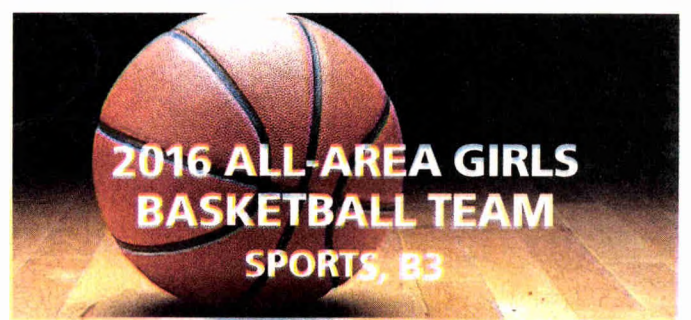


PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

THURSDAY 04.28.16 || HOMETOWNLIFE.COM || PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



Township tweaks park rules

No wedding receptions or alcohol, but dogs may be OK

Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Wedding receptions, no. Alcohol, no. Dogs — maybe. Those were some of the decisions reached Tuesday evening as the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees adopted a new set of rules for township parks.

The rules, revised even at the board table, were approved with a 6-1 vote, but board members said that they will consid-

er amending them in the future to allow people to bring dogs, perhaps in a limited fashion, such as only on walking paths at Township Park or in a separate dog park.

Dogs have long been banned from township parks, but Trustee Chuck Curmi proposed allowing them, at least on a trial basis. He also suggested making cleanup bags accessible in the park for waste disposal.

"Most people are responsible," Curmi said.

Treasurer Ron Edwards expressed concern about dog waste at Township Park, particularly in areas where children congregate, such as at the playscape and sprayscape.

The rules changes, township parks and grants director Mike Mitchell told the board, stem from suggestions by the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority, which provides property and liability insurance for the township.

The proposal presented Tuesday would have allowed people to bring alcohol to the parks with the permission of

the supervisor, which had been the township policy. But after discussion, the board decided on an outright ban.

Weddings ceremonies OK

The board also nixed wedding receptions, which Edwards said had traditionally been banned but allowed for the past couple of years. Allowing receptions, however, created the expectation the township would also staff them, performing tasks like helping to move food, emptying trash cans and keeping restrooms clean during receptions.

"They wanted us almost to get into the banquet business," Supervisor Shannon Price said.

"It became too difficult, too costly to manage," Edwards said.

Wedding ceremonies, however, will still be allowed.

The new rules' definition of "resident," for purposes of making reservations for a picnic shelter or pavilion and paying fees for shelter and pavilion rental, includes an organized group in which more than half the members are from the

See RULES, Page A2



KELLY DOBSON

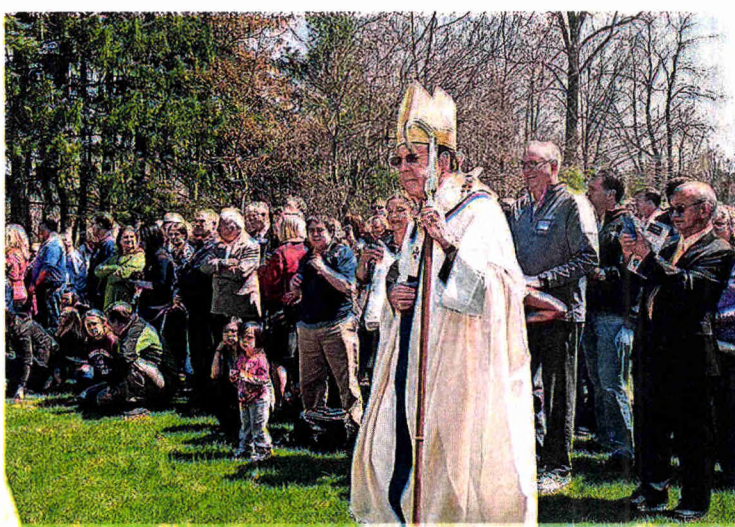
Archbishop Allen Vigneron, head of the Archdiocese of Detroit, turns the first shovelful of dirt Plymouth during the groundbreaking ceremony for the expansion at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth Township. The \$6.5 million, 30,000-square-foot addition should be completed in about a year.

Holy ground: OLGCC begins \$6.5 million expansion

Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

With blessings, prayers and a picnic, parishioners at Our Lady of Good Counsel broke ground Sunday for a 30,000-square-foot expansion of the church complex in Plymouth Township.

The two-story addition, which will architecturally match the current building on North Territorial, will include a gymnasium, a child care facility, meeting space, a warming kitchen and more. The entire project, including furnishings, has a price tag of about \$6.5 million, said Good Counsel's pastor, the Rev. John



KELLY DOBSON

Detroit Archbishop Allen Vigneron and parishioners from Our Lady of Good Counsel take in the scene before Sunday's groundbreaking.

See EXPANSION, Page A5

Smith-Tyge to challenge Barone for county seat

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer



Smith-Tyge



Barone

Democrat Nate Smith-Tyge, citing crumbling roads, money woes and the county jail saga, has announced he will challenge Republican Wayne County Commissioner Joe Barone for a two-year term.

Smith-Tyge hopes to score an upset over Barone, an appointed incumbent, and as a Democrat he said he believes he could accomplish more on a commission that already has a Democratic majority.

"I think we can do more if we're part of the majority and build from there," Smith-Tyge said.

Both men are Plymouth Township residents, but the 10th District also includes Canton and the city of Plymouth. Barone was appointed to the post last April, when then-Commissioner Shannon Price left to become Plymouth Township supervisor.

Smith-Tyge, director of a Michigan State University food bank as he works on his doctor-

ate degree in education, said he believes crumbling roads are a "symptom of the bigger issue" — county financial problems — that he said needs addressing.

Barone, an attorney, has said the county has made strides to improve county finances. He also fought to protect money for services such as a Canton-based therapeutic recreation program for people with disabilities.

"The bigger picture is, if Wayne County doesn't have money, it's not going to filter down to us (in the 10th District)," Barone said, adding that the district's share of money "should rightfully come back to us."

See COUNTY, Page A2

GOP leaders remember Welday as 'great friend'

Brad Kadrach and Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writers



Welday

Paul Welday of Farmington Hills did a little bit of everything in politics.

He was on the Republican state committee and a former chairman of the Oakland County Republican Party. He ran for Congress and for the state House of Representatives out of Farmington Hills. Welday was known throughout the state for his work and love of politics.

In addition to his own career, he mentored a number of Republicans as they pursued their careers.

They are among the many expressing their shock and grief over the passing of Welday, who died Monday night. Welday had just attended a political fundraiser earlier in the evening at The Iroquois Club in Bloomfield Hills.

A 1981 graduate of James Madison College at Michigan State University, Welday was a political consultant as a former founder and partner of Strategic Public Affairs and former chief of staff to former U.S. Rep. Joe Knollenberg. He was also a partner in Renaissance Strategies, a marketing and communications firm. In 2011, he joined as a senior counsel Watts Partners, a Washington, D.C.-based government affairs consulting firm.

Farmington Hills Mayor Ken Massey is a family friend and serves on the city council with Welday's wife, Valerie Knol. He said Welday's sudden death makes one thing "very clear."

See WELDAY, Page A2



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RULES

Continued from Page A1

"Plymouth community." Clerk Nancy Conzelman argued for more clarity in that definition, saying the words "Plymouth Township" should be substituted.

In a voice vote, Conzelman was the only board member to vote against the rules. She later said she did so because "there were too many changes to make on the fly" and the board should have reviewed a rewritten draft at its next meeting, but also because the words "Plymouth community" in one part of the definition of "resident" made the definition unclear and inconsistent with other parts.

The new rules also:
 » Explicitly ban deep fryers, ice fishing and drones and other motorized aerial devices.

None of those issues had been addressed in the previous set of rules.

» Set park hours as "dawn to dusk" as defined for Detroit by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Previously, hours, varying with the seasons, had been posed on the township website.

» Address the addition of the new all-weather pavilion at Township Park, plus the sled hill with last winter's addition of a snow-making machine.

» Allow the township supervisor or a designee to waive the rules for events sponsored by the township.

Township attorney Kevin Bennett said a rule violation could be a civil infraction punishable by a fine of up to \$500.

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Make-A-Wish Michigan honors top volunteers, supporters

Make-A-Wish Michigan recently honored individuals, corporate partners, organizations and groups at the organization's Southeast Michigan Donor and Volunteer Appreciation Event held in Novi in March. The following local supporters were recognized for their generosity and dedication to the Make-A-Wish mission of granting wishes to Michigan children with life-threatening medical conditions:

Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, Canton: St. Joseph Mercy received the Outstanding Corporate Partner Award for supporting Make-A-Wish Michigan since 2012. Saint Joseph Mercy Health System's sponsorship of the organization's largest fundraiser – the Wish-A-Mile Bicycle Tour – has totaled \$110,000 during that time. Not only does the

organization sponsor WAM, but they also have a team consisting of employees, family members and friends who ride in the event. Through team fundraising, Team Joe's has raised nearly a quarter of a million dollars to help grant wishes for Michigan children with life-threatening medical conditions.

Steven Cook, Milford: Cook received the Strength Award, which

recognizes a top group or external fundraising initiative each year for Make-A-Wish Michigan. He was honored for an inspiring fundraising effort he completed this past fall. Steve set out to raise funds for Make-A-Wish Michigan by pursuing a month-long summit of Ama Dablam in Nepal that stands at 22,349 feet. Ultimately, he raised more than \$37,000 to help make wishes come true.

WELDAY

Continued from Page A1

"This tragedy amplifies the point that we need to live every single day to the fullest," Massey said Tuesday morning. "I feel for Val and for their young daughter and the rest of her family. It's more than being on council together. She's a friend and you hate to see a friend have to go through this."

The news was equally felt in the Plymouth area, as folks woke up Tuesday to learn that their friend, mentor and family member had passed away unexpectedly. Welday is brother of Patty Graff, wife of Wes Graff, president of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce.

While across the state well-known members of both political parties offered their thoughts and condolences, to the Graff family, he was Paul. "To us, he was a brother, husband and devoted father," said Wes Graff, who remembers his brother-in-law as a great storyteller. "For us, it was holidays and family events. That's the guy we hung out with."

While closely tied to the Republican Party, Graff said Welday had a strong ability to talk to all members in the political world, regardless of party affiliation. "He knew everybody on both



Marty Knollenberg and Paul Welday celebrates with Marty's wife Lori and her friend Susan Manser, after results of Knollenberg's U.S. Congressional race.

sides of the aisle," Graff said.

Welday, who spent his life in politics, was well-known to local legislators, including state Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth, and Plymouth Township Supervisor Shannon Price.

Heise had known Welday from when he worked for Knollenberg. Valerie Knol is also a staff member in Heise's office. "We are just devastated by the loss," Heise said. "Paul was a really terrific political strategist and a leader. He knew the issues without being overly partisan. We are just devastated by the loss."

Welday was in the race for Oakland County water resources commissioner at the time of his death. "He ran for public office because he had a great sense of public service," Heise said. He also described Welday as "one of those rare people who could make a living doing what he loved — politics."

On Tuesday, Price said, "I am still in shock about Paul and my heart is broken. He was such a great man, friend, father and husband. I am not sure anyone will be able to replace him."

At one time, Price worked for Welday. He remembered those days:

"As an employer and friend, Paul gave me an opportunity to work on grassroots campaigns that promoted conservative philosophies and made our state a better place to live and raise a family. While working for Paul, he taught me so much about local government and grassroots campaigns."

Price also called Welday "a great conservative who worked to get Republicans elected to office. Paul was instrumental in getting conservatives elected to offices, ranging from city council to the White House, and coordinated grassroots efforts to confirm Justices (Samuel) Alito and (John) Roberts to the Supreme Court."

The township supervisor lauded Welday for his work in getting autism legislation passed. He worked on that effort with Lt. Gov. Brian Calley. "Paul understood the importance of this legislation and worked hard to help families like his all across our state," Price said.

But as many in the political world are remembering Welday, Price said, "More importantly, Paul was a great friend, employer and family man."

Former Michigan Attorney General Mike

Cox and his wife, current state Rep. Laura Cox, R-Livonia, have known Welday for years and counted him "as one of our great friends," Laura Cox said Tuesday.

"He was obviously a great political mind and a great friend to Mike and me," she said. "He fought for causes he believed in. We're praying for Valerie and her family."

Welday is survived by his wife, Valerie Knol, son Nickolas and daughter Natalie, as well as brother Douglas (Cheryl) Welday and sisters Mary Urlick and Patty (Wes) Graff.

Visitation will take place 2-8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, April 28-29, at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave., Farmington. Visitation will also be 10-11 a.m. Saturday, April 30, at St. John Lutheran Church, 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills. The funeral service will begin at 11 a.m. Saturday at the church.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the Autism Alliance of Michigan, 26500 American Dr., Southfield, MI 48034.

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COUNTY

Continued from Page A1

Smith-Tyge conceded he faces "an uphill race" against an incumbent, even though Barone was appointed.

"I think an incumbent always has a bit of an advantage, whether elected or appointed," he said.

Smith-Tyge's candidacy comes after he lost his bid for a state House seat two years ago to Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township.

Still, Smith-Tyge said he believes he has a chance of winning the 10th District race.

"I wouldn't be doing this if I didn't think we had a good chance to win," he said.

Barone said he doesn't

view his status as an appointed incumbent as giving him a huge edge, though he feels like he has a good shot at election.

"You just have to work hard for the people you represent," he said, adding later, "Overall, I feel good about it."

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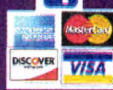
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P-CEP culinary team heads to nationals



FILE PHOTO

The culinary team, Patrick McKillen, Emma Stephens, Zachary Wolfiss and Taarika Sinhall, practicing for competition. Alternate Cody Bates is not pictured.

Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

This Saturday is the big moment — one not experienced since 2004 — when the five-member student Plymouth-Canton Educational Park culinary team shows its expertise at the national competition near Dallas.

Team members Taarika Singhal, Emma Stephens, Zachary Wolfiss, Patrick McKillen and alternate Cody Bates took first place recently in the Michigan ProStart Competition, hosted by the Michigan Restaurant Association. That means they are state champs and placed to compete in the national competition that draws 48 teams from around the country and a few from outside the country.

“We are cautiously optimistic,” said Diana Woodward, instructor/coach of the P-CEP Hospitality and Culinary Arts program. “We are probably the only high school not massively marketed or funded. We go against culinary schools. Some of these teams are trained by legendary chefs.”

Nonetheless, the team is prepped and ready to go. The Michigan Restaurant Association has financed the team's air flight and hotel during the competition. Their equipment, plus all the ingredients they need to compete, are being driven by volunteer parents to the Dallas area.

“The kids are so excited. We've been here since 6 this morning,” Woodward said Tuesday,

referring to organizing and getting ready for the trip.

Judges at the national competition are influential chefs and business owners, Woodward added.

As first-place winners in the Michigan competition, team members were awarded some \$48,000 in scholarships. The team — if they cook the national competitors — could just come home with more.

“We are going to do our best and learn from it,” Woodward said. “We have a 1 in 48 chance of winning.”

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Southbound I-275 to shut down Monday

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

It's finally here. The Michigan Department of Transportation announced Tuesday afternoon that southbound Interstate 275 from the I-96/I-696/M-5 interchange in Oakland County to Five Mile in Wayne County will close starting at 9 a.m. Monday.

The southbound portion will be closed completely for the first portion of the project, while the northbound lanes will remain open. Once work is complete on the southbound portion, most likely in July, the northbound side will then shut down and remain closed while traffic is maintained heading southbound.

The freeway is expected to completely reopen by September.

Crews have been working for several weeks leading up to the closure, with nightly lane and shoulder closings throughout I-275 and the interchange in Oakland County. The cement plant was recently brought nearby the freeway in Livonia.

The \$75 million project will consist of replacing 88 lane miles of lane pavement, including the ramps on mile roads and the interchange. Shoulder work, concrete repairs, drainage improvements and intelligent transportation systems work will also take place with the project.

Updates to the project can be found at revive275.com.

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American Legion honors Canton veteran

Stanley Truskowski, Vietnam War veteran of Canton, was honored as the April 2016 Veteran of the Month by the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 32, of the Myron H. Beals American Legion Post 32 in Livonia.

Truskowski served in the U.S. Navy from 1965-67. Raised on the west side of Detroit, he graduated from Wilbur Wright High School in 1963. Wilbur Wright School was the premier technical school in Detroit at the time and Truskowski specialized in electronics. Upon graduation, he hired in to Ford Motor Co. at the Parts Distribution Center in Livonia, then the Frame Plant in the Rouge Complex. After a year of working production, he applied for and was accepted into the Ford Millwright apprenticeship program.

Lyndon Johnson was sworn in as president in January 1965 and the war in Vietnam was escalating rapidly. In March, the first combat troops consisting of 3,500 Marines landed in Vietnam and, by July, the number of military in Vietnam had swollen to 125,000.

Monthly draft calls were doubled to 35,000 and in late summer 1965, just as Truskowski was settling down at his new career, he received his draft notice. He went downtown to the induction center and was told to fill out a questionnaire. He filled it out, but was not expecting much to come of it as he assumed he would be inducted into the army.

Then his name was called and he was sent into an adjoining room where he and 49 other draftees were asked to join the navy. He was surprised but happy not to be assigned the army and gladly accepted. In

October 1965, he was inducted and was sent to the Great Lakes Naval Training Center near Chicago for boot camp. The navy had a request for 650 new recruits at the time, of which 50 were to come from Detroit and 600 from the West Coast, but a large outbreak of spinal meningitis in the west left the navy short of its quota.

Truskowski's boot camp training was then shortened to four weeks and he was assigned as communication specialist due to his extensive knowledge of electronics and sent to Norfolk, Va.

In December 1965, he was assigned to the U.S.S. Shenandoah destroyer tender, whose function was to maintain and repair naval ships at sea. Truskowski's job was to repair internal communication systems on the ships and he was given a high security clearance due to the sophisticated and classified electronics he would repair.

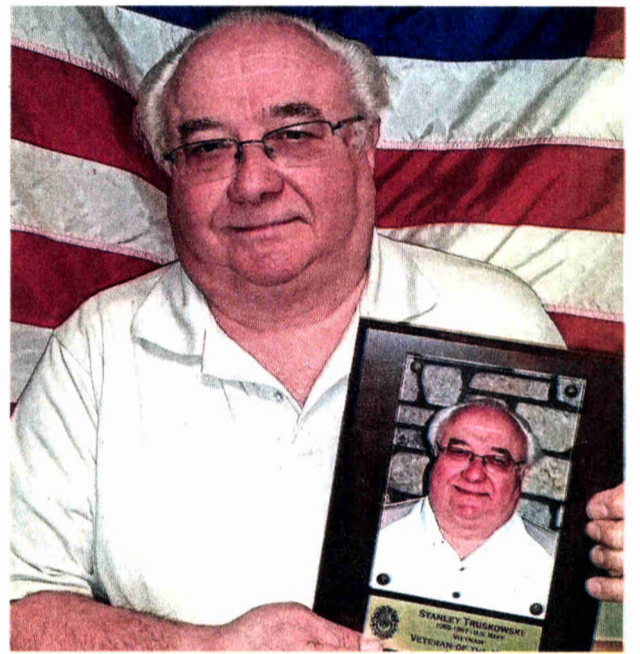
Their first assignment at sea was to sail to Puerto Rico, where they spent six weeks repairing ships. Their next assignment was to the Mediterranean Sea in May 1966. They went to Naples to service the 6th Fleet and then they spent six weeks at Malta before returning to Norfolk in December 1966. Truskowski said they serviced approximately 20 different ships during his time in service. Truskowski spent the rest of his time in the Norfolk shipyard repairing communications on various navy ships, including submarines.

After his discharge in October 1967, he returned to Detroit and went back to Ford Motor Co., where he completed his millwright apprenticeship. Truskowski married his wife Rosemary in 1965; they have three sons and moved to

Canton in 1974. He retired in 2000 after 36 years service with Ford and is a member of Post 32.

Truskowski was interviewed and presented a plaque with his picture and service information by members of the S.A.L. Veteran of the Month Committee. An additional plaque was also put on display in the vestibule of the American Legion Hall. Stan, Rosemary and his son Scott were present at the April S.A.L. membership meeting; a DVD of his interview was shown and he received a standing ovation for his service.

The S.A.L. invites local residents to attend their monthly meetings to listen to the Veteran of the Month.



Stanley Truskowski of Canton was honored by the American Legion in Livonia.

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Two arrested in Plymouth as AK-47 is seized

Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Two men found Friday with a semiautomatic rifle in downtown Plymouth will face misdemeanor charges.

Police stopped the pair at gunpoint shortly before 7 p.m. near the downtown parking deck as they were exiting toward Harvey Street in a Chevrolet Impala, said Lt. Jamie Grabowski, who is in charge of the Plymouth Police Department detective bureau. An unloaded AK-47 was found on the front passenger side of the car, Grabowski said.

"We didn't know what we were dealing with at that point," he said.

Police were responding to a call about two men who had been seen on top of the deck

with a rifle, described as possibly an AK-47, Grabowski said. The caller had described their vehicle as a green Impala.

Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy's office has approved misdemeanor charges for the men, who are scheduled to be arraigned Monday, May 9, in 35th District Court.

The driver, 22, of Wixom, faces a charge of operating a vehicle while intoxicated and improper possession of a firearm. Grabowski said the latter charge stems from the rifle being unsecured and accessible from inside the car's passenger compartment.

The passenger, 21, of Gaines, Mich., in Genesee County, was also charged with improper possession of a firearm, possessing a firearm

while under the influence of alcohol and possession of marijuana. Grabowski said police found about 2.5 grams of suspected marijuana in a pocket of the suspect's clothing.

The AK-47 had an unloaded clip, but a 30-round drum magazine, loaded with 20 rounds, was found in the Impala's glove compartment, Grabowski said. There was also a partially empty bottle of vodka in the car and an empty box that had held the .762-mm ammunition.

The men did not explain why they had the gun, Grabowski said. "There was really no explanation given," he said. Both men were released on bond Saturday.

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PLYMOUTH POLICE DEPARTMENT

This AK-47 semiautomatic rifle, plus clips, an ammunition box and vodka, were taken from two men Friday near the parking deck in downtown Plymouth. The pair face misdemeanor charges.

Police urge residents to turn in unwanted pills or drugs

The Canton Police Department offers a one-day drop-off point for unused or unwanted pills from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 30.

Prescription pills may be placed in a drop box inside the Canton police station lobby, 1150 S. Canton Center, Canton.

Canton alone collected 86 pounds of prescription drugs during the DEA's most recent effort last Sept. 26. Thousands of Americans across the nation discarded more than 350 tons of drugs that day. In all, 3,800 federal, state and local partners joined the DEA to collect 702,365 pounds at more than 5,000 sites across the United States.

For more information, call Patty Esselink at 734-394-5194 or the Canton Police Department at 734-394-5400.

Woman accused of driving car toward crowd

A large fight at a Canton mobile home park led to the arrest of an 18-year-old woman who was accused of driving a vehicle toward a crowd of people, though no one was hit, a police report said.

The incident unfolded about 10:20 p.m. Saturday at the West Point mobile home park, near Haggerty and Michigan Avenue. Police initially received a call that as many as 30 people were involved in a fight and that some had fled in a gray Ford Escort.

Police found a large crowd, including a 34-year-old woman who had a cut on her upper lip from what she described as an assault. She said the suspects came to her house after earlier texting and calling her 18-year-old daughter.

Another woman who lives in the same home told police she had been having trouble with the suspects at school over a boy she liked.

The 34-year-old mother told police the incident began when she and her family were having dinner at home and they heard a commotion outside. She said she looked outside and saw six females on her property asking for her daughter.

She went outside and told the females to leave as her daughter followed her. A fight ensued, then the suspects got into a

CANTON CRIME WATCH

Ford Escort and the driver allegedly veered over the grass toward the residents who had come outside, the report said.

The suspects then sped off in the car.

While police were on the scene, some of the suspects returned with their parents who, according to the report, were demanding an explanation for what had happened. One of the females in the car was identified as the earlier driver. She was taken into custody as potential criminal charges were pending.

Police cited another female for assault and battery.

IRS scam

A Canton man lost \$1,000 in a scam after he received a phone call claiming he would be arrested unless he paid money for taxes that he allegedly owed to the Internal Revenue Service, a police report said.

Police investigated the incident April 21 after the man's wife contacted police to report that she believed her husband had been a victim of fraud and she feared he might actually be with the suspects. Turns out he wasn't.

The man told police he had received phone calls showing a 9-1-1 caller identification and another indicating it came from the Canton Police Department, which it didn't. The caller claimed to be

from the police department and said he would be arrested unless he paid the \$1,000.

The man followed instructions to go to a retail store, get a MoneyGram and provide the information — and money — to someone purportedly in Virginia.

His wife also received phone calls that showed her husband's cellphone number and indicating he was with the caller. He wasn't. The caller also told the wife not to contact anyone.

The woman notified police and then sent texts to her husband trying to warn him that he was the victim of a scam. However, he already had made the payment by the time he received the texts.

Traffic-stop arrest

Police arrested a passenger wanted for warrants after making a routine traffic stop near on Haggerty, near Van Born.

Police stopped a 2003 silver Pontiac Bonneville about 9:40 p.m. Friday after noticing it had defective equipment. A passenger was taken into custody after police ran a background check and learned he was wanted in Washtenaw County for a probation violation, driving under the influence and child support issues.

— By Darrell Clem

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Archbishop Allen Vigneron, accompanied by the Rev. Bryan Shackett, sprinkles holy water on the site of the expansion at Our Lady of Good Counsel. About 500 people attended Sunday's groundbreaking ceremony. KELLY DOBSON

EXPANSION

Continued from Page A1

Riccardo.

Riccardo was joined by Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron, leader of the Archdiocese of Detroit, for the ceremonial groundbreaking, which also involved people from many facets of the parish community: its school, which is located in the city of Plymouth, its sports programs, its senior citizens, its child care ministry, its youth ministry and others.

Riccardo said the expansion had been a long time in the works and involved many people. "We've known for quite some time how pressed we are for space," he said.

He noted that St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City took more than 100 years to build and said that those who began that church knew they would not live to see it finished.

"They built it for the generations to come," he said.

'It's for the Gospel'

The Good Counsel expansion, Riccardo said, is meant to further the work of the parish: to offer every person in the community a personal encounter with Jesus.

"We're not interested in monuments or expansion for the sake of expansion. It's all for the Gospel," he said.

Good Counsel will celebrate its 100th anniversary as a parish in 2020.

In brief remarks, Vigneron paraphrased the Gospel reading that followed, from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

"When we look to the interests of our neighbors and the community, we are in a sense God's own co-workers," the archbishop said.

Vigneron was the first to toss a symbolic shovelful of dirt; he was followed by parishioner

Tony Greiner, whose late wife Valerie, who had been the finance director at Detroit County Day school, chaired a parish development committee and helped bring together resources and professionals for the project.

Valerie Grenier died of cancer in December 2013 at age 55. Her husband said she had been touched by the story of those who planned St. Peter's Basilica, a story Riccardo had told as the Good Counsel project got underway.

"Valerie knew she wasn't going to be here today and she wanted to be part of that legacy," her husband said.

Parish growth

The parish, which has about 3,800 families, has grown by about 800 families in the last eight years and there are programs at the complex day and night.

"We call this the city that never sleeps," said Cheryl Conway, a parish member. The increase in the number of parish families with young children, she noted, has been especially pronounced.

Riccardo said the parish has already raised about \$4.1 million of the \$6.5 million needed, with contributions from about 1,100 families, and will continue to raise money. Good Counsel also has a line of credit from the archdiocese, "which, praise God, we will never need," he said.

The parish is still awaiting some building permits before construction can begin in earnest. The addition is expected to be completed in about a year.

After the groundbreaking, which was attended by about 500 people, parishioners and visitors enjoyed hamburgers and hot dogs, activities for children and a performance by the folk trio Troublesome Creek.

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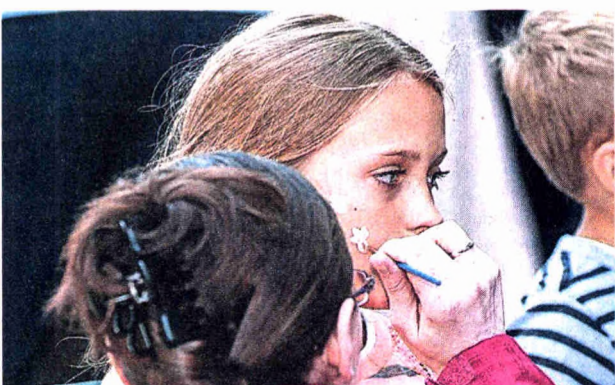
Archbishop Allen Vigneron poses with a group representing Our Lady of Good Counsel's parish school, including principal John Czaplicki (left). KELLY DOBSON



Archbishop Allen Vigneron thanks Good Counsel parishioner Tony Greiner, who participated in Sunday's groundbreaking. Greiner's late wife Valerie was instrumental in raising money for and enlisting professionals to work on the expansion project. KELLY DOBSON



Parishioner Audrey Kidman blows some bubbles during the Sunday picnic at Our Lady of Good Counsel. KELLY DOBSON



Rayleigh Banka, a third-grader at Good Counsel, gets her face painted during the picnic that followed Sunday's groundbreaking. KELLY DOBSON



Archbishop Allen Vigneron offers a prayer for the expansion project at Our Lady of Good Counsel while Matthew Squires, 7, a student at the parish school, takes care of the archbishop's crozier. At left is the Rev. Stephen Pullis, Vigneron's secretary. KELLY DOBSON



The Revs. Bryan Shackett (left) and John Simoneau stand by as Sunday's groundbreaking gets underway. KELLY DOBSON

Partners offer annual Healthy Summer Kick-Off

Saint Joseph Mercy Health System is pleased to partner with IHA, Canton Leisure Services, the American Cancer Society and the Canton Observer to offer the fifth annual Healthy Summer Kick-Off from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 14.

"As the largest health care provider in Canton, we're committed to promoting health and wellness in our local community," said Greg Sears, executive director of ambulatory services at SJMHS. "We're excited to kick off summer with fun activities that promote an active lifestyle and healthy living this season."

Join TV health personality Lila Lazarus for this interactive, family-friendly event held at St. Joseph Mercy Canton, located at 1600 S. Canton Center Road. Probiotic Therapy Services has joined the event this year and will be providing a rock wall for visitors to climb, free of charge. Free Zumba sessions will be taking place throughout the day, courtesy of The Summit, as well as digital fingerprinting, sponsored by Comcast. Register to win Tigers baseball tickets, a three-month pass to The Summit and an iPad mini.

Free children's bike helmets and fittings will be given out starting at noon to the first 200 kids in attendance, on behalf of SJMHS. IHA pediatricians and family medi-



Television health personality Lila Lazarus will be on hand for the fifth annual event.

cine physicians will provide activities and demonstrations on healthy eating.

St. Joseph Mercy Canton will be offering a number of free health screenings, including blood pressure testing, body mass index and skin cancer screenings, which is timely as May is National Skin Cancer Awareness Month.

"With the weather warming up, people are getting out more in the sun and skin cancer concerns will be more important than ever," said Ann LaFond, M.D., a dermatologist at SJMHS.

The popular Health Exploration Station at St. Joseph Mercy Canton will be open for tours and play; and the Urgent Care will host a teddy bear clinic, so don't forget to bring your favorite stuffed animal to be mended.

Arctic Edge will be on hand with pickup hockey

activities and information on hockey safety.

Refreshments will be provided and all activities are free.

"One of our priorities is to promote an active and healthy community," Canton Leisure Services Director Debbie Bilbrey-Honsowetz said. "This terrific partnership with St. Joseph Mercy Canton provides an opportunity for families to take advantage of some wonderful health initiatives right in their own backyard."

The Relay For Life of Canton, coordinated by the American Cancer Society, will also take place, with the opening ceremony as well as survivor and caregiver celebration starting at 10 a.m. in Heritage Park. To learn more or register, go to relayforlife.org/CantonMI, or contact Megan Schaper at 248-663-3417 or megan.schaper@can-cer.org.

Diva Day brings women to Plymouth in droves

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Antoinette Petrarca and Diane Dimanin, Canton residents, met Saturday morning for breakfast at Panera Bread in Plymouth. They then headed out into the sunshine for the annual spring Diva Day, held to showcase downtown Plymouth for girls and women.

"The beads," Dimanin said of the shiny pink beads being passed out on Ann Arbor Trail that morning. "And camaraderie. Girl power. It's fun. Breakfast at Panera and shopping."

Petrarca likes to dine at E.G. Nick's and Compari's in downtown Plymouth and noted some other eateries have closed. "So that's a little disappointing," she said. Added Dimanin, "We look forward to the Friday night concerts" in Plymouth. She also likes the Friday jazz concert series on Ford Road in Canton.

Also enjoying Diva Day were Liz Darga of Plymouth Township with daughter Emma, 17, a Canton High School sophomore.

"We're meeting some friends. We're just going to hang out and have a good time," Liz Darga said. "Looking very forward to it. Definitely a girly day."

This was Emma Darga's first Diva Day. "It's always fun," she said of time with mom. They planned lunch and shopping time, with Liz Darga saying, "Just enjoying it. A beautiful, beautiful day."

A boon for retailers

Carol Uber owns Home Sweet Home on Ann Arbor Trail. "We have a few big events in the year that really help the retailers," Uber said. "On a normal day, we would never get hundreds of people. The perfect day. The sun's out. It's the beginning of our season."

Her customers run some 95 percent women, "although we love when men come in. We know they're coming in for jewelry," said Uber, who also carries many items for the home.

For Diva Day, she said, retailers chip in to buy the beads, as well as covering advertising costs. Facebook and posters around town get the word out.

"Anybody that walks into the store, that's good exposure," said Uber, who's been in business in Plymouth since 2007 and at a Trenton site before that. "A lot of people do purchase today. If they don't purchase, they'll come back."

Her store was bustling Saturday morning as she announced an imminent drawing for a prize. "Just a wonderful day. Look how many people are here," Uber said. Over on Forest Ave-



Canton residents Antoinette Petrarca and Diane Dimanin started off the day at Panera Bread in Plymouth before collecting their Diva Day pink beads.



Liz Darga of Plymouth Township with daughter Emma, 17, a Canton High School sophomore, said of Diva Day, "We're just going to hang out and have a good time."

nue, owner of Opndohr Scott Smith was also busy. "I have the best customers in the world. I'm really fortunate," said Smith, who's been in retail in Plymouth 33 years.

His other store was more decorative arts, "artist-inspired merchandise," he noted, with Opndohr more vintage items. "I sell a lot of jewelry," Smith said. "Glassware's very popular. I've been a vintage lover all my life. You can buy great things at really great prices."

Of Plymouth's retail changes, Smith noted, "There were a lot more stores here 30 years ago." The transition from retail to restaurant is nationwide, he said.

"We have the cream of the crop, if you want specialty retail," Smith said. "This is where to come," including to meet owners at their businesses.

Said Smith, "I love what I do. I'm always in the quest for new, amazing items." Gardening season's a focus now, he added.

Smith said some 90 percent of his merchandise is 30-plus years old and he defines antique as pre-World War II. He noted a United Kingdom gentleman recently purchased three lamps at Opndohr to ship home, having sought mid-century modern he couldn't find elsewhere.

"I have a very eclectic style here," Smith said. "My customers are all

ages. The millennials love my store, as well as the customers who have been coming in 20 years."

He was helped with the Diva Day bustling business by sales staffer Lisa Gremplewski, a Westland resident.

'Plymouth's coming alive'

Wes Graff, president of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, was keeping things running smoothly for Diva Day. "It's a good kickoff for spring in Plymouth," Graff said. "Plymouth really starts coming alive for spring. We're getting back to people being outside, walking around and enjoying Plymouth."

Graff noted the Plymouth farmers market will open Saturday, May 7, in The Gathering downtown, with Diva Day and market opening key spring events for the chamber, which sponsors the market. Market hours will be 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with flowers and some produce early on. "The patios are open now. Plymouth's coming alive," Graff said.

He was joined by Tony Bruscato, Downtown Development Authority director, who praised the event and chamber. "I'm just helping," Bruscato said as he handed out beaded necklaces and information on local stores and restaurants.

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Weissman has been a financial adviser with Wells Fargo Advisors for five years and has eight



Eppler

Weissman

years' experience in the brokerage industry. He has a bachelor of science in materials science and engineering from University of Michigan and a master of science in materials science and engineering from Stanford University.

Eppler has been a financial adviser with Wells Fargo Advisors for five years and has 21 years' experience in the

brokerage industry. He has a bachelor of science in business administration from Central Michigan University.

Weissman lives in Canton with his wife Stacy and their two children, Lainey and Kylie. He is a member of the board of directors for the Friendship Circle and the University of Michigan Hillel.

Eppler lives in Plymouth with his wife Marisa. He has five children. He is a member of the board of directors for Cancer Support Community of Greater Ann Arbor and the Fowler Center for Outdoor Learning.

Former Plymouth biz woman finds success

Danielle Alexander
Staff Writer

After working in outdoor advertising for 10 years in Chicago, Candice Simons recognized a gap in the out-of-home industry and a strong need for independent sales representation nationally.

In order to keep advertising dollars in her hometown as well as the local communities, she moved back to Northville in 2013 to start Brooklyn Outdoor, a Detroit-based outdoor advertising company with satellite offices in New York and Los Angeles.

"Northville is my happy place," Simons said.

While a student at Winchester Elementary, Simons showed up to Career Day dressed in a suit and carrying a briefcase (complete with tassels and a combination lock) with high hopes of becoming a lawyer in the future.

"You don't say to yourself, 'When I grow up, I



Northville High School 2002 graduate Candice Simons owns two Detroit-based companies: Brooklyn Outdoor and J'adore Detroit.

want to sell billboards," Simons said, laughing. "It's not something you particularly think about, but you're always seeing outdoor advertising."

Simons graduated from Northville High School in 2002 and said her childhood and teen years were spent at Music in the Park, in down-

town coffee shops and at the Mill Race Historical Village gazebo dancing with friends. She still keeps in touch with 15 girlfriends who she met while students at Winchester.

"Two of them have bridal showers this weekend," Simons said. After two years at

Michigan State University and then finishing her degree in marketing with a concentration in sales at DePaul University in Chicago, Simons worked a variety of part-time jobs until she found a good career fit.

"When I graduated, the economy was booming and, unlike now, everyone was hiring, so I was fortunate to be able to be picky," Simons said. "I interviewed anywhere and everywhere because I wanted to find something that was right. I gave a lot of thought to what I wanted to do and, since I was making good money at a bar at the time, I didn't feel that same pressure that many graduates today feel."

Eventually, she met a family member of one of her co-workers at the bar who owned a small advertising company. Simons said the company was just starting out and the owners were not particularly hands-on, so she had to "wear all of the hats."

"Chicago was an in-

tegral experience for me, because the knowledge I gained there has allowed me to come back and share it with Detroit," Simons said. "No other companies that do what I do are based in Michigan and, because of that, we have become a 'first call' for national companies looking for Detroit campaigns and events."

That Detroit status is a point of pride for Simons' company, which recently moved from Plymouth to its new loft headquarters in Detroit's historic Eastern Market. Brooklyn Outdoor's name originated from one of Simons' rescue dogs who goes by Brooklyn, her grandma's cottage that is located outside of Brooklyn, Mich., and the fact that Simons views Detroit as the "new Brooklyn."

"Also, just like Brooklyn, I'm a little different and off-center," Simons said. "You never know what you're going to get with me and Brooklyn just fits really well with my personality and

style." In addition to Brooklyn Outdoor, Simons also operates an event company called J'adore Detroit, which features a local blog that connects readers with all the "great people places and things Detroit has to offer."

"When I moved back, I wanted to explore downtown and slowly I started falling in love with it," Simons said. "I wanted people to not be afraid to come to Detroit and see what's going on here and to explore."

The Brooklyn Outdoor Loft is at 2501 Russell St. (Suite 400) in Detroit. In addition to Simons, Dave Pidgeon, Katherine Vanderbush and Emily Nelson make up the Brooklyn Outdoor team.

For more information about Simons and her companies, go to www.brooklynoutdoor.com and www.jadore-detroit.com/#aboutjadore.

dnalexander@hometownlife.com
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Kid Rock 'devastated' over death of aide

Katrease Stafford
Michigan.com

Kid Rock's personal assistant, who was killed in an apparent ATV accident on the musician's Nashville, Tenn., estate was from metro Detroit, where he had previously worked in real estate management and advertising sales.

The body of 30-year-old Farmington Hills native Michael Sacha, a Harrison High School graduate, was discovered by Rock and a friend at the sprawling estate about 11:36 a.m. Monday, according to a news release from the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department. According

to police, Rock called 9-1-1 and officers responded to the scene and found Sacha on the embankment of the property's long driveway.

Brian Haas, public information officer with the Nashville Fire Department, said firefighters responded to a call Monday morning on Knight Drive and found a man face down on the side of a driveway. The man was already dead by the time the fire department arrived.

Detectives said they think Sacha drove two people, who had attended a cookout at the property the previous night, down the driveway to meet with an Uber driver at

midnight. While riding the ATV back toward the residence, Sacha lost control and crashed, police said.

Rock, whose real name is Robert Ritchie, began looking for Sacha late Monday morning when he couldn't find him at the residence. Nashville police said Sacha's death was determined to be an accident.

Rock released a statement late Monday, saying he was "beyond devastated" to confirm Sacha's death.

"He was a member of our family and one of the greatest young men I have ever had the pleasure to not only work with, but also to become

friends with," Rock said. "I know I speak for us all in sharing my deepest condolences to his family. I cannot imagine how they must feel. Myself, the band, our family, friends and co-workers are devastated over this loss."

Rock said he and Sacha were supposed to return Monday to Michigan, but he decided to stay in Nashville until he could "bring him home to his family."

"We've already been contacted by the press asking if it was me who was in the accident, so I want to stop any rumors before they spread," Rock said. "I'm asking everyone to please re-



Farmington Hills native Michael Sacha was Kid Rock's personal aide.

spect our and his families' privacy in this difficult time. RIP Mike. We will never forget you, my friend."

Tributes for Sacha were posted across social media after news of his

death begin to spread.

One person, with the user name katflashfever2000 posted on Rock's website that a chance encounter with Sacha left a memorable impression.

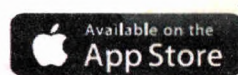


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OUR VIEW

Local district courts carry a heavy load

Detroit Police Chief James Craig appeared Sunday, April 17, on a television broadcast in the morning, noting a disparity in bonds for two shooting suspects involving police.

In Livonia, bond was set at \$1 million cash for a suspect. A 23-year-old Livonia man was in the hospital and police custody after Livonia police say he pointed a gun at an officer during a traffic stop early Sunday morning, April 10.

Livonia police say the man was pulled over at about 2 a.m. that day near the intersection of Lyndon and Farmington roads after he was observed driving erratically near I-96 and Farmington by a caller who dialed 9-1-1.

In Detroit a few days later, a suspect shot at an officer with a semiautomatic weapon in that city — and received a \$3,000 bond. On the TV broadcast, Craig acknowledged he's unfamiliar with Livonia's district court, but wondered aloud about the great disparity.

That got us to thinking about our local district courts and the roles district court judges and magistrates play day in and day out in carrying out justice.

Have you ever been to a local district court for an afternoon and seen a judge handle the variety and complexity of cases that come before him or her? It takes knowledge of the law, sure, but also humanity and compassion to truly see the individuals before the bench and decide what's best for their futures.

Teen Courts, in which judges and support staff help as teens weigh in on peers who've committed less-serious infractions, are becoming more common. So, too, are Veterans Courts, to address some of the issues returning service men and women face in their adjustment to civilian life.

Novi's 52-1 District Court includes a Veterans Court, a specialty program that pairs defendants with a probation officer, an attorney, Veterans Administration representatives, a therapist and a judge. The goal is to help those charged with a crime conquer sobriety, anger problems and issues that led up to the criminal charges, a recent story in this newspaper noted.

The 52-1 court also operates a Sobriety Court and Drug Court and is among many regionally seeking new paths to rehabilitation that take teamwork and tenacity.

The city of Wayne's 29th District Court has a Mental Health Court, sometimes called MHC. Its website notes MHC "is designed for adult individuals with a severe mental illness, co-occurring disorder and/or a developmental disability who have been charged with one or more criminal offenses. The criminal offense must be a misdemeanor or ordinance violation or a felony charge which the prosecuting attorney is willing to reduce to a misdemeanor."

The website details the team, including the prosecutor, defense attorney, mental health coordinator/probation officer, Hegira Programs/case manager and Wayne Police Department.

Their collective goal is teamwork aimed at getting proper treatment to keep offenders with mental illnesses out of jail or the criminal justice system.

Agencies like Plymouth-based Growth Works have worked for decades on the issue of juvenile offenders and have had friends at district courts to help them get young people back on track to brighter futures.

Such efforts can help first-time offenders and those involved in minor infractions avoid a criminal record, which impedes employment and educational opportunities.

District court judges, magistrates and support staffers deserve a round of applause for their "outside the box" thinking on ways to balance legal realities with the needs of criminal defendants and their families, as well as victims of crime. Balancing the law with compassion takes thought, effort and local knowledge these courts can offer.

And if you have a free afternoon from work, consider stopping by your local district court to observe justice in action — at the local level. Chances are, you'll gain a new or renewed appreciation for the men and women who run and staff these courts and their day-to-day responsibilities.

LETTERS

Armenians seek peace

This year marks the 101st anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. In 1915, more than 1.5 million Armenian men, women and children were driven from their ancestral homelands and brutally murdered by order of the Ottoman Empire in Turkey. There hasn't been a family living that was not affected by the Genocide, mine included. One

hundred and one years later, we continue to seek answers, recognition, reparations but, most importantly, we continue to survive as a nation. On April 24, Armenians in Michigan and around the globe will commemorate these atrocities as we have for more than 100 years. Time does not heal all wounds — in fact, since the genocide occurred, Armenia and its people continue to face struggle after struggle,

yet our leaders continue to take the side of commerce over historical facts. Violence between the Azeri Turks and Armenians needs to end.

In 1990, Armenia declared independence from the Soviet Union. There was much to celebrate, as many of us only dreamed about a free and independent country. However, as we know, independence comes with a price — and Armenia's economy is the victim this time.

We turn to our leaders in Washington, D.C., to condemn such violence so that we can eliminate such atrocities from happening again.

Ara Topouzian
Farmington Hills

Grade levels a problem

I'm writing regarding Sen. Colbeck's column on third-grade reading readiness.

Our system of grade levels by age forces children to demonstrate certain skills at certain ages when, in fact, each child's intellectual and emotional maturation rates can vary wildly, especially at these young ages. I believe that our tight grade level system of education is the root of the problem. This has been made even worse when Livonia separated lower and upper elementary schools.

As parents and adults, we should know by simple observation how uneven a child's development occurs. Do you

remember how one of your children took months and months to finally walk on his own? And then his little sister crawls for a week and gets up and starts walking in a day! The same kind of thing goes on with learning and we can't predict when these changes will take place.

I believe in the "Mastery Method" of education: lessons are broken down into small hunks and when the student "masters" the material and demonstrates skills for that lesson, she can move on to the next step; no matter what age. I didn't really understand the mathematics of fractions, ratios or slope until I was in my early 40s and went back to college.

Instead of legislating

"teaching" from Lansing, we need to do away with this controlled grade structure where promotion by years-of-age is the only criteria for pass or fail. This will require that we return to "One Room School House" buildings that are smaller in size with teams of teachers that have the authority to quickly change lessons, sometimes on a minute-by-minute basis. I've known several children that are ready to learn mathematics at the high school level, yet can't spell or write simple words or sentences.

We need to understand the difference between "teaching" centered education and "learning" centered education.

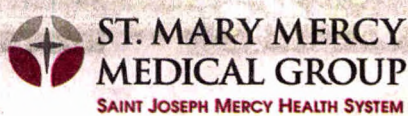
Frank Kalinski
Livonia

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Bill and Rod's opening outlet store on Middlebelt

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

It almost came to be that the new outlet for Bill and Rod's Appliance wasn't going to be in Livonia.

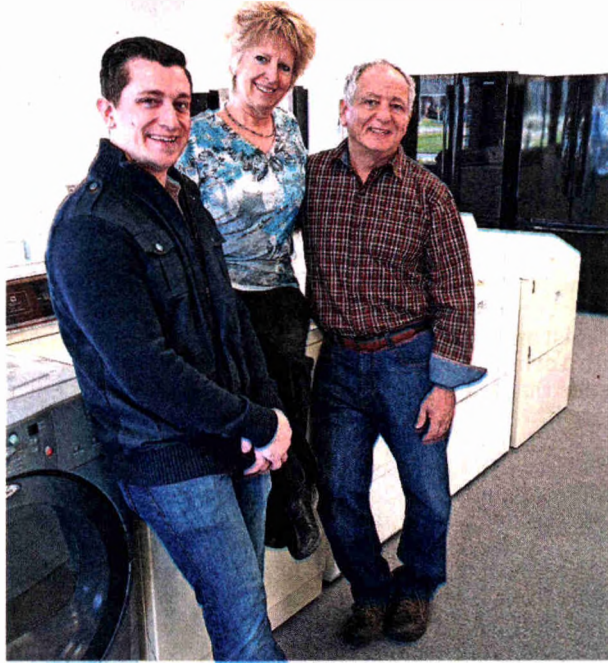
The company wanted to open a second shop to sell discounted appliances and other items, but had a hard time finding a place in a new market in southwest Oakland County.

"We were actually looking other places. We first were looking in the Novi/Wixom area and that's where we thought we wanted to be," said Joe Legato with Bill and Rod's. "It just seemed that every place that we looked at fell through. And we're the type of people that, if it falls through, don't sweat it, because there's a reason you're not supposed to be there."

That led Legato and his parents, Milford residents Kim and Linda Legato, to look closer to the main Bill and Rod's shop on Middlebelt, north of Five Mile. Lo and behold, they discovered the former Country Cupboard space was open and they signed a lease. Soon, they'll open the new outlet center at 15970 Middlebelt in Livonia.

There's no official opening date yet — the business is waiting on a few more approvals before setting a soft opening date — but the shop hopes to hold a grand opening sale May 26-28.

The outlet shop will sell washing machines, dishwashers, ranges, wall ovens and other kitchen appliances. The back of the shop will also showcase some mattresses and other furniture. Items range from being new to being more than a decade old, though Joe



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Joe, Linda and Kim Legato will open a second store, just a few doors north of their current location, featuring closeouts, scratch and dent and used and repaired appliances.

Legato said they all go through an inspection process before being sold.

"We've kind of looked in that direction because there's great product you can get out there at a significant discount, if you buy right," the South Lyon resident said. "We can pass that savings along as a result."

'It's a vision that's always been here'

The main store will remain open and continue to service customers there as well.

"We've always sold used appliances. So here, the demand is up for used appliances," Linda Legato said.

The company hopes to hire more employees, including sales and technical workers for the new outlet store as business increases. Anyone interested can apply through the company's

main website, billandrod'sappliance.com, by hitting the "contact us" button.

It's an expansion the small company, which has been around for 53 years, didn't expect would happen so quickly: Bill and Rod's moved to its current location more than three years ago. Now, it's looking to add even more space as they've run out of room for older and used models at their current shop.

"After 3.5 years of doing business, we get a collection and it's time to open up the doors," Kim Legato said. "It's a vision that's always been here and it's now finally showing its fruits from it."

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My list of must-have apps

For those who have already grown bored with Snapchat, Periscope, Trivia Crack and their existing emoji keyboard, here is a look at some apps that are worth consideration. Despite reaching a point of app saturation and full phones, these productivity and entertainment apps are worth the download.

BitMoji: An increasingly popular app for millennials, this app merges popular emojis with the dated Bit Strip. Don't know what either of these means? That's OK. Download BitMoji, create a character and you can text custom images such as your character celebrating a holiday or playing a sport. Use BitMoji to randomly text a friend or family member. Your pop-culture knowledge may surprise them.

UltraText: UltraText allows you to create and send GIFs (animated images) through messaging apps on your phone. It is worth noting that Facebook messenger has GIF capabilities linked through an additional GIF app. But do you really need three apps from Facebook (or four or five if you count Instagram and What's App)? Soon they will control your entire phone!

ESPN App: A fixture on every sports fan's phone got much better recently as ESPN merged its traditional Score Center app with the Watch ESPN app. Now users can check scores, read news and even watch live games on their phone. Last month, I used my home's WiFi connection to watch a bowl game on my smart phone without experiencing any lag or issues. Simply select your cable carrier and get mobile access to live games and programming, which is usually



Jon Gunnells
TECH SAVVY

abundant considering the breadth of ESPN networks.

Untappd: The craft beer craze is not slowing down. Users can download Untappd to rate beers, discover nearby breweries, trending drinks and see what friends are trying. Untappd is a terrific way to find a drink that suits your tastes while also documenting what you've already tried. Didn't like a specific brew? Mark it down so you don't get fooled again. The more you try, the more badges you can earn — just remember to pull up your Uber app if you've overdone it and need to get home.

Hyperlapse: Not exactly new, but a great tool nonetheless to create quick and easy Hyperlapse video on your phone. Great for recapping a landscaping or DIY project around the house, capturing a sunset or anything else you can think of. Like the other apps on this list, Hyperlapse is free, but some

premium features may cost you a few dollars.

One Second Every Day: If you love capturing photos and videos of your pets, kids or lifestyle, consider downloading One Second Every Day. Like Hyperlapse, it gives users an easy tool to create videos or photo galleries using a few seconds of content from each day. Consider it the opposite of Snapchat as you can create memories that last instead of those that disappear after 10 seconds.

Games: Even if your storage and cloud space are bursting at the seams there is always room for another game, right? **Candy Crush Jelly Saga, Surfers, Hay Day and Terraria** remain chart toppers in for free games in the Apple Store. Meanwhile, **Madden NFL** mobile might help you get through the months without football. movie fans can also get their fix via a variety of **Marvel** and **StarWars** games — some even for free.

Jon Gunnells is a social and digital media manager for the Airfoil Group, a Detroit-based marketing and PR agency. He can be reached at Jonathan.Gunnells@gmail.com.

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OPENING DAY FOR PCLL

KIDS OF SUMMER



Players from various Plymouth-Canton Little League teams line up for opening day festivities at McClumpha Park in Plymouth Township.

Baseball, fun and family make opening day sweet for Plymouth-Canton Little League players

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The multi-colored aluminum bat swung by Cameron Boucher squarely met the clean, white baseball and sent it on a fast trip that ended more than 200 feet away.

Cameron, who plays for the Royals of the Plymouth-Canton Little League Major Division, flung the bat away and then trotted with pride and confidence around the bases, his fence-clearing home run providing an exclamation mark to Saturday's opening day festivities at McClumpha Park in Plymouth Township.

The homer sparked the Royals' 4-0 win over the Pirates, one of 13 games played on the park's four diamonds all morning and afternoon — under perfect blue skies.

Actual baseball wasn't the only hit of the day, of course. There were player introductions, with many of the league's 324 players (mostly boys, but including a few girls in the lower divisions) lined up by team around the perimeter of Field No.



GREG LOSACCO
Major Division Pirates pitcher Ryan Hines fires the baseball toward catcher Barrett Barker, while Royals batter Danny Fletcher and umpire Don Lohmann get set for the pitch.

1's infield dirt.

All about fun

Among them was Royals utility player Nolan Dodds, 11.

"I don't really know how to describe it," Nolan said, when asked about what playing baseball means to him. "Just having fun and coming out every day to hang out with people."

Fun summed up the day in a peanut shell. Plus, it wouldn't be opening day without hot dogs and cold pop for fans of all ages to enjoy. And don't forget about little kids getting their faces painted.

See **OPENING DAY**, Page B2

ABOUT PCLL

Plymouth-Canton Little League is committed to providing boys and girls ages 5-14 the opportunity to learn and play baseball in a safe and enjoyable environment while developing the qualities of sportsmanship, respect, discipline and teamwork.

In addition to the regular baseball season (April until early July), PCLL provides additional opportunities for players to participate in baseball clinics and tournaments.

PCLL operates T-Ball, Machine Pitch/Minor, Major, Intermediate (50/70) and Junior divisions, which play under the charter of Little League International.

Source: Plymouth-Canton Little League website

NFL DRAFT

Hutchison makes NFL scouts' radar

Canton resident, ex-Huskie hopeful for chance at pros

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Brandon Hutchison played his college football in virtual anonymity in the Upper Peninsula.

An undersized defensive tackle and occasional rush end at Michigan Tech, the 2011 Northville High grad played in 30 career games in four seasons for the Huskies, finishing with a modest total of 48 tackles and 40 assists.

But if there's a will, then there's a way for Hutchison, who has suddenly caught the eye of NFL scouts.

It's highly doubtful Hutchison will hear his name called on the NFL Draft board by the time Saturday's seventh round concludes in Chicago, but there's more than a good chance he'll still end up getting a shot.

"Realistically, right now I think the best possibility for me is as an undrafted free agent," said Hutchison, who has intrigued NFL personnel as a potential outside linebacker or special teams player. "I've formed enough entry where there is a chance or possibility, I could get drafted in the sixth or seventh round. There's a chance that even if they like me enough, I can get a camp invite. But I think I'll be in the middle. I'm going to get a contract draft day or the day after the draft as a free agent."



Hutchison

Happening fast

It's been whirlwind for Hutchison since he played his final game for Michigan Tech, which finished 7-3 his senior season.

"Going to Tech, I always had a goal to play professionally after the season," said Hutchison, a Canton resident. "I was named honorable mention for the GLIAC, kind of like the SEC of (NCAA) Division II, the top league in the country. Obviously, I was a defensive tackle, 250 pounds, so that was kind of something in itself."

In January, Hutchison got an invite to the Dream Bowl, a senior all-star game in Virginia Beach, Va., which featured primarily small college players.

"It was great," Hutchison said. "It was a great experience to travel, play with guys that probably come from 30 to 35 states only from Division II, Division III and then I-AA. It was a cool experience to play where all 22 guys on the field are 'quote, unquote' all-stars."

A month after the Dream Bowl, things started happening quickly for Hutchison. He

See **HUTCHISON**, Page B5

BOYS LACROSSE

Chiefs pour it on in rout of Rocks

Pakula scores five goals to spark Canton's 15-3 victory against rival

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

If there is a way to stop Canton senior attackman Carson Pakula, Salem coaches and players haven't figured it out.

Monday night, on the junior varsity grass field at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, Pakula and his Chiefs teammates cruised around and through Salem players, almost at will, en route to a 15-3 Kensington Conference varsity boys lacrosse victory.

Pakula again led the way, as he has most nights this season for the Chiefs (9-0 overall, 2-0 in the conference), with five goals.

"He's very dangerous," Canton head coach Fred Karam said about Pakula. "Last year, he had a great year and, this year, he's probably averaging four goals a game."

"He's on track for 50 goals this year; just a very outstanding, quality captain, a stellar student and a great leader."

Ready to score

An example of the quick-strike nature of Pakula and the rest of a deep Canton lineup came with about 5:40 left in the contest. Threading a 15-yard

pass was midfielder Connor Flannigan, sending the ball in front of the Salem goal to Pakula.

The recipient of the pass caught it, pivoted and whipped the ball into the Salem net for his fifth goal of the night, making it 14-2.

"I know if I split the defenders and get to an open spot, I know if I get there, my team will look for me and we'll get a goal," Pakula said. "It's good for the team."

Pakula quickly tried to move the attention away from his own achievements, listing teammates such as middies Micah Rinke and Ben Phillips



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Salem's Alex Tish (left) tries to thwart another rush by Canton attackman Carson Pakula, who scored five goals Monday night.

See **CHIEFS**, Page B5



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OPENING DAY

Continued from Page B1

Miracle League of Plymouth players Gavin and Jamie Jones each threw a ceremonial first pitch to catcher Jonah Radwanski of the PCLL Major Division Royals before the Royals-Pirates contest.

"It's a great day today. We have great weather, the kids love it," said Don Lohrmann, PCLL board member and chief umpire. "Just to see the kids come out there and tip their hats and be a part of a ceremony, just standing around the baseball field and ready to play, it was really nice to see."

"Really, it's what it's all about with Little League, the kids. Seeing the smiles on their faces."

Lohrmann added that there's nothing else he'd rather be doing than joking back and forth with players who call him "Ump Don."

"This is great; I'm excited," Lohrmann said. "I've been doing this for a long time. I love doing it. I know almost all the kids."

"And they know me by first name. It's just great having them come up there and I always look forward to my conversations with the catchers during the game."

Be thankful

Meanwhile, according to the league's new president, Jeff Holt (who also coaches the Major Division Royals, which includes players ages 11-12), the involvement of the Miracle League of Plymouth perhaps could be considered a different kind of *purpose* pitch.

"When you have a chance to watch little kids from the Miracle League and realize ... there are no guarantees in life," Holt said. "So you have to be thankful for every good moment you get."

As Holt spoke, he looked out onto the outfield grass during warmups as players ran their sprints.

"For these two little kids to come out here, one in a wheelchair, to throw out that opening pitch and these boys are just running and having fun, it just opens your eyes to how much, how blessed we are," Holt said.

Holt said not all PCLL divisions played games Saturday because McClumpha Park fields feature 60-foot base paths and 46 feet from home plate to the pitcher's mound. The Juniors Division (ages 13-14) requires regulation size fields. But all age groups participated in opening day activities.

The new president got a little emotional when discussing the shoulder patches being sported by all four teams in the Major Division (Royals, Pirates, Orioles, Cardinals), which honor the memory of Holt's dad Robert "Kitten" Holt, who died in January at age 75.

Kitten Holt was Jeff's own Little League coach and has a field named in his honor.

Family ties

"We're working hard to build a culture of family at Plymouth-Canton Little League, where people feel they are part of something bigger than themselves," he said.

A third generation of the Holt family is involved with Little League, too. Jeff's son, 11-year-old Elijah, pitches for the Royals.

"My board surprised me by having these patches made (honoring Kitten Holt)," Jeff Holt said. "My son is going to be pitching today, with his father coaching him and his granddaddy on his sleeve."

Elijah made his dad and grandpa proud. He struck out 13 Pirates in the opener, with Matthew Nagy pitching a scoreless sixth to finish the shutout.

Both pitchers threw to catcher Radwanski, who caught the ceremonial first pitches from Gavin and Jamie Jones of the Miracle League of Plymouth.

"Jonah was super excited (to catch the ceremonial pitches)," said Kurt Radwanski, his dad and Royals assistant coach. "When I told him, he was euphoric and he told everybody, all his buddies, all his aunts and uncles."

"He was very, very excited. The whole family was. When coach Jeff told him, he was just beaming to this. It's a big honor."

tsmith@hometownlife.com
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Cameron Boucher of the Major Division Royals circles the bases after his fence-clearing homer in the first inning Saturday.

GREG LOSACCO



A drone captured this photo of PCLL players lined up around the edge of the infield of McClumpha Park Field No. 1 during Saturday's opening day festivities.

PCLL



Miracle League of Plymouth players Gavin (left) and Jamie Jones each threw a ceremonial first pitch to catcher Jonah Radwanski of the PCLL Major Division Royals.

PCLL



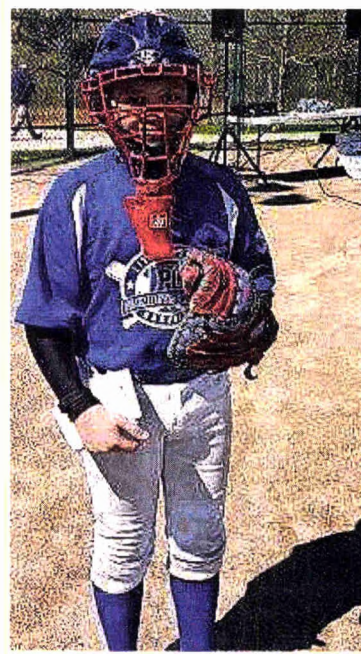
First baseman Nicholas Hoffman of the Major Division Royals looks to tag Pirates base runner Tate Marco.

GREG LOSACCO



During PCLL opening day ceremonies at McClumpha Park, players watch as the U.S. flag is presented.

PCLL



Sporting a colorful team jersey featuring his name on the back is Major Division Royals catcher Jonah Radwanski.

PCLL

2016 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

FIRST TEAM



ERIN HULT, CANTON

The team co-captain and third-year varsity player took her game up a notch for the KLAA South Division champion Chiefs.

Hult averaged 14 points to lead the team and made 75 percent of her free throws to help Canton close out wins. The all-KLAA selection also led the Chiefs with two blocks per contest and was honored as the team's top offensive player.

"She possesses an outstanding shooting touch from anywhere on the court," coach Rob Heitmeyer said. "She could be counted on all year to do well in pressure moments such as hitting a buzzer-beater trey against Grosse Pointe South or scoring 23 points in the district final against Northville."



CAMREE CLEGG, WAYNE

Clegg was a dynamic play-maker and scorer for the resurgent Zebras, who went from not winning a single game last year to posting a 16-5 record.

On the way to earning all-state and all-conference accolades, Clegg averaged 23.8 points and 7.1 assists per game.

"Camree has engineered Wayne Memorial from last place a year ago to second in the KLAA South Division," Wayne coach Jarvis Mitchell said. "She is also a 4.0 student."



KRISTEN NELSON, HARRISON

Nelson was a four-year starter for the Hawks and will play NCAA Division I basketball at Southern Illinois University.

Though she's a point guard, Nelson did it all for the Hawks and excelled in all areas of the games. She averaged 15.4 points, five assists, 4½ rebounds, 2½ steals and 1.1 blocks.

"Kris is a very good leader and floor general," coach Stefon Wilson said. "She's an excellent passer. If you back off her, she can shoot it; if you play her too tight, she can get to the rim. You really have to pick your poison against a player of her caliber."

"She makes her teammates better. When you can get to the paint as easily as Kris can, that's going to open up easy shots for your teammates."



AMBER STEPHENS, HARRISON

Stephens was a four-year starter for the Hawks and will play college basketball at Wayne State University after a brilliant prep career.

Stephens led the Hawks in scoring with 17.3 points per game. She also averaged five rebounds, 2.7 steals and 2.5 assists. Stephens plays at the front of the press and is a great defender.

"She has an unbelievable motor and never stops," Wilson said. "She has one gear, and it's Level 10 all the time. She plays with great energy and passion the entire game."

"She's a ball hawk on defense. She plays the passing lanes well and is a great on-ball defender. A lot of her points came because of her defense."



ANNE YOST, CHURCHILL

Yost was nearly unstoppable (despite double-teams) when she received the ball in the low post for the Chargers, who won their first district title in recent memory.

A relentless offensive rebounder, she averaged 11.8 points per game while shooting 56 percent from the field and pulling down 10.4 rebounds per contest.

"I am excited that Annie was selected to the all-Observer team," Churchill first-year coach K'Len Morris said. "She led our team in points and rebounds this past season, but she continues to work hard at her craft and get better."

"We are looking forward to having her back next season as she is one of the girls we will be leaning on to help push our program to the next level."

SECOND TEAM



BRIANNA FINN, CANTON

Finn's ability to connect from long range and grab important rebounds proved instrumental in the Chiefs' march to a 17-5 record.

She averaged 10 points per game, including a team-leading 26 treys and was rewarded for her efforts with selection to the all-conference team.

"She demonstrated excellent patience in our motion offense," Heitmeyer said. "And she had a knack for getting a number of key offensive fourth quarter rebounds in close games."



KIERRA CROCKETT, N. FARMINGTON

Crockett had an outstanding junior season and was the driving force in the Raiders winning the OAA White Division championship.

The 5-foot-11 forward averaged 14.6 points, seven rebounds, three steals and two blocks. She can score from the outside, too, and shot 40 percent from the floor overall.

"She had been our No. 2 or 3 scorer the last two years, and she had to be the go-to person this year," coach Jeff Simpson said. "I thought she responded really well to that role."

"Her shooting really improved. The ratio of shots to points was a lot better. She didn't force things; she played within the team concept."

"She has been getting better every year, and we look for her to continue to improve next year."



JACKIE BAUER, MERCY

The junior guard was the leading scorer on a well-balanced, successful team. A three-point shooting specialist, Bauer averaged 10.5 points per game.

She also averaged 2.3 rebounds, 1.3 assists and 1.3 steals as the Marlins won the Catholic League Central Division crown and a Class A district title.

"Jackie meant a lot to our team," coach Gary Morris said. "We came to really rely on her to score for us. Jackie has a great competitive spirit that's evident both at practice and in games."

"She's constantly striving to get better. I look at the improvement she's made, going from a sophomore barely making the varsity team to a junior making the all-Catholic team and the all-area second team. It's a credit to her and her work ethic."



AMARA CHIKWE, WAYNE

Chikwe was "Ms. Inside" to Clegg's "Ms. Outside" for the resurgent Zebras. A non-stop battler in the paint, Chikwe averaged 10.4 points, 13.7 points and five blocks per game throughout her first season with Wayne.

"Amara can guard any position, from point guard to center," Mitchell said. "She was accountable for over half of our rebounds and she changed many games with her defense."



SAM GOLCHUK, H.V. LUTHERAN

Golchuk was a whirlwind of production for the Hawks, averaging 23 points, 6.7 rebounds (despite her modest size) and an astounding 7.4 steals per game. Among her several post-season awards was the MIAC Most Valuable Player.

"Sam brings tremendous speed and energy to the game," HVL head coach Kris Ruth said. "Her great court awareness allows her to read players well on defense and to attack the basket on offense. Often times, her defensive abilities allow her to get quick, easy lay-ups on the offensive end."

"Despite her small stature, she also rebounds very well. She works very hard on and off the court, and pushes herself to always be better."

THIRD TEAM



SAM CHERNEY, N. FARMINGTON

The 6-foot-1 sophomore and two-year starter was a force on the glass for the Raiders, both as a rebounder and a scorer.

Cherney had a lot of double-double games while averaging 9.3 points, eight rebounds, 2.3 steals and one block.

"Sam really stepped up her game from her freshman year," Simpson said. "She's kind of where Kierra was as a sophomore. She did a good job of being that second option for us."

"She led us in rebounding and had a lot of them at the offensive end. That's where she got a little stronger and got some putbacks. She's driven to get better, and we look for continued improvement from her."



CASSIDY LEWIS, PLYMOUTH

The senior was a standout in all phases of the game for the Wildcats, averaging 10.4 points, 4.5 rebounds and 1.8 steals.

Lewis, who will play collegiately at Siena Heights, also altered many opponents' shots with 19 deflections. She was named team MVP and earned selection to the all-KLAA team.

"Cassidy can do it all," coach Ryan Ballard said. "We asked her to score, rebound and guard the other team's best player all year. She is such a well-rounded player."



NATALIE WINTERS, CANTON

Winters was a steady influence in her fourth season on the varsity, providing leadership as team co-captain and point guard.

She averaged five assists and three steals per game and made 38 percent of her shots en route to five points per contest. Her efforts led to an all-KLAA selection and team MVP honors.

"Most importantly, her defensive presence on the court was essential to the Chiefs success this year," Heitmeyer said. "Her quick set of feet and decision-making skills set the example and tempo for our team next year."



ALLY AUDIA, LADYWOOD

Audia was the catalyst for a Blazers team that won a Class B district tournament. She averaged 12 points and five rebounds for the season.

She stepped up her game even more in the post-season when she tossed in 16 points per game in the district-championship run, including two double-doubles.

Her season highlights were punctuated by single-game scoring highs of 25 and 23 points, and she tallied 17 points or more five times. Clutch at the end of games, Audia connect on 74 percent of her free-throw attempts.



ZORA PULLEN, MERCY

Pullen's senior season was delayed until January as she recovered from knee surgery. Once she did that, Pullen was a big factor in Mercy going 16-7 and being the runner-up in the Catholic League tournament and Class A regional at Novi.

She averaged 7.7 points, nearly five rebounds, 1.2 steals and one assist per game. Pullen will play for Lake Forest (Ill.) College.

"Zora deserves high marks for the resolve she showed in coming back from that injury," Morris said. "There were a lot of mornings she'd get up at 5 o'clock to go to PT before school. That speaks to her determination to come back and be a part of the basketball team her senior year."

"She certainly was a key player for us last year. That's why we were so happy to get her back this year."

HONORABLE MENTION

Mercy: Katie Coe, Jordyn Schluter, Jenna Schluter; North Farmington: Alexa Cherney, Karlie Cummins; Farmington: Abbey Powell; Harrison: Nyla Warren, Olivia Perkins; Canton: Madison Archibald, Madison Wolfbauer; Plymouth: Hannah Badger, Jordyn Chouinard; Salem: Jayna Lenders, Marisa Martin; Ply. Christian: Lydia Chapel; Ladywood: Erica Selakowski, Maggie Shirk; Luth. Westland: Taylor Jones, Rachel Reddeman; Churchill: Alivia Kondrath; Franklin: Lexi Bryant; Stevenson: Grace Lamerson; Diane Senkowski; Wayne: Jeanae Terry; John Glenn: Nadia Reed, Taylor Robinson; Redford Union: Cassidy Sandelin; Redford Thurston: Kianna Shepard.

COLLEGE BASEBALL, SOFTBALL

Ocelots record first conference victories

Schoolcraft baseball team splits with Macomb, sweeps Mott; Lady Ocelots post 1-3 mark over the weekend

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The tables finally are turning for the Schoolcraft College baseball team as the Ocelots won their first games since their March trip to Florida.

After splitting a double-header April 19 at Macomb Community College, Schoolcraft swept a Friday twinbill against host Mott Community College.

With the 3-1 stretch, the Ocelots improved to 6-19 overall and 3-9 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

Schoolcraft broke the ice as far as winning a game in Michigan with a four-run rally in the seventh to edge Macomb, 6-4, in the April 19 opener.

Coming through with base hits during the winning rally were Jared Merandi (Ply-

mouth) and Nick Romanauski (Canton).

Doubling home two runs in the surge was Steve Szyman-ski.

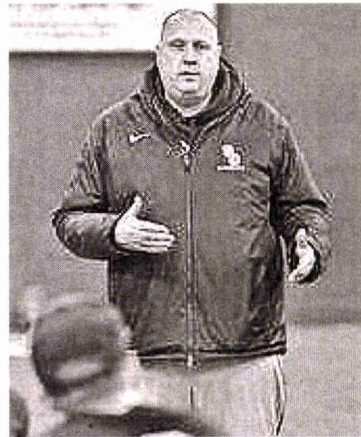
Christian Mercure was the starting pitcher and earned the victory, lasting until the seventh. Colin Elgas earned a save, retiring the final two Macomb batters.

Game 2 wasn't as successful, as the Ocelots dropped an 8-6 decision despite a grand slam and five RBIs by Jordan Pressley.

On Friday, Schoolcraft's bats really woke up as the Ocelots tallied 31 runs and 26 hits in the sweep of Mott, 18-13 and 13-7.

In the opener, Mott led 11-3 entering the top of the sixth. In that inning, Schoolcraft scored five runs — a feat duplicated in both the sixth and seventh.

Big guns for the Ocelots



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
With bats heating up, Schoolcraft College's baseball team won its first games on Michigan soil. Here Ocelots head coach Rob Fay talks to players during a preseason workout.

were Tim Kozar (3-for-4, three runs), Merandi (2-for-6, run, three RBIs), Pressley (2-for-5, three runs, two RBIs), Szyman-ski (3-for-5, run, five RBIs) and Daniel Ammons (3-for-4, two

runs).

Schoolcraft then went on to post a victory in the nightcap, with Kozar (2-for-3, two runs), Pressley (2-for-4, two runs, one RBI), Ammons (1-for-2, two runs, four RBIs) and Hunter Sellers (3-for-4, two RBIs) doing the damage.

The baseball team will host a couple of opponents at Ford Field. At 2 p.m. Friday, Schoolcraft welcomes Rochester College's junior varsity team; Grand Rapids CC visits for a 2 p.m. Sunday match-up.

SC softball

It was a tougher week for Schoolcraft's softball team as the Lady Ocelots lost a pair Saturday to Oakland Community College before splitting Sunday's twinbill against Henry Ford Community College.

On Sunday at Heritage Park, Schoolcraft (13-17, 10-9 in MCCA East) won 12-9 in the opener, but lost 3-0 in Game 2.

Kerry Prowse and Mariah Coleman combined for the win,

giving up just four earned runs.

Sparking the offense was Garden City graduate Kelsie Powell. She singled, doubled and homered in four at-bats, driving in six runs.

Coleman helped her cause with a 2-for-4 game, including two RBIs. Other players with hits included Alaina DeFrain (2-for-3, run, RBI), Elaine Gerou (1-for-3, run), Shelby Shelton (1-for-4, run), Katlyn McIntosh of Garden City (1-for-2, two runs, RBI) and Livonia Stevenson grad Kassidy Lipinski (1-for-3, two runs, RBI).

Lipinski, Shelton, Gerou and DeFrain managed one hit each in the nightcap loss to Henry Ford.

Gerou was the tough-luck loser, pitching a complete game, allowing no walks and fanning six.

Against Oakland CC, the Lady Ocelots lost 8-0 and 9-1.

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PREP BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Catholic Central gains split of two games against Pilots

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Reliever Grant Hartwig closed out the game with a scoreless sixth and seventh inning for the save as Novi Detroit Catholic Central salvaged a split of its baseball doubleheader Saturday at Warren DeLaSalle.

Dante Toppi was the win-

ning pitcher as the Shamrocks captured the nightcap, 10-8, to improve to 6-5 overall and 2-5 in the Catholic League's Central Division.

The Pilots took the opener, 15-0, as CC collected only one hit.

DETROIT CC 6, W.L. CENTRAL 4: Grant Hartwig knocked in two runs in the top of the 10th inning Friday as Novi Detroit Catholic Central (5-4) outlasted host Walled Lake Central (5-3) in a

non-league game.

The Shamrocks emptied their bullpen, using six different pitchers, with Matt Stinebiser recording his first varsity win as Nick O'Dea, Brendan Charette, Ben Vitek, Zak Jordan and Brendan Kassa all took turns on the mound to combine on a two-hitter.

Nick Sykes paced CC's offensive attack with three hits while Dante Toppi and Marcus Cipriano added two apiece.

Walled Lake Central, which rallied for three runs in the bottom of the seventh inning to tie the game at 4-4.

(5-6, 2-4).

Hartwig, a senior right-hander bound for Miami (Ohio), allowed just one earned run, while Nick Sykes and Joey Merucci broke the game open with key seventh-inning hits.

U-D won the opener as Sean Garcia was the hard-luck losing pitcher, allowing no earned runs in going all seven innings.

On April 16, the host Shamrocks were swept in a Central Division doubleheader by Birmingham Brother Rice, 2-0 and 6-5.

Junior left-hander Alex Kuster allowed just one hit over seven innings and threw just 58 pitches to win the opener for Rice.

In the nightcap, the Warriors (9-3, 3-1) overcame a 4-2 deficit to pull out the victory.
FRANKLIN ROAD 6, GREENHILLS 1: On

April 19, Matt Lorey was in command from start to finish on the as host Novi Franklin Road Christian (5-1, 2-1) upended Ann Arbor Greenhills (1-3, 1-3) in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Red Division encounter.

Lorey went all seven innings, allowing just three hits while striking out nine and walking only one to earn the victory.

Shaun Moore went 2-for-3 with two RBIs, while Evan Lorey contributed two hits, an RBI and two stolen bases for the winners. David Johnson also added RBI double.

BOLGER-MANGAN CITY MEET

Schools share Bolger-Mangan honors

Salem boys, Plymouth girls prevail in annual city meet

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The annual Bolger-Mangan City Meet at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park featured plenty of outstanding performances from individual and team standpoints.

Salem's speedy varsity boys track and field team won by a wide margin over Park rivals Canton and Plymouth, with the Rocks' 101 points easily surpassing the 55 and 19 points earned by the Chiefs and Wildcats, respectively.

In the girls portion of the meet, Plymouth was victorious with 78 points, outdistancing second-place Salem (65) and Canton (32).

Boys recap

Thanks to another outstanding showing, the Rocks' talented senior class will graduate this spring having never lost a city meet.

Leading the way was senior Chaz Jeffress, who was part of the winning 3,200-meter relay team (with Jared Zella, Austin Siterlet and Gino Persicone) and victorious 1,600 relay, while also taking first in the 800 and 1,600 runs. Jeffress, all told, scored 18 points for the Rocks.

Right behind him in the points category were sophomore Andrew Davis (15 points), senior Jacob Miller (13) and senior Jannik Schmitt (10).

Davis won the 100 and 200 individually and was a mem-



AMY MCGRATH | CANTON ATHLETICS

Captains from P-CEP girls track and field teams enjoy a moment of camaraderie at the City Meet. From left are Plymouth's Emma Radke, Salem's Kaya Knake and Canton's Samantha McGrath.

ber of the winning 400 relay team (with Freddie McGee, Miller and VerShawn Patrick). He won the 100 dash in 11.12 seconds, second best in team history and garnered fourth best all-time in the 200 dash (22.61). Both are new Salem sophomore records.

Miller won the long jump with a mark of 19 feet, 11.5 inches, while Schmitt won both throwing events in dominating fashion. He threw a 55-1 in the shot put (second best in team history) and 140-10 in the discus.

Also victorious was Cameron Grace in the high jump, reaching the 6-2 mark.

Girls recap

Plymouth parlayed numerous standout showings into the first-place finish, taking the top spot in 11 of the 17 events.

Spearheading the Wildcats was Ryen Draper, with firsts in the 100-, 200- and 400-meter dashes.

Ryen Draper also was part of the winning 800-meter relay team, along with Erin Bradley, Faith Washington and Reghan Draper.

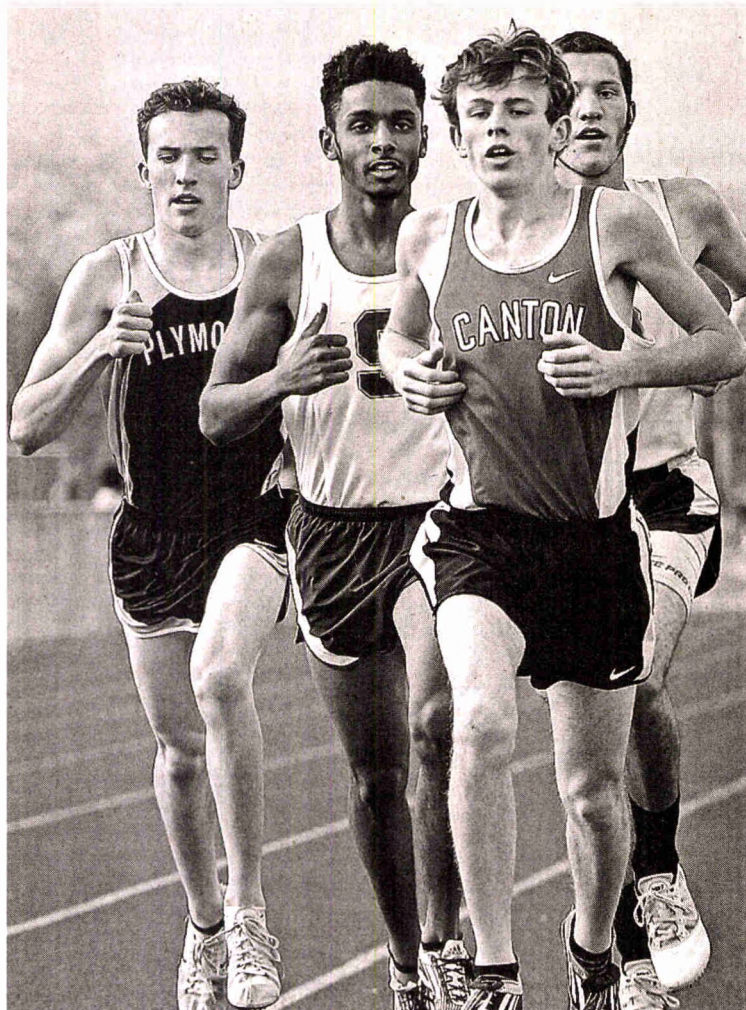
Not to be outdone, Bradley won a pair of individual events, taking both the 100- and 300-meter hurdles.

Taking care of distance events was Annie Bonds, who took first in the 3,200 run.

Other Plymouth firsts were turned in by Elise Wehmer (shot put), Kat Harris (high jump), Emily Caragay (pole vault) and Bailey Brown (long jump).

Salem also had a strong overall performance to nearly catch the Wildcats.

Throwers Kyndra Parker, Morgan Cottrell, Rachel Lep-



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Competition among Park teams shows itself here, as runners compete in a close race. From left are Plymouth's Ethan Byrnes, Salem's Chaz Jeffress, Canton's Zach Clark and Salem's Griffin Skaff.

per, Natalie Lewandowski, A. Johnson, Emilee Priester and Jenna Sydlowski earned 15 of a possible 22 points.

Finishing first and second in the 1,600 run were Kaya Knake and Kayla Hughes.

Knake also won the 800 dash for the Rocks, while

firsts were recorded by the 400 relay (Ayanda Brydie, Madeline Kernahan, Brynna Samuels, Lauren Ogarek) and 1,600 relay (Erin McCann, Alyssa Knight, Haven Essien and Knake).

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COLLEGIATE SPORTS

Madonna's Rizzo accepts new position at Divine Child

Bryan Rizzo, Madonna University's long-time athletic director, has accepted the position of athletic director for Divine Child High School in Dearborn.

"I am so fortunate to have worked with Bryan during my first year at Madonna," said President Michael A. Grandillo, Ph.D. "He leaves some pretty big shoes to fill, but he has developed Crusader athletics into a highly-respected, fiercely-competitive, well-run organization."

Rizzo joined the Crusaders athletics program nearly 22 years ago and in 2002 took over the athletic director position.

While at the helm, Rizzo launched men's and women's golf and cross country and laid the foundation to add eight new men's and women's sports teams this fall: bowling, lacrosse and indoor and outdoor track and field. He oversaw the construction of all of Madonna's fields, including University Softball Field, Ilitch Ballpark and the Madonna University athletic complex.

Rizzo also established the annual Blue and Gold Awards program to recognize the accomplishments — academic and athletic — of Madonna student-athletes.

"It has been an honor to

serve this great university and its amazing student-athletes," Rizzo said. "I really appreciate the opportunity Sister Rose Marie Kujawa gave me to be athletic director. I feel the new direction Dr. Grandillo has charted shows the commitment to, and guaranteed future success of, Madonna University athletics."

"I am sure the professional staff in the athletics department will continue to achieve great things."

Madonna administrators will begin a search for a successor immediately. Rizzo, whose last day is June 30, has committed to facilitating a smooth transition.

PREP BASEBALL

Pitcole's pitching lifts Rocks to 3-0 victory

Canton tops Stevenson; Plymouth defeated three games in a row

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Sophomore southpaw Adam Pitcole scattered five hits over six innings Monday to lead Salem to a 3-0 victory over Churchill in a KLAAs Kensington Conference crossover baseball game.

Pitcole struck out two and didn't walk a batter.

Churchill, which slipped to 6-7 overall and 2-6 in the conference, received a strong start from senior Jon Hovermale, who yielded just one unearned run and seven hits over the first six innings.

Matt Smith and James Rintala both went 2-for-3 for the Chargers.

Alex Nicholson led the Rocks with three hits (including a double) and an RBI. Gage Moyers and Shane Prevo both contributed two hits for the visiting Rocks.

Salem broke open a scoreless game in the top of the sixth when, with one out, Moyers singled and advanced to second on a ground out. Prevo then drove in Moyers with a two-out double.

The Rocks added two insurance runs in the seventh, when Elijah Peppers reached on an error, advanced to third on an errant

pick-off throw and scored on Nicholson's double. Daniel Diaz then singled home Nicholson.

Churchill put two runners on in the seventh thanks to singles from Drew Also-brooks and Evan Cummins, but the next batter grounded out to end the threat.

» On Saturday, the Rocks defeated Taylor Kennedy, 10-0, behind a complete game by Sean McCormack, and also won 8-3 over Allen Park, with Eric Scott pitching a strong game.

Canton upends Stevenson

Canton defeated Livonia Stevenson, 5-2, Monday afternoon in a KLAAs Kensington Conference crossover game on the Chiefs' field.

All of the game's runs were scored in the second inning.

Leading the Stevenson hitting attack were Chris Tanderys (2-for-3, two RBI), Frank Carlin (1-for-3) and Mark Pettersson (1-for-3).

The Spartans' runs were scored by Danny Morris and Bobby Cavin.

Canton outit Stevenson, 8-4.

Plymouth stymied

Plymouth lost 4-1 to Northville on Monday despite two hits each from Evan Claggett and Chase Every.

On Saturday, the Wildcats were swept by visiting Saline, 12-3 and 7-2.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Tin Cup

"Train with Tami" announces the annual quest for the Tin Cup at Hickory Creek Golf Course is set to begin with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Sunday.

Non-competitive registration is open through Thursday; to do so, email PGA pro/TPI certified trainer Tami Beal at trainwithtami@yahoo.com. Cost is \$45 with cart. Fun contests and prizes will be open to all participants.

Hickory Creek is located at 625 Napier Road in Superior Township, just west of Canton. Go to www.TrainWithTami.com for more info.

Plymouth grid meeting

The Plymouth Wildcats football staff and boosters are holding a mandatory meeting for 2016 players and parents 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, May 3, at Plymouth High School.

The meeting, which will take place in the cafeteria, is for all levels.

At the meeting, the entire football staff will be introduced and coaches will answer any questions pertaining to the upcoming season.

Also, important paperwork will be handed out and there will be a discussion about "the expectations and responsibilities of becoming a Plymouth Wildcat football player."

Booster president Mike Humm will speak about the importance of getting involved with the club, along with fundraising responsibilities.

Team merchandise will be available to purchase before and after the meeting.

Any questions or concerns, contact coach Mike Sawchuk at 734-765-1766 or email michael.sawchuk@pccsk12.com

Canton grid meeting

The Canton football season doesn't kick off until August, but the first official order of business is just around the corner.

On Tuesday, May 10, Canton football staff members and the boosters club are holding a mandatory meeting for all 2016 players and their parents.

At 6 p.m., players and parents new to the program will convene in the Canton High School cafeteria. All returning players and parents will join them at 6:30 p.m.

Coaches will give information and expectations about the program and answer any questions. Team merchandise also will be available.

Any questions can be directed to head coach Tim Baechler via email at tim.baechler@pccsk12.com.

PREP SOFTBALL

Big wins for Rocks and Wildcats

Park teams clicking on all cylinders this season

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

All three Park varsity softball teams are scaling the heights of their respective division so far this season.

In the KLAAs Central, Salem improved to 11-2 overall and 7-1 in the division with Monday's 8-2 victory over Livonia Churchill.

Jamie Squires, Morgan Ove-

raitis, Maddy Rosiewicz and Jordan Hazel each went 2-for-4, while Caroline Miller (triple, two RBIs), Kara Hutchison and Morgan Reno (one hit each) also helped spark the attack.

Going the distance for the win was Rosiewicz, who gave up eight hits and two walks but fanned six.

"We are still leading the division, but know we have two tough games Wednesday against South Lyon," Salem head coach Bonnie Southerland said. "Both are must-win games."

The Rocks then will compete Saturday at the annual Salem Invitational, where Southerland is looking at a chance for a rematch with Walled Lake Central "since we split with them in the Ann Arbor Pioneer tourney. The girls are pretty fired up for that rematch."

Meanwhile, Canton and Plymouth are 1-2 in the KLAAs South, with both teams continuing their winning ways.

'Cats win walk-off

On Monday, Plymouth (6-4 overall, 5-2 in the division) edged Northville 5-3, winning in walk-off fashion on Haley Gagnon's first varsity home run in the bottom of the seventh.

Trailing 3-2 entering their last at-bat, the Wildcats rallied on singles by Rachel Zerona and Jessica Tucci, which brought Gagnon up for her heroics.

Plymouth opened the scoring in the second as Whitney Holden (2-for-2) drove home Jenny Bressler and Tucci (3-for-4) with a base hit.

That lead held up until the top of the seventh, when Northville scored three runs. But the

Wildcats weren't done, thanks to Gagnon's blast.

On Saturday, Plymouth lost a hard-fought 3-2 decision in nine innings to state-ranked Monroe St. Mary's Catholic Central.

Bressler went 2-for-3, including a first-inning double. Zerona bunted for a base hit in the fifth and motored all the way around the bases on a series of SMCC errors.

Canton (8-1, 7-1, first in the KLAAs South) finished second out of 16 teams Saturday at the highly competitive Anchor Bay Tournament.

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2016 IIHF UNDER-18 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

TEAM USA CAPTURES BRONZE MEDAL

U.S. Men's National Under-18 team routs Canada, 10-3

Eight different players scored goals and 15 players registered at least one point Sunday as the U.S. Men's National Under-18 Team bested Canada, 10-3, to claim the bronze medal at the 2016 International Ice Hockey Federation Under-18 Men's World Championship.

Team USA concluded the tourney in Grand Forks, N.D., with a 6-0-0-1 record.

"Effort and attitude-wise, I thought our guys came out with a lot of jump and were ready to go from the drop of the puck," U.S. head coach Danton Cole said. "We handled business as men and responded and I'm very proud of our team."

Team USA opened the scoring early in the first period on

the power play. Clayton Keller found Joey Anderson with a pass and Anderson stuffed the puck underneath the pad of Canada goalie Stuart Skinner.

Thirty-one seconds later, Logan Brown and the puck caromed out front. He circled the net, corralled the loose puck and fired a shot that beat Skinner glove side.

Canada responded to cut the U.S. lead in half, but less than a minute later, Keller turned and found Kieffer Bellows, who scored. J.D. Greenway also collected an assist.



MINAS PANAGIOTAKIS | HHOF-IIHF IMAGES
Team USA celebrates winning a bronze medal at the Under-18 World Championships.

Brown scored his second goal from the slot to give the United States a 4-1 lead. Casey Mittelstadt and Kailer Yamamoto earned assists on the goal.

Skating shorthanded late in the period, Keller poked the puck away from a Canadian skater and broke away alone, getting a shot off, but the attempt was denied.

Anderson followed up the play and put in the rebound for Team USA's fifth goal. Greenway earned the second assist.

Nick Pastujov launched a shot from the slot to cap first-

period scoring for the U.S. Keegan Howdeshell (Brighton) and Will Lockwood (Bloomfield Hills) assisted.

Team USA notched its seventh goal just 1:27 into the second period on the power play. Brown and Mittelstadt executed a give-and-go and Mittelstadt found Yamamoto on the door step.

Yamamoto's first attempt was blocked, but his second shot found the back of the net.

Stopping a penalty shot, Team USA goalie Jake Oettinger poked checked away Canada's best chance of the period.

The U.S. continued to pressure the Canadians and struck again 4:22 into the third period. Zach Walker broke out alone and put the puck past Evan Fitzpatrick for the goal.

Griffin Luce blasted a shot into the net less than one minute later as the U.S. skated five-on-three due to back-to-back penalties against Canada. Matthew Hellickson and

Trent Frederic assisted.

Canada scored back-to-back goals to draw closer, but a late goal by Lockwood capped the scoring. Hellickson and Graham McPhee earned assists on the final goal.

FINLAND 4, USA 2: In a semifinal game Saturday of the IIHF U18 Men's World Championship, Kieffer Bellows and Kailer Yamamoto both scored one goal, but it wasn't enough.

"I'm proud of how hard our guys worked tonight," head coach Danton Cole said.

Team USA opened the scoring 11:42 into the first period. Skating up the right side, Adam Fox found Bellows streaking toward the net. Fox's pass from the top of the face-off circle was redirected past Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen for the goal. Clayton Keller also assisted.

Finland answered to knot the contest, 1-1, in the late stages of the period.

The U.S. attempted to break the deadlock in the second period, with Logan Brown and Joey Anderson each hitting posts, but the puck stayed out of the net. Joseph Woll turned aside all eight shots he faced in the period.

Finland grabbed the 2-1 lead late in the third period while skating shorthanded. Defenseman Chad Kryz blocked away the initial Finnish chance, but the puck got lost in front and was knocked in.

PREP GOLF, TENNIS

Canton golfers top Patriots

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

On the eve of the Kensington Conference varsity boys golf meet, Canton knocked off KLAA South rival Livonia Franklin, 155-183, Monday at Fox Hills.

The Chiefs (2-0) were led by senior medalist Brian Oldani, who registered a 2-over 35. Also breaking the 40-stroke plateau were junior Dominic Dimaya (38) and sophomore Patrick McDougall (39).

Canton's lineup also featured senior Phillip Conrad and junior Suhas Potluri (41 each) and sophomore D.J. Jablonski (45).

For the Patriots (1-1), Matt Wiebelhaus and Jacob Kenward led the way with a score of 44 each. Other finishers were Zack Nelson (46), Jeremy Haist and Trevor Van Vliet (49 each) and David Shoemaker (59).

» Also Monday, Salem lost a hard-fought 174-175 match to

South Lyon at par-36 Coyote Golf Course.

The Rocks (1-1 in the KLAA Central) were paced by 41 each by senior Hayden Weldon and junior Shawn Weldon, who shared medalist honors with Noah Arvo of the Lions.

Other Salem scorers included Bryce Henderson (45), Joey Driscoll (48), Matt Danis (49) and Luke Trulock (51).

In addition to Arvo, South Lyon finishers included Ethan Townsley (43), Evan Monteith (45), Jason Ting (45), Noah Markman (46) and Zach VanBoren (50).

Salem also took part in Saturday's Oakland Hills Invitational at par-70 Oakland Hills Country Club, placing 28th out of a very strong field with a 348 score.

Novi Detroit Catholic Central won the tourney with 291, followed by Forest Hills Eastern (298).

Winch and Adam Marcero each shot 84 to lead the Rocks, while other individual scores

for Salem included Weldon (89), Danis (91) and Henderson (92).

Girls tennis

Undefeated Plymouth rolled to an 8-1 victory Monday over KLAA South Division rival Livonia Churchill, improving to 4-0 and moving to the cusp of clinching the division crown.

Winning their singles flights for the Wildcats were Jessica Braun (No. 1), Kara Hug (No. 3) and Emily Solecki (No. 4).

In doubles play, Salem's Bei Li Martin and Alyssa Lopez won a tough three-set match, while the rest of the flights were won by the Rocks in straight sets.

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GIRLS LACROSSE

Rocks nab big win over Chiefs, 17-6

Salem got the best of campus rival Canton on Monday night, winning 17-6 in a varsity girls lacrosse contest.

After the Chiefs opened the scoring, junior Leah Tardiff scored a pair of goals within the next minute — with the equalizer assisted by junior Brianna Waggoner.

Before the half, Madison Mullins scored three goals, with Stephanie Miller and Kate Cousino also finding the range to put the Rocks up 7-3 at halftime.

Salem then scored four unanswered goals in the third quarter and ended the night with an offensive flurry.

Scoring four times each in

the game were Tardiff, Mullins and Miller, with junior Kayla Goleniak scoring twice.

Chipping in one goal each for the Rocks were Cousino, senior Colleen Shortal and Brittany Mitton.

At the other end of the field, junior goalie Maddie Johnson stopped 12 Canton shots. Supporting her on defense were seniors Mikaela Berg, Hope Copley, Elizabeth Schnoes and Celine Pilon.

PLYMOUTH 22, WEST BLOOMFIELD 5: Plymouth senior Natalie Nowicki scored seven goals Friday as the Wildcats routed visiting West Bloomfield.

Other Plymouth players to spark the attack were Marissa Cirino, Cierra Steiner and Cathryn VandenBosch (four goals each), Kari Schoen (two goals) and Shelby Strawn (one goal).

CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

and attackmen Drew Montgomery and Lukas Pashigian as being just as instrumental in the team's dominant season so far.

"It feels great. We really work together, we work to the strengths of everybody," Pakula said. "If you're a feeder or you're a scorer, we work to make sure to pass the ball around and get the open shot and get good looks."

The Rocks (3-4, 0-2) briefly hung around, trailing just 3-1 after the first quarter. Scoring for Salem was senior midfielder Ian Wunderlich, from junior attackman Marty Mills.

Blowing it open

But the deficit grew to 6-1 at halftime and all bets were off after Canton's six-goal explosion in the third.

Pakula was in on a lot of that surge, burying a shot with 2:15 left in the quarter after taking a centering pass from Jake Stephan to make it 10-1.

In the final 30 seconds of the quarter, Montgomery sent a pass to Pakula for a goal and Phillips weaved in and out of traffic to sling the ball home with just 1.4 seconds remaining in the quarter.

For good measure, Pakula made it 13-1 in the opening minute of the fourth. He circled the Salem net and found the target from the right post.

"We played a lot of stick (defense) tonight which was the problem ... we beat ourselves," Salem head coach Corey Mattingly said. "Offensive players can dodge through sticks. They can't dodge through bodies."

"We're just showing sticks and we're getting dumb penalties with it."

The Rocks finally got their second goal with 8:39 to go, when Lucas Martin picked up a loose ball and flung it into the Canton net.

Closing out the scoring were Canton's Stephan and Salem's



MICHAEL VASILNEK
It's a collision course Monday night for Canton's Drew Montgomery (middle), Salem's Ryan Pospy (left) and Canton's Carson Pakula.

Wunderlich, scoring his second of the game.

Karam said his team continues to grow, taking confident steps down the systemic path he started when he became Canton coach last season (a successful debut, with the Park championship and a first-round tourney win).

"Our goal last year was to win the Park championship. This year, our goal is to make some noise," Karam said. "Of course, winning the KLAA is our number one goal right now and then go as deep as we can in the playoffs."

Strong fundamentals, leading to instant offense, are keying Canton's hot streak.

"That's our M.O., because we have probably the best face-off guy in the conference (Flannigan)," Karam said. "And having that luxury of winning, dominating 70 percent of the face-offs, allows us to not only hold position, but get the quick strikes."

Details matter

Overall, however, Karam said his team merely plays together and sticks to the game plan.

"We're executing; it's very nice to see," Karam said. "We're playing smart lacrosse,

possessing the ball, sharing the ball, making an extra pass, getting the ground balls.

"All the little things. The little details. Last year, we had a lot of great one-on-one players and we were a good team. This year, we're more of a team and we've got a better bench. We have good reserves that can come in and play quality minutes for us. We're just a deeper team."

Mattingly is optimistic that the Rocks will follow that path in the not-too-distant future.

"Their roster is 90 percent seniors," Mattingly said. "Like I just told the boys in the locker room, you can't teach what those guys have learned over the four years."

"We do have a lot of juniors, but that extra year of experience really showed tonight."

PLYMOUTH 9, NORTHVILLE 8: In a key Kensington Conference game Monday, the Wildcats (4-4) were sparked by Nolan Ouellette and Carson Miller, who both scored three goals.

Adding a single goal each were Derek Szczepaniak, Zach Gallaher and Ian Gozdot, with Jack Balch and Charlie "Chazz" Shaver chipping in important assists.

Strong play by senior goalie Trevor McManus (19 saves) frustrated Northville (5-4) all night.

Other contributors for Plymouth included Tyler Ramer (four ground balls), Mitch Gonzales (four ground balls), James Hansen (two ground balls) and solid defense from Keaton Courtney, Joe Oleszak, Shaver, Jake Marcinik, Nate Messer, Bradley Tuszkievicz and Jacob Miller.

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HUTCHISON

Continued from Page B1

got a recommendation and signed with an agent, Scott Bergman out of Rockville, Md. He was then invited to one of the six NFL regional combines March 5 at Minneapolis, Minn.

Catches notice

"I performed very well there and was able to get into Pro Day at the University of Michigan on March 18," Hutchison said.

That's where Hutchison found himself on a stage with NCAA Division I talent for the first time.

"It was incredible," Hutchison said. "There were several Michigan guys. Probably the biggest one there was probably Willie Henry, a defensive tackle. He's supposed to go some guys say, second, third or fourth round."

Between his regional combine and U-M Pro Day workouts, Hutchison turned some heads by running a 4.6 in the 40-yard dash and 4.17 in the 20-yard shuffle. He also recorded a 36-inch vertical jump, leaped 9 feet, 8 inches in the standing broad jump and did 28 reps on the bench press.

"All 32 (NFL) teams were there and five or six Canadian (Football League) teams were there, I'd say anywhere from 45 to 55 team personnel," Hutchison said of the Michigan Pro Day. "It was a great experience. It was a combine-style workout. I talked to 13, 14, 15 teams, just kind of in an informal. ... They asked me about my career, they asked me where I came from and I introduced myself to other guys."

Graduate school

Hutchison graduated last August from Michigan Tech with a degree in finance while carrying a 3.4 grade-point average. He is currently working toward his M.B.A. there and plans to graduate this August unless he signs, which seems more than likely.

"My agent has said the Lions, the Packers have shown interest," Hutchison said. "The Giants have, too. They emailed my coach that I was on their radar. The Browns ... there's a list of teams. The Lions said directly to my agent that I'd be considered a good consideration for an undrafted free agent after the draft."

"Every team has the following two weekends to put on a rookie mini-camp. It's the May 6 weekend or the week after. If I sign a free agent deal and not just as an invite, that's pretty much guaranteed to make it to camp. Rookie camp, mini-camp and then fall camp in the middle of June."

Hutchison grew up in Detroit before moving for high school to Northville, where he made all-Kensington Lakes. As a senior, he registered 45 tackles, including seven sacks, while helping the Mustangs to a 9-2 record and division title.

"He was a really good player for us," Northville coach Matt Ladach said. "He was really, really a hard worker. Undersized, but played his butt off. In a three-technique, he was really tough and did a really good job for us."

Huskies career

He was red-shirted his first season at Michigan Tech and helped the Huskies reach the 2014 NCAA Division II playoffs during his junior year.

As a senior, he finished with 38 tackles in 10 games, including 2.5 sacks.

"I played some (defensive) end my last year," he said. "My last year, I played end in our rush, nickel and dime packages, so I don't have the height or the length to play end, obviously, in the NFL."

Whatever team Hutchison signs with, he'll have to make a quick impression as an undrafted free agent.

And even though he's a long shot, Houghton doesn't seem as far away from the NFL anymore.

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Total housing inventory at the end of February was 1.88 million existing homes available for sale, 1.1 percent lower than last year.

Supply of homes down; Realtor designation touted by industry pros

With demand exceeding supply in markets across the U.S., home buyers may be facing an uphill battle to find the perfect home this spring. Total housing inventory at the end of February was 1.88 million existing homes available for sale, 1.1 percent lower than last year and at a 4.4-month supply at the current sales pace, which is below the roughly six-month supply level needed for a balanced market between buyers and sellers.

In competitive markets like this, it is important that home buyers work with a Realtor, the National Association of Realtors notes. Realtors who have the National Association of Realtors' Accredited Buyer's Representative designation are specialized practi-

tioners focused on working directly with buyer-clients and helping them through the challenges of finding the right home in a seller's market.

"When there is more demand than inventory, homes sell quickly, prices rise and bidding wars can start," said NAR President Tom Salomone, broker-owner of Real Estate II Inc. in Coral Springs, Fla. "A Realtor with an ABR designation is a home buyer's upper hand; they understand local markets and can negotiate on behalf of their buyer-clients."

Added Salomone, "Buying a home is often one of the biggest decisions of a person's life, and having a Realtor in their corner is the ultimate advantage. They are there to guide consumers through the

complexities of this life-changing transaction."

NAR's 2015 "Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers" asked recent home buyers what they look for when deciding on a real estate agent; 53 percent said they were looking for someone who could help them find the right home to purchase, and 12 percent said they wanted someone who can help them negotiate the terms of sale. The report also found that home buyers look at a median of 10 houses before deciding on one to purchase, and the typical search lasts for 10 weeks.

"Having a real estate expert with specific knowledge of the local market and purchase process can mean the difference between a home buyer

getting that 10th house and having to search for another," Salomone said.

In 2016, the ABR® designation celebrates its 20th anniversary, with over 28,000 ABR designees. Realtors with the designation are experienced real estate agents who have completed advanced training in representing the specific needs of buyers during a real estate transaction and have unique, up-to-date insights on the best way to approach their local market.

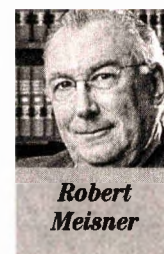
The designation is awarded by the Real Estate Buyer's Agent Council, a wholly-owned subsidiary of NAR and the world's largest association of real estate professionals focusing specifically on representing the real estate buyer.

Heed law firm conflict of interest in resolving disputes

Q: I noticed that buried in a law firm's fee proposal that was provided to us was a statement that they will not represent either us or the management company if there is a dispute between us, claiming that would pose a conflict of interest since they do business with many management companies. Where in your opinion is a conflict of interest?

A: You are very perceptive.

Obviously, because the law firm does business with many management companies, they do not want to bite the hand that feeds them. Accordingly, how can they, in good conscience, represent your association where the management company may turn out to be at fault in regard to the handling of a collection or bylaw enforcement matter, mismanagement regarding contractors, obfuscation of mistakes made, and out-and-out fraud or embezzlement. The fact of the matter is that law firm is not in the position to independently represent the best interests of the association if they are beholden to more than one master, namely, the management company as well as the association. I would suggest that you advise that law firm that they either are willing to represent you 100 percent with respect to all issues that come before your association for which they have expertise or you go somewhere else.



Robert Meisner

Q: I am wondering whether there is any housing available for me and my extended family, and, whether a second kitchen for the adults living in a separate guest suite is available.

A: There is a recent article in the Wall Street Journal indicating that more than 18 percent of the U.S. population lives in a multi-generational household which is defined as having at least two adult generations or with a skipped generation such as a grandchild living with a grandparent. However, there are obviously a multitude of restrictions placed upon this type of living arrangement by local municipalities. These restrictions have prompted some builders to offer scaled-down kitchens, and dream up alternative names for the forbidden amenities buyers crave. The bottom line, however, is that it is difficult for families to find workable living arrangements for multiple generations. The question is whether these are any different than homes in the much larger custom homes arena, which have two full kitchens in various locations of the home. You are best advised to consider going on the Internet to find a Realtor who specializes in this type of housing, although, I recognize that builders will be developing this type of housing in the near future subject to zoning requirements.

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

Regional properties lauded by Building Owners and Managers Association

The North Central Region of the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) announced 12 properties winning in the regional level competition of The Outstanding Building of the Year (TOBY) Award. The North Central Region includes Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky.

The TOBY Awards is the most prestigious and comprehensive program of its kind in the commercial real estate industry, recognizing excellence in office building management and operations in specific categories of building size or type. To win the regional award, the office buildings first won at the local competition level. Twenty-two distinguished properties participated in the regional competition this year.

The regional winners will now proceed to international competition where winners will be announced live on June 28 at the TOBY reception and banquet at the BOMA International 2016 Every Building Conference and Expo in Washington, D.C.

"Recognition as a TOBY award winning property is the ultimate honor, it instills a sense of pride of ownership in the management team and extends financial and environmental benefit for our owners, clients and the community long into the future," said Paula Goldman-Spinner, RPA, president of BOMA North

Central Region.

The winners of the 2016 North Central Regional TOBY Awards:

» BOMA/Chicago
Under 100,000 Square Feet Category
Building Name: 564 W. Randolph - Chicago

Management Company: Sterling Bay Property Management
Owner: 564 W. Randolph, LLC

» BOMA/Columbus
100,000 - 249,999 Square Feet Category
Building Name: Town Center - Columbus, Ohio

Management Company: Continental Realty, Ltd.
Owner: The Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund

» BOMA/Chicago
250,000 - 499,999 Square Feet Category
Building Name: 550 West Washington - Chicago

Management Company: JLL
Owner: MetLife

» BOMA/Chicago
500,000 - 1 Million Square Feet Category
Building Name: 200 West Madison - Chicago

Management Company: Transwestern
Owner: MEPT 200 West Madison LLC, advised by Bentall Kennedy (U.S.) Limited Partnership

» BOMA/Chicago
Over 1 Million Square Feet Category
Building Name: AMA Plaza

Management Company: JLL
Owner: CCII 1033 LLC

- Chicago

Management Company: Riverview Realty Property Management, Inc.

Owner: 330 N. Wabash Avenue, L.L.C.
» BOMA/Chicago
Corporate Facility Category
Building Name: 300 East Randolph - Chicago

Management Company: CBRE, Inc.
Owner: Health Care Service Corporation

» BOMA/Chicago
Earth Award Category
Building Name: 71 South Wacker - Chicago

Management Company: JLL
Owner: The Irvine Company

» BOMA/Indianapolis
Suburban Office Park, Low-Rise Category
Building Name: Castleton Park - Indianapolis, Ind.

Management Company: Cushman & Wakefield
Owner: NRFC Castleton Park Holdings, LLC

» BOMA/Suburban Chicago
Suburban Office Park, Mid-Rise Category
Building Name: The Corporate Center of Northbrook - Northbrook, Ill.

Management Company: JLL
Owner: CCII 1033 LLC

» BOMA/Chicago
Historical Building Category
Building Name: The Wrigley Building - Chicago

Management Company: JLL
Owner: CCII 1033 LLC

Management Company: Zeller Realty Group
Owner: BDT Capital Partners, LLC and Zeller Realty Group

» BOMA/Indianapolis
Medical Office Building
Building Name: IU Neuroscience Center - Indianapolis, Ind.

Management Company: Landmark Healthcare Facilities, LLC
Owner: Landmark Healthcare Facilities, LLC

» BOMA/Chicago
Renovated Building Category
Building Name: 111 North Canal - The Gogo Building - Chicago

Management Company: Sterling Bay
Owner: 111 N. Canal Realty Company LLC

Founded in 1907, the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International is an international federation of 93 local associations and affiliated organizations.

The nearly 18,000 members of BOMA International own or manage more than 9 billion square feet of commercial properties in North America and abroad.

BOMA's mission is to enhance the human, intellectual and physical assets of the commercial real estate industry through advocacy, education, research, standards and information. For more information, visit www.boma.org.

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REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Investors

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

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. The Red Lobster is next to 7-Eleven, near Trenton Road.

For more information, call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-9091 or Wayne Koehler at 313-819-0919.



Artist Lyn Wagner-Ditzhazy poses with a four-legged customer at an art show.

"They look like something that would have come from an archeological dig. I like asymmetrical things that don't look super clean, like they are industrial."

LYN WAGNER-DITZHAZY
Plymouth jewelry maker



This necklace by Lyn Wagner-Ditzhazy of Plymouth is imperial green jasper and leopardskin jasper in heavy gage sterling silver.

PLYMOUTH ARTIST FASHIONS UNIQUE 'WEARABLE RELICS'

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Lyn Wagner-Ditzhazy has always enjoyed attending Art Birmingham.

"It's the first major show of the outdoor season. My husband would take me there for Mother's Day. We have four cats and he'd joke, let's pick out something for the cats.

"I guess I can't get anything this year because I'm in the show," she said, with a laugh.

The Plymouth jewelry maker will sell her "Archeo-Dustrial" necklaces, bracelets, and earrings at the 35th annual art show, which runs 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 7, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 8, in and surrounding Shain Park, in downtown Birmingham.

Although it's Wagner-Ditzhazy's first time at Art Birmingham, she regularly shows in other outdoor festivals. In June she'll be at the Clay, Glass and Metal Show in Royal Oak and the St. Clair Art Fair in St. Clair; in July at Art in the Park

Wagner-Ditzhazy also earned a certificate in gemology.

She describes her work as a fusing of archeological and industrial styles, a look she calls "Archeo-Dustrial." The pieces are meant to be "wearable relics."

"They look like something that would have come from an archeological dig. I like asymmetrical things that don't look super clean, like they are industrial."

Although she has tried her hand at glass making, she prefers to focus on metal. She obtains the non-metal materials for her jewelry from lapidarists, stone-cutters and fine glass bead artists.

Favorite stones

"I like the feel of metal and hammering and the setting of stones. I love stones. I have my favorites. I love labradorite because it has a sheen almost like a moonstone sheen. Iridescent.

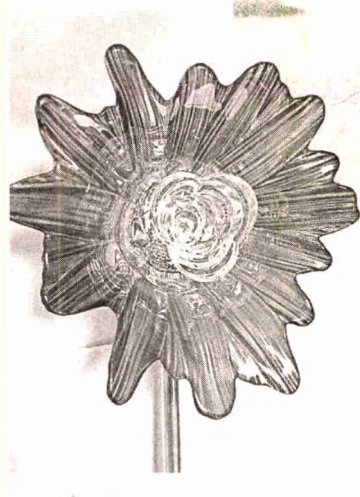
"I love garnet, citrine, turquoise. That would be for bead-



A one-of-a-kind bracelet made of natural stones and other pieces



A handmade artisan pottery tile with a cat image is set into sterling silver.



Tom Ditzhazy makes garden sculptures by assembling glass pieces. He sells them at his wife's jewelry booth.

"It does help a lot when you make metal jewelry. You understand the properties of how metal will react. I know how it will look at a certain temperature. I have a working knowledge of soldering and how a metal will bend."

Wagner-Ditzhazy's husband,

Tom, began making garden flower sculptures last year by assembling glass bowls, plates and other objects. He sold several of them at her art fair both.

"He's barging in on my turf," she joked. "Without him, I couldn't do my shows. He helps with set up and stays at the

shows with me."

For more about Wagner-Ditzhazy's art visit funkybeadz.com.

For more about Art Birmingham visit artbirmingham.org or call the Guild of Artists & Artisans at 734-662-3382.

New films: Kitty incites gang war in comedy 'Keanu'

Check local theaters for screening times for these films opening soon.

Friday, April 29

"Keanu" features comedy duo Keegan-Michael Key and Jordan Peele as straight-laced cousins, Clarence and Rell. When Rell's kitten, Keanu, is catnapped, the pair impersonate killers in order to retrieve the feline. But a gang war custody battle ensues, forcing the two cousins to take the law in their own hands. Also starring Tiffany Haddish, Method Man, Jason Mitchell, with Luis Guzman, Nia Long and Will Forte. Directed by Peter Atencio. Rated R.

"In the horror-thriller, "Green Room," Patrick Stewart plays a diabolical club owner who faces off against an unsuspecting young punk band. The band, The Ain't Rights, are finishing up a long and unsuccessful tour, and are about to call it quits when they get an unexpected booking at an isolated, run-down club deep in



"Keanu" is a sought-after kitten in the comedy starring Keegan-Michael Key and Jordan Peele.

the backwoods of Oregon. The gig escalates into something much more sinister when band members witness an act of violence backstage that they weren't meant to see. Now trapped backstage, they must turn the tables on their captor. Rated R.

"Mother's Day," directed by Garry Marshall, is a romantic comedy that follows the intertwining stories about the lives of several mothers as the holiday approaches. Stars Julia



Giovani Ribisi (left) plays Ed Myers, a young journalist, and Adrian Sparks is Ernest Hemingway in the film, "Papa: Hemingway in Cuba."

Roberts, Jennifer Aniston, Kate Hudson, and Jason Sudeikis. Rated PG-13.

"Papa: Hemingway in Cuba," is the first Hollywood film to shoot on location in Cuba since the 1959 revolution. The film tells the story of a young journalist who finds a father figure in legendary author Ernest Hemingway. Their relationship began in the late 1950s when Ed Myers, then a reporter at The Miami Herald, wrote a fan letter to his idol.

Myers thought he was being pranked when Hemingway phoned the newsroom a week later, inviting him to Havana. Stars Adrian Sparks, Giovani Ribisi, Joely Richardson, and Mariel Hemingway. Directed by Bob Yari. Rated R.

"Ratchet & Clank" is an animated movie based on the iconic PlayStation video game. Two unlikely heroes struggle to stop a vile alien named Chairman Drek from destroying every planet in the Solana Galaxy. Ratchet is the last of his kind and has grown up alone on a backwater planet with no family of his own. Clank is a pint-sized robot with more brains than brawn. When the two stumble upon a dangerous weapon capable of destroying entire planets, they must join forces with a team of colorful heroes called The Galactic Rangers in order to save the galaxy. Rated PG.

May 6

"Captain America: Civil War" finds Steve Rogers lead-

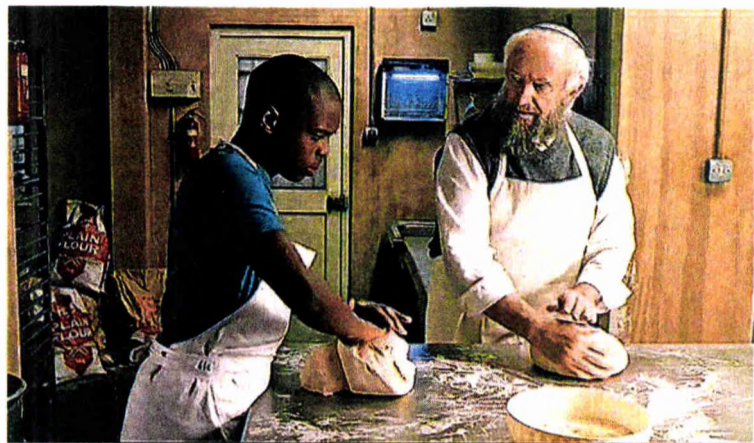
ing the newly formed team of Avengers in their continued efforts to safeguard humanity. But after another incident involving the Avengers results in collateral damage, political pressure mounts to install a system of accountability — and fractures the heroes into two camps. Steve Rogers wants the group to remain free from government interference. Tony Stark supports government oversight. Rated PG-13.

"Sing Street" opens at the Maple Theater. It tells the story of Conor, a 14-year-old boy, who is looking for a break from home while trying to adjust to his new inner-city school in 1980s Dublin. He finds a glimmer of hope in the beautiful Raphina and with the aim of winning her heart he invites her to star in his band's music videos. There's only one problem, he's not part of a band. Directed by John Carney. Rated PG-13.

— Courtesy of Allied Integrated Marketing



Ziggy Gruber, a third-generation deli owner, shows off a towering sandwich in "Deli Man."



A Jewish baker and his Muslim apprentice work together in "Dough."

GET A TASTE OF DELI, ISRAELI CUISINE ON THE BIG SCREEN



A film crew records a scene from the documentary, "In Search of Israeli Cuisine."

SUBMITTED

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Go Sunday, May 8, to the opening of the 18th annual Lenore Marwil Jewish Film Festival on a full stomach.

You won't regret it as you see towering sandwiches and simmering soup on screen in the documentary "Deli Man" and breads and baked delicacies in the fictional story "Dough."

Save your appetite for Monday, May 9, when the patron event serves a strolling dinner reception and screening of the documentary "In Search of Israeli Cuisine."

"Deli Man," "Dough" and "In Search of Israeli Cuisine" are among 32 films that will screen during the festival, which runs May 8-13 and 15-19 at the Berman Center for the Performing Arts, on the campus of the Jewish Community

Center of Metro Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield.

A festival selection committee viewed more than 250 films and chose 32 for the annual event. Although the two films May 8 and the patron event screening May 9 focus on food themes, Eric Lumberg, film festival chairman, said the committee selects movies based on their connection to the Jewish community. They also represent a goal "to bring high quality, entertaining and education films" to the audience.

"While it was not a conscious decision to highlight food, when a great film is available we want to show it," he said. "Besides, who doesn't like watching movies about food? It's a great way to spend Mother's Day, either going out to eat before the film or getting hungry while watching and then enjoying a meal af-

terward.

"Our patron event will feature the cuisine showcased in the film 'In Search of Israeli Cuisine' and everyone is really excited for this evening. The recipes are amazing and having the filmmaker here will be a highlight of the festival."

Academy Award-nominated filmmaker Roger Sherman will be on hand for a talk-back after the film screens at 8 p.m. The dinner, at 6:30 p.m., features the cuisine of chef Michael Solomonov of Zahav, a restaurant in Philadelphia, Pa., that serves Israeli-style food. Solomonov serves as the guide in the documentary that looks at chefs, home cooks, farmers, vintners and cheese makers from Israel's many cultures.

"What is amazing in Israel, I think, it's the only country in the world that so many cuisines came here together," Meir Adoni, an Israeli chef,

says in the film. "And you have like more than 150 cuisines that came and all of them, of course, Jewish."

"Deli Man," which screens at 2 p.m. May 8, explores Jewish culture through delicacies. It focuses on Ziggy Gruber, third-generation deli restaurant owner, and includes interviews with other deli owners and patrons.

"My grandfather threw an apron at me and I said this is my calling," Gruber says in the film. "When I cook, I feel my ancestors around me. And that's what drives me. Someone's got to take this food and continue it."

In addition to the screening May 8 in West Bloomfield, "Deli Man" will be shown at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 12, at Hygrade Deli, 640 Michigan Ave., Detroit. Cost is \$10 and includes deli food at 6:30 p.m. Register online for the event

at werepair.org/detroit. It's presented by Detroit City Moishe House and Repair the World.

See "Dough," at 8 p.m. May 8. The film tells the fictional story of a friendship between an older Jewish baker and his young Muslim apprentice.

Tickets for individual films are \$12. A matinee pass, good for five screenings at 2 p.m., is \$40 for JCC members and \$45 for non-members. A patron pass is \$360 and includes two tickets to every film, along with the patron night reception.

For tickets and more information about the patron event, call 248-661-1900 or go to jccdet.org. Tickets also are available at the Berman Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

sdargay@hometownlife.com

Battle with your barbecue ribs to win cash prizes

Diana Wing
Correspondent

It's time to roll up your sleeves, fire up the grill and practice your barbecue skills. The sixth annual barbecue ribs competition, BBQ Battle, is accepting applications.

The barbecue cook-off is set for June 18 at Summer in the Village in Lathrup Village.

Jeremy Brown of Oakland County Parks organizes the barbecue competition, which involves up to 30 teams that compete for more than \$1,500 in cash prizes.

According to Brown, a Kansas City BBQ Society-certified

judge, competition ribs are not "falling off the bone" style.

"You should be able to bite into it, pull away from it and see your bite-mark in the rib. You're judging based on appearance, taste and tenderness. All of those are weighted differently," he said. "I like to see nice even cuts in the ribs, an even glaze of sauce, a little pull back on the bone."

Brown, who has organized barbecue competitions for six years, said the rivalry is friendly and that barbecue is a "unifier."

"It brings everybody together. We have such a good group of guys competing and

everyone is comparing notes and seeing what the other guys are doing and learning from each other."

Teams come with all levels of competition experience and all sizes of grills.

"Some guys are really big into it. They will bring a smoker that costs \$5,000 to \$7,000 and they go to all the big competitions every year. And then you'll also have the guy who's a backyard barbecuer and all of his friend are like hey, you make really good ribs. You should enter this competition. And that guy may bring \$100 smoker and I've seen those guys win, several times."



Applications are available for competitors and judges for the Summer in the Village BBQ Cook-off, June 18, in Lathrup Village.

SUBMITTED

Entry fee is \$50 per team. Gas, coal or wood chip fires can be used. For competition rules and applications, go to

summerinthevillage.com. Email Brown at brownjd@oakgov.com for more information.

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