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Parish's music director to perform at Vatican

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Kevin Ryan, director of music and liturgy at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church in Canton, is Vatican-bound.

"It's a real honor to be representing both my parish and all of Detroit," Ryan wrote in an email.

Ryan, 29, of Allen Park is part of the Archdiocesan Chorus of Detroit, composed of 40 singers, including seven parish music directors. The chorus will perform Jan. 6, 2016, at St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican in Rome for an

Epiphany Mass.

Each singer auditions in the fall for membership in the group and it is a completely voluntary enterprise, Ryan wrote. The Archdiocesan Chorus rehearses each Monday night at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament on Woodward in Detroit and sings for many of the important liturgies celebrated by Archbishop Allen Vigneron, including the ordination of deacons and priests, plus the Chrism Mass on Holy Thursday.

"We honestly were not expecting to be selected to sing

for the Papal Mass on Epiphany," Ryan wrote. "We had sent in audition material to sing for one of the daily Masses held in Rome presided by a variety of priests. Our director received a letter from the administrator of the Sistine Chapel Choir that we had been selected to sing. One of the audition recordings we sent was of a performance of Ottorino Respighi's incredibly difficult *Laud to the Nativity*, which was sung by the chorus for Advent last year. I'd like to think our hard work on this piece, written by one of Rome's great composers, helped set the AOD Chorus

apart and showcased our commitment to musical excellence."

Ryan earned his B.A. in 2007 in music performance from Albion College, where he studied French, Spanish and piano.

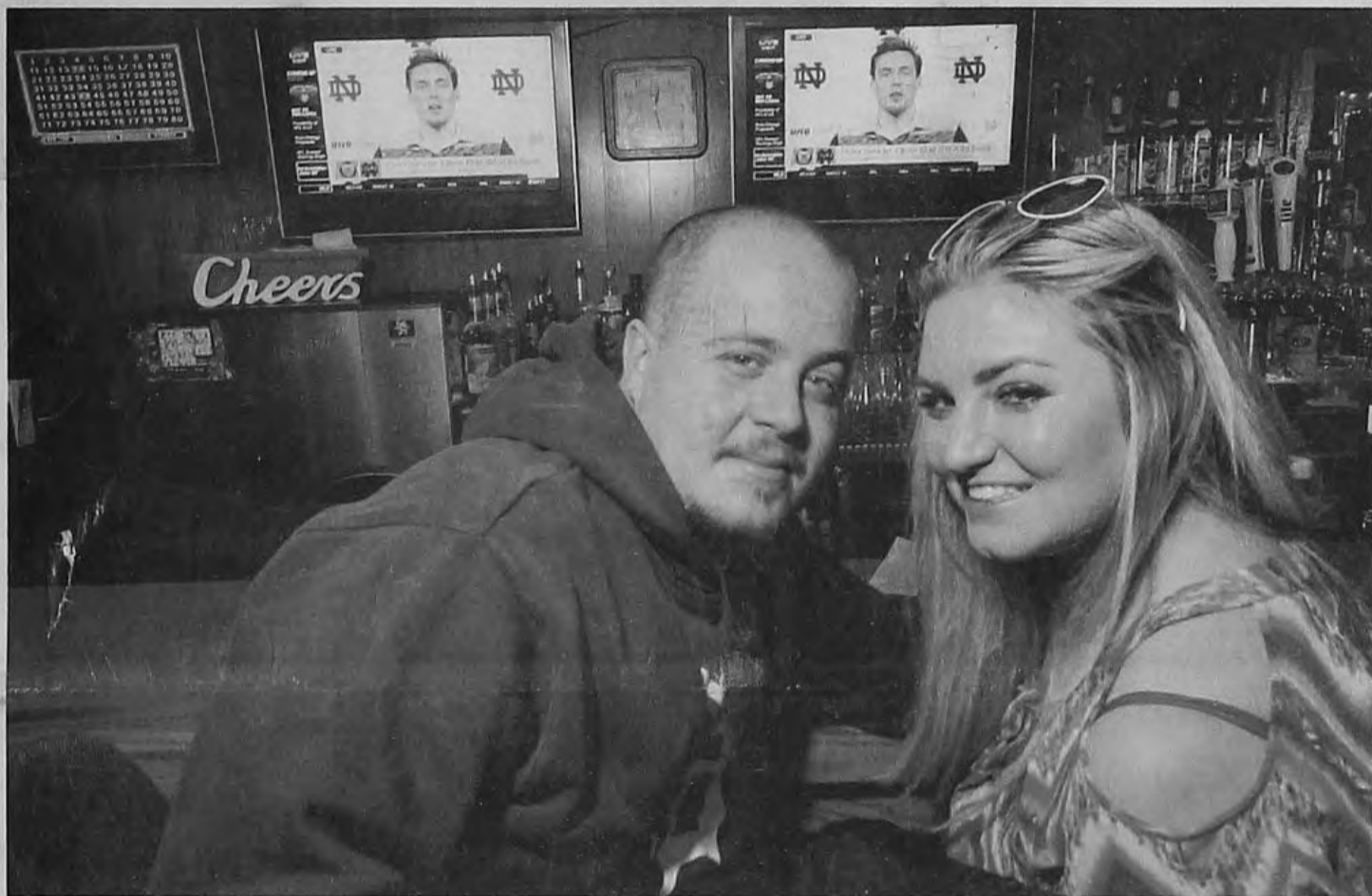
He graduated from Ithaca College in Ithaca, N.Y., in 2009 with a master of music degree in orchestral conducting. Ryan is now a student at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, where he is finishing up an M.A. in theology.

He was director of music

See VATICAN, Page A2



Kevin Ryan, director of music and liturgy at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church in Canton, said he's honored to be among those in the Archdiocesan Choir of Detroit to perform Jan. 6, 2016, at a papal Mass at the Vatican.



Chris Kowalski is picking Kentucky to win it all, but Gina Reif is pulling for the Utah Utes.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Swish! College hoops fans pack local bars for NCAA tournament

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton and Plymouth bars are scoring a slam dunk as patrons celebrate March Madness, especially Michigan State fans relishing another Sweet Sixteen berth by the

mighty Spartans.

Bar manager Steve Anderson opened The Post Local Bistro in downtown Plymouth five hours early one day to accommodate early NCAA tournament games, drawing a large crowd as the tavern ditched its typical 4 p.m.

Thursday opening.

"We were full at 11 a.m.," Anderson said. "We could have March Madness every month. Maybe we could have an April Madness."

Behind the bar, The Post employees are keeping an updated bracket showing

results such as Michigan State defeating second-seeded Virginia, as the Spartans and tournament-savvy coach Tom Izzo advanced. The team faces the Oklahoma Sooners in a regional game Friday

See NCAA, Page A3

Canton mosque invites visitors for coffee, conversation

The Canton mosque, located at Palmer and Lotz roads, has issued an invitation for visitors to stop by for coffee and conversation 4-6 p.m. Saturday, March 28.

The mosque, 40440 Palmer, has sought to promote tolerance and to help the diverse segments of the Canton community better understand one another, officials have said.

Saturday's gathering is intended to help visitors, especially those going to the mosque for the first time, feel comfortable asking questions and sharing their thoughts.

"It is an opportunity to initiate the process of getting to know one another better, focusing on common goals and aspirations while learning from our diverse experiences and cultures," said Hasina Abdu, who chairs the outreach committee for the Muslim Community of Western Suburbs.

Abdu said she is hopeful the coffee gathering, by offering an informal way for area residents to ask questions and learn, can help to promote understanding.

"The coffee hour is just one portion of a bigger picture we all should paint together," she said. "We should create more opportunities for dialogue and collaboration. Working together and creating a shared sense of value and mission is essential in building bridges and dispelling stereotypes."

Those planning to attend are asked to respond by email to mcwsoutreach@gmail.com.

Canton homeowners, businesses are facing costs for sidewalk repairs

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Hundreds of homeowners and businesses on Canton's north side are facing costs to fix damaged sidewalks along their properties.

The expense comes as Can-

ton, moving to ensure safe sidewalks and thwart potential trip-and-fall lawsuits against residents and the township, has hired Mattioli Cement Co. of Fenton to start the work after Memorial Day.

Township officials say more than 1,000 property owners are

facing an average price tag of \$250 to fix sidewalks that are cracked, sloped, buckled or otherwise damaged, along with sections plagued by standing water.

Supervisor Phil LaJoy said Canton is expected to pay just over \$493,500 for the repairs,

but the bulk of costs will be billed to property owners.

Local officials initiated a sidewalk repair program in 1999 after the Michigan Supreme Court ruled that Canton and other townships had a responsibility to protect the public. Canton had fought a

flurry of lawsuits filed by people claiming trip-and-fall injuries.

Last year, Canton finished its first township-wide sweep of sidewalk repairs that began nearly 16 years ago, starting

See SIDEWALK, Page A2



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SIDEWALK

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with the oldest neighborhoods. The repairs followed inspections to determine areas in need.

Township Engineer Bill Serchak said the next phase of sidewalk repairs will be completed in zones, with this year's work occurring in an area bounded by Joy Road to the north, Warren to the south, Haggerty to the east and Canton Center to the west.

Moreover, Serchak said, the new phase of repairs has been expanded from residential to include commercial properties. Past efforts had focused on making neighborhoods safer, but Canton also forced business owners to fix sidewalks if complaints were received.

Canton pays for repairs along sidewalks not considered the responsibility of property owners.

Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said subdivisions targeted for repairs this year include

Forest Trails, Hampton Court, Hampton Court West and both Mayfair Village neighborhoods. All seven Windsor Park subdivisions also are slated for work, along with miscellaneous areas.

No homeowners showed up Tuesday night for a public hearing on sidewalk repairs. But officials have previously said complaints often don't occur until property owners get the bill.

Residents may choose to do their own repairs or hire their own contractor, but Serchak estimated that 90 percent of property owners go along with the township's program.

Residents who notice green dots painted on their sidewalks will have to pay for those repairs, while red dots reflect the township's responsibility.

Property owners seeking a re-inspection of their proposed repairs may call 734-394-5158. Requests should be made before the end of May.

dclm@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @CantonObserver
734-972-0919

VATICAN

Continued from Page A1

and liturgy at Sacred Heart Parish on Grosse Ile before coming to St. Thomas a'Becket in September 2013. Ryan is a lifelong Catholic and has played liturgical music in churches since high school.

"My first experiences were playing trumpet and piano at All Saints Catholic Church in Detroit. During my studies at Ithaca College, I served as the accompanist at All Saints Catholic Church in Lansing, N.Y.," he wrote. "It was there that I discovered and explored a deep passion for sacred music. Once I graduated from Ithaca, I was hired as the music director at Sacred Heart on Grosse Ile before eventually transferring to St. Thomas a'Becket in Canton. Besides singing in the Archdiocesan Chorus, I also serve as the director of the Detroit Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians, which provides fellowship, spiritual and educa-

tional opportunities for music directors, choir singers, instrumentalists and cantors across the archdiocese."

Ryan said he's not aware right now of St. Thomas a'Becket members who will journey to Rome for the papal Mass. That could change, he added, as he'll be performing and some Canton worshippers may travel. The pilgrimage is open to all who wish to make the trip, with travel details available through Corporate Travel Service in Dearborn Heights.

"We aren't simply performing in a beautiful church for entertainment value - we will be an integral part of the worship experience of Pope Francis himself," Ryan added. "I can't even imagine what that is going to be like. Epiphany is culturally celebrated with a much higher degree of solemnity and festivity in Europe than it is here in the United States, so to be selected to sing at this Mass particularly makes this entire experience truly special."

jcrown@hometownlife.com

Canton yard waste collection will resume for season April 6

Canton Township curbside pickup of residential yard waste will begin April 6 and continue until Dec. 3.

All yard waste should be placed with recyclables on the opposite side of the driveway from refuse. Yard waste and recyclables must always be placed separate from refuse to avoid confusion during collection.

Recycling placed in clear plastic bags and set

next to refuse will be considered household waste.

Acceptable yard waste items include: grass clippings, leaves, yard and garden waste, pruning debris, wood debris and brush. Unacceptable yard waste items includes food scraps, animal waste, batteries, chemicals and sod.

Twigs, branches, brush, pruning and wood debris must be tied with

heavy twine into bundles no longer than three feet, not exceeding 1 1/2 inches in diameter and weighing no more than 50 pounds. Bundles are limited to six bundles a week.

Grass clippings, leaves and garden waste must be placed in 30-gallon paper yard waste bags or 32-gallon reusable containers with sturdy handles marked "Yard waste."

Stickers for reusable

containers are available at the Canton treasurer's office.

Residents are advised that the oversized container rule also applies to yard-waste containers. Any container more than 32 gallons and weighing more than 50 pounds will be left at the curb.

For questions or more information on yard waste collection, go to www.canton-mi.org or call Canton Waste Recycling at 734-397-5801.



The winning Hoben Elementary students are (from left) Wafa Mangla, Sidney Draper, John DeRose and Emilio Rodriguez.

Team from Hoben Elementary shines at Robofest competition

The 5 Stooges team consisting of four students at Hoben Elementary School in Canton won first place in the Junior Game category in the Robofest qualifying competition held March 13 at University of Detroit-Jesuit High School in Detroit. Team members Sidney Draper, John DeRose, Wafa Mangla and Emilio Rodriguez are coached by Rick Draper.

Robofest is a competition of autonomous robots - computer-programmed to act independently and not remote-controlled - that encourages students to master principles of

science, technology, engineering and math by focusing on computer programming.

Robofest was started by Lawrence Technological University computer science professor C.J. Chung in 1999. The event attracts nearly 2,000 students from more than 11 states and other countries such as Canada, Korea, China, India, Mexico, South Africa, France, Egypt and Ghana.

The 5 Stooges team has advanced to the Michigan Championship and will compete May 2 against other Michigan qualifying teams in the state finals at LTU in

Southfield. Teams that win at the Michigan Championship will advance to the 2015 Robofest World Championship at LTU on May 16.

Robofest has multiple qualifying competitions in Michigan. This year's other qualifying competitions in Wayne County include:

» Emerson Elementary School, Detroit, 1 p.m. Thursday, March 26
» William D. Ford Career Technical Center, Westland, 5 p.m. Thursday, March 26

» Achieve Charter Academy, Canton, 9 a.m. Saturday, March 28
» Wayne County Community College

Western Campus, Belleville, 9 a.m. Saturday, April 18

» Canton Charter Academy, Canton, Saturday, 9 a.m. April 18

Go to robofest.net for details.

The challenge of this year's RoboBowl game is to build an autonomous robot to detect and knock down four pins (water bottles) by bowling tennis balls. In addition, the robot has to measure the height of the black rectangle shape on the table.

"In Robofest programs, students have to think a lot more to make robots think," Chung said.

Try forensic science experiments at free Madonna event

Take part in hands-on forensic science experiments, discover how 3-D printing is changing the world of manufacturing, learn about business and entrepreneurship efforts in metro Detroit and more at Madonna University's annual Symposium for Scholarship, Research and Creativity.

The free event, scheduled for 1-6 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, in the Uni-

versity's Kresge Hall and the Franciscan Center, features opportunities to learn about and participate in a wide variety of activities presented by Madonna University students and faculty. It is open to the public.

The university-wide symposium showcases the research, scholastic activities and creative endeavors of undergrad-



Alexander Hulscher of Canton, an Applied Forensic Science Research student working toward a master's certificate, works on identifying fingerprints in Madonna University's Forensic Science Research lab.

uate and graduate students as well as faculty members from Madonna University. In addition to presentations of scholarly work, breakout sessions and panel discussions on topics ranging from exploring social-technological solu-

tions for connecting seniors, careers and healthcare providers to supporting entrepreneurship in Detroit are featured.

For more information, contact the Center for Research at 734-432-5666.

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NCAA

Continued from Page A1

night at Syracuse, N.Y. The Post drew a crowd last Thursday through Sunday as the tourney field narrowed.

"We were busy all four days, especially when Michigan State won Sunday," Anderson said.

In Canton, the Rusty Nail Lounge on Ford Road has drawn large crowds for March Madness, but not all patrons name Michigan State as a favorite.

"I'm for Kentucky," Garden City resident Chris Kowalski said, pulling for the top-seeded Wildcats because he has relatives in The Bluegrass State.

Kowalski has been watching the NCAA tournament for 14 years or more, he said.

"It's the upsets that make it interesting," he said. "I like the uncertainty of it. Any team has really got a chance."

Sitting next to Kowalski, Canton resident Gina Reif said she was hoping for a Utah Utes victory, only because she had Utah in a tourney contest. She had watched some games at home with her 13-year-old son, Eric Bauman, who plays hoops in a youth AAU league.

"I like watching my son's excitement," Reif said. "He keeps me up on all the games. I enjoy his conversation."

Amy Johnson, whose husband John owns the Rusty Nail, said March Madness business has been brisk.

"It has been great. We've been busy, even during the day, when the games are on," she said. "We know we're going to be busy during March Madness, so we're ready."

Over at Bailey's, a sports bar and grill near Ford and Canton Center, manager Toni Clements sat near a large NCAA bracket mounted on a wall. She said the Michigan State crowd was



Behind Toni Clements is a big bracket on the wall at Bailey's in Canton, where March Madness has drawn a crowd.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Bar manager Steve Anderson peers through a window where a Final Four sign can be seen at The Post Local Bistro in Plymouth.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Amy Johnson said March Madness has been good for the Rusty Nail Lounge in Canton.

especially fired up Friday night. "We heard 'Go green! Go white!' all evening,"

she said. Clements said business has been brisk throughout the tourna-

ment as friends gather to see which teams advance. One night last weekend, she said, a

large Notre Dame contingent turned out to pull for the Fighting Irish. "On the weekend, our business picked up a lot," she said.

Clements hopes to see the Spartans win it all. "That's my team be-

cause one of my cousins graduated there from law school," she said. "I want the Spartans to go all the way."

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Pedestrian struck by car, critically injured

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A 27-year-old Plymouth man suffered critical injuries when he was struck by a minivan Saturday night while walking along Warren Road, near Lotz, in Canton, police said.

"He is still in critical condition," Canton police Lt. Craig Wilsher said.

A preliminary investigation indicated the victim was walking along the westbound lane of Warren and wearing dark clothing when the accident happened about 10:55 p.m. Saturday.

Police say there are no sidewalks along the stretch of road.

Wilsher said it is believed the victim had been drinking alcohol prior to the accident. He was taken to St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, where police say he remained in critical condition.

Police haven't disclosed his name.

The victim was struck by a 2005 Dodge Caravan driven by a 53-year-old Westland woman. Wilsher said the driver wasn't injured and was released at the scene.

"We don't believe alcohol was involved on her part," he said.

However, the Canton Police Department's Accident Investigation Team was called to the accident scene and Wilsher said the incident remains under investigation.

Wilsher cautioned any pedestrian walking along a road at night to wear clothing that makes it easier for motorists to spot. He also advised pedestrians to use sidewalks, when possible.

dclem@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @CantonObserver
734-972-0919

CANTON CRIME WATCH

Woman facing home invasion, assault charges

A 27-year-old Canton woman was facing home invasion and assault charges after police say she forced her way inside a neighbor's apartment and caused a ruckus.

Police arrested the suspect - who was drinking, slurring her speech and unsteady on her feet - after an incident unfolded last Friday at Fordham Green Apartments, near Ford and Morton Taylor.

The suspect allegedly went to a 46-year-old neighbor's door, demanded to see her and confronted her son and daughter - all because she was angry over accusations she had vandalized the neighbor's car.

The neighbor woman told police she had been asleep when the suspect showed up, lunged at her 20-year-old son when he tried to keep her out of the apartment, then pushed her daughter, 17, when she also tried to intervene.

The son managed to record part of the incident on his phone, which the suspect

allegedly tried to take away from him. The son also managed to force the suspect back out of the apartment, police said.

Both sides in the dispute alleged their vehicles had been vandalized by the other, a police report said.

After the suspect had been arrested and was being taken to the Canton police station, a police officer indicated hearing her say in the patrol car, "I am going to kill them."

Heroin bust

A 64-year-old Westland man was arrested for possession of heroin after he and a friend were involved in a rollover accident on the northbound exit ramp of I-275 at Michigan Avenue, where their car flipped over in a grassy area.

Neither man was hurt in the accident, which occurred just after midnight Sunday. But while police were conducting an investigation, an officer noticed in a distance the 64-year-old suspect reach down and put something under a small piece of wood near the patrol car, a police report said.

As the investigation continued, an officer looked under the piece of wood and found two folded, taped pieces of paper containing heroin, the report said. Police arrested the 64-year-old man who allegedly hid the heroin and dropped his friend off at a restaurant near Michigan Avenue and Lotz.

Roommate dispute

A 28-year-old Canton woman notified police after she said her female roommate moved out of her apartment and took electronics that didn't belong to her, a police report said.

The woman spoke with police Monday, saying she was missing two televisions, two video games, an iPad and a laptop. She said she and her roommate had earlier argued.

The woman said the roommate left behind her cell phone and other items. She told police she didn't want to prosecute and, instead, was going to try to make an exchange of belongings with the roommate.

- By Darrell Clem

Truck thefts spur police warnings

By Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton police are warning owners of heavy-duty pickup trucks to take precautions after two more thefts occurred on Canton's north side.

"It's not an everyday occurrence," Detective Sgt. Dan Traylor said.

Still, the latest incidents prompted a warning on social media Sunday by the Canton Public Safety Department, citing "multiple thefts of heavy-duty trucks from businesses and residential areas."

Canton police Lt. Craig Wilsher said thieves are often looking for the larger trucks because of their engines, transmissions and other parts.

"This has been going on for years," he said.

Traylor said diesel trucks appear especially appealing to thieves.

Police say the larger trucks have been stolen even when owners didn't leave keys in the ignition.

Police have issued the following advice to owners of all vehicles:

» Lock all vehicles; never get out and leave keys in the ignition.

» Never leave any vehicle unattended while it's running.

» At home, park in garages or as far up in a driveway as possible, if those are options.

» Away from home, park in well-lit areas.

» Always keep keys in a safe place.

» Consider installing an alarm if the vehicle doesn't already have one.

» Consider using a steering wheel lock device.

» Don't leave any valuables in view inside vehicles to tempt would-be criminals.

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Licenses suspended

Two men, each stopped by police in separate incidents in Plymouth Township, were arrested for driving with a suspended license within the past week.

One man, 28, was stopped about 2:20 a.m. Friday on I-275 near Ann Arbor Trail, a Plymouth Township Police Department report said. Police radar had clocked him driving at 87 mph to 88 mph, the report said.

Police found the man's license had been suspended and arrested him. The Land Rover he had been driving was turned over to the passenger.

The second incident, in the same general area of I-275,

occurred shortly after midnight Tuesday. Police radar registered a Dodge Charger traveling on the freeway at 96 mph, a report said.

The 19-year-old driver told police he was taking his female passenger to the hospital. The woman said she'd had bad food, the police report said, but appeared to be OK.

Police found the driver's license had been suspended multiple times. He was arrested and the Charger was turned over to the passenger.

ID theft

Two cases of tax-related identity theft were reported Monday to police in the township.

Both victims were women;

each told police that she had visited a tax preparer, only to learn that a return had already been filed in her name.

Noise complaint

Police issued a noise ordinance violation to a woman in an apartment on Risman Drive early Sunday after making a second trip there for a noise complaint.

The incident occurred just after 1 a.m. Sunday. A complaint from a neighbor prompted the police visit; a police report said people in the apartment had been speaking in a loud manner and that it had been a problem during the weekend.

- By Matt Jachman



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Diva Day, April 25, among many planned downtown Plymouth events

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Looking to get out of the house with some good company? Downtown Plymouth retailers have got you covered.

The annual Diva Day will take place from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 25, and involve a number of downtown Plymouth businesses.

"It's a retail-oriented event," said Wes Graff, president of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce. "This is a shopping-oriented event. This is all planned by the retailers."

The Diva Day fun goes back six years, Graff said, and in the past feather boas went to the earliest arrivals. "They chose beads instead of boas, so it's going to be fun," he said. "It draws a good audience. Every year, we gave out the 500 boas."

Warm weather helps, he agreed: "It's late April, so that helps a lot. We've never actually had rain for it. We've been out there on some chilly mornings, but we've never had rain."

Women and girls often arrive around 10 a.m. and congregate around the chamber office on Ann Arbor Trail. "They've been cooped up," Graff said. "It's a chance to get out with their friends."

Moms often bring daughters in strollers. "We get three generations quite often," he said.

Another event geared to women, Make Over March, was offered by downtown Plymouth businesses last weekend. Clothes, toiletries and non-perishable food were collected for the local Salvation Army, with the



Alex Livingston is a staffer at Maggie & Me in downtown Plymouth and granddaughter of longtime store owner Maggie LaForrest. Maggie & Me was among businesses taking part in last weekend's Make Over March.

Make Over March focus on fashion, home, hair, jewelry, health/exercise and makeup.

At Maggie & Me, a women's clothing store on Ann Arbor Trail in business more than 35 years, staffers were eager to welcome shoppers for Make Over March. Owner Maggie LaForrest's granddaugh-

ter, Alex Livingston, was working Saturday and noted the shop's extensive following.

Make Over March was the first of this year's Plymouth With a Purpose events, benefiting charities and causes. Diva Day will support First Step, a local agency addressing domestic violence and sexual assault.

Rachelle Dempster, owner of Salon Awesome on Main in Plymouth, said, "We worked at brainstorming" to begin Plymouth With a Purpose and Diva Day, including the Downtown Development Authority's board. She tips her hat to Scott Smith, owner of Opndohr on Forest, as a key person for Diva Day.



JULIE BROWN
Jewelry, like this sold at Maggie & Me on Ann Arbor Trail, was part of the focus of Make Over March.

"We want to encourage women to come out and bring their friends," Dempster said of Diva Day. "Shop and get pampered. It's a great event, especially if the weather's good. They can feel like they're helping out" charities. "Diva Day is a day for women to feel special."

Smith agreed that Diva Day and other women's events are good for business and the community. "I love it," Smith said. "It's like we're having a party for everyone. It's a way of thanking our lady customers. We all appreciate our customers; we're glad they're here."

Upcoming Plymouth With a Purpose events are:

» Aug. 15, Dog Days of Summer, benefiting the Humane Society of Huron Valley;

» Sept. 24, Ladies Night Out, benefiting the Pink Fund for breast cancer issues;

» Oct. 18, Pumpkin Palooza, benefiting the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Fund;

» Dec. 10, Christmas in Plymouth, benefiting the Plymouth Historical Museum.

Of the Make Over March donation to the Plymouth Salvation Army, Laurie Aren, its director, Family & Community Ministries, wrote in an email, "We are so grateful for these donations. After the holidays, donations drop significantly, but the need continues. Many folks turn toward food pantries to free up money for higher utility bills. We are also noting a newer trend of more seniors, couples without children and single individuals coming to us for food, especially from the city and township of Plymouth. This food donation came at just the right time."

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Good Friday — 6:00 p.m. Walk of Reflection. Carry the cross from *Novi United Methodist to Meadowbrook. Short meditation follows. *Novi United Methodist, 41677 W. 70 Mile Rd.

Easter Sunday — 10 a.m. with the U-M Brass Quintet. 11:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt for younger children.



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JULIE BROWN

Walkers and runners gather in Kellogg Park for a Tuesday evening together.

Runners, walkers get in shape, have fun with Run DTP group

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Last Thanksgiving, Plymouth hosted an inaugural Thanksgiving Family Turkey Trot, the start of a local group of runners and walkers who combine fitness with social time.

"We just started our own free, no-cost family event," said organizer David Murphy of Plymouth, recalling the runners and walkers congregating Thanksgiving Day by Smith Elementary School in Plymouth. About 20 people showed up that day.

That's evolved into Run DTP, which stands for downtown Plymouth. Its website is RunDTP.com.

"It's fun and it's free," said Murphy, co-owner of an online magazine for engineers, ENGINEERING.COM.

The fitness group gathers at Kellogg Park, kitty-corner from Plymouth Panera Bread, to walk and run at 6 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday, as well as 8 a.m. each Saturday.

"It's totally word of mouth," said walker Traci Sincock of Plymouth, who works for the Northville Chamber of Commerce. Sincock was visiting with other Run DTP participants on a recent Saturday morning at Panera.

"You come when you can," Sincock said. "You just show up. We just come out and get exercise."

Added tablemate Sandi Rosenquist, a Plymouth Township stay-at-home mom: "It's always fun to walk with somebody."

Organizer Murphy said, "I've decided I would rather run in Plymouth with a group of people. Everybody gath-

ers at Kellogg Park and off we go."

Murphy noted about 10-12 people participate each Tuesday and Thursday, with an average of 20-30 each Saturday.

"We have a core group that shows up," he added, with the group about evenly divided between runners and walkers.

There are no dues and no meetings. "People just show up and have fun," Murphy said.

The group has routes of three, five and seven miles, all beginning and ending in Kellogg Park. Beginners who need to get in shape can walk less than three miles, Murphy said, finishing back up at Kellogg Park.

"It's all just normal people walking a normal pace," he said. "It's all at everyone's own pace."

The winter weather has impacted participation some, Murphy said, especially when there's ice outdoors.

One recent Tuesday evening, father and son Harold Matthews of Plymouth Township and Steven Matthews of Westland were waiting to start their trek. "My dad told me about it," Steven Matthews, a BASF warehouse contractor, said of the group. "Pretty much since it started" they've joined in.

"I run because I want to stay healthy," said Harold Matthews, a retired policeman. "I enjoy the people I meet. We've met plenty of good people here."

Dad Matthews does the three-mile route, while Steven does the three-, the five- and is working up to the seven- in preparation for a 10-mile race he'll do in June.

Organizer Murphy is working to boost health in the community and appreciates support of



JULIE BROWN

Visiting after a recent Saturday Run DTP run/walk are (from left) Sandi Rosenquist of Plymouth Township, Jean Walsh of Plymouth and Traci Sincock of Plymouth. Sincock holds a group sign.



JULIE BROWN

Steven Matthews of Westland (left) and dad Harold Matthews of Plymouth Township have been with the group "pretty much since it started," Steven said.



JULIE BROWN

Bill Lawton, CEO of the Community Federal Credit Union, enjoys participating in the Run DTP group, which began last Thanksgiving.



JULIE BROWN

And they're off! Organizer David Murphy of Plymouth brings up the rear at a Tuesday evening walk/run session.

the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority, the Plymouth Community Family YMCA and a number of businesses on the group's website.

"It's an awareness thing," Murphy said. He added starting exercise is often the hardest,

which makes the self-pacing so good.

One recent Saturday, Bill Lawton, CEO of the Community Federal Credit Union, was visiting at Panera Bread with other walkers and runners. "I do run still," Lawton said. "It's just a

great group. And the breakfast is fun, too, as you can tell."

Lawton does most of his running on his own. "It's easier to have a visit when you're walking," the Plymouth resident said. "It's as much social as anything."

Murphy emphasizes punctuality for the group's walking and running start times, noting the fun visiting comes afterward. Traffic safety is also emphasized for the group.

jbrown@hometownlife.com

Wayne County holds hazardous waste collection April 4

The Wayne County Department of Public Service will hold a household hazardous waste collection from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 4, at the Romulus Civic Center, 11111 Wayne Road.

This free event is open to Wayne County residents only and offers an opportunity to properly dispose of waste that is considered toxic, flammable or corrosive.

Examples of acceptable waste being collected include: household paints, stains, dyes, floor wax, floor care products, carpet cleaner, furniture polish, bathroom cleaners, stain removers, pharmaceutical waste (non-controlled substances only), solvents, nail polish, glue, fertilizer, lawn and garden chemicals, pesticides, antifreeze, motor oil, gasoline, automotive batteries and dry

cell batteries, fluorescent bulbs, fire extinguishers, mercury fever thermometers, smoke detectors, computer monitors, printers, scanners, mice, keyboards, cellphones, fax machines, copiers and televisions.

Only household generated products from Wayne County residents will be accepted. Items that will not be accepted include: commercial

waste, industrial waste, radioactive materials, explosives, ammunition, shock sensitive materials, household trash, 55-gallon drums, refrigerators, microwaves or other appliances, tires, yard waste and concrete.

Wayne County's Department of Public Services is holding five countywide Household Hazardous Waste collections for 2015. In addition to the April 4 event,

there will be collections:

» Saturday, May 2, at Flat Rock Community Fields at 25600 Seneca St., off of Gibraltar Road by Flat Rock High School.

» Saturday, June 20, at Henry Ford Community College, 5101 Evergreen Road, Dearborn.

» Saturday, Aug. 15, at the Westland Shopping Center on Warren Road and Nankin Boulevard, Westland.

» Saturday, Oct. 10, at Wayne County Community College, 21000 Northline Road, Taylor.

For information on how to dispose of these items, contact the Wayne County Resource Recovery Coordinator at 734-326-3936.

For more information on the collection or to obtain a complete list of what will and will not be accepted, go to www.waynecounty.com.

Fund for wounded soldiers helps veteran who's helping others

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

Josh Krajewski, 28, of Livonia has struggled with post traumatic stress disorder since serving as a military police officer in Iraq and Afghanistan, where he was in numerous fire fights, shot at with rockets and endured heavy mortar fire.

Discharged in 2009 from the U.S. Army, he has had seven or eight jobs, ranging from working as a laborer to selling insurance, but he wasn't able to hold on to any of them.

"It's a hard transition," he said of returning to civilian life. The military changes people into what is normal for the military, but "doesn't translate into when you come back home."

The divorced father of one received financial help recently from the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund, an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that helps Michigan veterans unable to work because of injuries suffered in the Iraq and Afghanistan campaigns.

The fund paid his \$1,300 property tax bill and helped with some utility and car payments. Krajewski receives disability compensation, but it's not enough to live on, he said: "Sometimes people just need a hand to get back up on their feet and that's what they did for me."

Bond of brotherhood

The 2004 Stevenson High School grad is slowly adjusting, with the help of the Michigan Warriors Hockey Program he started in Royal Oak last May for disabled veterans or veterans who have a Purple Heart.

He hopes to expand the program statewide. The program is run at no

HOW TO HELP

10TH ANNUAL FALLEN AND WOUNDED SOLDIERS FUND DINNER AUCTION

When: 5 p.m. Saturday, April 25

Where: MGM Grand Ballroom in Detroit

Why: Raises money for Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund, an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that helps Michigan veterans unable to work because of injuries suffered in the Iraq and Afghanistan campaigns.

Tickets: \$150 each. To order, go to fwsf2015.eventzilla.net.

FIFTH ANNUAL GUNS AND HOSES CHARITY HOCKEY GAME

When: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 18

Where: Lindell Ice Arena, Royal Oak

Why: Proceeds from the annual match between the Royal Oak Police and Fire departments will be donated to the Michigan Warriors Hockey Program this year.

Tickets: \$10, available at the door. Contact Pat Stanton at royaloak-gunsandhoses@gmail.com for more information.

cost to the vets. The ice time, coaching and equipment are provided through donations.

"I found being in a team sport — especially hockey being so fast-paced and the competition can be rough — is very similar to being in the military," he said. "I figured it's helping me; it sure can help other people, too."

"The camaraderie we have on the ice, in the locker room and off the ice, that brotherhood that we had in the military is still very alive in this program."



Josh Krajewski, 28, of Livonia with his 3-year-old son, Oliver.



The 40-member Michigan Warriors Hockey Program for disabled veterans that Josh Krajewski of Livonia started last May is helping him and others recover from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

While looking for other disabled veterans like himself to play hockey last year, Krajewski stumbled across the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund. It was only recently that he asked for financial help from the fund. "I found myself in a little bit of a struggle," he said. "Instead of doing the easy thing and taking on more debt, I reached out for help."

Now the fund is also helping the Warriors Hockey Program, which does community service projects, Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund executive director Lynn Phillips said: "We are working with him on a Vets Helping Vets initiative where FWSF covers the materials and he and the hockey team do repairs for disabled vets for free."

Phillips said FWSF has provided money for small projects, but it wants to do more: "It is a win-win — the FWSF saves on labor costs and we know the job is done properly."

FWSF fundraiser

The Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund has two major fundraisers a year: a dinner and a



Josh Krajewski, 28, of Livonia suffers from post traumatic stress disorder since serving as a military police officer in Iraq and Afghanistan.

golf outing. The dinner, the 10th annual, is set for 5 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at the MGM Grand Ballroom in Detroit. The speaker is Robert O'Neil, former member of Seal Team Six. Tickets are \$150 each and include a silent and live auction and entertainment and dancing with the Jerry Ross Band. Tickets can be purchased online at fwsf2015.eventzilla.net.

In 2013, the fund distributed \$287,750 to disabled veterans, including \$91,851 for housing, \$74,355 for transportation and \$55,984 for utilities.

Krajewski said the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund kept him from falling behind on his property taxes and possibly losing his house. "It's meant everything," he said of the financial

assistance he received.

For more information on the FWSF, go to FWSF.org

For more information on the Warriors Hockey Program, go to Michigan Warriors Hockey on Facebook or email michiganwarriors-hockey@gmail.com.

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Use a home equity loan to help finance improvements, repairs

Spring has finally arrived in southeast Michigan and that means people are assessing winter's damage and deciding if any repairs need to be done on their home.

Before doing any home improvements or repairs, decide how to pay for them.

In the past, one of the most popular ways to pay for improvements and repairs was a home equity loan. If you go back 10 years ago, banks and financial institutions were giving home equity loans to anyone. Those days are long gone. However, with the rise in real estate prices and lower interest rates, home equity loans are once again growing in popularity.

Although it is not as easy to get a home loan as it was in the past, banks and financial institutions are once again starting to promote and encourage home equity loans.

On the whole, there's nothing wrong with home equity loans. They can provide an inexpensive way to finance things such as home improvements, a child's college education or even to pay off high interest rate charge cards. After all, one of the advantages of a home equity loan is that interest rates are low and the interest is tax-deductible. That being said, people need to be cautious about how they use a home equity loan.

Many people seem to forget that a home equity loan is a second mort-



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

gage on your home. Therefore, if you don't make your payments, your house could be in jeopardy. That is why I caution people about using home equity loans. Another risk with home equity loans deals with interest rates.

Over the last few years we've experienced historically low interest rates. Those days are at an end. Somewhere in the future, probably later this year, interest rates will begin to rise.

Most home equity loans are adjustable rate loans, which means when interest rates rise, the interest charged on home equity loans will also rise. Therefore, the rate that you are currently quoted on your home loan may not be the rate a year from now.

In the past, people used home equity loans to finance vacations or to make investments in such things as annuities. My advice is use a home equity loan in limited situations, such as paying off high interest rate charge cards and to make needed home improvements.

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 rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

The challenging world of online travel sites

The number of travel sites promising the best deals on airfare, hotel stays or car rentals seems to be growing exponentially. Years ago, the situation was tolerable as a few key players like Priceline.com and spokesman William Shatner hawked "name-your-price" hotel stays. Now there are dozens of well-known travel sites, with advertisements in heavy rotation, making their presence known.

When it comes to low-price guarantees, should you trust Shatner, the disheveled trivago guy, Captain Obvious or maybe the Roaming Gnome from Travelocity? The answer largely depends on your special travel plans and specific needs.

Priceline.com is still a tremendous site for low hotel prices if you don't mind letting the company pick your accommodations. You choose your star rating, location and price and the site will select a hotel that meets your criteria. Great for frugal travelers, but bad for picky ones.

For those who want



Jon Gunnells
TECH SAVVY

full control of hotel stays, Hotels.com usually ranks among the lowest prices, but not always. Expedia stands out as a better value than buying direct from the Marriotts of this world – even more so when packaged with rental cars or flights. Sometimes, Travelocity and Orbitz beat Expedia, sometimes all three have the same exact prices and sometimes the prices fluctuate daily.

Comparing prices can be so time-consuming, it's almost not worth the money you save in finding the low price. KAYAK.com aims to alleviate that pressure by comparing hotels or vacation packages for multiple sites at once. Trivago does the same, but for hotels only. And while I've never found the best price on anything direct from KAYAK.com, its tool is useful and so are some of its sister sites. Booking.com, for in-

stance (which is part of the KAYAK/Priceline family), saved me a great deal on a condo in Myrtle Beach in 2014 and also has some of the lowest prices on hotel rooms domestically and in Europe. Booking.com often has better room inventories as it offers condos and time shares properties, sometimes at a lower price than more basic hotel rooms.

Airbnb and VRBO.com (vacation rental by owner) provide just that – vacation rentals in the form of homes, condos and rooms that are rented by owners. The best properties are professionally managed and cleaned and still maintain the safety and security of dealing with a private travel organization. They also provide better deals for those seeking accommodations for large groups.

Last year, my friends and I saved more than \$1,000 by renting an eight-person condo from VRBO rather than getting four separate one-bedroom hotel rooms.

When flights are involved, sometimes it

pays to go direct. Delta.com, for instance, will offer room discounts and frequent flier miles for booking with Hotels.com. Plus, its flights can easily be checked against the costs for sites like Expedia.

Whether you are booking with Expedia, Delta or another site, it is important not to get hung up on the so-called low price guarantees. Most sites will only match lower prices for exact itineraries if you find them within 24 hours of booking.

I suppose you could book a package at a site for a higher price with the plan to price match, but that's a lot of work to get a \$50 voucher or whatever junk travel sites are offering for price matching these days.

Like anything, when it comes to finding the best travel prices online, it all depends on how much work you put in.

Jon Gunnells is a social media manager for a Detroit-based advertising agency. He can be reached at Jonathan.Gunnells@gmail.com.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Freudenberg-NOK partners with U.S. Dept. of Energy

In addition to the two plug-in electric vehicle charging stations already located at its headquarters, Freudenberg-NOK Sealing Technologies will be installing four more as part of the Workplace Charging Challenge Pledge created by the U.S. Department of Energy.

The pledge, which employers can join as partners, signals a com-



Freudenberg-NOK employees Rob Martell (left), supply chain manager, and Jeff Michalski, global director of automotive marketing, are both owners of a Chevy Volt.

pany's commitment to provide PEV charging access for its employees, but Freudenberg-NOK will also make the stations available to the public.

"We're proud to support the development of electric vehicles and it's something important to many of our employees," said Ted Duclos, president, Freudenberg-NOK. "Partnering with the DOE aligns with our company's and customers' sustainability goals. We produce seals that are designed to reduce friction, which ultimately reduces emissions."

With long-term orientation being one of its guiding principles, the pledge is a natural fit for the company. Freudenberg-NOK has developed a variety of emission-reducing seals, which include its Low-Emission Sealing Solutions portfolio of products. In addition, the company developed the Levitex® crankshaft seal, which creates an air cushion that seals the engine compartment with virtually no friction. Levitex can thus reduce the CO2 emissions of vehicles by 0.5 to 1 gram per kilometer.

On the first generation Chevrolet Volt alone, more than 600 of the company's seals are used, including many gaskets for the vehicle's battery case.

"Our company is fully committed to making electric vehicles a more practical option," Duclos said. "By taking these steps, we hope to increase public awareness of the benefits and capabilities of electric vehicles. The technology is here, but there is an opportunity for infrastructure development to expand the use of PEVs."

The additional charging stations, which will now allow for a total of six vehicles to be charged at one time, will be installed next month. As part of the challenge, the DOE hopes to increase the number of

U.S. employers offering workplace charging by tenfold in the next five years.

Freudenberg-NOK Sealing Technologies is the Americas joint venture between Freudenberg and Co. in Germany and NOK Corp. in Japan. Freudenberg-NOK is a leading producer of advanced sealing technologies for a variety of markets including: aerospace; agriculture; appliance; automotive; construction; diesel engine; energy; food and beverage; heavy industry; and pharmaceutical. Founded in 1989 under the legal name Freudenberg-NOK General Partnership, Freudenberg-NOK is headquartered in Plymouth and operates more than 20 facilities across the Americas. For additional information, go to www.fnst.com.

CFU announces charity program

Community Financial has announced the return of its Thumbs Up For Charity program. This program gives the community a chance to nominate a local charity, education or community group for the chance to earn \$10,000. Through April 2, individuals are invited to nominate local charities via the Thumbs Up For Charity submission page on its website.

Nominees must be a 501(c)3 organization, recognized community support organization or associated with an accredited educational institution serving the communities of Plymouth, Canton, Livonia, Northville, Novi or the counties of Montmorency, Otsego and Alpena. Go to cfcu.org for details.

Canton Chamber presents 'Night at the Races'

The Canton Chamber Dinner Auction "A Night at the Races" is set for Saturday, April 18, in Burton Manor Banquet

and Conference Center, 27777 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia.

The Kentucky Derby-themed fundraiser is the chamber's largest annual fundraiser, drawing more than 400 business owners and managers from throughout the Canton community. The event includes a gourmet strolling dinner with open bar for the entire evening. In addition to the \$5 raffles and live auction, there will be several opportunities for attendees to win cash prizes at the "horse races" during the event.

Individual tickets are \$75 per person and includes gourmet strolling dinner and premium open bar. Call 734-453-4040 or go to www.cantonchamber.com to purchase tickets.

BOAA promotes Jasti to senior VP

Bank of Ann Arbor has promoted Satish Jasti to senior vice president and senior loan officer. Jasti joined BOAA in December 2011 as vice president and senior loan officer of the Plymouth office. As part of an expanding commercial banking group in the Plymouth office, he has been instrumental in helping grow the Plymouth loan portfolio with successful selling efforts throughout surrounding communities as well as the greater Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb area.

"We value the extraordinary effort and great success that Satish has enjoyed since his time with Bank of Ann Arbor," said Tim Marshall, president and CEO. "We have enjoyed five consecutive years of record-level performance and we value his many contributions to our success. His team orientation, leadership, and generous service to the communities we serve warrants this new position."

Previous to Bank of Ann Arbor, Jasti was the founder, president and CEO of a community bank in Novi where he conceptualized, created and raised \$14 million in capital at the inception of the project and helped open the new bank.

Jasti serves on the Advisory Board of Lawrence Technological University's College of Management in addition to being a sustaining member of the Detroit Economic Club.



Jasti

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TOM BEAUDOIN

Nicholas Allen demonstrates how he brushes his teeth on a model provided by the University of Michigan dental school.



TOM BEAUDOIN

Brothers William and Nathan Paris gently pick up worms at the STEM Bash at Bentley Elementary.



TOM BEAUDOIN

Bentley kindergarten teacher Sara Ruggirello sits with student Jade Kirkland as she plays a game during the STEM (science, engineering, technology and mathematics) Bash at the school Tuesday. The event was an expansion of the school's annual Math Mania.



TOM BEAUDOIN

Zachary Peterson and his sister, Olivi Rust, try to figure out how many suckers are in a jar during the STEM Bash at Bentley Elementary.



TOM BEAUDOIN

Third-grader Carter Olzak concentrates as he controls a robot machine at the STEM Bash at Bentley.

Bentley Elementary launches STEM Bash

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

With a new emphasis on STEM subjects, Bentley Elementary branched out its annual Math Mania on Tuesday, debuting a new event with a broader focus.

Robots, a science fair, math and engineering games and a visit by an ambulance crew, with their rig, were all part of the new Bentley Brilliant STEM Bash at the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools elementary.

The idea, said Principal Jerry Meier, was to turn Math Mania, an annual mathematics challenge night, into a forum for all STEM subjects — science, engineering, technology and mathematics. The Lightning Robotics team of Plymouth-Canton Educational Park high school students visited with several robots, student projects were displayed in Bentley's first science fair and engineers from Robert Bosch LLC brought hands-on games to demonstrate engineering and physics concepts.

"We figured we had a lot to share with the parents," Meier said. Meier, who started his career as a math teacher, was running a popular math challenge in the school's media center, giving students grade-level-appropriate problems to solve on the spot. It's a math-teaching habit he's had for years, he said. "I'm constantly challenging them," he said.

Nearby, students were sizing up jars full of objects — beads, candy bars, erasers, pennies — and applying their skills to make guesstimates about how many objects were in each. Guesses were 25 cents apiece and winners — the closest estimates — got to keep the objects. (The candy jars were especially popular.)

"It's a math skill," said teacher Laura Tremonti, who was helping run the game. "Some of the older



TOM BEAUDOIN

Parent volunteer Tom Centlivre watches as Nate Pangburn and Evan Pierfelice build a pyramid of cups with rubber bands.

ones are doing some counting and some multiplying."

Science projects were displayed in the school auditorium. Subjects included the color spectrum, electromagnetics, growing grass seeds in different liquids (water worked better than chocolate milk), measuring the electrical resistance in various fruits (lemons registered the lowest) and whether music will help plants grow (it did in this case).

The Lightning Robotics team brought its large robot and several tabletop models. "They try to get out there for the kids," said Rose Todd, a team mentor.

Meier said the STEM Bash should become an annual event.

"Hopefully we've started something that'll go on for many years," he said.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
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Doing the Lord's work

Missionaries give up everything to work with people of northern Ghana

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

For Gary and Siham Jasmund, life is about serving. For six years, they have worked as missionaries in the Upper East Region of Ghana, helping spread the word of God and make lives better for the people they come in contact with.

Their life now is in stark contrast to what they left in Michigan to answer God's call. They put their faith into action, selling their home in South Lyon and all of their possessions and trained to become missionaries. People thought they were "crazy."

"Before we went out on our own, an organization invited us to go to Ghana," Siham said. "We weren't in a position to do it on our own, but when we came home, we opened our own 501(c)3."

They formed their own foundation, Jasmund Outreach, in 2009 and now rely on donations to do the work of the Lord.

Siham's journey started well before they made their first mission trip to Gambia in 1998. They raised their own support and helped construct buildings. Looking back, she doesn't know why she went on that trip, but whatever the reason, by 2005 the Jasmunds had collectively made 30 short mission trips to 11 countries, including Honduras, Croatia, Papua New Guinea, Romania and Hungary.

Meeting with God

The couple lived in Garden City for 20 years and raised their four children there. Members of St. Raphael Catholic Church, Siham began to want more of her relationship with God, so she researched and read the Bible. She became "hungry" and ended up taking Bible classes at North Ridge Church in Plymouth. That was where she discovered there could be more than meeting with God once a week.

"I would meet him on Sunday; I didn't realize that I could invite him into my life any day of the week," she said. "I didn't realize how much I wanted to have a relationship with him. I look back on the history of my relationship with him and I have learned to respond to him sooner."

By 2000, Siham "knew God was calling us to do this full time," but it wasn't until 2005 that Gary, after their third trip to South Africa, came home from work one day and said that "I think God is calling us to go to the field sooner than later." As with many of the decisions they make, they took time and prayed.

"We initially thought

JASMUND OUTREACH

The work of Gary and Siham Jasmund is supported through their foundation, Jasmund Outreach. The donations help support their humanitarian and spiritual work, including the purchase of the female breeding goats and building wells in villages in need of a source of clean water. Each goat costs \$50 and each well \$6,000.

Jasmund Outreach is a nonprofit, 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization with the IRS. Donations made to Jasmund Outreach are tax-deductible and can be made by sending a check to Jasmund Outreach, 2764 N. Green Valley Pkwy., Ste. 214, Henderson, NV 89014-2120.

For more information about Jasmund Outreach, go to jasmund-outreach.com.

we'll go out as missionaries, when God provides enough money to do it, but God made it clear that we were to follow Him now and leave the details, including the finances, up to Him," the Jasmunds said. "And He really has done it. Where God guides, He provides. It's not about going to a different place, it's about following Jesus and obeying Him where we are and as He leads us."

They sold their home in South Lyon in 2007 and went to live with their brother in Westland. In 2008, they spent nine months living in a trailer in Mississippi, helping with Hurricane Katrina relief and church renovations. In two years' time, they went from living in a 3,000-square-foot house to a 400-square-foot trailer.

When they finally left for Ghana, they had seven bags, but not all were filled with clothes. Some had pots and pans, Siham said.

"Our only earthly possession was a motorcycle; it was an anniversary gift that we didn't want to give away," she said.

The Jasmunds spent three years outside of Accra, the capital of Ghana, working with orphans, widows and the poor. They helped build several schools and children's homes, churches and community projects. But they felt God asking them to go to Bolgatanga in the remote north, near the border with Burkina Faso.

They work with a number of communities and churches, many of which they have helped their local friends establish. One of their "dear friends and partners" in Ghana is Emmanuel, who is a teacher and pastor. He works with them in a number of community outreach programs, including being Siham's assistant director of The Give a Goat initiative. Their daughter and son-



Gary Jasmund plays with children in a village in northern Ghana where a well was drilled.

JASMUND OUTREACH



Gary and Siham Jasmund have worked as missionaries in the Upper East Region of Ghana for six years.

JASMUND OUTREACH

in-law run Jasmund Outreach as volunteers. All the donations received go toward their mission work.

"One of my husband's greatest gifts is generosity," Siham said. "He would give you the shirt off his back, but we pray about things before we do anything."

What people need

For the Jasmunds, their work is both spiritual and humanitarian. When they go to a village, their first questions are about what the people need.

"The villages open up to us because we have gone in and asked what they need, what their problems are," Gary said. "Education and water are their biggest needs. When you ask what the biggest problem is, it will almost always connect to the children. How do I educate them? How do I help? How do I propel them into a better life?"

"We go to villages to help and the people will ask us why we do this. We tell them we do this because Jesus loves you, we do this because Jesus

brought us here to walk with you," he added.

One effort Siham is proud of is The Give a Goat ministry. She started working with widows who have the greatest need. The Sihams buy healthy female breeding goats and give them to the widows who have a partner. They give their goat's first born female to the partner. Siham started with 10 women and now has 250 widows in six communities involved in the project.

"I'm teaching them business sense and with their partners, reconciliation and unity," she said. "It's been amazing what a little idea has done. A goat costs \$50 and that's a fortune for them, but they're responsible to their partner so that goat is well taken care of."

Gary has gone back to school to study and would like to get a theological degree. Because of his studies, he spent half of last year in Nevada and half in Ghana. He was back in the states for a few weeks in January



Gary Jasmund prepares to baptize a young Ghanaian woman.

JASMUND OUTREACH



Siham Jasmund checks over two female breeding goats that will be given to women as part of her Give a Goat ministry.

JASMUND OUTREACH

and returned to Ghana with two 75-pound bags filled with literature to equip students and pastors to serve God and others effectively.

In looking at their work, Siham now realizes that it is no longer about religion. Yes, they have an "intimate relationship" with God, but they work with all people of all faiths, including those "who do witchcraft, in hopes that they, too, will have a relationship with God."

"This is not just about the Jesus of 2,000 years ago, He does miracles today," she said. "It's about things like standing beside and helping a

child whose mother just died of AIDS. It's not about us, it's about Him. He uses us. We're His hands and feet."

For the Jasmunds, the hardest part has been leaving their family, but they have been here for the births of their eight grandchildren, which Siham describes as a "total blessing."

"Is it worth it? As a woman of faith, it is," she said. "I'm not sure how long we will live there and will we do this until the day we die? Yes, if God wants us to."

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

Charter Township of Plymouth Vacancy Announcement - Township Supervisor Call for Letters of Interest



The Charter Township of Plymouth is accepting letters of interest and resumes for Township Supervisor.

To qualify, interested individuals must be a Plymouth Township elector. An elector is someone who is at least 18 years of age, registered to vote in Plymouth Township and lives in Plymouth Township. The successful candidate will be appointed to fill the remainder of the Supervisor's term which expires at 12 noon on November 20, 2016.

Letters of interest and resumes may be emailed to: nconzelman@plymouthtp.org.

hand delivered or mailed to:
The Charter Township of Plymouth
Attention: Nancy Conzelman Plymouth Township Clerk
9955 N. Haggerty Rd Plymouth, MI 48170

Letters must be received no later than 7:00 p.m., Friday, March 27, 2015. Submissions after the deadline will not be accepted.

Interviews will be conducted by the Board of Trustees at their regular meeting on, Tuesday, March 31, 2015.

Publish: March 26, 2015

LD-00023924 3x3

CITY OF PLYMOUTH ADOPTION OF FIRE SAFETY REGULATIONS ORDINANCE #2015-02

The City of Plymouth held a Public Hearing on Monday, March 16, 2015 concerning adopting the most current set of fire safety regulations under the International Code Council. The ordinance change submitted by the Fire Chief for introduction at a regular meeting held on Monday, March 2, 2015 and after the public hearing, they were adopted on Monday, March 16, 2015 by the Plymouth City Commission. These changes are on file at the City Clerk's office for review and submitted to Municipal Code for incorporation in the City Code under Section #38-56 - Adoption of Fire Prevention Code.

Linda Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk

Publish: March 26, 2015

LD-00023924 3x3

CITY OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION FOR THE SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2015

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an election will be held in the City of Plymouth on Tuesday, May 5, 2015. The last day to register for the Special Election is Monday, April 6, 2015 by 4:00 p.m. Persons residing in the City of Plymouth registering after the deadline will not be eligible to vote at this election.

Voters may register by mail using a mail in voter registration form or in person at the Secretary of State Branch Office of the Applicant's County, City or Township offices.

PERSONS ENTITLED to be registered voters in the City of Plymouth must possess the following qualifications on or before the day of the election: (1) a citizen of the United States; (2) not less than 18 years of age; (3) a resident of the State of Michigan and City of Plymouth for not less than 30 days prior to the election (MCL 168.492). In addition, qualified electors must be registered to vote not less than 30 days prior to the election (MCL 168.497).

Registrations can be received at the City of Plymouth Clerk's office, located at 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Linda Langmesser, City Clerk

Publish: March 26, 2015

LD-00023924 3x3

OUR VIEW

Calling supervisor candidates: Deadline to apply is Friday

Wanted: Strong municipal manager. Long hours, competitive salary and benefits. Must have excellent leadership and listening skills and be able to articulate goals. Working knowledge of parliamentary procedure is necessary.

These are just a few of the must-haves for the next Plymouth Township supervisor.

The township Board of Trustees will select the next supervisor and residents should know that it will not be an easy task.

We hope, however, it will be civil and focused on finding the best possible candidate.

The board is accepting letters of interest in the job, plus resumes and other documentation candidates would like board members to consider, until 7 p.m. Friday.

The appointment is the board's to make because Supervisor Richard Reaume submitted his resignation recently. His last day on the job is Monday, April 6. State law gives the board 45 days from that date to pick someone to serve the remainder of his term.

The board will discuss the applications, interview

candidates and possibly pick a successor to Reaume at its next regular meeting Tuesday, March 31.

The selection process – if it follows the pattern of recent township business – won't be easy.

Current politicians – local, county and state elected officials – are lining up in an effort to win the appointment.

Trustees Chuck Curmi and Bob Doroshewitz have expressed interest in the position. County Commissioner Shannon Price, who moved to Plymouth Township earlier this year, is weighing his options. State Rep. Kurt Heise, who was elected last November to a third two-year term, has said he will be a candidate.

Doroshewitz argued at a special meeting Saturday that the next supervisor should come from the ranks of the current board, saying that would bring legitimacy to the pick and avoid the public rancor that could come with appointing someone not chosen by voters.

He may have a point. However, given the board's rancorous nature, this seems unlikely. And that's too bad. Trustees have the knowledge and political ac-

men to handle the job; however, several have an obvious lack of respect for each other and, frankly, the public's business seems at times takes a back seat to political grandstanding.

Simple questions regarding the selection process and time line were amplified at Saturday's session – perhaps for the benefit of the audience.

Treasurer Ron Edwards correctly stated that there is "no perfect process." Said Edwards: "It is a political process. It's in the law that way."

While some board votes were split Saturday, the board ultimately managed to vote 6-0 for a list of questions for supervisor applicants, with the understanding more may be added at the March 31 meeting.

Should the board not make an appointment within 45 days of Reaume's departure, state law allows Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett to call a special election. Perhaps that will ultimately decide who replaces Reaume.

In the meantime, Plymouth Township residents who believe they have the knowledge, management and leadership skills – and a thick skin – need to apply.

Legislators should offer alternative roads plan

The spring thaw is no friend to Michigan's roads. With the snow melt and frozen groundwater thawing, potholes are popping up here, there and, sometimes it seems, everywhere.

Road conditions have been at the forefront of drivers' minds for quite a while. For much of 2014, residents have said fixing roads should be the state's biggest priority. So what did Michigan's legislators do? They waited until the last minute, then threw together a slew of bills in the lame-duck session with bipartisan support.

The result is a May 5 ballot question asking voters if they support a one-cent increase in the state sales tax.

If passed, ironically, none of that extra sales tax money would go toward roads. Instead, it would trigger implementation of several other laws. Among them are measures that would raise the fuel tax and vehicle registration fees while exempting gas from the state sales tax. That money would be dedicated to roads and mass transit and – ultimately, proponents claim – will raise the extra \$1 billion a year needed for road repairs.

Passage of the sales tax increase would also provide more money to schools, local government and restore the Earned Income Tax Credit.

It's convoluted and messy, for sure. Legislators apparently think that's good enough. The sales tax increase is a tough sell. Residents, businesses and government officials alike seem lukewarm to the proposal, at best. And a top state official, Attorney General Bill Schuette, has come out in opposition.

So what happens if the ballot proposal fails? Who knows? The roads certainly aren't going to fix themselves. And various legislators have indicated they have bills ready in case the sales tax request fails. But those are simply reshaped ideas that never saw the light of day last time around. Gov. Rick Snyder has said repeatedly there is no Plan B.

What Lansing's legislators need to do – and quickly

– is devise an alternative plan to fix the state's infrastructure. It needs to be passed before the May 5 election. And if Proposal 1 fails, that Plan B should be triggered to take effect, similar to how its passage would activate those other measures.

Why? Because voters need to know what they're getting themselves into if they reject the increased sales tax. We've heard plenty of reasons why residents plan to vote no in May, including the confusing nature of the request and the expectation that the elected legislators are hired to make these types of decisions.

But since the state House of Representatives was afraid of being connected to anything resembling a tax increase, members kicked the can as far away from themselves as they could.

That's not leadership. It's pandering to their partisan districts, trying to set themselves up for their next election run.

Failure at the polls on this costly ballot proposal can't be taken by Lansing officials as a sign residents oppose any tax increase. Likely, it's an indictment on those who put the plan together.

This is one issue that deserves much, if not all, attention from our elected officials. More so than such social issues they're talking about now, like a state Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which would attempt to elevate religious beliefs above anti-discrimination laws.

Michigan residents must have an alternative plan if Proposal 1 fails May 5. Whether it's something akin to the state Senate's road funding proposal last year or something else, Michigan needs to have something in place to address road conditions.

Just like there are bills that will take effect with Proposal 1's passage, new laws should be triggered to address road funding if the measure fails.

If they don't act, legislators will be saying that roads aren't a problem – and that their personal agendas are more important than listening to residents.



FILE PHOTO

While campaigning for Proposal 1, Gov. Rick Snyder said there is no Plan B if the measure fails on the May ballot.

LETTERS

Price is leader

As the former deputy director of the Wayne County Parks Division, I saw Wayne County Commissioner Shannon Price take the lead on several parks issues that benefited the residents of Plymouth Township.

More importantly, as a mother of a special-needs child and resident of Plymouth Township, Commissioner Price fought for the restoration of the Therapeutic Recreation Program that provides recreational opportunities at reasonable rates to western Wayne County residents. Commissioner Price never wavered and fought to see that programs like the Therapeutic Recreation Program were maintained. I am proud to say that my son is able use this program today.

As a Wayne County commissioner, Price has displayed the leadership skills required to lead Plymouth Township. That is why I am asking the Plymouth Township board to select Shannon Price as the next Plymouth Township supervisor.

Jessica Mistak
Plymouth Township

Township needs transparency

One of the biggest criticisms that I have with the Plymouth Township board is the lack of true transparency. We need our local government to be more accountable to its residents and they should be using Wayne County as an example for transparency.

When Wayne County Commissioner Shannon Price first took office, he vowed to make the county more transparent. At that time, Wayne County was rated a D-minus by Sunshine Review, which placed it dead last in the state in terms of public transparency. But through the hard work of our commissioner and a unique ability to work with the executive's various departments, Wayne County now has an A-plus rating, placing it ahead of our neighboring counties.

Not only does Plymouth Township need greater transparency, it needs a supervisor that can work with the various departments to make our community better. Shannon Price has shown he has the skill set to do just that. Plymouth Township needs a leader like Shannon Price, who can move our community forward.

Jennifer Esparza
Plymouth Township

Price best for supervisor

With the resignation of Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume having been accepted by the board of trustees last Saturday, much has been debated regarding who his replacement should be. There is no doubt that we all agree his successor must bring proven and principled leadership to the township.

That person should also be the best candidate able to unify strong-willed board members and our fine community, resolve complex issues while being able to think outside the box, bring economic development to the township and be able to work cooperatively with neighboring communities, Wayne County and Lansing.

In my opinion, the individual that best meets these criteria is Wayne County Commissioner Shannon Price. His positive attitude, tireless work effort, financial acumen and burning desire to make Plymouth Township a better place to work and live are all attributes which make him an ideal candidate. I am urging the township board to unanimously vote for Shannon Price as our next township supervisor.

Robert Harris
Plymouth Township

Road fix tax a bait and switch scam

I have to disagree with any endorsement in support for Proposal 1, otherwise known as the "road tax." First off, that term is in error; it is much more than a road tax. It is a hastily made mistake and poor excuse for legislation that deprives taxpayers of much more than good roads. Why add tax to my loaf of bread and milk, why add tax to my restaurant bill?

Does the public even know that this piece of ill-conceived legislation removes ad valorem taxes from your itemized deductions? As a single point to this, you will no longer be able to deduct personal property tax on the purchase/use of a vehicle. Add that up when you purchase a new \$20,000 vehicle at 6 percent tax deductible or at 7 percent non-tax deductible.

In summary, the proposal will increase the sales tax from 6 percent to 7 percent, raise taxes on fuel

and increase vehicle registration taxes. It will also hike the state's Earned Income Tax Credit.

Overall, the proposal will increase state tax revenue for fiscal year 2015-16 by approximately \$2 billion, of which \$1.3 billion will go to funding transportation – initially to accelerate repayment of existing transportation bond debt, to increase overall road maintenance and to spend more on transit and recreational grants. Of the additional \$700 million in new tax revenue, \$300 million would go to public schools, \$100 million to local government revenue sharing and pledges for future spending on local bus and transit agencies.

The proposal raises the state's sales and use taxes from 6 percent to 7 percent, a 17-percent increase in the rate. This would give Michigan the second-highest state sales tax in the nation.

Dangerous crumbling roads are no excuse for garbage legislation; that's how we got here in the first place. We need to send this back to Lansing so they can do this right. Band-Aid proposals full of bait and switch taxes while stealing more from the taxpayers is not what we need at this time. Take the time to put together a package that provides for better road specifications, enforcement of stronger warranties, lower load limits and direct dedicated taxation of fuels/road usage for repairs and maintenance.

Don't increase the tax on my bread and milk to pay for monies to be spread out over several agencies, to get lost in the general fund, to be mishandled and misused. I agree that something needs to be done about our roads, but this is definitely not it. Until our legislators get this proposal done the right way, with long-term solutions in lieu of short term Band-Aids, I must vote no.

Brad Wolkan
Livonia

Supports ballot proposal

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

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

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

Linda Preston
2015 MTA president

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WHALERS CLOSE IT OUT IN STYLE

FINAL CURTAIN



RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS

These banners perfectly sum up the vibe Saturday night inside Compuware Arena. It was the final game in Plymouth Whalers franchise history. The Whalers will become the Flint Firebirds next season.



RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS

Plymouth Whalers players circle the ice at Compuware Arena Saturday night, thanking loyal fans along the way following the final game in team history.

LOVE-FILLED ATMOSPHERE OUTSHINES ERIE'S MCDAVID AS WHALERS PLAYERS, FANS BID FAREWELL

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The Connor McDavid Show came to Compuware Arena for one night and the performance was as dazzling as advertised.

He turned on a dime, made slick moves that turned Plymouth Whalers goalie Alex Nedeljkovic into knots and sparked the Erie Otters to a 5-1 victory Saturday night before a standing room only crowd of 4,070.

"He's unbelievable," Plymouth head coach Don Eland said about McDavid. "Like they say, once every 20 years a kid like that comes along and he's a special player, that's for sure."

McDavid, after being robbed of two goals in the first period, set up linemate Dylan Strome to open the scoring and then tallied a goal himself — his 44th of the season.

Yet for one evening, at least, the Erie superstar — the odds-on favorite to be the first player selected in the 2015 NHL Entry Draft — did not garner the most buzz. That went to a night of goodbyes between the Whal-



RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS

Making a blocker stop against Erie is Plymouth Whalers goalie Alex Nedeljkovic.

See WHALERS, Page B2

GIRLS SOCCER PREVIEW

Tomasso happy to be back

Former Canton soccer coach takes over senior-led Rocks

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

George Tomasso is back and he's blue about it — in a good way, that is.

After a two-year hiatus from coaching high school soccer, Tomasso is returning to the sidelines to take over Salem's varsity girls soccer team. He succeeds Scott Duhl, who stepped down because of increasing coaching duties in



Tomasso

club soccer. Tomasso is no stranger to Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. He was part of Canton's boys soccer state champions both as a player (he was a stalwart goalkeeper) and coach, the latter in 2011.

"I was very fortunate for this job to be open and then I'm

completely honored to be selected to coach Salem High School," Tomasso said. "It's like an unreal experience to be coach of an athletic team at the Park."

Since the last time he coached at P-CEP, his focus has changed to family: "We had two kids in between, a 19-month old and a 3-month old."

He also is energized and



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

One of Salem's top returnees is senior Katie Latack (left).

See ROCKS, Page B4

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WHALERS

Continued from Page B1

ers and their fans, together experiencing the end of the Peter Karmanos-owned Ontario Hockey League franchise.

Banner raised

"I thought raising the banner was really cool, really neat," said Elland, whose injury-ravaged team missed the OHL playoffs for the only time in franchise history with a 23-38-5-2 record. "And then at the end, the fans saluting the players and the players saluting the fans. It's just a special, special moment."

"There's the old saying you don't know what you got until it's gone and a lot of people I think realized that."

Final outcome aside, fans made the most of their last opportunity to watch the Whalers.

The Otters (49-14-2-2) struck quickly in the second. McDavid sent a cross-crease pass to Strome, who made no mistake in scoring his 41st of the year on a one-timer at 2:22.

Just 1:10 later, McDavid flew down the left wing, zeroed in on Nedeljkovic and banked one in off the left post.

Erie's Taylor Raddysh made it 3-0 with 13:07 to go in the period.

But the Whalers didn't stop competing and trying to give their fans a proud sendoff.

One time, a dangerous shorthanded rush was foiled when the Otters' net was knocked off its moorings; another time, defenseman and Canton native Tyler Sensky clanked a shot off the goal post.

It would have been Sensky's first goal as a Whaler in his final hometown game.

Solid effort

"We battled and competed to the very end," Nedeljkovic said. "There was a lot of talk that with McDavid and Strome coming in that they were going to light it up, playing against a 10th-place team, ninth-place team actually."

"I think we did a good job of controlling them, for the most part."

What happened on the ice took a back seat to what transpired off it, though.

The affection between team



Plymouth Whalers players Mathew Campagna and Sean Callaghan share a moment following the game.



Mike Vellucci, former coach of the Plymouth Whalers, drops the puck between Erie's Connor McDavid (left) and Plymouth's Cullen Mercer.

and supporters was palpable from the get-go.

Before the start of the finale, fans watched 1990s-era captains Pat Peake, Mike Morrone and Randy Fitzgerald help raise a "Thank You Plymouth" banner to the Computware rafters.

They warmly welcomed longtime coach and general manager Mike Vellucci, who brought his family to center ice and also dropped the ceremonial first puck.

"It was great, the pregame was awesome, it was nice to have my family here," Vellucci said. "Postgame, it was a great

celebration for the organization for the last 25 years and 18 years here.

"It was a great night all-around, a sad end, but we should thank Mr. Karmanos for owning a team for 30 years and sticking it out for as long as he did."

Late in the third period, winger Bryce Yetman tipped in a blue line blast taken by defenseman Yannick Rathgeb. That spoiled Erie goalie Daniel Dekoning's shutout bid (to make it 4-1) and gave the Computware faithful one final chance to cheer a Whalers goal.

Drawing the second assist for Plymouth was defenseman Mitch Jones.

When the final minute drew near, the public address announcer informed the crowd that there was "one minute left in franchise history," triggering a standing ovation as play continued.

Only an empty-netter by Kyle Maksimovich with eight seconds left briefly interrupted the ovation.

'Unbelievable'

The players then congregated at center ice following the game and raised their sticks to salute the fans — whose cheers grew louder and louder.

"I've never played in this building where it's been so loud," said Nedeljkovic, a Carolina Hurricanes prospect who made 28 saves against Erie. "It was just an unbelievable atmosphere all night."

After vanishing under the stands for a few moments, the entire team then re-emerged to skate in single file along the perimeter of the rink, one final opportunity to give thanks.

Nedeljkovic said "skating around the rink and giving every single section, every single fan, the appreciation that they deserve" was his biggest takeaway from the night.

The goaltender's next OHL

home game will be as a member of the Flint Firebirds at Perani Arena. But he won't forget Plymouth.

"Plymouth's become a second home to me. I've been up here for four years now, made a lot of friends here, met a lot of people," Nedeljkovic said. "It's a great place to play, a great city, a great group of guys and a great managing staff."

He was trying to rein in his emotions as he talked about the end of this chapter of his life.

"All the way from our manager to the last guy on the roster to our equipment guy, a lot of emotions came out tonight," Nedeljkovic said. "And I think that's something special, because that shows you that everybody was committed to making us better and helping us move on with our careers."

"It's hitting right now. We'll see come Monday and Tuesday, when I'm sitting at home doing nothing."

Met great people

Defenseman and team captain Alex Peters, who only played eight games before tearing an ACL and being sidelined the rest of the season, also spoke glowingly about his time with the Whalers and thanked the fans.

"I remember coming here as a kid with my older brother (goalie Justin), watching him play," said Peters, a 2014 draft choice of the Dallas Stars. "And I was thinking how sweet it'd be to be here, and all of a sudden I am here."

"Just to think that it's over is really sad, a great organization and a lot of great people I met here. I can't thank them enough, my billet family, the staff here. Some of these guys are unbelievable."

Peters, finally skating again after months of inactivity, is looking forward to the next chapter of his career. But, like Nedeljkovic, he won't forget the one that just ended.

"It's going to be real tough to think that I'm not coming back to Plymouth," Peters added. "Or that nobody's coming back to Plymouth."

"But we'll just have to move on and hopefully Flint can be as nice as it is here."

tsmith@hometownlife.com
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EDUCATION

Canton foundation continues scholarship tradition

By Brad Radtch

When Canton's Education Foundation officers met last week to discuss the 2014-2015 scholarship season, they had a lot to talk about. The foundation has a long history of providing financial aid to local students who are pursuing higher education. This year, the foundation awarded 100 scholarships worth a total of \$1.2 million.

The foundation's success is due to the generosity of its donors and the hard work of its staff. The foundation also provides support for local schools and community organizations.

Small start

The foundation was started in 1960 by a group of local business leaders. It has since grown into one of the largest scholarship foundations in the state.

Local help

The foundation's success is due to the generosity of its donors and the hard work of its staff. The foundation also provides support for local schools and community organizations.

ON CAMPUS

Canton students in grades 9-12 are eligible for the foundation's scholarships. The foundation also provides support for local schools and community organizations.

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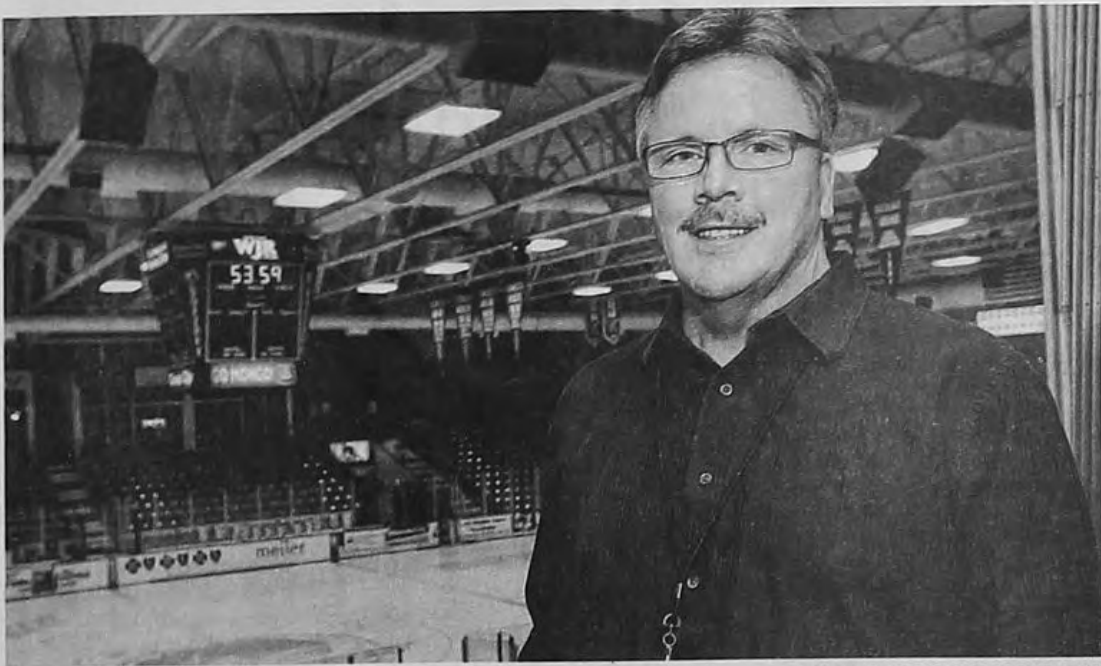
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RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS

Covering the Plymouth Whalers was a labor of love for the Observer's Tim Smith, shown from inside the press box at Compuware Arena before Saturday's franchise finale.

INSIDER'S VIEW

JOY AND PRIVILEGE

For a lifelong hockey fan, getting to cover Plymouth Whalers was unforgettable

Well, it's over. The Plymouth Whalers are no more.

I will miss the games at Compuware Arena. I'll miss getting the chance to get to know extremely talented young athletes who someday might very well skate in the National Hockey League. I'll miss grabbing a freshly minted stack of game stats in the media room under the stands.



Tim Smith
STAFF WRITER

I'll miss strolling past a long line of young kids, each holding Whalers posters to be autographed in the locker room following a game. Heck, I'll even miss the mascot, Shooter.

Since the start of the 2009-10 season, an important and cherished part of my beat as sports editor of the *Observer* has been bringing news and features about the OHL's Whalers to readers.

It's been great. And yes, I'll admit it, I'm a hockey nut.

I've been one ever since listening to my transistor radio in the early 1960s as Budd Lynch and Bruce Martyn called Detroit Red Wings games. Even then, I poured over stories and statistics about The Original Six in the daily newspaper.

I began playing hockey around age 15 and really haven't stopped since.

Hello, Johnny O

Yet outside of a few feature free-lance hockey stories here and there — I recall truly getting stoked to interview 1970s and '80s heroes such as Jimmy Rutherford and John Ogradnick — my career path in the

newspaper business veered away from sticks and pucks until becoming an *Observer* & *Eccentric* sports editor in 2001.

So imagine my reaction when I took over the Plymouth and Canton beats, knowing the Whalers were an instrumental portion of that territory.

Sadly, after six seasons I considered both a privilege and labor of love, that assignment is no more as the Whalers morph into the Flint Firebirds.

It is something I will deal with on a professional level. It is something other "hockey nuts" who do not write for a living will get over.

Hockey still goes on in the Plymouth-Canton communities, of course, especially with USA Hockey taking over Compuware Arena sometime this year.

Plymouth's and Salem's high school teams are among the best in the state and the Compuware Youth Hockey Program carries on.

So do stellar youth programs at Arctic Edge in Canton and Plymouth Cultural Center. Plenty of worthwhile hockey stories will continue to be told.

Look it up

Still, it saddens me that "Plymouth" no longer will be linked to the best pipeline of talent to the NHL.

I doubt I'm alone.

Make no mistake, the Ontario Hockey League isn't the big leagues. Heck, it isn't even a minor professional league. But it's a sanctioned stepping stone, a sturdy bridge that hockey players between ages 16-20 cross en route to — hopefully — NHL fame and fortune.

Flip through the NHL's *Official Guide & Record Book*. Look up names such as Weiss, Legwand, Wisniewski, Neal, Wil-

son, Williams.

In agate type, you will see "Plymouth Whalers" in their career stats.

Pick up *The Hockey News*, if you can find one. More often than not, there will be a reference or two to the Whalers. Maybe even an action photo.

The word "Plymouth" sometimes is uttered on occasion by Red Wings' TV play-by-play man Ken Daniels or the broadcasters for *Hockey Night in Canada*.

I don't live in Plymouth, but seeing or hearing the suburban city's name as part of the international hockey lexicon is something to smile about. It's an extra, unexpected treat, like finding one last cookie in what seemed to be an empty package.

Unfortunately, that special time has come and gone.

Wishful thinking

Oh sure, future *HNIC* broadcasts might refer to the Whalers in passing. Registers will keep publishing records with "Plymouth" entries, until any player who ever called Compuware home retires.

On the plus side, with young players such as Tyler Seguin (a Whaler from 2008-10 who now plays for the Dallas Stars) or goalie Alex Nedeljkovic (a Carolina Hurricanes prospect), that might be a couple of decades down the road.

That will provide some solace, a tiny link to an unforgettable time in Plymouth sports history.

One wishes it didn't have to end, that much more could have been watched, relished and written about.

I doubt I'm alone about that, either.

Tim Smith is sports editor for the Plymouth and Canton Observers.

Whalers GM proud of way the team battled

Despite team's tough season, Craig happy he had opportunity

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Mark Craig loved his season at the helm of the Plymouth Whalers and just wished it wasn't a one-and-done situation for him.

But Craig, who took over as general manager of the Ontario Hockey League team last spring after Mike Vellucci was promoted to join the NHL's Carolina Hurricanes, said he was happy to have had the chance.

"You know, what I feel most for are the players and then some of the long-term employees. It really means a lot to them and I understand that," Craig said, talking after the final game in franchise history, a 5-1 loss Saturday to Erie. "It's been a big thing for them. For me, I was in and out of the (Peter Karmanos-owned) organization, but for Mike Vellucci to allow me to finish my hockey career here was pretty cool. I enjoyed it."

Craig, like 2014-15 head coach Don Elland, won't be following the Whalers as they become the Flint Firebirds.

The 2014-15 season with the Whalers book-ended Craig's OHL career. In 1984, he emerged from Compuware's youth hockey system when Karmanos needed a coach for the Windsor Spitfires team he had just purchased.

And to be part of things at the end of a 19-season run at Compuware Arena was

special to Craig.

"Tonight really showed what a great franchise it is," he said, referring to the sold-out arena and non-stop tributes. "This was a great environment. I think the franchise did a great job saluting the fans."

Craig also smiled about the way the Whalers were received in the final week or so of the season.

Friday in Kitchener, fans of the Rangers gave the Whalers a standing ovation both before and after the game.

"I was in Kitchener, Ontario, and I read an article in their paper and all it talked about was what a tough building this (Compuware) was to play in, because of our fan base," Craig said. "We may not have had a lot, we always wished we had 4,000 every night. But the ones that were here were so rabid and so willing to back us at every turn."

To that end, he said it was great that the Whalers were able to finally get a goal against Erie, late in the third period, to give those fans one last chance to let loose.

"I think we knew that was what they (fans) wanted and it was important to us," Craig said. "And I think we were trying to do everything we could. We had a lot of chances. That's a really good hockey club, there's no question."

"I think what I'm most proud of is how this team battled all year. Despite the injuries, despite everything they went through, they never quit."

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports



Mark Craig enjoyed his single season as general manager of the Plymouth Whalers, although it was a challenging year in many ways.

GIRLS SOCCER PREVIEW - PART 2

Chiefs primed for a brand new season

Canton already off to quick start behind savvy vets, rookie goalie

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Two games, two shutout victories for Canton's varsity girls soccer team and that has head coach Jeannine Reddy feeling pretty good about the 2015 season.

"They just mesh really well, they work together," said Reddy, whose Chiefs finished 10-6-1 last season (8-2-0 in the KLAAs South Division). "They have a winning attitude."

Leading the charge will be senior midfielders and co-captains Kelsey Cheaney and Chloe Donlin. Both are strong players and ultimate competitors.

"We have great team leadership," said Reddy, whose roster features seven seniors.

There is one notable absence from the 2014 team, however.

Natalie Winters, who as a sophomore midfielder made the Division 1 all-state team as an honorable mention, is not with the Chiefs this spring. Instead, she is playing for the Michigan Hawks Elite Clubs National League squad.

Reddy did say that Winters expressed interest in returning to the Chiefs for her senior season.

"Offensively she's great. She's a great team player," Reddy said. "I'm going to miss her."

In addition to Cheaney and Donlin, Canton will bank on the talent and poise of seniors Paige Messmer (defense-midfield), Hannah Reinhart (defense), Cristen Pederson (midfield), Taylor Topolski (defense) and Sarah Trapp (midfield-forward).

"We got a lot of solid players, a lot of returning players," Reddy said.

One of the team's younger players who will be called upon is sophomore forward Hannah Lapko, who broke onto the scene as a freshman to become an important player for Canton's attack.

"Hannah Lapko is up top for me," Reddy said. "She's real good up top and we're counting on her to get a lot of goals this year."

Another speedy sophomore is Sarah Willett, who is listed on the roster as a defender.

Yet Reddy said Willett is playing forward as the season opens, a move that already paid dividends when Willett scored in the March 19 season opener (a 3-0 win over Belleville, a



Canton's Chloe Donlin (right), shown from last season, is a senior co-captain who will fortify the midfield.

game in which Lapko scored twice).

"She's really fast. She understands the game really well," Reddy said about Willett. "She can play either forward, midfield or defense."

Helping to provide strength at center-mid will be junior returnee Madison Archibald, who also can play up top. "We're hoping she brings offense," Reddy said.

Backstopping the Chiefs will be freshman goalkeeper Sarah Hammond, who Monday blanked Walled Lake Western shared the Belleville shutout with junior Jordan Anheuser.

Reddy said Hammond, who has several years playing time with the Canton Celtic organiza-

tion, "talks a lot, she organizes the back, she reads the game really well. I hear her constantly. You could not tell she is a freshman by the way she plays."

Also available is junior goalie Stephanie Morgan.

Rounding out the roster are juniors Casey Muglia, Samantha McGrath, Emily Raymo, Ellie Bachman, Mary Galm and Rachel McGue and sophomores Kaleigh Mahaz, Jen Richmond, Melanie Davies and Nicole Doucet.

Plymouth forecast

Monday's 1-0 loss to Walled Lake Northern in the season opener isn't getting Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich down.



Among key returnees for Plymouth is Megan McCurry (right), shown from a 2014 game.

In 2014, Plymouth finished 8-4-0 overall and 7-3-0 in the KLAAs South Division. Neschich knows the Wildcats again will be a force to be reckoned with in the division.

That's because there is a strong nucleus of returning players, led by seniors Hope Sheffield, Erin Winters and Alyssa Swanson.

Juniors Megan McCurry and Anna DeBiasi "will be key, central players for us," he said.

Sparking the offense will be Swanson and junior Catherine Gordon, while Neschich said Katie Chipman, Alexis White and Rachel Rubio "have all looked strong in the attack so far this year."

Challenging for starting spots on defense will be juniors Hannah Badger, Cassidy Lewis and Kelsey Melnick.

Plymouth also will feature either Julia Laflair or Olivia Turner in goal.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Plymouth's Ben Riley (right) carries the ball during a 2014 contest. Riley is one of several key seniors on the team.

BOYS LACROSSE PREVIEW - PART 2

Wildcats thinking bigger

Plymouth boys lacrosse team striving for conference success

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Wildcats varsity boys lacrosse team had more freshmen than seniors last spring, but head coach Brian Walsh sees only positives from that as the 2015 season unfolds.

"It was a rebuilding year for us (6-10 record) as we had more freshmen than seniors on varsity," Walsh said. "We believe last year getting our youth experience and playing time at a varsity level prepared us for success this year."

That doesn't mean the squad doesn't have its share of upperclassmen who really get after it.

Leading the Wildcats will be a solid group of seniors, including defensemen Ben Stover (second team all-state in 2014) and Ben Riley, midfielders Kyle Robertson (third team all-state) and Justin Brodzik, long-stick midfielder Andrew Withers and Grant Koppel-

berger, a defender beginning his first season with the Wildcats.

Walsh emphasized that the team's "culture" is changing for the better and that co-captains Stover and Robertson have much to do with that.

"Ben and Kyle have elevated our program ... we thrive on their energy and attitude," he said.

Junior goalkeeper Trevor McManus (second team all-state) also is in that leadership mix.

"Trevor made the Brine all-Michigan team and is on a short list for best goalies in the state," Walsh said.

Other returning players who figure to make Plymouth a team to watch include junior midfielder Austin Currier, junior attacker Derek Szczepaniak, sophomore defenseman Tyler Ramer and sophomore midfielder Nolan Ouellette.

First-year players with promise, in addition to Koppel-

berger, are sophomore defender Brady Terechenok, sophomore attackers Zach Gallaher and Jack Balch, junior long-stick midfielder Spencer Schif- tar, junior midfielder Mitch Gonzales, sophomore middies Jacob Miller, Nate Messer and Colton Borke and freshman defenseman Charlie Shaver.

"Our expectations are to win the Kensington Conference," Walsh said, detailing the team's mission. "We don't think about the Park championship, because if you win the conference, you win the Park. We want to think bigger."

"Our schedule matches our mind-set this season. Hosting our own preseason tournament (Lax War at High Velocity) is just another way to build the Plymouth brand in the state."

SALEM 20, N. FARMINGTON 1: Saturday afternoon match was all Salem, with a strong all-around performance supported by senior goalie Mack Baker (nine saves). "I felt that our seniors had a lot of energy bottled up leading into this game," Rocks head coach Corey Mattingly said. "They are learning how to execute proper offensive schematics and philosophy."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

GIRLS LACROSSE PREVIEW - PART 2

Canton girls look to jell quickly

Chiefs' roster features veterans, newcomers

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Nothing gets easier, even in high school girls lacrosse, but Canton head coach Dave Boyer and his players are ready for the challenge of a new season.

Boyer and first-year assistant coaches Jim Rippey and Doug Pfau are presiding over a team that still is without senior co-captain and midfielder Jordan Church — who when she does see action will be competing in her fourth varsity season.

Yet the coaching staff has plenty of returning and new talent to weather the storm of not having one of the team's best players. Church is recovering from knee surgery and has not yet been medically

cleared.

With Church sidelined, the Chiefs — who last year were 9-8, earned a share of the Park championship and advanced to the regional final — will feature juniors Katja Nuler, Madelyn Mans and Rianna Pfau in the midfield.

Backing them up will be junior Tracy Olah and sophomores Alea Hadous and Olivia Adamic.

On the attack, the Chiefs will be led by juniors Casey Bower and Sam Graham, both entering their second year on varsity.

Promising freshman attacker Maggie Buck will join them. Also starting up front will be senior Hannah Klingler.

Ready to jump in on offense will be senior Anna Hadous, junior Andrea Simons and McKenzie Martin.

Holding the fort on defense will be a group led by senior co-captain Audrey Buck,

joined by senior Joelle Boudrea, junior Domonique Clark and sophomore Lauren Rippey.

Providing relief on 'D' will be senior Katie Kirchoff, juniors Brenna Wayne and Hollyann Stewart.

Junior newcomer Christina Christenson is slated to start in goal for Canton.

"(Christenson) comes to lacrosse via softball and is very athletic," Bower said.

According to Bower, the talent is there to make some noise in the KLAA Kensington Division. Now it is up to the players to mesh.

"This year, with 11 juniors on the team," Bowers said, "we will need to jell quickly as a team to be successful in the conference and at the Park."

SALEM 15, GABRIEL RICHARD 4: Seven players found the score sheet Monday in this non-conference contest against Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard.

Sophomore Leah Tardiff led the Rocks with five goals, while Andi Marthaler (three goals), Joslyn Lange and Maddie Johnson (two goals each) contributed.

basketball.

"Hayley Rogers is a tremendous midfielder player that understands and identifies with how our team plays," Tomasso said. "She is a captain and she's a great leader on and off the field for our team."

"Katie Latack, another basketball player, she is one of the hardest working players we have and she'll lead by example by leaving everything out on the field that she possibly can to help our team."

The Rocks also will feature senior defender Kaitlyn Pelech, a player for Vardar's Elite Clubs National League.

"Kaitlyn Pelech is a high-

NJCAA BASKETBALL TOURNEY

Mixed results for Schoolcraft teams

Men's hoop squad wraps up big season with defeat; women cagers post victory

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Both Schoolcraft College basketball teams competed in the NJCAA Division II nationals last week and both finished in the top 10.

After cruising to the MCCA championship and then winning its district, the men's basketball team went just 1-2 in Danville, Ill. The Ocelots finished 31-5 after dropping Saturday's sixth-place tournament game to Lakeland, 85-79.

Schoolcraft fell behind 44-39 at halftime and could not rally all the way back, despite 18 points by Lito Booth.

Also having strong outings for the Abe Mashhour-coached Ocelots were Anthony Wartley-Fritz (13 points, 10 rebounds), Westland John Glenn product Dre Black (12 points) and Canton alum Davon Taylor (eight points).

Contributing nine points was Howell's Tyler Johnson. Javan Thomas and Marcus Williams each scored six.

Leading the Lakers with 24 points was Mike Davis. Kenneth Evans and Rasheed Howard registered 16 each.

As for the Lady Ocelots,

they won Saturday's eighth-place contest in Overland Park, Kan., 69-56, over Phoenix College.

Five Schoolcraft players had nine points or more in the win, which upped the team's final ledger to 24-10.

Pacing the squad with 18 points was Wayne Memorial product Ashley Bland. She also grabbed seven rebounds, six on the defensive glass.

Joining Bland in double figures was Elise Tolbert (Birmingham Seaholm), with 14 points and 10 boards.

Adding 12 points each were T'era Nesbitt and Breiana Allen, while Chelsea Wesley scored nine for first-year head coach Kara Kinzer.

The Lady Ocelots took a 36-29 halftime lead over Phoenix (14-22), sparked by hot shooting from behind the 3-point arc (5-of-8 in the first half, 62.5 percent).

Schoolcraft tacked on to that lead throughout the final 20 minutes, making nearly 50 percent of its field-goal tries (13-of-28, 46.4 percent).

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

COLLEGE BASEBALL

MU baseball team sweeps WHAC twinbill

Piechota's one-hitter leads Crusaders

Junior Evan Piechota's one-hitter highlighted Madonna University's double-header sweep Tuesday of visiting Concordia University as the Crusaders improved to 8-0 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

The right-hander from Livonia Stevenson improved to 4-1 on the year as he struck out eight and did not allow a walk in nine innings as MU took the opener, 5-0.

The Cardinals' Wes Vaughn collected



Piechota

John Lauro went 2-for-3 with an RBI, while Cole Rize and Wolverine-Hoosier Player of the Week Taylor Grzelakowski added one RBI each.

In the nightcap, MU survived four errors and upped its record to 18-7 overall with a 4-3 win as sophomore lefty Alex DeYonker (Livonia Franklin) earned the victory to improve his record to 3-2.

DeYonker went the first 5½ innings, allowing two earned runs on four hits and a pair of walks. He struck out five before Bobby St. Pierre came on to record his third save, retiring all five Cardinals hitters he faced, including three strikeouts.

Zack Byron led MU's offense, going 2-for-2 with two RBIs. Shane Dokey also had two hits, while Levi Lamour, Matt Deneau and Ryan Freemantle each knocked in a run.

Vaughn had two RBIs for Concordia (6-20, 1-7).

WHAC honoree

Grzelakowski, a red-shirt sophomore outfielder from Fraser, was tabbed as the conference's Player of the Week for the second time in his career after leading the Crusaders to a 6-0 record to open the WHAC slate with a .545 average to go along with 10 RBIs.

In MU's four-game sweep of Marygrove, Grzelakowski hit .615 with eight RBIs, while going a perfect 4-for-4 with five RBIs during the second game of the series.

This season, Grzelakowski leads Madonna with a .430 average and 25 runs. He is also tied for the lead in outfield assists with three and has stolen six bases.

MADONNA 8-12, MARYGROVE 5-1: The bullpen and offense carried the Crusaders (16-7, 6-0) to their second straight sweep in as many days against visiting Marygrove College (2-15, 1-5) in twinbill Saturday at Ilitch Ballpark.

Freshman Patrick Wierimaa (Redford Union) and Dylan Cooper combined to hold the Mustangs to only two runs over the final eight innings after starter Todd Jones was roughed up for three runs in the opener.

Wierimaa (2-1), who picked up the victory, allowed just one run on four hits and pair of walks in his four innings of work. Cooper, meanwhile, gave up one earned run on three hits while striking out five over the final four innings.

Ryan Lambrecht belted a two-run homer, while John Lauro (3-for-5, RBI) and Taylor Grzelakowski (2-for-5, RBI) also chipped in offensively for the Crusaders. Cole Rize and Mitch Hudvagner also contributed an RBI each in MU's 11-hit attack.

In Game 2, Levi Lamour (2-for-2, RBI) and Livonia Churchill's Ben Matigian (2-for-4, RBI) led MU's 10-hit attack.

Matt Deneau also collected two RBIs, while Chase Dobbie, Zack Byron, Ryan Freemantle and Grzelakowski chipped in with one RBI apiece.

Winning pitcher Taylor Turner (Northville), the MU starter, worked four scoreless innings and allowed just two hits to earn his first collegiate win.

Jack Zimmerman, who gave up one run over two innings, and Bobby St. Pierre, who pitched a scoreless seventh, helped close out the victory.

ROCKS

Continued from Page B1

ready to take on the challenge of trying to guide the Rocks into title contention in the KLAA Central Division. Last year, Salem finished 4-8-4 overall and 3-4-3 in the Central.

"I have a huge passion to coach at the (Park), because I'm a product of that school system," Tomasso said. "It's where I came from and to have any opportunity to give back is ... one of my main goals."

Tomasso coached the Canton boys teams from 2003-12 and

the girls from 2005-10, so it might feel strange for him to be facing the Chiefs this spring, right?

"It's just like any other game," Tomasso said. "We're sister schools. And the rivalry's always heated. I've had experience in that game many times."

Seniors will lead

He will rely on a solid group of senior players to help the Rocks move up in the standings.

At the top of that list are midfielders Hayley Rogers and Katie Latack, both key players in Salem's recent march to the Class A regional final in girls

player) as players who will "support the senior leadership on our team."

Meanwhile, the former high school and college goalie has three players in the mix for goalkeeper — junior Abby Ozeranic, sophomore Skylar Brant and junior Jillian Yuhas.

"Our goalkeeping corps is pretty competitive," he said. "I'm looking forward to how well they play throughout the season."

Salem opens the season this week with games against Saline and Plymouth.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

NO PLACE LIKE HOME

1913-built Plymouth home has modern amenities

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

A home at 1217 W. Ann Arbor Trail near downtown Plymouth was built in 1913 and extensively remodeled in 2000.

"It's a great property," Coldwell Banker Preferred Realtor Jimmy Stevens said of the home, for which a sale is pending due to current owners relocating for work. "It's got a pretty cool back story."

The home has been listed by Coldwell Banker Preferred of Plymouth at \$539,000. It has five bedrooms and three and a half baths, and is in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district.

The owners who are selling bought it in 2000, Stevens said. "They added on about 1,300 square feet if not a little more. They did a lot of updating. They still kept a lot of the original. It has that mix of old and new."

There's a new kitchen, and a new basement was dug to supplement the older basement. The two basements couldn't be connected, Stevens explained, and the home has some 60-70 percent of its footage on the old basement.

New floors were added to the two-story colonial, along with new windows and updates for electrical and mechanical.

"This house got a lot of traffic," said Stevens. "Downtown Plymouth is a hot market." Stevens had another city of Plymouth property, on Peniman at the corner of Sunset close to Sheldon, about nine months ago.

"That went right away," he said. "It's just a hot market. There's a lot of money coming through downtown Plymouth." That includes not only buyers, he said, but also investors interested in residential properties.

Canton resident Stevens grew up in Plymouth and in the real estate business. His dad's the broker at Coldwell Banker Preferred, his mom the relocation director there.

"I grew up in this office, basically," said Jimmy Ste-



The city of Plymouth home has five bedrooms. "It's a great property," said Realtor Jimmy Stevens of Coldwell Banker Preferred Realtors of Plymouth. View a photo gallery of this home at www.hometownlife.com.



Conversation is a natural around this kitchen island at the city of Plymouth home.

vens, licensed for three years in his field.

He noted the I-275 Plymouth-Canton housing corridor is hot. Properties go at least at listing price.

"There's a lot of good things happening now in real estate," Stevens said. "It wasn't fun five-six years ago. It's been busy, definitely a good problem to have."

jcbrown@hometownlife.com



PHOTOS COURTESY OF COLDWELL BANKER PREFERRED
The Plymouth home on Ann Arbor Trail's exterior is eye-catching.

Start spreading proposal news to condo association

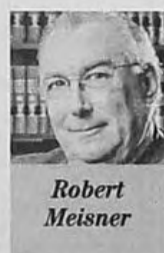
Q: I want to make a proposal at the next meeting of my condominium association. How do I get my proposal publicized?

A: Subject to its own internal procedures, your association is required to include in any meeting notice any proposal a member intends to put forward at a meeting, provided it is a proper subject for member action, and provided the member notified the association of the intent to present the proposal at the meeting within a reasonable time, but refer to your attorney for specific requirements embodied in the changes to the Nonprofit Act, which became effective on Jan. 15, 2015.

Q: Because many of our association members are vacationing during certain months, I would like to know whether members may vote on proposals by ballot without a meeting?

A: If your bylaws or Articles of Incorporation contain a provision permitting the taking of actions of the members without a meeting, then, yes, your association may use ballots in lieu of a meeting. Specific language is required in the ballot. Members must have at least 20, and up to 90 days to vote after the association provides the ballot to them to cast their vote.

Additionally, if 10 percent or more of the members submit a proposal for action by the members without a meeting, the ballot must also include that proposed action based on recent changes to the Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act.



Robert Meisner

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

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures.

Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. each Thursday at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon.

Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Investors

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

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. The Red Lobster is next to 7-11, near Trenton Road.

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

Seminar each Tuesday, Thursday

A free seminar on government-insured reverse mortgages is offered by Colonial Mortgage Corp. at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday and at 2 p.m. each Thursday at various locations.

RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

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

BEVERLY HILLS	
31965 Carleider St	\$237,000
16224 Elizabeth St	\$169,000
30077 Fox Run Dr	\$370,000
32200 Verona Cir	\$240,000
BINGHAM FARMS	
23620 Overlook Cir	\$350,000
BIRMINGHAM	
1173 Davis Ave	\$535,000
1744 Maryland Blvd	\$289,000
1467 Norfolk St	\$380,000
1508 Penistone St	\$260,000
411 S Old Woodward Ave	\$383,000
Unit 608	
1869 Shipman Blvd	\$760,000
1171 Stanley Blvd	\$321,000
1229 Stanley Blvd	\$390,000
366 W Brown St Unit 2	\$815,000
2299 W Lincoln St	\$355,000
499 Westchester Way	\$500,000
1344 Willow Ln	\$930,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
4376 Barchester Dr	\$615,000
667 Kingsley Trl	\$255,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
1731 Blair House Ct	\$575,000
3405 Bloomcrest Dr	\$1,075,000
4728 Balford Dr	\$392,000
254 Eileen Dr	\$185,000
1773 Golf Ridge Dr S	\$455,000
6605 Indianwood Trl	\$345,000
4547 Quarton Rd	\$285,000

1184 Rolling Acres Dr	\$187,000
1966 Sherwood Gln	\$757,000
5455 Wayfind Ln	\$495,000
1198 Wincombe Dr	\$200,000
5380 Woodlands Estates Dr S	\$780,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	
2925 Barbwood Ct	\$517,000
8679 Buffalo Dr	\$188,000
8691 Edgewood Park Dr	\$519,000
3134 Greenlawn Ave	\$120,000
8573 Immensee St	\$430,000
5440 Inverrary Ln	\$575,000
4983 Juniper Dr	\$265,000
5493 Leafwood Dr	\$398,000
2795 Red Arrow Dr	\$190,000
3267 Rio Vista St	\$150,000
5276 S River Dr	\$210,000
5262 Sandlewood Dr	\$420,000
5401 Starwood Dr	\$211,000
6140 Warwick Dr	\$270,000
FARMINGTON	
23037 Floral St	\$97,000
36999 Heatherthorn Dr	\$250,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
22295 Abington Dr	\$268,000
31115 Berryhill St	\$265,000
22200 Colgate St	\$123,000
31194 Country Way	\$145,000
29717 Deer Run	\$235,000
26750 Halsted Rd	\$204,000
28198 Hawberry Rd	\$185,000
30594 Knighton Dr	\$360,000
29830 Old Bedford St	\$213,000
25554 Ridgewood Dr	\$265,000
30111 Southampton Ln	\$275,000
23244 Tuck Rd	\$118,000
33254 W 11 Mile Rd	\$386,000
28426 W 8 Mile Rd # 3B1	\$30,000

32421 W Wayburn St	\$199,000
21737 Wheeler St	\$150,000
29945 White Hall Dr	\$290,000
FRANKLIN	
27261 Apple Tree Ln	\$629,000
30609 N Greenbriar Rd	\$635,000
30375 Woodside Dr	\$389,000
31235 Woodside Dr	\$1,590,000
HIGHLAND	
4975 Cathy Ln	\$117,000
196 Countryside Ln	\$40,000
2853 Davista Dr	\$175,000
2225 Oakland	\$36,000
2227 Pine Bluffs Ct	\$313,000
3292 Woodruff Meadows Ct	\$240,000
LATHRUP VILLAGE	
26571 Meadowood Ct N	\$190,000
MILFORD	
31123 Artesian Dr	\$220,000
648 Mill Pointe Dr	\$270,000
1280 N Hickory Ridge Trl	\$209,000
894 N Main St	\$60,000
1245 Robblee	\$213,000
192 Turnberry Ct	\$297,000
871 Union St	\$20,000
NORTHVILLE	
20860 E Glen Haven Cir	\$155,000
46903 Elmsmere Dr	\$354,000
43568 Galway Dr	\$235,000
508 Langfield St	\$255,000
21441 Lujon Dr	\$395,000
769 Novi St	\$165,000
21463 Silchester Ct	\$370,000
NOVI	
43000 12 Oaks Crescent Dr Apt 6066	\$174,000
27935 Hopkins Dr	\$165,000
31153 Livingston Dr	\$150,000

302 Maudlin St	\$163,000
22414 Meadowbrook Rd	\$235,000
1105 South Lake Dr	\$328,000
39982 Whispering Ln	\$238,000
45797 Willingham Dr	\$455,000
SOUTH LYON	
61130 Greenwood Dr	\$85,000
61280 Greenwood Dr	\$80,000
62475 Jonathon Dr	\$247,000
721 Kestrel Ct	\$200,000
57164 Meadowcreek Cir S	\$443,000
22914 Sandra Dr	\$154,000
833 Stoney Dr	\$224,000
58519 Winnowing Cir S	\$87,000
SOUTHFIELD	
15640 Arbor Pl	\$124,000
26731 Bloomfield Dr S	\$152,000
29182 E Chanticleer Dr	\$150,000
26372 Franklin Pointe Dr	\$55,000
21126 Greenview Rd	\$75,000
24648 Lafayette Cir	\$132,000
20175 Ledgestone St	\$85,000
29601 Pierce St	\$90,000
28043 Red Leaf Ln	\$75,000
19830 W 12 Mile Rd Apt 26	\$45,000
20998 Westhaven Ave	\$45,000
30600 Woodgate Dr	\$220,000
WHITE LAKE	
464 Burgess Dr	\$325,000
10200 Elizabeth Lake Rd	\$382,000
1102 Hillcrest St	\$50,000
9459 Marina Dr	\$88,000
110 Teggedrine Rd	\$288,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 17-21, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
7362 Andover Dr	\$455,000
6564 Bostonhill Ln	\$180,000
506 Cherry Hill Pointe Dr	\$201,000
43516 Cherrywood Ln	\$260,000
1593 Commodore Cir	\$158,000
2663 Daleview Ct	\$342,000
8246 Forrest Dr	\$150,000
7021 Fox Path	\$233,000
7044 Foxthorn Dr	\$60,000
44121 Franciscan Dr	\$160,000
49756 Great Falls Rd	\$385,000
49986 Hancock St	\$328,000

1426 Heritage Dr	\$154,000
44426 James Ct	\$215,000
2323 Knollwood Dr	\$145,000
47751 Pavillon Rd	\$417,000
1849 Pinecroft Dr	\$150,000
726 Prospect Hill St	\$50,000
41658 Ravenwood St	\$215,000
45037 Rolling Ridge Ct	\$295,000
GARDEN CITY	
31503 Brown St	\$70,000
230 Gilman St	\$94,000
6623 Golfview Ln	\$90,000
447 Helen St	\$105,000
31711 Leona St	\$85,000
LIVONIA	
9905 Arden St	\$199,000
30119 Hoy St	\$180,000
38058 Jamison St	\$175,000
16340 Levan Rd	\$250,000
19384 Milburn St	\$215,000

33220 Myrna Ct	\$238,000
31460 Myrna St	\$300,000
17245 Oporto Ave	\$15,000
20317 Purlingbrook St	\$143,000
16803 Shrewsbury St	\$230,000
16922 Surrey St	\$189,000
14324 Susanna St	\$204,000
14498 Yale St	\$185,000
NORTHVILLE	
44414 Aspen Ridge Dr	\$380,000
48304 Binghampton Dr	\$537,000
42809 Itham Ct	\$100,000
49855 Parkside Dr	\$495,000
383 S Wing St	\$485,000
16910 White Haven Dr	\$285,000
PLYMOUTH	
39573 Birchwood Dr	\$193,000
159 Hamilton Ave	\$215,000
452 Maple St	\$191,000
49451 Plymouth Way	\$161,000

12416 Woodgate Dr	\$160,000
REDFORD	
12138 Nathalie	\$85,000
17438 Norborne	\$28,000
24867 Puritan	\$27,000
17236 Sumner	\$75,000
WAYNE	
34563 Glover St	\$18,000
34587 Phyllis St	\$25,000
32567 Woodbrook Dr	\$105,000
WESTLAND	
34012 Cambria Ct	\$33,000
7775 Donna St	\$135,000
7210 E Frumin Ct	\$98,000
30427 Lonnie Blvd	\$93,000
6751 Moccasin St	\$85,000
1214 S Henry Ruff Rd	\$64,000
8520 Shari Dr	\$110,000
2639 Wilshire St	\$60,000
551 Worcester St	\$135,000

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AFI Financial	2431	(810) 588-4424	3.625	0	2.875	0
Ameripius Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	3.625	0	2.875	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	3.5	0	3	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	3.75	0	3.125	0
Group One Mortgage	107716	(248) 282-1602	3.875	0	3.25	0
Zeal Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	3.75	0.25	3.125	0

Above information available as of 3/20/15 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com.

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SEEKING: Multi-Media Sales Representative

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

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- Experience with CRM technology, Salesforce.com preferred

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Adult community 55+, quiet country setting, heat/water incl. \$590/mo. (734) 564-8402

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MAPLE RIDGE APTS.
Spacious 1 & 2 bdrms, 2 baths, c/a, \$570-\$660, w/ special, 50% off 1st 3 mos. with approved credit 248.473.5180

GARDEN CITY: Lg 1 & 2 bdrms, appl., heat/water Free. \$560/\$600 + security deposit. 734-513-4965, 734-464-3847

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Move in for as low as \$699
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Rentals starting at \$799 for 3 bed, 2 bath CHILDS LAKE ESTATES homes.
All appliances including washer & dryer.
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Rentals starting at \$799 for 3 bed, 2 bath CHILDS LAKE ESTATES homes.
All appliances including washer & dryer.
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Move in for as low as \$699
FREE RENT until MAY 2015*
Rentals starting at \$799 for 3 bed, 2 bath CHILDS LAKE ESTATES homes.
All appliances including washer & dryer.
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JOBS

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Help Wanted - General
Activities Director
For large Westland apartment community. Organize events/activities for residents of all ages. Must have or be able to obtain Chauffeur's License. Full-time position w/benefits. 401k.
Please email resume to Kristina.simmons@kmprestige.com or fax to 734-261-7140 EOE

BOOKKEEPER
Bookkeeper wanted with minimum 5 years bookkeeping experience for a Novi company. Must be proficient with Microsoft and Quickbooks. Hours: Mon-Fri. 9:00-5:30. Nice starting salary with benefits. Looking for a self-starter who manages time well & like diversity in their job duties.
Fax resume to: 248-412-8622

CLEANERS WANTED
PT evenings to clean offices/banks Paid training provided. Background check & drug screen required. 586-759-3700 www.saroccompanies.com

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FOR SALE - CARS/ MOTORCYCLES ATVS/ SNOWMOBILES
CORVETTES WANTED 1953-1972 Any Condition Courteous, Fast, Professional Buyer In the Corvette Business for 26 years Licensed and Bonded. Vince Conn Corvette vinceconn.com 1-800-850-3656 (MICH)

FOR SALE- MISCELLANEOUS
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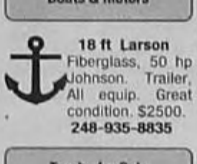
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You can now add the photo to the ad on cars.com!
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Crew Cab, short box, 4x4, SLE, ABS, traction control. \$19,995

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BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

GMC SIERRA 2012
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CHEVY 2012 - Silverado
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BUICK, GMC

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Heated front seats.
\$18,995

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

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

BUICK ENCLAVE PREMIUM 2012
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BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

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CHEVY EQUINOX 2013
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FORD EXPLORER 2012
FWD, 4 door, XLT rear parking sensor. \$21,995

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BUICK, GMC

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BUICK, GMC

GMC YUKON 2011
AWD, 4 dr., 1500 Denali, rear view camera, piking sensors, heated seats. \$35,995

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BUICK, GMC

SCION IC 2009
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Acura

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Reliable Transportation, Loaded, Remote Start, Dark Blue, Very Good Condition, Family Owned, \$1750. Hurry! Westland Sold

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

LACROSSE 2012
FWD, Premium 3, leather, heated seats, power sunroof. \$21,595

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

REGAL 2014
4 dr, Sedan, Turbo, FWD, 19 miles, heated seats. \$22,995

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

VERANO 2014
1,778 miles, rear camera, crumple zones, s/wheel cont. \$14,995

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

VERANO 2014
Driver info system, Bluetooth, rear view monitor in dash. Lots more! \$17,995

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Cadillac

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

CTS 2009
3.6L V6, AWD, Options package! \$14,995

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500

Chevrolet

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

COBALT 2008
2 Door Coupe Sport, ABS, Air, Sunroof. \$8,995

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

MALIBU 2014
1LT, 1400 miles, 1 owner, loaded. Just like new except the price! \$18,995

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

MALIBU LS 2013
24K miles, Bluetooth 1 owner, ABS. \$15,995

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500

GM

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

GM TERRAIN 2011
FWD, 4 Door, SLE-1, ABS Privacy Glass. \$12,995

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500

Honda

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

CIVIC 2013
EX-L Auto Sedan w/nav, Leather, moonroof. \$17,995

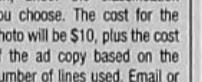
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500

Kia

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

RIO 2013
4 dr sedan, auto Ex, ABS, MP3 player, lots of extras! \$12,995

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500



ENHANCE YOUR AD WITH A PHOTO

You can add photos to your classified ads to show what you are selling, in addition to ad copy. Ads will appear whenever you want them to run, under the classification you choose. The cost for the photo will be \$10, plus the cost of the ad copy based on the number of lines used. Email or mail your 3x5 or 4x6 photos. Call for addresses. Photos will not be returned. Prepayment required/no refunds. To place your ad & get more info call :

MICHIGAN.COM
Green Sheet Classifieds
800-579-7355
Mon. thru Fri., 8:30-5pm
Some restrictions may apply



ENHANCE YOUR AD WITH A PHOTO

You can add photos to your classified ads to show what you are selling, in addition to ad copy. Ads will appear whenever you want them to run, under the classification you choose. The cost for the photo will be \$10, plus the cost of the ad copy based on the number of lines used. Email or mail your 3x5 or 4x6 photos. Call for addresses. Photos will not be returned. Prepayment required/no refunds. To place your ad & get more info call :

MICHIGAN.COM
Observer & Eccentric
800-579-7355
Mon. thru Fri., 8:30-5pm
Some restrictions may apply

Jeep

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

LIBERTY 2012
4x4, 4WD, 4dr Sport, 1 owner, 31K miles. \$19,995

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500

Lexus

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

ES 350 2008
4 door, Sedan, Leather Heated Seats, Loaded! \$14,595

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500

Pontiac

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC

GS 2007
2 dr. convertible, RWD, leather heated seats. \$13,995

BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
734-453-2500

CASH IN with O&E Media's CLASSIFIEDS
800-579-SELL

SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC VEHICLE AUCTION

April 3rd, 2015 @ 10am

ROSS TOWING
21360 TELEGRAPH RD.
SOUTHFIELD, MI 48033
248-356-6011

2008 Dodge
1b3c46k28n598516

2001 Ford
1fmrw16w31a028235

2007 Ford
1fahp24167g1144303

2003 Mercury
1mfms5553g605826

2008 Chevrolet
1g1al58187155864

2005 Pontiac
1g2hu52k15u157583

2000 Ford
1fafp56s9y101137

2003 Chevrolet
2g1wh5k339353135

2001 Chevrolet
2g1w55e019107706

1998 Ford
1fafp52s3wa270107

2005 Ford
1fmrw16w31a028235

2004 Chrysler
1c3c46k74n303086

1997 Land Rover
salpr1448va353183

2006 Cadillac
1g6kds5936u11564

2002 Ford
1fmyu06e62ua95169

2002 Mercury
4m2z86w12j28004

2006 Mercury
4m2c571x6k05813

2003 Chevrolet
1gnd13e43299376

1996 Chevrolet
1g1bl52w8tr119583

2005 Chevrolet
1g1t254895f100457

2000 Chevrolet
2g1ww12e3y9308104

2009 Ford
3fahp08z69r131924

2010 Chevrolet
cnaled6a62656336

2001 Mazda
4f2y08121km02032

1999 Ford
1fafp53u8xg214226

2003 Kia
kndup131236450970

1989 Oldsmobile
2g3a517k2440150

1999 Dodge
1b3e46k1xn502822

1997 Cadillac
1g6kys297u821187

2003 Mercury
2mhmm75w3w670310

2012 Chrysler
1c3c46k74n303086

1999 Chevrolet
1g1j1249x7310935

1998 Chrysler
2c3hd46j1wh241959

1999 Chevrolet
1g1ne52m6x6199396

2001 Oldsmobile
1g3p62h514104066

1994 Lincoln
1lnlm82w2y703160

2004 Kia
knagd126845280170

2005 Chevrolet
2cnd13f656076427

2005 Chevrolet
1g1ak12f157576340

2000 Cadillac
1g6ky5498yu177846

1995 Cadillac
1g6kds4b4su208230

1997 Mercedes
wbdha23e4v512382

2006 Chevrolet
1gndt13s662104945

2005 Cadillac
1g6dp567150168755

2009 Mitsubishi
4a3ab3879e023929

2006 Chevrolet
1g1az58367721003

2006 Hyundai
km8sc13dx6u033248

2003 GMC
1gket166536117325

1887 Pontiac
1g2wp12k2v222445

1996 Buick
1g4cw52k1t603449

2008 Chrysler
2c3a43r18n126066

2005 Ford
1fmrw16w31a028235

2001 Dodge
1b3e46k1xn502822

1998 Oldsmobile
1g3n52m5w6351635

1990 Pontiac
1g2af54j3l6202197

1995 Saturn
1g8k527xsz389134

2000 Pontiac
1g2w52j8y117641

1997 Pontiac
1g2w52k3v236427

1992 Mercury
1mepm604nh633854

2009 Chevrolet
2g1w57k191234714

2005 Kawasaki
jkaz4n115000807

2000 Mercury
4m2z86p7y48563

2001 Ford
1fafp3431w132727

1999 Buick
2g4ws52mxx15456

RELIGION CALENDAR

MARCH
MOVIE NIGHT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, March 27
Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills
Details: Apostle Peter and the Last Supper will screen. RSVP by phone
Contact: 248-553-3380

VESPERS

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sunday, March 29
Location: Descent of the Holy Ghost Romanian Orthodox Church, 31500 Ryan, Warren.
Details: The final Vespers services sponsored by The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit. Services conducted by members of the Clergy Brotherhood of St. John Chrysostom of Metropolitan Detroit. The Orthodox Choir of Metropolitan Detroit will sing responses during the service.
Contact: Richard Shebib, at 248-345-9346 or pascha-books@sbccglobal.net

APRIL
EASTER FAIR

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 3
Location: Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia
Details: Easter story, mac and cheese lunch, prizes, games, crafts and an egg hunt. The event also includes an egg hunt with a mission. Each egg in the mission hunt will represent an item for a hygiene kit for a new warming shelter in Detroit. Each kit contains lightweight bath towels, wash cloths, sample size shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, brushes and bars of soap. The church is making 50 kits to send to the center
Contact: 734-422-0149

EASTER SERVICES
Location: St. Colette Catholic Church, 17600 Newburgh, Livonia
Details: Holy Thursday Mass, 7 p.m. April 2; Good Friday Liturgy, 12:45 p.m. April 3; Easter Vigil Mass, 8 p.m. April 4; Easter Sunday Masses, 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m.,



A youngster checks out a plastic egg during Newburg United Methodist Church's Easter fair last year. The Livonia church plans the event this year, complete with a mission-focused egg hunt, Friday, April 3.

11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
Contact: 734-464-4433; stcolette.net

EASTER SERVICES

Location: Warren Road Light and Life, 33445 Warren Road, Westland
Details: Passover seder, 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 3; pancake breakfast, 9 a.m. and worship, 10:30 a.m., Sunday, April 5
Contact: 734-458-7301

EASTER SERVICES
Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City
Details: Maundy Thursday service, 7 p.m. April 2; Good Friday service, 7 p.m. April 3; Easter Vigil service, 8 p.m. April 4; pancake breakfast, 9 a.m. April 5; Easter egg hunt, 10 a.m. April 5; Easter service, 10:30 a.m., April 5
Contact: 734-427-3660

EASTER SERVICES

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford
Details: Maundy Thursday service, 7 p.m. April 2; Good Friday services, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. April 3; Easter Sunday service, 9:30 a.m., with free breakfast from 8-9:15 a.m. All visitors will receive a free DVD "Come Follow Me."
Contact: 734-422-0149

EASTER SERVICES

Location: St. Colette Catholic Church, 17600 Newburgh, Livonia
Details: Holy Thursday Mass, 7 p.m. April 2; Good Friday Liturgy, 12:45 p.m. April 3; Easter Vigil Mass, 8 p.m. April 4; Easter Sunday Masses, 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m.,

Contact: 313-532-8655 or 734-968-3523

EGG HUNT

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 4
Location: Crossroads Church, at Sacred Heart Conference Center, 29125 Six Mile, Livonia
Details: For ages 12 and under. Hunt for eggs, win prizes, eat sweet treats, and more. To pre-register, email your child's name and age to info@crossroadsnow.org
Contact: www.crossroadsnow.org or call 248-890-5718

GENEROSITY SEMINAR

Time/Date: 9:10-10 a.m. Saturday, April 25
Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton
Details: Ron Chewing of Stewardship Advisors presents Experiencing the Joy of Generosity
Contact: 734-459-3333

PASSOVER SEDER

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Saturday, April 4
Location: Congregation Bet Chaverim, 321 Ridge Road South, Canton
Details: Seder potluck; RSVP by March 28. A contribution of \$5 per person is requested
Contact: Michelle Driscoll, 734-718-7029

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 17
Location: Salvation Army, 9451 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: Rent a table or space and sell your own stuff; tables are \$20. Proceeds to Older, Wiser and Loving Senior Group
Contact: 734-453-5464, Ext. 22

SERVICE OF SHADOWS

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Thursday, April 2
Location: Crossroads Church, in the Sacred Heart Conference Center, 29125 Six Mile, Livonia
Details: A Night to Remember includes a Passover meal and a special "Service of Shadows."
Contact: www.crossroadsnow.org or 248-890-5718

TEACHER TRAINING

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 11
Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia
Details: The class is aimed at anyone interested in teaching Sunday school, including current teachers, and will cover a variety of topics designed to strengthen, equip and encourage teachers. Current teachers should bring their teaching materials to the class. A light lunch will be provided. Register by April 3
Contact: Melissa at 734-466-8694

Details: The class is aimed at anyone interested in teaching Sunday school, including current teachers, and will cover a variety of topics designed to strengthen, equip and encourage teachers. Current teachers should bring their teaching materials to the class. A light lunch will be provided. Register by April 3
Contact: Melissa at 734-466-8694

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

Men's Bible Study
Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.
Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township
Contact: John Shulenberg at 734-464-9491

Our Lady of Loretto
Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday
Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township
Details: Scripture study
Contact: 313-534-9000

FAITH COMMUNITY WESLEYAN
Time/Date: 4-5 p.m. every Saturday
Location: 14560 Merriman, Livonia
Details: This informal class includes fellowship, discussion and question and answers. All ages welcome. Bibles available if you don't have one
Contact: pastor Tom Hazelwood at 734-765-5476

CLOTHING BANK
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. last Saturday of the month
Location: Canton Christian Fellowship, 8775 Ronda Drive, Canton
Details: No documentation needed
Contact: info@cantoncf.org

FAMILY MEAL
Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday
Location: Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills
Details: Sing zemirot (Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services.

Details: Free meal
Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

HEALING SERVICE

Time/Date: Arabic service, 3-4 p.m. first Tuesday of the month; English service, 3-4 p.m. third Tuesday of the month
Location: The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of Saint Mary, 18100 Merriman, Livonia
Details: The service includes prayers of petition and intercession, hymns, Scripture readings and the anointing of the sick. Offertory candles are available for a free will offering in the vestibule of the church.
Contact: Rev. George Shalhoub at 734-422-0040 or email Stacey Badeen at sbadeen@tbosm.com

MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May
Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners
Contact: Ethan DeFoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at 734-658-2463

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays
Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford
Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.
Contact: Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday
Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.
Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER

St. Edith Church
Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday
Location: Parish office, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia
Details: Group meets for singing, praying and short teaching. Fellowship with snacks follows
Contact: Parish office at 734-464-1223

St. Michael Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday
Location: 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton
Details: Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.
Contact: 734-459-3333 for additional information

SINGLES

Detroit World Outreach
Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Sunday
Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, Room 304
Details: Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated.
Contact: The facilitator at 313-283-8200; lef@dwo.org

First Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 7-7:15 p.m., social time; 7:30 p.m., announcements; 7:30-8:30 p.m., program; 8:30-9 p.m. ice cream social, Thursdays.
Location: 200 E. Main St., Northville
Details: Single Place Ministry; cost is \$5
Contact: 248-349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org

Steve's Family Restaurant

Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday
Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 1/4 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia
Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others.
Contact: 313-534-0399

SONG CIRCLE

Congregation Beth Ahm
Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m. every Shabbat
Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield
Details: Sing zemirot (Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services.

Lyrics are provided in transliteration as well as the original Hebrew.

Contact: 248-737-1931 or email nancyellen879@att.net.

SUPPORT

Apostolic Christian Church
Time/Date: 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily
Location: 29667 Wentworth, Livonia
Details: Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act.
Contact: 734-261-9000; www.woodhaven-retirement.com

Connection Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday
Location: 3855 Sheldon, Canton
Details: Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery for all hurts, habits and hang-ups. Child care is available for free
Contact: Jonathan@Connectionchurch.info or 248-787-5009

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday
Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; Room 202
Details: Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems
Contact: 313-255-2222, Ext. 244

Farmington Hills Baptist Church

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August
Location: 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Farmington Hills
Details: Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group
Contact: 248-433-1011

Merriman Road Baptist Church

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. second and fourth Thursday
Location: 2055 Merriman, Garden City
Details: Metro Fibromyalgia support group meets; donations
Contact: www.metrofibrogroup.com; or call Ruthann with questions at 734-981-2519

Fireside Church of God

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
Location: 11771 Newburgh, Livonia
Details: Fireside Adult Day Ministry activity-based program for dependent adults, specializing in dementia care. Not a drop-in center
Contact: 734-855-4056 or 734-464-0990; www.firesidechog.org; or email to adm@firesidechog.org

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday
Location: 16360 Hubbard, Livonia
Details: A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available
Contact: 734-421-8451

St. Thomas a' Becket Church

Time/Date: Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m.; support group 7 p.m. Thursday
Location: 555 S. Lilley, Canton
Details: Take Off Pounds Sensibly
Contact: Margaret at 734-838-0322

Unity of Livonia

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday
Location: 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia
Details: Overeaters Anonymous
Contact: 248-559-7722; www.oa.org for additional information

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 6 p.m. dinner (optional); 7 p.m. worship; 8 p.m. small group discussion; 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee/desserts)
Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville Township
Details: Celebrate Recovery helps men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hangups (addictive and compulsive behaviors); child care is free.
Contact: Child care, 248-374-7400; www.celebraterecovery.com and www.wardchurch.org/celebrate

THRIFT STORE

St. James Presbyterian
Location: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford
Contact: 313-534-7730 for additional information

Way of Life Christian Church
Time/Date: 2-3:30 p.m. third Saturday from October through May
Location: 9401 General Drive, Lilley Executive Plaza, Suite 100, Plymouth
Details: Women's fellowship is designed for women with a question to know God more in their lives.
Contact: 734-637-7618 for more information

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. to noon first Sunday of the month
Location: The Solanus Casey Center, a Capuchin ministry, at 1780 Mount Elliott, Detroit
Details: Led by Capuchin friar Larry Webber, the director of the Solanus Casey Center, the tour focuses on the spirituality and holiness of Father Solanus, a humble Capuchin friar credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. No reservations are needed, although the center requests an advance phone call for groups of five or more. No cost for the tour, although donations are accepted.
Contact: 313-579-2100, Ext. 149; www.solanuscenter.org, for more information

WORSHIP
» **Adat Shalom Synagogue**
Time/Date: 6 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday; 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Sunday; and 6 p.m. weekdays
Location: 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills
Contact: 248-851-5100

» **Bethlehem Lutheran Church**
Time/Date: 10 a.m. Sunday service
Location: 35300 W. Eight Mile, Farmington Hills
Contact: pastor Terry Miller at tshelton@mlr.com; 248-478-6520

» **Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**
Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services; 9:45 a.m. Sunday school and youth and adult Bible classes
Location: 14175 Farmington Road, just north of I-96, Livonia
Contact: 734-522-6830

» **Congregation Bet Chaverim**
Time/Date: Services are held 7 p.m. the third Friday of the month
Location: At the shared facilities of Chery Hill United Methodist Church, 321 S. Ridge, Canton
Details: Reformed Jewish Congregation with Rabbi Peter Gluck and Cantorial soloist Robin Liberatore
Contact: www.facebook.com/betchaverim or email to betchaverim@yahoo.com

» **Due Season Christian Church**
Time/Date: 10 a.m. Sunday, with 7:15 p.m. Tuesday Bible study
Location: Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, in Livonia
Details: Nondenominational, multicultural, full gospel church services.
Contact: 248-960-8063 or visit www.DueSeason.org

» **Faith Community Wesleyan Church**
Time/Date: Prayer service, 9 a.m., worship service, 11 a.m., Sunday school, 12:30 p.m., contemporary service, 1:30 p.m., Bible study, 6 p.m., Sundays
Location: 14560 Merriman, Livonia
Contact: pastor Roger Wright at 313-682-7491 for more information

» **Garden City Presbyterian Church**
Time/Date: Adult Bible study at 8:15 a.m.; traditional worship service, youth Sunday school and child care at 10 a.m. Large print order of service is available. Refreshments in the church fellowship hall immediately after service. Elevator and handicap parking
Location: Middlebelt, one block south of Ford Road
Contact: 734-421-7620 for more information

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

View Online
www.hometownlife.com

How to reach us:
1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • www.mideathnotices.com

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



KOTELES, SANDOR JOZSEF "ALEX"

Age 75, of Westland, passed away on March 21, 2015. Beloved husband of Delores, who preceded him in death. Dear father of Kathleen Toma, Jennifer MacEwen, Maria Smith, and Sandor, Jr. (Fiona) Koteles. Proud grandfather of Aaron Toma, Rianna Koteles, Marli Koteles, Caleb Smith; caring brother of Barbara. Sandor was preceded in death by his siblings Yolán, Maria, Frank, and Steve. He loved his Hungarian heritage as well as spending time with his family. He will be remembered for being a great cook, especially for his chicken paprikas, stuffed cabbage, as well as his homemade chicken vegetable soup. He enjoyed being outside in the sun keeping busy. Sandor retired from GM as a tool and die maker. The visitation and service will be Saturday, March 28th from 1pm until the time of service, which begins at 3pm at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd. (btwn. Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. Contributions suggested to American Diabetes Association or American Kidney Foundation. Visit: www.vermeulenh.com and leave a tribute for the family

VERMEULEN-SAJEWSKI FUNERAL HOMES CREMATION SERVICES



May you find comfort in family and friends

Your Invitation to Worship

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

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Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
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NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196

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WARD CHURCH 40000 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48168 248.374.7400
Sunday Worship Services 8 a.m. | 9:30 a.m. | 11 a.m.
4 different music styles from classic to modern.
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In His Presence MINISTRIES WORLDWIDE
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Thursday Evening Bible Class 6:30 p.m.
www.detroitinpresence.org
Family and Friends Day Sunday March 27th at 10:00 a.m. We invite you to be our guest!
L.O.0000734229

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Tridentine Latin Mass
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200
Mass Schedule:
First Friday Mass 7:00 p.m.
Saturday Mass 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Masses 7:30 & 9:00 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. AT 100641

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

A Church for Seasoned Saints
OPEN ARMS CHURCH
Worship: Sunday 10:30 am Wednesday 7 pm
Pastor Grady Jensen & Music Minister Abe Fazzini
33015 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia 48152
Between Farmington & Merriman Across from Joe's Produce
248.471.5282
Church As You Remember it!

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Sue Sare at 248-926-2219 or e-mail: ssare@michigan.com

Part of our history: Local classical guitarist performs in the pit at 'Frida'

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

If you think opera and classical guitar are an unlikely pairing, you're not alone. So does Steve Dearing.

He's the classical guitarist strumming Flamenco patterns in the orchestra pit for Michigan Opera Theatre's current production of the opera, *Frida*.

"This *Frida* opportunity has been unique. You don't usually see guitar in opera ... as an integral part of the opera," said Dearing, a Farmington Hills resident. "I've never even done a (orchestra) pit job before. I've played under a baton as a concerto player, but I've never been part of a pit orchestra."

"Not only do you follow the conductor, but the conductor follows the stage. Every night is different." Dearing not only watches his fingers along the neck of the guitar, but has an eye on his music and the conductor. "You have to be on your toes. If someone comes on stage too soon or someone takes longer getting off stage, you might have to end a note sooner or hold a note. And we in the pit can't hear everything happening on stage."

Opera, art

Frida opened earlier this month at the Macomb Center for Performing Arts and moved to the Berman Center for the Performing Arts last weekend in West Bloomfield. Concerts at the Detroit Film Theatre at the Detroit Institute of Arts this weekend are sold out. Tickets for the *Frida* dress rehearsal, 3 p.m. Thursday, March 26, are \$35. Visit michiganopera.org and click on 2014-15 season, then "opera" and *Frida*.

The opera by Robert Xavier Rodriguez celebrates the life of artist Frida Kahlo, who was married to muralist Diego Rivera, creator of the *Detroit Industry* fresco at the Detroit Institute of Arts. The opera performances are among several special events planned in conjunction with "Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo in Detroit," an exhibition of the artists' works through July 12 at the DIA.

"It's cool to be part of the



Steve and Abha Dearing of Farmington Hills direct music at Birmingham Unitarian Church and perform together as a duo. Steve also is playing classical guitar in the pit orchestra in Michigan Opera Theatre's production of "Frida."

whole buzz about *Frida*. It's been an honor to be part of it," Dearing said. "It has been a great time. The camaraderie in the pit has been amazing. It was a ton of work, but rewarding as well. The score is very challenging. The composer was in town the first week and we were able to discuss things. I think it shows what my instrument can do. I think basically it elevates the role of the instrument as well. It's not just used for textural purposes, but as a legitimate orchestra instrument."

Musical career

Dearing, who grew up in Windsor, Ontario, began playing guitar at age 16 after receiving an instrument for his birthday. He played by ear for a few years and then decided to take formal lessons at the University of Windsor. While there, he happened to hear a graduate student rehearsing for a recital and he "was floored," by the sound. He decided music, specifically classical guitar, would become his career.

"A lot of people don't know what classical guitar is. They get it mixed up with finger-style playing. It's not even close."

Dearing is an adjunct pro-



Steven Dearing of Farmington Hills plays classical guitar in the pit orchestra for Michigan Opera Theatre's production of "Frida."

fessor at the University of Windsor and co-directs music at Birmingham Unitarian Church with his wife, Abha, a singer and flutist, who teaches vocal arts at Roper School. He and Abha also form the Dearing Concert Duo and have performed across the U.S., in Canada, England and Scotland. In addition to directing music at Birmingham Unitarian, Dearing also performs in Sound Messengers, the church's "house band" that plays the third Sunday of the month. He coordinates Sound-Bites, an October-April concert series at the church, 38651 Woodward Ave., south of Lone Pine in Bloomfield Hills. Its final concert of the season is 7:30 p.m. April 10 with Goran Ivanovic Trio, a group that fuses Balkan and Latino music. Tickets are \$20 and include a "small bites" reception after the concert. Students under 12 pay \$10. Reserve seats at bucmi.org by clicking on Sound-Bites under the "Worship & Music" tab.

"One thing we do differ-



Ricardo Herrera and Catalina Cuervo rehearse a scene from "Frida."

ently is that we can't be pinned. It's not a jazz series. It's not just chamber music. We've presented music from West Africa, the Middle East, India. We had Japanese drummers last time," Dearing said, adding that music choices

reflect Unitarianism's diversity. "We have an amazing afterglow with white wine and handmade desserts."

Visit stevendearing.com; dearingconcertduo.com; and bucmi.org.

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ANIMALS DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily

Location: 1-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

Details: Admission is \$14 for adults 15-61, \$10 for senior citizens 62 and older, and for children ages 2-14; children under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5.

Contact: 248-541-5717

ARTS AND CRAFTS GALLERY@VT

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday and during public events, through March 31

Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: "Narrative Quilts: Works by Pauline Parker," is a solo show of wall hangings and watercolors

Contact: 734-394-5300; cantonvillage-theater.org

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday through March 28

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "The mystery lesson," paintings by Kate Paul

Coming up: Pastel Invitational Exhibition with works by seven pastel artists, beginning with an artist reception, 6-9 p.m. Friday, April 3, through April 25

Contact: 248-344-0497

CALL FOR ENTRIES REEL MICHIGAN FILM FESTIVAL

Time/Date: Entry deadline is April 17; film festival screening is June 20

Location: Screening at the Marquis Theatre in downtown Northville

Details: The Festival is accepting Michigan-made or Michigan-themed short films, less than 20 minutes. Entry form is available at northvillearthouse.org/special-events/reel-michigan/.

Contact: reelmichigan@gmail.com

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Time/Date: Drop off pieces March 30-31; exhibit runs through April 30

Location: 774 Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: Sixth annual Open Juried Exhibit is for artists, 18 and older. They



"Braveheart," by Kathy Fish, is among the pastel works on exhibit April 3-25 at Northville Art House.

may submit 2-D works and hangable 3-D art along the theme of duplicity, such as two of a kind, two media, two artists on the same canvas, two points of view, an object reflected, a dynamic duo, seeing double, a duet. Entry fee for up to two pieces is \$25 per artist. Entries may be dropped off at the council or emailed.

Contact: lisa@plymoutharts.com; 734-416-4278

COMEDY GENITTI'S OF NORTHVILLE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 1

Location: 108 E. Main, Northville

Details: A night of standup comedy with Bob Phillips, Mike Bobbit and Steve Lind; tickets \$15

Contact: 248-349-0533

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday, March 26; 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 27-28

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Tanyalee Davis; tickets are \$12 for show only or \$25 for show and a dinner on Thursday; \$16 for show or \$29 for show and dinner, Friday-Sunday

Open mic: Each comedian gets five minutes of stage time. Open mic begins at 8 p.m. every Tuesday. Call the box office Tuesday through Thursday, to get on the performer list

Contact: 734-261-0555; catchthefunny.com

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday, March 26 and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 27-28

Location: Fourth and Troy streets in downtown Royal Oak

Details: Bobby Collins; tickets \$20 Thursday, \$25 Friday-Saturday

Contact: 248-542-9900; info@ComedyCastle.com

FILM MJR CINEMA

Time/Date: Saturday-Sunday, March 28-29

Location: Westland Grand Digital Cinema 16, 6800 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: *Book of Life*, March 28-29. Tickets are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Free for children 12 and under; parents pay \$1. Call theater for show times

Contact: 734-298-2657

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:25 p.m. Friday, March 27; 4:15 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, March 28-29; 7 p.m. Thursday, April 2

Location: 760 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: *Selma*; admission \$3

Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penn-theatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. March 28

Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Avenue in Detroit

Details: *Pandora's Box*, with live accompaniment by John Lauter; \$7

Coming up: *Singin' In the Rain*, 8 p.m. April 3 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. April 4; tickets \$5

Contact: 313-898-1481

HISTORY KELSEY MUSEUM

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, and 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through May 3

Location: 434 State St., Ann Arbor

Details: "Death Dogs: The Jackal Gods of Ancient Egypt," features approximately 40 artifacts, some never before displayed, along with archival photographs and explanatory graphics

Family day: 1-3 p.m. Saturday, April 11 includes special tours in the galleries,

and mummy-themed arts and crafts

Drop-in tour: Anna Volante, Near Eastern Civilizations & Anthropology major, leads a tour 2 p.m. Sunday, April 12, starting at the Museum's Maynard Street entrance

Contact: 734-764-9304

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: "Creative Hands: Busy Hands" is the new exhibit, which runs through June 14. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for ages 6-17

Contact: 734-455-8940

MUSIC BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: Sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m.; show runs 7-9:30 p.m., third Saturday of the month through May

Location: Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: \$5 at the door.

Contact: BFSpresident@aol.com

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY

Time/Date: 8 p.m. April 11

Location: Sellgman Center for Performing Arts Center, 22305 W. 13 Mile, Beverly Hills

Details: Violinist Daniel Hope, violist Paul Newbauer, cellist David Finckel and pianist Wu Han come together for an evening of piano quartets. Tickets are \$30-\$60 for adults and \$15-\$30 for students

Contact: 248-855-6070; chambermusic-detroit.org

JAZZ@THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. the last Tuesday of the month

Location: Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: The Dave Bennett Quartet performs March 31. \$10 donation at the door includes hors d'oeuvres

Contact: 734-453-1780 or email plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

Michigan Philharmonic

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. April 11

Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: "Springtime Swan Song"

showcases music from Carter Pann Ernest Bloch and Tchaikovsky. Cellist Norman Fischer joins the Orchestra for a performance of *Schelomo - Hebraic Rhapsody for Cello and Orchestra* by Bloch. Tickets are \$30 general admission, \$25 for seniors, age 62 and over, and \$10 for students with ID

Contact: michiganphil.org; 734-451-2112

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

Time/Date: Noon Wednesday, April 8

Location: VisTaTech Center, on the main campus, located on Haggerty between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: Pianist Christopher Harding performs a free one-hour concert

Contact: 734-462-4403; schoolcraft.edu/music

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: Four Block Empire, March 27; Kevin Meisel, March 28, Open Stage, March 31 and April 7; Pierce Pettis with Ralston Bowles, April 11; Empty Chair Night featuring Annie and Rod Capps, Joel Palmer and Taller Than They Appear, April 12. Most tickets \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks accepted.

Contact: 734-464-6302 for additional information

THEATER ARAB AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 26

Location: 13624 Michigan Ave, Dearborn

Details: One-woman show, *Burq Off*, performed by Nadia P. Manzoor. Manzoor plays 21 characters. \$10 per person

Contact: 313-593-5390; student_engagement@umich.edu

BETTER THAN EVER PRODUCTIONS

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Thursday, March 26; 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 27-28; 2 p.m. Sunday, March 29

Location: Inspire Theatre, 5767 Executive Drive, Westland

Details: *The Geezer Game*, a comedy by Herb McCollum Jr. Tickets are \$15 at inspiretheatre.com or call 734-751-7057

Contact: Jeanne Pruett at 734-306-7883

FOOD NETWORK CHEF MAKES RENAL DIET RECIPES IN LIVONIA

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Chef Aaron McCargo Jr. likes a culinary challenge.

When a wheelchair-bound renal patient asked him for an Italian-style meatball and sauce recipe, McCargo "started messing around" with ingredients until he found a kidney-friendly combination.

Smothered pork chops with sweet potatoes? McCargo, star of the Food Network's *Big Daddy's House*, told dialysis patients their request was a "no no no," but then found a way to deliver the flavor they wanted in a low-sodium, low-potassium version of their classic Southern dish.

And when it came to chocolate, which is prohibited on a renal diet, he figured out a way to mimic the flavor without adding the ingredient to dessert.

"It's good to know you all challenge me to come out of the box," he told patients and staff of Fresenius Medical Care in Livonia last week. "At the end of the day it isn't about me. Every time I think about recipes, every time I attempt to hear what a patient tells me, it's worth it to know I can go back and work with dietitians who say, let's meet in the middle."

"My mission is to do the best I can do with recipes, to continue to comply with the renal diet, and work closely with the dietitians to break the rules, but also to make sure to keep it safe."

McCargo takes recipe suggestions from renal patients across the country and partners with Fresenius, a nationwide network of dialysis facilities, to develop dialysis-safe recipes. He visited several of its clinics, including in Livonia, this month in recognition of National Kidney Month.

"We want to make the renal diet as healing as possible and it's about getting creative," said Kristi Wells, Livonia clinic manager.

Sandy McDonald Hangach, R.D.N., a registered dietitian at the Livonia site, said dialysis patients limit sodium, phosphorus, potassium and fluid intake. She pointed out that McCargo's recipes are safe for dialysis patients, but not limited to those on restricted diets.

"You're limiting sodium and it's a healthier way to eat," she said. "It's not bad to cut down on sodium or processed food."

Personal connection

McCargo, whose sister-in-law and a friend are both on dialysis, began working with Fresenius nearly three years ago to create tasty and safe recipes for renal patients. His creations are posted on the Fresenius website and available to patients on recipe cards.

"The dietitians see so much more than I do. They have health first in mind. I have flavor and health," McCargo said. "Salt definitely is cut out."

His first few recipes for Fresenius delivered the "big bold flavor" that he is known for in his cooking, but missed the mark for renal health. With a little guidance from Fresenius dietitians, he changed his approach.

"I had to tone it down a bit, not the bold flavor, but the ingredients and the amounts. That was the key to helping me make successful recipes."

He prepared two easy-to-make recipes for his audience at Fresenius in Livonia, Smoky Salmon Dip and Buffalo Chicken Salad Stuffed Cucumber Cups. Along the way, he joked with the crowd and offered



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Chef Aaron McCargo Jr. mixes buffalo chicken dip during a visit to Fresenius Medical Care in Livonia.



Christine Purchiaroni smells fresh cilantro.

cooking tips.

» Smoked paprika — "It's a little pricey, but invest in it."

» Chopping garlic — "Put it in a food processor and pulse." Place the garlic in a plastic container and store in the refrigerator. "Chop all of your garlic at once and you don't have to go through peeling and smashing each time. It's there and it's fresh."

» Buying fresh herbs — "Don't take the whole bunch if it's just for

you." Take a portion of the bunch and put the rest back. Same goes for ginger. "Don't buy the whole root. Take off the piece you need."

» Storing fresh ginger — Dice and store in a container in the refrigerator or place in a freezer bag in the freezer.

For more on McCargo and his dialysis-friendly recipes, visit ultra-care-dialysis.com.

BUFFALO CHICKEN STUFFED CUCUMBER CUPS

Serves 8; 1 serving is 2-3 ounces

Spice blend:

- ½ teaspoon black pepper
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika
- ½ teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 2 tablespoons hot sauce
- ½ cup Kraft mayonnaise
- ¼ cup blue cheese crumbs
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh garlic
- 2 tablespoons fresh chopped chives
- 3 cups diced or shredded chicken breast
- 2 large seedless cucumbers sliced into 1-inch pieces, with half of their centers scooped out (15-20 slices)
- (Tip: Cucumbers can run a little small or big, so be sure to get one at least 15 inches long, or 2 smaller ones)
- ¼ cup chopped fresh parsley for garnish

Combine all ingredients except the chicken and cucumbers in a medium-size bowl. Stir in chicken and mix until well coated. Set aside in refrigerator for about 30 minutes. Remove from refrigerator and spoon equal amounts (about 1-2 teaspoons) into each cucumber slice. Garnish with chopped parsley.

Nutrition per serving: 243 calories, 23g protein, 6g carbohydrate, 14g total fat, 3g saturated fat, 0g trans fat, 65 mg cholesterol, 374 mg potassium, 203 mg phosphorus, 270 mg sodium

CHOCOLATE PANCAKES WITH MOON PIE STUFFING

Yield: 1 dozen 4-inch sandwiches; 1 serving is 1 sandwich

- 1 cup flour
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 3 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 egg
- 1 cup milk
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- Moon pie stuffing mix:
- 1 tablespoon unsweetened cocoa powder
- ¼ cup heavy cream
- ½ cup cream cheese, softened
- ½ cup marshmallow cream
- 2/3 cup Body Fortress vanilla whey protein powder

For the moon pie stuffing, beat cocoa and heavy cream together until stiff peaks are formed. Whip in cream cheese, marshmallow cream, and whey protein powder for about a minute or until well blended, but don't overbeat. Cover and set aside in fridge.

For pancakes, mix all the dry ingredients together in a large bowl and set aside. Mix all the wet ingredients in medium-size bowl. Slowly fold the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients until well mixed, but don't over mix. Cook the pancakes on a lightly oiled griddle on medium heat, or 375 F. Use about 1/8 cup of batter to form 4-inch pancakes, flipping when they start to bubble. Top the first 12 pancakes with equal portions of the cream cheese mix; top those with the other 12 pancakes and serve dusted with powdered sugar.

Nutrition per serving: 185 calories, 8g protein, 17g carbohydrate, 10g total fat, 4g saturated fat, 0g trans fat, 40mg cholesterol, 107g potassium, 72mg phosphorus, 120mg sodium

SMOKY SALMON DIP

Serves 12; 1 serving is ¼ cup

- 1 pound fresh skinless, boneless salmon cut in four pieces
- 2 teaspoons smoked paprika
- 1 cup cream cheese
- ¼ cup capers
- ¼ cup lemon juice and zest of half a lemon (about 1 teaspoon)
- 2 tablespoons finely diced red onions
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 tablespoon chopped parsley

Poach the salmon in 2 cups water and 1 teaspoon smoked paprika for 4-6 minutes on medium-high heat, covered (do not boil). Remove and chill for at least 30 minutes. Mix all other ingredients together until smooth. Break salmon into bite size pieces and fold into cream cheese mixture. Chill for 20-30 minutes then serve with celery sticks, corn chips, and carrots or rolled in a leaf of iceberg lettuce.

Nutrition per serving: 124 calories, 9g protein, 2g carbohydrate, 9g total fat, 4g saturated fat, 0g trans fat, 42 mg cholesterol, 232 mg potassium, 99 mg phosphorus, 164 mg sodium



Salmon dip is easy to make.