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SUNDAY
April 10, 2011

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

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CANTON
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CONNECTION
Roundtable exhibit

The Michigan Roundtable and Plymouth-Canton Community Schools have partnered to bring what organizers call "a moving exhibit" to Salem High School Monday.

"We Don't Want Them: Race and Housing in Metropolitan Detroit 1900-1968" will be on display 7-8:30 p.m. Monday, April 11, in the Salem High School Media Center.

"In our effort to build relationships that create social justice, we have brought this exhibit to the community and want to share it," said the Roundtable's Anne Marie Graham Hudak. "The exhibit is amazing and we're so grateful it will be on display in our community."

Salem High School is located at 46181 Joy Road in Canton.

Health care

Campaign for Liberty Region 11 presents guest speaker Dr. David Janda and his presentation, "How Does Health Care Reform Affect YOU?" 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 26, at the Canton Administration building, Room A, in Canton.

Janda is a nationally-known orthopedic surgeon based in Ann Arbor. He is founder and director of the Institute for Preventive Sports

Medicine, the only health care cost containment organization of its kind in North America.

He and his book, "The Awakening of a Surgeon," have been featured guests on the Oprah Winfrey Show, and his research and prevention-based studies have been featured on many network television, radio, newspaper and magazine presentations.

Organizers said Janda has actually read all 2,800 pages of President Barack Obama's health care plan and "will tell us what it really means to us."

The Canton Township administration building is located at 1150 S. Canton Center.

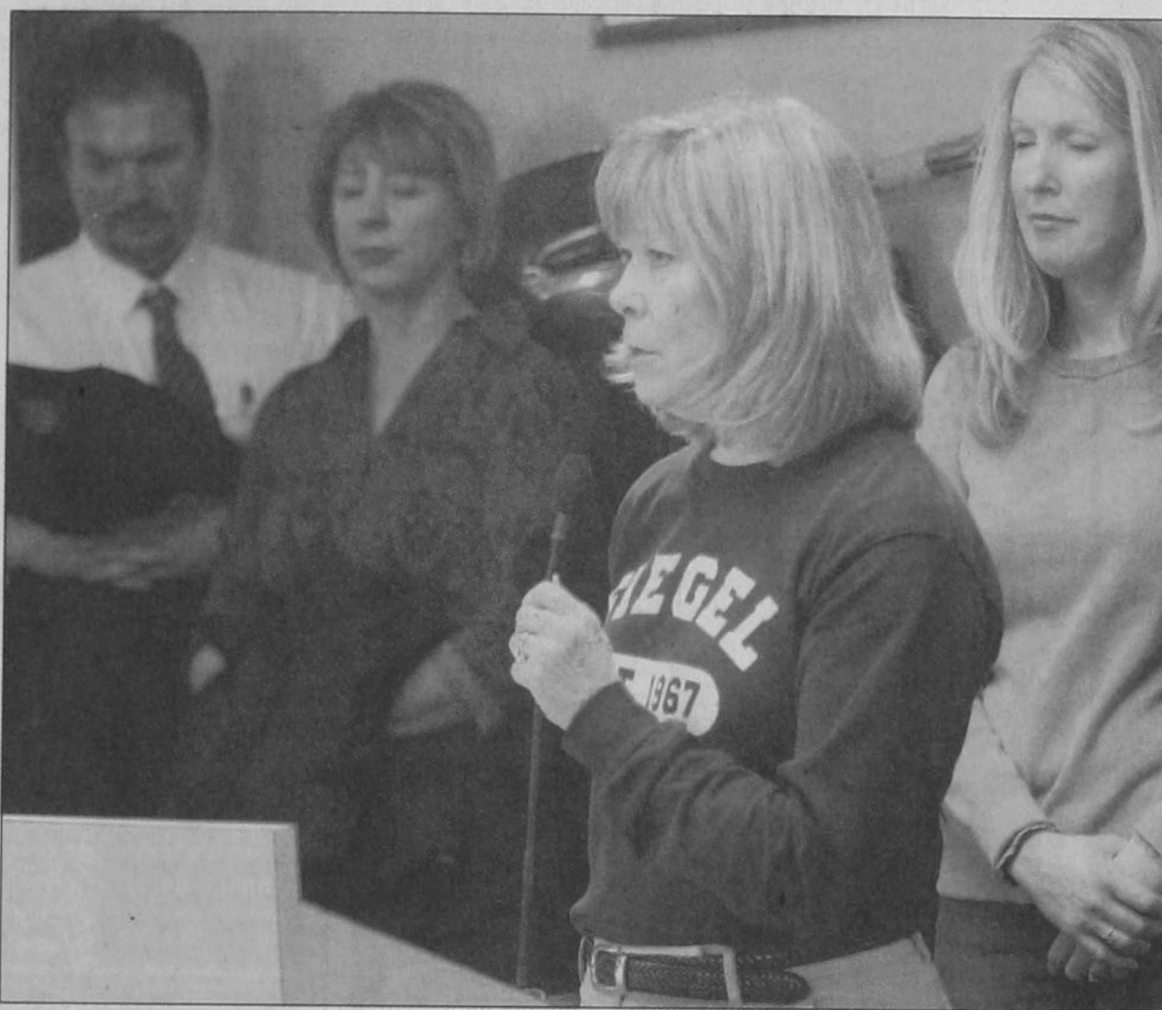
Mother knows best

Local women and girls are invited to send us (in 50 words or less) the best advice you received from your mom.

Include a photo of your mom or, better yet, you and your mom. E-mail your best submission and photo (jpg format only) to bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

Include your first and last name and hometown and identify your mother (first and last name, please). Include a daytime phone number or cell phone where you can be reached during business hours. The photos and advice will appear in the Thursday, May 5, Salute To Women edition of Hometown Life Woman. Deadline to submit advice and photo is 5 p.m. Friday, April 15.

Tough choices



Kyle Stinar-Eckert reads a statement from the staff of Fiegel Elementary School at Tuesday's budget workshop, where administrators revealed a plan to close Fiegel as part of its \$18 million in budget cuts.

Fiegel parents, staff brace for the worst

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Jim Johnson sat in the center of the storm Tuesday, on a small chair on the inside of the circle of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools administrators and school board members discussing their plan for cutting \$18 million out of the district's budget.

His voice a little shaky, Johnson held the microphone to his lips and explained the closing of Fiegel Elementary School — where he's been principal for 13 years — to an overflow crowd at Tuesday's budget workshop. Parents, teachers and other staffers ringed the board table, stood in the hallway and even sat on the floor in the middle of the room to find out how the district planned to deal with the deficit.

One of those ways is to close Fiegel, a move administrators say will save the district some \$1.4 million. The school is located on Joy Road in Plymouth Township.

"I hope there's no one in this

room who thinks we sold you out, because that's not what happened," Johnson said, mostly to the many Fiegel parents and staffers in the audience. "It's hard for me to say (losing) these people will save \$1.4 million, because there's no price that can be placed on the work they do."

DOLLAR VALUE

Faced with such a huge deficit, that's what administrators did, though. Money saved by closing Fiegel, according to information provided by the district, includes:

- \$150,000 for the principal's salary
- \$525,000 by cutting seven teachers/interventionists
- \$225,000 for three certified support positions
- \$525,000 for other support staff, including clerical, maintenance, paraprofessionals, custodial, food service and crossing guards

There were other major cuts in the plan — more than \$5.3 million by cutting some 80 teachers and increasing the student-

teacher ratios, nearly \$1 million by cutting 21 custodial jobs — but none drew the emotion elicited by discussion of closing Fiegel.

"We are a family at Fiegel. These students will bus to up to four different schools," said Fiegel fifth-grade teacher Kyle Stinar-Eckert, who read a statement on behalf of the Fiegel staff. "The staff is concerned a decision of this magnitude is being made without any input from the staff. Where's our family?"

Stinar-Eckert also expressed concerns about uprooting the school's 350 students, particularly the struggling students and special-needs students she said "have made so much progress."

STARTING OVER

It's a concern echoed by parent Leah Scott, the mother of a special-needs first-grader who said the staff at Fiegel has made her and her son feel welcome. With Fiegel students being shifted to

Please see **FIEGEL, A3**

**Mom, daughter
set sights on
royal wedding**

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's quite a British royal family affair — this April 29 wedding between Prince William and Kate Middleton — so naturally Canton resident Christine Wofford and her 22-year-old daughter, Olivia, hope to attend.

Regardless, they're departing Easter Sunday for a one-week stay at The Grosvenor in London, and they plan to enjoy the hoopla even if they don't get a wedding seat at Westminster Abbey.

"We're going to party, party, party — shop, eat and drink," Christine Wofford said, smiling Thursday as she and her daughter sat in their Canton living room and talked of their trip. Two large, yellow, plastic letters — "W" for William and "K" for Kate — sat propped on the couch, adorned by small U.S. flags.

Christine Wofford has been a longtime fan of the royal family and movies made about the British aristocracy, and her daughter shares her interests.

A return letter Christine Wofford received from St. James's Palace didn't bring any promises the pair would get into the wedding, and Olivia Wofford hasn't yet gotten a response to a letter she sent to the younger Prince Harry.

But, don't count this Wofford family out. They've managed up-close encounters with a pope, a princess, a duchess and Hollywood royalty George Clooney.

FIRST COMMUNION

When she was 7 years old, Olivia Wofford received her first communion from Pope John Paul II at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome after her mother, a devout Catholic, arranged it through Detroit-area priests.

Please see **WEDDING, A5**



Olivia Wofford and her mother, Christine, have had a few adventures together, including Olivia's first communion with Pope John Paul II.

Delmas relative gets probation in handgun case

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A relative of Detroit Lions safety Louis Delmas has been placed on probation for one year for felonious assault charges, following accusations he pointed a handgun at three teens, including one who wore a Michael Myers-style Halloween mask, as they drove by him in Canton.

Ravelle Sadler, 20, also has been ordered to perform community service, and he could have the case expunged from his record as long as he stays out of trouble and completes his probation, Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Maria Miller said.

Sadler officially learned his sentence Thursday in Wayne County Circuit Judge Bruce Morrow's courtroom. He



Sadler

came after he pleaded guilty to the three felony assault charges in return for authorities agreeing to dismiss a felony firearm charge and one count of carrying a concealed weapon.

The plea agreement became crucial to Sadler's freedom because, under state law, he would have faced a mandatory two-year prison term if he had been convicted of the felony firearm charge.

Delmas, a passenger, was never charged in the incident that Canton police say happened about 2:15 a.m. Dec. 21 while Sadler, a Cincinnati resident, was driving west on Ford Road. Delmas described Sadler as his brother to police.

Delmas was the owner of the .40-caliber semiautomatic handgun pointed by Sadler at three teens — ages 16, 17 and 18 — from Garden City and Canton. However, authorities have said Delmas was never implicated in the incident, and there was no indication he handed the gun to Sadler.

Canton police Sgt. Mark Gajeski had described Delmas as a witness in the case and said "the gun was registered to him, but he has a concealed pistol license out of Florida."

Delmas' address is listed as Miami, Fla., but he lives in Canton during the football season.

Sadler was accused of pointing the gun at the teens while he was driving a silver Nissan Titan pickup truck on westbound Ford near Lilley. The teens drove alongside him and one looked over wearing the mask, later telling police the incident was meant as "a joke."

The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office decided the charges. According to a police report, the teens said they feared Sadler was going to fire the gun, yet they trailed the Nissan and called 9-1-1. Police stopped the truck near Ford and Ridge roads on Canton's west side.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238



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INDEX

APARTMENTS — C3
AUTOMOTIVE — C5
CAREER BUILDER — C1

COMMUNITY LIFE — B5
CROSSWORD PUZZLE — C2
OBITUARIES — B8

HEALTH — B9
REAL ESTATE — C3
SPORTS — B1

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Spring brings Easter events to Canton

Spring has finally sprung and with it comes longer days and warmer weather as well as some egg-citing Easter events.

Canton Leisure Services invites families to the annual "Pancake Breakfast with the Easter Bunny" and "The Easter Egg-stravaganza" both scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 16.

Start off the morning with a tasty pancake breakfast at the Summit on the Park Grand Ballroom, located at 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton from 9-11 a.m. The buffet will be open until 11 a.m. while the kids enjoy strolling entertainment and a visit with their favorite furry egg-toting friend. The menu will include: breakfast pastries, a complete pancake/French toast bar, sausage, scrambled eggs, hash browns, juices, milk, soft drinks and coffee.



Easter events are scheduled in Canton for Saturday, April 16.

Registration for the Pancake Breakfast ends April 10 at 8 p.m. and is required in advance of the event, as tickets will NOT be sold at the door. Registration fees are: \$15 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for kids ages 4-12, and \$4 for children 3 and under. Children may

not attend this event unless accompanied by an adult and all attendees are required to register for the breakfast. Participants must present their tickets at the door on the day of the breakfast to be admitted.

The Annual Easter Eggstravaganza at the Heritage Park Playscape and Splash Pad, located on the east side of the Summit on the Park, will take place right after the breakfast from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., weather permitting. This festive event gives children 11 and under a chance to hunt for eggs the Easter Bunny has set out for them. This event does not require pre-registration but an admittance fee of \$2 per child can be paid on site.

Egg hunts will run continuously until noon and will be divided into two age groups (5-and-under and 6-11 years of age) to keep the hunting fair for our littlest participants. An alternative rain date for the outdoor Eggstravaganza is scheduled for Saturday, April 23, if needed.

For more information, please visit Cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.

AROUND CANTON

"Around Canton" is designed to announce upcoming events taking place in the community. Items will run on a space-available basis. Send details to bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Women's Connection

Date/Time: Monday, April 11, 6-8:30 p.m.

Location: Palermo's Restaurant, 44938 Ford Road, Canton

Details: Canton Women's Connection meeting, featuring Canton Township Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin. Bring a friend/neighbor. RSVP by Thursday, April 7.

Contact: June Nicholas, (313) 610-2561 or junenicholas@comcast.net

All Saints Camp

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to noon, July 18-Aug. 5

Location: All Saints Catholic School, Canton

Details: All Saints Catholic School offers early childhood enrichment summer camps for students entering 4 year-old preschool and kindergarten this fall in the Plymouth-Canton Area. The camps enhance early literacy, math, and science skills while including fun elements of summertime: nature, music, and outdoor games. The cost is \$100.00 per week.

Contact: For registration forms and additional information, please visit the school's website at www.allsaintscs.com or e-mail msswider-ek@yahoo.com.

Fish fries

Time/Date: 5-9 p.m. Fridays, through April 22

Location: Summit on the Park Banquet Center, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton



DAVID L. MALHALAB | M NEWS SERVICE

Coin flip

Gary Kelly of Canton, president of the NW Detroit Coin Club, along with Diana Jellinek of Troy and Vic West of Brighton, sold a lot of coins at the 49th semiannual NW Detroit Coin Show in Livonia. Kelly said the show brought together coin sellers, collectors and those interested in an investment for the future - in coins, paper money, and tokens. The NW Detroit holds its meetings at the Livonia Senior Center on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

Details: Fish Fry Fridays are in full swing. All-you-can-eat fish buffet includes Battered Atlantic Cod; Herb Encrusted Tilapia; Seafood Cakes; Pasta; Fresh Vegetables; French Fries; Coleslaw; Soft Drinks, Coffee and Tea. Adults can dine for \$11.95 per person and children under 12 years of age are just \$4.95 each. Desserts and a full-service bar are available at an additional cost.

Contact: Call (734) 394-5460 or visit www.Cantonfun.org.

Run for Hope

Time/Date: 8 a.m. Saturday, May 14

Location: Maybury State Park, 20145 Beck, in Northville

Details: The fifth annual Run for Hope is a 5K run/walk presented by Northville Roadrunners to benefit New Hope Center for Grief Support. Fitness expert Peter Nielsen will be in attendance. Pre-register online by May 2 at www.firstgiving.com/newhopecenter. Registration forms and more information are available at www.newhopecenter.net. Registration the day of the event is at 8 a.m. Cost is \$25 for people 16 and over and \$15 for children 8-15 who register by May 2. After May 2, and day of the race add \$5. Children under 8 are free.

Contact: New Hope Center, (248) 348-0115

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Survivors a sign of blood drive success

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton mom Kerry Brooks, who desperately needed a stem cell transplant to fight leukemia, said she owes her life to a stranger who became a donor. "It's a gift of life from a complete stranger," she said. "She saved my life."

Although Canton mother Maria Barker's situation was different, she also understands the dire need for donors. She needed large amounts of blood in October of 2002 due to a surgical mishap as she gave birth 15 weeks early by Caesarian section to quadruplets, one of whom died.

The other three children "are doing great," Barker said, but they needed "many, many weeks of support" including blood.

Brooks and Barker hope their survival will convince donors to turn out 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. April 22 for an annual Good Friday blood drive at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church, 555 S. Lilley south of Cherry Hill, to help the American Red Cross.

Co-sponsored by St. John Neumann Parish of Canton, the drive also allows donors to get a simple cheek swab and become listed on a bone marrow registry and to register as an organ donor.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton mom Kerry Brooks, who last year needed a stem-cell transplant, said she owes her life to a stranger who became a donor.

WALK-INS WELCOME

Blood donor walk-ins are welcome, though appointments are preferred by registering online at www.redcross.org and using the sponsor code CCU, event co-chair Cathy Hulett said.

While giving blood at St. Thomas a'Becket, donors may simply stop by another station to register to become potential bone marrow and organ donors.

"We have everything right there for them," Hulett said.

It's one of the area's largest donor events, and last year organizers collected 444 pints of blood.

During an interview last March with the *Observer*, Brooks and her husband Dave had hoped she would find a matching donor. Through the bone marrow registry, Brooks last May received a stem cell transplant for acute lymphoblastic leukemia — more specifically, the rarer Philadelphia chromosome positive form.

"For the most part the transplant took, and I'm doing quite well," Brooks said Thursday, though her recovery has been long and, at times, difficult. "At this point, I am leukemia-free."

ANONYMOUS PROCESS

Due to the anonymity of the process, Brooks only knows that her donor is a 24-year-old woman who lives in another country. Brooks has sent her an anonymous letter, though it's possible after two years that she could potentially be allowed to meet her donor.

Last year, Brooks said she had no choice but to get well to help her husband raise their children, ages 10 and 7.

Barker, meanwhile, said she and her husband, Dwayne, regularly give blood, which truly became the gift of life for her and her 8-year-old children.

"I'm a nurse, so I give blood all the time," Barker said.

Brooks and Barker attend St. Thomas a'Becket, which sponsors blood drives four times a year with St. John Neumann, Hulett said.

"Good Friday is the big blood drive," Hulett said. "The blood supply right now is critically low."

For more information, call Hulett at (734) 981-1333, ext. 18.

Anyone who wants to provide food or beverages or volunteer for the event also is encouraged to help.

Hulett provided a lengthy list of facts about giving blood, such as:

- Every two seconds, someone in the United States needs a blood transfusion.

- One blood donation can save as many as three lives.

- One out of 10 people admitted to a hospital needs blood.

- Blood is needed by cancer patients, people with blood disorders or diseases, premature babies, transplant recipients, trauma and accident victims, and to treat people with other serious diseases and conditions.

- The American Red Cross collects about 6.5 million units of blood a year — about half the blood needed each year in the United States.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

An overflow crowd, including many parents and teachers from Fiegel Elementary, showed up Tuesday to hear the budget presentation.

FIEGEL

FROM PAGE A1

one of four schools — Canton elementaries Eriksson, Hulsing, Field and Gallimore — she said she's concerned about the adjustment switching schools would force him to make.

"He's very comfortable where he is," Scott said. "I would need to start those (parent-student-teacher) relationships, as well. I don't think Fiegel kids should be sacrificial lambs."

Heather Cunnien of Canton has a child at Fiegel (and another at Central Middle School). She said she didn't think the return was worth the closing of a school.

"I was disappointed," she said. "I don't like that they put a dollar amount on my child's education."

Board of Education Vice President Dianne Gonzalez and Trustee Steven Sneiderman have both had children moved to different schools due to redistricting. They — and all the trustees — expressed regret about having to close a school.

"This is tremendously uncomfortable," Gonzalez said. "My heart goes out to them."

TOUGH CHOICES

As hard as it is, though, administrators and the other members of the district's budget committee believe it needs to be done. Elementary enrollment is down by more than 400 students — 8,433 in 2007-08 down to 8,020 in 2010-11 — to the point where there's even room for some 150 students from outside the boundaries if the board decides to become a school-of-choice district even if they close Fiegel.

Johnson said the committee couldn't back down from the decisions just because they were difficult.

"Doing responsible hard work requires you do hard things at times," Johnson said. "I'll tell you, if it was up to me, I'd rather my people hear that from me. I hope my doing the presentation to the board, and having my entire staff there, showed how difficult this is."

"My biggest concern is my school community," added Johnson, an educator for some 30 years. "I'm concerned this is going to affect children and families. It's going to be a big change that will affect the lives of the people who work with me. I work with some terrific, committed people."

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Local cable stations will air Colbeck show

This month, several local cable stations will begin airing a new cable show moderated by state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton.

The show, titled *Lansing from a New Perspective*, will feature discussions aimed at addressing topics of importance to residents of the 7th State Senate District.

"It is important to me as a representative of our district in Lansing that we find as many avenues as possible to let people's voices be heard," Colbeck



Colbeck

said. "The cable show is one opportunity to expand the discussions and bring together people with differing views as we seek to find the best ideas for moving our state forward."

The first installment of the program will run through the month of April. The show is scheduled to run on the Comcast cable system on Tuesdays at 7

p.m.; on Channel 12 of Van Buren Township's cable system VBTv on Mondays and Thursdays at 2 p.m. and 11 p.m.; and Sumpter Township's Community Access Channel, Channel 12, at various times daily.

April's show features several residents of the 7th District in a discussion about Michigan's education system. April's guests include Paula Ford from Plymouth, Dan Kurt from Canton, Carla Malcomson from Flat Rock and Ann Haener-Maghen from Grosse Ile. The

panel guests are parents with children in at least one of our state's four different schooling options: a public district school, a private school, a public school academy and a homeschool.

Colbeck can be reached through the web at www.SenatorPatrickColbeck.com, by e-mail at senpcolbeck@senate.michigan.gov, on Facebook at Senator Patrick Colbeck or by calling his office at (517) 373-7350 or toll-free at (866) 262-7307.

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Attorney J.B. Bieske can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary Bieske has won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

Attorney Bieske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 27 years. That is the **only** type of law he practices. And, he personally meets with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less experience; and often these firms aren't even based in Michigan.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject. He also has been interviewed on various radio and television programs and has given speeches to many groups.

Bieske's office staff consists of paralegals and secretaries who are extremely helpful in answering questions with regard to the status of client's cases and administrative procedure.

Attorney Bieske welcomes you to call him to determine if you may be eligible for these benefits. He offers a free phone or office consultation. If Bieske represents you, there will be **no fee charged until after the case is won**. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

In a recent radio interview attorney Bieske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability benefits. You may be eligible even if you have retired and are receiving a pension. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related to your work), are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work record or your deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits).

Call attorney J.B. Bieske at **1-800-331-3530** for a FREE consultation if you are considering applying for Social Security Disability Benefits or if you have been denied. His Livonia office is located on Six Mile Road just West of I-275 and his Novi office is on Haggerty just North of 12 Mile Road.

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EDUCATION

Sunday, April 10, 2011

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HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Brad Kadrich

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8899

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Comment online at hometownlife.com

Elementaries earn 'green' status

Both Allen and Field elementary schools were informed that they have once again earned a Michigan Green School designation by participating in at least 10 green projects.

The schools earned the "Emerald" designation for their efforts to complete 15 green projects by the end of the school year. Some of the green initiatives include: recycling-paper, printer cartridges, and batteries, Trash-LESS Tuesdays, educating students and staff with green tips and assemblies, Earth Month activities and solar cookouts (in April and May).

School officials said there will be a recognition ceremony later this spring.

In other news:

- The Canton Community Foundation has awarded a grant of \$300 to East's National Junior Honor Society. East students Raveena Mata and Monica Palande wrote the grant application last month. The grant funds will be used to create a Michigan native species garden on the East Middle School campus. The garden will serve as a habitat for the blue karner butterfly, which is in danger of extinction. This is one of the many "green" projects East students have engaged in, with the goal of achieving the "Michigan Green School" certification.

- An Anti-Bully campaign kicks off the week of April 11, with several events planned. The Student Congress at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park has created an anti-bully movement for Canton, Plymouth and Salem high schools. With the ultimate goal of inspiring bully prevention legislation for the state of Michigan, the students have planned assemblies, a candle lit vigil, a town hall meeting and deliberate acts of kindness to raise anti-bully awareness.

- Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce are accepting applications for the Student Citizenship Award scholarship. Nominations from all employees, parents and friends of high school seniors from the Plymouth and Canton area will be accepted before 4 p.m. on Friday, April 15. The \$500 scholarship is based on community service only. Grade point average



Poetic justice

Olivia Allam, a Dodson Elementary School fifth-grader, recently represented her school at the Michigan Reading Association's 55th annual conference in Grand Rapids. Her poem, 'Morning,' was nominated by Dodson staff members and then selected to be published in the MRA book Kaleidoscope. Olivia attended a Young Author's luncheon with her family and teachers in celebration of Michigan's young authors. Well-known children's author Janie L. Panagopoulos spoke to the students and their quest about the importance of celebrating their writing and about her early experiences as an author.

does not play a role in the committee's decision.

The selection committee will pick one student each from Canton, Plymouth, Salem, Starkweather and a non-P-CCS high school for the award. The scholarship application, which is available at the Board of Education office, requires the student to give a one paragraph description of what community service means to them, a one page bulleted list of the student's community service and a one page testimonial by the person nominating the student for the award. Inquires should be directed to the P-CCS Community Relations office at (734) 416-2757.

Board set to move on interim superintendent

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education has hired the Michigan Association of School Boards to help find an interim superintendent for the state's third-largest school district.

Dick Dunham, director of search services for the MASB, offered advice and a recommendation at Tuesday's budget workshop, attended by such a large crowd that many had to sit on the floor and out in the hallway.

"I didn't expect such a large audience," Dunham said, drawing about the only laugh of the night. "I don't usually draw this kind of turnout."

Dunham talked to the board about the various options they have seeking an interim superintendent, and how those options would impact a search for a permanent superintendent. He told board members they could opt for a short-term or long-term interim, and use either internal or external candidates.

INTERNAL CHOICE

Dunham's recommenda-

tion: Find someone inside the district who's already familiar with issues facing the district, and hire that person while simultaneously looking for a permanent successor.

"Ideally, you'd be looking for an internal candidate while doing the search for a permanent superintendent," Dunham said.

Board members have gone back and forth between hiring an interim for a year, allowing the board — which has been admittedly fractured the last six months — to get back on the same page, or hiring a short-term interim and allowing the search process to begin.

Dunham said the district may have trouble attracting long-term interim candidates, because it would likely be a retired administrator who could only earn up to a third of their final salary without compromising their retirement pay. "That makes hiring a long-term superintendent difficult to do," Dunham said.

The MASB is doing the search for an interim superintendent at no cost to the district; however, MASB

would charge for the search for a permanent superintendent. Dunham said such a search generally is a 12- to 13-week process.

Vice president Dianne Gonzalez expressed a desire for the best of both worlds, hiring someone for the near term with some flexibility to extend the interim contract.

"I'd like to look for a short-term internal candidate, but be able to make it long-term if we don't get the right candidate," she said.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Trustee Steven Sneiderman, a former board president, said he'd rather delay the search for a permanent superintendent until the seven board members reach agreement on what they're looking for in a future leader, in the aftermath of the breakdown that led to the need for a new superintendent.

Board members have had several workshops with another MASB consultant, Mary Kerwin, trying to hammer out goals and responsibilities for the district's new chief.

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WEDDING

FROM PAGE A1

"When Olivia was born, I thought that was going to be my goal," Christine Wofford said.

Olivia Wofford recalled being "a little overwhelmed by the crowd" as her mother snapped pictures of her with the pope. "I was kind of young to know what was really going on."

They returned for Pope John Paul II's funeral — Olivia Wofford was attending Divine Child High School when he died — and they also attended Mass with Pope Benedict XVI in 2008 at Yankee Stadium in New York.

When Olivia Wofford was in fourth grade, she gave an arrangement of flowers to Princess Caroline of Monaco, who had come to Detroit for a performance by the Monaco ballet.

"I called their PR (public relations) guy to say Olivia would like to present flowers to her, and they let her do it," Christine Wofford said.

OFF TO LONDON

During the summer before Olivia Wofford started eighth grade, she and her mother traveled to London, Canterbury and Paris when the daughter's school choir from Our Lady of Good Counsel performed abroad.

"While we were in Canterbury," Christine Wofford said, "we saw the Queen Mother go by in a procession."

Christine Wofford met Sarah Ferguson, a duchess formerly married to Prince Andrew, when she spoke in the late 1990s at a women's expo in Novi.

Just recently, mother and daughter went to Grand Rapids to see an art exhibit honoring the late Princess Diana. It included her wedding dress, other clothing and toys she had as a child.

Along the lines of movie royalty, a few years ago Christine Wofford and her husband, Gary, became extras on a Detroit-area movie set when



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Olivia Wofford plans to be in London with her mother, Christine, when Prince William marries Kate Middleton.

actor George Clooney was here filming *Up In The Air*.

But now, Prince William's wedding to Kate Middleton is the focus for Christine Wofford, a Wayne County accounting employee, and her daughter, who has a marketing assistant job after she graduated last May from Grand Valley State University with a degree in marketing and international business.

Although Christine Wofford's return letter from St. James' Palace was noncommittal about entry to the royal wedding, "I was thrilled to get that," she said.

She also sent an e-mail to Westminster Abbey but hasn't yet gotten a reply.

Olivia Wofford, meanwhile, said she would be thrilled to get a reply to her letter to Prince Harry.

"It would be nice to meet him," she said. "Meeting anybody in the royal family would be an honor."

At worst, mother and daughter plan to visit The London Eye, a huge Ferris wheel and tourist attraction in London, and revel in the royal wedding celebration that seems certain to sweep London. But, even Olivia Wofford has learned not to dismiss her mother's efforts to attend the wedding.

"It wouldn't surprise me if we get in," she said.

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It's not every day that Christine Wofford receives mail from Buckingham Palace.

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Sister act

Exhibit based on interaction with the homeless

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Sally Thielen and Susan Clinthorne have stepped out of their comfort zones to create an art installation that examines the plight of the nation's homeless.

The exhibition *Letters Home*, now on view at St. John Episcopal Church in Plymouth Township, includes handmade signs that ask for cash or other help, life-size (or near that) cutout photographs of homeless people, a wood-framed cardboard shelter such as those seen in "tent cities" and under freeway bridges, and placards with information about homelessness, such as how many children in the U.S. have been homeless, or how men who served in the military are disproportionately affected.

There's even a Christmas card from a homeless man, Mike, who was handing them out to motorists in the Ann Arbor area in 2008.

"He gave out a card whether you gave him money or not," said Clinthorne, who received the card. "He was just filled with holiday spirit."

CLOSE-UPS

Thielen and Clinthorne, who are sisters, based the project on their interactions with the homeless: in Ann Arbor, where Clinthorne lives; in Flint, which is close to Thielen's home in Davison; and in several other cities and states around the country.

"I was really interested in the discomfort we feel" when confronted by people who appear to be homeless or are begging at intersections, Clinthorne said.

An art teacher and painter who works in watercolors and

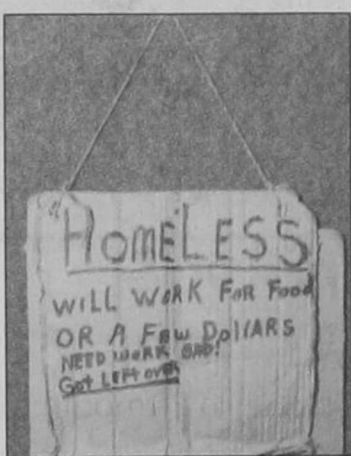
HOMELESS EXPERIENCE

What: "Letters from Home"

Where: St. John Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, in Plymouth Township

Why: The exhibit examines the plight of the nation's homeless

When: 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday; 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (approx.) Sundays, through April 22.



The exhibit is on display at St. John's Episcopal Church in Plymouth.

pastels, Clinthorne had been collecting signs asking for spare change or food or other help for a year or two before work on *Letters Home* began.

When she shared the concept with Thielen, it clicked. They enjoy working together, they said.

"This has given me new life," said Thielen, a retired nurse and semiretired artist who used to take her work to shows and galleries around the country.

Thielen and Clinthorne pay people for their signs, \$5 or so, and Clinthorne even carries spare cardboard and markers handy for those who need to make another.

"I liked that it was an



Sally Thielen and Susan Clinthorne based their exhibit on their interaction with homeless people.

exchange. Somehow I felt it honored them more," said Clinthorne.

BUILDING TRUST

Clinthorne says she felt uncomfortable approaching homeless people at first but now will sit and have coffee with them. She carries granola bars and hand-warmers to give away.

Thielen has become friends with several men who've been helped by Carriagetown Ministries in Flint, and has shown photographs of *Letters Home* to some so they could follow the project. "They seem

to like it," she said.

The exhibit, arranged in a hallway, a community room, the sanctuary and around the baptismal font at St. John, is stark, with the black-and-white photographs and the brown corrugated cardboard on which the handmade signs are printed providing the dominant colors. The signs are mostly direct appeals for cash, food or some other help, like a pair of boots; a few offer work in exchange for assistance.

On two of the photo portraits, a mirror covers the homeless person's face, telling the viewer, "This could be you."

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



The exhibit installation has signs used by homeless and cutouts of individuals, some who are now homeless, and others who have found jobs.

CHANGING EXHIBIT

Clinthorne is currently painting a series of portraits of homeless people, who enjoy posing for her, she said. Two of them have commented that the experience makes them feel normal, she said.

The portraits are expected to be added to *Letters Home*, which will be set up at more locations later this year, including area churches and the Michigan Union at the University of Michigan. The first display was last June at the Buckham Gallery in Flint.

Thielen says she had her own brush with homelessness about a dozen years ago, when she and husband Bob's house burned down, destroying everything in it, and they lived in their pole barn until the house was rebuilt.

"It gave me a feeling of being homeless — wearing clothes that other people chose," she said.

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Prenuptial agreements make sense for many couples

BY RICK BLOOM
GUEST COLUMNIST



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

nates. When you take a step back and think that nearly half of marriages end in divorce, there is something to be said for resolving issues ahead of time as opposed to

waiting until the relationship has ended. My experience has been that couples with a prenuptial agreement find that if the relationship does end, it is easier for both parties to get on with their lives.

It is because so many marriages end in divorce and sometimes the legal proceedings last longer than the marriage, that I generally encourage couples, particularly those that get married later in life and have some financial assets, to consider a prenuptial agreement.

I know a lot of people, just by their nature, believe that prenuptial agreements are wrong. They think that when you get married you shouldn't even consider the possibility that the marriage may end. In addition, many of these people believe that if you have a prenuptial agreement it somehow encour-

ages people to get divorced. I have a different opinion.

My experience has been that people with prenuptial agreements do not have a greater likelihood of getting divorced. I do believe that people should get married because they love their partner, however, we all know the reality of the situation. Two loving people who enter a marriage for all the right reasons may still end up divorced, but the fact that they have a prenup-

tial agreement would make the separation easier than if they did not have the document.

When someone goes into business with another person, I always recommend some sort of agreement that sets forth the terms of the relationship and what happens if the relationship ends. I'm frequently told that two partners don't need that agreement because they're best friends and they trust each other.

My answer is that putting

it in writing has nothing to do with trust, after all you wouldn't be in business with someone you didn't trust. The reason you put things in writing is so there is no misunderstanding. The same thing applies with a prenuptial agreement.

It would be great if marriages were simple, however, like everything else in our society it has become more complex. A properly prepared pre-nup can ultimately save good people a

lot of frustration, aggravation and money. Therefore, in cases of second marriages and marriages where professional or business owners are involved, a prenuptial agreement should be considered.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at money-matters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

Q: Dear Rick: I saw an article about the royal wedding discussing whether the couple should have a prenuptial agreement. Friends of mine were curious about prenuptial agreements. Are they valid in Michigan and do you recommend them? I'm in my mid-40s and divorced. If I get married again, should I consider a prenup?

A: When it comes to Britain's royal family, it is certainly something off my radar. However, you bring up a great topic, prenuptial agreements. The short answer about a prenuptial agreement is it is valid in Michigan. If you go back 20 or 30 years ago, courts frowned upon this type of agreement and so it was difficult to enforce.

Fast forward to today and we are in a totally different environment. In fact, not only are prenuptial agreements fully enforceable, but in many situations they also are encouraged.

First, it is important to understand what is a prenuptial agreement. It can cover a variety of different issues, but it is most frequently used to set forth the rights, responsibilities and the division of assets if a marriage termi-

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People with arthritis of the knee or hip have several reasons to undertake surgery for a joint replacement. A replacement knee or hip will end pain, improve the person's ability to stay fit and appreciably decrease the risk of a fall.

Moreover, there is another reason not to put off surgery: the effect of injury on arthritis. Recently, one of my patients, who had advanced osteoarthritis of his left knee, experience a fall that resulted in a rupture of his right quadriceps tendon. An orthopedic surgeon reattached the tendon to its normal site at the tibial tubercle. While the tendon heals the patient must keep the leg in the extended position; this posture places strain on the left leg. However, he has advanced osteoarthritis of the left knee so that joint cannot accept the forces placed upon it. Walking for him is now an exhausting experience, and because he cannot exercise, he is experiencing delay in recovering from surgery of his right quadriceps tendon.

A similar episode occurred to another patient, who had a right knee that needed replacement. She kept putting off a decision. Coming out of a store she stumbled and wrenched her left knee. Because her bad right knee could not take any added stress, she could not use a walker and became bedridden while the wrenched left knee recovered.

The point is: do not procrastinate. If doctors advise joint replacement, go on with it. The effort now well may save greater trouble in the future.

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Battle for K-12 education

Lawmakers expect cuts, but how much remains the question

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In the short term, school funding will be cut but the reductions to many school districts are extreme. In the long term, Michigan needs to look at how education is funded.

That was generally the consensus of comments at a forum on proposed funding cuts that drew a packed crowd of residents and school employees to Wayne-Westland's Dyer Center to hear from a roster of state legislators.

A prime focus for many were proposals to eliminate the district's equity funding — \$475 per pupil that Wayne-Westland has received to restore an operating millage that wasn't renewed just prior to the approval of Proposal A. Under the governor's pro-



PHOTOS BY THOMAS BEAUDOIN

State Reps. Dian Slavens of Canton, Kurt Heise of Plymouth Township and Richard LeBlanc of Westland listen to a presentation on the effect Gov. Rick Snyder's school aid budget on the school district.

posal, the district would be looking at a \$6 million loss in equity funding as part of a total \$14.5 million reduction. Another issue was the governor's proposal to shift money

earmarked for K-12 funding to higher education.

State Reps. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, Dian Slavens, D-Canton, and Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township,



A standing room only crowd of more than 450 residents turned out to hear what state lawmakers had to say about funding for the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

joined state Sens. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, Hoon-Yung Hopgood, D-Taylor, and Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, on a panel fielding questions submitted by audience members.

"You're standing in the district most affected by Proposal A nearly 20 years ago and it will have the same detrimental affect under the governor's proposal," said Anderson. "The governor wants to move hundreds of millions of dollars to higher education from K-12. That's not acceptable."

ISSUE IS HOW MUCH

Among the elected officials, there seemed to be a consensus that there would be funding cuts to education like other services — the issue was how much.

"The cuts as currently proposed goes too far. I'm not happy with money going to community colleges (from K-12)," said Heise. "There will be cuts no matter what - we have a declining tax base."

A compromise measure, Proposal A was designed to cap

property taxes for seniors citizens who were being forced out of their longtime homes and provide some funding equity among school districts, Heise said. One of the assumptions of Proposal A was that property values would always increase, he said, drawing laughs from the crowd.

"The sales tax was supposed to help lift the boat, but it didn't. We need to relook at how we fund education in the future," he said.

HEALTH CARE CO-PAYS

A former charter school board member, Colbeck drew some heat from the crowd after noting that Northville Schools could avoid the proposed layoff of 40 teachers, if all teachers in the district paid 20 percent of the health insurance costs.

"That's roughly what is paid in the private sector. You're looking at the revenue side. Typically, you're not looking at the expense side," said Colbeck, adding school districts or at least school services should be consolidated.

As the discussion about the need to fund schools continued, Colbeck commented that more spending doesn't equate to better education for students, again drawing some angry responses. Or as Colbeck put it — he kicked the hornet's nest.

"Michigan is in the top 10 for education funding but in the bottom 10 when it comes to performance," said Colbeck. "To equate funding to academic excellence is a red herring."

"Dollars alone don't educate children but there is no education without funding," said Anderson.

One parent, who asked not to be named, said she didn't totally agree with Colbeck but did think the district could find ways to save money.

"I'm not in a union so I don't fully understand why they don't have to pay for part of their health care. We pay a significant amount for health care," she said. "Hopefully, the cuts won't be as drastic as proposed. There are other places they should look for cuts."

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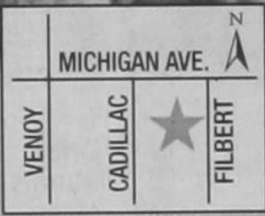
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Madonna staff, faculty hit with pies for charity

Two instructors and two staff members from Madonna University got hit in the face with pies during a break in play at a recent men's baseball game.

The lucky recipients of the pies, Dave Hammerschmidt, director of public safety, Barry Sherman, chair of the criminal justice department, Randal Hoyer, history professor, and Al White, head softball coach, agreed to take part in a fundraiser in which the Madonna University community voted on who got pie-ed.

Through the course of the previous week, cans with 13 faculty and staff members photos taped to them sat in the university's gathering area. People voted by placing money in the cans, with the top four fund-raisers getting the pie in the face.

Hammerschmidt raised the most, with \$44.95. In total, almost \$200 was raised, which



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Krista Messer makes a mess of Madonna Public Safety Director Dave Hammerschmidt.

is being donated to relief efforts in Japan. The event was organized by the university's Red Cross Club.

Phone scam targets seniors

Better Business Bureau of Eastern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula is warning consumers to be on the lookout for a resurgence of the "grandparent scam," which is again targeting victims in Michigan.

According to the Michigan Attorney General's Office, in one instance, Michigan grandparents were taken for \$33,000. They wire transferred \$3,000 to someone they thought was their grandson after he called and claimed he was caught fishing without a license in Canada and needed to pay a \$3,000 fine. They were taken for an additional \$30,000 after the supposed grandson called again to say that alcohol and drugs were found when his boat

was searched, and he needed \$30,000 to post bond to get out of a Canadian jail.

"Once you send money to Canada, there's no hope of getting it back," said Patrick Bennett, BBB Director of Community Relations. "A good rule of thumb is to never wire money out of the country unless you initiated contact with that relative or friend and you know for a fact they are where they say they are."

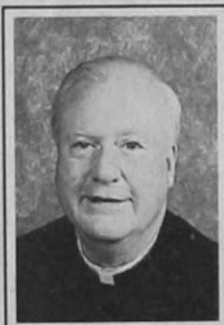
Another variation of this scam involves two scammers - the first scammer calls and poses as a grandchild under arrest. The second scammer, posing as some type of law enforcement officer, then gets on the phone with the grandparent and explains what fines need to be paid.

Alternatively, the scammer may pretend to be a family friend or neighbor. A common theme of the scam across the nation is the caller's request for the grandparent to wire money through Western Union or MoneyGram or to provide bank account routing numbers. Wire transfers of money are nearly impossible to trace and typically cannot be recovered from the telephone con artists.

If you are a victim of this scam file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission by calling (877) 382-4357, the Michigan Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division at (877) 765-8388 or contact your BBB at (248) 223-9400 for more information.

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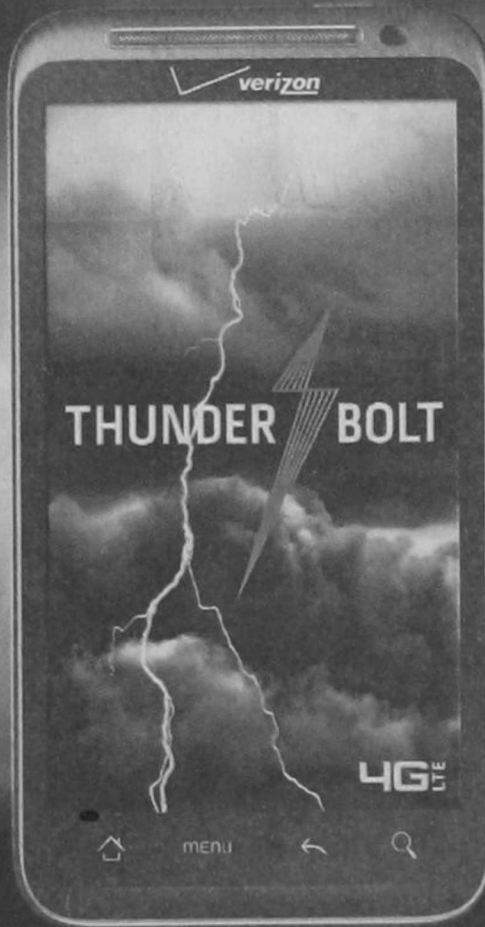
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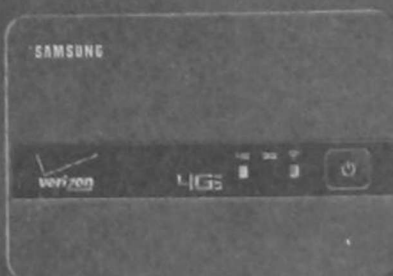
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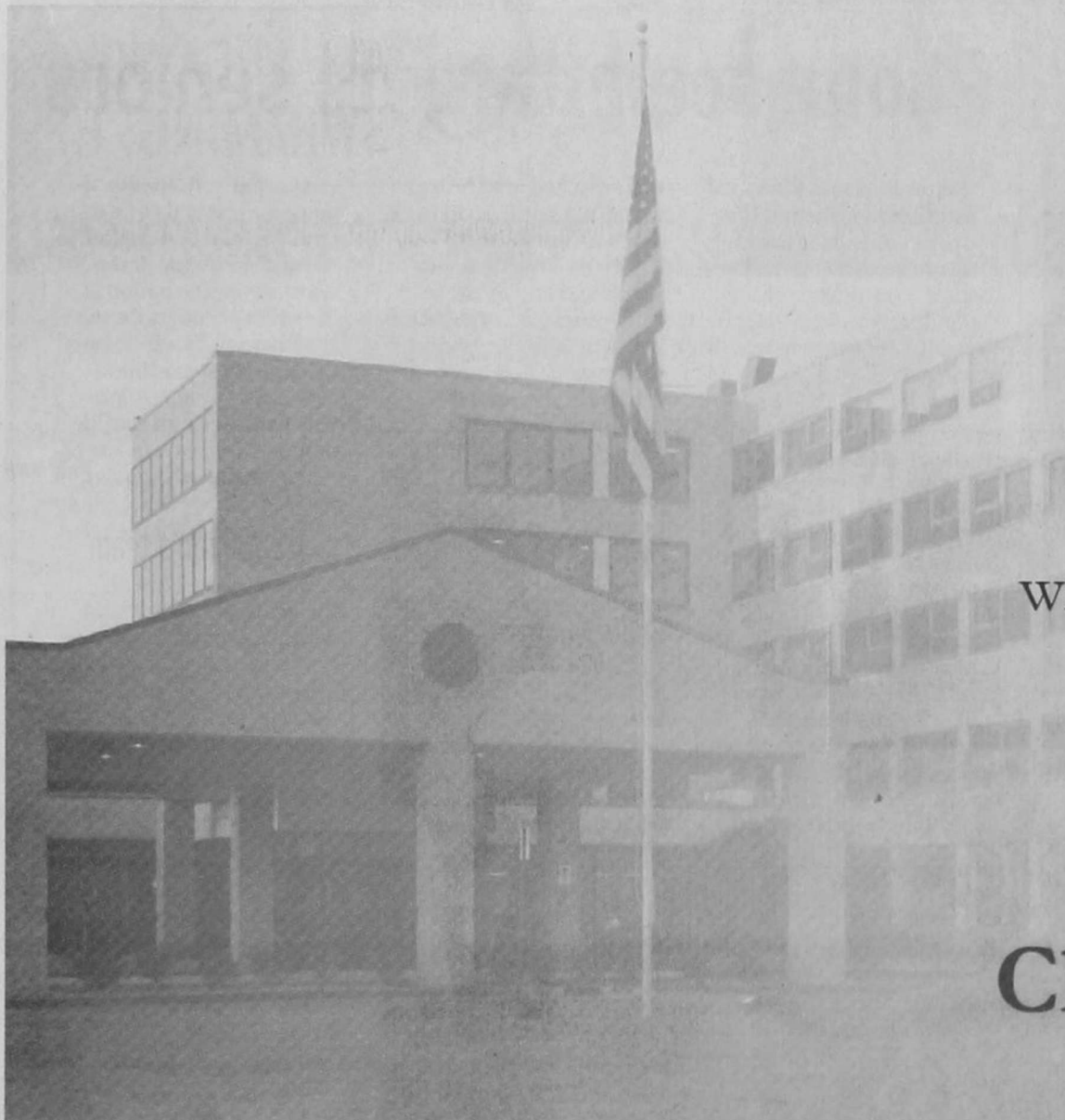


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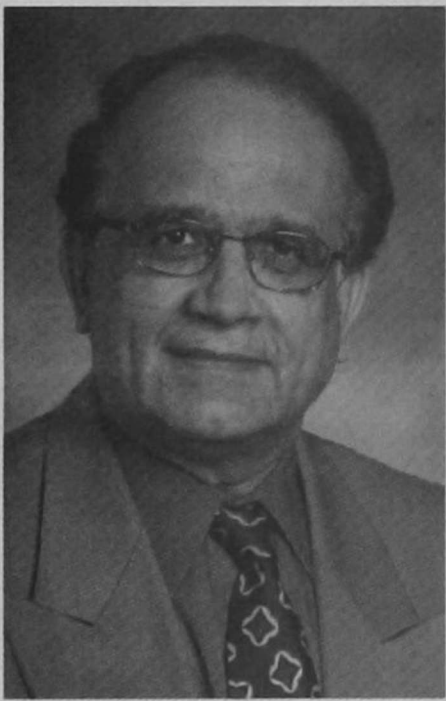
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2011 GIRLS SOFTBALL PREVIEW – PT. 1

Youngsters ready to spark Wildcats

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It might be the dawn of a new era for Plymouth varsity softball, because of the graduation of four-year standouts Stacey Klonowski and Amanda Burnard.

But the smile is still on the face of Wildcats head coach Val Canfield.

For starters, freshman shortstop Lyndsay Lutton is looking like a Klonowski clone.

“Lyndsay Lutton is taking over Stacey Klonowski’s spot at shortstop and she’s doing a phenomenal job,” said Canfield, noting that the newcomer shows the same kind of range and arm strength as her predecessor. Another freshman who is

showing the poise of a senior is catcher-third baseman Brooke Senkbeil, who will bat in the lead-off spot.

Canfield said Senkbeil “can put it on the ground and run like crazy,” to jump-start rallies.

SAVVY FRESHMEN

“The thing is they’re both experienced ballplayers, with travel,” said Canfield, about Lutton and Senkbeil. “They played for Finesse so they have all those games under their belt.”

“... They kind of brought this team up to where we kind of left off last year.”

To those who might not recall, the 2010 Wildcats were pretty good. They fin-

Please see **WILDCATS, B4**



The 2011 Canton varsity girls softball team will feature senior Lauren Leskovitz – both at the plate and in center field.

Chiefs ready to go for it

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Canton Chiefs will be looking for a different kind of ending to their girls softball season this spring.

Last year, despite posting a 22-3 record (including 10-0 in the KLAA South Division), the Chiefs were knocked out in the Division 1 state districts by campus rival Plymouth.

Veteran head coach Jim Arnold and his team – mostly intact from 2010 – didn’t like that sour ending to an otherwise sweet season.

“We lost one ballplayer from last year’s team (ace pitcher Amy Dunleavy) and the rest of the kids are coming back,” Arnold said. “They know what it takes to go on past the districts.”

“That’s one of their goals this year, to win their last game. If they win their last game, we’ll be in good shape.”

Of course, he said that with a smile, knowing a win in the finale would mean a state title.

“I’ve got a great team here,” Arnold continued. “The attitude is unbelievably good. They’ve played together for a number of years, so they

know what it takes.”

The first test is Wednesday, in a double-header against KLAA South opponent Wayne Memorial.

“Plymouth is always tough, but overall there’s a good quality of teams in our division,” the coach said. “We just have to play to win every game.”

PITCHING PROMISE

The Chiefs will need to find someone to step into the pitcher’s circle and help fill the void caused by Dunleavy’s graduation. She is now pitching at Ferris State University.

But Arnold has confidence that senior hold-over Alyssa Boucher and promising freshman Hannah Warren have what it takes to give Canton quality starting pitching.

“She’s going to be a good pitcher,” he said about Warren. “She’s 6-foot tall, she’s got a lot of movement on the ball and she can throw with some speed.”

“Hannah, along with Alyssa Boucher, they’ll

Please see **CHIEFS, B4**

Brianna Giordano, shown taking a cut during a 2010 game, returns as one of the promising hitters for Plymouth’s varsity girls softball team.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BOYS TRACK PREVIEW

‘Cats will follow Porcari’s lead

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

To say Plymouth’s varsity boys track and field team will go as far as senior standout Joe Porcari takes it might be overstating things a bit.

But Porcari will bring his usual consistency and high standards to the track, and young teammates will hopefully be ready to pick up the baton and run with it.

“We have a young team this year with a lot of talent,” Wildcats head coach Jon Mikosz said. “We are not as deep in the field events as we were last year so

Please see **TRACK, B4**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The leader of Plymouth’s boys track and field team is senior Joe Porcari (right in this 2009 file photo), shown handing the baton to Matt Neumann.

Wildcats’ Hengesh, defense stop Rocks

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

For about 47 minutes Friday night, Salem hung tough with defending Class A state finalist Plymouth in a varsity girls soccer matchup.

But then Wildcats scoring machine McKenzie Hengesh went to work, scoring the first of her two goals to spark Plymouth to a 3-0 victory at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park’s varsity turf field.

Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich said the quickness and creativity of freshman midfielder Alyssa Dillon set up both of Hengesh’s tallies.

“Alyssa’s speed created the first one on a through ball and found McKenzie open in front of the net,” Neschich said. “The second time down (with two minutes

left to make it 2-0), her speed played a factor in winning a 50-50 ball and bouncing it through to McKenzie.”

Capping the scoring was sophomore defender Morgan Klabunde on a breakaway in the final minute.

“They (Rocks) were pushing people up and we just got numbers on a break,” Neschich said. “Morgan Klabunde had a nice run and got in behind them and put it away.”

GOING FOR IT

Salem head coach Joe Nora said he was proud of his team’s effort, and said Plymouth’s final two goals had something to do with his gambling to put extra offensive pressure on Wildcats

Please see **SOCCER, B3**

SIDELINES

PCEP icers to test US Women’s team

Varsity hockey players from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park are participating in something special at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube.

A team of players from the three schools is scrimmaging the United States Women’s National Hockey Team as it gets set to embark on the 2011 IIHF World Women’s Championship, held April 16-25 in Zurich and Winterthur, Switzerland.

Playing in two scrimmages (Wednesday and 4:15 p.m. Monday) at the Cube are the following players: Plymouth’s Pat Smiatacz, Sean Smiatacz, Cody Staub, Cameron Nadell, Ryan Brown, Zach Gambrell; Canton’s AJ Rosales, Jimmy LaFontaine; Salem’s Ryan Quigley, Mark McGee, Austin Sartorius and Michael Manser.

Plymouth varsity head coach Paul Fassbender said the women’s team would be the U.S. Olympic team if it was an Olympic year. Final cuts for the IIHF games will follow the Monday game against PCEP players.

“They will be taking this very serious,” Fassbender said. “Our job is to give them a competitive game.”

The teams will play by women’s rules, which means no body-checking.

“I think this is a once in a lifetime opportunity,” he added. “Not many people can say they stepped out on the ice and played against the Women’s National Team.”

Visit www.usahockey.com for more information about the team.

Whalers lose Game 1

Round 2 of the OHL Western Conference playoffs did not start off well for the Plymouth Whalers, thanks to Thursday’s 4-3 overtime loss to Owen Sound.

The host Attack peppered Whalers goalie Scott Wedgewood with 58 shots on goal.

Scoring for Plymouth were James Livingston, Beau Schmitz and Stefan Noesen, as the Whalers built a 3-1 lead that evaporated.

After Plymouth hosts Owen Sound Saturday, the teams return to Ontario for a game 7 p.m. Monday. Game 4 will be 7 p.m. Wednesday at Compuware. Call (734) 453-8400 for ticket information.

Great start for PCA

The Plymouth Christian varsity baseball team routed Melvindale Academy 16-0 Thursday in the Eagles’ season opener.

Caleb York pitched all three innings for PCA in the mercy-rule shortened game. Top guns on offense included Daniel Slater and Matt Dodson, each 3-for-3; Daniel Jipping, two hits, four RBI; and Jon Slater, who hit a three-run homer, doubled and stole home.

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Best swimmers set fast pace for All-Observer team

FIRST-TEAM INDIVIDUALS

Jason Zhang, 200 free, Salem: The versatile sophomore came into his own this season for the Rocks.

Zhang, winner of Salem's Most Improved Swimmer Award, placed 10th at the Kensington Conference meet in the 200 with a personal best of 1:50.53.

He also qualified for the Division 1 state meet in the 100 backstroke and 200 IM and garnered his first all-state award for his contribution to the seventh-place 400-free relay team.

"I am looking forward to Jason's next two years of many all-state caliber swims," Salem coach Chuck Olson said.

Max Mills, 200 IM, Salem: The senior captain finished 10th at the D1 state meet in the 200 IM (1:58.54, his best) and was all-state in the 500 free with a sixth-place time of 4:44.27 (yet another personal best). Mills also was a member of the all-state 200- and 400-free relay teams.

He placed second at the Kensington Conference meet in the 500 with a mark of 4:51.40.

"Max probably improved as much as any Salem swimmer in his four years that I have seen in my 42 years at Salem," Olson said.

Matt Collingwood, 50 free, Salem: The senior captain, one of Salem's Most Valuable Swimmers for 2011, had an outstanding season in his prep finale.

Collingwood was Kensington Conference champion in the 50 free and 100 free with times of 22.05 and 48.32 seconds, respectively.

He won all-state honors in the 50 free with a fifth-place time of 21.75 — the best time among Observerland swimmers — and also with the 400-free relay team (3:14.24, seventh place).

At the MISCA meet, Collingwood earned third place honors in the 50 free after finishing in 22.15 seconds.

"Matt had much success in his four years at Salem," Olson said.

Nick Griwicki, diving, Salem: After qualifying for the D1 state meet, the junior had a solid showing — finishing 11th with 340.85 points.

The team's Most Improved Diver and a 2012 captain, Griwicki placed fifth at the conference meet with 344 points and was a consistent force for the Rocks all season.

Griwicki's best score during the season was 378.85 points.

"Nick was prepared to step up his performance at every level of competition," Olson said. "And he will be back for an even better senior

2011 ALL-OBSERVER TEAM BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

200-yard freestyle: 1. Jason Zhang, sophomore, Salem; 2. Nick Leshok, freshman, North Farmington.

200-yard individual medley: 1. Max Mills, senior, Salem; 2. Jay Jin, junior, Canton.

50-yard freestyle: 1. Matt Collingwood, senior, Salem; 2. Calvin Kopitz, junior, North Farmington.

One-meter diving: 1. Nick Griwicki, junior, Salem; 2. Alan Robinson, junior, Livonia Churchill.

100-yard butterfly: 1. Kellen Schoff, senior, Livonia Stevenson; 2. Ethan Christensen, senior, Plymouth.

100-yard freestyle: 1. Cameron Wasko, senior, North Farmington; 2. Dylan Crompton, junior, Redford Thurston.

500-yard freestyle: 1. Adam Seroka, senior, Salem; 2. Steven Neill, sophomore, Farmington Harrison.

100-yard backstroke: 1. Victor Zhang, junior, Canton; 2. John Ferrara, sophomore, Livonia Stevenson.

100-yard breaststroke: 1. Jake McNamara, junior, Livonia Stevenson; 2. Grant McNamara, freshman, Livonia Stevenson.

RELAY EVENTS

200-yard medley: 1. Livonia Stevenson (soph. John Ferrara, jr. Jake McNamara, sr. Kellen Schoff, jr. Brandon Bielicki); 2. North Farmington (sr. Cameron Wasko, fr. Nick Leshok, jr. Ian Landau, jr. Calvin Kopitz).

200-yard freestyle: 1. Salem (sr. Matt Collingwood, fr. Eric Li, sr. Max Mills, sr. Adam Seroka); 2. Livonia Stevenson (jr. Jake McNamara, sr. Adam Ferrara, jr. Brandon Bielicki, sr. Kellen Schoff).

400-yard freestyle: 1. Salem (sr. Matt Collingwood, soph. Jason Zhang, sr. Max Mills, sr. Adam Seroka); 2. Livonia Stevenson (jr. Brandon Bielicki, soph. John Ferrara, sr. Adam Ferrara, sr. Kellen Schoff).

COACH OF THE YEAR

Mike Harfoot, North Farmington

season."

Kellen Schoff, 100 fly, Stevenson: Schoff finished an accomplished career by earning runner-up finishes in the Division 1 state finals in both the 100 butterfly (51.34) and 100 backstroke (51.65).

"Unquestionably and almost impossible to replace on next year's squad," Stevenson coach Jeff Shoemaker said of the senior. "He would swim anything asked of him during the dual meet season. He's a remarkable talent and will perform well on the Division 1 scene at Eastern Michigan University for the



Jason Zhang Salem



Max Mills Salem



Matt Collingwood Salem



Nick Griwicki Salem



Kellen Schoff Stevenson



Cameron Wasko N. Farmington



Adam Seroka Salem



Victor Zhang Canton



Jake McNamara Stevenson



Nick Leshok N. Farmington



Jay Jin Canton



Calvin Kopitz N. Farmington



Alan Robinson Churchill



Ethan Christensen Plymouth



Dylan Crompton Thurston



Steven Neill Farmington-Harrison



John Ferrara Stevenson



Grant McNamara Stevenson



Brandon Bielicki Stevenson



Eric Li Salem



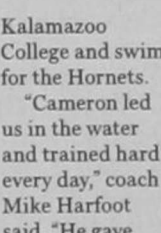
Adam Ferrara Stevenson



Ian Landau N. Farmington



Mike Harfoot N. Farmington coach



Kalamazoo College and swim for the Hornets. "Cameron led us in the water and trained hard every day," coach Mike Harfoot said. "He gave his all no matter the event we put him in. He's a pure sprinter; the shorter the event the more he excels. He got a chance to swim some strokes other than freestyle, which he really enjoyed, but he's just a tremendous freestyler."

Adam Seroka, 500 free, Salem: The four-year varsity swimmer capped an outstanding Salem career with a D1 state championship in the 500 freestyle, after finishing the event in four minutes, 32.90 seconds.

"What a great way to wind it up, with a state championship," Olson said.

Salem's co-captain and Most Valuable Swimmer (all four years)

next four years. A leader by example and led our team to yet another top 10 finish at the Division 1 state meet."

Schoff also set a Kensington Conference meet record in the 100 butterfly (52.03) and was conference champ in the 100 backstroke (52.84).

He was also KLAA Central champ in both the 100 freestyle and 100 backstroke.

"His performance this year helped his medley relay team reach All-American consideration and he alone reached this goal in the 100

backstroke," Shoemaker added. "He is the last of four Schoff swimmers who all swam for Stevenson, as well as their father, Pat. He was voted by his teammates as the most valuable swimmer this year which is an honor he most definitely earned."

Cameron Wasko, 100 free, N. Farmington: A repeat member of the all-area, first team, Wasko scored at the Division 2 state meet for the second year in a row. He was 11th in the butterfly and 12th in the 50 freestyle. Wasko was the OAA White Division champ in the butterfly and runner-up in the backstroke. The

also set school and conference records in the 500 free (personal-best 4:32.79, 4:40.41, respectively).

Seroka, who will swim at Washington University in St. Louis, also earned all-state honors in the 200 free (third place, 1:40.73).

He was chosen for the MISCA Dream Team in the 500 and qualified for All-American Consideration both in the 500 and 200.

A quality student, Seroka received the Mike Kilgore Award for outstanding academic and athletic leadership.

Victor Zhang, 100 back, Canton: A catalyst for the KLAA South Division and Kensington Conference champions, the junior won a state championship in the 100 backstroke with a time of 51.55 seconds — his best time of the season.

Canton coach Dave Le said Zhang became the first boys swimming champion from the school in 32 years.

Zhang also was a top performer in the 50 free (best time of 22.03), 100 free (46.92) and 100 breaststroke (1:01.50). He finished either first or second in those events among all Observerland swimmers.

"It takes a lot of hard work and dedication to get to that level," Le said. "He is a very exciting swimmer to watch."

Zhang also is a team leader, and will serve as captain his senior season.

Jake McNamara, 100 breast, Stevenson: The junior placed 12th in the 100 breaststroke at the Division 1 state finals.

His time of 1:01.10 also led the entire area.

"Jake's a very hard worker and will be one of three captains on next year's squad," Shoemaker said. "He was our top breaststroker and also swims the individual medley or sprint freestyle when he is needed. He is a member of the All-American consideration medley relay team as he swam the breaststroke leg."

McNamara was also conference runner-up (1:01.82) and KLAA Central runner-up. He also placed eighth in the 200 IM at the Kensington meet (2:04.01).

"His work in this year's off-season will prove most valuable as he returns as one of the state's top breaststrokers," Shoemaker said. "Jake's excellent character and positive approach to things is exactly what this program strives to develop in its swimmers. I am confident that Jake will be a great captain and lead

Please see **SWIMMING, B3**



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SWIMMING

FROM PAGE B2

his team through another successful season."

FIRST-TEAM RELAYS

200 medley, Stevenson (John Ferrara, Jake McNamara, Kellen Schoff, Brandon Bielicki): This quartet wound up third in the Division 1 state finals (1:36.86) after going an area best and school record time of 1:36.48 in the prelims.

"Although we were not always able to put all four guys on this relay, we knew that once we were able to, we would go fast," Shoemaker said. "This particular relay time is among the five fastest medleys ever to come out of Stevenson. Our relay time was able to make the All-American consideration time standard and is among the top 100 fastest times out of every high school in the nation. This relay came together perfectly and all four boys swam lifetime bests."

200 freestyle, Salem (Matt Collingwood, Eric Li, Max Mills, Adam Seroka): The quartet nearly garnered all-state honors, finishing 13th at the D1 state meet with a season's best mark of 1:28.79.

They combined efforts to place third at the MISCA meet (1:31.47). Olson said the contributions of freshman Li were very important to the relay's success, not to mention his consistent excellence in individual events.

Besides the 200 free relay, Li was a state qualifier in the 100 fly, 200 IM and 100 backstroke.

At the Kensington Conference meet, Li finished fourth in the 100 back (56.12) and sixth in the 200 IM (2:00.33).

"Eric is the type of swimmer that competes and trains with an attitude necessary for continued improvement to succeed," Olson said.

400 freestyle, Salem (Matt Collingwood, Jason Zhang, Max Mills, Adam Seroka): Thanks to a seventh-place finish at the D1 meet, with a time of 3:14.24, this talented quartet won all-state honors.

Even better was their time at the state prelims, where they clocked in at 3:13.50.

Meanwhile, the unit shaved seconds off their best time as the season progressed, another indication of their determination.

The quartet won the KLAAs Central Division and Kensington Conference meets, with respective times of 3:18.09 and 3:16.97.

SECOND-TEAM INDIVIDUALS

Nick Leshok, 200 free, N. Farmington: Leshok is a freshman with a bright future, according to coach Harfoot. In his first state meet, Leshok placed 13th in the IM and breaststroke, and he swam a 48.21 split in the 400 freestyle relay. Despite being very ill, Leshok won the IM and breaststroke at the OAA White Division meet, and he also helped the Raiders win the medley relay.

"He's a tremendously talented swimmer," coach Harfoot said. "We've only scratched the surface of his talent and ability. Nick is an unbelievable practice swimmer. He trains 100 percent every day. He loves to practice and improve. The sky is the limit for him the next three years."

Jay Jin, 200 IM, Canton: The junior has been a D1 state qualifier all

three years of his high school career, and this year he swam in three events in the finals.

Jin finished 23rd in the prelims with a time of 2:03.27; his personal best time was 2:00.42.

He was part of two relay teams that finished 14th at the state meet.

At the MISCA meet in February at Eastern Michigan University, Jin placed 10th in the backstroke with a time of 55.96 seconds.

Jin, who has a 4.5 grade-point-average, is one of the hardest workers on the team and has been named one of next season's captains.

"It is impressive that he has the ability to swim at such a high level and be able to keep his school work at the same high level," Le said.

Calvin Kopitz, 50 free, N. Farmington: The junior sprinter was a Division 2 state qualifier in the 50 freestyle and swam his best time of 22.58 in the prelims. In the OAA White meet, Kopitz was second in the 50 and third in the 100 freestyle. He also anchored the winning 200 freestyle relay. He helped the Raiders score all three relays at the state meet.

"Calvin really came on at the end of last year and start of this year," coach Harfoot said. "He picked up where he left off and kept getting better throughout the season."

"We set goals for him next year to score in two individual events (at the state meet). That's a reflection of how good a swimmer he is and how much he can still improve. He went from a good sprinter to an elite sprinter this year."

Alan Robinson, diving, Churchill: The junior captured the KLAAs South Division title with a meet record 342.05 points (11 dives).

Robinson also scored a personal best 198.40 (for six dives) against Wayne Memorial. He added a 13th at the Kensington Conference and 26th at a highly competitive Division 1 regional.

"Alan had a tremendous season of meeting his personal goals," Churchill diving coach Rob Moore said. "He also made some achievements he did not expect. This was Alan's junior year, but only his second season as a diver, which makes his achievements that much more impressive. His personal goal was to improve on his best scores for both six-dive and 11-dive competitions. He also had a goal of qualifying for the regional meet. For his senior season he will be looking toward qualifying for state meet."

Ethan Christensen, 100 fly, Plymouth: The senior played hard work into a great deal of success, Plymouth coach Doug Schade said.

Among Christensen's achievements was setting school records in the 100 fly, 200 medley relay and 200 free relay.

He also qualified for the D1 state meet, placing 15th in the fly with a time of 54.56 (his season's best was 54.36).

Earlier during the season, Christensen took third place at the MISCA meet (55.82), first at the KLAAs South meet (56.17) and fourth at the conference meet (55.20).

"Ethan is determined, coachable, and a great leader," Schade said. "He's the kind of kid every coach wants to have. He made himself into a great swimmer."

Dylan Crompton, 100 free, Thurston: A relative new-comer to the sport, Crompton has proven to be a fast

learner, qualifying for the state meet in the 50 and 100 freestyle events in his first full year of competition. Crompton, a junior, is within a half second of breaking a pair of 40-plus-year-old school records in the 50 and 100 free.

"Dylan had a great year in just his second year — and first full year — of competing," said Thurston head coach Tom Giummo. "He progressed throughout the season and was very coachable. Whenever the coaches would suggest something to him, he would take it all in and try to apply it in the pool. He was just a great kid to coach."

Steven Neill, 500 free, Farmington-Harrison: The sophomore is all-state in this event, having placed eighth in the Division 1 final. Neill swam his best time in the prelims (4:44.03) and broke Alec Campbell's 27-year-old Farmington High School record of 4:46. He was the OAA White runner-up in the 500 and was third in the 100 freestyle.

"Steven is the backbone of my program," coach Ross Bandy said. "He's an outstanding trainer, both he and Grant Borregard. I can't say enough about the young man. He does everything that's asked of him."

"His work ethic is outstanding, probably at the top of any individual I've ever had at Farmington High School. He's an individual who makes me take pride in what I do as a coach."

John Ferrara, 100 back, Stevenson: Only a sophomore, Ferrara placed third in the Division 1 state finals with a time of 52.46.

He also added a 13th at the state meet in the 200 IM (2:00.34). "John is an excellent talent and has only completed one half of his high school career," Shoemaker said. "He just made state cut last year and was unable to score. This year he was able to score in all four events he swam at the state meet."

Ferrara was also runner-up in 100 backstroke at both the conference and KLAAs Central Division meets. He placed fourth in the 200 IM at the conference.

"He led off the All-American consideration medley relay and scored in the 200 IM just two events later," Shoemaker said of the state meet. "He was also a member of our 400 yard freestyle relay team, which also scored at the state meet. I am looking forward to the many more accomplishments John will receive swimming for Stevenson."

Grant McNamara, 100 breast, Stevenson: The ninth-grader earned points at the Division 1 state meet with a 16th in the 100 breaststroke (1:01.81) after going a personal best 1:01.58 in the prelims.

"Grant was a welcome surprise for our team this year," Shoemaker said. "A state qualification time was a long ways off from Grant's accomplished times when he stepped onto the pool deck for the first time as a freshman, and I'm sure the last thing on his mind."

McNamara also placed fourth in the conference and KLAAs Central Division meets in the 100 breaststroke.

"As the season rolled on, Grant continued to work hard and his times began to drop," Shoemaker said. "Not only did he accomplish a state cut time, but he was able to score as a freshman. He was one of only a handful of freshmen in the state to accomplish this great achievement."

McNamara also placed tied for sixth in the 500 freestyle (5:04.57) in the conference meet and was fourth in the KLAAs Central Division (5:06.68).

"Grant also became increasingly good in the 500 yard freestyle," Shoemaker said. "In this event he just missed his state cut. I'm confident the next three years people will see Grant as one of the state's most accomplished swimmers."

SECOND-TEAM RELAYS

200 medley, N. Farmington (Cameron Wasko, Nick Leshok, Ian Landau, Calvin Kopitz): The Raiders finished eighth in the Division 2 state meet, swimming their best time of 1:38.98 (second in the area) in the prelims.

"The medley was the strength of our relays all year," coach Harfoot said. "Cam and Nick were the constants on that relay, Cam being the best backstroke and Nick the best breaststroke."

"Calvin had a great year as a sprint freestyler and made that an easy choice. Ian won that (butterfly) spot and did a great job, having his best split by more than half a second. All four of them had their best splits on the first day at state."

200 freestyle, Stevenson (Jake McNamara, Adam Ferrara, Brandon Bielicki, Kellen Schoff): This quartet went a season-best 1:29.16 to capture the Kensington Conference championship.

"Our program this year was not known for having numerous sprinters, which is what it takes to be successful in this event," Shoemaker said. "But these boys were able to combine together and swam a remarkable race at this year's conference meet and won the event. Unfortunately, we had to take Kellen off this relay and place him on the other two relays. This weakened the relay and we ended up 17th at the state meet just one place out of scoring this year."

400 freestyle, Stevenson (Brandon Bielicki, John Ferrara, Adam Ferrara, Kellen Schoff): This foursome placed 11th in the Division 1 state finals with a time of 3:15.75.

"Being the last event of the swim meet it is always nice to have this one swim fast," Shoemaker said. "Throughout the year we were unable to have all four boys swim this relay at once. At the state meet we were able to and we dropped time and scored. The effort of these boys, along with the entire state team, contributed to our continued success at the state level."

COACH OF THE YEAR

Mike Harfoot, N. Farmington: After being named the OAA White Division Coach of the Year last month, Harfoot adds the Observerland honor to his list of 2011 accolades. He guided the Raiders to the OAA White dual-meet championship, and North Farmington followed that by winning the division meet, too. The Raiders were 14th in the Division 2 state meet with 52.5 points.

"It was a fun season, a tremendous year for the kids," Harfoot said. "They worked together from day one. They set a common goal to be league champs at the first practice and kept working hard toward that all year."

"It was a real special season for me to coach this group of kids. The amount of talent we had in the pool made it even more enjoyable, when you have kids who want to work hard and maximize their talent."

BOYS BEST SWIM TIMES

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY

Livonia Stevenson 1:36.48
North Farmington 1:38.98
Canton 1:40.75
Plymouth 1:42.26
Salem 1:42.80

200-YARD FREESTYLE

Adam Seroka (Salem) 1:40.73
Victor Zhang (Canton) 1:42.57
Matt Collingwood (Salem) 1:45.70
Kellen Schoff (Stevenson) 1:45.82
Max Mills (Salem) 1:50.35
Jason Zhang (Salem) 1:50.53

500-YARD FREESTYLE

Steven Neill (Farm. Unified) 1:51.14
Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 1:51.37
Jay Jin (Canton) 1:51.60
Adrian Simion (Canton) 1:52.12

200-YARD INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

Victor Zhang (Canton) 1:52.56
Max Mills (Salem) 1:58.54
Kellen Schoff (Stevenson) 1:59.48
John Ferrara (Stevenson) 2:00.34
Jay Jin (Canton) 2:00.42
Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 2:01.02

ONE-METER DIVING

Nick Grwicki (Salem) 378.85
Alan Robinson (Churchill) 342.05
Charlie Dillon (Salem) 327.75
Joey Rudelic (Salem) 326.50
Ryan Kilgore (Canton) 312.90
Nick Nader (N. Farmington) 305.95

100-YARD BUTTERFLY

Kellen Schoff (Stevenson) 51.34
Victor Zhang (Canton) 52.17
Cameron Wasko (N. Farmington) 53.30
Adam Seroka (Salem) 54.27
Ethan Christensen (Plymouth) 54.36
Ian Landau (N. Farmington) 55.49
Danny McNece (N. Farmington) 55.75
Jeremy Wellman (Salem) 56.11

100-YARD BACKSTROKE

Victor Zhang (Canton) 51.55
Kellen Schoff (Stevenson) 51.65
John Ferrara (Stevenson) 52.46
Joey Wakeford (John Glenn) 53.66
Jay Jin (Canton) 54.93
Jeremy Wellman (Salem) 55.19
Jason Zhang (Salem) 55.93
Eric Li (Salem) 56.12

100-YARD BREASTSTROKE

Jake McNamara (Stevenson) 1:01.10
Victor Zhang (Canton) 1:01.50
Grant McNamara (Stevenson) 1:01.58
Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 1:01.96
Alex Jouney (Plymouth) 1:03.09
David Vincentini (Churchill) 1:04.24
Corey Robbins (Wayne) 1:04.34
Jay Jin (Canton) 1:04.55

400-YARD FREESTYLE RELAY

Salem 3:13.50
Livonia Stevenson 3:15.40
Canton 3:16.49
North Farmington 3:18.57
Farmington-Harrison 3:22.37

100-YARD FREESTYLE

Eric Li (Salem) 56.64
Jerry Bai (Salem) 56.68
Victor Zhang (Canton) 46.92
Matt Collingwood (Salem) 47.95
Kellen Schoff (Stevenson) 48.08
Cameron Wasko (N. Farmington) 48.89
Dylan Crompton (Thurston) 49.69
Mike Carlson (Canton) 49.79

500-YARD FREESTYLE

Eric Gensheimer (Farm. Unified) 49.86
Brandon Bielicki (Stevenson) 49.96
Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 50.07
Adam Ferrara (Stevenson) 50.30

100-YARD BACKSTROKE

Victor Zhang (Canton) 51.55
Kellen Schoff (Stevenson) 51.65
John Ferrara (Stevenson) 52.46
Joey Wakeford (John Glenn) 53.66
Jay Jin (Canton) 54.93
Jeremy Wellman (Salem) 55.19
Jason Zhang (Salem) 55.93
Eric Li (Salem) 56.12

100-YARD BREASTSTROKE

Jake McNamara (Stevenson) 1:01.10
Victor Zhang (Canton) 1:01.50
Grant McNamara (Stevenson) 1:01.58
Nick Leshok (N. Farmington) 1:01.96
Alex Jouney (Plymouth) 1:03.09
David Vincentini (Churchill) 1:04.24
Corey Robbins (Wayne) 1:04.34
Jay Jin (Canton) 1:04.55

400-YARD FREESTYLE RELAY

Salem 3:13.50
Livonia Stevenson 3:15.40
Canton 3:16.49
North Farmington 3:18.57
Farmington-Harrison 3:22.37

SOCCER

FROM PAGE B1

senior goalkeeper Marissa Williams.

"Once we went down 1-0 and we go down past 15 minutes, I only played the two defenders," Nora said. "We played the four forwards and we were just ... 1-0 or 100-0, it's still a loss."

"They (Wildcats) did a good job, they're a good countering team and we knew it, but we had to go for that equalizer."

Nora called it "a regular season game with a playoff atmosphere. It was kind of intense." Taking the defeat for Salem (1-2-1) was sophomore goalkeeper Ali Eggenberger, who played well but was victimized late on a couple of plays where she ranged far out of the goal in hopes of getting to the ball first.

"The bounces didn't go our way and what could you do, a couple (communication) mix-

ups in the back," Nora said. "But I thought we played really well. I was proud of our possession, shots on goal and I thought we won a lot of 50-50 balls."

STEPPING IN

According to Neschich, the entire defense played well in front of Williams.

"We had a couple freshmen out there that hung tough and did a good job in Emily Burkman and Lauren Babcock, who both stepped in for injured players," Neschich said. "But (senior Katie) Moss, (junior Alyssa) Burris and (senior Katelyn) Quinlan also held us together back there and did a really good job."

Plymouth improved to 2-1-1 and will next visit Livonia Franklin at 7 p.m. Monday. Salem's next contest is set for 7 p.m. Tuesday at Livonia Stevenson.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its regular meeting April 19, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at the Friends Room on the main level of the Library at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

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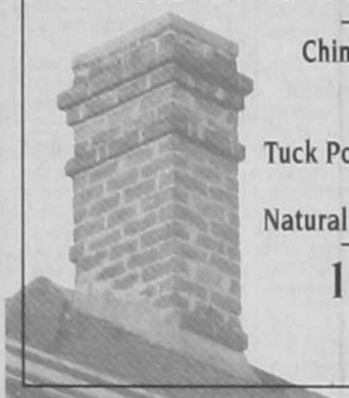
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Notice is hereby given that a closed bid sale will be held on April 21, 2011 at 1:00 PM at 40671 Joy Road Canton MI 48187 County of Wayne. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE will sell to satisfy the lien on property stored at 40671 Joy Rd Canton MI 48187, by the following persons. The inventories listed below were noted by the tenants at the time of rental. AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE makes no representation or warranty that the units contain said inventories. Unit D 14 Mullen Household Goods; Unit D 40 Stacey, Household Goods; Unit F 21 Monroe, Household Goods; Unit J 03 Mitchell, Household Goods; Unit J 15 Haynes, Household Goods; Unit J 41 St. Amour, Household Goods; Unit K 09 Ray, Household Goods; Unit C 210 Bunt, Household Goods

Publish: April 3 & 10, 2011

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE

To all residents and other interested parties: Agenda's and Minutes for the Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees Meetings are available for review under the Reference Desk Page of the Township Website: www.plymouthtwp.org. They are also posted in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N Haggerty Road Plymouth, Michigan for public perusal.

Meeting dates: January 11, February 8, March 8 & 22, April 12, May 10 & 24, June 14

The public is invited and encouraged to attend the Board of Trustees Meetings.

Joe Bridgman, MMC
Township Clerk

Publish: January 9, February 6, March 6 & 20, April 10, May 8 & 22, June 12, 2011

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Saturday & Sunday 9 & 10 AM
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METROPOLITAN OPERA
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LIVE SAT. 4/9 1:00 PM

YOUR HIGHNESS (R)
11:30, 1:50, 4:30, 7:05, 9:25
FRU/SAT LS 11:45

ARTHUR (PG-13)
11:15, 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30
FRU/SAT LS 11:55

SOURCE CODE (PG-13)
11:00, 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:35, 9:45
FRU/SAT LS 11:50

ONOP (PG)
12:05, 2:20, 4:40, 6:55, 9:10
FRU/SAT LS 11:30

SUCKER PUNCH (PG-13) FRU/SAT LS 11:50
DIARY OF A WIMPY KID: RODRICK RULES (PG) 11:40, 2:00, 4:25, 6:45, 9:05
FRU/SAT LS 11:25

LINCOLN LAWYER (R)
FRI, SUN-TH 11:05, 1:35, 4:10, 6:40, 9:20
SAT 6:40, 9:20

LIMITLESS (PG-13)
12:15, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:40
FRU/SAT LS 12:00

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Senior Men Golfers
Livonia Senior Men's Golf Association
(formerly Livonia Senior Men's Golf League)

Registration (\$25) and Business Meeting
Sat., April 16, 2011
9:00 am at the
Livonia Senior Center
15218 Farmington Road • Livonia
(S/E corner of Five Mile and Farmington Road)

Open to men ages 59 and up, regardless of residency.
Single golfers welcome.

For more information call:
Tony Amadori at
734-261-4718
or visit our website at:
www.golflivonia.com/leagues

WILDCATS

FROM PAGE B1

ished with a 27-13 record and reached the Division 1 regional finals before losing a pitcher's dual to White Lake Lakeland.

Several key performers from last year are back, however.

That list starts with sophomore pitcher Elaine Gerou, expected to pitch virtually all of the schedule.

"We're looking for a lot from her this year," Canfield said. "She's grown, she's a lot stronger than she was last year."

Sophomore sparkplug Kayla Rebain (.312 average) is dealing with an arm injury. But after she returns, she likely will also catch and possibly back up Gerou in the pitching department.

One of last year's pitchers probably won't see much time on the rubber because her talents will be needed in left field.

That would be senior Lauren Smith, who is a hard-nosed

player with long-ball potential.

Fleet senior Jessica Bondy, who batted .321 last season, will play center field for the Wildcats.

"There isn't a challenge that she doesn't face," Canfield said. The Wildcats also feature sophomore second baseman Brianna Giordano, who hit .276 as a freshman and continues to improve.

"I am very impressed with her hitting as she is working to get the clean-up spot," the coach said.

Junior newcomer Irene Pool, described as a power hitter with a great attitude, will see plenty of playing time at first base.

Also available to play first are junior Karen Rebain and senior Christy Pattison, the latter probably slated to see most of her innings at third base.

THE RIGHT WAY

Senior utility player Katie Keys also is ready to fill in virtually anywhere, Canfield said.

In addition to Smith and Bondy, the Plymouth outfield will include junior returnee Allison Raylean and sophomore newcomers Cassidy Hewitt, Lindsey Gryniwicz and Alex Lemieux.

They all are showing Canfield they can do the job when called upon.

Meanwhile, although it is a young team, Canfield likes its overall experience and attitude.

She said they witnessed first-hand how to get things done by watching Klonowski and Burnard last season.

"I think they learned how to give it their all," she added. "They learned that team concept from them."

Plymouth will look to again be a powerhouse in the KLA South, opening up with a game 4 p.m. Monday at home against South Lyon.

Look for more spring sports previews in upcoming issues of the Observer.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

GIRLS TENNIS PREVIEW

Canton up for challenge of new season

BY TIM SMITH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Although losing some top players to graduation, the 2011 Canton girls tennis team should still be one to reckon with.

Chiefs head coach Barb Lehmann said this year's projected lineup could be "just as tough, if not tougher" than the team that went 4-3 overall in 2010.

"They have put their focus to the court in plans to beat last year's record and go for the (KLA South) division title," Lehmann said.

The team is off to a good start in that regard, defeating Westland John Glenn 8-1 on Tuesday and Livonia Franklin 5-4 two days later.

Strong work by Canton's doubles teams spurred the victory against the Patriots.

Victorious were: the No. 1 doubles tandem of junior Sydney Liedel and sophomore Hannah Fere; No. 2 team of junior Erin Fowler and

senior Samantha Klott; No. 3 team of junior Claire Babala and senior Nenna Baghaie; No. 4 team of junior Kristen Hollingsworth and senior Farah Louzon; No. 5 team of freshman Maddison Johnson and junior Kinari Shah.

At No. 1 singles is senior captain Taylor Eppler, followed by junior Janani Shanmuga (No. 2), senior Kaitlyn Bunyak (No. 3) and junior Hayley Cook (No. 4).

"She (Eppler) has strong and accurate shots from the baseline and takes over the net when given the chance," Lehmann said.

The coach added that Eppler's hard work and leadership is something the other girls are picking up on.

"Our captain, Taylor, has worked hard to make the beginning of the season great," Lehmann said. "Her efforts and the team's focus should lead us to victory."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

CHIEFS

FROM PAGE B1

be our two main pitchers. ... If they stay healthy, we should go a long way."

Behind the plate to start the season will be sophomores Catherine Porter and Hailee Craig. Arnold said they will probably divide playing time, with senior Jesse Lerner available as a backup.

The same excellent offense and defense that characterized last year's team is back, too.

Senior co-captains CarolAnn Sexauer and Sam Partain, meanwhile, will be team leaders as well as a fine-tuned double-play combination.

Sexauer, a shortstop with power who will play softball at Central Michigan University, brings a solid all-around game.

"She's an excellent athlete, a good team leader," Arnold said.

Partain is a speedster who can slap the ball, bunt or hit with power if needed. "She's an all-around athlete."

At first base will be power-hitting first baseman Kaitlyn Mattson, another senior.

"She's stronger than last season and she's hitting the ball with lots of power," he noted. "And I'd be surprised if she doesn't get some awards this year as a first baseman."

Starting at third base will be senior Heidi Lucke, although Craig could see some playing time at the hot corner when she's not catching.

VERSATILITY ON ROSTER

Arnold has plenty of depth. Boucher and Warren both can play first base or the outfield when not pitching while freshman Kaitlyn Keys is a utility player who can get the job done pretty much anywhere on the field.

Anchoring the outfield is

senior center fielder Lauren Leskovitz.

"She'll be our leader out there at the center field position," Arnold said. "She played real well last year and has good speed and a strong arm."

Flanking Leskovitz will be senior left fielder Breanna Schnur and sophomore right fielder Jessica Webster.

According to the coach, Schnur has shown much improvement over last year while Webster brings a strong arm and good range.

Pushing the starting outfielders for playing time is sophomore Sarah Wagner.

"She's improving and working extremely hard," Arnold said. "She's working real hard for a starting spot."

The Chiefs also can plug Porter and Lerner into the outfield if the situation calls for it.

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TRACK

FROM PAGE B1

we are going to have to try and make up the points in other ways.

"But I think we will just keep getting better with every meet we have."

Having Porcari around is a pretty good starting point.

"Joe is a great runner that can run everything from the 3200 to the 400," Mikosz said. "He is the guy you can count on in big meet situations."

Helping Porcari lead the way will be fellow co-captains Andy Bhin and Doug Dykes.

"Andy Bhin is a great field event athlete and hurdler," Mikosz noted. "On top of excelling in the vault he's also

our top long jumper."

As for Dykes, the coach expects him to dominate the 300-meter hurdles and help the 1,600-meter relay while also running the 400-meter dash.

THEY'LL COMPETE

The distance runners should again be one of the team's strengths, with Derek Gielarowski leading the pack.

The coach listed Brandon Dalton, Nick Eiben, Evan Johnson, Stephen Balaze, Max Rogowski, Zane Berlanga and Liam Cardenas as other notable distance runners.

Handling the sprints will be William Askew II, Lucas Bunting, Joshua Dennard, Jeffrey Pattison, Alex Rogers and Stefan Turrentine.

Plymouth field events will feature Brenton Zuzo, Joshua Smith, Billy Roberts, William Harrington, Ian Smith and Nikhil Dunganari while Daniel Edgerton is a top hurdler.

Mikosz is feeling good about the 2011 team despite losing the first dual meet to Canton on April 5.

In that meet (a 82-55 loss), Porcari won the 800- and 1,600-meter runs and took part in two victorious relay teams.

The 3,200-meter relay team of Porcari, Gieralowski, Balaze and Dykes finished first in 8:51.5 seconds while the quartet of Porcari, Dykes, Askew and Bunting won the 1,600-meter relay in 3:45.8.

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All candidates must have HS Diploma or equivalent. Able to lift 80 lbs frequently. Able to read and understand work instructions, safety rules, & perform mathematical operations. Interested candidates should email resume and cover letter to: careers@wintlic.com "Mill Operator Novi" or "Cold Heading Taylor" must be in the subject line in order to be considered.

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Administrative Asst For landscaping company in Westland. Strong admin skills, computer knowledge, billing and some sales a must. \$12/hour, Full time. 248-935-1233 or email: candyphillips@charter.net

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RECEPTIONIST for Plymouth Hair Salon. Some evenings necessary. Must be people oriented. Call: 734-459-0640

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COMMUNITY LIFE

Sunday, April 10, 2011

hometownlife.com



PHOTO GALLERIES

hometownlife.com

New festival brings authors, books, readers together

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

MICHIGAN SPRING BOOK FESTIVAL

What: Sponsored by the Author Collective, the event includes book displays and sales, authors, and special activities

When: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 15-16, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 17

Where: Laurel Park Place, 37700 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Special guests: Paul Gross, WDIV meteorologist and author of "Extreme Michigan Weather," 1 p.m. April 16; Farmington Hills-based Oberon Shakespeare Study Group discussion and cake, 2:30 p.m. April 16; South Lyon residents, the Morelli family – including Ron and Mike of "Biggest Losers" fame – will sign their book about fitness at noon, April 17; Darshell DuBose, author of a music instruction program, will offer music lessons throughout the weekend; LaVaille Lavette, motivational speaker, will speak at noon, April 16

Celebrity readers: Two dozen community leaders and celebrities, including Observer & Eccentric editor, Karen Smith, and publisher, Susan Rosiek, will read out loud to guests throughout the weekend.

Contact: (313) 446-2262

Michael Williams will help dozens of self-published and self-promoted authors find an audience for their works next weekend in Livonia.

The Author Collective, an organization the native Detroiters founded two years ago, will exhibit and help authors sell books in every genre during the inaugural Michigan Spring Book Festival at Laurel Park Place.

"As a collaborative, we go into places where a single author may not have access because of the financial feasibility," Williams said. "A lot of authors struggle with these kinds of things."

A promotional table at a major book expo might cost thousands of dollars, putting the venue out of a self-published author's reach. Annual membership in the collective is \$375 and offers national exposure. The organization exhibits members' books at nationwide events and at its own book fairs in Southfield and Livonia, as well as Cleveland, Ohio, Nashville, Tenn., and in other states.

At its Michigan Spring Book Festival, Friday-Sunday, April 15-17, hundreds of books, including self-published works, will be for sale. Published and self-published authors will be on hand, celebrities will take turns reading out loud to youngsters and special guests will make appearances.

EXPLORING WEATHER

Paul Gross of Farmington Hills, WDIV's weatherman, a forensic meteorologist and author of *Extreme Michigan Weather: The Wild World of the Great Lakes State*, will sign copies of his book at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 16.

Published by University of Michigan Press, the book went into its second printing two weeks after hitting store shelves last year.

"I am most proud of the fact that this is Michigan's book, and all

jobs associated with the book are Michigan jobs," Gross wrote in an e-mail to the *Observer*. "I specifically sought out a local publisher and insisted that they have the book printed in Michigan, which they did. No, I didn't rescue Michigan's economy all by myself, but I hopefully set an example to others that they need to think local when making purchasing or manufacturing choices."

He said the book, which includes extensive historical data on local weather, has become a popular gift choice that sold out of book stores in December last year.

"It really is the perfect gift because, as much as everybody talks about the weather, this book finally gives people the chance to understand it... as well as check out the record-setting weather on any day of the year."

SHAKESPEARE AUTHORSHIP

The Oberon Shakespeare Study Group, which meets monthly at the Farmington Hills Public Library, will share slices of an "UN-birthday Cake" with the public and will hold a panel discussion on whether the Bard, born on April 23, is the true author of *Hamlet*, *Romeo and Juliet*

and other celebrated works attributed to Shakespeare.

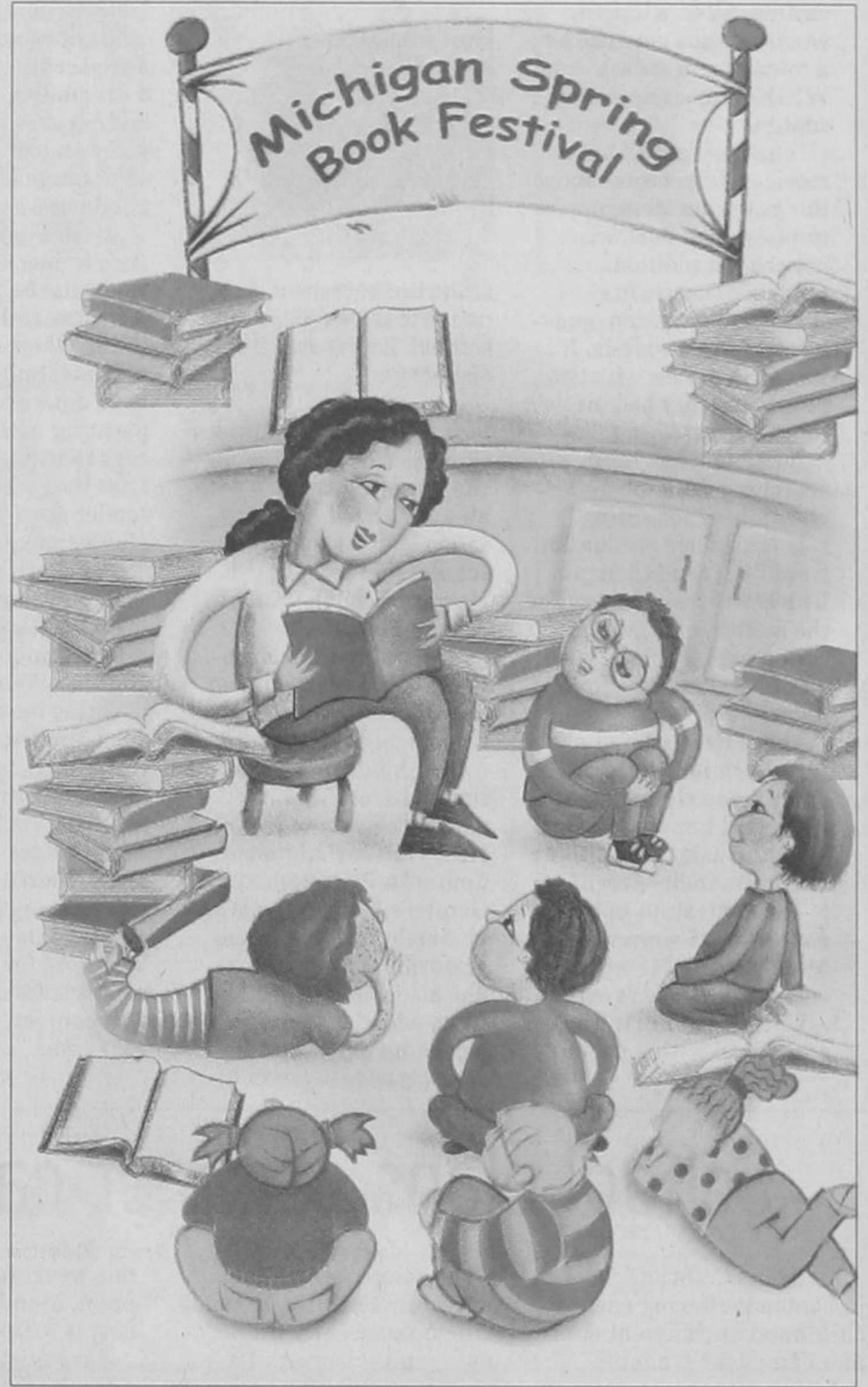
The group explores the authorship question, reads Shakespeare's works and attends performances, such as the Stratford Festival in London, Ontario.

"I loved Shakespeare before but once I got interested in its authorship, I've learned so much. It has been enriching and rewarding," said Linda Thiel, a member of the group from Howell.

She said the Michigan Spring Book Festival will help the group spread the word about *Anonymous*, a historical thriller directed by Roland Emmerich, that credits Edward de Vere, the Earl of Oxford, as the true author of Shakespeare's works. The film is set for release this fall.

Williams hopes the festival will inspire children to read at least two books a week. His organization will give away 1,000 books next weekend.

"We identify 50 schools in each area that we have a festival and give 20 book certificates to each school. We ask administrators to identify students who would benefit from a new book," he said. "They bring the certificate to the mall. There are no questions asked, no money involved.



We just want them to get a book."

He said Detroit Edison also donated hundreds of booklets on electricity and electrical safety for distribution

to the public.

For more about the festival and Author Collective, visit michiganspringbookfestival.info.

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Listen up: Canton woman hopes to win radio job

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Caitlin Burt, 23, of Canton walked into an open casting call on a lark two weeks ago and emerged as a contender in radio station WRIF's annual Rock Girl contest.

"I had just gotten out a movie — *Limitless* — about this guy acing all his opportunities," said Burt, who noticed the auditions at Emagine Theatre in Novi. "I said, oh, there's an opportunity. I was a walk-in. It was an interview with two people and they had me do a short reading."

Burt, who has been searching for a job and auditioning for acting roles since her graduation from Western Michigan University last year, nailed the audition and was called back — along with 29 other women — for a photo shoot.

The station posted pictures, brief bios and a short video clip of each Rock Girl hopeful on the Web and asked the public to choose their favorites.

The contestant pool will narrow to 16 women on Monday, April 11 when voter results are revealed.

Until then, Burt, who graduated with a bache-



Caitlyn Burt of Canton is in the running to become WRIF's next Rock Girl. She's up against 29 competitors.

lor's degree in communications, is campaigning for the job, which comes with an annualized \$40,000 salary and a full \$11,995 scholarship to Specs Howard School of Media Arts in Southfield.

"I've put it all over on Facebook. I made flyers," she said. "I've been telling friends and their friends."

Burt holds down part-time jobs, at Zap Zone, a laser tag venue, Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center in Plymouth and Genitti's Hole in the Wall in Northville, where she performs dinner theatre. She also acted in student films while at Western, picked up extra work in

a few Independent productions and worked as a production assistant for *Transformers: Dark of the Moon*, which filmed in Detroit.

"Besides acting, being a spokesperson would be a dream job," said Burt, adding that the WRIF position would enable her to put her college major to good use.

She drew on her experience in marketing class when she began stumping for votes and reached out to the *Observer*.

Contestants in the past have done everything from painting messages on their cars to using social media. Last year a Rock Girl contender even painted rocks along an expressway.

A spokesperson for WRIF declined to comment on the contest and referred inquiries to the station's Web site.

Voting on the "Sexy 16" semi-finalists will run from April 18-May 1 and on the "Exotic 8" remaining contestants from May 2-18. Judges will determine the 2011 Rock Girl from among four finalists on May 20.

To vote for Burt or other contestants in the Rock Girl contest, visit www.wrif.com.

Celebrate season with egg hunts

Hop to it and make a date with the Easter bunny or search for eggs and marshmallows at these local events:



FILE PHOTO

It's time to hunt Easter eggs.

Kehrer VFW Post 3323, 1055 South Wayne Road, at Avondale, Westland.

Parents can bring cameras to take photos of their children, posing in their Easter bonnets and hats with the Easter Bunny.

Cost for the breakfast is \$5 for ages 13 and up and \$3 for 12-1.

For more information, call Donna Jensen at (734) 729-8075.

All children must have adult supervision.

EASTER EGG SCRAMBLE

Sponsored by the Westland Jaycees in association with Westland Parks and Recreation, the Egg Scramble is designed for children, 14 and under and runs 1-4 p.m. Saturday, April 16, at Jaycee Park, located at Wildwood and Hunter. For more information call the Bailey Center at (734) 722-7620 or the Westland Jaycee Hotline at (734) 226-0400.

EASTER DELIGHT NIGHT

Kids, 3-12, can make Easter eggs and an Easter basket from 6-7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 19, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford Road, in Westland. All supplies are included. The fee is \$10 per child. Parents may bring cameras to take photos of their children with the Easter Bunny. Pre-register by April 15. (734) 722-7620

MARSHMALLOW DROP

Kids collect marshmallows — 20,000 will drop from a helicopter — and turn them

in for a prize from the Easter Bunny, at 11 a.m. Good Friday, April 22, at Nankin Mills, located on Hines Drive just east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland.

Wayne County's 27th annual Marshmallow Drop falls on Earth Day. Booths from various environmental organizations will be stationed at the park during the event. For more information, call (734) 261-1990.

BUNNYVILLE

The Detroit Zoo's 20th annual Bunnyville runs 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 23, at the zoo, located on 10 Mile (I-696 service drive) west of Woodward, in Royal Oak.

Bunnyville visitors may bring a canned or other nonperishable food item to be donated to Gleaners Community Food Bank. Each guest with a food donation will receive a reduced admission price of \$5, parking not included.

Bunnyville activities will occur throughout the Zoo, featuring the Jelly Bean Jamboree — a fun twist on the traditional egg hunt — Funny Bunny Games, spring-time crafts, whisker painting and pictures with the Easter Bunny.

Live performances by musical duo Two of a Kind will take place in the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery Theater at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. The Off Broadway Productions musical "Bunny Follies" runs at noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Animal enrichment activities and zookeeper talks will be offered throughout the day with the great apes at 9 a.m., tigers at 10 a.m., snow monkeys at 11 a.m., vultures at noon, wolverines at 1 p.m. and polar bears at 2 p.m.

Zoo admission is \$12 for adults, 15-61, \$10 for senior citizens, 62 and older and \$8 for children, 2-14. (248) 541-5717 or visit www.detroitzoo.org

School plans summer camp

All Saints Catholic School in Canton is offering early childhood enrichment summer camps for students entering 4-year-old preschool and kindergarten this fall in the Plymouth-Canton area.

The camps, which take place July 18 through Aug. 5, will enhance early literacy, math, and science skills while including fun elements of summertime, such as nature, music, and outdoor games. Each camp runs for

one week, from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday-Friday. The cost is \$100 per week.

For registration forms and additional information, visit the school's website at www.allsaintscs.com or e-mail to msswiderek@yahoo.com.

BUNNY BRUNCH

Westland Civitan Club and Westland Parks and Recreation sponsor a brunch of pancakes, breakfast sausage, juice, coffee, tea and milk, from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 16, at Harris



Elizabeth Atkins
Author/Journalist



Mark Bernstein
Law Offices of Sam Bernstein
Attorney



Brian Meakin
City of Livonia
Councilmember



Mason
WGPR Radio
On Air Personality



Susan Rosiek
Observer & Eccentric
Publisher Executive Editor



Robert Ficano
Wayne County
Executive



Lori Pinson
CBS 62
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Wade McCree
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This space is provided by the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weeklies.

Walks raise funds for parties, camping for local folks

The For a Day Foundation will present 2nd Annual "Run with the Cops, Not from Them" charity fundraiser April 23, on Belle Isle in Detroit.

Registration for the event starts at 8 a.m. A 1-mile fun run/walk will begin at 9:30 a.m. and a 5K run will begin at 10 a.m.

The 5K is also a United States of America Track and Field (USATF) certified course with timing chips available. Registration can be completed at <https://www.signmeup.com/site/online-event-registration/73702> or on site the day of the event.

The For a Day Foundation

is a non-profit charity dedicated to raising the self-esteem and confidence of children with cancer. The foundation arranges parties with makeovers, crafts, manicures, games and entertainment. Girls receive boas and tiaras and the boys receive fireman hats, and a badge. Last year the Metro Detroit chapter threw over 400 parties.

The event's name references police officers because a majority of the foundation's advisory board members are from the Detroit Police Department (DPD). Many police officers run in the event.

WALK-N-FUND RUN

Registration is under way for a walk/run sponsored by Detroit First Church of the Nazarene in Northville and Northville Christian Assembly, 9 a.m., Saturday, June 4.

The walk, which will start at the Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, will run along the I-275 bike path to Grand River Ave., and back to the church. The event is designed to raise awareness and funds for Royal Family Kids Camp which provides a camping experience for children involved in the foster care system in Wayne County.

Sign-in for the Royal Walk-N-Fund Run will be from



7:30-8:30 a.m. the day of the event. Advance registration is at www.dfcnazarene.org, by calling Shelly King at (248) 348-7600 or by e-mailing to sking@dfcnazarene.org.

The fee of \$30 per walker/runner will include an event commemorative T-shirt, water and a snack. The event is free to children 12 and younger. Those who register by May 4 will be entered into a door prize drawing.

Royal Family Kids, Inc. will offer more than 155 camps this year. The camp is provided at no cost for the campers who are selected to attend the camp by Wayne County Department of Human Services.

Public Notice Notice to Creditors Trust Administration of John D. Hall

Trust Administration of
John Douglas Hall

Date of Birth: December 28, 1928

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The Settlor, John D. Hall, who lived at 641 Brandt, Garden City, Michigan died February 28, 2011. There is no personal representative of the Grantor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against John D. Hall personally and/or the John D. Hall Living Trust Dated February 26, 2007, as amended, will be forever barred unless presented to Earl D. Hall, Successor Trustee within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Earl D. Hall
641 Brandt
Garden City, Michigan 48135
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Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Publish: April 10, 2011

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RICHARD "DICK" BARTHOLOMEW

Age 83, of Westland, formerly of Dearborn, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on March 18. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Rita; their children Carol (Bob) Pyka, Jill (David Schumacher) Doughty, Chris (Paul) Lisowski, Mary (Eric) Lagerstrom; 11 grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, and many nieces, nephews and special friends. Dick was preceded in death by his brother Bob Bartholomew and son in law, Stephen Doughty. He served his country in the United States Army during World War II and returned home to attend Michigan State College with the GI bill. It was there that he met his beloved Rita and they began their life together in married housing. After graduating he began his long career with education, received two master's degrees, and retired in 1992 from the Wayne Westland school system. He felt strongly about volunteering and sharing his time, talent, and treasure with Cherry Hill United Presbyterian Church in many capacities since 1955 and the Dearborn Kiwanis. Dick was a devoted husband, father, grandpa, and friend and his presence among us will be greatly missed. With respect to his wishes, cremation has taken place. There will be a Memorial Service at Cherry Hill United Presbyterian Church in Dearborn on Friday, April 15 at 11 am with visitation beginning at 10 am. Memorial contributions may be made to Cherry Hill United Presbyterian Church c/o Helping Hands, Hospice, or a charity of your choice.

ELIZABETH ANN (FRISBIE) DISBROW

72, of Interlochen, MI and formerly of Birmingham, passed away suddenly Friday, March 25, 2011 at her home on Green Lake. Liz was born in Battle Creek, MI on December 28, 1938 to the late Walter and Regina (Martin) Frisbie. She graduated from Battle Creek Central High School, class of 1956. She attended Miami of Ohio University where she studied History and was a member of the Alpha Omega Pi Sorority. In 1959, Liz married Donald Rex Disbrow, Jr., also of Battle Creek, her husband of 52 years. Liz was the love of Don's life and together they raised their four children in Birmingham. There was nothing Liz enjoyed more than taking care of her family and friends, always ready with a smile and a hug, and her reassuring warmth. Outside of the home, Liz worked for the David Stalker Auction Gallery of Birmingham for over ten years. She and Don resettled to their home on Green Lake in Interlochen upon their retirement in 1995. Though retired, Liz enjoyed helping her new neighbors and community. During the 16 years she lived in Interlochen, she was an active member of the Green Lake Township Planning Commission as well as a volunteer for the Father Fred Foundation, the annual Cherry Festival, and the Traverse City Chamber of Commerce. Liz is survived by her husband Don; her four children, Jeff, Tim (Kim), Andy (Beth Ann), and Beth (Adam); twelve grandchildren, Matt (Tricia), Brian Rex, Jenny, Shannon, Madeline, Ben, Brian Reese, Sam, Hannah, Drew, Jessie, and Kaitlyn; her great granddaughter, Peyton; her brother, Walt (Carol), and sister, Alice (Bill); her sister-in-law, Deanna; and many other loving family members and friends. A memorial mass was held on April 1st at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Grawn, MI. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made in Liz's memory to the Father Fred Foundation in Traverse City. The family is being served by the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home.

JOHN PETRYL

Age 88 of Livonia, Mi., March 31, 2011. Preceded in death by his beloved wives Julia and Eileen. Loving father of Robert, David, Richard (Verla), Kenneth (Mary) and Joyce. Stepfather of Thomas and Cheryl. Brother of Edward and Helen. Grandfather of eight, Step-grandfather of one, Great-grandfather of three and Step-great-grandfather of two. Visitation was Friday. Funeral service was at the John N. Santeu & Son Funeral Home, Garden City. Family suggests memorials to Alzheimers Association. www.santeufuneralhome.com



DONALD CARL RAMIN

Of Farwell was called to his Savior's side and eternal home on Sunday, April 3, 2011 after a courageous battle with pneumonia and renal failure. He was born in Romeo on December 23, 1927. Don served his country in the U.S. Navy from 1944-1948 and was on five different ships during WWII. Don was a Livonia Firefighter for 30 years, retiring in 1981 as Senior Captain. Don was a woodworker and golfer. Don married Linda Helena Carnahan on December 16, 1950 and they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on December 16, 2010 with a party given by their children. Don and Linda were blessed with six children. Don was preceded in death by his mother, Dorothy, his step-father Alfred, and his grandson Ryan Paul Amerman. He leaves to mourn his passing his wife Linda, his sons Michael John (Kathryn) and Dennis Charles, his daughters Patricia Lynn Maddix (James), Cynthia Jo Gerstenlauer (Michael), Linda Susan Belanger (Louis), and Kathryn Irene Zilz (Rick). Left to cherish the memories of their grandfather are 16 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. Family was very important to Don and he loved spending time with them. Don was a member of the Clare Church of the Nazarene and will receive visitors at the church on Thursday April 7, 2011 from 2-4 and 6-8 P.M. Funeral Services will take place on Friday, April 8, 2011 at 11:00 A.M. at the church with Pastor Jim Young, Senior Pastor officiating. Don will be laid to rest in the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly. Memorial contributions may be made to the Great Lakes Burn Camp PO Box 6189, Jackson MI 49204. Don's family would like to thank Great Lakes Renal Dialysis Center in Mt. Pleasant for the care and compassion given to him over the last several years. Those wishing to may leave an on-line condolence at: www.stephenson-wyman.com

PHYLLIS ELAINE GRAHAM

Age 82 of Novi, went into the presence of the Lord at 5:30 a.m. Tuesday (April 5, 2011) in their residence. She was born August 15th, 1928, in Des Moines, Iowa, to Everett and Marian Scherich, and was born again in Jesus in 1954. She married Clayton Graham on December 29, 1956, in Jackson, Michigan. She leaves behind her loving husband, Clayton, and three loving children Michael C. (Cindie) Graham of Gilford, New Hampshire, Mrs. Peggy A. (Rick) Kolonian of Plymouth, Michigan, and Patricia A. (Kyle) Riehle of South Lyon, Michigan. She is now reunited with her daughter, Kathryn Susan. She was dearly loved by Katie, Holly, C.J., Jessica, Catherine, Rebecca, Alyssa, and Joshua, her grandchildren; and Jaden and Graham, her great grandchildren; and two sisters, Mary Malpass of California and Barbara Aune of Illinois. Phyllis was a wonderful mother and grandmother, who made every activity of her grandchildren a priority. She was often seen on bleachers and church pews encouraging her family. Phyllis was an active member in God's kingdom work, including Fox Run Bible Study, backyard Bible clubs, Bible Study Fellowship, and a community Bible Study. She devoted much time to serving the elderly by providing transportation and other needs, and also served in the after-school Care program. She was also a member of the Daughter of the American Revolution and currently fellowshipped at Calvary Baptist Church in Canton. After graduating Manistee High, she attended Central Michigan University. Visitation will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 on Friday, April 8 at Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 9 at 11:00 a.m. at Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church in South Lyon. Officiating will be Pastors David Brown of Fellowship Church and John Shinn of Calvary Baptist Church in Plymouth. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to either Fellowship Church or Calvary Baptist.

JOAN BOLES

Age 104 of Westland. Beloved wife of the late Robert. Loving mother of Eugene (Carol) Koch and Judy (Terry) Wilson. Proud grandma of Diane, Matthew, April, Wendy, Julie and Jan and great grandma of many. Also survived by many other loving family and friends. Visitation was held at Fred Wood Funeral Home-Rice Chapel, in Livonia. Funeral was Friday. In lieu of flowers memorials are to be made to the MI Humane Society. Please visit online guestbook fredwoodfuneralhome.com



JOHN JAMES CUMMING

Age 90, went to be with our Lord on March 31, 2011. John was preceded in death by his beloved wife Laura. He is survived by his children Louise (James) LeCourt, Donna Cumming, John (Dianne) Cumming, Grandchildren Steven, Lecia, Amy, Emily, Jamie, James and Melinda and 12 great-grandchildren. John was born on June 14, 1920 to Louisa (Hepburn) and Bruce Cumming in Detroit. He was the older of two sons. John graduated from MacKenzie High School. Following high school he worked in the Civilian Conservation Corps. in Northern Michigan and later served three years in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He attended Plumbing Union Local 98 Trade School and later became a licensed Master Plumber. He married Laura on June 28, 1941, they celebrated their 69th anniversary in 2010. They moved to Plymouth in 1951 where in 1958 he opened John J. Cumming Plumbing & Heating Co. which is still family owned and operated. He was a life time member of the Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 and Masonic Plymouth Rock Lodge and the Plymouth Lions Club. They moved to Hemlock Lake in Reading, MI in 1987. He enjoyed fishing, walking, reading and GOLF. He was an active member of the Reading United Methodist Church until returning to Plymouth to be near his children in 2005. Words cannot express how much he will be missed by his family and friends. Donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.



JOSEPH FRANK KRACHT

Age 65, went to be with the Lord on April 5th at his home in Brighton surrounded by his Family and Friends. Born to Elden Gregory and Catherine Kracht on April 30th, 1945. Survived by his loving and caring wife of 45 years, Pam. Loving children Gregory (Denise), David (Lisa) and Jen (Mark) Kroll. Treasured Papa to Jacob, Trevor and Ryan Kracht and Alex and Alyssa Kroll. Dearest brother to Mary (Gary) Mierzwa, Bill (Marge) Kracht, Janie (Jay) Pewtress, John Kracht, Juanita (Earl) Sierlet, Irene Turner. Greatest brother-in-law to Cindy Horton and Jeff (Wilma) Funtukis. Uncle Joe to many nieces and nephews. Dearest friend to Gary and Shari Korff. Memorial service to be held at Cornerstone Evangelical Church 9455 Hilton Rd. Brighton, on Friday April 8th at noon. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 310 North Main Street #100 Chelsea, Michigan 48118.



ERNEST MANZEL

Age 95, of Plymouth, passed away on April 1, 2011. Loving husband of the late Viola. Beloved father of David (Patricia), Dale (Gwynn) and Darrell Manzel. Proud grandfather of Kenneth (Lori) Manzel, Kevin (Courtney) Manzel, Matthew (Tammy) Manzel and Jason (Mary) Manzel. Great grandfather of Colin, Avery and Lauren Manzel. Funeral service Thursday 11:00am from St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1343 Penniman Ave, Plymouth with family receiving friends beginning at 10:30am. Visitation Wednesday from 1-9pm from the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth. Interment Riverside Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society. Share memories at: schrader-howell.com

DAVID ALEN MARKLAND, JR.

Born June 25, 1976 died March 13, 2011. Survived by uncle Kevin, aunts Patty, and Terri, and cousins Sean, Crystal, Tara, Ronnie, and Eric, and sister Danielle. Preceded in death by mother Debbie Markland, father David Markland Jr., sister Michelle Markland, aunt Sandi Kneeshaw, uncle Keith Casey, and grandparents John and Frankie Casey. Memorial service on April 12, 2011 at Calvary Missionary Church 29850 Six Mile Rd., Livonia, Mi 48152 from 1pm-9pm; service at 7:30pm

EDWIN BESWICK SHULTZ

Passed away peacefully in Ann Arbor, Michigan on April 4, 2011 at the age of 86. Ted (nickname) was born one of four children in Lawrence, Kansas, on November 18, 1924. He spent most of his young life in Norris, Tennessee. His parents instilled a love of the Rocky Mountains through family trips where he took up fly fishing and hiking alongside his father. He attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he ran track, graduating with a degree in Naval Science in 1946. Ted met Pamela Hotard, whom he married after serving in World War II. Ted and Pam moved north to take up residence in the Detroit area where Ted worked for The Ford Motor Company for 31 years. He retired in 1982, giving him more time to spend "up north" at their Lake Michigan cottage, as well as travel to new and exciting places with Pam. Avid fisherman, enthusiastic cook, great travel planner, bridge player and loving husband, father and grandfather, he will be greatly missed. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ted, Sr., and Virginia, and by two sisters, Anna Gottlieb and Elizabeth Shultz. He is survived by one sister, Virginia Wiley (Clemson, SC), his wife, Pamela, and their four children, Karen (Doug) Goodkin of San Francisco, CA; Dr. Barclay (Lori Amsterdam) Shultz of Prairie du Sac, WI; John Shultz of Ann Arbor, MI; and Pamela Shultz of Livonia, MI; and four grandchildren, Kerala Taylor, Talia Goodkin, Eren Shultz and Zoey Shultz. Memorial services will be held at the The Ann Arbor City Club on Wednesday, April 13, 2011 at noon. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy (www.gtrc.com).

EDNA S. ZEHRA

Age 87, of Farmington, MI. Passed away March 29, 2011. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI.

OBITUARY POLICY

The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

Deadlines:
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Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

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See a bike with bling at Novi swap meet

Jodi Johnson likes to ride in style. The Charlotte woman added 10,000 Swarovski crystals, a custom pink paint job on the fenders, gas tank and license plate holder to her 2004 Harley motorcycle.

She'll bring her blinged-out bike to The Giant Motorcycle Swap Meet, Sunday, April 17, at the Suburban Collection Showplace, formerly known as Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave. in Novi.

The Giant Motorcycle Swap Meet, for the past 36 years has offered "everything for rider or machine" for men and women who love to ride motorcycles. "With nearly one out of every four bikers in the U.S. living in Michigan and its four border states, the nine swap meets we sponsor give bikers the chance to be around other bikers and to support the economic interests that are vital to keeping the industry strong," stated Chad Dutmers, event organizer. "We love to showcase Michigan-made bike builders and suppliers as much as possible. Our bread and butter is the Michigan biker."

The swap meet will feature the largest collection of motorcycle vendors under one roof in the Midwest. Cyclists attending will see new 2011 bikes as well as used bikes — street, dirt, metric, touring, cruising, trikes, choppers, custom bikes, and trailers.

"Shopping the internet is great," Dutmers said, "but for those of us that need to touch, see, and feel the merchandise, not to mention get a great deal, the swap meet is the place to get what you need to get your ride in gear. It may be old school, but it's still a lot more fun than ordering your gear online."

The Giant Motorcycle Swap Meet runs from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$3 for ages 6-12. Free parking for motorcycles. Car parking is \$5. Tickets also are available online at www.motorcycleswap.com. (800) 968-4242 or visit www.motorcycleswap.com.

MILESTONES

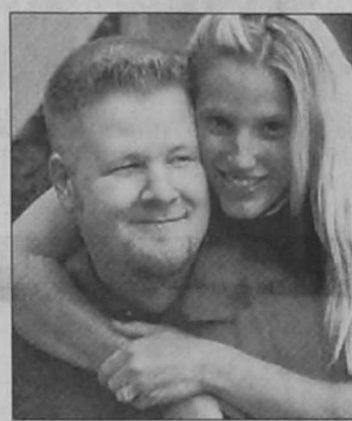
SEPTEMBER WEDDING PLANNED

Sherry Ann Nowak and Gary Adam Blake announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Allen and Barbara Nowak of Livonia, attended Churchill High School and is employed by Kindercare.

Her fiancé, son of Gary and Judy Blake of Farmington Hills, also attended Clarenceville High School and is employed by Sheraton Hotels.

A September wedding



Nowak-Blake

is planned at First United Methodist Church of Plymouth.

MARRIED IN 2010

Jessica Lynn Leadford and Steven Joseph Yanosik were married May 15, 2010, at The Chapel at St. John's, in Plymouth. The Rev. Matthew George officiated.

A reception at The Inn at St. John's followed the ceremony.

The bride, daughter of Gary and Sue Leadford of Canton, received a bachelor's degree in nutritional sciences in 2006 from Michigan State University and graduated from The Ohio State University College of Medicine June 3, 2010. She currently is in her first year of residency at Riverside Hospital in Columbus, Ohio.

The groom, son of Al and Candy Yanosik of Caledonia, received a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering at Michigan State University in 2006 and recently received his professional engineering certification. He works for American Electric Power in Columbus.

Tara Mathena was the maid of honor. Allison Schoo, Jessica Orhanen, Jennifer Becker, Amanda Zedrick, Julie Parse and Christine Yanosik served as bridesmaids. Ellie



Yanosik-Leadford

Bliss and Katherine Wallbank, cousins of the bride, were the flower girls.

Richard Humphries was the best man. Adam Puricelli, Rueben Nair, Nicholas Leadford, Cole Hodgkin, Brian Sevensma and Kevin McCullough served as groomsmen.

The couple took a honeymoon trip to St. Lucia.

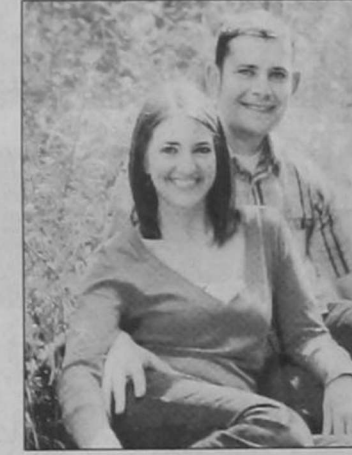
They plan to relocate to Denver, Colo., where Jessica will complete a three-year anesthesia residency program at the University Of Colorado, Denver. Steve will work as an engineer at Black and Veatch in Denver.

MAY WEDDING PLANNED

Teresa Marie Mosher and Derek Paul Samsel announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Nancy and Jack Mosher of Sauk Village, Ill., graduated in 2001 from Marian High School, Chicago Heights, Ill., and in 2005 from the University of Illinois, Champaign, Ill. She earned an M.B.A. in 2010 from Bradley University, Peoria, Ill., and is employed by Caterpillar, Moline, Ill.

Her fiancé, son of Lynn and Stan Samsel of Livonia, graduated in 2000 from Stevenson High School in Livonia and in 2004 from the University of Michigan. He earned a



Mosher-Samsel

master's of science degree in mechanical engineering in 2005 from University of Michigan and also is employed by Caterpillar in Moline, Ill.

A May wedding is planned in Cantigny Park, Wheaton, Ill.

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In Loving Memory

Remember the mother you have lost by placing a Special Remembrance Tribute.

The Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weekly Newspapers will be publishing a special "In Remembrance" page for Mother's Day 2011. Here's the perfect opportunity to honor the memory and celebrate the life of your beloved mother who holds a special place in your heart.

Prices start at **\$15.00** for a photo "In Remembrance" ad

Publication Dates:
Thursday, May 5th...in the Hometown Weekly Newspapers
Sunday, May 8th...in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Deadline for both issues: Thursday, April 28th
Please specify in which group of newspapers you would like your "In Remembrance" to appear:

Group 1: Observer & Eccentric Newspapers serving the Canton, Farmington, Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth, Redford, Westland, Birmingham, Royal Oak, Clawson, Berkeley, Ferndale, Huntington Woods, Pleasant Ridge and Southfield communities.
Group 2: Hometown Weekly Newspapers serving the Milford, Northville, Novi and South Lyon communities.

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Sunday, April 10, 2011

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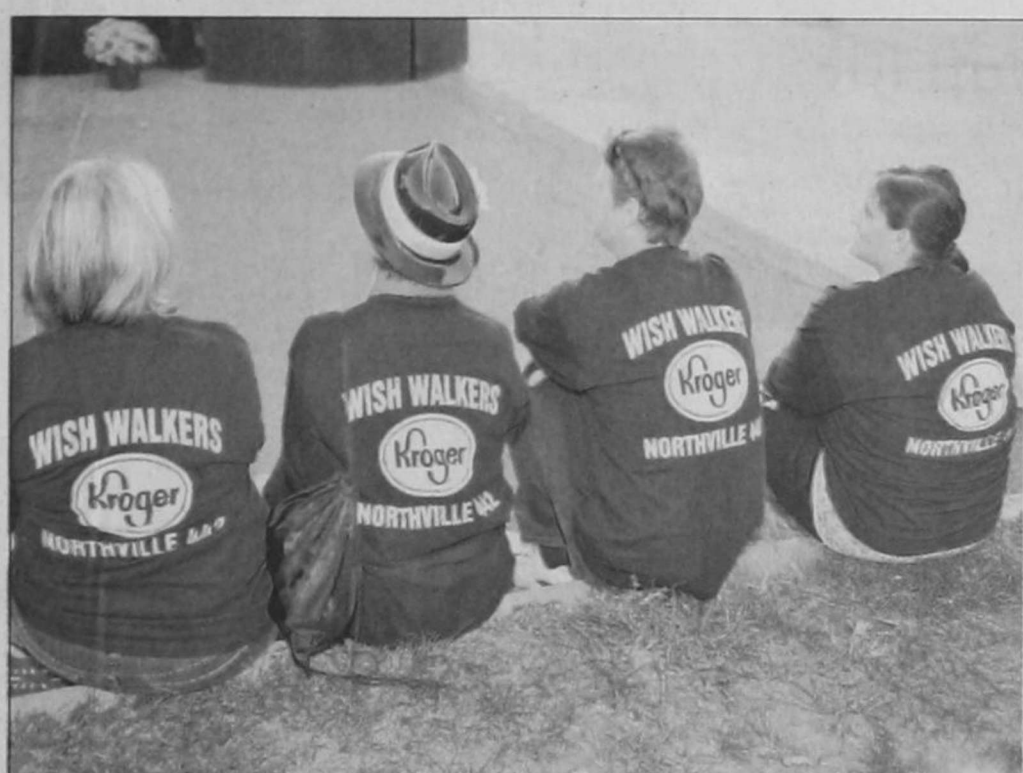
HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Sharon Dargay

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com



Making Strides

The tally is in. More than 665 Kroger employees, family members and friends from throughout Michigan, including this team from Northville, helped raise more than \$300,000 for American Cancer Society initiatives last year. Kroger raised funds with pink ribbon sales, customer contributions in coin boxes, and an annual Pink Tag event that gives customers a chance to help by purchasing participating items. Kroger managers and associates participated in Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walks throughout Michigan. Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walks are scheduled for Oct. 15 on Belle Isle, and in Macomb County, as well as Oct. 1 in Oakland County. For more information, call (800) 227-2345 or visit www.cancer.org.

Study finds soy helps radiation kill lung cancer



UNITED SOYBEAN BOARD

Can soybeans thwart cancer? A recent Wayne State University study found that soy makes radiation more effective in killing lung cancer cells.

A component in soybeans increases radiation's ability to kill lung cancer cells, according to a Wayne State University study published in the April 2011 issue of the *Journal of Thoracic Oncology*.

"To improve radiotherapy for lung cancer, we are studying the potential of natural non-toxic components of soybeans, called soy isoflavones, to augment the effect of radiation against the tumor cells and at the same time protect normal lung cells against radiation injury," stated Gilda Hillman, associate professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology at Wayne State University's School of Medicine and the Karmanos Cancer Institute, who led the team of researchers.

"These natural soy isoflavones can sensitize cancer cells to the effects of radiotherapy by inhibiting the survival mechanisms that cancer cells activate to protect themselves," Hillman said. "At the same time, soy isoflavones can also act as antioxidants, which protect normal tissues against unintended damage from the

radiotherapy."

Hillman and her team demonstrated that soy isoflavones increase the effectiveness of radiation in battling cancer cells by blocking DNA repair mechanisms, which cancer cells "turn on" to survive radiation damage. Human lung cancer cells that were treated with soy isoflavones before radiation showed more DNA damage and less repair activity than cells that received only radiation.

Researchers used a formulation consisting of the three main isoflavones found in soybeans, including genistein, daidzein and glycitein.

Previous research showed that pure genistein demonstrated antitumor activity in human cell lines. Hillman's study showed that the soy mixture had an even greater antitumor effect than pure genistein. The soy mixture also is consistent with the soy isoflavone pills used in clinical studies, which have proven to be safe.

The study was supported by the American Institute for Cancer Research.

Event raises funds for mental health programs

Kadima of Southfield, in partnership with the University of Michigan Depression Center will hold its annual "Healthy Body Healthy Mind" fundraiser luncheon 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, April 28 at Temple Beth El in Bloomfield Hills.

Clark Flatt, president of the Jason Foundation, Inc., will be the keynote speaker. Flatt's son, Jason, an average, active 16-year-old, took his life in 1997 and became a statistic of the "silent epidemic" of youth suicide. The Jason Foundation is dedicated to the prevention of youth suicide through education and awareness programs designed to equip young people, educators and parents with tools and resources necessary to help identify and assist at-risk

youth.

All proceeds benefit Kadima's Child and Adolescent Program and the Miya Jo Must Home, named in memory of Miya Jo Must, a young adult victim of the "silent epidemic."

Kadima's Child and Adolescent program provides parent support group, individual and family counseling, case advocacy, crisis intervention, a children's treatment group and education to children — as young as 4 — and teens.

Tickets are \$50 and available online at www.kadimacenter.org or by calling Pam Schonberg at (248) 559-8235, Ext. 118.

Kadima is a nonprofit, nonsectarian mental health agency in its 27th year. Temple Beth El is at 7400 Telegraph Road at 14 Mile.

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

Men's Health: Knowing Some Warning Signs Can Save Lives (And Relationships)

Evidence that links heart disease and erectile dysfunction (E.D.) has been mounting during the past several years. In one study, 65% of men who experienced a heart attack had erectile dysfunction (E.D.) and no history of heart disease. Additionally, it has been documented that some men experience their first heart attack about 3 years after their first signs of E.D. Because the penile arteries are much smaller than arteries of the heart, evidence of cardiovascular disease can manifest first as Erectile Dysfunction symptoms, long before other symptoms occur.

The recognition of E.D. as a warning sign of silent vascular disease has led to the concept that a man with E.D. and no cardiac symptoms is a cardiac patient until proven otherwise.

Erectile Dysfunction (ED) is a common problem that affects millions of men. It is a barometer of overall Men's Health that can be an indicator of more serious life-threatening conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, and prostate cancer. It can also contribute to self-esteem issues, anxiety, depressive mood, and tension within a relationship.

If you are experiencing Erectile Dysfunction, you should seek treatment by a urologist who would be able to determine the cause and work with you and your significant other to identify the best solution.



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2010

Congratulations on this impressive accomplishment! As you know, it takes team work and a facility-wide commitment to quality to earn a DEFICIENCY FREE SURVEY. You should take great pride in the quality of care you provide for your residents everyday — not just when the surveyors are there. Congratulations again!

Secured Memory Unit programs specialize in treating Dementia, Alzheimer's



(L to R) Carol Brossia-Hughes, LMSW, Director of Social Services at Four Seasons, with her mother

Four Seasons Rehabilitation and Nursing was there for Carol Brossia-Hughes when her mother's declining mental functions began to cause concern. As Four Seasons director of social services and a licensed master social worker, Brossia-Hughes is proud of the programs and protocol for the 40-bed secured memory unit specializing in dementia and Alzheimer's care.

"We have a higher ratio of staff to residents," said Brossia-Hughes. "Hall monitors focus on what's going on in the hall. There's a strong emphasis on safety and quality of care and ensuring safety."

To stay active residents gather for recreation and meals in the Day Room that opens to a large outdoor patio. Indoors, low lighting and a quiet environment keep stimulation to a minimum. The result is patients are less agitated and confused. Should behavioral problems arise psychologists and physicians are available for consult.

"We want them to still hold on to that normalcy," said Brossia-Hughes. "The patio gives them a sense of freedom but in a secured environment. Residents enjoy flowers and wildlife because birdfeeders are out there. They're free to explore."

The highly structured recreation unit offers activities until 8 pm. Music therapy and bowling gets residents moving and encourages optimum independence. Current events and reminiscing keeps them thinking.

"We have different levels geared to the disease process," said Brossia-Hughes. "One specialized program is real beneficial — walking. The Strolling Group comes out and explores the rest of the facility. The goal is to integrate everybody as much as possible. We don't want to isolate them. They come for entertainers, special parties and all kinds of fun, neat stuff. It's a very positive experience."

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9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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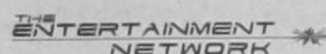
Workshops

- **Low Vision** - Help for those who have been told there is no hope
- **Combating the Diabetes Epidemic** - Take Action Now
- **Ways to Manage Neck and Back Pain**
- **How to Choose a Skilled Nursing Facility**
- **911 - Act in Time** When to go to the ER
- **The ABC Planning Process:** a Non-Wall Street Approach to Investment and Retirement Planning
- **What You Should Know about Long Term Care**
- **Senior Moving Made Easy**
- **Identify Theft Protection**
- **Making Sense of Medicare** Understanding Medicare Basics
- **Social Security Updates**
- **The Truth About Estate Planning**

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Why Don't Employers Call Me Back?

Anthony Balderrama,
CareerBuilder.com Writer

Is there any worse confidence killer than rejection? I think it goes back to childhood, when you want a new bike for your birthday but you end up getting a pack of tube socks instead. You immediately wonder if you did something wrong and that's why you didn't get what you wanted.

Go forward a few years when you end up taking your cousin to the prom because everyone else turned you down. And the college years? Basically a parade of rejection that feels like an endless line of Rockette kicks to your confidence.

Or maybe that was just my experience.

Still, that same game of "Is it me or them?" continues well into adulthood as you begin searching for a job. You make a list of your best qualities, send them to employers, get dressed up and try to woo them in an interview. Then you wait. And wait. And wait. The phone never rings.

Job seekers want to know why they can seemingly do everything right, and yet, still they don't hear back from employers. We're not talking about getting turned down for the job -- we're talking about not even hearing a "Sorry, but the position has been filled." So we went to the source to find out.

Submitting the application

For a job seeker, the application process is full of

anxiety and excitement. When you're looking for a job, each available position represents a possible new beginning. Before you've submitted an application, you've already daydreamed about your first day on the job. The problem is that to some employers, you're just one in a dozen. Or in some cases, one in 500.

"In the current market, if you

post a job, you will get buried with résumés," says Matthew McMahon, partner at staffing firm McMahon Partners LLC. "Maybe 5 percent are in the ballpark." This means plenty of hiring managers spend their time reading irrelevant applications that don't help them find the right candidate. As a result, they have less time for you. "You simply don't have time to respond to [all applicants]."

To many job seekers this attitude may sound cold and impersonal. After all, behind each of these applications is a person waiting for a return call. McMahon cannot possibly respond to each one individually, but he does take the time to reach out to applicants who show promise.

"If somebody is close, but slightly off target, I will usually take the time to give them a call, learn about what they are looking for, tell them about the sort of roles I fill, and keep the notes for future use," he says.

How about the ones who miss

the mark completely?

"If the person isn't even close (or has not read the description), I don't bother spending the time because they are obviously applying for everything," he says. Take that as further proof that throwing your application at every open position and hoping to have some success is not the way to conduct a job search.

Can you expect any changes soon?

OK, so that's how things are now, but can job seekers expect to have a more personal interaction with the hiring managers in the future? Possibly, says Caitrin O'Sullivan of iCIMS, a provider of

software for human resource companies to track recruiting activity and applications.

"If an organization, especially a medium or large one, were not leveraging an applicant tracking system, it's difficult for job seekers to understand the magnitude of applications flooding recruiters [and] HR managers' desks -- especially during a period of high unemployment," O'Sullivan explains. "Just visually scanning through all of these résumés can take hours upon hours of manpower. To have to communicate with every one of those applicants on top of that would be a truly formidable task."

That's not to say things will always be that way. As someone on

the forefront of tracking technology, O'Sullivan sees an increase in interest among companies that can and do keep job seekers updated at regular intervals.

"As more and more organizations are investing in and leveraging HR technology and [applicant tracking systems], it is much easier for the HR team to automate and streamline that process and enable applicants to be aware of their status within the review process," O'Sullivan says. Although not all employers use tools that allow for such tracking, it's something that iCIMS has provided to human resources departments to benefit job seekers.

Until everyone gets on board, don't expect to hear back from employers to learn where you stand. You're always free to call an employer to check on the status of your application or to see if the position has been filled. As long as you are courteous and don't pester them, most companies will let you know one way or the other.

Anthony Balderrama is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com and its job blog, The Work Buzz. He researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/abalderrama.



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
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Rummage Sale - Cong Church of B'ham, 1000 Cranbrook Road, (Woodward/Cranbrook), Wednesday, 4/13, 9-8 pm (early admission 4 pm for \$3), Thursday, 4/14, 11-4 pm 1/2 price sale, 4-7 pm Bag Sale. No Strainers!

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METHODIST CHURCH, 45201 N. Territorial Rd.

WESTLAND Huron Valley Lutheran, 33740 Cowan Rd. (N. of Warren, E. of Wayne), Thurs-Fri, Apr. 14-15, 9am-5pm, Sat., Apr. 16, 9am-noon \$3 Bag Day.

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LIVONIA: Construction Equip. 3 Companies are closing Building, Electric & HVAC. Tools, new & old, hand, power, trailers, scaffolding, picks, material moving, heaters, misc. Apr. 16 & 17, 10-5pm. No early birds or pre-sales. 38005 Plymouth Rd. 1/2 mi. W. of Newburgh.

REDFORD Garage Sale, 9956 Lucerne, Apr. 14, 10-5, Apr. 15, 10-6, Apr. 16, 10-2. Off Plymouth Rd., btwn Beech & Inkster. Household items, books, records, tools.

Clothing 7140
FUR COAT: Jaguar & black mink jacket from 1950's. Current style, fits sizes 6-12, appraised at \$8,000, asking \$4900. Call: (248) 245-0558

Household Goods 7160
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Household Goods 7160
FRIDGE: 1 yr old, great cond. Dining room set - 4 chairs; complete living room set - couch, sofa, glass end tables, coffee table, matching lamps, red. Dining room set - 4 chairs; queen size bed, \$1,600/best offer. By appt. only. Sally: (248) 229-9188

Appliances 7180
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Farm Equipment 7380
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Hospital/Medical Equipment 7460
ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIR, \$350. 734-326-6267

Lawn, Garden & Snow Equipment 7480
LAWN TRACTOR - SIMPLICITY: 8 horsepower, 36 inch cut, \$550. Call: (248) 626-6370

Found - Pets 7929
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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

LOVE IS BLIND
SWF, 42, NS, totally blind, 5'4", brown hair, seeks WM, 35-58, NS, who is patient, kind, understanding, honest, loving, for friendship first leading to possible serious LTR. ☎337812

SEARCHING FOR A MAN...
50-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 49-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only Jewish men please. ☎337817

SEEKS HONEST RELATIONSHIP
SWF, 45, very petite, blonde hair, hazel eyes, smoker, down-to-earth, kind, sweet, loves antiques, plays, nice dinners, beaches, nature, outdoor activities, seeks a caring and honest man, 43-64, NS, for serious LTR. Please no games. ☎337328

SEEKING A BLACK MAN
SBF, 44, no children, lives alone, looking for a non-smoking, non-drinking, drug-free man who enjoys travel, playing cards, getting together and just having a good time. ☎332295

COULD YOU BE THE ONE?
Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 48, educator, outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 50-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. ☎330694

FORMER FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Recently widowed former flight attendant 50+ a meaningful relationship with a Jewish man who is mensah. I'm 63, 100lbs, and look like I'm in my 40s. I'm fun, spiritual, youthful and hope to hear from you soon! ☎337886

TOTAL LOSER!
I have no looks, no interests, no talent, no IQ, no friends, no job, and haven't dated since 1982! OK, stop laughing and here is the truth: I am a SJPF, 47, 5'8", blonde, shapely, bright (advanced degree), fun, caring, passionate, and one of the nicest people you will ever meet. Among other things, I love great conversation, a great sense of humor, and great kissing. Seeking compatible male, late 40s - mid 60s, for permanent best friend and lover. I'm temporarily living in Milwaukee but may move to Michigan soon. ☎334039

VERY CUTE
SBF, 58, 5'2", 122lbs, interested in fit, good-looking, confident male, 46-60, NS, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special. ☎113198

PEOPLE-PERSON
DWF, 65, 5'2", 107lbs, two grown sons and one granddaughter, looking for SWM, 58-68, NS, who is family-oriented, easy to communicate with, and fun to love. I love concerts, dining out, taking walks. ☎334842

SEEKING COMPANIONSHIP
Attractive SWF, 55, 125lbs, fun-loving, attractive blonde who is retired would love the companionship of a gentleman, 65+, with a pleasing personality. ☎330211

SEEKING A MAN WHO IS...
young-at-heart like me. Recently widowed WF enjoys dining, dancing, bowling, golf, good movies and more. Would like to have good male companionship with a WM, 50-65. ☎330750

I'LL BE WAITING
Very gorgeous SF, multi-racial, 31, 5'7", medium build, in search of a man, race unimportant, 40-65, kids ok, who is living his life to the fullest, financially secure, sincere, who likes concerts, cooking and traveling, for friendship first leading to possible relationship. ☎332436

MUST LOVE GOD
SBF, 56, 5'2", full-figured, beautiful, medium complexion, long hair, looking for a nice, young SBWM, 49-55, who is employed, honest, loyal, just an all-around sweet person. ☎328795

GIVE ME A CALL!
SBF, 21, 5'5", 160lbs, caramel complexion, mother, loves travel, cooking, outdoors, bowling, shooting pool. Seeking SBWM, 25-35, for possible relationship. ☎329887

LET'S MEET
Well-educated, attractive female, brown hair and eyes, 5'9". Looking for companion to enjoy movies, dining, travel, etc. Love to cook even better (I love Italian food). If you're a sweet man, in your 40s to 50s, have pretty eyes, and know how to spoil a lady, call me. ☎332666

PRETTY ENTREPRENEUR
WF, 64, loving, giving, fun to talk to, looking for her soulmate. Any sincere WM, 60-65, who's ambitious, successful, spiritual and fun. Please reply. I like movies, plays, concerts, ballet, boating, swimming, traveling, life itself. ☎392074

LET'S ENJOY LIFE TOGETHER
Semi-retired WF, young 60s, 5'8", brown/brown, easy on the eyes, HW proportionate, seeks WM, 58-68, NS, health-conscious, with a good sense of humor. I enjoy music, theater, movies, museums, art fairs in the summer and enjoy life and general. ☎327176

WEST SIDE BEAUTY
Professionally employed in the beauty field. SWF, 58, slender, 54, seeks a gentleman, 44-52, HWF, many interests including music, movies, cultural events, camping, and most things outdoors, light smoker, for friendship leading to relationship. Sincere responses only. ☎230791

SEEKING COMPANIONSHIP
Attractive SWF, 55, 125lbs, fun-loving, attractive blonde who is retired would love the companionship of a gentleman, 65+, with a pleasing personality. ☎330211

SAY I DO
Me: Black, short, young, extremely sexy, very sensitive, slightly dominant ways, lives alone. You: not white, under 50, tall, 200-300lbs, stable, gentle, compassionate, handyman, very affectionate. We are: NS, N/D, N/Children, monogamist, serious, poetry, cooking, jazz, homebody, very laid back wants marriage, no pets. Leave name and number only. ☎328635

ROMANTIC LEO
SWPM, 40s, 6'1", 200lbs, dark blond/blue, laid-back, logical, easygoing, would like to meet a warm, loving, affectionate, professional lady, 35-45, who likes romance. ☎331259

HONESTY A MUST
SBM, 41, honest and hardworking, does have herpes, looking for an honest woman, 30-45, for friendship first, possibly leading to more. ☎332549

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL
SWM, 58, 5'8", 155lbs, brown hair, NS, machinist, homebody, likes nature, traveling, camping, sports, seeks a nice woman, 40-65, to share happiness, friendship and more. ☎337630

TALL, ATHLETIC SWM
Good looks, good personality, muscular, 50, 6'2", 205lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, degree, easygoing. I enjoy easy-going, the parks, road trips and trying new activities. Seeking single female for fun, friendship and more. Age and area open. ☎351306

ONE-WOMAN MAN
Italian SWM, 52, brown/brown, in very good shape, seeks AF, 40-45, who likes going out and having fun. ☎330127

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
SWM, 53, 5'11", 180lbs, NS, like chess, backgammon, coffee houses, going to the gym, comedy clubs. Seeking SWF, 35-55, with similar interests for friendship first leading to possible LTR. ☎218827

LET ME BE THE ONE
DWM, 48, 6', slim build, smoker, likes outdoors, long walks, seeks WF, 40-55, for friendship first, for friendship, serious LTR. ☎337871

NEW TO MICHIGAN
WM, 63, dark/blue, great sense of humor, likes sports, concerts, movies, dining. Would love to meet a female, age and race open, who is interested in body-building. ☎328777

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TERRAIN SLT-2 MAKES GMC A PLAYER IN CROSSOVER GAME

Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Dave Menard
For Avanti NewsFeatures
Fracassa News Group

The crossover SUV market must be pretty darn profitable; it seems like just about every automaker has an entry in this segment. Not every company does, of course. There's no Jaguar crossover, although Porsche entered the fray with the Cayenne (base price \$124,000). Something a little more realistically priced comes from the folks at GMC, the Terrain SLT-2.

You'd expect GMC, the GM division that manufactures only trucks and SUVs, to put together a pretty good SUV and there is a lot to like about the Terrain. Based on the Chevrolet Equinox platform and available as either front-wheel or all-wheel drive (like our test vehicle), the Terrain is very nicely styled. It looks tough with a large, three-element grille, projector beam headlamps and lots of chrome (the door handles, outside heated mirrors, and chrome inserts in the roof rack side rails). Fog lamps are standard, as are 18-inch machined aluminum wheels. For another \$900, you can get 19-inch chrome clad aluminum wheels instead. The rear liftgate on the SLT-2 is power programmable.

Inside, the cabin is well put together. The cockpit has an almost spaceship-like feel to it with a nice mixture of colors between the instrument panel and the ambient lighting. The ambient lighting includes the center console, center console cupholders and the door pull cups, and the center stack. The instrument cluster includes a driver information center, and a tachometer and it's laid out very well. There room for a laptop in the closed

storage compartment under the center armrest.

The five-passenger SLT-2 comes with leather-appointed seats which can be heated and they provide very good support. A memory feature is included and the driver's seat is eight-way power adjustable. There's plenty of room in the Terrain in both the front and rear seating areas. The rear seats are 60/40 fold-down split seats and the rear cargo area gives you 31.6 cubic feet of storage.

The SLT-2 version of the Terrain gives you a whole lot of nice standard features; the power sunroof is included, as are leather-wrapped steering wheel, automatic climate control, power windows, keyless entry, remote vehicle start, cruise control, and a rearview camera system.

The standard audio system is an AM/FM/CD system with an auxiliary input for your mp3 player and a USB port. Satellite radio is also included for 90 days. This system includes eight speakers and Bluetooth for your phone. You can add a rear entertainment system and a navigation system, if you like. As with all General Motors vehicles, OnStar is standard with the Terrain. With OnStar, you can make and receive calls hands-free, get updated vehicle diagnostics, ask for directions or restaurant recommendations, or summon emergency help at the touch of a button. The system also automatically calls for assistance in the event airbags are deployed.

You have your choice of powertrains in the Terrain SLT, and here's where you'll find out what matters to you in an SUV,



The SLT-2 version of the Terrain gives you a whole lot of nice standard features.

power or economy. The standard engine is a 2.4-liter four-cylinder engine that is rated at 182 horsepower. It's the same engine that comes in the Equinox, and I thought that was a bit sluggish in a recent test. GM says you can get up to 32 mpgs in highway driving with this engine, but to do that you'll need to engage the "ECO" button, which will lower the torque converter lockup speed to 1,125 rpm to save fuel. I'm not a big believer in four-cylinder engines on SUVs, particularly if you want all-wheel drive. If you want AWD, or just want a little more power, opt for the 3.0-liter DOHC V6; it's rated at 264 horsepower. Your mileage will suffer a bit (17/24), but the extra power and towing ability might be worth it to you. The larger engine adds \$1500 to the base price of the Terrain.

The test vehicle has the larger engine and it's mated with a six-speed electronically-controlled automatic transmission. It performed well enough most of the time, but there were a few times where there was a little lag between pushing the accelerator and powertrain response. Whether this was just the test vehicle or something that could be a problem for all of them I don't know; in the week I had the Terrain it only happened two or three times, but it was noticeable.

No complaints with the way the Terrain handles. It features a front suspension system that includes coil springs,

independent struts and stabilizer bar. In the rear, it's an independent four-link system with coil springs and trailing arm and stabilizer bar. Stabilitrak stability control with traction control is standard and the Terrain is easy to keep under control. The 19-inch wheels (and the AWD) increase the turning circle.

If you get in trouble, the Terrain comes loaded with airbags – dual frontal, side impact, and head curtain side airbags. A tire pressure monitoring system is standard.

The GMC Terrain SLT-2 starts at \$31,000. Add the larger engine, the larger wheels, and the "cargo package," that includes roof rack crossbars, a rear cargo security cover and a cargo net, and you're at little over \$34,000. The Chevrolet Equinox that the Terrain is based on comes in a little less expensive, but there are a few more standard features and the styling is somewhat different. They share the same powertrains, so if you are thinking about the Terrain, check out both.

Dave Menard can be reached at Avanti1054@aol.com

GMC Terrain SLT-2
Vehicle class: small SUV.
Power: 3.0-liter six-cylinder/automatic.
Mileage: 17 city / 24 highway.
Where built: Ingersoll, Ontario.
Price as tested: \$34,740.

AUTOMOTIVE

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