

BEAT THE HEAT WITH FROZEN TREATS
FOOD, B8

Auditor delivers clean report to Canton

Financial news good and not-so-good

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Mike Swartz calls running a government in tough economic times a "tough thing to do." Having said that, Swartz, the Plante-Moran spokesman who delivered Canton Township's audit Tuesday night, said Canton Township officials are doing it better than most. Swartz delivered the 2012

audit as part of the township's annual financial report at the regular board meeting at Canton Township Hall, giving the township a financial report card that found little about which to complain. "It's a clean, unqualified opinion, which as a board you should expect from your staff," Swartz told board members. "Everything is reported appropriately." There was good news and not-so-good news in the audit. For instance, Swartz pointed out, property tax revenue de-

clined for the third straight year, dipping slightly to \$7.839 million; in 2008, it was \$10.5 million. **Some revenue up** But revenue from licenses and permits was up slightly to \$1.5 million, an indication building in the area is on the upswing. One area Swartz was quick to point to was the projected property value in the township. In talking with township officials in 2007, he said, leaders projected a rise back to the \$4

million level would take until 2024. Projections now have values rising to that level five years sooner. "It's still not going to happen until 2019, but that's an improvement," Swartz said. "Your dip isn't as deep, and it's coming back quicker than you thought. You're doing the right things, and you're going to have to keep doing them. It's not going to get much easier over the next couple of years (economically)." One area with which Swartz was impressed was the town-

ship's ability to build its fund balance (often called the rainy-day fund). Canton's unassigned fund balance is nearly \$3.9 million, better than 15 percent of its \$25 million general fund balance. Canton Township Finance Director Wendy Trumbull said getting there was a "total team effort," with employees agreeing to furlough days and taking on a bigger financial responsibility for things like pension plans and health care benefits.

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'A wonderful playground for kids'

KAYA SHEPPARD, Canton Leisure services program coordinator



Kids walk, ride bikes or get dropped off by Mom or Dad to get to the playground program.

Mobile playgrounds mark 35th year

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

President Jimmy Carter was in office and disco fever was sweeping the country when Canton children started spending their summer days attending a mobile playground program. Fast forward 35 years and hundreds of Canton children this summer are involved in the popular playground program, anchored at local parks and elementary schools. Kaya Sheppard recalls attending the playground program when she was a third-grader. Now 22, she helps oversee it as a Canton Leisure Services program coordinator. "I think this is a wonderful program for kids," she said. "It's a great opportunity for kids to make new friends, get out and play during the summer and have experiences they might not get indoors." Andrew Doetsch, 13, is among 400 youngsters who already have signed up for the program, which continues through Aug. 2. He paused from a kickball game in Flodin Park to talk about his experiences. "I've been doing this for



Nine-year-old Anna Schembri works with sidewalk chalk. PHOTOS BY BILL BREXLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

eight years," he said. "It lets you get exercise and play kickball, dodgeball and other things. It's different every day. I meet new friends and all sorts of stuff." Canton Leisure Services counselors serve as role models to the children ages 5-15. This year's mobile playground initiative also includes a July 16 field trip to the Heritage Park splash park, a July 25 outing to Canton Cinema to see "Ice Age: Continental Drift" and an Aug. 2 bowling trip to Plaza Lanes. Anna Schembri, 9, said she had been involved for three

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Liberty Fest sets attendance record

The numbers are finally in, and they show Canton and surrounding communities turned out in record numbers to enjoy the 22nd annual Liberty Fest last month in Heritage Park. According to Canton Leisure Services officials, this year's event drew record crowds, with well over 40,000 people attending the three-day festival. A wide range of top-quality entertainment was scheduled on multiple stages throughout the festival. Over the three-day event, almost 20 hours of stage entertainment was provided by local community performance groups and artists.



Record crowds enjoyed carnival rides, entertainment, food and other attractions during the 22nd annual Liberty Festival.

The event also featured a wide range of entertainment, carnival rides and games, an International Festival, America's Most Wanted Car Show, a fantastic fireworks display, and more. The numbers have been tallied and the results are in with more visitors, more civic group involvement, more tickets sold and more fun had by all. The International Stage was "a great success," officials said, featuring 327 performers representing 12 countries through a myriad of performances. Choral acts featured Barbershop music, Chinese and Italian Opera, Classical Chinese, Classical Indian and songs from the Polynesian Hawaiian Islands. Instrument-

als were represented by Sitar with Tabla, Piano, and Ukulele. Dance was well represented in the various forms: Hip Hop, Jazz, Lyrical Ballet, Tap, Chinese, Indian, Steppers, and Traditional Irish Dance. All of the cultures came together when the Canton Multicultural Committee led the crowd in "America the Beautiful." Area civic groups also served up delectable festival food, dishing out to record crowds. The Canton Lions Club prepared plenty of pancake breakfasts, while Canton Firefighters #2289 Charity Foundation's 14th annual Spaghetti Dinner raised more than \$4,000 for its Firefighters Foundation. The Canton Rotary Club also helped staff a successful adult beverage tent provided by West Side Distributing that helped raise funds for their

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Local pastor's mission trip to Kenya boosts his faith

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

The Rev. Bryan Smith, pastor of Geneva Presbyterian Church in Canton, found his faith strengthened by a recent mission trip to Kenya. He was among 12 with the Tree of Lives group, the only one from Michigan, and traveled to the African nation June 23, returning July 7. He spent time at a Holy Family Center which cares for those who have AIDS and are HIV-positive. Health care workers test for HIV and AIDS, as well as giving anti-retroviral medication and counseling on not getting AIDS. "The center cares for about 3,500 patients, said Smith, a Canton resident married to Jennifer. The couple has two young adult children. Health workers at the center see patients there, and in between visits go out to nearby villages. "They count how many pills are still there," Smith said, to see that patients



The Rev. Bryan Smith of Canton visits with patient Isaac at Nazareth Hospital.

are following doctors' and nurses' instructions. He accompanied some workers, and prayed for and anointed the patients with oil. Smith and others spent two days at the Joy Home orphanage, home to 34 children, half of whom are HIV-positive. The land for that was donated by a Catholic diocese, he said. "We had a couple of doctors on the trip. They did health assessments," Smith said of the two pediatricians. Other group members played with

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Barking Bones: treats for a cause

Former Canton woman's company selects police dog for mascot

By **LeAnne Rogers**
Staff Writer

As one of Westland's two police dogs, Narco usually spends his days sniffing for narcotics, tracking people and subduing suspects.

Now Narco, whose handler is Officer Derek Trospier, has been selected as a national mascot for Jillybean's Barking Bones, a Louisville, Ky.-based preservative- and additive-free dog treat company.

Former Canton resident Jill Brezinski Conley founded the company which will donate a portion of each purchase to the Good Dog Foundation, a charitable organization which promotes the use of animal assisted therapy in health care awareness, research, education and disaster response.

"Animals are so compassionate. It doesn't matter if you have you had the worst day,

they unconditionally love you," Conley said.

The healthy treats and raising funds for the Good Dog Foundation were inspired by Conley's experiences with her cockapoo Honeybear and rescue cat Hope as she has battled cancer.

A 1995 Canton High School graduate, Conley was living in Las Vegas when she met her future husband Barton. The couple had been married seven months and had just relocated to Louisville in 2009 when Conley was diagnosed with breast cancer a day before her 32nd birthday.

At her side

Conley's grueling treatment included 16 rounds of chemotherapy, 33 radiation treatments, a double mastectomy and several surgeries to remove a severely infected implant.

"Through the whole process, the dog was at my side. I remember



Westland Police dog Narco with Jillybean dog treats.

when I was diagnosed. She acted so different — she was glued to me and still is," Conley said.



Jill Brezinski Conley

"She's my baby. I don't have kids, so my pets are my kids."

Following 2 1/2 years of treatment and a short remission, Conley's cancer recurred in January 2012 attacking the bones in her rib cage.

"I thought I had broken ribs. Then they told me the cancer was back — stage 4 in my bones,"

Conley said. This time the chemotherapy regime wasn't successful.

"I knew something was wrong. I was short of breath," she said. "I am on hormonal treatment. It's like menopause. It's working — the cancer in my sternum is contained and not growing."

Conley again has received great comfort from Honeybear and Hope as she has gone through her illness and treatment.

"I'm not going to lie, it sucks. I hate the way I feel on the days I get treatment. There are

days when I'm not getting treatment when I feel OK," she said. "Focusing on Barking Bones keeps me positive and motivated. I'm so excited it's up and running."

Dog therapy

Due to her illness, Conley had been forced to leave her job as a leasing consultant. Founding Jillybean's Barking Bones was aimed at bringing in extra income to help with medical bills, she said, but also to promote the importance of dog therapy during illness.

"Honeybear is 10 years old — I've had her 10 years. She's my sidekick. She inspired me to sell all natural dog treats," Conley said. "People going through cancer — a lot of them don't have a pet. Maybe they can get a dog or a cat."

Some temporary adjustments had to be made due to her treatment. When her immune system was weakened by treatment, Conley said Honeybear had to be shaved and she couldn't

clean the cat's litter box. Westland Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik is a friend of Conley's older brother and business partner Steve.

"Jeff sent pictures of Narco — he's a beautiful dog," said Conley, who asked that Narco serve as a mascot for the Barking Bones.

Narco is now being featured on Barking Bones website jillybeans-barkingbones.com. Along with online sales, a chain of six stores in Kentucky will be carrying the all-natural dog treats as well.

"The story and drive behind this company is a very touching story. The Westland Police Department is proud to have our canine Narco be one of their national mascots," Jedrusik said.

"We are very proud of Narco for being an important member of our police force and a symbol for such a good cause," Westland Mayor William Wild said.

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America's Most Wanted Car Club of Canton's car show featured more than 200 cars during Liberty Fest.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FESTIVAL

Continued from Page A1

local charities. Canton's Zumba Party in Pink was also a big success, raising more than \$700 in a short amount of time for the Susan B. Komen Foundation.

Some of the most popular attractions included: three unique animal attractions capturing exotic and ador-

able barnyard animals; more than 200 classic cars on display at America's Most Wanted Car Club — setting a 22-year record; and more than 50 vendors including arts and crafters.

Next year's Liberty Fest is set to take place June 12-14. For more information, call 734-394-5460 or visit www.cantonlibertyfest.com.

35 YEARS

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this program when I was young," Bissonnette said.

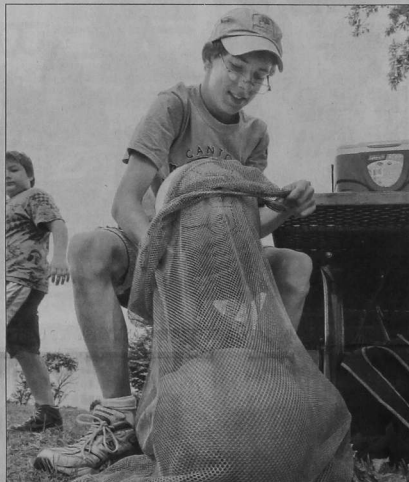
Connor Ahlgren, 8, said he enjoys getting wet at the park splash-pads and climbing on playscapes.

"It's really fun," he said.

Children can register at any playground site. The cost is \$20 per child for an entire summer or \$50 for families that have three or more children involved. The sites are:

- » 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at Flodin and Freedom parks.
- » 2-5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at Heritage Park and Tonda Elementary.
- » 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday at Dodson and Miller elementary.
- » 2-5 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday at Heritage Park and Hulsing Elementary.

For more, go to www.cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.



Parks employee Tommy Doetsch selects a soccer ball for a game.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



A light rain doesn't stop a game of soccer.



Parks employee Jay Sheppard plays Jellybean Tag with the kids, including 5-year-old Joey Schembri.

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AUDIT

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"Employees made some significant concessions," Trumbull said. "It's really been a team effort."

Minor points

It wasn't an audit without questions. Swartz pointed out too many staffers had access to things like payroll records, an ability to make changes without much of an approval process in place. He also said the finance department needed "to tighten up" on its bank reconciliation process, but said Trumbull and her staff

have "already begun making changes" to correct those issues.

"We didn't find any irregularities in economic times," Swartz pointed out. "But the process was weaker than it should be."

Still, with challenging economic times, Swartz pointed out Canton is still a vibrant community providing a lot of services that make it attractive to residents. Doing so, he said, comes at a cost and with a responsibility to closely monitor the budget.

"Compared to many communities, you're in outstanding fiscal condition," Swartz told board members Tuesday. "If I look at you in a vacuum,

you're OK. You have financial issues to deal with. You have to budget realistically."

Supervisor Phil LaJoy said he believes the audit shows township staffers are doing all the right things to continue to provide services and a high quality of life to township residents.

"We have a great recreation department, great police and fire departments, crime is way down and we have great employees," LaJoy said. "I think it shows our people are doing a good job, doing things the right way."

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How To Get Rid Of Knee Pain Once And For All...Without Drugs, Shots Or Surgery

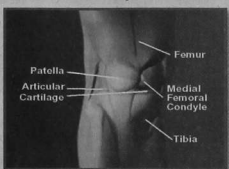
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Sincerely, Greg Kramer, D.C.

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"I was suffering for 12 years with knee pain, I noticed a difference after 1 week of care. Now my knee feels 100% better, I'm off Celebrex, have an increase in energy and a decrease in back pain, hip pain and knee pain." - M. Bennett

"I suffered for 10 years, taking Tyleno 3-5 times a week for pain. After the FIRST session I felt better and now I walk without pain, have increased energy. Dr. Kramer has shown me how to take care of myself." - C. Heiden

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MISSION

Continued from Page A1

the children.

There's also a school at Nazareth Hospital for children in kindergarten-third grade. Those children's parents are nearby producing tea exports for export.

"It's really a school for the poorest of the poor," the Canton pastor said. "Without the school, many of these kids would be out there picking tea leaves as well." The Tree of Lives group did some art therapy with the young students, and Smith and others are grateful for crayons and other supplies donated before the trip for that.

This was his first time in Africa. "It was very impactful on a lot of levels," said Smith, who pointed out some people overseas earn \$2 a day, and seeing that up close was eye-opening. "Very few people have cars. Everybody's walking all the time," and unemployment in Kenya is around 50 percent.

Smith found during his day visits with the health workers there were no arguments or any anger shown. "There was kind of a buoyant spirit," he said. He finds American drivers will



Students at the Alamaso school, a school run for the "poorest of the poor" in Kenya.

hunk if delayed at a traffic light, but the Kenyan sense of time was very different.

"You just learn to go with the flow," he said. "They certainly live by faith and trust in God. They're living much closer to the margin."

Smith was reminded of what Jesus said in the Beatitudes, "Blessed are the poor for they shall see God."

"You do live a life that's much more faith-dependent," said Smith, who found the people he met there took God seriously.

Smith said a hospital stay there runs around \$15 a day, plus fees for surgery. "A lot of people can't afford that," he said. Tree of Lives (www.treeoflives.org) also maintains a charitable fund to help people with those hospital expenses.

Tree of Lives was founded by a Presbyterian church, and gets help from a number of part-

ners. Smith encourages a visit to its website, noting you can sign up to support a child or family.

While there, he and other missionaries rode in crowded "matatus" or vans, filled to capacity and then some to get travelers to their distant destinations. The plane trip over took some 17 hours from Detroit to Newark, N.J., then to Brussels, Belgium, and on to Nairobi, Kenya.

He'll share some of his experiences this Sunday, July 14, at the 10 a.m. worship at the church on Sheldon north of Ford Road. He'll be joined by the Rev. Duke Morrow, a Presbyterian pastor and former Genevan who now has a congregation in Alaska.

Smith will share more details of his African travels with his congregation in a couple weeks at a lunch, after he's gone through the over 400 photos he took.

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Woman reports fraud after cashing suspicious checks from Philippines

Police in Plymouth Township received a report of a possible fraud scheme that saw a township woman cash three checks that totaled nearly \$7,000, then wiring most of the money to others, within a few days.

The woman reported the incidents after receiving a check Friday for \$2,990, along with instructions to cash it, keep \$400 for herself, spend \$100 at Walmart and send the rest to two different people, with the destination for both at the same address in the Philippines, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report.

The woman told police it was the third check she had received since applying to become a product reviewer on June 29. Each of the first two checks was for \$1,990, the woman said, and came with similar instructions, including to spend some of the money at Walmart. She cashed the checks and wired the money as instructed — the first two destinations were not clear in a partially redacted police report — but determined, after the third check, that fraud was occurring, the woman told police.

The woman told police she had supplied her Social Security number on the product reviewer application, and also that she had been a reviewer for the same research company in the past.

Shoplifting charges

A man and a woman were ticketed on shoplifting charges last month after a guard at the Kmart on Ann Arbor Road told police they tried to leave the store with nearly \$100 of goods for which they hadn't paid.

The incident occurred shortly before 7 p.m. June 28. The suspects, both 21 and of Canton Township, were released after police issued shoplifting tickets with a mandatory court date.

The two were apologetic, according to a police report, and said money was tight and they

were each trying to beat a heroin addiction.

The woman was caught with items that included underwear, a bra, makeup and a pair of flip-flops from which her male companion had torn the price tag, the security guard told police. The man had tried to take a bottle of cologne and a pair of shorts, the guard said.

The guard, who had been watching the pair's movements in the store, confronted them as they left after paying for cigarettes and a drink, police said.

Vehicle burglaries

» Two tickets to a Detroit Tigers game at Comerica Park, plus a parking pass, were reported stolen July 5 from a Chevrolet Malibu belonging to a township man. The items were worth a total of \$185, the complainant told police.

He said the tickets and pass had been kept in the Malibu's glove compartment, and that he leaves the car unlocked outside his home on Shadywood. The complainant also said the car had been to an Ann Arbor mechanic several times since he purchased the tickets and pass.

» Power tools were reported stolen July 2 from a Ford work van that had been parked on Firwood, in the area of Ann Arbor Trail and Mill.

The complainant told police he had parked the van just after midnight July 2, left it unlocked, and returned about 7 a.m. to find the tools gone.

» A pair of metal loading ramps were reported stolen from a semi trailer parked at a lot on Eckles Road after the trailer was broken into last month.

The break-in occurred between about 6 p.m. June 14 and shortly after noon the next day, police said. The rear door of the trailer had been forced open, police said.

By Matt Jachman

Narcotic possession

Police responded to a home on Heathmore Court, where a witness said he'd heard loud arguing between a man and a woman.

Officers encountered a white male and a white female. According to the police report, the female was "favoring" her wrist and asked an officer, "What does a broken wrist look like?"

The man admitted to officers the couple had been arguing. He said the fight was about the status of their relationship, and about some property he had in the trunk of his car.

He said he was trying to convince the woman not to leave, reports said, and during the course of the discussion she "punched him in the face," according to the report.

When officers moved to arrest the woman for assault and battery, they witnessed her putting something in her mouth. According to the police report, an officer asked what she'd put in her mouth and her reply was, "Gum." When he asked her to spit it out, she said she'd swallowed it.

The woman then admitted she'd taken a vicodin, and that she had seven more pills in her pocket. She said she had a prescription for the pills, but the prescription turned out not to match the pills, and the woman was arrested for possession of a synthetic narcotic, police said.

Retail fraud

Canton police responded to the Walmart on Michigan Ave., where the store's loss prevention officer told them he'd discovered a 34-year-old woman who had committed a retail fraud involving cosmetics.

The loss prevention officer said he saw the woman select a container of eye cream from a cosmetics display and a bottle of pop

from merchandise. When she went through the checkout lane, she paid for some other grocery items, according to the police report, but not for the eye cream or the pop.

She reportedly told police she'd taken the eye cream but said she "just forgot" about the pop. She told police she was homeless and had recently lost custody of her children.

Marijuana possession

An officer on patrol at the Canton America's Best noticed an occupied white Dodge Charger parked outside a room there and pulled over to talk to the occupant.

As the officer made contact with the occupant, according to the police report, he said he smelled the odor of marijuana coming from the car.

When the driver rolled down his window, smoke filtered out of the car, according to the report. The officer asked the driver what he was smoking, and the driver reportedly replied, "It's just a blunt." When asked if the blunt contained marijuana, the driver said it was mixed in with tobacco.

He handed the blunt to the officer, who determined it was suspected marijuana. The driver admitted he did not have a medical marijuana card.

Officers searched the car and found another blunt, along with a clear plastic bag containing what they suspected was marijuana, police said.

Drug paraphernalia

Canton police officers responded to a complaint on Merrimac on a complaint of fireworks violations. Upon arriving, they saw four males lighting fireworks and drinking what officers suspected was alcohol in the Brookside Village Park.

While talking to the men, the officer noted the smell of marijuana. The men de-

nied possession of any drugs, but admitted they'd been smoking pot earlier, police said.

One man consented to a search, and officers found a box containing a "one-hitter" pipe and suspected marijuana residue, police said. The man said he'd forgotten he had the box.

Officers searched the area where they'd found the men and found a glass, multicolored smoking pipe with suspected marijuana, police said.

The other three men were searched, but held no drugs or paraphernalia.

Stolen vehicle

A Canton Police Department officer on patrol saw a black Ford Escape driving eastbound on Cambridge, and a check of the vehicle's license plate turned up a stolen plate report, according to a Canton police report.

The officer saw the car turn onto Eaton, and turned his squad car around and followed it. The officer located the car, by now unoccupied, outside an address on Eaton. Moments later, the driver came out of the home.

The officer asked the driver for a license, and the driver admitted he wasn't carrying one. When asked to whom the car belonged, the driver said he'd gotten it from his girlfriend.

By this time, the car's passenger had emerged. The officer asked the passenger where the driver had picked him up, and the passenger said, "Wayne," and later said, "Inkster." The officer asked the passenger who owned the car, and the passenger said he didn't know.

The driver was arrested for operating without a license, and the passenger was arrested for receiving stolen property.

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How to assess your investment portfolio

The second quarter is completed and investors should be receiving statements any day now. This is a great time of year to review investments and to judge them on how they have performed. This sounds relatively simple but it is not. The question is what do you compare it to?



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

emerging market funds. When determining how investments have performed it is important to compare apples to apples.

If your fund performs well against similar funds, that's one thing. On the other hand, if your fund has underperformed then it may mean that it's time to look elsewhere.

I don't mean you should judge your investments just over the last six months. Use a reasonable period of time such as two to three years. However, if you

see that over the last six months a fund has substantially underperformed when compared to other similar funds, it does pay to examine the situation. Did something change with the fund such as a change in the portfolio manager or did something else occur? If there was a fundamental change it may mean that a change is warranted.

Don't be afraid to sell

Investors should never be afraid about selling an investment. Investments have very little, if any, loyalty to investors and thus, investors should have no loyalty to them. Investments are supposed to perform for us and if their performance is subpar when compared to other simi-

lar investments, there should be no hesitation in making a change.

Another mistake that investors make is selling underperforming investments without judging those investments against similar investments. This is a mistake and can lead to disastrous results.

An example of this is what happened during the tech boom. Tech funds were performing very well and many investors sold other funds, which were not performing as well, and purchased more technology-based funds.

The result was when technology funds plummeted, those investors took deep losses. Judging your investments against similar investments and maintaining a well-bal-

anced and diversified portfolio is a key to being a successful investor.

It is common when consumers invest new money that they tend to look at what is performing well and invest in those funds. It sounds like a good strategy, however, it doesn't work that way in reality. When you buy high almost always you end up selling low.

Buy low, sell high

Buying high and selling low is a strategy that produces losses. A much better strategy is when investing new money, look for opportunities to buy quality investments that are temporarily down. Buying low and selling high is a strategy that produces gains.

It would be convenient to put your portfolio on

automatic pilot but you cannot. We live in a time where everything changes at an accelerated pace and investment portfolios are no different.

Just like in your home when doing routine maintenance can save you from having to do major repairs, the same thing is true in your portfolio. Regular maintenance on your portfolio will allow you to be in a better position when you ride the roller coaster of investing.

Good luck.

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

Camp lets kids experience history

Children can experience aspects of the Civil War at the Plymouth Historical Museum during the second annual History Kids Kamp Saturday, July 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Kids will spend the day recreating what life was like during the war, including dressing in period clothing, getting their pictures taken, as well as a chore race consisting of old-fashioned tasks from the mid-1800s.

There will also be a scavenger hunt, which will entertain and educate while they search for clues to solve a puzzle. Children will be able to chat with Civil War soldier re-enactors who can answer questions, demonstrate marching, and much more. The camp could also feature an appearance by President Abraham Lincoln.

Every child will be given a commemorative t-shirt to wear for the day, and the boys will be



Helen Caherty wanted to enlist as a man like she read about in the scavenger hunt during the 2011 History Kids Kamp.

given the opportunity to "enlist" in the army. The backdrop for this fun event is the Plymouth Historical Museum's special exhibit, "B4TV," which focuses on leisure activities before technology took control of everyone's lives and will run through Nov. 10.

Tickets purchased by July 19 are \$30 per child; after that date tickets are

\$35; alternatively, the purchase of a new or renewed Daisy membership to the Plymouth Historical Museum (value \$50) will allow two children to attend for free.

The target age for children is 6 to 12 years old; however, children under 8 will need to be accompanied by an adult. Scholarships are available for the camp; call 734-455-8940 for more information.

Tickets are available at the Plymouth Historical Museum during open hours or can be purchased using PayPal on the Museum's website at www.plymouthhistory.org/events/A-Kids-Eye-View-of-the-Civil-War_ET41.html?Sort-Box=201307. The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, Plymouth.

For more information, call 734-455-8940 or email secretary@plymouthhistory.org.

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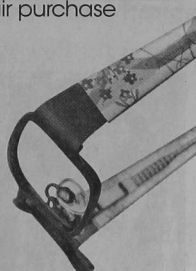
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Darkness approaches and Plymouth Township Park is full of people waiting for the fireworks show. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A FINAL LOOK at the FOURTH

They came, they saw, they applauded. They cheered, some cried, they watched the fireworks and they enjoyed the picnic.

On the 237th anniversary of the nation's founding, hundreds of people marched—or rode, cycled, jumped or danced—in the Good Morning USA Parade, watched by thousands who lined Main Street for more than a mile.

The parade was followed by the Good Old Fashioned Picnic at Plymouth Township Park, featuring hot dogs, soft drinks, chips

and ice cream, plus activities for children and rock oldies as performed by the Detroit DeVilles.

And it was preceded by the annual fireworks display at Plymouth Township Park the night before.

Just another Fourth of July holiday in the Plymouth community.

"I wish other communities would do something similar," said Keshya Boudreaux, who enjoyed the picnic at Plymouth Township Park. "It's a nice family environment."



Mariana Peres, an exchange student from Brazil, watches her first Independence Day parade.



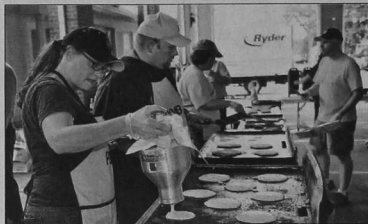
Glow-in-the-dark kids, waiting for the fireworks. From left, Autumn Perez, 7 years old, Anna Flynn, 5, Gracie Goedge, 8, Ashley Flynn, 8. Behind the girls are Jeffrey Krumm, 11 years old, and Scott Eagle, 8. All of the kids live in Canton, except for Scott, who is from Westland.



Fireworks light up the night sky in Plymouth Township Park.



Vintage bikes speed by.



At the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band fundraising breakfast, Debbie Walter and Kirk Sivic make pancakes.

The Plymouth Canton Stars, marching for Special Olympics.



Rosie the Riveter marches with the World War 2 themed float sponsored by Salon Awesome. In real life, Rosie is Liane Boufford, of Westland.

FREE EVENT



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My A1C level was 8.8 and my fasting glucose numbers were over 200. After completing Dr. Boechler's program, my A1C is now 5.8 and my fasting glucose numbers are right around 100. The best part is that I did this naturally without any medications. I'm 60 years old and I never dreamed it would be possible to lose weight and feel this good again. I wish I had learned about this program years ago.
 — Stacy, Royal Oak

After just 3 weeks on Dr. Boechler's program my blood sugar is lower and I am taking less insulin. My joint and muscle aches are completely gone, I've lost 13lbs, and I can finally sleep through the night. I feel great!
 — Barbara, Northville

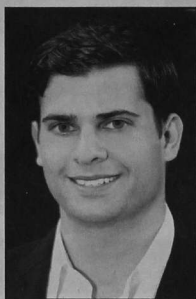
I was taking several medications for my diabetes and it seemed like the list was growing longer every year. I learned about Dr. Boechler's program and decided to give it a try. In just 6 weeks I've gone from taking 30 units of insulin to taking 0 units. After 10 weeks my A1C has gone from 7.9 to 6.1 and I did it without any medication!
 — Steve, Wixom

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Dr. Ryan Boechler, D.C.

Before meeting Dr. Boechler I weighed close to 350lbs, my doctors wanted me to have a gastric bypass and to be put on insulin. I had already been taking a variety of medications for years but my blood sugar and A1C levels were still high. After 12 weeks of being on Dr. Boechler's diabetes program my A1C level is below 6, my blood sugar is normal, and I am off all my medications. I've lost close to 70lbs and I feel great, thank you!
 — Robert, Novi

I suffered from type 2 diabetes for years and the only answer I ever got from my doctors was more medication. I was scared, my health was rapidly deteriorating and there seemed to be no end in sight. I found out about Dr. Boechler's program through a mutual friend. I am happy to report that after 6 weeks I am completely off all my diabetes medication, I've lost 12 lbs., and I feel younger and more energetic. I can't thank Dr. Boechler enough for finding me the answers I needed.
 — Cindy, Birmingham

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Grand ceremony: A ribbon-cutting was held recently by Laver's Beauty Bar Salon & Spa to celebrate their grand opening. Laver's Beauty Bar Salon & Spa is located at 41818 Ford Road in Canton. Employees, Canton Chamber of Commerce members and Canton residents were all among the attendees.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

On the move

From the desk of the folks at the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority:

- » Due to growth from increased business, Bridal Couture of Plymouth recently moved to its new location at 223 N. Main.
- » The store's telephone number and e-mail address remain the same: 734-455-1100 and bridalcouturemi@hotmail.com.
- » Eclectic Attic on Forest Ave., closed recently, as owner Tina Camano spends more time with her auction business.
- » The space won't be empty for very long as Forest Place Optical will be moving in soon.
- » Bella Mia opened in its new location on Forest Ave. (formerly Bagel Frangel) this week. The Grand Opening Party is set for Thursday, July 11.
- » Business at Balance Yoga Therapy has been so good that owner Patricia Kozlowski will soon be moving from her upstairs location on Main St. (above That's Awesome) to more spacious property on Wing next to Xclusive Fitness.

New associates

Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel (CBWM) has recently welcomed a number of new sales associates to the rapidly growing company.

The new associates include Donna Boyeff and Ed Lang of Plymouth.

"We are pleased that these exceptional people have chosen Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel," said John North, CBWM COO. "We are always excited to welcome associates who share our core values of integrity, a passion for service, a positive attitude and a drive for results."

Grub crawl

Reservations are now being taken for the 12th Annual Canton Grub Crawl which will be held on Tuesday, July 16, 2013. The event features 16 local restaurants offering free sample portions of their specialty foods throughout the evening. Drink specials are also available for purchase throughout the evening. Each attendee is given a starting point at one of the participating restaurants. You arrive there and park - and then move to another

restaurant. Tickets (T-shirts) are \$35 each and include transportation to and from participating restaurants. For more information call the Canton Chamber of Commerce, 734-453-4040.

Sidewalk sale

The Downtown Plymouth Sidewalk Sales take place Friday, July 26, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and on Saturday, July 27, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Downtown Plymouth's wide variety of unique shops and boutiques will offer special discounts and bargains during the annual sidewalk sales. Participating shops include Basket Creations; Beauty Haven; Bella Mia; Candy Trail; Creatopia; Dazzling Daniela; Genuine Toy Co.; Gigi's Mode; Hands on Leather; Haven; Home Sweet Home; Lolaryan; Maggie & Me; Magnolia; Merle Norman; Old World Olive Press; Open Dohr; Plymouth Yoga Room; R.S.V.P.; Simply the Best; Sun & Snow Sports and Tranquilly Tea.

Call the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce at 734-453-1540 for more information.

Canton meat company expects revenue spike

Don Turner, the owner of Mid-Michigan Meats in Canton, loves a good steak, and a good cut of meat in general.

About eight years ago, his brother told him about Michigan farmers selling quarter-cows, all grain-fed, at prices comparable to grocery store prices. Being a true carnivore, Turner decided to purchase a quarter-cow and fell in love.

Friends and family who came to his home for dinner commented about the good taste of the meat, and five years ago he got an idea. Offer these cuts of meats to individual customers.

Turner offers three base products - naturally raised grain fed beef, ground organic beef, and naturally raised grain fed pork - and plans on expanding into different types of meats. The way things are going with the quality and rising cost of commercially available meats, his offerings and pricing are taking his business to new heights.

The meat is all raised and processed in Michigan and Turner expects nearly a 200-percent



Don Turner

growth spurt in 2013.

According to Turner, the quarter-cow is great for families of all kinds. It consists of approximately 100-110 lbs. of meat and includes various steaks, roasts and ground beef. The ground organic beef is for the 100-percent organic minded customer and is all organic, grass-fed ground beef.

The third product is a half pig that will provide approximately 70 pounds of meat. The order would consist of various roasts, chops, bacon, sausage, and ground pork. Like the beef, there are several options for butchering. The pork is grain fed, "naturally raised, and free of steroids."

"I started buying meat this way by purchasing a quarter cow for my own family in 2005 when I met a farmer through my brother who lives north of Lansing," Turner said. "My family and friends really liked the meat and noticed that it looked, tasted, and cooked differently. When we had peo-

ple over for dinners, they would routinely comment how much they liked the meat. I loved being able to say, 'You can't get this in a store, I got a meat guy.'"

A little over five years ago Turner said he visited and talked things over with the farmer to see about buying more and reselling it to others. That is how things got rolling and, since then, the company has expanded to working with a number of Michigan-owned family farms.

The company's average customers are women 28-45 years old with 2-5 kids ranging in ages from young to late teens who want to know from where their family's food is coming and what's in it. Other customers are couples in pre-retirement with older or grown children, and men 40-60 looking for high-quality steak options that are healthy.

Turner only offers meats grown and processed in Michigan by small family farmers and processors located in central Michigan.

For more information about Mid-Michigan Meats, LLC, call 734-812-2602 or visit www.mid-michiganmeats.com

Teamwork helping move state forward

I am greatly encouraged by the positive things happening in our state as we reinvent Michigan.

Joblessness has fallen dramatically - about 40 percent - from its high during the worst of the recession. About 200,000 private sector jobs have been created in Michigan since we hit our low point. Average private sector pay is up. More new businesses are starting and more of them are surviving.

State government, meanwhile, stands on a stronger financial footing than we have seen in years. Working with my partners in the Legislature, we made some difficult decisions and eliminated a \$1.5 billion structural deficit. We have produced balanced budgets three years in a row and have put more than \$500 million into the state's rainy day fund, which essentially was at zero just a few years ago.

Creating a new spirit of optimism is a major part of our success. There's a growing recognition that we can all play a part in reinventing our remarkable state. That spirit is embodied in Pure Michigan Business Connect, a public-private alliance that includes the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, state agencies and large and small Michigan companies and businesses.

Simply put, the program connects Michigan busi-



Gor. Rick Snyder
GUEST COLUMN

nesses to each other.

During the recent Mackinac Policy Conference, we made a significant announcement about the continued success of Pure Michigan Business Connect. A cornerstone of the program was a commitment from businesses - anchored by Michigan's two largest utility companies, DTE Energy and Consumers Energy - to buy more goods and services from other Michigan companies.

DTE Energy and Consumers Energy began in 2011 with a combined pledge of doing \$100 million per year more business with other Michigan companies.

Since then, in-state purchases and contracts for the two utilities have grown to more than \$1 billion. This has resulted in the creation and attraction of some 3,500 jobs. Now DTE Energy and Consumers Energy have committed to an additional \$2 billion in spending with other Michigan-based companies over the next five years.

In recent months, 45 other Michigan organizations have joined the effort, including Ford Motor Co., General Dy-

There's a growing recognition that we can all play a part in reinventing our remarkable state.

names and Michigan State University.

Keep in mind that this program doesn't use taxpayer dollars for incentives.

Pure Michigan Business Connect is the key part of the state's economic growth toolkit. Since 2011, the program has grown to more than \$8 billion in commitments in sales and loans and pro bono services from Michigan firms.

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation estimates that one job is created for every \$200,000 in ongoing procurement dollars spent. Pure Michigan Business Connect is a great model of how Michiganans can work together toward a common vision and a common purpose. This program is just one part of the reinvention effort that is making Michigan America's comeback state.

Companies interested in learning more about Pure Michigan Business Connect may visit the website at www.michiganadvantage.org/BusinessConnect.

It's CHRISTMAS in July

See Hometown Life INSPIRE in print or online beginning July 25th

You could win a \$500 gift card to Showroom of Elegance and other great prizes.

Create your own backyard

Publication Dates: July 25 in Observers, Northville Record, South Lyon Herald, Novi News and Milford Times and July 28 in the Eccentrics.

Look for this holiday icon hidden on the pages of the July edition of Hometown Life INSPIRE either in print or online and follow the instructions. Correctly identify all of the pages where the icon is hidden and simply submit the entry form or enter contest on Facebook.

● **Grand Prize:** \$500 Showroom of Elegance Gift Card

● **2nd Place:** \$100 Rugby Grill Gift Certificate (located in the Townsend Hotel)

● **3rd Place:** \$50 Meijer Gift Card

● **4th Place:** Imagine Theatre Movie Pass for 2 (up to 10 winners)

All entries must be received by midnight, July 31, 2013

Mail: Attn: Christmas in July/Hometown Life Inspire, 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170 or Facebook.com/OEHometown

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Jazz @ the Elks

Date/Time: Tuesday, July 30, 7-10 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge, 41700 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.
Details: The Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 welcomes another series of Jazz @ The Elks with the Cliff Moner Trio with Stephanie Moner as the vocalist. Cliff has played at the Elks several times, but this is Stephanie's first appearance. The trio features Cliff on keyboard with Jeff Pedraz on Bass and Scott Kretzer on drums. There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres.
Contact: For more information, call 734-453-1780 or email plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com.



Stephanie Moner

Medicare/Medicaid counseling

Date/Time: Aug. 7, 1-3 p.m.
Location: United Home Health Services, 2200 N. Canton Center Road, Ste 250, Canton
Details: United Home Health Services offers free counseling with a certified MMAP (Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program) counselor. The counselor can help you understand your Medicare/Medicaid eligibility and the various plans, apply for Medicaid, research and enroll in Medicare Part D Drug Insurance, understand Medicare supplemental plans, find pharmaceutical assistance programs, identify and report Medicare/Medicaid fraud and abuse, and explore long term care insurance options. No appointment necessary.
Contact: United Home Health Services at 734-981-8820 or visit the MMAP website at www.mmapinc.org/pages/about.html

Kidz Kamp

Date/Time: July 31-Aug. 1, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Location: Mill Race Village, 215 Griswold St., Northville
Details: New Hope Center for Grief Support offers its annual Kidz Kamp for children ages 4-12. Kids will be able share their own unique stories with other grieving children as well as enjoy music, games, crafts and food. The two-day camp is free, but

space is limited.
Contact: Register by calling 248-348-0115. More information can be found on New Hope's website, www.newhopecenter.net/events.html.

Pottery night

Date/Time: Tuesday, July 23, 7-8:30 p.m.
Location: Creatopia Pottery, 324 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth
Details: New Hope Center will partner with Creatopia Pottery for an evening of pottery painting. At this session children will have an opportunity to experience healing through art as they paint a piece of pottery in honor of their loved one while enjoying a fun night out. This free event also includes dinner at Subway.
Contact: For more information, visit New Hope's website at http://www.newhopecenter.net/events.html. Space is limited so RSVP by July 16 to Elaine@newhopecenter.net or call 248-348-0115.

Senior Olympics

Date/Time: Aug. 12-16, 8 a.m. (opening ceremony Aug. 12)
Location: Opening ceremony, Nankin Mills Field
Details: Plymouth seniors age 50 and older should get ready for the ninth annual Western Wayne County Senior Olympics. Opening Day Expo will be held at the Nankin Mills Field (Hines Drive south of Ann Arbor Trail). The \$6 registration fee will include Olympic T-shirt, healthy breakfast sponsored by Heartland Canton, Heartland Plymouth Court, Heartland Livonia and Heartland Livonia North East. The Torch Light Ceremony will begin at 9:30 a.m. and all programs, activities and events will officially begin and will continue the entire week, concluding with an awards banquet. Registration forms and brochures are available at the PCCA Office, 201 S. Main, in Plymouth.

APIA DINNER

Date/Time: Saturday, July 27, 6-10 p.m.
Location: East Lake Chinese Restaurant, 5087 Rochester Road, in Troy
Details: Asian-Pacific Islander American Vote-MI hosts its third annual dinner to honor and recognize outstanding APIAs in the community. The keynote speaker will be Tuxet Le, executive director of the Asian

American Institute, a Midwest-ern Pan-Asian organization committed to empowering Asian Americans through advocacy by utilizing research, education and coalition building. Tickets are \$65 (general admission and one-year membership), \$50 general admission and \$40 for members.
Contact: Sally Kim, 313-438-8862 or email sallykim@apiavote-mi.org

BIPOLAR SUPPORT

Date/Time: Second and fourth Tuesday of the month, 6-7:30 p.m.
Location: Lincoln Behavioral Services Center, 14500 Sheldon, Suite 1608, in Plymouth.
Details: The Depression Bipolar Support Alliance is a self-help group for people suffering from depression and bipolar disorders. Meetings are open also to family members. All DBSA leaders are professionally trained and attend two trainings for every year to update their skills in leading the group.
Contact: Call Nancy at 734-536-3457 for directions.

DIABETES SUPPORT

Date/Time: Second Thursday of the month, 2-3:30 p.m.
Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main
Details: The Plymouth Lions Club is sponsoring a new Adult Diabetes Support Group. Fern Vining, a registered nurse, certified diabetes educator and Plymouth Lion, will be the group facilitator. There is no charge to attend. Topics for discussion will focus on understanding diabetes and self management strategies.
Contact: Call Fern Vining at 734-454-0859.

SUPPORT GROUP

Date/Time: Second Monday of the month, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Location: Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland
Details: Do you have a loved one in jail or prison? Is your heart broken because of it? Then contact Bonnie at Hope 4 Healing Hearts, who will provide a safe place to talk and share with others, a place where you can learn how to cope with all of the new and frightening experiences. Learn from others as they share ideas, resources and support. Donations appreciated.
Contact: For questions or more information, contact Bonnie at 734-646-2237 or by email at prettymonarch@comcast.net.



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COMMUNITY VOICE

If you had access to a mass transit system, would you use it frequently, occasionally, seldom or never?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"Never at this point in my life. I probably wouldn't reintegrate at this point."
Karen Yurko
Canton



"I'd use it frequently."
Kelvin Byrd
Canton



"Frequently because it would save gas and lessen our carbon footprint."
Vanisa Byrd
Canton



"I would say frequently because it would save gas. When I was in Boston we used The T."
Carmelle Atkins
Canton

OUR VIEWS

Canton steadfast on need for Ford Road grant

Canton Township officials are hoping a fifth time is the charm when it comes to winning federal backing for funds needed to help make Ford Road safer and easier to travel.

Stung by four rejections from U.S. transportation authorities, Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy is hopeful they will succeed in their fifth attempt to secure federal dollars to alter traffic-snarled Ford Road. For the first time, however, the proposal centers on converting Ford Road into a boulevard from I-275 to Sheldon — a departure from a now-shelved plan to reshape the Ford/I-275 interchange itself.

Canton has the backing of the Michigan Department of Transportation, representatives of which have formulated the boulevard plan. Canton is hoping the U.S. Department of Transportation will allocate \$15.8 million to convert Ford Road to a boulevard — a plan touted as the best traffic-easing option by state officials.

Despite the lack of support, Canton officials have steadfastly refused to back down from trying to hit up a federal program dubbed TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) for the funding. In their only nod to the difficulty of finding the funding, Canton's latest proposal scaled back the amount requested from more than \$20 million.

If they can get it, the grant would boost the Ford Road project estimated by MDOT at \$36 million or more, though state and local officials would have to find matching dollars to pay for the work.

Canton faces competition as it seeks to secure the latest grant. Some 568 applications have been made to compete for \$474 million in fifth-round TIGER funds. While former U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter turned a deaf ear to LaJoy's urging, Canton officials are still hoping current Congressman Kerry Bentivolio and others will get behind the request.

Hopefully, legislators this time around will see the necessity of this project. The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments provided what should be some convincing data, listing the Ford/Haggerty intersection as the region's worst with an average of 67 crashes a year, a total of 335 between 2008 and 2012.

LaJoy has tried for a decade to convince the state to move ahead to fix Ford Road traffic woes, following two studies totaling \$1.5 million. He couldn't get McCotter to listen before; maybe he can get others to hear him now.



Canton officials are hoping the move to a boulevard to fix Ford Road congestion will help them convince federal officials to reward them with a TIGER grant.
BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

LETTERS

Garden Club thanks

A special thank you to the homeowners and gardeners, Saxton's, Backyard Birds, Sideways, members of the Tralwood Garden Club and Plymouth branches, all who helped with publicity and the Observer for the special coverage for the "Flowers Are Forever" Garden Walk on June 25.

Georgia Randmits
Tralwood Garden Club branch
Woman's National Farm & Garden Association

Border fixation

We are just amazed that the U.S. House Republicans remain fixated, paranoid and obsessed with border security of our southern border. Apparently the additional \$46 billion for border security in the Senate-

passed immigration reform bill is not enough. Our view is for some U.S. House Republicans, our southern border can never be made secure.

All of this southern border obsession by the House Republicans is all the more amazing when our northern border with Canada is open. Anybody along our northern border can just walk in.

The House Republican hysteria is all directed along our southern border. Wonder why?

If Comprehensive immigration reforms go down to defeat by House Republicans, it may well never occur in our lifetime. This will not be a defeat of President Obama's legacy but rather a defeat of the essence of America and what we are really all about.

Gerald Maxey
Farmington Hills

GUEST COLUMN

Time to expand Medicaid coverage

As president and CEO of St. Mary Mercy Livonia, I had the honor of participating in a community forum with Gov. Rick Snyder at the hospital to discuss his plan to expand Medicaid health care coverage for nearly half a million Michigan residents.

The governor's Healthy Michigan Plan would use federal health care dollars to extend Medicaid coverage to more of the state's working poor so they can receive care in physician offices and patient-centered medical homes, which are better and less costly options than emergency room care or hospital stays.

I was encouraged to see the Michigan House pass the bill by a vote of 76-31, but disappointed to see the Senate table the vote to a later date. The community forum at St. Mary Mercy Livonia was one of several town hall meetings Gov. Snyder held to promote the plan.

At the forum, and in my daily work, I've heard from people who would be directly affected by this legislation. A Livonia-based business owner spoke about his pride in providing health care coverage to employees and their families, but worries about keeping up with rising health care premiums.

An urgent care physician treating low-income patients — the working poor who struggle to make ends meet — suffering with severe pain that could have been avoided with regular care management.
A patient financial counselor



who sees firsthand what happens when medical crises affect those without insurance — job loss, bankruptcy, foreclosure, even death due to a lack of preventive care or early diagnosis. The cancer spreads, the diabetes becomes unmanageable, the hernia worsens while they wait and worry about the cost to see a doctor.

Resources stretched

Though St. Mary Mercy Livonia provides charity care, the rising numbers of uninsured patients are straining the resources of hospitals across the state and country.

Opponents of Medicaid expansion contend it will not solve the issue of the high use of emergency departments and new Medicaid patients would continue to come to the emergency room for non-urgent conditions. Our experience — supported by national studies — has shown that care coordination — extended hours, call centers and patient-centered medical homes — result in better and less expensive care.

Opponents of Medicaid expansion say it will fail because physicians would be unable or unwilling to manage an influx of new enrollees. However, a survey by the Center for Healthcare Research and Transformation found that 76

percent of Michigan family doctors and general practitioners have the capacity to take new patients, and 90 percent of all pediatricians said they could take on new patients.

Here at St. Mary Mercy Livonia, physicians have assured me they have the capacity and resources to take on new Medicaid patients as well.

With a belief that health care is a basic human right and that expanding access to it is both a moral and practical imperative, CHE Trinity Health and Saint Joseph Mercy Health System have long advocated that expanding access and coverage is an essential element of health care transformation.

Our parent company, CHE Trinity Health, is inviting all employees — 28,000 strong in Michigan — to sign the online petition at Healthy Michigan Now, contact their senator and get family and friends to do so also. I encourage you to do the same.

Expanding coverage to roughly 450,000 working adults in Michigan, while reducing the financial burden that uncompensated care places on hospitals, businesses, the state budget, and taxpayers, is the right thing to do. It's time to pass Medicaid expansion.

David Spivey is president and CEO of St. Mary Mercy Livonia part of the St. Joseph Mercy Health System serving six counties in southeast Michigan and a member of Trinity Health, the nation's fourth largest Catholic health care organization.

Free market: Best health-care solution

There is a great debate in Michigan and in other states around the nation on the topic of Medicaid expansion.

Like most of you reading this, I desire to find ways of providing access to quality, affordable health care for more Americans. But I wonder, is expanding Medicaid the best way to do this? What if you could provide access to affordable quality care to more individuals without expanding Medicaid? After extensive research, I have come to see that there are other, more sound options.

Rising health care costs is a serious issue. And costs are increasing in most areas of health care, but not all. Where are costs not increasing and what can we learn from this? Look no further than free-market healthcare segments such as laser eye surgery or plastic surgery.

Medicaid, on the other hand, jobs the long list of government services that do not promote quality. Due to the poor Medicaid reimbursement rates for services, many physicians try to control costs by capping the number of Medicaid patients they serve. As more and more doctors begin refusing Medicaid recipients to avoid going out of business, where will these people go to be treated?

The Affordable Care Act seeks to control costs by increasing the premiums for everyone and then providing subsidies, tax breaks or outright waivers to special segments of society. For example, employers with 25 or fewer employees will receive up to 40-percent subsidies on their health care costs. I suppose this is to hold them harmless in light of the projected premium cost



increases of 30- to 60-percent in our state. This is not "cost control." It is simply "control."

When you bill down the options available to us when it comes to health care systems, there are three basic choices: federal control, state control or individual control. The governor's proposal to implement Obamacare by expanding Medicaid and utilizing a state-operated exchange is a state example of federal control.

An excellent example of a state-controlled option is Sen. Bruce Caswell's bill SB 422, which would likely not require any waivers from existing federal law nor would it rely upon additional federal funds. As a third option, I have been pursuing a Michigan health care system that prioritizes individual control and the free market.

This third option starts with the observation that the proposal pursued by the governor called for two waivers by the federal government. If waivers are on the table for discussion, I would like to propose two alternative waivers that get to the heart of why I believe the Affordable Care Act is neither "affordable" nor "caring."

The first is to ObamaCare's "minimum essential benefit" mandate, the primary driver behind the obscure jumps in health care premiums our citizens will see in October as open enrollment begins on the government-run health exchange. Many people would simply like cata-

strophic insurance rather than all of the bells and whistles found in the minimum essential benefit laundry list.

The second of these waivers would be to allow government assistance eligibility information to be provided via one or more private exchanges rather than a single government-created entity. This would limit the government involvement to its current role of determining eligibility for government assistance. Let the private sector provide a framework where competition thrives in a consumer-friendly environment and people have more choice over what type of insurance they think is right for themselves and their families.

These waivers would put Michigan on a path to lower health care costs and expanded access to health care that would not only improve the health and well-being of our citizens, but would also improve our competitiveness with other states for jobs.

This July 4th, we celebrate our independence and we celebrated our freedom. I implore you to not take that freedom for granted. If you do, there are too many people in government more than willing to exchange some of your freedom for a false sense of security. ObamaCare is about control not freedom.

If we truly want to increase access to quality care for all of our citizens, we need to pursue free market solutions.

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, represents the 7th State Senate District, which includes Plymouth (city and township), Canton Township, Northville Township, part of the city of Northville, and other communities.

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Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights

Summer Fun

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Logan Assemany Highland 7/1	Isabelle Schwarz Farmington Hills 7/13
Sydney Spiridon Garden City 7/1	Dalen Cobb Westland 7/29
Matthew Lampley Novi 7/2	

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Share Your Talent

A short story of strength and acceptance by **Nina Thomas, 13, Redford resident**

New Beginnings
 May 21
 Dear Journal Yes, I wrote journal instead of diary. I guess I'm not like other people. Forget that, I know I'm not like other people because I have two wings on my back that have been growing for a couple of months. And they are growing fast. They are about 13-feet long and black, just like a raven's. Good bye for now. Bree Tanner.

May 23
 Today some guy bumped into my wings so hard I screamed. Everyone was looking at me weird. Imagine if they really know. I'd never live through that humiliation. After school I plan to go to a clearing in the woods and fly. I guess it won't be too hard since all I have to do is flap. Since I have full control of my wings, it should be easy.
 Once I got there, I took off my jacket and started to push off the ground. It was amazing! I went higher and higher until I remembered that I didn't know how to stop and come down. Finally, I let out a sigh of relief as I landed. I guess that's enough for today. Sincerely Bree. The next day, as I walked to English class my friend Deana ran up to me. "Hey," said Deana "Hey!" I said without any feeling because I was planning the next time that I was going to fly. "What's wrong?" "You've been acting weird for a while. Is everything OK?" Deana asked with concern and suspicion. Suddenly I had an idea. Maybe I could tell her if she promised not to tell anyone.
 "Wait. I'll show if you, if you promise not to tell anyone!"

May 26
 As we reached the woods, I off my jacket and uncircled my wings. I heard her gasp.
 "Yes, I know. Can you please not tell anyone?" I saw her faintly nod. "Can you fly?" she whispered.
 "I guess, but not too high. It's only my second time."
 As I came to the ground she ran up and said, "Wow, I can't believe you have wings. Did you tell your parents?" "No you're the only one!"
 "Wow!" she said again, "but you can tell everyone."
 "They will only think of me as a freak."
 "No they won't" as she said this to two people from my class came and suddenly stopped. I couldn't do anything but say hi, because they already saw me. They just stood there and didn't run away. I slowly walk towards them. The best part is that they didn't run away. I know know this is the beginning of new excitement.

Congratulations

Father's Day Contest Submission
Madyson McMillian
 (11 years old - Redford Resident)

My name is Madyson McMillian. I'm 11 years old. This is my story. I live with my mom, my grandma and my grand pa. I do not have a dad but my grandpa is the best! He is always there for me and is fun to be around. He helped me grow up to be honest, good, and to be respectful of others. So, I may not have a dad in my life, I do have a very special grandpa who loves me and gives me a good life.

Fun Stuff: Maze Craze

Try to find your way through the maze.

Start

Finish

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2) THEANEPL	7) ROBAC
3) RABEZ	8) CRISHOT
4) FRIGAFE	9) GENUNIP
5) MUSTOPPAHIPO	10) SHEFLJY

1. Squawander 2. Elephant 3. Zebra 4. Giraffe 5. Hippopotamus 6. Squirrel 7. Cobra 8. ostrich 9. Penguin 10. Jelly Fish



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USDA PREMIUM CHOICE ANGUS Ground Beef from Chuck \$2.99 lb Save \$1.00 lb	Fresh Grade A All Natural Chicken Leg Quarters 99¢ lb	USDA Aged Angus NY Strip Steaks or Cowboy Ribeyes (Family Pack) \$7.99 lb Save \$2.00 lb	Walleye \$10.99 lb Save \$3.00 lb Yellow Lake Perch \$11.99 lb Save \$1.00 lb	Cherry Stone Clams 2/\$1

DELI

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SPORTS

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PREP BASEBALL

Scheffer fired as Glenn baseball coach

Ex-Rocket player won 20 games in only season

By Brad Emmons
 Staff Writer

It looked like a match made in heaven when 1991 alumna Lawrence Scheffer was hired as Westland John Glenn's varsity baseball coach last January. And despite guiding the Rockets to a 20-12-1 record this past spring and its first 20-win season since 2002, irreconcilable differences between the Scheffer



Scheffer

and Greg Ambrose, the athletic administrator for both Glenn and Wayne Memorial high schools, the one-year marriage has resulted in a messy divorce.

The deteriorating relationship between the two reached a boiling point on Wednesday, May 29, when Scheffer admitted he used "inappropriate language" in a verbal confrontation with Ambrose prior to Glenn's 5-4 Division I pre-district set-

back to visiting Dearborn Heights Crestwood.

Despite follow-up meetings to try and clear the air with Glenn Principal Dave Ingham, Wayne-Westland Executive Director of Student/Legal Affairs John Albrecht and superintendent of schools Gregory Baracy, Scheffer was given a termination letter by Kelly Bohl, senior executive director for Human Resources.

Scheffer, who runs A&L Landscaping along with his brother, Aaron (an assistant coach), also substitute taught occasionally in the district.

"I wrote them in a 7½-page letter telling them what happened, what led up to this incident," said Scheffer, who played two years of minor league baseball after becoming a catcher at the University of Detroit where he graduated in 1995. "I flat out told them, 'I've been here for 25 years. I made a mistake, I admit it and now I've got to suffer the consequence.'"

"He (Baracy) just told me that 'Just move on and learn from your mistakes.' They just

See COACH, Page B4

Wanted: Some Tough Mudders

Observer sports editor Ed Wright would like to write a feature story on Observerland residents who competed in the "Tough Mudder" endurance event held on June 29 and 30 at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklynn, MI.

If you participated in the event and would like to share your experience (and photos, if available) contact Wright at ewright@hometownlife.com or 734-578-2767.

Livonia Park Run winners

Tom Walkinshaw was first over the line in 18 minutes, 6 seconds for five kilometers in Saturday's Livonia Park Run at Bicentennial Park.

Walkinshaw was followed in the men's 5K by Evan Dunklee (18:34) and Thomas Preiss (19:34).

Lynn Boven is the current men's points leader with 494 followed by Kostas Youtsinas and Steven Matthews with 463 and 364, respectively.

Meanwhile, Catherine Anderson captured the women's 5K in 26:49 followed by Ruth Opdycke (27:01) and Maura Bradley (27:35).

Current women's standings leaders include Maura May (489), Heather Crossley (482) and Lori Brauer (300).

Livonia Park Run Event No. 58 attracted a total of 40 runners, including 11 first-timers along with eight recorded new personal bests. Starting June 2, 2012, the Livonia Park Run has included participants from seven European athletic clubs.

Lacrosse All-Stars

Salem midfielder Brandon Lee was a first-team selection to the 2013 Michigan High School Lacrosse Coaches All-State team.

Also earning recognition among area players in Division 1 included: Dohyung Kim, midfielder, Plymouth (third team); Patrick Kretschmer, attack, Salem (third team); Kyle Durham, midfielder, Plymouth (honorable mention); P.J. Rogers, midfielder, Salem (honorable mention); Noah Waller, midfielder, Salem (honorable mention); Ben Stover, defense, Plymouth (honorable mention); Phil Sutrin, defense, Salem (honorable mention).

DIALING LONG DISTANCE

Redford resident is among world's longest drivers

It pitted the poor golf ball that Thomas Proben locked and loaded Monday afternoon on the four-inch, Taylor Swift-skinny golf tee that he pushed into a plush parcel of earth at Gateway Golf Course in Romulus.

Driving range balls are made to survive repeated poundings, but not the kind the 61-year-old Redford Township resident delivers.

Decked out in a long-sleeved peach-colored cotton dress shirt, black slacks and a patterned black tie, Proben stretched two golf gloves onto his left hand, fastened them tight, then took a couple compact but powerful practice swings. He then stepped up to the ball like Miguel Cabrera steps into the batter's box at Comerica Park.

Like he was ready to do business.

NASA engineers would have marveled at the flight of the ball after Proben uncloaked from his back swing like a hungry cobra. I know I did.

Reaching an apex of over 100 feet, the arrow-straight effort settled onto the middle of the driving range's landing area, roughly 350 to 400 yards away from its launching pad.

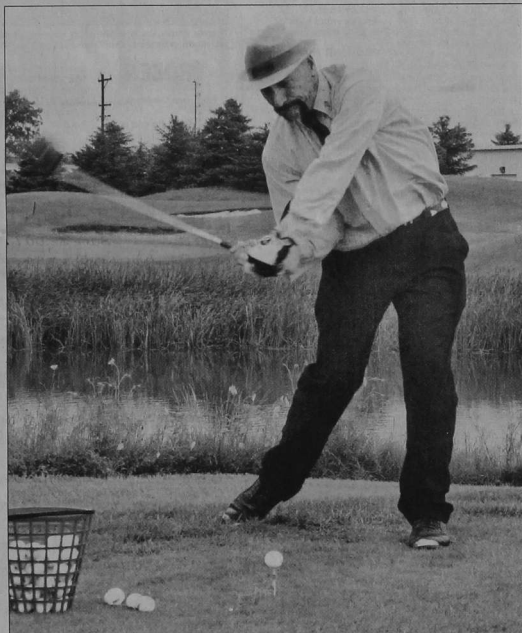
And Proben didn't even grunt.

I cringed for a minute as I observed the high-arcing shot, fearing the ball may dent the side of a 747 that was descending toward a runway at nearby Metropolitan Airport.

"I just got out of my car a few minutes ago, so that wasn't my best," Proben apologized, smiling. "I still have to get loose."

Drive for dough

Proben was more than loose during the summer of 2010 when he was crowned the 55-and-over champion at the RE/MAX World Long Driving



With a club speed measured at roughly 140 miles per hour, Redford Township resident Thomas Proben sends a golf ball into the stratosphere Monday afternoon. Top, Proben proudly wears the ring he won at the 2010 RE/MAX World Long Driving Championships. PHOTOS BY ED WRIGHT

Championships. Although relatively modest in size at 5-foot-9 and 175 pounds, he out-drove several of the world's most distinguished big hitters who competed in Mesquite, Nev.

"It's hard to describe that feeling you get when you know

you hit it just right," Proben said. "You know that at that moment, all your body parts are working together. It's like putting a nail into the wall. Boom!"

After taking a couple years off while serving as a caregiver for his aging parents, Proben is prepared to dive (or drive) back

into international competition next week when he heads to Conneaut Lake, Pa., for a regional round of the World Long Driving Championships.

A top-three finish will likely earn him a return trip to Mes-

See PROBEN, Page B2

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AMATEUR GOLF

O&E tourneys on horizon

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

It's not too late to mark a couple of more dates on your summer golf calendar.

That's because the annual Observer & Eccentric men's and women's golf tournaments will headline in the months of August and September.

The O&E women's tourney, an 18-hole medal play event, will start at 8 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 3 at Livonia's Whispering Willows Golf Course, 20550 Newburgh Road.

The cost is \$50 with a \$14 additional fee for a power cart. The tourney will be flighted by USGA handicap (maximum of 40). Prizes will be awarded for low gross and net.

Livonia's Ellen Howell is the defending champion in the championship flight. Entries close at 6 p.m. Monday, July 29.

Meanwhile, the O&E men's tournament, a 36-hole, two-day medal play event, will be Sunday, Sept. 1 at Fox Creek Golf Course, 36000 W. Seven Mile Road, and Monday, Sept. 2 at Whispering Willows. Tee times will start at 8 a.m.

The cost is \$95 for two days (power cart extra) with four different flights offered including championship, first,

senior (55-and-over) and junior (17-and-under). You must have a current USGA index to participate (maximum handicap of 20).

There will be \$2,500 in guaranteed prizes including both low gross and net winners.

Entries, open to the first 120, will close at 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24.

To download a registration form for both the men's and women's tourneys, visit www.golflivonia.com.

For pairings and starting times, call 248-476-4493 (Whispering Willows) or 248-471-9400 (Fox Creek).

Motor City Junior

The Motor City Junior Golf Championship (ages 12-17), an 18-hole event sponsored by Caddy Shack, will begin at 8 a.m. Wednesday, July 31 at Whispering Willows.

Included in the \$49 cost is one 18-hole tourney entry, one practice round (prior to the event), driving range balls (four of the event), lunch ticket and gift pack. (Checks should be made payable to TJW, Inc.)

All entries are due by Friday, July 26. (Tee times will be available after noon Sunday, July 28.)

For more information, visit www.golflivonia.com or call Whispering Willows at 248-476-4493.

SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

Franklin girls hoop

The Livonia Franklin girls basketball clinic (grades five-eight) will be 5-7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, July 23-25, at the high school fieldhouse. The clinic is free. To register, visit livoniafranklingirlsbasketball.com or email coach Jim Milican at jmilican@livoniapublicschools.org.

GC volleyball

The Garden City High School volleyball program will host two camps in July. A beginner camp will be held July 15-19. This camp is designed for beginner to intermediate volleyball players ages 8-14. The camp will run 5-7 p.m. each night. The cost is \$40, which includes a T-shirt.

An advanced camp will be held 5-8 p.m. July 22-26. This camp is de-

signed for advanced players. The cost is \$100 and includes a T-shirt. For more information, send an email to gardencityvb@yahoo.com.

Cabrera pro camp

Triple Crown batting champion Miguel Cabrera will be the attraction at a baseball camp from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 1, at Lake Orion High School. The Detroit Tigers slugger will be joined by former Phillies minor league pitcher Mark Rutherford (Livonia Churchill/Eastern Michigan University).

The camp is open to boys and girls ages 6-14. Groups will be small and Cabrera will talk about the finer points of the game.

Participants receive an autographed team photo with Cabrera and a ProCamp T-shirt, among other items. The

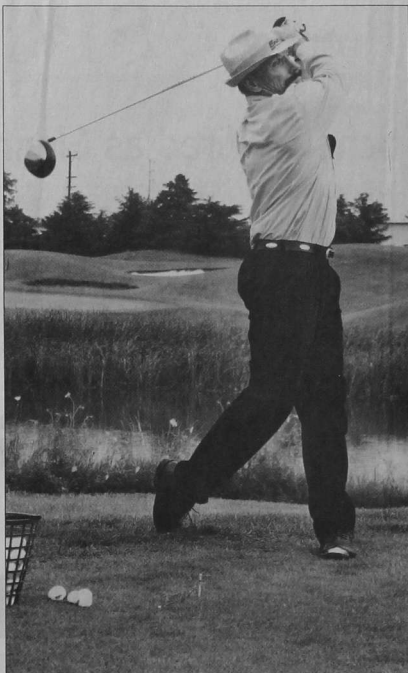
camp fee is \$99. Space is limited. Visit www.MiguelCabreraCamp.com.

Churchill hoops

The 2013 Livonia Churchill girls basketball camp for incoming grades 5-9 will be 3-6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, July 16-19, at the gym. Cost is \$50. Call Churchill coach Matt McCowan at 248-761-9201 or email Mccowan54@gmail.com.

Churchill football

The Livonia Churchill Offensive and Defensive Skills youth football camp for incoming grades 9-12 will be from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, July 24-26, and 6-8 p.m. Monday, July 29, at the high school. The cost is \$100 (if registered by July 19) or \$125 (sibling discount available). For more information, call 734-718-4987.



Thomas Proben watches one of his booming drives cut through the humid air Monday afternoon at Gateway Golf Course in Romulus.

PROBEN

Continued from Page B1

quite, where he can earn up to \$70,000 in the three age divisions for which he has qualified.

"It's just God-given ability," Proben said, when asked about his Paul Bunyan-esque driving skills. "My brother (Bob) played five years on the PGA Tour, and he's blown away when he sees me hit the ball.

"When I practice at the range, people will stop and watch me. They're surprised I'm able to hit it as straight as I do."

Armed with a swing that propels the head of the club up to 146 miles per hour, Proben has driven a ball as far as 440 yards.

He rarely meets a par 4 that isn't reachable in one.

Early success

Proben's gift for hitting golf balls great dis-

tances was first unwrapped during his elementary school-aged years in Redford when he would hit balls with his dad.

"The first two years I played — I was probably 10 or 11 — all's we did was go to the driving range," Proben said. "I still remember my first 18-hole regulation round when I was 14. I shot a 93 at a Kiwanis tournament held at Warren Valley."

After excelling at Redford Thurston, Proben played college golf at Eastern Michigan University.

"The first long-driving competitions I won were at MAC (Mid-American Conference) tournaments in 1973 and 1974," he said.

"They'd give you three balls to hit on the first tee, and you had to hit them in the fairway. The one I won with in '74 actually plugged into the first green on a 305-yard hole."

The rest of Proben's game isn't too shabby

either. He barely missed qualifying for the PGA Tour in the late-70s and still cards scores that can range from 69 to 79 — even though he admits to practicing just "one-tenth" as much as he used to.

Calm and quick

At next week's RE/MAX regional, Proben and approximately 25 competitors will be allotted two minutes and 45 seconds to hit six balls.

"I've been competing so long that I don't really get nervous," he said. "I know I'm going to hit my shot, and if I hit it well, I should win."

He then pushed another ball onto a tee, addressed the ball and pumped it so high and far that it may have shown up as a green blip on an air traffic controller's radar screen at Metro Airport.

Ed Wright is an O&E Media sports editor. He can be reached at ewright@hometownlife.com

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ROLLER FIGURE SKATING

Riverside Arena sends 15 to Roller Nationals

Livonia's Ian Heersink captures five gold medals

By Brad Emmons
Staff Writer

Practice does pay dividends, as evidenced by 15 skaters who will compete for Livonia's Riverside Arena in next month's National Roller Figure Skating Championships in Albuquerque, N.M.

The skaters, who train one to three hours per day and four to five days a week, qualified after advancing through the Great Lakes Regional Roller Skating Championships, held last week in West Chester, Ohio.

Livonia's Ian Heersink, competing in the Freshman/Sophomore division, earned gold medals in the A Figures, A Loops, A Combined Figures and Junior World Class Figures. He was also first in the Freshman A Team Dance, along with partner Jade Ross of Livonia.

The 14-year-old Heersink is vying for a position on the Junior World Team, which will compete this November at the World Roller Skating Championships in Taipei City, Taiwan. Incanwhile, Livonia's Ryan Heersink also earned a gold

medal in the Elementary B Figures, while teaming up with partner Sofia Cueva of Livonia for a first in the Elementary Team Dance.

Cueva also won a silver medal in the Elementary A Solo Dance, while Livonia's Jillian Heersink placed second in the sophomore A Figures. The Riverside RASCals Junior Precision Team also captured silver medal.

Team members included Ross, Christine Asai, Ryan and Ian Heersink, Stephanie and Sofia Cueva, all of Livonia; Estella Clark, of Westland, Hanna Denes of Gates City; Kinka Kimfon of Canton; Chloe

LaMay of Plymouth; and Tina Stadnik, Andrew and Miranda Esser, all of Northville.

Tina Stadnik also earned a bronze medal in both Elementary A Loops and A Combined Figures. She placed fourth in the Elementary A Figures to qualify for Nationals, while sister Olesya Stadnik picked up a third in the Novice B Solo Dance.

Jillian Heersink won bronze in the Sophomore A Loops and A combined figures, along with a fourth in the Sophomore A Solo Dance to earn a trip to Albuquerque. Ian Heersink added a third in the Freshman A Solo Dance.

The Riverside RASCals Skating Club, coached by certified advanced instructor Lawaun Modrich, was established five years ago with five skaters. It has grown to 22 registered competitors this season, with 16 skaters competing at the regional championships. The RASCals Junior Precision team is coached by Modrich and three-time regional medalist Jillian Heersink.

For more information about the skating club, visit www.riversidearena.com or www.riversiderascals.org.

benmons@hometownlife.com
313-222-6851

Tomasic's volleyball talent spikes

Stevenson outside hitter makes USA Youth A1 squad

By Brad Emmons
Staff Writer

Katie Tomasic's success on the volleyball court has made her summer itinerary a little more complicated.

The 6-foot All-Stater from Livonia Stevenson, who will be a senior this fall, is among 33 players who have earned a spot in USA Volleyball's Youth A1 National Training Team Program, the second highest USA youth program in the country.

Tomasic, who finished with 510 kills, 214 assist-to-kills and 143 digs as both an outside hitter and setter last fall at Stevenson, earned a spot after a tryout last March in Philadelphia, Pa.

"They have tryouts all over the country, then you find out the results in May," said Tomasic, who has already committed to play in 2015 at Miami of Ohio.

"I thought the tryouts went pretty well, but I didn't really know because there's so many girls around the country trying out. I was at (club) practice. I think, and my mom was sitting up in the stands.

"She had text me, I looked up at her and she was just smiling. I said, 'Like wait, did I

make it?' She nodded her head. It was close to my birthday and it was a really good day for me."

Tomasic has played for the Lakshore region USA Volleyball team for three years and participated in the USA A3 Training Camp last summer. But now her talents have transcended to a national level.

The lone Michigan player listed on the A1 roster representing the Lakshore region, Tomasic is scheduled to report July 18 at the Fort Lauderdale, Fla. for a five-day camp.

The 33-player roster will then be divided up into three teams which will compete in the USA High Performance Championships, July 23-27. The three A1 teams will play up an age group and compete against 14 other teams at the international junior age group tournament.

Included in the women's international junior tournament field will be seven teams from Canada, another from New Zealand, one from Chile and six USA teams. "I'm excited to meet girls all over the country and get to represent the U.S.," Tomasic said. "It's exciting."

Tomasic, who led Stevenson to the Division 1 regional finals last year, has kept a busy off-season volleyball schedule. She is a fourth-year player with a2 Volleyball Club in Ann Arbor where she played with Stevenson teammates Abigail White-

head and Amanda Hawkins on the 17-and-under Blue team.

"We did well," Tomasic said. "We definitely had some more successful tournaments than others. But it was a good year overall."

Tomasic will work a youth volleyball camp next week at Miami of Ohio before reporting to the A1 team, which is made up of alternates for the Youth National Team that will compete later this summer in Thailand.

"I've been working really hard on my mental game, being able to stay focused and not get down on myself, as well as my defense," Tomasic said. "I think that's helped me grow as a player this year."

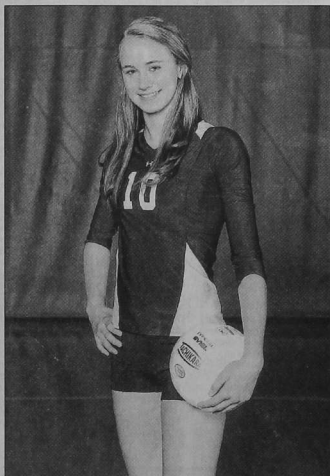
Away from the volleyball courts, Tomasic works as a lifeguard at the Livonia Community Recreation Center.

"I have a flexible schedule," she said. "It works out well. I just try and pick up shifts when I can."

But Tomasic cherishes her free time, even with a packed summer volleyball schedule.

"I've been hanging out with my friends a lot," Tomasic said. "I don't have that much time this summer going to all the different places. I like going to the movies, hanging out, going to the pool, just trying to be a normal teenager."

benmons@hometownlife.com
313-222-6851



Katie Tomasic, who will be a senior this fall at Livonia Stevenson High, is among 33 players that will compete with USA Volleyball's Youth A1 National Team Program for 10 days in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Livonia YMCA to offer Ultimate Frisbee event

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The Livonia YMCA, located at 14255 Stark Road, will be hosting an Ultimate Frisbee tournament on Sunday, July 28, on the Bentley football field.

The coed tournament, which is set to start at noon, will be offered for players 18 year of age and older.

The cost of the event is \$150, which works out to about \$15 per person. Each roster can contain a maximum of 12 players with a minimum of three females.

Each team will receive a minimum of three games plus playoffs.

The object of the

game is to score points by passing a disc to a teammate in the opposing end zone, which is similar to an end zone in American football. Players may not run with the disc and must keep a pivot while holding the disc.

There were an estimated 4.9 million Ultimate Frisbee players in the United States in 2008. The deadline for entries is July 24. Registration forms can be picked up at the Y office.

For more information, call 734-261-2161.

Fall youth sports offerings

The Livonia YMCA is offering youngsters a smorgasbord of sports

to participate in during its fall season, which runs from Sept. 9 through Oct. 26.

Among them are a coed basketball league for kids ages 6-13, and a coed youth soccer league for kids ages 6-8.

The soccer league will include Saturday games.

For the more-experienced soccer enthusiasts, the WSSL Travel Soccer League is available for divisions U9 through U19.

Coach-pitch baseball, girls volleyball, a kid-pitch clinic as well as a sports sampler class will be offered.

For more information on the programs, visit yandetroit.org/Livonia.

Winning Warriors



The Plymouth-Canton Warriors 10-and-under baseball team was crowned champion of the NFWS Summer Classic Panther Tournament June 23 in Farmington Hills. Pictured are (front row from left) Miles Washington, Devin Beauchamp, Brendan Kelley, Chase Olson, Logan Hill, Jackson Wertz, (second row from left) Braedon McLaughlin, Andrew Uhlman, Evan Berger, Zachary Blaisdell and Ian Smith. The coaches (pictured back row from left) are Doug Olson, Mike Uhlman, Ryan McLaughlin, Matt Blaisdell and Kevin Kelley. Not pictured are Joey Dattilo and Chad Dattilo.

Kmet's a Cardinal



Following a stellar, record-setting prep baseball career, Garden City graduate Zak Kmet recently committed to play collegiate baseball for Concordia University in Ann Arbor. He is pictured with his parents, and coaches Kyle Rayl and Tim Shatto.

Storm surge



The Canton Storm 14-and-under travel baseball team recently won the Pinckney Pirate Classic. Pictured are (bottom row from left) O'Donnell, Noah Haran, Erich Payne, Matt Lesse, Chase Timko, (top row from left) head coach Rob Brooks, Matt Brooks, Jason Arnold, Jacob MacBrien, Jake Dattilo, Josh Janovsky, Kyle Burnette and assistant coach Scott Payne. Not pictured is assistant coach Don Burnette.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Baseball tryouts

► Tryouts for the 2014 Plymouth Lightning, a 12-and-under travel baseball team, will be 6-8 p.m. Saturday, July 13, and 9-11 a.m. Saturday, July 20 (only need to attend one of two dates).

The Lightning will compete in a 45-game league and tournament schedule.

► For more information, visit plymouth-lightning@yahoo.com.

► Tryouts for the Oakland Reds Baseball Club for Youth Division (under-8 through under-13) on Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 3-4, and for High School Division (under-14 through under-18) Aug. 10-11.

► To register online and for more information, visit www.oaklandreds.com.

Hawks golf outing

The annual Harrison Hawks football golf outing will be Sunday, July 28, at the Links of Novi, 50395 W. 10 Mile. The event begins at 1:30 p.m. with a shotgun start.

The cost is \$100 per person, \$400 per foursome.

► It includes lunch before golf, buffet dinner afterward and refreshments on the course and with dinner.

Checks should be payable (and mailed) to: Harrison Football Boosters, PO Box 2773, Farmington Hills, MI 48333-2773. For questions contact David Race at 248-376-1535 or drace@zatusa.com.

Adult-junior golf

PGA golf professional Tami Bealbert will offer a series of summer golf classes at Hickory Creek Golf Course, 3625 Napier, Superior Township.

► Among the classes offered for adults include: Get Golf Ready -

Thursdays, July 16 through Aug. 13; 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, July 10 through Aug. 7. Cost \$99 for five weeks.

Private lessons are also available by appointment for \$45 per half-hour or \$195 (series of five).

► Juniors 16-and-under can also play golf with a paying adult after 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday and after 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, through July 14.

► To register to receive a certificate, visit www.TrainWithTami.com.

► For more information, email TrainWithTami@yahoo.com; or call 734-731-0238.

Coaching jobs

► Livonia Ladywood High School has coaching vacancies for a girls varsity pompano and varsity swimming for the fall 2013 season, along with a girls freshman basketball coach for the 2013-13 winter season.

Those interested should fax a resume to Ladywood athletic director Sal Malek at 734-591-2386.

► Mercy High School is looking for an assistant varsity swim coach. Mail or email resumes to Nancy Malinowski at Athletic Director, Mercy High School, 29300 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills, MI 48336. Coaches can call her at 248-893-3510 or email her at nmalinowski@mhmsi.org.

► Farmington High School is looking for an assistant junior varsity football coach. Potential coaches should contact head coach John Bechtel at jbechtel2345@aol.com.

Soccer officials

The United Federation of Officials is offering a soccer referee training class on Monday, Aug. 19, at Cabrini High School, 15305

Wick, Allen Park.

The target audience for the class is high school juniors and seniors, which will then be part of the MHSAA's Officials Legacy Mentoring Program.

It is open also for interested adults who wish to take the class.

Class fees include MHSAA registration fees.

Those completing the course will be eligible for officiating high school, junior high and CYO games in the fall 2013 season.

► For enrollment information, contact Byron Beattie at 734-775-4134.

Prep Kickoff Classic

► Advance tickets are now available for the 2013 Detroit Sports Commission Prep Kickoff Classic at Wayne State University's Adams Fields.

The fee is \$8, with a portion of the proceeds funneled back to participating schools.

Tickets at the gate are \$10.

► The six-game slate begins Thursday Aug. 29, and concludes Saturday, Aug. 31. Southfield plays Detroit Cass Tech 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 30, while Birmingham Brother Rice plays Cleveland St. Ignatius at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 31.

► For the third time since 2003, the AAU Junior Olympic Games will be held in Detroit.

The Detroit Sports Commission will host the popular event, which runs from July 24 to Aug. 3. It is expected to attract more than 50,000 visitors including 18,500 athletes and coaches from 50 states.

Held annually, the AAU Junior Olympic Games are the largest youth multi-sport event in the country. For more information, see aaurogames.org.

Local athletes excel in Senior Olympics

Plymouth swimmer nets 6 medals

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Several Observeland-area athletes struck gold, silver and bronze at the Michigan Senior Olympics, which were held last month at venues throughout Oakland County.

The event has flourished since its inception in 1979 when just a handful of senior athletes competed. In 2011, approximately 1,100 Michigan residents aged 50 or older participated.

The most prosperous local senior athlete proved to be Plymouth swimmer James Stein, who did a pretty good Michigan Phelps impersonation. Stein racked up six medals (three gold and three silver) in the 60-64 age division.

Stein's winning efforts came in the 50-yard freestyle (29.6 seconds), 100 individual medley (1:20.7) and the 50 butterfly, which he won in 38.8 seconds.

Wayne resident Kathryn Stelena was a double-gold champion in the 50-54 division.

She won the singles women's badminton title and the top prize in the singles racquetball com-



Swimming was a popular sport at the 2013 Michigan Senior Olympics. MICHIGAN SENIOR OLYMPICS STAFF

petition.

A pair of Farmington Hills residents - Larry Ortkras and Dennis Kay - earned medals in the golf competition. Ortkras took gold in the 65-69 division while Kay earned a bronze medal in the 70-74 class.

Redford's Thomas Garrett teamed up with Taylor's Roger Beal to win a silver medal in the 70-74 doubles badminton tournament.

A host of area athletes fared well at the archery venue. Gold-medal winners were Westland's

Glenis Collins and Lonnie Collins; Wayne's Glenn Campbell and Canton's William Malinak. Glenis Collins and Campbell broke MSO records for their age groups.

Also medaling in archery were Livonia's Ian Mackenzie (silver) and Westland's Albert Queltette, who won a bronze medal.

The National Senior Olympics are set for August in Cleveland, Ohio.

ewright@hometownlife.com

Whalers snag two European players in CHL Import Draft

Swedish center drafted at No. 41, Swiss defenseman at No. 113

The Plymouth Whalers selected 18-year-old Swedish center Victor Crus-Rydborg with their first choice (41st overall) Wednesday in the 2013 CHL Import Draft, and they picked up 17-year-old Swiss defenseman Yannick Rathgeb with their final choice (113th overall).

"We're happy with both of the selections," Plymouth assistant general manager Brian Sommerville said. "We think Victor and Yannick will help us while continuing to develop as players in North America."

The 5-foot-11, 190-pound Crus-Rydborg scored 12 goals with 23 assists for 35 points last season for Linköping U20 in the Swedish Junior League.

Eliteprospects.com offers the following analysis of Crus-Rydborg, who also was drafted by the New York Islanders in the fifth round of the 2013 NHL Draft.

"Crus-Rydborg is a very smart and skilled playmaker. Impressive hockey sense and passing ability. Stick handles well through heavy traffic and makes room for himself and his teammates. Not a natural goal scorer, but has a good release. Two-way ability is good. Should work on his consistency, accel-

eration and skating, a bit, although it is not a major concern."

Josh Deitel from Hockey's Future website saw Rathgeb play for Switzerland at the 2012 Four National Cup in Arbon and offers this analysis:

"Rathgeb was not Switzerland's best player in the tournament, but I think he projects to be the best talent who comes off this roster down the line. Played a very smooth, all-around game, rotating between win and defense on a game-by-game or situation-by-situation basis."

"Was strong on the forecheck, physical along the boards and used his size to his advantage. Made good decisions with the puck in the neutral zone. Backchecked hard and showed good defensive zone awareness. Good skater with an efficient stride, changes directions smoothly and keeps his head on a swivel."

NHL DRAFT PICK: Whalers forward Ryan Hartman was a first-round selection of the Stanley Cup champion Chicago Blackhawks in the 2013 NHL draft June 30 at the Prudential Center in Newark, N.J.

Hartman, who grew up as a Blackhawks fan in West Dundee, Ill., was the 30th overall pick. He scored 23 goals and had 37 assists for 60 points in 56 games for the team last season.

Along with Whalers teammate Vince Trocheck, Hartman helped the United States win the gold medal in the 2013 World Championship in Ufa, Russia.

COACH

Continued from Page B1

told me to step down. Submit a letter. You can resign or we'll just terminate you. I can't sub in the district because I'm an unwilling employee. I'm done. I can't coach there and I can't sub in the building. I'm on the blacklist."

The 40-year-old Scheffer said he tried to address several concerns during the season with Ambrose, but said he became increasingly frustrated.

"We had several bus issues, not contacting the varsity coach for the district drawing - there's a whole list," Scheffer said. "Not being able to start a freshman program when they told me I was able to. There were last minute cancellations, especially with the pre-district game when we could have played on Tuesday, just not being around at all. It didn't sound like he (Ambrose) was at Wayne either. I don't know what the guy was doing."

"It just took forever with everything this

year. I tried to work with him. I did all the scheduling of the make-up games. I knew all the coaches and just called them up myself. Everything was last-minute by texting. Obviously the job is way too big for one person to do at both schools in the district."

Scheffer, a standout player at Glenn who belted 10 home runs his senior year, replaced Dan Danic, who resigned in September of 2012 after going 17-44 (with one district title) in his two seasons as varsity coach.

After the internal job posting period lasted for two weeks, Scheffer put in his application after serving as an assistant under Danic.

"When Danic resigned in September, it took them almost to end of January to let me know if I got the job or not," Scheffer said. "They (Wayne-Westland) had it posted in September. I never got an interview. I was informed by Human Resources."

"The only conversation I had (with Ambrose) was at a football game, not a sit-down (meeting) where they asked me what my in-

tentions were with the program or anything like that."

Ambrose, who could not be reached for comment, told the Observer last January that Scheffer "was our top choice obviously."

"He's got a great baseball background," Ambrose continued. "The kids know him, the parents know him."

The Observer has learned that there may be a show of support by parents and players for Scheffer at Monday night's Wayne-Westland school board meeting.

Meanwhile, Scheffer said he hopes to coach high school baseball again. He currently coaches at the Under Armour Baseball Factory national training program, which evaluates and helps high school players get to the collegiate level.

But he felt the Glenn job was his calling.

"It just leaves a sour taste in your mouth after all these years to come back and not being able to give back to the program," he said.

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Parkview Baptist Church celebrates golden jubilee

Passages

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Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

Parkview Baptist Church in Livonia will mark 50 years with a weekend of celebration, July 27-28.

A homecoming picnic from noon to 4 p.m. and a service at 2 p.m., Saturday, July 27, will kick off the Golden Jubilee weekend. Anniversary services on Sunday, July 28, will start with Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., followed by a special worship service at 10:30 a.m. and an evening of prayer and preaching and praise starting at 6 p.m.

Parkview was founded by a group of Christians from the Livonia area who wanted to build an independent Baptist church that would become a "family church with the family at heart." They began meeting in homes at first, then in a school gymnasium. Construction on the new church building began in spring 1963 and the church was fully organized and chartered in fall that year. The Rev. Robert Downing



Parkview Baptist Church will celebrate its 50th anniversary July 27-28. PHOTO BY STEVE ALLEN

was pastor of the church for its first 14 years, followed by the Rev. Lanny Hasbrook for another 14 years. The Rev. Steven Brown, the current senior pastor, has led the church since 1991.

Over the past 50 years, the church has grown steadily. Its ministries include Parkview Baptist Church for the Deaf and the Reformers. Unanimous weekly additions recovery program, among several other outreach programs. The church also supports 74 missionaries around the globe.

In addition to the anniversary celebration, the church will hold the 37th Annual Old Fashioned Tent Meeting, 7 p.m. nightly from July 21-26.

The church encourages past and current church members, their families and friends to attend an anniversary event.

For more information about the tent meeting or jubilee activities, visit the church website at www.parkviewbaptistministries.com or call the church office at 734-261-6180.

RELIGION CALENDAR

JULY FILM

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 17

Location: St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Screening of "The Hunger Games" with a Q and A afterward and refreshments provided. RSVP requested

Contact: 734-425-5950; www.staidanlvivonia.org

LECTURE SERIES

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. to noon, for six Sunday mornings.

Location: Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Each session consists of two 30-minute lectures by David B. Rudeman, a professor at the University of Pennsylvania, on DVD

Contact: Nancy Kaplan at 248-737-1931 or nancykellers79@aol.net

MIME WORKSHOP

Time/Date: Workshops, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 26-27; worship and mime ministry, 10 a.m. Sunday, July 28

Location: Way of Life Christian Church, Lily Scavotto Plaza, 9401 General Drive, Suite 100, Plymouth

Details: James and Clarice Green, with 71 years together in

ministry, will lead the workshop. They use mime as a way of ministering to individuals who may need need "to see it to get what God is saying." Cost is \$30 for adults, \$55 for couples, and \$20 for children and teens, 10 and above

Contact: Dorothy at 313-412-5917 or e-mail to dnbrumby@hoo.com

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Thursday, July 14-Aug. 18

Location: Grounds at Cherry Hill Village Schoolhouse, located at Ridge and Cherry Hill Roads, Canton

Details: St. Michael Lutheran Church offers a worship service in a casual atmosphere. Bring your own lawn chair. In case of inclement weather, service will be held at the church, 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

Contact: 734-459-3333

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, July 26 and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 27

Locations: Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, south of Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia

Details: The sale will be in the lower level of the church

Contact: 734-425-3062

SINGLE PLACE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, July 11-25

LOCATION:

First Presbyterian Church of Northville, 200 E. Main St., Northville

Details: Terry Erchenbrecher of St. Mary Mercy Hospital will talk about "Life Simple Seven"—seven ways to manage cardiovascular risk factors and improve your lifestyle, July 11, a cookout will be held July 18, cards and games night is planned for July 25, ice cream is available for July 25, and for \$5. The cookout is \$7

Contact: www.singleplace.org

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. July 29 through Aug. 2

Location: Mt. Hope Congregational Church, 30300 Schoolcraft, Livonia

Details: "Kingdom Rock" is the theme; \$15 fee includes a T-shirt

Contact: 734-425-7280

WOW JAM

Time/Date: 4:8 p.m. July 19

Location: Goudy Recreational Park, 3555 S. Wayne Road, Wayne

Details: Cornerstone City Church offers this event that will include free groceries, free haircuts and manicures, free family photos, free bike repair, free potted plants, free hot meals and a singing contest.

Contact: denise-hunt7@gmail.com or info@cornerstonecitychurch.org

HOWELL GRACE E. (NEE HALL)

Age 87 of Milford, formerly of Farmington Hills, passed away July 7, 2013. Preceded in death by her beloved husband, Thomas, brothers, Bill and Robert Hall, sister, Ruth Wert. Survived by her loving daughters, Kathy (Glen) Lindsay, Debbie (the late Doug) Aubuchon, Kim (Jim) Dye, Cindy (David) Hage; grandchildren, Megan (Ron) Ralko, Beth (Tom) Tandiff, Nate Aulbachon, Andrew (Stephanie), Kyle, Collin and Iam Lindsay, T.J. (Val), Courtney and Ashland Dye, Sarah and Erin Hage. Also survived by her 8 great grandchildren, sister, Betty Leonard, many extended family members and dear friends. Funeral from Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty, Milford, Thursday, July 11th, 12 PM Burial Milford Memorial Cemetery. Friends may visit on Wednesday 3-9 PM and on Thursday 10 AM until time of service. Memorials encouraged to the Charach Cancer Treatment Center at Huron Valley Sinai Hospital. For further information please contact Lynch & Sons 248-684-6645 LynchFuneralDirectors.com

SCHAR, JOHN (JACK)

Age 90 passed away July 5, 2013. He was a WWII veteran of the Detroit Free Press. He was married to Betty Press for 71 years and is the beloved father of John and Julie (Bill). The beloved grandfather of Edmond (Cassie) and great grandfather of Maxwell.

SCHAN, LORELEI ROSE (JOHNSON)

Of Climax, MI formerly living in Manchester, GA, Livonia MI, and Port St. Lucie, FL. Passed away on Wednesday, July 3, 2013 at Karos Dwelling. She was born in Manchester, GA on March 20, 1921, the daughter of the late Willie and Eula (Wilson) Johnson. She served with the U.S. Army during World War II. She worked as a registered nurse for St. Mary Hospital, Livonia, retiring in 1985. She was a member of the American Legion in Climax and of the V.F.W. and D.A.W. She was married to Arthur Schan on December 22, 1948; he preceded her in death on November 1, 1997. She is survived by her children, Melissa (Terry) Strong of Climax, MI and William (Beverly) Schan of Farmington Hills, MI; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren and her seven brothers and sisters. Cremation has taken place and private services are planned. Donations in her name to be made to Karos, Dwelling, 2483 Gull Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49048.

YUTENDALE-BROUCC, MARCELLA

Age 93, of Holland, passed away on Tuesday, July 9, 2013 at Oak Crest Manor in Holland. Marcela had been a resident of Farmington Hills, where she lived for 45 years. She is survived by her children Richard and Marie Yutendale of Holland, Carol and Gil Gualoni of Rochester. Granddaughters: Lisa and Perry Pearson of Holland, Christy and Tim Mayo of Grand Rapids, Sharon and Ryan Ryden of Apex, NC. 5 great-grandchildren. Private services will be held. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Holland. Please visit www.lakeshorememorial.com to leave a message or memory for the Yutendale family.

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Trains, tape and art come together

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Duck Tape and model trains will show just how entertaining — and artsy — they can be this weekend during their first appearance at the annual Art in the Park in downtown Plymouth.

The Michigan G. Gauge Operations Club (MGGOC) will set up an 85- by 15-foot layout in Kellogg Park and the Duck Tape Rolls Across America Tour will bring its bright green "Duck Bus" to Main and Wing streets.

The two attractions are the newest additions to the three-day fair that features live music, kids' activities, chalk on the walk, a living art mural, free food samples, kids' activities, live music and more than 400 artists with their works on display and for sale.

Gordon G. Perrin, Jr., a MGGOC member, said the organization hopes to gain exposure while operating model trains in Kellogg Park.

"I approached the people at Art in the Park, saying we wanted an opportunity to set the thing up. We know there are a lot of G gauge people in this area and we'd like to let them know there is a membership available in this club," said Perrin, a Plymouth Township resident. "Our reason for existence is to set this up and run it, to educate people about what garden railroads are all about."

The club has approximately 10 active members who operate their own trains — some run in their gardens — and who come together to show the club's portable modular railway layout at public gatherings, such as flea markets and festivals.

The dog bone-shaped layout includes a set of two tracks, sidings and clusters of buildings that depict industry and villages. The club will set it up on a table, but they're also considering placement of a smaller track with train on the

ART IN THE PARK

What: More than 400 artists show and sell their works
When: 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday, July 12; 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, July 13; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, July 14

Where: Downtown Plymouth

Details: In addition to art work by both adults and children, the festival will include chalk murals, free food samples, live music from One Love Reggae Band, children's activities, a display of items made from Duck Tape, outdoor train layout, living art mural, and George Tait: The Living Statue

Free shuttle: Park at the ACH Plant located at 14425 Sheldon, just off M-14 in Plymouth and take the shuttle to the fair. The round-trip shuttle will run continuously all weekend, with the drop-off point at Plymouth City Hall

Contact: (734) 453-1234 or www.artinthepark.com

ground. The smaller version would give viewers an idea how garden railroads look and it would make the exhibit more accessible to children.

Train layouts as art

Perrin says the train layout and Art in the Park is a perfect fit because modeling the layout's buildings requires some art skill.

"There is art and craft in this," he said. "You have to understand scale and how to reach that scale. Yeah, you can buy pre-assembled buildings, but you can also make your own."

He's constructing a coal tower for the layout in Kellogg Park that will resemble the tower on the Michigan Central line near Augusta.

"I've got books with dimensions and I've got old photos. I can approximate what it would

look like in its hey day," he said. "It was built in the mid-to late 20s and served steam engines until 1957."

Fairgoers won't have to worry about perfect scale or dimension when they make a craft at the Duck Tape bus at Art in the Park. They'll get a chance to choose their favorite color or pattern to make a Duck Tape bracelet.

"People are awestruck when they realize we have over 200 colors and designs," said Patti Sack, media manager for Duck Tape. "We have a whole section of the bus with different things made with Duck Tape — from a piggy bank to an elaborate necklace to something as simple as a pencil holder. It's really cool. It's a whole wall of inspiration."

"I've seen just about everything and every day something else is coming to me of what people have done with Duck Tape."

Fashionable tape

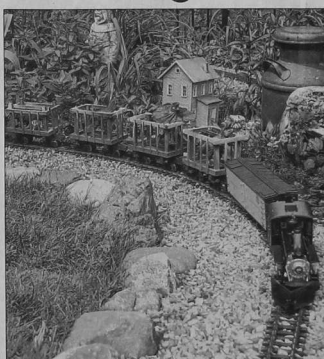
The touring collection also includes a prom dress that was featured on season 11 of *Project Runway*, along with a Duck Tape tuxedo. Duck Tape created an annual competition, "Stuck at the Prom," 13 years ago after discovering that fans were creating prom attire from its products.

"It's a scholarship contest and we've given away hundreds of thousands of dollars."

Sack said that although Duck Tape remains a staple in the tool box, it has transitioned from "tool to cool" as fans use it in creative projects.

"This coming weekend we'll feature some of our top designs," she said. "We will have an exclusive that they can only get at the bus tour. You can't find it in any store — Duck Tape featuring Trust E. Duck"

Look for tape with such themes as U of M and Michigan State, cotton candy and dill pickles, owl and cheetahs and glow-in-the-dark, among many other patterns, for sale at Art in the Park.



A train carrying dinosaurs makes its way around a Michigan G. Gauge Operations Club member's garden.



Visitors to Plymouth's Art in the Park will have their choice of colors and designs for a craft project at the Duck Tape bus.

2013-2014 **Lucky** Season!

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Elaborator by Joseph Zwickelmeier
Nov 21 - Dec 31, 2013
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Jan 30 - Mar 9, 2014

Old Love by Norm Fisher
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GET OUT! CALENDAR

ARTS, CRAFTS

CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through July 19
Location: Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: Paintings by Marilyn Thoman are on exhibit.
Contact: 248-473-1855

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Time/Dates: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday
Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit
Family Sunday: 2 p.m. Sundays, storytelling, performances; free with admission
Exhibits: Printmaking by Ellis-Whiting Kelly, through Sept. 8
Contact: 313-833-7900, www.dia.org

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday and one hour before and during public performances at the theater, as well as by appointment through July 28
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: Kyle Culp and Scott Ferguson exhibit their mixed media works
Contact: 734-394-5300; cantonvillage.com

FILM

COMPUWARE ARENA DRIVE-IN

Time/Date: Gates open at 7:30 p.m., with movies starting around 9:20 p.m., daily, through Sept. 1
Location: 14900 Beck between Five Mile and M-14, Plymouth Township
Details: Cost is \$10 for adults; \$8 for children, 4-12; kids 3 and under are admitted free of charge. Students with proper ID are admitted for \$8 Sunday through Thursday. Patrons listen to the movies on the FM band of their car radio
Contact: 734-927-3284

PENN THEATRE

Time/Dates: 7 p.m. Friday, July 12, and 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, July 13-14
Location: 760 Pennington Ave., Plymouth
Details: "The Great Gatsby," admission, \$3
Coming up: "Epic," 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. Friday, July 19 and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, July 20-21; "Star Trek into Darkness," 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 26-27 and



Dancers celebrate the roots of the jazz era at the annual Ragtime Street Fair at Greenfield Village.

4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, July 28; "Now You See Me," 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 2-3, 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 4, and 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 8; "The Kinds of Summer," 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 9-10, and 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 11.

Summer Matinee: "Raiders of the Lost Ark," July 11; E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial," July 18; "The Goonies," July 25; "Annie," Aug. 1; "The Sound of Music," Aug. 15; "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang," Aug. 22; "The Muppet Movie," Aug. 29. Movies run at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday, July 12 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. July 13
Location: 17360 Lahser, north of Grand River Avenue, Detroit
Details: "Mary Poppins," the 1964 Disney film, along with a presentation by Jim Korkis, Disney historian, and a silent auction by the Dineyana Fan Club of Southeast Michigan.
Admission: \$35
Coming up: 8 p.m. Friday, July 26 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, July 27; "Notorious," the Hitchcock classic, "The Long, Long Trailer," with Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz, 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 9 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 10
Contact: 313-537-2560

HISTORICAL GREENFIELD VILLAGE

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, July 12 and Sunday, July 14, 9:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, July 13
Location: 20900 Oakwood, Dearborn
Details: Ragtime Street Fair includes piano performances by Taslimah Bey, "Perfessor" Bill

Edwards, John Remmers, Bill Meyer, Daniel J. McCarthy, Brent Beggs, Mary Pitcher, Carolyn Dicks and Jerry Perrine. The River Raisin Ragtime Revue and the Tartar Sauce Traditional Jazz Band will keep the music flowing all weekend with special concerts Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon. On Saturday, competing pianists will show off their talents in a high-energy, piano-cutting contest. Visitors can learn steps to popular ragtime dances and join a cake walk competition. If you're interested in showing off more of your dance moves, join in on the cake walk competition, a traditional plantation dance in which the best dancer is given a cake. Throughout the weekend purchase farm fresh produce at the traditional street fair located on Main Street. Admission to Greenfield Village is free with membership or \$24 for adults, \$22 for senior (62 and up) and \$17.50 for youth (6-12). Children four and under are free
Contact: (313) 982-6001

PLYMOUTH MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: The current exhibit, BATH, highlights leisure activities that families and individuals engaged in before television. The exhibit runs through Nov. 10. Admission \$5 for adults and \$2 for students 6-17
Contact: www.plymouth-history.org; 734-453-8940

MUSIC

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7:10 p.m. Last Tuesday of the month—except December
Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: Cliff Monear Trio will

perform July 30. The group will include Monear on keyboard, Jeff Pedraz on bass, Scott Kretzer on drums and Stephanie Monear with vocals. There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds from Jazz Elks goes toward special needs and disadvantaged children and veterans.
Contact: 734-453-1780 or email to plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN

Time/Date: 7:30-10 p.m. every Monday
Location: 884 Pennington, Plymouth
Details: Open mic for music and poetry
Friday featured artists: Tritone Paradox, July 13; Potters Field, July 26. Featured performer concerts start at 8 p.m.
Contact: 734-454-0178

ROCKIN ON THE RIVERFRONT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 12
Location: GM Plaza on the Detroit riverfront
Details: The Romantics kick off the summer series; free
Coming up: America, July 19; Grand Funk Railroad, July 26; Great White, Aug. 2; Loverboy, Aug. 9; Night Ranger, Aug. 16
Contact: www.facebook.com/RocknontheRiverfront

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.
Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia
Details: Harpeth Rising, July 12; Brian Ribben with Chris Dupont, July 13; Jason Harrod with Kelley Barton, July 20; The Lost Dogs, 27 July; Lindsay Lou and the Flabelllys, Aug. 2; Kavana, Aug. 8. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks are accepted
Contact: 734-464-6302

VILLAGE THEATRE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 13
Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: Peter Karrie, best known for his portrayal of the title role in Andrew Lloyd Webber's, "Phantom of the Opera," performs popular songs from musicals. Tickets are \$20 and are available from www.cantonvillage.com
Contact: 734-394-5460

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, until 8 p.m. Wednesday in July and August
Location: 1496 service drive and Woodward; Royal Oak
Details: Admission is \$11 for adults 15-61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2-14; children under 2 are free
Coming up: Summer Zoo-zance, 6-9 p.m. Thursday, July 11. It is designed for the 21 and older crowd. Admission is \$12 in advance and \$14 after July 5. The event will feature complimentary tram tours throughout the zoo as well as animal enrichment and zookeeper talks at the otter, snow monkey and polar bear habitats. Blues guitarist and vocalist Lait Al-Saadi will perform, and food and adult beverages will be available for purchase
Wild Beasts, Wild Win: Sample wines from more than 30 local and national wineries and vineyards, 6-10:30 p.m., Friday, July 26. The event features live performances by jazz crooner Ben Sharkey and Gino Fanelli's Red Hot Sugar Daddies, after-hours access to animal habitats, complimentary tram tours, animal enrichment and zookeeper talks. Tickets are \$35 until July 19; after that, any remaining tickets will be available for \$40 online or at the gate. Designated driver tickets are \$25 and include admission, parking and unlimited soft drinks
Contact: 248-541-5717; www.detroitzoo.org

ELVIS FEST

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to midnight Friday, July 12, and noon to midnight Saturday, July 13
Location: Riverside Park, 5 W. Cross Street, Ypsilanti
Details: 14th annual Michigan Elvisfest includes performances by nine Elvis Presley tribute artists. Advance tickets are \$13 for Friday, \$22.50 for Saturday, or \$30 for both days. Admission at the gate is \$15 for Friday and \$25 for Saturday
Contact: www.mielvisfest.org

KESELY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, to July 21
Location: 434 S. State, Ann Arbor
Details: "Red Rock & Rust Belt" is an exhibition of photographs by Susan Webb that explores the connection between two great cities that do not readily suggest comparison: the modern city of Detroit and the ancient site of Petra in modern Jordan
Contact: 734-764-9394

THEATRE

FARMINGTON PLAYERS

Time/Date: 6:30-9 p.m., July 24 parents information meeting and youth workshop; auditions by appointment for teens and adults, 7:10 p.m. July 25 and by appointment for children, ages 6-15, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. July 27
Location: The Farmington Players Barn Theater 32332 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: Auditions for the musical, "Annie," which will be performed Friday-Sunday in December
Contact: Kandi Krumins at 248-797-1818

PAUL'S PLAYERS

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., July 25-27
Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: "The Sound of Music," includes a cast of more than 50 actors. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors
Contact: 248-347-4134, or e-mail paulsplayers@gmail.com

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GRAND RE-OPENING
 AT THE HISTORIC
REDFORD THEATRE
Mary Poppins
 Starring Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke
 Special Guest Disney historian **JIM KORKIS**
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 July 13 - 2 & 8 p.m.
 Tickets: \$5.00
 Buy tickets online: redfordtheatre.com
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FREE Outdoor Movie Night!
Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted
 Thursday, July 18
 Fountain area at Crescent Blvd. & Ingersol Dr.
FREE Popcorn plus beverages for sale during the movie.
 For complete details on Novi Town Center movie, visit www.novitowncenter.com
 43259 Crescent Blvd. Novi, MI (248) 347-3830

BEAT THE HEAT WITH FROZEN TREATS



From a sprint through the sprinkler to the first sip of an ice-cold lemonade, there are few things more satisfying than a refreshing cool-down on a hot day. To offer cool sweet relief from the summer heat, McCormick Kitchens has created a new collection of easy-to-make frozen treats in a rainbow of colors and flavors.

"Most people already have all the ingredients they need to make frozen treats right at home," said Mary Beth Harrington of the McCormick Kitchens. "Creating frozen fruit pops and shaved ice is a fun summertime activity for kids and adults alike that can take shape in any flavor and color combination you can imagine. Popular seasonal flavors like cotton candy, strawberry lemonade and blue raspberry will have everyone gathering around the freezer."

Frozen Fruit Pops: These customizable and easy-to-grab snacks are as fun to eat as they are to make. Plus, with nutrient-packed ingredients such as fresh pineapple or strawberries, parents will feel good serving these hand-crafted treats to kids.

» This recipe is as simple as adding fruit and complementary flavors to a blender. Then, pour into Popsicle molds and freeze until set. Have fun with a variety of combinations for everyone in the family. Make Strawberry Lemonade pops with frozen strawberries and lemon extract or explore adult flavors such as Piña Colada by pairing pineapple chunks and juice with coconut extract for a momentary tropical escape.

» **Tip:** Try using 3- or 4-ounce paper cups if you don't have Popsicle

molds. Cover each cup in foil and insert a wooden pop stick through the top to create a handle.

Blend up a little extra and freeze in ice cube trays to give summertime beverages a refreshing flavor twist. For example, combine fresh watermelon with strawberry extract to create watermelon cooler cubes to brighten up sparkling water or clear soda. Raspberry and peach cubes are a simple way to turn ordinary iced tea into unique summer refreshments.

Easy Fruity Shaved Ice: Cool down with a frosty blast from the past that uses five or less ingredients. Shaved ice is perfect anytime. Top it with homemade syrups in inventive flavor combinations. Add a few drops of food color to complement the taste, such as pairing red and yellow food color with orange extract. Or have fun and vary the color to mimic the vibrant shades of summer. Blue food color and raspberry extract make a playful combination.

» **Tip:** If you don't have a shaved ice maker, crush ice to a snowy texture in your blender or by wrapping a plastic bag of ice in a kitchen towel and smashing it with a rolling pin or mallet. This can be a fun project for kids so long as they have adult supervision.

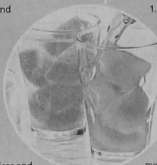
» **Tip:** Arrange a DIY shaved ice station at your next summer gathering for a sure-fire crowd pleaser. Fill a large vessel with shaved ice and set out squeeze bottles filled with different flavored syrups so guests can mix and match to their heart's content.

For more delicious ideas to keep cool this summer, visit McCormick.com, the "Beat the Summer Heat" board at Pinterest.com/McCormickSpice or Facebook.com/McCormickSpice.

RASPBERRY PEACH FROZEN FRUITY ICE CUBES

- 1 cup water
- ½ cup sugar
- 2 cups frozen peach slices
- 1 teaspoon McCormick Raspberry Extract

1. Bring water and sugar to boil in small saucepan on medium heat, stirring to dissolve sugar. Remove from heat. Cool to room temperature.
2. Pour syrup into blender container. Add frozen peach slices and raspberry extract; cover. Blend on high speed until smooth. Pour into ice cube trays.
3. Freeze 4 hours or overnight or until firm.



PIÑA COLADA FROZEN POPS

- 1 cup water
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 can (20 ounces) pineapple chunks, packed in juice, undrained
- ½ teaspoon McCormick Imitation Coconut Extract

1. Bring water and sugar to boil in small saucepan on medium heat, stirring to dissolve sugar. Remove from heat. Cool to room temperature.
2. Pour syrup into blender container. Add pineapple and coconut extract; cover. Blend on high speed until smooth. Pour into Popsicle molds.
3. Freeze 4 hours or overnight or until firm.

EASILY CRUSHED ORANGE SHAVED ICE

- 2 cups sugar
- 1 cup water
- 1 teaspoon McCormick Pure Orange Extract
- 8 drops yellow food color
- 2 drops red food color

1. Bring sugar and water to boil in small saucepan on medium heat, stirring to dissolve sugar. Boil 1 minute. Remove from heat. Stir in orange extract and food colors.
2. Cool to room temperature. Pour into squeeze bottle for easier serving. Pour syrup over shaved ice.



STRAWBERRY LEMONADE FROZEN POPS

- 1 cup water
- ½ cup sugar
- 2 cups frozen strawberries
- ½ teaspoon McCormick Pure Lemon Extract

1. Bring water and sugar to boil in small saucepan on medium heat, stirring to dissolve sugar. Remove from heat. Cool to room temperature.
2. Pour syrup into blender container. Add frozen strawberries and lemon extract; cover. Blend on high speed until smooth. Pour into Popsicle molds.
3. Freeze 4 hours or overnight or until firm.

Realtors are encouraged by upward trend in home sales

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Plymouth Realtor Tony Schippa recently had clients for whom he was the buyer's agent. They saw a home that went on the market in the early morning. "Within 24 hours, there were four offers," said Schippa, a Realtor with Coldwell Banker Preferred.

"We have a shortage of inventory," said Plymouth resident Schippa, noting those clients didn't get the home and it was the second one they'd been beat out on. Now in the local market, in two-three days for a desirable property there are multiple showings and offers.

"We're going to have the economy improving," he said. People who are underwater on a mortgage can now come out ahead "or can at least break even on the homes." Refinancing's an option, and with interest rates climbing some pursue that.

"You still have an incredible interest rate," said Schippa, noting it's about 4 percent. "I think interest rates are going to continue to climb." That makes it more difficult to qualify for a mortgage, said Schippa, a past president of the Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors.

"So we are seeing lots of improvement. He recently sold a condo to a couple, first-time buyers, who came out paying less than they had for rent. From start to finish was less than 30 days," he said of that couple's purchases.

"Home sellers now bring money to protect their credit and get the deal done," Schippa said. "We're starting to see an increase in people moving to Michigan for work." He's seen custom- and semi-custom fields moving here.

Schippa, in the field 12 years, said, "You do have to get off the stick. You have to have your ducks in a row." He even saw a price reduction in less than 10 days for a local home on the market.

"It's just a good time for people to get out there," he concluded.

Agreeing is Gary Reggish, also a past NAR president and broker-owner of Remerica United Realty of Novi.

"The market has been awesome," said Livonia resident Reggish, also a board member for the Michigan Association of Realtors and its treasurer-elect, as well as a board member for the National Association of Realtors and vice chair of the Major Investor Council Realtor Political Action Committee/NAR. "Things have definitely shifted. You definitely have to move quickly."

"Sellers, get out and sell," Reggish said. "Right now, it's a seller's market. You will generate multiple offers if your house is in decent condition. Houses are flying off the market."

He sees homes selling well above asking price, and some buyers will pay the difference for the Michigan Association of Realtors and its treasurer-elect, as well as a board member for the National Association of Realtors and vice chair of the Major Investor Council Realtor Political Action Committee/NAR. "Things have definitely shifted. You definitely have to move quickly."

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Robert Meisner

Reggish has seen more Michigan relocations in the last six months than combined in the last five years. "It has been a real mix of relocation buyers," he said, including auto and related industries, and even energy companies.

The National Association of Realtors also reports encouraging news on home sales nationwide.

Existing-home sales improved in May and remain solidly above a year ago, while the median price continued to rise by double-digit rates from a year earlier, according to the NAR.

Total existing-home sales, which are completed transactions that include single-family homes, townhomes, condominiums and co-ops, rose 4.2 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1.8 million in May from 4.97 million in April, and is 12.9 percent above the 4.59 million-unit pace in May 2012.

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, said the recovery is strengthening and to expect limited housing supplies for the balance of the year in much of the country. "The housing numbers are overwhelmingly positive. However, the number of available homes is unlikely to grow, despite a nice gain in May, unless new home construction ramps up quickly by an additional 50 percent," he said in a statement. "The home price growth is too fast, and only additional supply from new home building can moderate future price growth."

Existing-home sales are at the highest level since November 2009 when the market jumped to 5.44 million as buyers took advantage of tax stimulus. Sales have stayed above 5.0 million levels for 23 months, while the national median price shows 15 consecutive months of year-over-year increases.

Total housing inventory at the end of May rose 5.3 percent to 2.22 million existing homes available for sale, which represents a 5.1-month supply at the current sales pace, down from 5.2 months in April. Listed inventory is 10.1 percent below a year ago, when there was a 6.5-month supply.

The national median existing-home price for all housing types was \$208,000 in May, up 15.4 percent from May 2012. This marks six straight months of double-digit increases and is the strongest price gain since October 2005, which jumped a record 16.6 percent from a year earlier. The last time there were 15 consecutive months of year-over-year price increases was from March 2005 to May 2006.

Distressed homes — foreclosures and short sales — accounted for 18 percent of May sales, unchanged

from April, but matching the lowest share since monthly tracking began in October 2008; they were 25 percent in May 2012. Fewer distressed homes, which generally sell at a discount, account for some of the price gain.

Eleven percent of May sales were foreclosures, and 7 percent were short sales. Foreclosures sold for an average discount of 15 percent below market value in May, while short sales were discounted 12 percent.

According to Freddie Mac, the national average commitment rate for a 30-year, conventional, fixed-rate mortgage rose to 3.54 percent in May from 3.45 percent in April; it was 3.80 percent in May 2012.

The median time on market for all homes was 49 days in May, down from 46 days in April, and is 43 percent faster than the 72 days on market in May 2012. Short sales were on the market for a median of 79 days, while foreclosures typically sold in 43 days and non-distressed homes took 39 days.

Forty-five percent of all homes sold in May were on the market for less than a month. The median time on the market is the shortest since monthly tracking began in May 2011; on an annual basis, a separate NAR survey of home buyers and sellers shows the shortest selling time was 4 weeks in 2004 and 2005.

First-time buyers accounted for 28 percent of purchases in May, compared with 29 percent in April and 34 percent in May 2012.

All sales were at 33 percent of transactions in May, up from 32 percent in April and 28 percent in May 2012. Individual investors, who account for many cash sales, purchased 18 percent of homes in May, they were 19 percent in April and 17 percent in May 2012.

Single-family home sales rose 5.0 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.60 million in May from 4.38 million in April, and are 12.7 percent higher than the 4.08 million-unit pace in May 2012. The median existing single-family home price was \$208,700 in May, up 15.8 percent above a year ago, the strongest increase since October 2005 when it jumped 16.9 percent from a year earlier.

Existing condominium and co-op sales slipped 1.7 percent to an annual rate of 380,000 units in May from 390,000 in April, but are 13.7 percent above the 330,000-unit level a year ago. The median existing condo price was \$202,100 in May, which is 11.8 percent above May 2012.

Regionally, existing-home sales in the Northeast rose 1.6 percent to an annual rate of 650,000 in May and are 8.3 percent above May 2012. The median price in the Northeast was \$269,000, up 12.3 percent from a year ago. Sales in the Midwest jumped 8.0 percent in May to a pace of 1.21 million, and are 16.3 percent higher than a year ago. The median Midwest price was \$187,800, up 8.2 percent from May 2012.

In the South, existing-home sales rose 4.0 percent to an annual level of 2.09 million in May and are 1.6 percent above May 2012. The median price in the South was \$183,300, which is 15.0 percent above a year ago.

"It's nice to see it coming back with a vengeance," Remerica United Realty's Reggish said.

Owner may have caused on tree damage suit

Q: I own a commercial building and there are branches from a large tree located on adjoining land which hang over my property. I tried to cut the branches back, but the encroaching branches caused water and ice damage to build up and damage my roofs, walls, and fascia on my building. I have contacted the adjoining land owner who refused to pay for the damage. Do I have any cause of action?

A: You may. In a recent decision out of North Dakota, the court recognized that there was a split between the various approaches to resolve the problem. Traditionally, the courts used the "Massachusetts Rule," in which the adjoining land owner is not liable for damages and the neighbor is limited to the sole remedy of self-help in the form of cutting back the offending roots or branches at his own expense. However, the Supreme Court of North Dakota recognized that the Massachusetts Rule is outdated and that a growing number of states have adopted the Hawaii approach. Under the Hawaii Rule, the owner of the tree is liable for harm caused and the harmed neighbor has the right of self-help at the tree owner's expense, if owner fails to fix the problem. In the North Dakota case, the court endorsed the Hawaii Rule as striking the best balance between the land owners — permitting one to grow and nurture trees, but imposing a correlative duty to ensure against harm to the neighbors. It is also strong enough, the court said, to discourage trivial suits and places the expense of self-help on the party necessitating it. It does not appear that the Michigan appellate courts have specifically addressed this issue. So whether or not you wish to take legal action should be explored with a competent real estate attorney.

Q: I recently read an article about emotional support dogs being an exception to a "no pet" rule in a condominium. What can you say about that?

A: The emotional support animal is the new thing in attempting to get around the no pet restriction. Indeed, an attorney in Florida recently conducted a seminar on how to deal with requests for emotional support animals in which approximately 50 property managers attended. Emotional support dogs are not to be confused with service dogs such as seeing-eye canines which are covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act, and would clearly be an exception to the no pet rule under the Fair Housing Act. Emotional support dogs may also be protected under the Fair Housing Act, although that needs to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, and was intended for those individuals experiencing genuine emotional or mental problems. In any event, you should consult with your attorney as to whether or not you have a basis to get a dog.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of *Cold Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling, and Operating a Condominium*. It is available for \$29.95 plus \$5.95 for tax, shipping and handling. *Cold Living 2* is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and BarnesandNoble.com. He is also the author of *Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on Top*. *Cold Living 2* is a second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$2.20 for tax, shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit meisnerlaw.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

2401 Cathedral Dr	\$275,000	MILFORD	23891 Copperwood Dr E	\$50,000
1735 Huron Ridge Dr	\$1,343,000	1800 N Milford Rd	52171 Copperwood Dr S	\$389,000
1885 Hunters Ridge Dr	\$240,000	2300 W Commerce Rd	23235 Country Club Dr	\$140,000
1157 Ivyglen Cir	\$250,000	990 Mt. Donald Dr	24219 Martindale Rd	\$168,000
507 Overbrook Rd	\$400,000	NOVI	33224 N Divisor Dr	\$29,000
850 Trailwood Path & C	\$98,000	NOVI	61091 Palomino Ct	\$321,000
1680 W Long Lake Rd	\$543,000	50545 Billena Dr	SOUTHFIELD	
COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP		50561 Billena Dr	20906 Greenview Rd	\$48,000
3125 Belle Terre	\$40,000	25132 Birchwoods Dr	20240 Harbor Ct	\$92,000
5690 Pickbourne St	\$20,000	28393 Carlton Way Dr	27865 Inxter Rd	\$77,000
4735 White Tail Ct	\$194,000	27631 Harrington Way	23800 Mapleridge Dr	\$88,000
FARMINGTON HILLS		28039 Hopkins Dr	19131 Middlesex Ave	\$127,000
25137 Castleridge Dr	\$170,000	47996 Independence Dr	20100 Rodoc Ct	\$75,000
25171 Lyndale St	\$94,000	51171 Lukens Pl	20750 Wetland St	\$19,000
2181 Randall St	\$49,000	44419 Midway Dr	29350 Willowick Ct	\$133,000
35248 White Pine Trl	\$220,000	22843 Renford St	WHITE LAKE	
FRANKLIN		SOUTH LYON	8644 Sharon Dr	\$195,000
24455 Tudor Ln	\$153,000	21122 Brookfield Dr		
		470 Cambridge Ave		

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of March 5-8, 2013, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.				
BINGHAM FARMS				
23066 Brinter Ct	\$305,000			
30755 Ivy Glen Ct	\$285,000			
BIRMINGHAM				
159 Baldwin Blvd	\$495,000			
883 Knox St	\$800,000			
440 Westchester Way	\$1,400,000			
BLOOMFIELD HILLS				
4035 Antique Ln	\$301,000			
1565 Kirkway Ln	\$410,000			
4774 Crestview Ct	\$318,000			
BUSHEFIELD TOWNSHIP				
766 Briar Hill Ln	\$325,000			
CANTON				
4281 American Ave	\$243,000			
2481 Cabot St	\$175,000			
7348 Green Meadow Ln	\$130,000			
7551 Green Meadow Ln	\$166,000			
44754 Hancock Rd	\$145,000			
1495 Morrison Blvd	\$133,000			
1411 Oakview Dr	\$175,000			
2066 Preserve Cir W	\$159,000			
510 Sherwood Ln	\$180,000			
4053 Sherwood Cir	\$150,000			
GARDEN CITY				
646 Belton St	\$46,000			
32455 Brown St	\$118,000			
31320 Dover St	\$94,000			
6874 Helen St	\$64,000			
LIVONIA				
9835 Berwick St	\$173,000			
20218 Brentwood St	\$100,000			
16845 Canterbury St	\$209,000			
30849 Dalhart Ave	\$105,000			
14060 Denine St	\$109,000			
38114 Donald St	\$166,000			
14871 Fairway St	\$140,000			
34660 Fargo St	\$206,000			
11712 Farmington Rd	\$89,000			
29625 Jacquelyn Ct	\$152,000			
9961 Merriman Rd	\$111,000			
8839 Nebraska St	\$85,000			
MILFORD				
15548 Penn Dr	\$225,000			
16504 Riverside St	\$150,000			
34701 Standish St	\$285,000			
2300 W Commerce Rd	\$65,000			
NOVI				
38801 Summers St	\$390,000			
34275 Wadsworth St	\$53,000			
ROCHESTER				
44475 Broadmoor Blvd	\$345,000			
16385 Highland Ln	\$495,000			
715 Randolph St	\$97,000			
49625 S Plymouth	\$325,000			
17159 Tall Pines Ct	\$427,000			
PLYMOUTH				
40598 Newport Dr	\$67,000			
11599 Red Maple Dr	\$300,000			
REDFORD				
15048 Beech Daly Rd	\$23,000			
20419 Fox	\$37,000			
WESTLAND				
32983 Audreys Way	\$210,000			
34117 Arctic Dr	\$70,000			
27676 Brentington St	\$10,000			
34512 Blackfoot St	\$100,000			
36255 Canyon St	\$64,000			
2204 Elsworth Dr	\$25,000			
32130 Grandview St	\$73,000			
8226 Huntington St	\$12,000			
32831 Joy Rd	\$43,000			
1252 Michael Dr	\$127,000			
20750 Wetland St	\$19,000			
239 N Dolson St	\$33,000			
3941 Nottingham St	\$103,000			
8639 Shari Dr	\$49,000			

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Summer Tan, LX, 3K, 16 power
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10 pkg. Just the one!
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moon roof, factory warranty.
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"Boston Edition" leather,
abs, full power, factory
warranty! applied \$15,968
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Phantom Gray, New, and load-
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great family car, runs good,
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Only 6K miles, moon roof, full
power, leather, seats. 3 speed
automatic. \$14,400.
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Full Power!
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Auto, AC, full power,
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Great transportation!
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FORD FOCUS FTS 2004
Auto, AC, full power. Fully in-
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\$7,488. 574-371-156A
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Leather, moon roof, Shovellman
New. Ford Certified 0.9%
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FORD MUSTANG GT 2006
Auto, AC, chrome, only
59,000 1 owner miles.
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V-6, auto, 88K miles, very
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FORD Taurus Limited 2010
Leather, moon roof, chrome &
much more! Ford Certified
0.9%. \$20,888.
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5 speed, one owner! Great MPG!
New Price \$4,900
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V-6, AWD, moon, leather,
Black on Black, Clean Car Fax.
\$14,800
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HYUNDAI ACCENT SE 2013
Auto, 4 cyl, air, pwr. windows &
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HYUNDAI Elantra GLS 2008
AWD, 4 door, only 65K mi,
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Certified. Low miles.
New Price \$14,400.
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JEP WRANGLER K 2007
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spectred & warranted! \$15,900
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No Test. 248-770-5600

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LINCOLN MKS 2010
AWD, Goodwin, Navigation,
20" disc! moonroof!
Only 30,000 1 owner miles!
Shovellman New. \$27,800
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LINCOLN MKZ 2011
Leather, moon, chrome,
etc. \$24,900. 574-371-156A
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MAZDA 6 TOURING 2012
Full power, heated seats,
one owner. Clean Car Fax.
Mazda Certified Warranty.
New Price \$14,700
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MERCURY MAHAR 2010
Premier, V-6, auto, full power,
leather, Clean Car Fax.
New Price \$13,121/21A
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MERCURY MAHAR PREMIER
2007 - V6, auto, full power,
leather, Clean Car Fax.
New Price \$8,400
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Premium sides, 65,000 mi, V-
6, 20" disc! 20" in. New, Best
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NISSAN 2009
Versa200i, V6, auto, full
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GT SEAR 1990
114,000 miles, 21 miles over
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New Price \$15,425
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power, 16, extra clean, \$5,900
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speed manual, Certified War-
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