball field (or in the field house, in case of

poor weather). The camp is designed for baseball players (both boys and girls) who are currently exiting second through eighth

grades. The camp, which will be orchestrated by the Patriots coaching staff, will consist of four days of sport-specific skill-

building. The \$60 registration fee includes a camp Tshirt. The registration deadline is Friday, June

To register, visit franklinpatriotsbaseball.com. For more information, contact Matt Fournier at mfournie2@livonia.k12.mi.us or 734-968-0499.

PLYMOUTH FAMILY YMCA SUMMERS CAMPS

Summer is upon us and so are a number of camps and clinics offered by the Plymouth YMCA, for youngsters of all ages.

Following is a breakdown of what's on tap:

» YMCA Co-Ed Baseball leagues are forming for ages 3-11. YMCA baseball is a great opportunity for children to learn the fundamental skills of baseball in a safe and fun environment. Practices will be held one night during the week, with games each Saturday at Farrand Elementary. Summer session begins the week of July 6. Y rate is \$85 or \$117 for community partici-

» YMCA Co-ed Basketball Camp registration is open for ages 6-12. The Plymouth YMCA is hosting two sessions of basketball camp the week of July 20. Camp runs from 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday at Risen Christ Lutheran Church. All players receive a free T-shirt, along with

learning and improving upon

basketball skills using drills, scrimmages and games. Each session is \$75. » YMCA Girls Volleyball

Camp registration is open for ages 8-12. The YMCA is hosting two sessions of volleyball camp, the weeks of July 13 and 27. Camp runs from 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday at Risen Christ Lutheran Church. All players receive a free T-shirt, along with learning and improving upon volleyball skills using drills and games. Each session is \$75.

» YMCA Sports Sampler registration is open for ages 3-5. Sports sampler is a great introduction to the various sports and breaks down the basics of every sport every offered through the Plymouth YMCA. Sport Sampler session runs from 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday at Risen Christ Lutheran Church the

» YMCA Indoor Soccer Camp registration is open for ages 6-12. The Plymouth

week of Aug. 3. Each session

YMCA is hosting one week of camp this summer, the week of Aug. 10. Camp runs from 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday at Risen Christ Lutheran Church. All players receive a free T-shirt, along with learning and improving upon soccer skills using drills and games. Each session is \$75. For more information, con-

tact the YMCA at 734-453-2904 or go to www.ymcadetroit. org/plymouth.

BALLARD

Continued from Page B1

and 'B' teams combined to win 24 straight games), takes the Plymouth reins from Nick Brandon (who took an administrative position in Plymouth-Canton Community Schools).

Bright future

The Wildcats had their best season in history in 2014-15, but Ballard doesn't see any reason why the program can't continue to shine under his watch.

'My biggest compliment to Nick Brandon is he's a mastermind of team culture," Ballard said. "I've watched him from afar and really admired the job he did with the program.

"Obviously, walking in it's an easier transition than most places because Nick did such a great job."

Ballard conceded, however, that the 2015-16 season will be an interesting one because anytime there's a coaching change, a period of transition ensues.

"I don't think it's going to be seamless; with any transition there's challenges ahead," Ballard said. "Different style of play ... I don't exactly coach the same way as coach Brandon or say things (the same

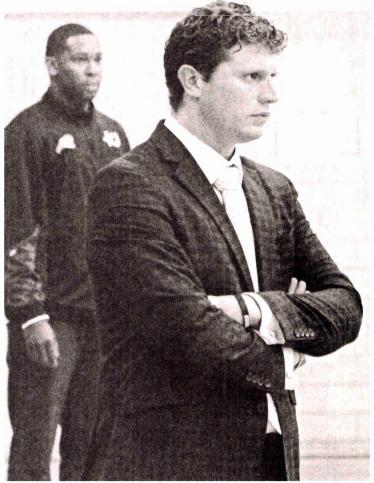
"It's all new terminology for the kids. But that's what summer's for. We're going to get better, we're going to practice. It's a process.

The Plymouth varsity is getting in some summer league games and will travel to Boyne City for a weekend tournament.

Joining him on the staff will be former Livonia Franklin and Grand Valley State University standout Brittany Taylor. Another assistant is Evan Paputa, while Ballard is still handpicking who will coach the junior varsity and freshman teams.

No stranger

Change is coming, yet Ballard is a familiar face around the Plymouth gym. For the past three years, in addition to his Central duties, he was coach Mike Soukup's righthand man with the Wildcats' varsity boys basketball team.



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Intensity, accountability and hard work are just a few of the things basketball coach Ryan Ballard brings to the sideline.

"Leaving the Plymouth boys program was very difficult, because I love those kids so much," said Ballard, who like Soukup doesn't need coffee or energy drinks to bubble over with enthusiasm. "I love those seniors coming back, Brent Davis, Armani Tate, Frank Brown, Pete Carravallah. It was hard for me to walk away from them.

Ballard said he picked up some tendencies from Soukup, including being a "gym rat" who spent endless hours breaking down film in "the lab" and working as hard as possible to bring about improvement to the team

"I know people always talk about (how) coaching boys and coaching girls is way different," Ballard said. "To me, you have to be who you are. I can't change who I am as a coach. I

think coaching's coaching."

And Ballard's Ballard - a basketball guy who is "passionate, enthusiastic. I will attack this job and try to make the kids better every day. That's all you can ask for."

Yes, there might be some growing pains in making the jump from middle school to high school varsity. Ballard intends to learn from any mistakes and he expects his players to buy in to that mindset.

"The girls always say I'm relentless about being relentless, that's how we're going to play," he said. "That's something I'm big on. If you're going to be in the gym practicing, you got to bring it every day. We want great effort and great attitude.

tsmith@hometownlife.com Twitter: @TimSmith Sports

MICHIGAN AMATEUR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Plum Hollow ready for state's top amateurs

By Marty Budner

Staff Writer

John Jawor is eager to show off his precious jewel.

Jawor, head pro at historic Plum Hollow Country Club, can't wait for the 104th Michigan Amateur Golf Championship to tee off Monday. He believes players will find his course challenging and the public will find it appealing.

"This is a great golf course," said Jawor. who started as assistant pro in 1986 and became head pro in 2005. "It's hidden in the heart of the city and it's just a beautiful traditional course that not many people have played. It's like an undiscovered treasure.

"We have such rolling terrain that you wouldn't anticipate in a city like this," he added. "The greens are fantastic. It's a very straightforward golf course that competitors tend to like. They will enjoy playing the golf course and it's fun to play every day."

Plum Hollow has hosted many prestigious tournaments since its founding in 1921

The PGA Championship, for instance, was held at the Southfield course in 1947. It was the site of the 1943 Ryder Cup matches and played host to three Michigan PGA Championships (1929, 1937, 1939), as well as the 1957 Western Open.

The Colt and Alison-designed layout over the picturesque terrain was the site of the 2004 GAM Championship, plus many more GAM and USGA events.

However, this is the first Michigan Amateur to be played at Plum Hollow.

"It is exciting. It's the biggest amateur tournament we've held to date," Jawor said. "It's a great course for skilled competitors or members alike.'

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The 6,775-yard, par-70 traditional layout is in pristine shape.

Contestants should be wary of high rough, dangerous runoffs and fast greens on the plush private course which includes five par-3 holes. Two of the par-5 holes (Nos. 1 and 18) that club members play will be scaled down to par-4

> for the Amateur. Jawor cautions that while it's not extremely long, participants must be very careful with

> shot selection.
> "Even though it's shorter than some of the modern-day

courses, it will hold its

own as far as scoring," Jawor said. "Length always helps, but you have to hit it straight because the rough is so healthy that if you get it just a little ways off the fairways, it's tough to control the distance with your irons be-

cause the grass is so long. 'So if you're hitting real short irons in, it doesn't affect it as much as if you're hitting something longer. You just can't control the flight of the ball," he added.

Jawor eagerly awaits what figures to be a big week at Plum Hollow, a club with some 200 active members.

"I'm just anxious to see if people think as much of this place as I do and the members do," Jawor said. "Because whenever we have qualifiers or other tournaments, the players rave about the course. It will be fun to see how well they play.'

The field of 162 golfers begins 36 holes of stroke play Monday morning. The low 64 individuals advance to match play, which begins Wednesday morning and continues Thurs-

The semifinal and final rounds of match play are scheduled for Friday morning and afternoon, respectively. The public is invited to watch the action free of charge.

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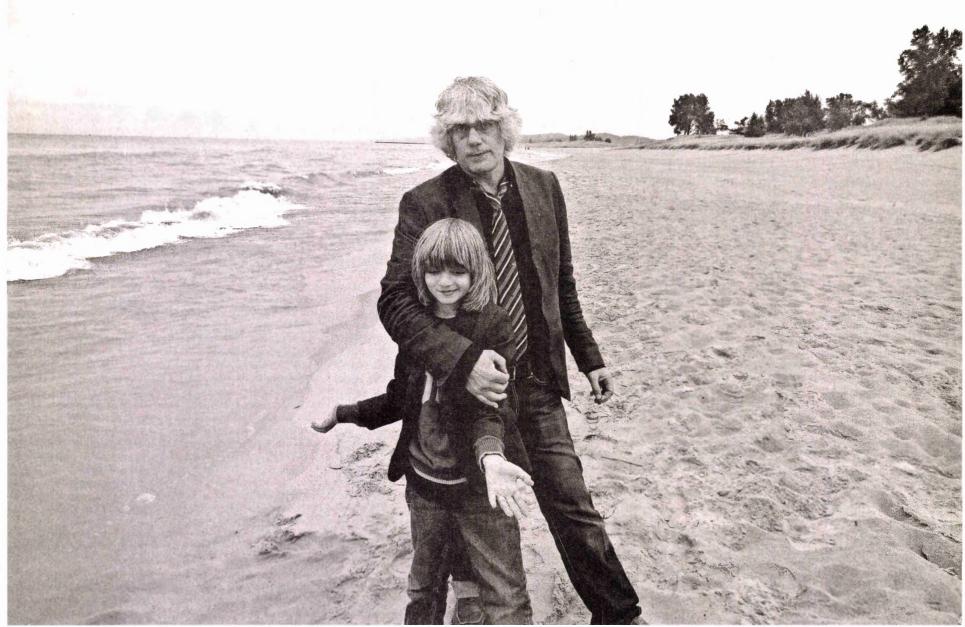




Maybe the Grass IS Greener...

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA





SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Mike Malott and his son, Zachary, take a stroll along the beach. The Plymouth resident is founder of the Jazz in the Park concert series that starts July 5 in Kellogg Park.

LISTEN TO COOL JAZZ IN **KELLOGG PARK THIS SUMMER**

By Sharon Dargay Staff Writer

Plymouth resident Mike Malott will jazz up Kellogg Park this summer with a new concert series.

"I'm doing it because I want to bring something to Plymouth I think will be unique. I'm bringing live jazz to hometown USA park," said Malott. 51, who moved into the Old Village neighborhood last September with his son, Zachary,

"We happened to clip the tail end of the Friday night events last year. It's so cool to get the community out into the park, but there wasn't any jazz. really. Plymouth fit that model for something I thought jazz would work in. I thought, if it's not here, I should bring it

Alex Colista Quartet, Chris Rose Trio and Trio Reenactment kick off Jazz in the Park, 4-7 p.m. Sunday, July 5, in downtown Plymouth. Next up is Nathan Haddock Trio, Ellie Epstein with Latin jazz, and Corey Allen Trio on July 19, and Gene-n-Tonics, Nicole New, Imari Jendayi and In The Tradition, along with Isis Damil and Zion Yisrael on July 26.

Melanie Rutherford, All Directions Band, Epic Movement, Gary Greenfelder Quintet and more are planned for August. The series runs Sunday, July 5 through Aug. 30. No concerts are scheduled July 12, during Art in the Park, or Aug. 16, during Heartbeat of Ply-

mouth. Malott lined up sponsors -Jaguar of Novi, Nicholas Palls AAA Insurance, DJL Builders Inc., and Dearborn Jewelers of Plymouth — and created a donation page on the Jazz in the Park website. Friends of Jazz in the Park supporters are recognized in the weekly program. They also receive a T-shirt, meet and greet opportunities and admission to a VIP event, if they donate \$100 or more. The first 100 Friends to donate at least \$100 will receive a CD produced by Malott, who led recording projects and live shows, promoted and managed musicians for more than 25 years. That included producing live shows for Willie Nelson and Pat Metheny and recordings involving Eric Clapton, Slash and Jerry Gar-

cia, among others. **Funding**

Malott said he's "still struggling" to raise the funds for some of the concerts in August, but he's confident he'll find the cash, even if it means dipping into his own bank account to the tune of \$5,000-\$6,000.

"I have a history with larger sponsors. Some of the events I've produced are of the mag-



Alex Colista Quartet kicks off the Jazz in the Park music series in

nitude that sponsors naturally fell into place. The exposure level is more grand and the volume consistently larger," he said, adding that funding for a smaller-scale concert series, like Jazz in the Park, is harder to find.

"I hate starting an event without having it paid for. That's not the best way to do things, but I know it's going to work. I think once people have an opportunity to get a taste of the event and see the kind of cool thing it is, that will help

Malott entered fatherhood and started a writing career with the same whatever-ittakes attitude. Zach's mother was a member of a rock band



Mike Malott

and was not in a position to raise a child. Malott took charge and father and son have been together ever since.

'I had Zach since the beginning. I did everything but breastfeed him," he said, adding that he learned to change a diaper faster than a pit crew member.

New direction

Malott quit the music industry when Zach was 2, determined not to raise his child on a rock band tour bus. Four years later, Zach was diagnosed with autism and a severe separation anxiety.

"I literally went from flying on private jets and staying at resort hotels and hob nobbing with rock stars to oh my God, we're headed to the food stamp line," he said, with a laugh. "Luckily I had invested a lot of money in art.'

Malott, a Northville native. also held a law degree, which helped lead to tutoring jobs at Harvard and Boston College after the pair moved to Boston, Mass., where Zach entered the Harvard Mass General Ladders Program for autistic chil-

At Harvard, Zach regularly watched the football team practice and ended up becoming its unofficial water boy and lucky charm. Malott created a scrapbook of his son's summer experience with the team and then turned it into a book.

"That's how writing books and a new career came out of nowhere," he said.

A Let's Explore children's book series followed, with Zach taking photos and his dad writing the copy as they traveled throughout the country. Each book focuses on a different city. Zach wrote the copy for their latest book and A Let's Explore Plymouth book is planned for release this year. Malott has written several other books on his own, including a collection of humorous spam emails.

He also created an Internet jazz radio station that will launch later this month. WPJZ will play prerecorded continuous traditional, classic and modern jazz music via Live365.com. Visit the radio web page at jazzinthepark.org.

Some homeowners love to mix appliance colors

he American Association of University Women, Novi Northville Chapter would like to thank Bill & Rod's Appliance in Livonia for hosting a recent cooking demonstration and fundraiser at their local retail store. It proved to be a great success and afforded me the pleasure of meeting several readers and talking with store employees who always educate me in the world of major home appliances.

It brings to attention a recent addition to the color scheme of appliances like refrigerators. For many years when the color consul in Washington decided to offer new colors on appliances, the whole lot of manufacturers copied one another. Remember pink, harvest gold, avocado, almond and others and how I used to criticize their method of forcing customers to purchase a



Joe Gagnon THE APPLIANCE

product they may not have needed? Who would ever want a brown refrigerator and a gold dishwasher in the same kitchen? Now I am told the opposite of that sort of thinking as many homeowners are mixing and matching colors of their appliances. The newest of colors being offered is the color Slate, only available with the purchase of a General Electric appliance. That's a bit strange that it's only available on a G.E. And why is it that other manufacturers don't have the slate color yet? In talking with my darling Valorie, she would like a new kitchen range for the cottage in maybe a light-colored blue

or dark red. One manufacturer offers some 77 colors in the kitchen range department and they must feel that the standard one color décor of kitchen appliances is coming to an end. It just goes to show how things can change.

Hot water needed While talking with a young man at Bill & Rod's I was informed that he had a new baby in the family and that they don't use those throw-away diapers. They use the cloth ones that existed when I was a little tyke and they wash them like my mother did. I don't know for sure but I think this method is kind of rare today. Anyways, we were talking about the importance of using hot water wash to kill the bacteria and keep the baby safe. I told him of the many emails I have received from consumers who are not at all pleased to

find out that their recently purchased washer only allows 104 degree temperature water into the machine. Not able to return and exchange the washer, they hook up a short hose to the laundry faucet on the hot water line and fill the washer directly from the plumbing. This is not what I call an automatic clothes washer and shame on any salesperson who doesn't explain these facts to a customer who spends money at a retail appliance store. Again, this is just another step by the **Energy Department in Wash**ington to save energy consumption by consumers by mandating guidelines that have a negative effect on customer satisfaction. If only they were smart enough to recognize the consequence of their

While talking with another appliance guy who was barbecuing a few hundred hamburgers we talked about cleaning the grate on the barbecue. I mentioned the new article I read about a person who used the standard wire brush and died as a result. A small particle of the wire brush came off and lay on the grate and was consumed by that person. The end result was that it pierced his intestines and caused him great pain and he passed away. My suggestion was to take a handful of paper towel and wipe off the grill before placing a food on it. By the way, the chef who put on this cooking display at Bill & Rod's cooked me up four cabbage rolls which were absolutely delicious and I thank him. Stay

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

See four free 'Terminator' movies

Here are four reasons to celebrate if you're a fan of the Terminator series:

1. The Terminator, 7 p.m. Monday, June 22 2. Terminator 2:

Judgment Day, 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 23 3. Terminator 3: Rise of the the Machines, 7 p.m. Wednes-

day, June 24 4. Terminator Salvation, 7 p.m. Thursday,

June 25 All screenings are free and will be shown at Emagine Novi, 44425 W. 12 Mile. Free tickets will be available at the box office

one hour before show

times. Attendees also will get a chance to win passes to an advance screening of the new film, Terminator Genisys, which opens in theaters Wednesday, July 1. For more info, call the Emagine Novi at 248-468-2990.



View Online

www.hometownlife.com

WILLIAM DÁVID

January 9, 1929 - June 17, 2015 William David Seeney, 86, resided in Redford, MI and

passed away Wednesday, June 17, 2015 in Memorial Hospital,

South Bend, IN. He retired from

maker. William was born Janu-

ary 9, 1929 in Detroit, MI. On

August 5, 1950 William married

Joyce Elaine (Henry) Seeney in

Highland Park Presbyterian

Church. Mr. Seeney is survived

by his loving wife of 64 years,

Joyce Seeney; son Kevin (Betty) Seeney of Berkley, MI, daughter Wendy Smith of Prosper, TX.

and son Brian (Jennifer) Seeney of Farmington Hills, MI; eight

grandchildren, Christopher (Kay)

Seeney, Patrick (Gillian) Seeney, Jeffrey Seeney, Jacob Smith, Andrew Smith and Adam Smith;

and two great-grandchildren, Seeney Memorial Services will

be held at First Presbyterian

Church of Northville, 200 East

Main Street in Northville, MI on

Tuesday, June 23 at 11:00 am

Mr. Seeney served in the United States Navy during World War

II. Interment will take place in

Great Lakes National Cemetery,

Home-River Park, South Bend

and Southlawn Cremation Serv-

ices are assisting the family.

Online condolences may be sent

www.palmerfuneralhomes.com

SUMMERLEE.

RICHARD A.

Of Plymouth. Age 62. September 7, 1952 - April 25, 2015. Rick

School in 1970 and enlisted in

the U.S. Navy shortly after. He served aboard the U.S.S. Long

Beach and was awarded the

National Defense Service Medal

before joining the U.S. Naval

Reserve following his honorable discharge in 1975. He subse-

Postal Service as a mail carrier

for 32 years before retiring in

2008 to care for his mother. Rick

maintained lifelong friendships

with many postal customers and co-workers. He shared a special

bond with senior citizens. After

retiring, he called BINGO at

American House in Westland

and Livonia. He provided

compassion, companionship and a sense of family to many

residents, especially those who were alone. He enjoyed an extensive network of friends and

nature, animals

spending time maintaining his

extensive gardens. Rick was predeceased by his parents,

Harold Summerlee and Jayne

survived by best friend, Patricia

Zielke; siblings, Susan (Michael) Magel, and Harold Summerlee;

Wilson and John (Carol) Wilson;

uncle, Bruce Allmayer; nieces, Keri Thill, Melinda Thill and

Summerlee; pets, Carla, Tao, Lucky, and Stanley; and many other family and friends. Those

who knew Rick will be forever

grateful for his keen wit and

generosity. In memory of Rick,

please spend time with an elderly

family member or friend; or

make a donation to your local

Humane Society. A memorial service is scheduled for Sunday,

August 16, at the Red Olive Restaurant, 1051 Ann Arbor Rd.,

Plymouth, MI 48170, from 1-4

Whittni Yurk; nephew,

step-brothers, Tom

Wilson.

(Allmayer)

worked for the U.S.

from Bentley High

Palmer

Funeral

Holly, MI (date

to the Seeney family at

announced).

Sceney, Ryan Seeney,

O'Keller Tool, Livonia, where he served as a tool and die

"Terminator Genisys" opens July 1.



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

CROUSE, LEONA P. Age 98 of Farmington died

Friday, June 5, 2015 in Brighton Born to Irving and Mildred (Garlick) Pugh on January 31, 1917 in Unadilla Forks, N.Y. She married Basil Crouse in Plainfield, Michigan. Leona was a teacher for many years with the Farmington Area School District. Her favorite hobby was entertaining family and friends, baking cookies, sewing and playing the organ. Preceding her in death were her parents, husband, two brothers John and Robert; two sisters, Betty and Margaret. She is survived by; two sons, David (Judi) of Traverse City, Donald of Palm Springs CA, 1 daughter, Jackie (Gene) Dahlgren of Fowlerville, 10 grandchildren and many great Cremation grandchildren. taken place, Leona will be taken back to her childhood home in Unadilla Forks, N.Y. for burial. contributions Arrangements Hospice. by Home, Herrmann Funeral Niblack Chapel. 517.223.8656

DEE, **REGINA COLLETTE**

Of Plymouth, Michigan, passed away on May 29, 2015. She was surrounded by her loving family. Regina was born on September 23, 1928, to Arthur and Beatrice Cloutier, and married Edmund Dee in September of 1948. They lived majority 66-year marriage in Plymouth Regina was a loving wife and remarkable mother and nothing was more important to her than her family. Regina is survived by her husband, Edmund F. Dee Sr. her five children: Donna Westerdale (Norm), Edmund F. (Tonya); Samborsky (Rick); Denise Piazza (Joe); and Patricia Miltimore. She is also survived nine grandchildren: Justin (Katie) and Lauren Crawford; Westerdale; Collette Strieby (Matt); Derek and Cory Miltimore; Nicole and Vincent Piazza; Edmund F. Dee III; and one great-grandchild, Kaelyn Crawford. Regina survived by her younger brother, Arthur Cloutier. She was preceded in death by her older brother, Kenneth Cloutier, A Funeral Mass will be held at St. Matthew Catholic Church in Corona, California, on Friday, June 26, 2015. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society at www.lls.o rg or by calling 888-557-7177

FROHBERG, LYLE

Age 98 passed away June 11 in Tucson, Arizona. A graduate of Lincoln HS, he lived in Ferndale Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills. Retired as Sr VP Automotive of UTC Inmont Division. Predeceased by wife Dorothy (Blount). Survived by sister Margaret "Peggy" Carhart of Royal Oak; children Ann (Ron) Kellison, James (Nita) Frohberg all of Tucson; Marilyn (Dennis) Olson of Lake Oswego, OR; William Frohberg of Fort Wayne IN; eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Friday June 19 at East Lawn Palms In Tucson. Memorial contributions to the Mayo Clinic.





HYDUK, LILLY SANDY

was born on February 19, 1960 and passed away on June 13, 2015 at the age of 55. Sandy was the cherished wife of the late Darin. She is loving daughter of Eileen Hyduk and the late Richard Hyduk. The loving mom to Andrew and Amy Lilly, beloved sister to Barb (Pete) Nagarah, Kathy Glapa, Carol (Greg) Truesdell. She will be missed dearly by friend Kellie Compton. A visitation for Sandy was held on Thursday, June 18 from 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., and Friday June 19 from 3:00 scripture service that began at 7:00 p.m. A funeral service was held at St. Colette Catholic Church on Saturday, June 20. An in state time held at the church from 9:30 a.m. until the time of mass at 10:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Andrew and Amy Lilly on the direct link to their go fund me page at http://www.gofundme.com/x8g2j78z.

JUDD, THOMAS C.

Age 63, a resident of Northville, passed away on June 17, 2015, with his family by his side. He is survived by his son, Tom daughter, daughter-in-law, Lily; grandchildren, Leore, Eden, Israel and Savannah; former spouse. Dolores; mother, Sylvia; sisters Judy Doring, Diane (Rick) Herman: brother, David (Lisa) and extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his father, Herbert Thomas Curtiss Judd (Donna) and son, Jon Judd. A Memorial Service will be held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 600 E. Main St, Brighton on Monday, June 22 at 2 p.m. with gathering beginning at 12 p.m. Pastor Tim Hozerland to officiate. Memorial contributions may be made in his name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, PO Box 1893, Memphis, TN 38101-9950 For further information phone Lynch & Sons, Brighton at 810-229-2905 or visit

LynchFuneralDirectors.com



MULLETT, DONALD

Age 82, June 16, 2015. Beloved husband of the late Justine Loving father of Donald W Michele (Wendy), (Wayne) (Charlie) Woodard, Margie Henry, John (Diane), Marilyn (John) Estrada, Justine (Ron) Pummill, and the late Joseph. Dearest grandfather of 33 and great-grandfather of 17. Dear brother of Mary Jo Vandervennet and Barbara Richards and was preceded in death by six brothers and one sister. He was a retired elevator constructor of Local 36. He was a graduate of St. Leo High School. Funeral services were held Friday, at 12 Noon at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church (formerly St. Raphael) 31530 Beechwood, Garden City. the Please sign guestbook at

www.rggrharris.com

Doing good can be as simple as planting a tree

y daughter is almost 8 months old now. It really is true what everyone tells you as a new mother, time goes so fast! I am sometimes amazed at how much she has learned and how quickly she has grown. Raising a child is an awesome opportunity and an experience I am so grateful for

One thing that is very important for me to teach my daughter about is doing good things for the world and giving back. I want her to grow up believing that there are people always in worse shape than us, and that no matter our situation we should always find a way to help other people or do something good. I want her to know that greed is bad and that helping others is good and that there is always a way to make a differ-

Recently, we were given an opportunity to help change the community. My elementary school was torn down years ago, and the lot was sold to a building company that plans to build new homes in the neighborhood. This is great for



the community to have new homes built and bring in new families, but sadly a tree that stood on the lot had to be taken down to make way for the new construction. I know, big deal, it is one tree and the building company certainly will add more landscaping when they are complete. But this tree had a special place in my heart, so I decided to do something about it. This tree was planted by my second-/third-grade split class, and we had won an award for it for keeping Michigan beautiful. How sad that what once was recognized for its beauty

New tree

is gone.

I want my daughter to know that she is capable of doing anything she sets her mind to, and what better way to teach her than to lead by example. So I set out to get a new tree planted in place of the old one, and in memory of the alumni

of the elementary school that once stood at the lot. A few emails and phone calls, and I was scheduled to meet with the City of Farmington employee who would be able to assist me in getting something done. He was quick to react and was able to get a new tree, a bench by the tree, and a lovely plaque to mark the memories of so many people in our community.

As it turns out, many people I know were excited to hear I had done this. A whole lot of people went to that school -Flanders Elementary during its time, and many people live in the neighborhood there and have spent countless days at the playground and the school. It was touching to me that a simple task like this would affect so many people. It was just another reminder of how important it is to do good things. One of my favorite quotes says it better than I could: "Be the change you wish to see in

Sarah Davies of Livonia writes about the ups and downs of motherhood. Contact her at sarahmariedavies@gmail.com.

REUNIONS



ARCHIVE PHOTO

Time to reminisce with classmates at a high school reunion.

DETROIT COOLEY

CLASS OF 1965

Looking for classmates from January and June for 50th reunion on Oct. 3 at Livonia Marriott Hotel. For information, email reunioncooley65@aol.com or call 734-397-3308.

GARDEN CITY WEST

CLASS OF 1973

A 60th birthday party is set for July 25 at Garden City Park Pavilion, east of Merriman, north of Cherry Hill Road in Garden City. Tickets are \$10 at the location. Participants should bring their own food and beverages. Grill will be provided. Bring a gag birthday gift. For info, call 734-776-0024 or Billy Brooks: blybe7@aol.com. **NOVI HIGH SCHOOL**

CLASS OF 1995

Seeking classmates for a 20-year reunion Saturday, Aug. 22, at the Embassy Sites in Livonia. For more information, email melissacohn8@gmail.com or visit facebook.com/ groups/Noviclassof95/. **OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL**

CLASS OF 1975

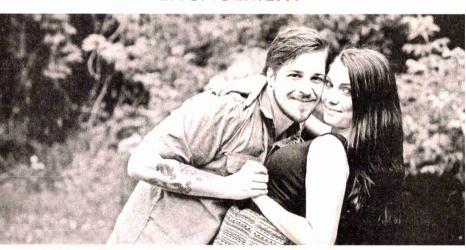
Save the date, Saturday, July 25, at Embassy Suites Livonia, 19525 Victor Parkway, Livonia. Classmates may send their contact information to oakpark1975reunion@gmail.com, and to join the Reunion Facebook Page at https://www.facebook. com/events/810805715 636204/.

ST. THOMAS THE **APOSTLE**

ALL CLASSES

6-10 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, at The American Polish Cultural Center, 2975 E. Maple, Trov; \$45 per person. For more information call Rose Ann Filar at 248-770-1271.

ENGAGEMENT



SUBMITTED

Joshua Favaro and Torey Wiebell

WIEBELL-FAVARO

Torey Elizabeth Wiebell and Joshua James Favaro, both of Royal Oak, announce their en-

gagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Thomas Wiebell of Marco Island, Fla., and Gena Meyer of

Thornville, Ohio, is a 2010 graduate of Oxford High School. She is the manager of The Body Shop at Twelve Oaks Mall, in Novi.

Her fiance, son of Jim and Tracy Favaro of Livonia, is a 2008 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School. He is completing a manufacturing degree at Schoolcraft College and is employed by Exel North America

A November 2015 wedding is planned at Mt. Hope Church in Livonia.

HEALTH

SHARON DARGAY, EDITOR

SDARGAY@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 313-222-8833 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

American Red Cross says hats off to donors

The American Red Cross hopes to encourage more blood donations during the week of the July 4 holiday, by giving away hats.

Anyone who donates blood from July 2-6 will receive an embroidered Red Cross hat, while supplies last.

Summer vacations and travel sometimes cause donation activity to slow, but the Red Cross wants to ensure a sufficient blood supply through the summer.

Donors of all types, especially those with O negative blood, are needed. Make an appointment to give blood by calling 800-733-2767 going online at redcrossblood.org or visiting a local blood drive. » Canton — 1-6:45 p.m.,

July 1, bd's Mongolian Grill, 42089 Ford Road; 1-6:45 p.m. July 3, Resurrection Catholic Church, 48755 Warren Road

» Garden City — 7 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. July 9, Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman

» Livonia — 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. July 7, Madonna University, 14221 Levan; 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. July 11, Brown New Cars, 32222 Plymouth Road; 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. St. Edith Catholic Church, 15089 New-

» Plymouth — 2-5:45 p.m. July 6, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon; 1-8:45 p.m. July 6, Church of Christ Plymouth, 9301 Shel-

Healthy aging



Alma Skillon talks with St. Mary Mercy Livonia's Yassir Sirajeldin, M.D., internal medicine resident, during an "Ask the Doctor" segment of the hospital's recent Health Aging Conference. Skillon was among 120 adults who attended the conference, held June 6. Attendees listened to local clinical experts on a variety of health topics, visited with exhibitors, participated in free health screenings and watched a cooking demonstration.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Birthing class

The class focuses on various techniques for breathing, pain management options, relaxation and massage, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 27, in Classrooms 1 and 2 of the Allan Breakie Medical Office Building, located on the campus of Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. Register by calling 734-458-4330.

Diabetes management

A free diabetes seminar including information on meal planning, blood sugar control and medication management will be held 5-7 p.m. June 24 in the Oakwood Physical Therapy and Wellness Center, 17101 Rotunda Drive in Dearborn. To register, call 800-543.9355 or visit Oakwood.org under the Classes & Events tab.

Exercise for arthritis

St. Mary Mercy Livonia, in collaboration with the Arthritis Foundation, will offer exercise classes beginning in July for adults with arthritis and other related diseases. A general

exercise program will run 10-11 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, July 14 through Sept. 3. Tai Chi classes are set for 11 a.m. to noon and advanced exercises. for those who have taken the general exercise program, will run 1-2 p.m. Classes will be held at the Wellness Center at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, located at Five Mile and Levan, in Livonia. The general exercise and Tai Chi classes are free but registration is required. The advanced exercise program costs \$5 per session. Register by calling 734-655-

Lunch and Learn

Join an open-ended lunch discussion on health and wellness in southeast Michigan, with Lila Lazarus, health reporter, Rob Casalou, St. Joseph Mercy Health System president and CEO, hospital leaders and local officials, noon June 30, at St. Joseph Mercy, 1600 S. Canton Center Road, Canton. Register at stjoeshealth.org/ classes

Weight management

Oakwood Healthcare offers a program on weight loss 5-7 p.m. June 24 at Oakwood Hospital - Dearborn, 18101 Oakwood Blvd., in Dearborn. To register, call 800-543-9355 or visit Oakwood.org under the Classes & Events tab.

Ongoing

Ab-Anon

Twelve-step program and weekly group to help those suffering with eating disorders such as anorexia, bulimia, and exercise compulsion is held 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, at the Friendship Circle, 6892 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. An Ab-Anon meeting group is available for families and loved ones, 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, also at the Friendship Circle. For more information, contact Mindy at 248-672-

Aquatic classes

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to

ease arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch and 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch. Visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

Bipolar support

Depression Bipolar Support Alliance meets 6-7:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday at Lincoln Behavioral Services Center, 14500 Sheldon, Suite 160B, Plymouth. It is accessed through the Plymouth Executive Park driveway north of M-14. Meetings open to families. Call Nancy at 734-536-3457 for directions.

Blood pressure

Garden City Hospital offers free blood pressure testing, lipid panel (\$15) testing, 10 a.m. to noon Sept. 2 and Dec. 2, in the main lobby of the hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. No registration is reguired. For more information, call 734-458-4330.

Breast cancer support

Meets from 6:30-8 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan), Livonia. Call 734-655-1100 or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

Choir therapy

The Therapy Choirs of Michigan extend an invitation to individuals with any kind of special needs or disabilities and their able-bodied family and friends, to participate in singing. Call Len McCulloch at 248-474-2763, Ext. 22, or visit www.therapychoirs.org for additional information.

CPAP/BIPAP

The Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan offers a free CPAP/BIPAP mask fitting clinic, 5-6 p.m. each Wednesday at 35600 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland. Most insurances cover new supplies. No appointment needed. 734-



Please include the child's name, age, phone number and address.

Contest is open to kids up to 18 years old.

Observer & Eccentric



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Certified! · Remote Engine Start Navigation Only 8,640 miles NOW ONLY *\$*28.995

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JOBS



Is that job stress making you feel OVERWEIGHT?

JOB STRESS CAN CERTAINLY TAKE A TOLL ON EMPLOYEES — FROM BURN-OUT TO HEALTH CONCERNS — BUT COULD IT CONTRIBUTE TO WEIGHT GAIN IN THE WORKPLACE?

Nearly 6 in 10 U.S. workers (57 percent) feel they're overweight, up from the 55 percent who reported feeling overweight last year, according to a new CareerBuilder survey. And job-related stress may have a strong correlation to weight gain.

The research shows that workers who experience high levels of stress are 49 percent more likely to rate themselves as overweight when compared with workers with low stress.

Leading culprits of workplace weight gain

We asked employees what they think contributed to their weight gain at their current job. As you might have guessed, sedentary behavior topped the list. Here's what they said:

- Sitting at the desk most of the day (56 per-
- Too tired from work to exercise (43 percent)
- Eating because of stress (37 percent)

Wellness and overall health ought to be a priority not just to workers, but also to employers.

"The health of a company's workforce is a paramount issue for many employers, as neglecting it can significantly

dampen workplace morale and productivity," said Rosemary Haefner, chief human resources officer at Career-Builder. "There's a clear incentive to make wellness and work-life balance a focus of organizational culture, and we're encouraged to see many companies making them a priority year after year."

Tips to lose weight on the job

There's no need to go all J-Lo to lose a few pounds at work - just try some of these simple steps to encourage and maintain healthier habits.

- Snack and eat out less
 - Exercise more
 - · Take advantage of your employer's wellness benefits
 - · Leave your desk for lunch

Tweet at @CareerBuilder and tell us: Have you tried simple changes to become a healthier version of yourself? Share your tips with us!

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Bob Jeanonte Buick-GMC Plymouth, MI 48170

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Areas, Staff placed w/in 10 mile radius of home. Shifts range from 3-5 days/wk, Aaro

Auto Body Tech/Painter with tools for Canton Collision. 37550 Michigan Ave., Wayne Call: 734-729-2805

Drivers: Local & Regional No-Touch Openings! \$3000 Sign-on Bonus! Excellent Pay, Comprehensive Benefits More! 18 months CDL-A Experience. Catl Penske Logistics

MAINTENANCE Part-time position available Plymouth industrial ng. Duties include building. Duties include general maintenance skills

Help Wanted - General

and will require 15-20 hours a week. Competitive rate package offered. Email resume to idemetriou@

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purchasing manager. The person must the responsibility to lead, command excellent communication skills and negotiate prices. Will report directly to the general

Main Responsibilities: Purchase shoes & hand bags and other seliable product

tions and transportations on maintaining the proper inventory levels

vendors taking into accounts quality, pricing, shipping, etc. Identify opportunity for cost savings

equivalent combinatio

A minimum of 3 years re

and Skills:

weekly & monthly tasks. Must be a positive team

Multi tasking
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Please send your resume to salesresume@gmail.com



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VETERINARIAN Preventive, diagnostic services and treatment of diseased and injured pets; perform elective and non-elective surgery on small pets including orthopedics; educate and advise clients on pet health. DVM degree; Michigan veterinarian liperane. cense; 2 yr. exp.; will accept cense; 2 yr. exp.; will accept foreign equivalent degree of first professional degree in veterinarian science. Job at Canton Animal Hospital, Canton, Mi. Wirten applications to Ajaib Dhaliwal, DVM, 706 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti, Mi 48197

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Homes

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Auction Sales

AUCTION ON-SITE

Sat. - June 27th - Noon Contents Of Chiropractic Clinic's Business Fully Equipped Krayneck Chiropractic Clinic 5816 Sheldon Road Canton MI 48187

Canton, MI 48187

X-Ray Machine; Flexion

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ESTATE AUCTION ri June 26th 12 noon 46900 Stratford Cour Northville Mi 48167

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Patio Sets Lawn & Garde

Salt Water System & More. See 100's of photos at: ColesAuctionService.com

Bloomfield Hills-St. Hugo Altar Guild's 46 Annual Rum-

mage Sale. 2215 Opdyke Rd, 48304. To Benefit Local Chari

ties. Wed, June 24th; 6pm-9pm, Adm \$2, price + 25%. Thurs, June 25th; 9am-7pm, regular price. Fri, June 26th; 9am-12pm, 1/2 price & bag

NOVI-Huge Multi Family Rummage Sale! June 25th & 26th 10am-6pm Something

LOOK

BLOOMFIELD HILLS

INCREDIBLE ESTATE SALE

Thurs. June 25- Sat. June 27 8-5pm. 5506 FARMERS LANE. Amazing amount of items, ev-erything goes from Antiques furniture, crystal, china, glassware, silver, kitchen wares trus palore, builday.

wares, toys galore, holiday

items, collectibles of all kinds

too much to list! a must see

CASH DNLY

Canton - Estate Sale - 1626 Ranier June 26th-27th Fri. & Sat. 11am -3pm. Household goods, Furniture, some

collectibles, china, & more. S. of Ford rd. E. of Morton Taylor.

REDFORD Sat. 6/27 & Sunday 6/28 10am-4pm. Furniture,

household, tools, collectibles & much more! 16943 Kinloch

Westland- Estate Sale 32650

Sat. 6/27 11am-3pm Furni ture, tools, collectiables ture, tools, collectiables, sports memorabilia, household items, & seasonal decor.

Westland-Fri-Sat.10-5pm.

2x mens & womens cloth-

ing, furniture, household items. 34636 Fountain

household

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Auburn Hills - 248.276.9040 Shelby Twp. - 568.566.1233

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College Park
Estates Sub Yard
Salel June 25-28,
11am-3pm.
51074 Mott Rd., N. Michigan Ave., E. of Ridge.

Canton: GARAGE SALE -Links West Condo Community 30+ homes. Located off Beck, North of Geddes, South of Cherry Hill. Enter Links West on Newton Rd. go east off Beck. 9AM - 4PM Thur. June 25 thru Sat. June 27.

Canton - Multi Family sale - 43703 YORK TOWN ST. Fri. & Sat. June 26-27th 9am-3pm Hshld, kids, clothes, & books,

CANTON - Phase One of downsizing June 25 & 26 10-5pm., Royal Pointe West Sub, 6956 POPPLETON RD. Canton: Riverpark Sub

annual garage sale. Thurs, June 25th thru Sat, June 27, 8am - 3pm. SW corner of Palmer and Sheldon Roads

Ferndale: HIPSTER GARAGE SALE 7.0 - It's Back - Saturday June 27 9am - 256 Pearson Ferndale 1/2 Block West off

> SALE Garage Sale Cruisin Is Coming!

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9a-6p 32360 Bock St.

Sale. Thurs- Fri June 25-27th 8a-4pm off plymouth road btw levan & Wayne & W. Chicago.

LIVONIA - 14600 Huff. une 25-28, 9-5pm. Baby kids items & clothes like

Livonia: Estate/Moving Sale 31669 Bennett 48152. Thur-31669 Bennett 48152. Thur Fri., June 25-26, 10-5pm Sat 27th, 9-1pm. VINTAGE TREAS-URES, Desks, dressers, tables home goods, BBQ & treadmill.

Livonia: HUGE group yard sale to benefit Waggin Tails Dog Rescue. Furn, appli,, collectibles, toys, hh goods & decor, shoes, purses, jewelry Th-Sat 9-7, Sun 9-5, 1794 17949 Merriman, btwn 6 & 7 Mile Rd.

Livonia; Huge Yard Sale Scholarship Fundraiser, Sat. 6/27, 14680 Newburgh at Ladywood High School parking lot. A MUST SEE!

LIVONIA- Large family garage sale items to be sold: tools, Longaberger baskets, kitchen utensils tupperware, glass-ware, books misc. coins & comics. Custom Jewlery and Womens Clothing, June 25th-29th Thurs-Mon. 9a-4p. 14679 PARK ST. S/5 Mile, E/ Levan corner of Park and Meadrowbrook

and Meadowbrook. LIVONIA, MI **60 CRAFTERS/VENDOR** SHOW - K.of C. HALL, 19801 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Mi 48152. Sun., July 19th, 11am 5pm. (734) 323-4486

Livonia: Moving Sale! Thurs June 24 - Sat June 27, 9 am- 5 pm. Furniture, decor, exercise equipment, women's

clothing, household items, and more, 29998 Munger. MILFORD-GARAGE SALE

1442 & 1454 Hunters Lake
Dr. N of Commerce. E of
Stoneridge, Items for college
apt., furn., household & more.

MILFORD: Pre Moving/Gar Sale Berwyck On The Park Sub. 3 miles N of I-96 at S Milford Rd & Buno. June 25-27, 9a-5p. Furniture, house

Garage/Moving Sales

55555 12 Mile Fri. June 19 & Sun. June 21 9-6pm Furn., electric stove Die cast cars & household misc.

Northville: ESTATE SALE. 20847 W. Glen Haven Anti que Furn., Collectibles, Baby Grand Piano, Petite woman's clothing more. June 19-22-June 26-29. (231) 676-1094

Northville: Sub Garage Sale Northville Hills Golf Club Thurs June 25 & Fri June 26

NOVI 5-Generation Sale Thurs 6/25-Saturday 6/27 9am-4pm Toys, tools, housewares, vintage & collectible items 41273 Coventry Rd. Inside Carriage Hills Subdivision. N. of 8 Mile, E. of Meadowbrook

PLYMOUTH: 8800/54/57 Corinne. June 24th-26th 9a-5p. 200+ Perennials, attic fan. sears mower, gym equip. irish belleck, clothes: B: infant-3, G: 8-12 sizes. New t-shirts \$3. Plymouth - MOVING

SALE Country Club VIII lage Sub, Fri. 6/26 1pm 4pm No early birds. Sat. 6/27 9am-3pm 4000 sq

St Robert Redford Bellarmine Annual Garage Sale Bellarmine Annual Garage Sale Pre Sale June 24th 5pm - 8pm \$2 admission. Thurs.-Sat. June 25th-27th 9a -5p. 27101 W Chicago. Corner of w. chi-cago & Inkster Rd. Sat. selling hot dogs drinks & snacks.

REDFORD Thurs. & Fri.6/25-6/26 9am-6pm Saturday 6/27 9am-4pm. Large selection of tools, hardware, camping & household. 25324 Lyndon Beach Daly N.of I-96

WESTLAND Emerald Pointe Condo Association Annual Community ga -rage sale Thurs. 6/25-Sat. 6/27 9am-4:30pm. On Hix between Warren & Joy Rd.

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running my Ilcensed hildcare business for 27

childcare business for 2/ years, I'm retiring and selling all daycare equip ment. Must buy all equip ment . Please call for details 248-427-1245 **Household Goods**

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Ε

DINING TABEL-RocheBobois Tenere, 79"x39". Wood leg finish: Chene Gris Ardoise. Never been used-excellent condition. New: \$6700. Ask-ing: \$3500. (312)965-9222

ple dresser, chest of drawers & double bed- \$650. Istered Chair \$250 734-459-6896

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ACROSS

- Business VIP Go to the polls
- 9 Diner order
- 12 Breakfast bowl morsel
- 13 Borneo's archipelago
- and yang
- 15 On the vive 16 Library ID
- 17 Mongrel 18 Holiday temp
- 20 Nile sun god 21 Not AC
- 23 Funnyman Brooks 24 Reduced
- (2 wds.) 28 Rollover subj. 30 Tumult
- 32 Immunity shots 34 Suffix for press 35 Poultry herb
- 36 Lab weight 39 Nonrusting metal

36

- 40 Drawing 41 Weirdo
- 43 Minot's st.
- 44 Satisfied sigh 45 Said further
- 47 Love, in Lima
- 50 Arctic transport 51 Not common
- 54 Harsh cry
- 55 Diver's find 56 Dobbs of news
- 57 Festive night Vicar's residence

59 Wool supplier **DOWN**

- au vin 2 Perfume label
- word Elevator guy 4 Grammy-winning rapper
- 5 Ultimate success (2 wds.)
- Exile isle Trash holder

Answer to Previous Puzzle



10-1-12 © 2012 UFS, Dist. by Univ. Uclick for UFS

- 8 Baseball's
- Cobb
- 9 Provo sch.
- 10 Kindled a fire 11 Explosive Itrs.
- 17 A schooner has two
- 19 Kind of radio 20 ER staffers 21 Phonograph
- records
- 22 Stream 24 Flowering shrubs
- 25 Trapped like 26 Sign on (2 wds.)
- 27 Make changes
- 29 Handel contemporary
- 31 Do the wrong thing 33 Petal extract
- 37 Fritz, to himself
- 38 Confuse 42 "Tao Ching"
- 45 Astronaut Shepard
- 46 Mete out 47 Whiz
- 48 Dallas cager 49 Get a loan 50 Neptune's
- kingdom 52 Investor's concern
- 53 Payable 55 Brit. dignitary

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TV DADS WORD SEARCH

N Z Z 0 R 0 0 S L Ε Е Ι В Ε Т L G S C N ٧ Ε Z В Ε Ε D Υ 0 G 0 Ι 1 Ε T Ι S 0 0 E 0 C C

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WORDS

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CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

AL BUNDY ARCHIE BUNKER BEN CARTWRIGHT CARL WINSLOW CHARLES INGALLS DANNY WILLIAMS FRED SANFORD GEORGE JEFFERSON GEORGE LOPEZ HERMAN MUNSTER HOWARD CUNNINGHAM JASON SEAVER JIM ANDERSON OZZIE NELSON PAUL HENNESSY PHILLIP BANKS RAY BARONE ROB PETRIE STEVE DOUGLAS STEVEN KEATON TIM TAYLOR TOM BRADFORD TONY MICELLI WARD CLEAVER

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Ε Α L

S S Ε N N Ε Н

S R Ε D N Α

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

E 4 8 6 7 9 8 9 2 1 Þ ε 7 5 3 6 1 4 2 8 1827984 7 8 3 4 2 6 6 8 7 2 1 2 6 9 7 2 9 8 4 8 8 4 8 6 2 1 2 3 8 L 7 3 Þ 9 9

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Word H (Y S S E N N E H L U A P)

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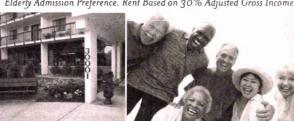


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2015 Lincoln MKC: Arrive in style

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Coupled with the seal of approval from A-list movie star Matthew McConaughey — who's appearing in a series of sleek, memorable TV



The 2015 Lincoln MKC aims to compete with established luxury compact crossovers.

ORD MOTOF

The MKC retains the concept's prominent winged grille, sculpted body and full-width LED tail lamps with wraparound lift gate.

commercials — the 2015 Lincoln MKC is a brand on the rise.

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

which is fantastic.

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

Exterior

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

Interior
Inside, a panoramic sunroof, leather seats

with French stitching

and real wood trim give

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

Front-wheel drive is

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

Safety features

the cabin an airy, upscale

Touch is front and center.

look. An 8-inch touch-

Sync with MyLincoln

Unlike many vehicles

that use Ford's troubled

multimedia system, the

tures buttons and knobs

for controlling audio and

Connectivity is a high-

light. With the MyLincoln

Mobile app, drivers can

start, lock, unlock and

locate their MKC. They

also can use the app to

call roadside assistance

and check the vehicle's

fuel level, tire pressure

Although the MKC

the Ford Escape compact

crossover, one of its po-

wertrains is new. Under

Boost four-cylinder. Lin-

horsepower; fuel-econo-

my figures are not yet

coln says it's good for 275

the hood is a turbo-

charged 2.3-liter Eco-

shares a platform with

and battery charge.

Under the hood

MKC's panel also fea-

climate functions — a

welcome sight.

screen that uses Ford's

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

Value in its class

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

Cars.com contributed to this report

michiqan



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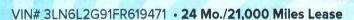
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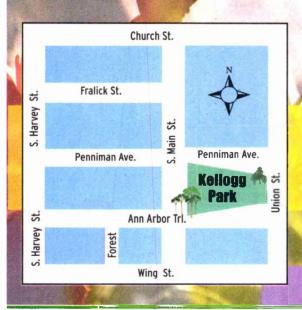
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