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Fresh Thyme heading to Canton

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Fresh Thyme Farmers Market has confirmed it plans to build a new store in Canton, becoming the Phoenix-based company's sixth location in metro Detroit.

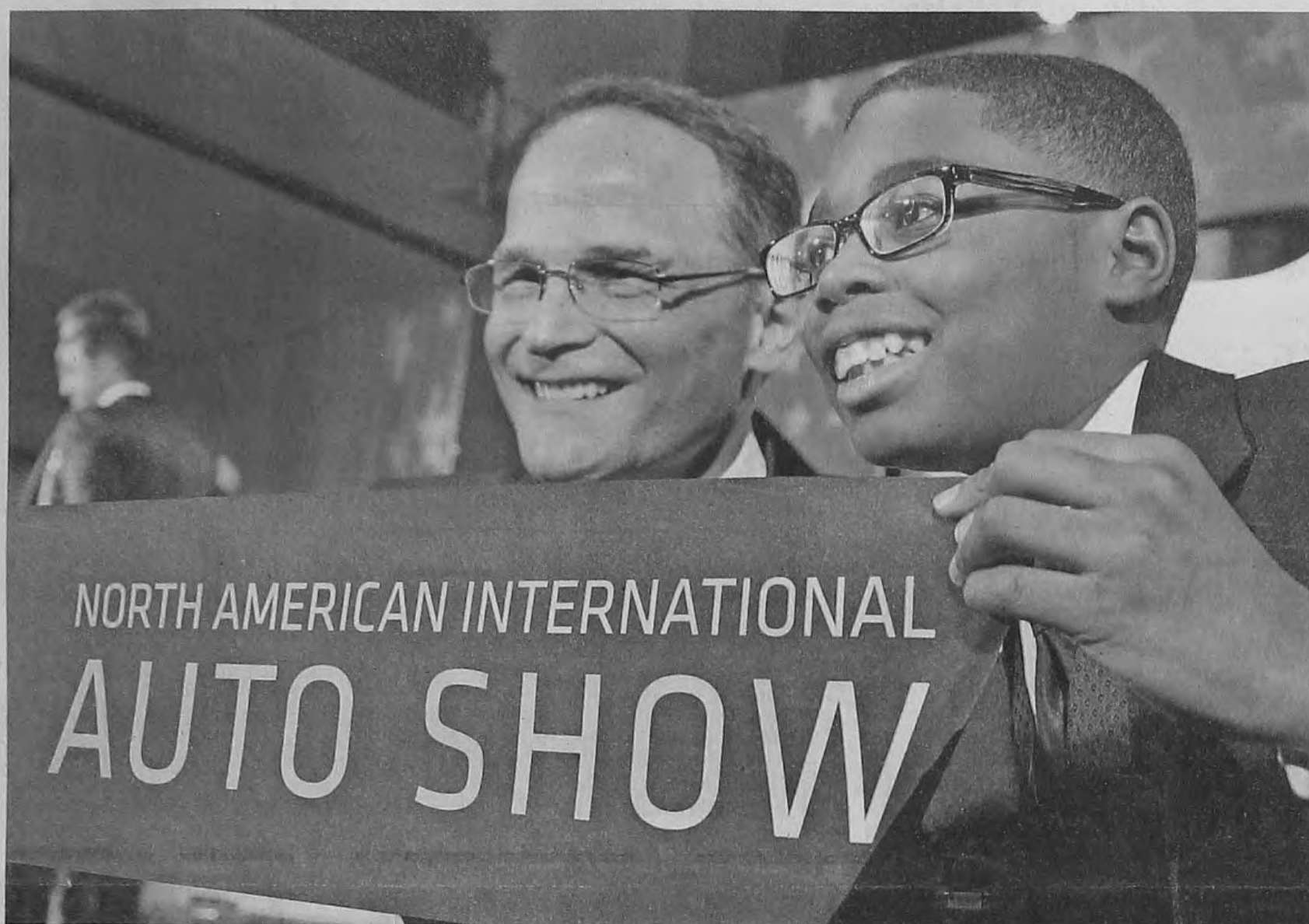
Fresh Thyme's decision comes as Busch's Fresh Food Market has signaled it is finally inching closer to opening its new store in the fall near Canton Center and Cherry Hill roads, local officials say, three years after the Ann Arbor-based grocery chain was given

the go-ahead. The latest news indicates that Canton's grocery competition appears ready to ramp up within the next 18 months. Fresh Thyme plans to build a 28,709-square-foot store on Morton Taylor, north of Ford, just north of Applebee's and

Boston Market. Dan Uebelhor, project engineer for InSite Real Estate, the developer, said the store is expected to open during the first half of next year. Uebelhor described Fresh Thyme as larger than Trader Joe's, but smaller than Whole

Foods Market. The company's niche includes natural, organic produce, hormone-free meats and fresh seafood. Fresh Thyme received site plan approval Tuesday night from the Canton Township

See **THYME**, Page A2



NAIAS vice chair Scott LaRiche with David Redmond, 12, representing the kids of Detroit, open last year's auto show.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Scott LaRiche nominated as Time Dealer of Year

Jill Halpin
Correspondent

Longtime Plymouth Township auto dealer Scott LaRiche, executive manager and vice president of Lou LaRiche Chevrolet, has been nominated for the 2016 Time Dealer of the Year.

LaRiche is one of 50 dealer nominees out of more than 16,000 from across the country to be honored April 1 at the 99th annual National Automobile Dealers Association Convention

and Exposition in Las Vegas. The award recognizes new car dealers in America who exhibit exceptional performance in their dealerships and perform distinguished community service, something that LaRiche has made part of his personal mission. "I am very honored to be recognized, but for me it is all about giving back," LaRiche said. "I think it is important to take an active part in the community. I've had a wonderful teacher in my father, Louis LaRiche. He's

been a dealer for 46 years and has always taught me the right thing to do."

He's following in his father's footsteps in more ways than one: Lou LaRiche himself was nominated for the Time Dealer of the Year award in 1985. "He's pretty excited about it as well," LaRiche said of his father, who at 84 still maintains an active role in the dealership.

See **LARICHE**, Page A8

Merritt: 100-day plan to connect with schools, community

Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

If you aren't sure who Monica Merritt is, just be patient. As interim superintendent of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, her 100-day plan is to literally be everywhere. "My biggest goal is to get out there and make purposeful connections," said Merritt,



Merritt

who is also continuing to serve in her role as assistant superintendent for human resources and labor relations. The Virginia-born Merritt was named interim superintendent in mid-December.

Following a closed session, the school board approved by unanimous vote an administrative transition plan resolution that removed Superintendent Michael Meissen from leading day-to-day operations, but requires him to fulfill his contract through June 30. Meissen joined the district as superintendent in March 2013. After graduating with a

bachelor of arts in English and a master's degree in teaching from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1993, Merritt served for eight years as a high school English teacher, eventually bringing her to Lathrup High School in Southfield. Merritt then served as assistant principal at Ypsilanti

See **MERRITT**, Page A8

Busch's has never intended to abandon the Canton store, he said. It would be the company's 16th location. "It was really (a matter of) trying to take care of the stores we had," he said. Canton Township officials, much like the *Observer*, have had numerous inquiries from residents who wondered what had happened after the exterior makeover was finished. Just this week, Busch's received approval from the Canton Township Board of Trustees for a public hearing at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23, regarding the company's request for a

See **BUSCH'S**, Page A2



PRICE: \$1.50

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
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Volume 41 • Number 61

Home Delivery: (866) 887-2737 | Return Address: 29725 Hudson Dr., Novi MI 48377

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Canton ramps up absentee ballot process, seeks workers



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

It's absentee ballot season in Canton for the presidential primary.

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton residents are expected to start receiving their absentee ballots as early as Feb. 5 as they prepare to cast their votes in Michigan's March 8 presidential primary, township Clerk Terry Bennett said.

Absentee ballot applications are now available and already have been mailed out to 7,100 voters who routinely request them.

"All of those voters

who are on our permanent list have been mailed an application," Bennett said. "They should have received that already."

Voters who need an absentee ballot application may call 734-394-5120, stop by the Canton Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center, or download it on the township's website, www.canton-mi.org. Just look under the Government tab for the clerk's office.

Voters may choose

either a Democrat or Republican ballot, regardless of their political party affiliation.

As the election season begins to ramp up, Bennett said she is seeking to hire 200 election workers. Some older workers have retired and others are "snowbirds" who temporarily leave Michigan for a warmer climate, she said.

Bennett said her office will use as many as 350 election workers, especially for the No-

vember presidential election. She said it's a good way to earn some extra cash, adding that some charity groups can raise money for their organization.

"That's an easy way to make a donation to your charity organization," she said.

The pay is \$190 for precinct chairs, \$180 for precinct vice chairs and \$155 for precinct inspectors. Election workers must be registered to vote in Michigan, have legible handwriting

and attend training sessions, with daytime and evening options available.

High school students over 16 are eligible to work.

The clerk's office prefers workers who have computer or election poll worker experience.

For more information, call 734-394-5120 or go to www.canton-mi.org.

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

BUSCH'S

Continued from Page A1

liquor license to serve beer and wine, possibly in a café-type setting, and to offer liquor on special occasions. Those options remain under discussion,

Hunter said.

Canton Economic Development Manager Kristen Thomas is among those who has received numerous questions about Busch's, which is expected to have about 100 full- and part-time employees. She said the latest developments are

part of a larger pattern indicating the local economy is continuing to rebound.

"I think it's almost like the last piece in the puzzle that is showing not just Canton's recovery, but also the whole region's recovery," she said. "It was a lot of doom

and gloom for a long time. But everyone can see the tide is turning. It's like the final piece that just shows everything is going to be OK."

Busch's, meanwhile, still has work to do inside the Canton location. Hunter said he is aware that the potential custom-

er base has been frustrated by a lack of information about an opening date.

"I don't ever want anyone to think we're trying to withhold information," he said.

"Most of the answers we just don't have."

And while he still can't

give a tentative opening date, he said it will happen.

"I can't tell you how excited we are to be part of that community," he said.

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CANTON OBSERVER

Published Sunday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Media

Community Office:

29725 Hudson Drive • Novi, MI 48377 • 866-887-2737
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
hometownlife.com

Editor: Joanne Maliszewski
248-396-6620
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734-469-4128
Email: tsmith@hometownlife.com

Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$1.00 Thursday and \$1.50 Sunday
\$8.25 EZ pay per month
\$52.00 six months
\$104.00 per year
\$91.00 six months mail delivery
\$182.00 per year mail delivery

Home Delivery:

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THYME

Continued from Page A1

Board of Trustees as the company widens its customer base in Michigan. The nearest store is located near Sheldon and Five Mile in Northville.

Busch's meanwhile, has finally made a step toward opening its long-awaited store, southeast of Cherry Hill and Canton Center, long after it received site plan approval in March 2013.

Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said Busch's has indicated it hopes to open the store sometime in the fall.

Company officials say they don't have a firm date. Busch's long also finished an exterior makeover of the former Farmer Jack site.

Busch's has asked for a liquor license to allow customers to have wine or beer inside the store, possibly in a cafe setting. Busch's also wants the



CANTON TOWNSHIP

Fresh Thyme Farmers Market is coming to Canton.

option to offer liquor during special events.

Canton officials have set a public hearing for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23, at

the Canton Administration Building to hear public comment on the plan.

Local officials say the

store is expected to employ 100 full- and part-time employees.

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Heise introduces bill seeking money for razing old DeHoCo buildings

Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Money from a dormant state redevelopment fund could be used to clean up part of the old Detroit House of Corrections site in Plymouth Township.

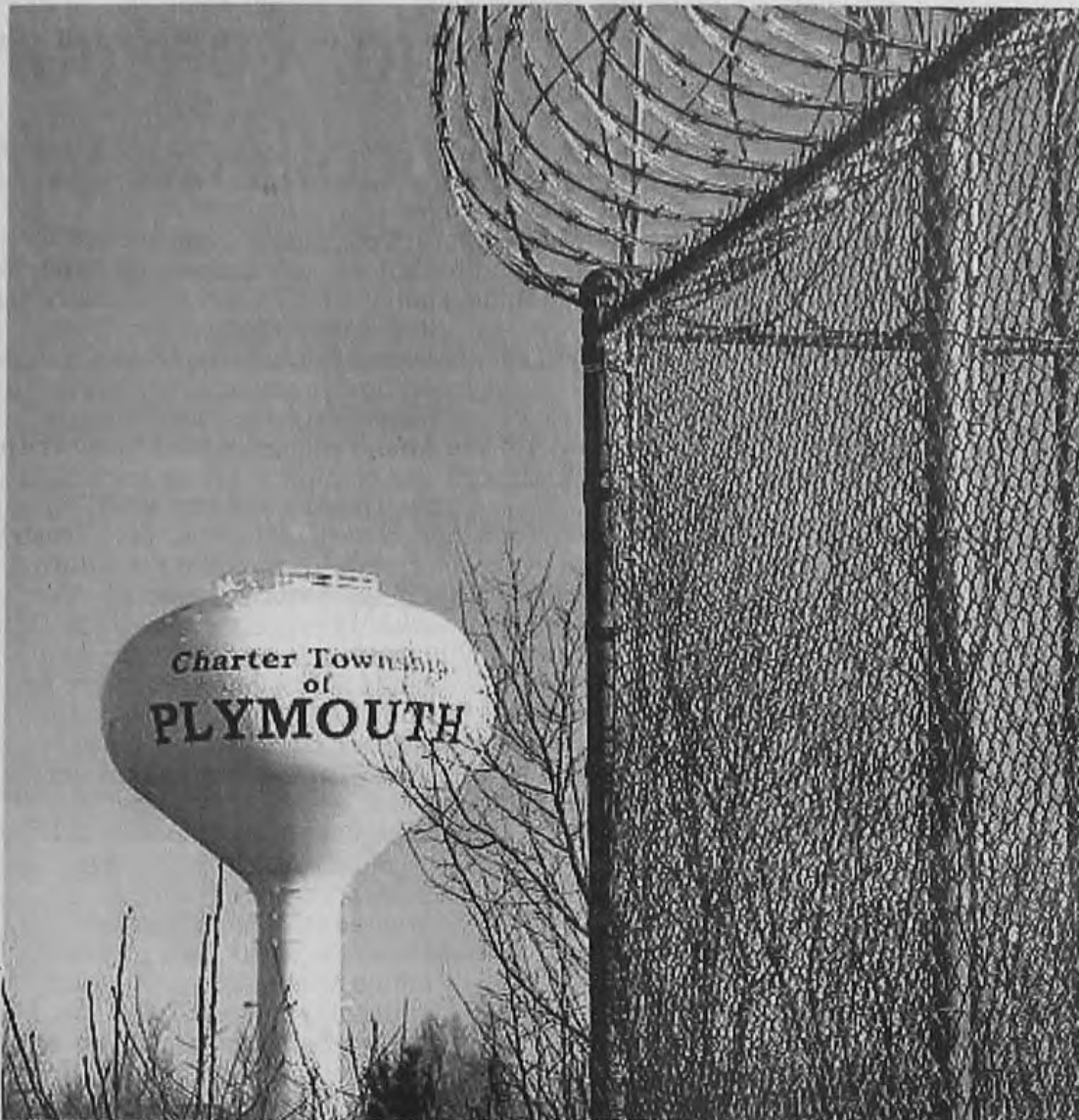
Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, has introduced a bill in the Michigan House of Representatives that would shutter the Urban Land Assembly Loan Fund and shift its money, about \$4 million, to the Michigan Land Bank's fast-track authority, which promotes economic growth by managing public property.

The money, Heise said Friday, could then be spent razing old prison buildings at DeHoCo, which was a city- and then a state-run prison from 1920 until it closed in 1986.

"The goal is to demolish the most unsightly old buildings along Five Mile," Heise said.

The site of about 45 acres, south of Five Mile and west of Beck, is owned by the land bank, through a measure Heise also sponsored. Another part of what was DeHoCo, some 190 acres west of Ridge Road, is the subject of an ownership dispute between Plymouth Township and the city of Detroit.

Heise said estimates put demolition of the older buildings at \$2.5 to \$3 million, but said he hopes the entire \$4 million could be put to use at the site should his bill become law. Other buildings on the site also must be torn down to make way for redevelopment, plus environmental remediation will be needed, he said. The site was used as a city of Detroit dump decades ago, he said, and the prison also disposed



Part of the former Detroit House of Corrections. A new bill would provide money to tear down old prison buildings there.

of waste there.

Heise said "best-case scenario" estimates put the cleanup of the entire site at \$10 million.

'Scary' prison

He said potential investors who look at DeHoCo are scared away by the former prison.

"The two things that they say is that the road (Five Mile) is in bad shape and then they don't want to be looking at an old, scary prison from their office windows," he said.

Township Supervisor Shannon Price agreed. "We've been losing companies who get

turned off by that property," he said. Price said he agreed with Heise's effort to get money for a site cleanup.

Five Mile, a county road, would have to be rebuilt in the area, Heise noted.

"This is going to take time," he said of redeveloping DeHoCo. "It's not going to be cheap and it's not going to be easy."

Heise is running this year for township supervisor, while Price has not announced an intention to run.

The two, plus Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton Township, and Northville Township, state and

Wayne County officials, are among those working to redevelop what's being called the Michigan International Technology Center, or MITC, a high-tech business corridor along Five Mile in Northville and Plymouth townships. The acreage owned by the state land bank, plus former DeHoCo property further west, are considered part of the MITC.

"We're finally doing something about it. We're not just letting it sit there for another 30 years," Heise said.

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CANTON POLICE
Police are seeking this suspect for an attempted bank robbery.

Canton police seek suspect in bank robbery attempt

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A masked, hooded man who tried to rob a Canton bank Thursday morning is being sought by Canton police, who have released a surveillance photo of the suspect.

A lone man went inside the Citizens Bank at Ford and Haggerty roads about 9:15 a.m. and handed a teller a note demanding cash and a vehicle, police say.

The teller refused the suspect's demands. He left the bank, removed his mask and fled south on foot.

"He got no money, no one was injured and no weapons were seen," Special Services Lt.

Craig Wilsher said. "At this point in time, it appears he acted alone. There is nothing to indicate a second party or an accomplice."

Officers accompanied by a police dog were searching the area after the incident in hopes of capturing the would-be robber.

The suspect is described only as a thin white male, between 6 feet and 6 feet, 3 inches tall.

Anyone who has information about the man is asked to contact the Canton Police Department at 734-394-5400.

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P-CCS STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Name: Luke Swanson
School/position: Plymouth High School, social studies teacher, Student Activities/Congress adviser, varsity boys basketball assistant coach

Name of nominator: Kyle Meteyer, AD at Plymouth

Quote from nominator:
"Luke is the type of go-to juggernaut who is any school's archetype of a gifted educator. He would be near the top of our list to clone if we had such technology."

I am currently reading: *The Dictator's Learning Curve: Inside the Global Battle for Democracy* by William J. Dobson

The last movie/show I saw in the theater was: *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*

The funniest memory of a student or event in my classroom or on the job is: My funniest memory of teaching took place during my first year teaching. First hour had just ended and I was cleaning up the room. I bent down to pick up some trash on the floor and I heard a loud ripping noise. I stood up and realized I had ripped the entire back of my pants from the belt loop to the middle of my leg. I spent the rest of the day with my dress shirt untucked trying to avoid turning my back to the class. Eventually, my secret was discovered and each class had a good laugh. Moral of the story, remember to laugh at and always keep an outfit in the classroom, just in case.



Luke Swanson teaches social studies at Plymouth High School.

In my spare time, I like to: Play basketball, run, lift weights, play guitar, write/play music, read, travel and attend concerts and sporting events.

The hardest part of my job is: Time. I always wish I had more time to make positive personal connections with students in my classes and the larger school community.

What motivates you: I enjoy working hard. There is nothing more gratifying than

reflecting on something you have worked hard to achieve. In my job, I am motivated by a desire to assist students in discovering what they want to do for the rest of their lives.

The best part of my job is: Receiving emails or visits from former students who talk about their successes in college and the real world. The "thank you" and "you helped me" make this job very rewarding.

Applications available for Community Choice college scholarships

Community Choice Credit Union is now accepting applications for its annual scholarship program, which awards \$100,000 in scholarships to graduating high school students who pledge to attend college in Michigan and commit to giving back to the state by building their careers here.

Now in its eighth year, the Community Choice Scholarship Program is one of the largest scholarship programs in the credit union industry both in Michigan and nationally and has awarded more than \$700,000 in scholarships to 140 students in the Detroit area since 2009.

"The Community Choice Scholarship Program was created at the height of the Great Recession as a way to entice Michigan's young talent to stay in-state," said Robert Bava, president and CEO of Community Choice Credit Union. "Now that Michigan's economy is rebounding, there is a need for young people to fill the jobs that are growing here in number every day."

New this year, Community Choice announced that the scholarship program is opening eligibility to all high school seniors in the state.

Scholarships of up to \$5,000 each will be awarded

to those who demonstrate outstanding academic achievement, involvement in extracurricular activities and dedication to community service.

Eligible applicants must plan on attending a Michigan college or university and must pledge to stay in Michigan after college. Applicants will be evaluated based on grade-point average, dedication to serving their community and a written essay.

Applications are being accepted online at CommunityChoiceFoundation.com through Monday, Feb. 15.

The newest 2016 scholars will be welcomed to the group during an award presentation in May.

The Community Choice Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit, relies on generous support from the credit union, local businesses, the community and credit union members to make the scholarship program possible. Sponsorships begin at \$500 and go up to a full \$5,000 level. Donations of every amount are accepted. To donate, or for questions regarding the application process, contact foundation coordinator Steven Hernandez at 877-243-2528, ext. 1978, or email SHernandez@CommunityChoiceCU.com.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS

Marietta College

Emily Lang of Plymouth has been named to the fall 2015 dean's high honors list. Lang is majoring in petroleum engineering and is scheduled to graduate in May 2017. Lang is a graduate of Canton High School.

Belmont University

Amy Dalton of Plymouth

has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2015 semester.

Hope College

The following Plymouth students have been named to the dean's list for the fall 2015 semester: sophomore Sarah Schaefer; senior Evan W. Johnson; senior Marina Milad; junior Jessica Farhat; senior Alicia Curmi; sophomore Mer-

edith Rinke; senior Haley Menzies; freshman Emma Belanger; senior Jillian Somerville.

Tufts University

Shehryar Mali of Canton is among the more than 1,300 undergraduate students from around the world who began their first year at Tufts in Somerville, Mass.

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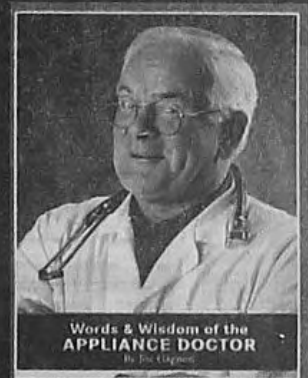
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LARICHE

Continued from Page A1

While the Northville resident is well-known throughout the automotive community after serving as the chairman of the 2015 North American International Auto Show, it is philanthropic efforts that garnered the attention of Rod Alberts, executive director of the Detroit Auto Dealers Association, who nominated LaRiche for the Time award.

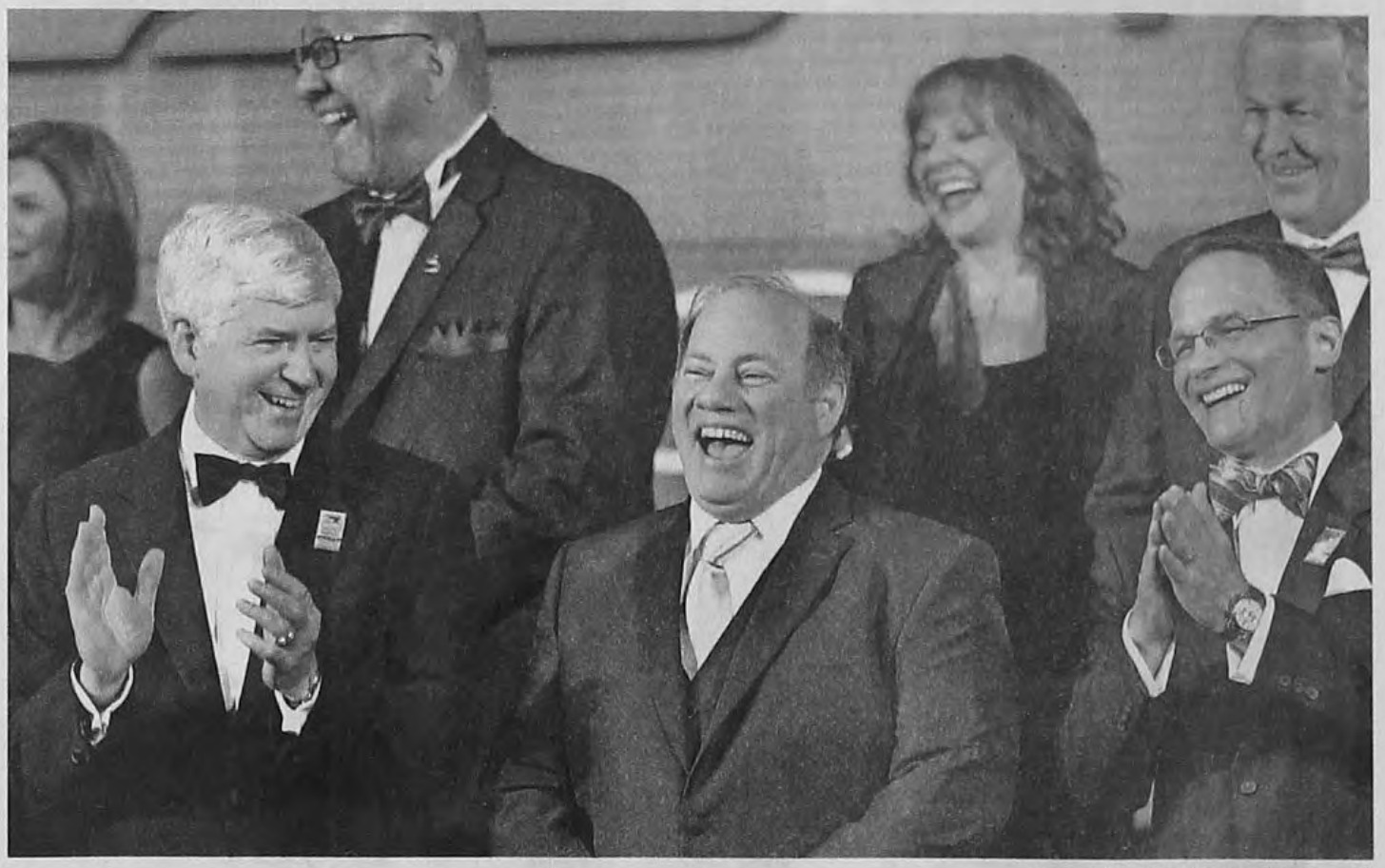
In addition to community theater, youth baseball and various literacy campaigns, LaRiche is also an active supporter of the Thin Blue Line of Michigan, a police support organization, as well as the Miracle League of Plymouth, a charitable organization that pro-

vides children with disabilities an opportunity to play baseball as a team member in an organized league.

His work with Covenant House, a privately funded charity in that provides care and vital services to homeless, abandoned, abused, trafficked and exploited youth, is particularly meaningful to him.

Covenant House "is a very important organization that helps homeless youth to get back on their feet. It is very rewarding know that you are doing something to help someone else become a wonderful part of society," he said.

For LaRiche, a married father of three grown children, it's not about the recognition. In fact, the reason is quite simple. "It is just as my father taught me: it is about doing the next right thing," he said.



Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan (center) is applauded for saying about a half-dozen words for his opening speech by (from left) Gov. Rick Snyder, Bill Perkins, Mary Barra and Scott LaRiche.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MERRITT

Continued from Page A1

High School from 2001-03 and then as principal of Ypsilanti's West Middle School from 2003-10.

"Mrs. Merritt has proven a commitment to the district, a commitment evident in her constant role as a stabilizing force in a climate fraught with challenges and change," board trustee Michael Siegrist said, adding Merritt has an "intimate knowledge of the challenges our district has faced in the past."

While in the Ypsilanti school system, the superintendent requested Merritt make a leap to central administration as the district's executive director of human resources in 2010. She joined the P-CCS administration team in 2011. Merritt has served on the P-CCS superintendent's CORE Leadership Team, as well as acting as administrative chair for the board of education policy

subcommittee.

'Cool, calm'

Former board President John Barrett calls Merritt "cool, calm and deliberate. I think she will do an excellent job. She's got a lot of experience in how the system works."

Board Secretary Kate Borninski agrees. "I have worked most closely with her on the Policy Advisory Committee and she has been an extremely valuable member of that committee," she said. "I have appreciated the insight that her experience and knowledge have brought to the committee."

Barrett also said that a statement will be forthcoming in the months ahead on the permanence of Merritt's position. Aware of the long line of superintendents, many with short-lived tenures in P-CCS, Barrett referred to research about turnover. "The chances for the best replacement is when you train them in the inside," he said.

When asked to serve

as P-CCS interim superintendent in December, Merritt said she "had not a moment of hesitation." She has plenty of reasons. First of all, as a parent of two teenagers, Merritt and her husband Darron chose the Plymouth-Canton district when they moved to Michigan. This is where she wanted to be.

Secondly, she believes Plymouth-Canton has lots of potential and wants to fine-tune the continuing efforts, while helping students rise to the top. And she wants to continue working directly with teachers and other staff - a role she has played in human resources.

"We are fine. We will keep moving forward," the Plymouth Township resident said. "I want to bring stability back to the district. I really do consider it an honor and a privilege to lead this district. I do consider myself a servant leader."

Challenges

But she doesn't kid herself. The challenge of

financing public education will remain. "The financial situation is not changing," she said. "Being visible and responsive is important, because relationships are the key. We are in this together. We have the same goals and the same community interest."

Merritt also doesn't kid herself about teachers and their rejection in December of a proposed contract and their continued concern for making ends meet after years of pay freezes and concessions. Also continuing as assistant superintendent for human resources, Merritt is the chief negotiator for the district.

In the simplest terms, teachers want a contract and pay increases. Merritt said she understands, but the district is restricted by money. "We are not able to compensate the staff the way we want to," she said.

Despite the angst over continuing negotiations, Merritt lauds the teachers for their continued drive for excellence in the classrooms. "It never pushes down into the

classrooms," she said. "Teachers have the feeling, though, they are not valued."

And so negotiations continue. "It is a tough job," Barrett said referring to Merritt's position. "But teachers respect her and she respects them."

Whether it is negotiations or continuing to build the district and renew public trust, Merritt said she will count on teamwork, perseverance and diversity.

These are lessons she learned from her father, Herman Boone, who received attention and accolades as football coach of T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria, Va., as portrayed in the Disney movie *Remember the Titans*. Merritt's dad was played by actor Denzel Washington, who has become a family friend.

"Teamwork has always been instilled in us," Merritt said, referring to her parents, both educators. "My dad is the most down-to-earth person I know. They have lived in the same house for 45 years. He is so

intelligent and is fully engaged. He is an inspiration to me."

Like her dad and the well-known movie in which he was portrayed, Merritt believes in providing opportunity to all students. "I am driven by the need to focus on students and access to education," she said.

And that must be accomplished, Merritt said, despite a paradigm shift in which public education literally has to rely on increasing enrollment to receive adequate funding. P-CCS for a number of years has been losing students. But Merritt said that decline is slowing down.

"We now have to compete for our market share," she said. That means getting the word out about what P-CCS students are accomplishing and how students of all backgrounds are and can work together. "Our greatest resources are right here. It is important for me to get out and to listen and to learn."

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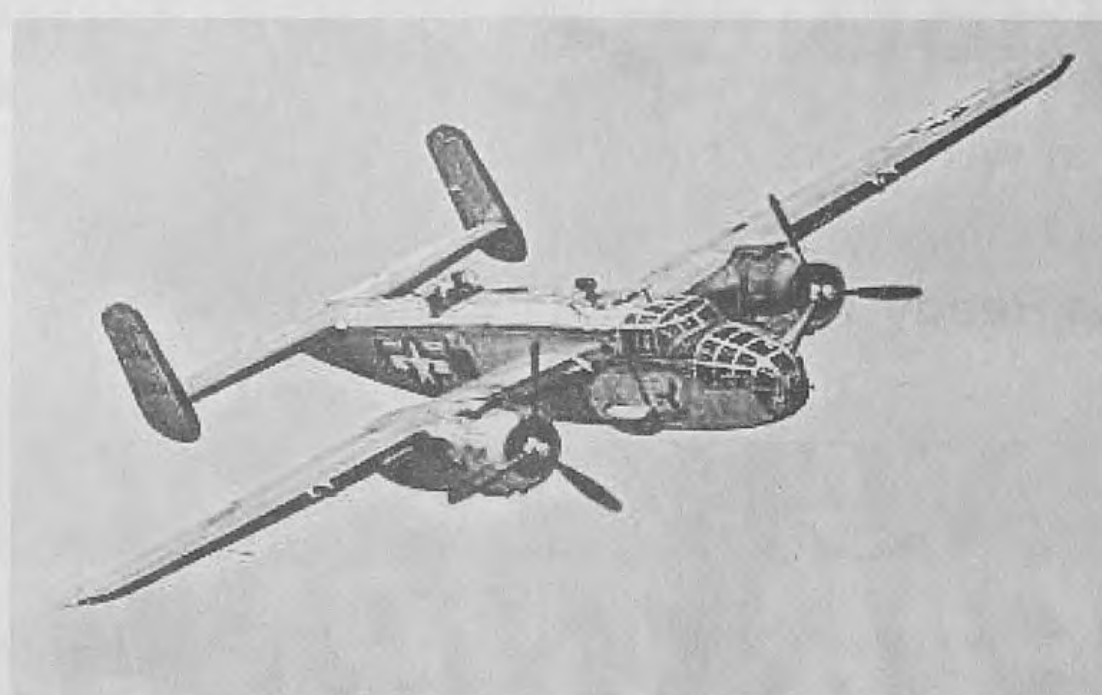
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Yankee Air Museum will hold the line on prices for historic aircraft flying in 2016

The Yankee Air Museum will hold the line on Flyable Historic Aircraft Experiences pricing in 2016. The decision to keep prices stable on the meticulously restored World War II B-17 Flying Fortress, B-25 Mitchell, C-47 Skytrain and Waco Biplane comes in the midst of ambitious winter maintenance. YAM members will continue to be rewarded with generous discounts on flights.

Flying on vintage aircraft has become a seasonal favorite with many aviation enthusiasts in southeast Michigan. The museum hopes even more people will take their first "ride on the historic side" when the flying season opens with the Waco and C-47 flights Saturday, April 9, at Willow Run Airport. The B-17 and B-25 flights will begin in May.

"Our operating expenses have risen, largely due to the cost of parts for these rare aircraft," said Ray Hunter, YAM chairman of the board of directors. "However, the price of fuel has been



The B-25 Yankee Warrior.

lower, which allows us to keep our rates stable."

Hunter said that a 30-minute living history flight experience on board the B-17 Yankee Lady will remain at \$450 and on the B-25 Yankee Warrior stays at \$400. The cost of a 15-minute air tour on the C-47 is \$195 and on the Waco

biplane it stays at \$325 for two passengers or \$225 for one passenger.

Hunter calls the aircraft "flying history books." He says scheduled maintenance is paramount and the museum is always taking extra steps to freshen the restorations on the aircraft. Keeping the airplanes in

pristine condition is just one way the museum honors veterans and pioneers of aviation.

"Visiting an aviation museum is one thing; flying on one is totally another thing," said Kevin Walsh, executive director of the Yankee Air Museum. "We want the visitor experience to be

as unique and rich as possible."

Walsh added that by holding the line on pricing, the YAM is also giving a nod to the many people last year who said, "maybe next year."

"In 2015, we set yet another ridership record on the B-17. These were people of all ages, male and female. People came from all over," Walsh said. "For some it was a chance to connect with history, for others it was the thrill of flying low and slow in an important plane that transcends any airliner."

Walsh said that each of the four planes in the museum's stable provides a unique flying characteristic and people always walk away smiling. The heritage of Yankee Air Museum is based on principles allowing visitors to get up close to the airplanes and make it personal with a ride like none other. The museum exists to stimulate the imaginations of kids, honor veterans and pay tribute to pioneers of aviation.

"Weather permitting, we intend to start flying passengers on Saturday April 9, with our C-47 and our Waco Biplane," Walsh said. "Our flight operations team is busy creating the schedule for the B-17 and B-25 bombers now and those dates should be available on our www.yankeeairmuseum.org website by the end of February."

Walsh added that people can reserve an April 9 ride on the C-47 and the Waco now by writing to: C-47rides@yankeeairmuseum.org or biplane-rides@yankeeairmuseum.org and communicating directly with the scheduler.

Guests are encouraged to book the rides early as Saturday, April 9, promises to be very busy at the Yankee Air Museum Hangar with both the 21st annual Bomber Buffing event and the inaugural Detroit Aviation and Airline Collectibles Show beginning at 9 a.m. Hangar One is on the west side of Willow Run Airport at 801 Kirk Profit Drive, Ypsilanti.

Student essay contest featuring King quote as inspiration

The Beloved Community, partnering with the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion, has announced its second annual essay contest.

The contest is open to all sixth- through 12th-grade students in Plymouth and Canton, including those children who attend traditional public, charter and private schools or who are home-schooled. Participation in the essay contest is intended to foster a deeper understanding

of the importance of diversity and inclusion and further the goals of education, deep reflection and reconciliation on topics critical to racial justice in the Plymouth-Canton community.

This year's contest explores the themes of justice, sacrifice and progress. Students are being asked to consider this quote from the book *Stride Toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story* by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.:

"Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable. ... Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals."

With that quote as inspiration, students should answer: How can you lead positive change in your community? What is your idea of justice? What would you change? What might you sacrifice?

The top submissions will be awarded as follows:

- » Middle school students will receive: first place \$300, second place \$200 and third place \$100.
- » High school students will receive: first place \$600, second place \$300 and third place \$200.

This year the sponsors will also award the middle school and the high school teacher whose students submit the most essays with a gift card of

\$150 each.

Entry information and instructions can be found at www.belovedcommunity.us. Applicants are required to submit all application materials in a single email to TheBelovedCommunityCanton@gmail.com, no later than April 1.

Winners will be notified no later than May 2. Contest winners will be honored during a special ceremony at 7 p.m. May 20 at Tonda Elementary School. The committee

will judge all entries with an emphasis placed on the clear expression of creative ideas. Additionally, the committee will weigh clarity, creativity, originality, basic grammar and writing skills.

Inquiries about the application process for The Beloved Community Dr. Martin Luther King Essay Contest may be directed to Loren Khogali at lorenkhogali@gmail.com or Sommer Foster at sommer.foster@gmail.com.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MINIATURE MASTERPIECES

Time/Date: 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 17
Location: Chapel at St. John's, 44045 Five Mile Road, Plymouth
Details: "Miniature Masterpieces" presents the very best of music written for small orchestra, while also featuring Michigan Phil principal players as the soloists. This year, principal oboist Timothy Michling and principal second violin Hektor Qyteti take center stage, performing Antonio Vivaldi's *Concerto for Oboe, Violin & Strings in B-flat major*. Featured composer Christopher Cerrone will be visiting from New York for a performance of his piece *Recovering*.

Contact: For tickets and information, call 734 451-2112 or go to www.michiganphil.org.

CELEBRATE MLK

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 18
Location: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hills Road, Canton

Details: Canton Township will once again honor the memory and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with a special tribute,



Township Trustee Patrick Williams (left) and keynote speaker the Rev. Dr. William Reese Jr. will be at Monday's MLK Day celebration.

"Canton Celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King Jr." A display of artworks by area students and a punch-and-cookie reception will begin at the Village Theater at 6 p.m., followed by the main program at 6:30 p.m. This annual event is presented by the Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage, members of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Sub-Committee and Canton Township.
Cost: Admission is \$2 and re-

served seats can be purchased online at www.cantonvillagetheater.org.
NEW HOLOCAUST EXHIBIT
Time/Date: Opening program, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27; Exhibit through Sunday, May 15
Location: 28123 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills
Details: The Holocaust Memorial Center will host an opening program for its newest exhibit,

A la Mémoire des Enfants Déportés, Wednesday, Jan. 27. The exhibition includes calligraphic artwork honoring the 11,400 French Jewish children deported and, for many, murdered from 1942-44. The opening event will begin with a wine and dessert reception with the exhibit's artist, Eleanor Winters, followed by an artist talk and presentation at 7:30 p.m. Sponsored by PNC Wealth Management, the evening's music will be provided by Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings.

Cost: The opening event is free to members and \$10 for non-members.
Contact: 248-553-2400

MASQUERADE CHARITY BALL

Time/Date: 7 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Feb. 6.

Details: Kyba Kidz Foundation, dedicated to improving the lives and education of orphans and underprivileged individuals, will host its 2016 Charity Fundraiser Gala Dinner at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi (46100 Grand River). Evening features a silent auction and raffle, dinner and dancing. All are welcome to bring their own masks or purchase them on-site by making a donation. Open to those 18 years and older, individual tickets are \$150 each and a table of 10 is \$1,000. The deadline for pre-registration, which is mandatory in order to attend, is Friday, Jan. 22, and can be completed at www.kybakidzfoundation.org. "From gowns and gararas to suits and sherwanis, we encourage all to put on their most festive formal wear for a night of fun, mystery and giving back," said Tel Ganesan, president of the Kyba Kidz Foundation's Board of Trustees. Farmington Hills-based Kyba Inc. is a technology and staffing services company.

Visit Holocaust center for free on remembrance day

The Holocaust Memorial Center will observe International Holocaust Remembrance Day from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27, offering free admission.

Throughout the day, guests may visit the museum, participate in a 1 p.m. docent-led tour or gather to hear Holocaust survivors speak at 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

As a way to commemorate the victims of the Holocaust, Jan. 27 was designated International Holocaust Remembrance Day by the United Nations General Assembly in 2005.

Speaking at 11:30 will be Mania Salinger, who was born in Radom, Poland, and later forced, along with her family, into a ghetto when Germany attacked the country in 1939. Upon being liberated by the British army, she learned that her parents and brother had been murdered. She arrived in Detroit in 1946 with her new husband and surviving sister.

George Zeff will speak at 2:30 p.m. He was born in Poland and moved with his family to Paris, where they lived until 1936 before moving to Issoudun, France. Following the liberation of the country, the family returned to Issoudun prior to immigrating to the Unit-



Jan. 27 is International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

ed States, where George served in the U.S. Army and finished his education. All relatives who remained in Poland during the Holocaust perished.

At 7 p.m., the center will host an opening program for its newest exhibit, A la Mémoire des Enfants Déportés. The exhibition, which includes calligraphic artwork honoring the 11,400 French Jewish children deported and, for many, murdered from 1942-44, will be open through Sunday, May 15.

The event will begin with a wine and dessert reception with the exhibit's artist, Eleanor Winters, followed by an artist talk and presentation at 7:30 p.m. Sponsored by PNC Foundation, the cost to attend is free to members and \$10 for non-members. The center is located at 28123 Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills.

Contact 248-553-2400 for additional information.

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Dr. James Stewart is a general dentist in Livonia, MI. Today, he answers a question about conservative smile makeovers.

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Anyone wishing to help 12-year-old Emma Ostrowski can go to the GoFundMe page at <https://www.gofundme.com/tdfq4hnb>.

Young Farmington Hills athlete battling rare form of cancer

Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

HELPING EMMA

What: Fundraiser to help Emma Ostrowski, who is fighting a rare children's cancer, gastrointestinal stromal tumor

When: Wednesday, Jan. 20
Where: Buffalo Wild Wings on Six Mile Road in Livonia.

How: A portion of sales that day will be donated to Emma. There will also be a donation box set up 5-8 p.m.

Help: A GoFundMe page has been established at <https://www.gofundme.com/tdfq4hnb>.

ally starting in the stomach. In Emma's case, according to information provided on the GoFundMe page started to help with her expenses, the tumors have spread.

GIST is rare in young children; in fact, according to the GoFundMe page put up by Emma's aunt, her oncologist has only seen three such cases in 32 years of practice. Doug Ostrowski admitted the condition is so rare, doctors are still figuring out how to treat

it. "Because it's so rare, we don't really know exactly what the treatment will be," he said. "It will probably be some kind of oral chemotherapy and then maybe some surgery."

To help defray the cost of what will surely be expensive treatment, friends, family and teammates are finding different ways to help.

One such way comes Wednesday, when the Livonia Wild, Emma's softball team, sponsors a fundraiser at Buffalo Wild Wings in Livonia (37651 Six Mile). The restaurant will donate 20 percent of purchases (accompanied by a flier) of lunch, dinner or snacks to "Livonia Wild for Emma."

Emma, who turns 13 next month, has been the Wild's best hitter the last couple of seasons.

"We wanted to help the family out with the costs of Emma's treatment," said Dan Behen, who coaches the Wild. Emma is a catcher for

the Wild (she also plays soccer in Farmington Hills). She hit better than .460 last season, Behen said.

"She's a great kid," Behen said. "She takes care of business from the moment she steps on the field. She's one of those quiet leaders who leads by example."

The GoFundMe page (<https://www.gofundme.com/tdfq4hnb>) has already raised nearly \$12,000.

Doug Ostrowski, who helps coach Emma's softball team, said the uncertainty over her treatment has left the family a little shaken, but that Emma is "doing pretty well."

"We don't really know a whole lot right now, because it's so rare," he said. "Emma is a good athlete and she does her best as a student. She's such a good kid."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich



JAY GROSSMAN
Lawrence Technological University student Curtis La Graff, with the school's 2014 Formula Hybrid race car.

LTU hybrid race car on display at auto show

Jay Grossman
Staff Writer

Curtis La Graff is ready for a little Formula Hybrid racing.

The Lawrence Technological University computer engineering student is part of the 2016 team of student designers charged with building an open-wheel, single-seat plug-in race car that's powered by an electric motor and an internal combustion engine.

"Both engines run at the same time," said La Graff, 22, of Brighton. "So there's kind of an efficiency question that's usually handled by the students ... how do you want it to run? Do you want one engine going more than the other one? That's what we're currently working on now with the car."

LTU started competing against other colleges in the Formula Hybrid SAE competition in 2010 and now incorporates the race into the engineering curriculum.

The school's 2014 car is on display at this year's North American International Auto Show.

The competition takes place in May at the New Hampshire International Speedway and is limited to 35 teams. While the competition is meant to stir more of an interest in electric cars, La Graff said it also gives students the chance to build a race car and drive it.

"This really gives students a great opportunity to learn about the automotive industry," he said. "Being able to design and build a car from scratch is incredible, especially here in Detroit."

Four batteries power the electrical motor and the car can travel from zero to 60 mph in less than four seconds. The school's 2014 car set a record for circling the track 32 times without having to recharge or refuel.

jgrossman@hometownlife.com

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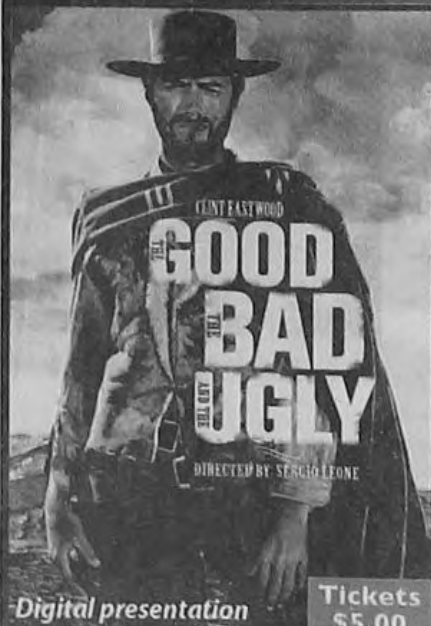
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PREP SPORTS

Can new makeover keep KLAA intact?

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

After only eight years in existence, realignment appears to be a distinct possibility for the 2015-16 school year for the Kensington Lakes Activities Association.

And in order to keep the KLAA intact, athletic directors believe Proposal B appears to be the best route to maintain a competitive balance and solve a disparity of enrollments among the 24 schools, which range from largest in

Grand Blanc (2,727 students) to the smallest in South Lyon East (923).

The KLAA athletic directors met recently and mulled over four different proposals for realignment, but the most positive feedback was for Proposal B, a plan that could be approved within the next



month by a three-fourths majority vote by the member schools' principals.

The KLAA is currently divided in two conferences, the Kensington and the Lakes. It features four different divisions of six schools each – the South, Central, West and North.

"We're looking to see if we can build something that's a little better probably than we have right now, not to say what we have isn't good ... we like it, but we're just trying to improve upon it a little bit," Churchill A.D. Marc Hage

said.

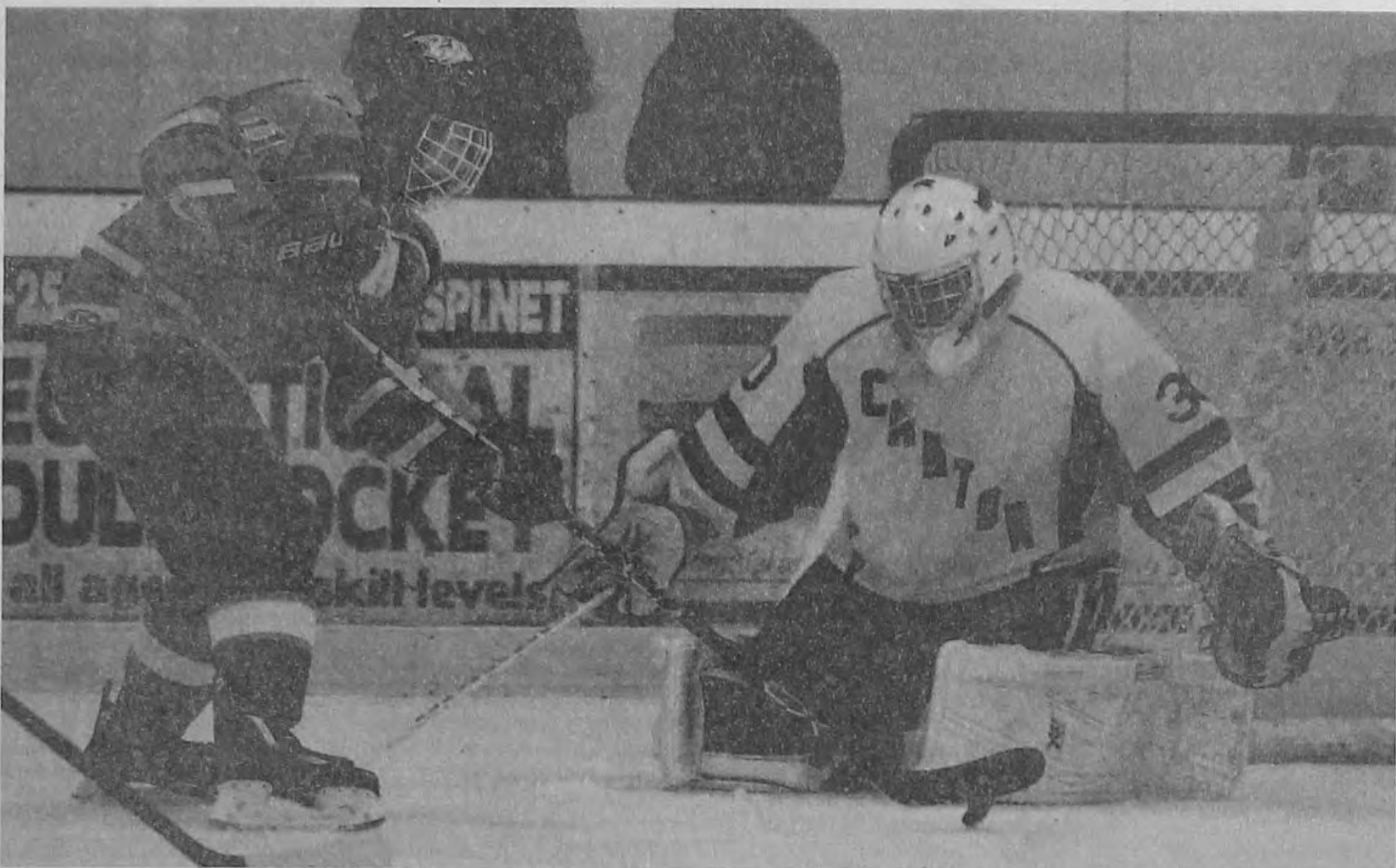
Current alignment

The current alignment for the Kensington Conference's South Division, according to MHSAA fall enrollment figures, includes Canton (2,076), Plymouth (2,057), Westland John Glenn (1,817), Wayne Memorial (1,643), Livonia Churchill (1,620) and Livonia Franklin (1,615).

The Kensington's Central Division

See **MAKEOVER**, Page B3

BOYS HOCKEY



Plymouth forward James Baldwin (left), who scored three goals Wednesday, tries to get the puck past Canton goalie Isaac Salinas.

MICHAEL VASILNEK

POWER PLAYER Baldwin's hat trick sparks 'Cats

Plymouth wards off
Canton's spirited challenge

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Wildcats weren't totally plugged in as a unit Wednesday night, at least according to their coach.

But the way James Baldwin played, perhaps it didn't matter.

Baldwin had a hand in every Plymouth goal in the varsity boys hockey team's 4-2 victory over Canton at Arctic Edge Arena, scoring three goals and assisting on the other.

"James is a very gifted player and he showed it tonight (with) three goals and an assist," Plymouth head coach Gerry Vento said. "To say he carried us is an understatement, but he's been playing like that all year."

Late in the first period, the Wildcats (7-4-1) went up 1-0 when Baldwin threaded a feed to senior forward Ricky Covault.

The Chiefs tied the score with 15:53 to go in the middle period, when senior forward and team captain Brian Oldani roofed a shot from the right corner past Plymouth goalie Brendan Olepa (10 saves). Setting up the goal was forward Emerson Taylor.

Answering with a power-play goal at 6:56 of the second period was Baldwin, banging home a centering pass from senior linemate Jake Silvester.

See **BALDWIN**, Page B2



Canton forward Marcus Cook (left) puts a hit on Plymouth defenseman Zack Weiner during Wednesday night's contest at Arctic Edge.

MICHAEL VASILNEK

BOYS BASKETBALL

Chiefs' hot streak continues

Canton remains undefeated after victory over Zebras

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

During the first half Friday night, Wayne Memorial players were having too easy of a time getting to the rack.

It was something Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy emphasized to his players at halftime of the KLAA South Division boys basketball game — even with the Chiefs holding a 20-16 edge at the break.

"Coach really got on us at halftime," Canton senior forward Logan Ryan said. "He told us we had to step it up on defense, we had to be tougher. We weren't doing that the first half."

The Chiefs ramped up the intensity at both ends of the floor starting with the third quarter and went on to post a 53-43 victory. That gave Canton a still-undefeated record of 9-0 overall and 3-0 in the division.

Canton seized control of the contest with a 18-11 third and Ryan was in the middle of things. He crashed traffic for rebounds and second-chance scoring chances, and launched a couple important jumpers to keep the Chiefs from letting the Zebras rally.

"I thought we were a lot tougher in the second half," Reddy said. "We kind of challenged their toughness at halftime."

"We thought the way Wayne scored in the first half was on us not communicating back screens, and then giving up offensive rebounds or transition points."

Reddy's message resonated loud and clear.

The third quarter opened on back-to-back buckets by seniors Obi Okoli (12 points, five rebounds) and Hamoudy Turfe (nine points).

With 6:15 left in the frame, Can-

See **CHIEFS**, Page B2



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Canton senior guard Hamoudy Turfe (No. 10) drives the lane for a layup Friday against Wayne Memorial.



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BOYS HOCKEY

Salem's overtime goal stymies Novi comeback

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Timing appeared proved to be everything in Salem's boys hockey overtime win Wednesday night over Novi at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

Novi's big third-period comeback was thwarted with 2:03 remaining in OT as Salem's Evan Newel stepped off the bench and took a timely pass to score the game-winning goal, giving the host Rocks a 4-3 Kensington Conference crossover victory.

"Big-time players step up in big situations and that is exactly what Evan Newel did," Salem coach Ryan Ossensmacher said. "We held him on the bench for a split second ... Novi was changing at the same time and he was able to get off the bench behind them. Austin Marthaler did a nice job picking his head up and making the pass."

"That goal was a goal scor-

er's goal."

Salem, which improved to 8-4-1 overall and 5-1-1 in the KLAA's South Division, carried a 3-0 lead into the final period before the Wildcats (4-8-1, 1-5 KLAA Central) made a valiant rally.

"I thought we played strong first half of the game," Ossensmacher said. "Novi is a good team and we were obviously pleased with being up 3-0 going into the third. We have been short-handed for about a month and last night was the first time we noticeably wore down later in the game. Credit to our players for keeping their composure after giving up the lead and finding a way to get the win."

Novi fought off a two-minute Salem power play to start the eight-minute overtime and nearly won it with 4:45 left, but Salem goalie Tristan Rehling (24 saves) denied Zach Perpich on a short backhand flip.

Newel then stepped off the



Novi's Ryan Fonda (left) chases the puck along with Salem's Zach Goleniak during Wednesday's KLAA crossover at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

DAVE DONOHER

bench with just over two minutes remaining in sudden death and took a long pass along the boards just in front of his own bench and walked in all alone to beat Novi goaltender Josh Richardson (19 saves).

"I don't know, I'd like to see it on video," Novi coach Mark Vellucci said of the game-winning goal. "I think (Salem) did a kind of a delayed line change, which one of the things you do in overtime hockey when you

change ends. That kind of bit us there. But heck of a game, heck of a third period there."

Salem led 2-0 after one period on Colin Goleniak's goal at 10:15 (from Chase Kee and Zach Goleniak), followed by Shawn Weldon's power-play goal at 12:57 from Newel and Matt Schaumburger.

The Rocks increased their lead to 3-0 at 10:29 of the second period on Zach Goleniak's goal from Marty Mills and Newel and appeared to be on cruise control.

But the Wildcats refused to fold, with Brandon Kour starting the comeback at 5:07 of the third on a power-play goal from Jake Cyr and Nathan Graff.

Cyr's goal at 6:21 from Ryan Rabinowitz cut the deficit to 3-2 and Anthony Luongo's unassisted goal with only 5:02 remaining in regulation sent the game into OT.

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USA HOCKEY



Logan Cockerill (left) of the NTDP U17s maintains a step on Muskegon defender Zachary Berzolla during Friday night's USHL game.

RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY

Third-period surge lifts NTDP U17s to 6-4 victory

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

A four-goal barrage in the third period Friday spearheaded the USA Hockey NTDP Under-17 team to a 6-4 victory over Muskegon before about 1,600 fans at USA Hockey Arena.

The crowd turned out for the NTDP's first Teacher Appreciation Day. Detroit Red Wings rookie phenom and former NTDP player Dylan Larkin also was on hand to drop the ceremonial opening puck.

Once the action started, forwards Sean Dhooghe and Grant Mismash sparked the U17s, each lighting the lamp twice behind Lumberjacks goaltender Joey Daccord (28 saves).

Also scoring for Team USA were wingers Jacob Tortora (who also collected an assist) and Randy Hernandez.

Making 23 stops for the victory was U17 goalie and Northville native Dylan St. Cyr.

Muskegon drew first blood in the see-saw United States Hockey League match-up.

Defenseman Nathaniel Kallen's blast eluded St. Cyr at 10:28 of the opening period, putting Muskegon up 1-0.

The U17s evened the contest at 1-1 when Tortora buried an unassisted goal with 4:40 to go in the first period.

Dhooghe then gave the NTDP squad its first lead of the night at 4:31 of the second period. His even-strength goal was assisted by Tortora and defenseman Josh Ma-

niscalco.

Back came the Lumberjacks before the end of the period, with goals by Livonia Stevenson alum Max Humitz and Rem Pitlick, making it a 3-2 Muskegon advantage after 40 minutes.

Muskegon padded its lead to 4-2 on a goal by Dante Palecco, just two minutes into the third.

That's when the U17s got busy, scoring four unanswered goals to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat.

Scoring in succession were Mismash, Hernandez, Mismash (again) and Dhooghe, with the last two goals coming in the final 2:30 on the power play.

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CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

ton freshman guard B. Artis White (eight points) from the left flank to put the Chiefs up 27-16.

Midway through the frame, it was Ryan who buried a triple, from beyond the top of the arc. Later in the frame, he went baseline for a bankshot-and-one.

"I just try to take good shots when I can and hopefully they go down," Ryan noted.

Shortly afterward, the Chiefs took a 35-24 lead thanks to an offensive rebound and putback by sophomore Colin Troup.

With two seconds to play in the third, senior Chris English connected on a trey from the right corner to put an exclamation point on the surge.

That put Canton ahead 38-27, more than enough to offset a late push by the 1-7 Zebras.

If not for a couple in-and-out triple tries by Wayne senior forward Marques Stokes, the visitors really could have made things uncomfortable down the stretch for the Chiefs.

"We got out of character, some guys forced some things and then it's been happening to us all season," said Nkwane Young, in his second season as head coach for the Zebras. "We're right there in games and then when it's time to

make plays we're not making them."

Leading Wayne with 14 points and eight rebounds was 6-4 junior forward Trevon Woods, with sophomore guard Terence Williams (15 points) and Eastern Michigan University-recruit Keion Epps registering nine points and eight boards.

Reddy complemented the second-half performances turned in by Ryan, Turfe and others.

But the Canton coach would like to see his team play consistently all four quarters, especially with division foes Livonia Churchill and Plymouth lurking on the schedule.

"Churchill's very good and obviously Plymouth on Friday night (Jan. 22), which is a cross-campus rival," Reddy said. "We're going to have to amp it up if we want to continue what we're doing."

CHURCHILL 48, PLYMOUTH 40: The visiting Wildcats fell to 4-5 overall and 2-1 in the KLAA South with Friday's defeat at Livonia Churchill. Bright spots for Plymouth included Brent Davis (11 points), Pete Carravallah (10 points, seven rebounds) and Frank Brown (10 rebounds).

SALEM 55, S.L. EAST 44: The visiting Rocks improved to 6-3 overall and 2-1 in the KLAA Central Division with Friday's win over winless South Lyon East.

LIGGETT 75, PCA 53: Despite 15 points and six rebounds by Matt Malcolm, Plymouth Christian Academy took it on the chin Friday night at Grosse Pointe Woods University Liggett.

Other solid performers for the Eagles (4-11) included Levi Yakuber (10 points), Ian Hay (seven points) and Max Okolo (six points).

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Wayne Memorial players converge on Canton senior guard Obi Okoli (No. 24) during the Chiefs' 53-43 win Friday.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

BALDWIN

Continued from Page B1

Canton drew even yet again with about six minutes remaining in the period, on the power play. A shot by defenseman Jake McClune was turned aside by Olepa, but forward Daniel Bourgeois collected the loose puck and stuffed a wraparound at the right post to make it a 2-2 game. Erik Wafer also assisted.

Back in front

Before the end of the period, Baldwin restored the slim Plymouth lead when he buried the rebound of a shot by senior defenseman Zack Weiner.

"The first one, Jake Silvester made a great play down low and threw it to me out front," Baldwin said. "Zach Weiner, on the second one, threw a great pass down low to me."

Baldwin scored an un-



Scoring on a wraparound in the second period of Wednesday's game is Canton's Daniel Bourgeois (right). The goal briefly tied the game against Plymouth at 2-2.

MICHAEL VASILNEK

assisted goal at 1:18 of the final period to give the Wildcats some insurance. He blasted a high shot from the top of the right circle that Canton senior goalie Isaac

Salinas (22 saves) had no chance on.

"We just got it deep and fore-checked hard and I was able to come in and finish it," Baldwin said.

Vento said the Wildcats — who just returned home after going 2-0 during a weekend trek to Sault Ste. Marie — did not have the same kind of energy as they usually display.

"I noticed we didn't play with the same intensity as we did up in the Soo," he said. "I thought we were flat for most of the game."

"It wasn't our best effort by any means, but a win's a win, so we move forward."

Looking better

The pesky Chiefs, who recently notched their first win of the season (8-1 over Utica), hung in there throughout the KLAA South Division match-up.

"It was a good, typical rivalry game that's always fun to be a part of," Canton head coach Brad Barath said.

"It was a very exciting game. They got a few more than us, obviously."

"Penalties were a part of it and that was the difference in the game."

Barath lamented costly miscues and untimely penalties — such as getting whistled 30 seconds after scoring a goal to sap positive momentum.

He did see good signs coming from his 1-9 team, including Oldani's laser of a goal and Salinas' goaltending.

"There's more positives than negatives and things are going a lot smoother than they have been," Barath said. "Cut down on a few of the mistakes, cut down on a few of the penalties, continue to make corrections and we'll get some wins."

Meanwhile, in addition to Baldwin's stellar production, the Wildcats continue to be buoyed by having senior captain and defenseman Kyle Kozler back on the blue line.

Kozler missed only one game (against South Lyon)

due to a deep leg bruise following a nasty collision during a December game against Salem.

At the time of the injury, it was feared he might be lost for a chunk of the schedule.

"We were lucky it happened when it did," Vento said about the Kozler injury. "Because we had the South Lyon game and then we went into break for two weeks. Otherwise, he would have missed some because he was pretty banged up."

"But it's big having him back. He's a big part of the team, no doubt."

Plymouth will now look to the return of hard-nosed forward Alex Bump.

Vento said Bump sustained a broken wrist in late November, but is on track to get back into the lineup early next month. "Getting Alex back will be a major addition," he said.

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VIEW FROM THE PARK

P-CEP athletic directors weigh in on proposed KLAA realignment

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The Kensington Lakes Activities Association could be taking on a new look as soon as 2016-17, with principals soon expected to vote on a plan.

One proposal for realignment gaining traction would slot all three Plymouth-Canton Educational Park schools in the same division, along with Livonia Stevenson. Currently, Canton and Plymouth compete in the KLAA South Division and Salem in the Central.

As with any change, there are pros and cons to any of the four proposals being mulled. But for the most part, athletic directors at the Park view any such realignment in a positive light.

"The fact that the proposed realignment has all three teams from the Park in the same division is a great thing," Salem's Brian Samulski said. "It would allow teams to schedule who they want for non-conference games while still playing Canton and Plymouth in division play."

According to Vernon Crump of Canton, having the Chiefs, Rocks and Wildcats in the same division "would preserve Park rivalries and tradition."

Plymouth counterpart Kyle Meteyer, meanwhile, added that he agrees with Samulski and Crump about Proposal B — which would divide the 24-team conference into six geographic pockets of four teams each instead of the



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

If Proposal B is approved, all three P-CEP high schools will be in the same division. That means less opportunities for district championships such as this one, won in 2015 by Plymouth's softball team. Currently the three schools are in two divisions.

current configuration (four six-team divisions).

Driving the call for realignment after eight years is enrollment disparity (from South Lyon East's 923 to Grand Blanc's 2,727 students) and desire to keep transportation costs down by not requiring as many long commutes to contests.

"One of the most obvious benefits to what's being discussed is that students in our district get to compete against each other more regularly," Meteyer said. "Another benefit is that it keeps geographic proximity extremely tight for our division, which is great

for kids because it gets them home earlier to work on academic priorities, as well as keeping transportation costs approximately the same as what they are now."

Fewer trophies

But Meteyer did point out one flip side to the Proposal B coin. With all P-CEP high schools in the same division, there wouldn't be as many division championships across the campus.

"Our schools would be bringing home fewer total division championships and would be competing for fewer conference championships, if we were in the same division instead of split up," Meteyer said. "Currently, it is feasible for Salem to win its division and either Plymouth or Canton to win the South Division."

"Under this proposal, only one team will bring home a championship." Meteyer said he remains neutral about any of the KLAA realignment plans and that he continues to discuss a "complex topic" with Plymouth's principal, coaches and others.

"Plymouth (High School) will vote on what is in the best interest of our students," he said.

For any realignment to occur, a three-fourths majority of KLAA principals must approve any proposal. That could take place before March.

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MICHAEL VASILNEK

Plymouth's Chantal Ledoux eyes the basket Friday night against Livonia Churchill.

HIGH SCHOOL HOOPS

Charged-up Churchill nips Wildcats, 34-31

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Fans of old-fashioned, get-after-it defense would have loved Friday night's KLAA South Division battle featuring visiting Livonia Churchill and Plymouth.

If high-voltage offense and soft defending is your thing, well, there's always the NBA.

In a game that featured very few uncontested looks, the high-energy Chargers earned a down-to-the-wire 34-31 triumph over the feisty Wildcats.

With the win, Churchill remained a contender in the South Division standings as it improved to 2-1 (3-5 overall).

"Tonight was the first game this season that I felt we played great as a team," Churchill head coach K'Len Morris said. "I mean, the girls on the bench were enthused and supporting their teammates. I can't tell you how proud I am of these girls."

"It's a great group. We've lost some games this year we probably should have won, but they come to practice the next day and they're as upbeat as you can be."

The game was deadlocked at 25-25 after three quarters, setting up a fierce and furious down-the-stretch struggle.

The Chargers never trailed in the fourth quarter after senior guard Alivia Kondrath drained a pair of free throws 30 seconds in, but by no means were they ever able to relax against the Wildcats' full-court pressure defense.

Senior guard Molly Pummil was the winners' fourth-quarter catalyst, as she converted a left-handed fast-break layup before notching a steal and a driving bank shot to put Churchill ahead, 32-26 with three minutes left.

"Molly played a great game," Morris said. "She's such a smart player, which is why I put her on their best shooter (Alexa Ebeling). I'm happy for her because she's a senior and I don't think she's beaten Plymouth too many times."

Plymouth clawed back quickly, cutting its deficit to 32-31 with 35 seconds remaining on senior Jordyn Chouinard's short put-back.

Churchill earned some breathing room with 12.5 seconds to go when Shae Smith calmly sank to free throws — just moments after missing a pair — to extend her team's lead to 34-31.

Plymouth's Hannah Badger managed to get off a 22-foot 3-point try as the buzzer sounded, but like most shots taken in the game, it was well-contested by the Chargers.

"What a fun game to watch as far as effort-wise from both teams," first-year Plymouth head coach Ryan Ballard said. "Both teams played very, very hard."

"There were plays there to be made, but I couldn't get us to execute and that's on me."

Kondrath led the winners' balanced attack with 10 points. Junior post player Anne Yost added eight, while three others players (Pummil, Gabby Carter and Smith) all had four.

Topping the offensive ledger for Plymouth was senior Bailey Brown, who scored 10.

The game started out like it may be a shootout as Brown banked in a long triple from the right wing in the opening minute.

Churchill connected on 12-of-28 field-goal attempts and 11-of-18 free throws. Plymouth found net on just 9-of-30 shots from the field and 10-of-23 free throws.

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MAKEOVER

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member schools are Northville (2,281), Salem (2,068), Novi (2,017), Livonia Stevenson (1,831), South Lyon (1,224) and South Lyon East (923).

Meanwhile, the Lakes Conference's current West Division set-up includes Grand Blanc (2,727), the second largest enrollment in the state; Howell (2,567), which is ranked eighth; Brighton (2,221), Hartland (2,017), Milford (1,484) and Pinckney (1,326).

The North Division of the Lakes Conference has White Lake Lakeland (1,770), Walled Lake Central (1,766), Waterford Mott (1,651), Walled Lake Western (1,611), Waterford Kettering (1,512) and Walled Lake Western (1,662).

"What we're basically trying to do as far as one of the main objectives is to shrink that disparity in enrollment, which exists in several of the divisions," Hage said. "We're trying to decrease that a little bit, while keeping in mind we also make sure we maintain the core philosophy of proximity. We don't want to travel too far. We want to keep close proximity within the divisions while addressing the enrollment disparity."

New proposal

Under Proposal B, the new format will keep the two conferences intact with 12 schools apiece, but both will be realigned into three divisions instead of the current two.

"The premise going into this for some of the smaller schools was to look at competitive equity based on enrollment," said Huron Valley Schools athletic administrator Greg Michaels, who oversees Milford and Lakeland. "We looked at a lot of data, because we had eight years of data in the KLAA to look at wins and losses, and enrollment differential."

The Kensington South would maintain John Glenn, Wayne, Churchill and Franklin, while the Central would feature Canton, Plymouth, Salem and Stevenson. The new Midwest Division would see both Milford and Pinckney switching conferences to join South Lyon and South Lyon East.

Meanwhile, Northville would be switching conferences to join the Lakes North, which would include all three Walled Lake schools (Central, Northern and Western). Novi would also be changing conferences as well, to the Lakes' East Division, with Lakeland, Mott and Kettering. The West Division would keep four of its six schools intact with Grand Blanc, Howell, Brighton and Hartland.

Grand Blanc would travel a

KLAA-high of 34.07 miles (from 28.98) each way within the confines of its conference, while other teams would be on buses longer going to events.

Extra travel

Northville's average trip each way would jump from 6.05 to 15.3 miles; Novi, 6.5 to 19.73; Milford, 16.7 to 22.24; and Pinckney, 21.86 to 23.9. The travel distances would also increase for South Lyon (11.01 to 13.83) and sister school East (7.05 to 14.83).

"We drive right past Walled Lake to go to Waterford," Novi A.D. Brian Gordon said. "In some cases it could be as much as an hour one way on bus. Transportation is a challenge for all school districts right now and you can see money is getting tighter. They can't find school bus drivers and that's true across the board. Some school districts have one-way transportation and some have no transportation, depending on the sport. It's a new challenge. It isn't all done yet. We'll see how it ends up."

But Gordon remains committed to the KLAA and Proposal B seems to have found a consensus amongst the league's athletic directors for now.

"We're not completely happy with it, but the number one thing from our prospective was to keep the league together," Gordon said. "I think the KLAA is one of the finest leagues in the state of Michigan and there's a lot of things that went on before I came to Novi by a lot of people who built the league. It isn't about who you play, it's about schools having rivalries and the people who work at those schools, the coaches and the athletic directors, the administrators that just build a culture with it for high school athletics."

"The league has come too far to disband, in my eyes. And whenever this stuff happens, some people have to give a little and some get a little."

Under scrutiny

Northville, probably the KLAA's most successful athletic program in terms of championships and wins, is mulling Proposal B.

"I would say in this proposal that we would be making sacrifices," Northville A.D. Bryan Masi said. "Honestly, I don't know which way we're going to vote yet. If Proposal B is not approved by three-fourths vote, then we revert back to the current schedule. We may very well vote no, because we're in a better current situation with our schedule. I'm in more favor of keeping our current schedule."

Masi said he has kept in constant communication with both Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher and Principal Tony Koski.

"We're still going to be a 12-team conference (but) with three divisions (if Proposal B is approved)," Masi said. "That's what we (athletic directors) approved on. I didn't approve it to say I like it better than the other."

Scheduling, such as football, would have to be tweaked significantly. Currently there are as many as two non-conference games set aside to go along with five required division games and one KLAA cross-over.

In the other sports under Proposal B, there would be six different division champs crowned, while allowing for conference and Association-wide champions to be crowned as well.

Staying put?

"I don't see it as a challenge," Michaels said. "I see it as a unique opportunity to build some pretty creative schedules. I think we got the green light to start from the ground up. We got a good foundation in place with schedules. We've got by-laws, we've got philosophies. We got a pattern to fall back on, but I think now we can still meet the needs of our kids and do the best things when we're scheduling. I embrace the change; I like it. It impacts the smaller schools and Milford happens to be one, enrollment-wise."

If Proposal B does not get approval by the principals, the rumors might start again that as many as 10 KLAA schools would form their own league or look elsewhere, whether it's the Southeastern Conference or Oakland Activities Association.

"Those subjects are always out there and there's always somebody kicking around stuff," South Lyon A.D. Mike Teagan said. "You always have other schools that are trying to do things for their programs, as well, and other leagues looking to bring other schools or see if they can move."

The downturn of the economy prior to the KLAA being formed in 2008 caused some disparity in the enrollments within the Association. Howell Parker, a new high school that never opened, was eventually replaced by Grand Blanc as the 24th member.

"I don't care who's in the room, the best and the brightest, I'm not sure anyone could anticipate how taxing that economic decline would be on schools," Michaels said. "One of the good things about this league is that we have good minds in there and we're not afraid to change. ... We pride ourselves on being one of the stronger conferences in the state of Michigan and we're just trying to put together a better product with the people in the room."

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

Canton girls gut out a victory

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The top varsity girls basketball squads in the KLAA South Division met Friday night and the game played out the way most would have predicted.

It was a barn-burner, with visiting Canton roaring back to earn a 45-40 victory over Wayne. That gave the Chiefs a record of 7-2 overall and 3-0 in the KLAA South, while the Zebras fell to 6-3, 2-1.

"There was great intensity by both teams," Canton head coach Rob Heitmeyer said.

The Chiefs needed to rally in the second half, however, trailing 24-17 at halftime. Heitmeyer said adjustments made during the break paid off, especially with the bulk of 16 offensive rebounds coming over the final two quarters.

"We got sped up a little too much in the first half," he said. "And in the second half, we slowed it down and played more Canton-type basketball."

Top performers for Canton included Erin Hult (18 points), Shamyra Butler (10 points, nine rebounds) and Brianna Finn (nine points).

Butler really made an impact, with baskets, important free throws and rebounds.

"Her three field goals in the third quarter helped bring us back from the halftime deficit," Heitmeyer said. "It was great, timely basketball by Shamyra Butler on both ends of the floor."

Senior guard Natalie Winters played strong defense against Wayne's Cam Clegg (22 points), Heitmeyer said.

The Chiefs really took off in the fourth, outscoring the Zebras 16-5 to salt away the impressive win.

"In the fourth quarter, there were a couple big moments led by Brianna Finn," he said, "a couple key rebounds and that gave us some momentum."

SALEM 52, S.L. EAST 48: Host Salem climbed out of a huge, early hole to knock off visiting South Lyon East.

The Rocks fell behind 15-4 after Friday's first quarter, but cut the gap to 27-20 at halftime before flipping the script with a 19-5 third.

Sophomore Lasha Petree scored 24 points and grabbed eight rebounds for the Rocks (6-3 overall, 1-2 in the KLAA Central).

Freshman Lyniah Wilson had a big night for Salem, tallying the first double-double of her varsity career (10 points, 11 boards).

For the Cougars (3-5, 1-2), Peyton Jones scored 29 points. She sank 7-of-8 tries from behind the 3-point line.

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COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Schoolcraft cage squads scorch Henry Ford

Scherdt's 21 rebounds help lead Lady Ocelots; men's squad also prevails

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Schoolcraft College's men's and women's basketball squads are heating up in the midst of a bone-chilling January.

In Wednesday's opener of a home doubleheader against Henry Ford Community College, the women (ranked No. 5 in NJCAA Division II) won, 65-52, paced by Rikki Scherdt's fifth straight double-double and third consecutive game with more than 20 rebounds.

Scherdt scored 14 points and grabbed 21 rebounds, keying the Lady Ocelots to their 16th victory in 17 contests.

They are 4-0 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

Also strong on the glass for Schoolcraft were Birmingham Seaholm alum Elise Tolbert and T'era Nesbitt, each with 10 rebounds. Tolbert led all scorers with 20 points.

Wayne Memorial product Ashley Bland also had 14 points for Schoolcraft.

The Lady Ocelots enjoyed a 66-42 edge in rebounding, including 23-5 on the offensive glass. Schoolcraft led 18-16

after one quarter and bumped that up to 33-27 at halftime.

In Wednesday's second game, the Schoolcraft men's cagers — bouncing back from a Jan. 9 loss at Oakland Community College — romped 97-58 to improve to 8-9 overall and 3-1 in the conference.

The Ocelots are ranked No. 19 in NJCAA D-II, with six November and December wins wiped off the books due to forfeits.

All 13 Schoolcraft players notched at least two points against Henry Ford (1-13, 0-3), with Tyler Johnson (14 points) and Juwan Clark (13 points) leading the way.

Chipping in 12 points was Bryan Collins, while Carlos Taylor contributed 11 points.

Rodney Scales II was Schoolcraft's top rebounder with eight, along with six points.

Canton alum Davon Taylor (four points, four boards) and Westland John Glenn product Dre Black (six points) also helped the Schoolcraft cause.

Tallying 20 points for Henry Ford was Jabbar Mimms.

Schoolcraft fell, 92-90, to OCC on Jan. 9, despite 23 points by Clark and a 17-point performance by Anthony Wartley-Fritz.

Black also had a solid game, scoring 15 points.

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JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO
Schoolcraft's Anthony Wartley-Fritz (right) goes up for two during the Ocelots' victory Wednesday over Henry Ford.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO
Looking to pass the basketball Wednesday for Schoolcraft College is Rikki Scherdt (right), who had 21 rebounds against the Hawks.

PREP BOWLING

Plymouth captures first-ever tournament championship

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

For Plymouth varsity boys bowling coach Scott Kapke, his team came of age Jan. 9 at Super Bowl in Canton.

The Wildcats captured the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Tournament, the first tourney win in the boys bowling program's history and "far and away the finest moment since I have been involved in the program. Nothing else a close second."

Kapke, in his third season at the helm, noted that his team collectively went out and grabbed something it wanted — the PCS trophy.

"It was the first time I have seen them in the fire, knowing they belonged there rather than on the outside hoping and wishing," Kapke said. "They just went out and took it. It was awesome."

Plymouth topped the 22-team field, including University of Detroit-Jesuit, Novi Detroit Catholic Central, Westland John Glenn, Wayne Memorial, Woodhaven, Tecumseh and Park rivals Canton and Salem.

The field was cut down to eight teams following qualify-



PLYMOUTH BOWLING
Plymouth's varsity boys bowling team celebrates Jan. 9 after winning the PCS Tournament at Super Bowl Lanes in Canton (from left): freshman Alan Brown, sophomore Mike Koski, senior captain Nick Ray, junior Justin O'Shaughnessy, freshman Brett Caldwell, junior Bryce Smith and head coach Scott Kapke.

ing (two individual games and four Baker games), with subsequent reductions to six, four

and two teams. In the finals, Plymouth defeated Tecumseh, 350-310.

"It was great to see the teamwork and enthusiasm, in addition to the amazing way

they fed off each other and made each other better," Kapke said. "It was one of the coolest things I have ever witnessed and I could not be prouder of them."

Kapke said the Wildcats qualified fifth on "the very challenging Allen lane pattern," with solid performances from freshman Alan Brown (197-183), sophomore Mike Koski (178-188), junior Justin O'Shaughnessy (191-201) and freshman Brett Caldwell, up from junior varsity to post a 199 score.

Plymouth ramped it up in the Baker-style survivor round, tallying six consecutive five-man games of around 200. A 250 game highlighted that string, which Kapke called "the finest Baker game they have bowled since I started coaching the program."

PLYMOUTH 20, NORTHVILLE 10: On Tuesday at Town and Country Lanes in Westland, the Wildcats got back on track after Monday's loss to Canton. Freshman Alan Brown had a 221-246-467 scoreline, while senior Nick Ray turned in a 228-220-448 performance. Other standouts were Mike Koski (211-205), Bryce Smith (216), Luke Meiers (199) and Justin O'Shaughnessy (204-194).

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KLAA WRESTLING

Salem coasts to two triumphs

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Stellar showings across the board spearheaded Salem to virtually a perfect night at Wednesday's KLAA quad meet.

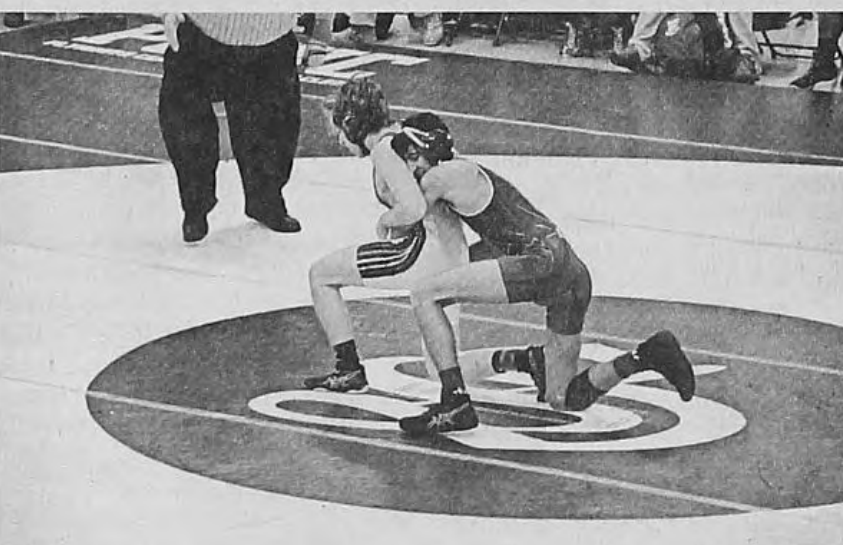
The host Rocks made senior and alumni night a special one for those who came out to watch as Salem pounded Novi, 53-18, and Northville, 81-0. The Mustangs' lineup included a number of junior varsity wrestlers, however.

"I was proud of the boys today," Salem coach Jeremy Henderson said. "Novi beat us in a close dual last year, 39-30, so it was awesome to come back and beat them pretty good."

"We're going after division and district titles this year and this was a great start to the division (schedule). Northville didn't have a lot of varsity kids, so a lot of the matches we had with them were JV matches and the kids did very well."

Henderson added that "it was great to have a good showing" on senior and alumni night, with seniors Drew Lindsay and Demetrius Fields going 2-0 at 135 and 171, respectively.

"Both wrestled two tough matches and took care of business," Henderson said. "All the seniors wrestled well tonight. ... Glad to see the team clicking at the right time now, so we just need to keep it going."



MEGAN MCDEVITT
Salem's Akash Rai (right) looks to take down an opponent during Wednesday's quad meet.

Seniors Roy Foster (189), Seth Dunn (152), Russell Gaubatz (145) and Cam Shaughnessy (125) all won their two match-ups, as did juniors Bruce Haslitt and Akash Rai at 140 and 119, respectively.

DaQuan Baker went 2-0 at 112, while senior 189-pounder Ahmad Mehsen posted a win in his only bout of the night.

Henderson cited the showing turned in by freshman Dez Dewberry "who stepped in at 160 pounds and he wrestled very well."

Senior Tyler Moore went 1-1 at 215, with other 1-1 performers including Nate Gaubatz (103) and Ali Kobeissi (130).

Salem JV wrestlers showing positives included D.J. McGhee, Ben Bennett and

Jake Giorgi. "The JV just needs more mat time, but we have a great class of freshmen and I am excited to see them improve," Henderson said.

The fourth team in the quad was Livonia Stevenson.

Plymouth splits

In a KLAA division quad meet at Canton, Plymouth defeated Wayne Memorial, 57-18, but fell to Westland John Glenn, 50-19.

Tyler Campbell, Dylan Dwyer and Jake Griffith went 2-0 for the Wildcats, while Collin Reed, Joey Ahearn and Darwin Filey all went 1-0.

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PREP GYMNASTICS

Chiefs making steady progress

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

As far as Canton gymnastics coach John Cunningham is concerned, his team is getting there.

Whether the Chiefs finish with a state championship or runners-up honors — which they did in 2013-14 and 2014-15, respectively — remains to be seen.

But Wednesday's performance against Walled Lake Gold and Walled Lake Maroon is a step in the right direction, Cunningham emphasized.

"Canton is making steps to return to last year's form and scores," Cunningham said. "But the process has been slow."

Cunningham said this weekend's Caruss Invitational and a meet Jan. 20 against Livonia Blue could tell the tale, both events requiring "the tricks, routines and desire to step up or we will see losses."

Still, the Chiefs registered their best team score of the season Wednesday with 140.1, easily dispatching W.L. Maroon (115.9) and W.L. Gold (94.425).

Jana Hilditch took first on vault (8.65) and uneven parallel bars (8.9), while Hailey Hodgson and Katie Dickson had outstanding nights. Hodgson took first place on balance beam (9.2) and all-around (34.7) and shared the top spot on floor exercise with Dickson (9.4 each).

Dickson also came in second on bars (8.8) and third on beam (8.95).

Other solid performances



Hilditch

for the Chiefs were delivered by Kelsea Kernosek, Rachel Socha and Katherine Najduk.

All three displayed the versatility that is a Canton trade-

mark:

» Kernosek tallied 8.6 on bars (third), 9.05 on beam (second) and 8.65 on floor (fourth).

» Socha finished with scores of 8.3 on vault (third), 8.925 on beam (fourth) and 8.775 on floor (third).

» Najduk tallied 8.15 on vault, 8.0 on bars and 8.55 on floor.

Wildcats prevail

Wednesday also was a winning one for Plymouth, amassing 139.35 points to top Northville (135.075) and Waterford United (128.125).

Head coach Pam Yockey noted "stellar performances" by Haley Metz (9.05 on bars, 9.25 on beam) and Rebeca Simu (9.525 on beam, 9.35 on floor) to help the Wildcats nudge past the Mustangs.

Another plus for Plymouth was a season's best tally of 35.00 on vault, led by strong showings by Sam Fontana and Hilly Pihl.

Yockey said Adriana Tao "nailed her 8.525 beam routine" and that Ava Eilola's 8.65 on floor was her best so far this year.

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Coretta Scott King a leader in her own right

Coretta Scott King, wife of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., played a key role in the American civil rights movement. Mrs. King, who died in 2006, carried on her husband's legacy of justice and equality following his 1968 assassination.

Mrs. King traveled throughout the world speaking out on behalf of racial and economic justice, women's and children's rights, gay and lesbian dignity, religious freedom, the needs of the poor and homeless, full employment, health care, educational opportunities, nuclear disarmament and environmental justice. She lent her support to pro-democracy movements world-wide and consulted with many world leaders, including Corazon Aquino, Kenneth Kaunda, and Nelson Mandela.

Information on Coretta



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CENTER FOR NONVIOLENT SOCIAL CHANGE
Coretta Scott King, who died in 2006, played a key role in the civil rights movement both before and after her husband's 1968 death.

Scott King, who with Rev. King had four children, is available at www.thekingcenter.org, the website of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change.

Alabama native Coretta Scott King earned a

B.A. in music and education from Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio. She then studied concert singing at Boston's New England Conservatory of Music, where she earned a degree in voice and violin. She met Martin Luther King Jr. in Boston

where he was working on a doctorate at Boston University.

The couple married June 18, 1953, and lived in Montgomery, Ala., where he was pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, the website notes.

She spoke before church, civic, college, fraternal and peace groups. She conceived and performed a series of Freedom Concerts that combined prose and poetry narration with musical selections and functioned as significant fundraisers for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the direct action organization of which Rev. King served as first president.

In 1957, she and Rev. King journeyed to Ghana to mark that country's independence. In 1958, they spent a belated honeymoon in Mexico, where they observed firsthand

the immense gulf between extreme wealth and extreme poverty.

In 1959, the couple spent nearly a month in India on a pilgrimage to disciples and sites associated with Mahatma Gandhi. In 1964, she accompanied him to Oslo, Norway, where he received the Nobel Peace Prize. Even prior to her husband's public stand against the Vietnam War in 1967, Mrs. King functioned as liaison to peace and justice organizations, and as mediator to public officials on behalf of the unheard.

The website notes Mrs. King's key role in building the Atlanta-based Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change. The now 23-acre national historic park includes his birth home.

She had served as founding president, chair

and chief executive officer, including establishing archives and advocating for the federal holiday for her late husband's birthday. It was first observed in January 1986.

Mrs. King later led goodwill missions to countries in Africa, Latin America, Europe and Asia. She served as a Women's Strike for Peace delegate to the 17-nation Disarmament Conference in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1962.

In 1983, she brought together more than 800 human rights organizations to form the Coalition of Conscience, sponsors of the 20th Anniversary March on Washington, until then the largest demonstration ever held in our nation's capital. In 1987, she helped lead a national Mobilization Against Fear and Intimidation in Forsyth County, Ga.

RELIGION CALENDAR

JANUARY

SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: Noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31

Location: Divine Mercy Roman Catholic Regional School, 31500 Beechwood, Garden City

Details: Tour the school, meet the principal, pick up a registration packet

Contact: 734-425-4420

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 17

Location: St. Kenneth, 14951 Haggerty, Plymouth

Details: Mass and potluck lunch. Bring a dish to pass. Call Liz at 734-452-9149 to find out what foods are needed. Widowed friends is a peer support group of the Archdiocese of Detroit

Contact: Pat at 734-895-6246

WOMEN'S EVENT

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 23

Location: Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City

Details: Authors Lynn Donovan and Dineen Miller are guest speakers at an event for women who are "spiritually mismatched" in their marriage or have loved ones who are non-believers or are not mature in their faith. The conference will include a continental breakfast and lunch. Tickets are \$30, available at <https://spiritualmismatch.eventbrite.com>

Contact: 734-421-0472

FEBRUARY

AUCTION

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 14

Location: Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland

Details: Auction supports Concordia Lutheran School. Tickets are \$30 per person or \$270 for a table of 10 and includes appetizer, dinner, desserts, drinks and auction. Deadline is Feb. 8. Order by calling 248-474-2488 or 313-937-2233.

Contact: Laura Goodman at 313-937-2233

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

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

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. second and fourth Thursday, through May

Location: 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Gary Michuta, author and Catholic apologist, leads a study of Isaiah. Bring your own Bible

Contact: 734-261-1455, ext 200 or on line at www.livoniast-michael.org.

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

EXERCISE

Time/Date: 6:45-7:45 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday

Location: Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia

Details: Instructor Wendy Motta, a seven-year Zumba practitioner, teaches Zumba through drop-in classes. Each costs \$3. Participants should

bring water, a towel and wear athletic shoes. For more information, email Motta through zumba.com

Contact: 313-408-3364

FAMILY MEAL

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday

Location: Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

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 734-422-0010 or email Stacey Badeen at sbadeen@tbsosm.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: Ethanie 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

Contact: 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

RECYCLING

RISEN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. third Saturday of the month

Location: 46250 Ann Arbor Road, between Sheldon and Beck roads, Plymouth

Details: Recycle your cell phones, laser cartridges, inkjet cartridges, laptops, iPads, iPads, tablets, eReaders on the third Saturday of each month. Use the doors on east side of church.

Contact: Lynn Hapman at 734-466-9023

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; llef@dwo.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 translation 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: 10-11 a.m. Saturday

Location: 16360 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: A twice-monthly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available

Contact: 734-421-8451

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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.

ADAM, DAVID
Age 84, of Livonia, passed away January 11, 2016. Share condolences at casterlinefuneralhome.com

BOLLING, JACK WILLIAM

Age 89, of Brighton, MI (formerly of Redford twp) passed away on January 10, 2016. He was born in Phelps, Kentucky to Walter Blaine Bolling and Maude Ellen (McCoy) Bolling and grew up in West Virginia with his three brothers James (Annette) Bolling, Walter (Cecelia) Bolling and Frank (Patricia) Bolling and his two sisters Josephine Spaulding and June Inman. Jack served in the Navy during WWII and then went on to work for and retire from Chrysler Corporation. He is survived by his beautiful wife of 68 years, Margaret June Rupert Bolling, his son Jack (Elaine) Bolling, daughters Deborah (Mike) Nagel, Laura (Matthew) Marcinkiewicz, 10 grandchildren, 16 great-grand children and many nieces, nephews and friends.

KEEHN FUNERAL HOME



CANDLER, JULIE

January 9, 2016. Loving mother of Carolyn Candler (Charles Leahy), William Robert Candler IV (Jeannie), and Rickey Faermark (Gene). Dear grandma of Stephen Solaka (Nicole), Jon Solaka, Shaun Faermark, Jennifer Faermark, Billy Candler and Nick Candler. Dearest great-grandma of Bella, Francesca and Bill Solaka. Celebration of Life service was held Saturday, January 16, 2016 at A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home 248-549-0500. Memorial tributes to The Village Players, Common Ground or Women in Communications of Detroit. View obituary and share memories at AJDesmond.com



DEMING, SUSAN K.

Age 68, of Livonia, died January 12, 2016. She was the beloved wife of Terry for 49 years. Loving mother to Brian (Trina) Deming, Michael (Renee) Deming, and grandmother of Korina, Olivia, Zachary, and Gavin. Dear sister of Martha (Russell) Dancy, Ellen (Ted) Lesh, Laura Grainger, Jim (Karen) Grainger. Loving sister-in-law to Nancy (Michael) Becker and Irene (David) Rochette. Memorial service on Saturday, January 23 at 11:00 a.m. at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia MI 48150. Visitation at church begins at 10:00 a.m. Memorial tributes suggested to Angela Hospice, or Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



GRAY, WILLIAM MAYNARD JR.

Age 87, of Grand Haven passed away Friday, January 15, 2016, at his home. He was born January 2, 1929, in Detroit to William Maynard and Ellen Louise (Carlson) Gray, and he married Chrysteen Grace Moelter on May 23, 1981, in Au Gres, Michigan. Bill served his country in the Navy during WWII, and was owner of Design Service, Inc. until retiring in 1994. He was a member of Kirk in the Hills Church, and the Charles A. Conklin American Legion Post # 28. He loved flying and scuba diving. He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Chrysteen Moelter-Gray of Grand Haven; daughter, Lori (Tom Welsh) Shepard of St. Johns; three sons: Clifford (Mony) Gray of Lexington, SC, James Gray, and William Gray, both of Royal Oak; three grandchildren: Christina Shepard, Leah Gray, and Cliff Gray; two great-grandchildren, Amelia Chase and Carter Mitchell; and his sister, Beverley (Dale) Adams of Livonia. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Friday, January 22, 2016 at the Charles A. Conklin American Legion Post #28 in Grand Haven. Military honors will be provided by the Charles A. Conklin American Legion Post #28 Honor Guard. Friends may meet the family one hour prior to the service. Interment will be in Kirk in the Hills in Bloomfield Hills. Memorial contributions to Hospice of North Ottawa Community or the Charles A. Conklin American Legion Post # 28 are appreciated. Share memories with the family at their online guest book at www.vbkfuneralhome.com



LINNELL, RICHARD P.

Peacefully passed away at the age of 75 on January 12, 2016 from complications related to Parkinson's Disease. He was born in Minneapolis, MN to Richard E. Linnell and Dorris Linnell. He was a graduate of the University of Minnesota for both his undergraduate degree and MBA. He loved life and tried to get the most out of his life. Telling jokes, some good and some not so good, was something he enjoyed his entire life. He loved to travel and spend time with his family. He was a long time member of Orchard Lake County Club. He took numerous ski trips to the Rocky Mountains with his family and numerous ski buddies. He met his "wife" Joyce in 1958 when they graduated from Central High School in Minneapolis, MN, but they didn't become a couple until they reacquainted themselves at their 50th high school reunion. He was predeceased by his brother in law Thomas Clark. He is survived by his "wife



GILLIS BENEDICT | MICHIGAN.COM

Angel and James Taylor of Southfield enjoy the seclusion of winter camping at the Brighton Recreation Area's Bishop Lake modern campground with their Brussels Griffon dog, Hickup, and a shih-tzu named Sassy (not pictured). The couple set up camp Christmas Day and planned to stay through New Year's Day.

WINTER CAMPING

Some outdoor lovers unfazed by weather

Abby Welsh
Michigan.com

While some prefer to camp in the spring or fall, others seem to enjoy camping when there is snow on the ground.

No thanks, that is too cold for the liking of many outdoor enthusiasts.

"It takes a special kind of person to camp in the wintertime," laughed Mike Donnelly, Brighton Recreation Area park supervisor. "But people do it and really enjoy it."

Camping is something many do in state parks during the winter months, and it is something the Brighton Recreation Area started offering to its guests two years ago.

"We had some people who were requesting it and decided

"There are people who truly enjoy camping in the wintertime. We usually only get five to six people camping at any given time, but they come — and we are providing for them."

MIKE DONNELLY,
Brighton Recreation Area park supervisor

to open a certain amount of campground spots for those who enjoy camping during this time of the year," Donnelly said, noting that the park isn't as crowded as usual around the wintertime. "There are people who truly enjoy camping in the wintertime. We usually only get five to six people camping at any given time, but they come — and we are providing for them."

Typical activities people do at the park while camping include cross country skiing, snowshoeing, ice fishing, riding fat-tire bikes, hunting and sledding.

"We typically see the cross country skiing the most," Donnelly said.

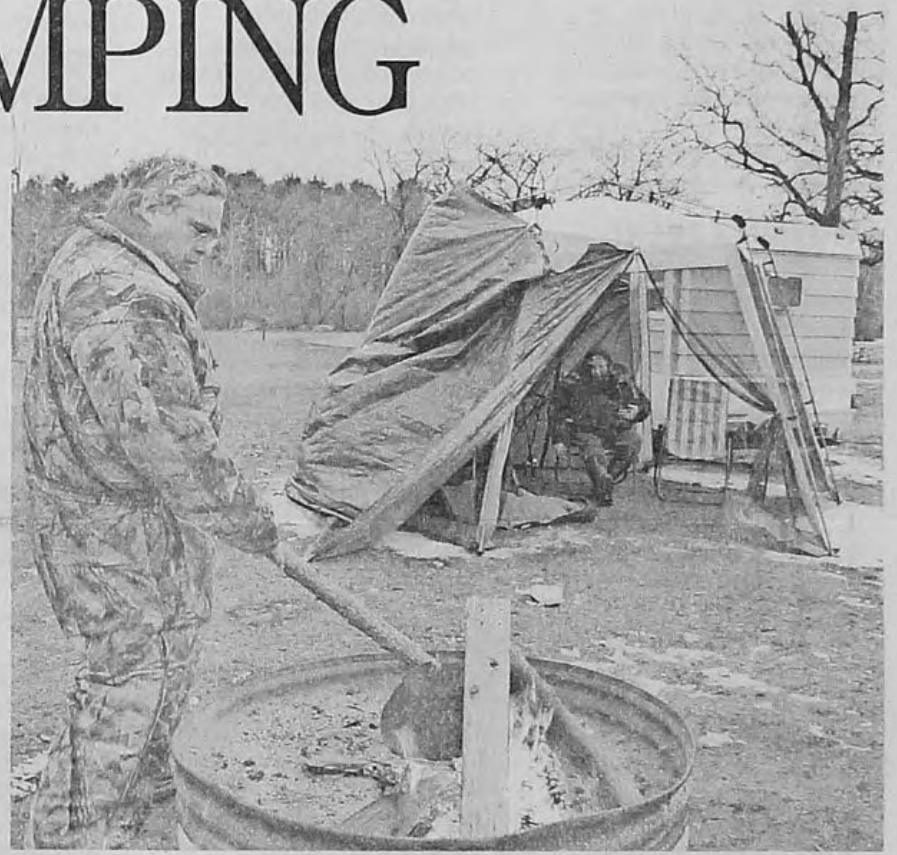
The lower portion of the campground is where the sites are available for winter camping.

However, the state park doesn't always see a large turnout.

"We have roughly 82 sites available right now," Donnelly said. "Once we get a real heavy snow, however, we cut that number in half because not a lot of people are out camping."

Two winters ago, Donnelly

See CAMPERS, Page B7



GILLIS BENEDICT | MICHIGAN.COM

Bundled in layers, the Taylors keep warm in a heated camper, protected from the wind in their canopy or by fireside. Angel Taylor keeps Sassy, her shih-tzu, warm by wrapping her close in Taylor's jacket. The sleet storm that hit Dec. 28 sounded "like somebody was cooking a deep-fryer turkey on the roof" of their camper, according to Angel.

Former EMU broadcaster finds new audience at Fox Run

Meghan Streit
Correspondent

John Fountain, the former broadcast voice of Eastern Michigan University football and basketball, today has new audiences at Fox Run in Novi, where he now records two sports shows each week that air on the retirement community's in-house TV channel.

Fountain has always loved sports reporting and play-by-play broadcasting. Throughout his life, he has found opportunities — both paid and unpaid — to do what he loves most.

When Fountain was in the U.S. Navy and stationed in Libya, he volunteered on top of his regular duties as an electric technician to keep his fellow service members up to date on sports back home. He discovered a radio station at a nearby military base, so he started a regular sports show that was broadcast from the facility.

"One of the coolest things I did was a play-by-play of the 1955 World Series," Fountain said. "It was on a 10-second delay and I was being fed information from Yankee Stadium."

When Fountain returned to the U.S., he worked his way through college with sports broadcasting gigs. After he graduated, he took a job broadcasting University of Michigan basketball and got to travel with the team. He said that job was rewarding



RICK COULTER

John Fountain, who worked and volunteered as a sports broadcaster for almost 50 years, now records two sports shows each week that air on Fox Run's in-house TV channel.

but, like so many of the coolest jobs, it wasn't lucrative enough to support his growing family. So Fountain took a job as an administrator at Eastern Michigan University.

He never gave up on sports broadcasting. He continued to broadcast Eastern Michigan football and basketball on a National Public Radio station based in Ypsilanti.

Now retired, Fountain and his wife Marge live at Fox Run, where he has discovered a new way to explore the field of sports broadcasting. He records two sports-related shows each week that air on the community's in-house television station. He does one scripted show that takes a look at the week ahead in sports, while his other show is an unscripted

talk show that he films with two staff members. Both shows are recorded in Fox Run's state-of-the-art studio.

"It's a wonderful facility," Fountain said of the studio. "It's one of the benefits of living here — to be able to do something you love."

The Fountains were living in a condo in Ann Arbor before they moved to Fox Run five years ago.

"Once I really retired, I found as the years went by, I was spending more time at home, getting up in the morning, going to the gym to work out, occasionally going out to lunch or dinner, but I had the feeling that my mind wasn't being challenged," he said.

Recording sports shows in

See VOICE, Page B7

Using a 1940s Maytag wringer washer is dream come true

Way back in time I wrote a column about wash day in my family when I was a young boy. I recalled the log cabin that my father built back in the mid 20s and the fast-moving spring running beside it into Kamiskotia Lake. There were two large aluminum tubs, one with a scrub board for washing and the other for rinsing. The old wooden wringer head was mounted onto a large tree stump and my small, 7-year-old arm turned the handle as my mother inserted each piece of clothing through the rollers. On occasion I would take the bed sheets to the creek where my father had dug a hole, 3 feet deep, and sit in the cool water and make sure the sheets would smell like a clear spring morning.

Is it any wonder I feel in love with a washing machine?

Can one ever go back to those sorts of days where life seemed so much simpler than today and love was in the air, everywhere? Ask yourself, would you really want to? Well, I do and those years of yesterday are knocking at my door as I have been invited to spend some time living a few days in an Amish home. While I'm there, I will be doing the wash with the lady of the house, using a square tub Maytag wringer washer that was built around 1940.

Amish home

My next column will tell the story about how well it cleaned the clothes and how we dried them. I am going to describe so



Joe Gagnon
APPLIANCE DOCTOR

many ways of life that are sacred to these good people and have been for centuries. These are not secrets to be held behind closed doors as these folks are very proud of their lifestyle — and look at how successful they have been for all these years.

My visit will satisfy my need to know. For years I have wondered just how such people can always be so nice, and I'm sure their answers would be many and deal with the subject of our Lord and the golden rule. In my three hours of conversation with the elders last week, I left with such a feeling of love for this family and I am just getting to know them.

I will give you just one example of how gracious they are. I offered money for my upcoming three-day stay and I was told that they have never taken dollars from a visitor to their home and I could not argue about this subject. I am thinking hard about how I can turn this around to their benefit in my cunning ways. I'll think of something I'm sure.

No electricity

Staying with the purpose of this column, I am going to go through their appliances, their age and how they all operate. What they use to store food for

See GAGNON, Page B7

The man who almost broke David Bowie's nose

Jay Grossman
Staff Writer

As the world mourns the death of David Bowie, meet the artist who almost broke the nose of the legendary rock star.

Gerard Marti, director of the Robert Kidd Gallery in Birmingham, enjoyed a personal friendship with Bowie, as the gallery carries several of the musician's original paintings, along with some limited prints that are numbered and autographed.

The two first met in 1983, a meeting Marti will never forget.

Marti was working as a sound engineer for EMI Records at the time. He was at a studio in France with a young French band that had just finished recording its first album. Marti was getting impatient with the lead singer's behavior and decided it was best that he step outdoors to get some fresh air.

"Because I was on the verge of committing a homicide, I opened and pushed the studio door fairly abruptly and immediately realize that by doing so,

I just hit a person who was coming in on the other side," Marti said. "I saw a man slightly bending over, holding his face in his hands."

It turned out the man was Bowie.

"The man double-checked that his nose wasn't fractured, then slowly removed his sunglasses and said, 'I think I'm OK.' At this point, like everyone else around us, he probably noticed the air of terror and sorrow painted on my face, while I recognized the pair of alien eyes looking at me under these infamous platinum blond locks. He smiled at me and said in a British accent, 'Bonjour! I am David.' I murmured, 'Bonjour! I am Gerard and I am so, so sorry ...' That was my first encounter with David Bowie."

Bowie was in Paris to perform at the Hippodrome D'Auteuil during his 1983 Serious Moonlight Tour. A couple of days later, Marti received a backstage pass to the concert.

"I found myself standing backstage watching (Bowie) setting the Paris crowd on fire with his freshly released No. 1 hit, *Let's Dance*," Marti said. "Around my neck, an all-access

VIP pass is hanging and where my name is supposed to be printed, someone has handwritten, 'The man who ALMOST broke my nose!'"

Bowie is one of several musician/artists showcased at the gallery, which also carries original works and limited prints from John Lennon, Paul McCartney, Jerry Garcia and others.

Marti, who's an accomplished artist, even created a painting out of Bowie's mug shot, taken when he was arrested with Iggy Pop for possession of marijuana.

"David used to say, 'I don't know where I'm going from here, but I promise it won't be boring' and he was right," Marti said. "From Ziggy Stardust to Aladdin Sane, Mr. David Jones took us for the ride of our life. Today, the China Girl is crying, Major Tom has left us and our Heroes are gone to meet the Man Who Sold the World and see if there is Life on Mars. From Ashes to Ashes, rest in peace, David. We will miss you."

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Artist Gerard Marti, director of the Robert Kidd Gallery, created this painting from David Bowie's mug shot. The rock star was arrested with Iggy Pop for marijuana possession.

VOICE

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the on-site TV studio is just one of Fountain's many activities. Together, he and Marge belong to the political awareness committee and the genealogy club and they take classes through the community's Center for Continuous Learning. Fountain is also a member of Fox Run's Hot Stove League, a group of baseball fanatics who get together every week to discuss the Detroit Tigers and other

teams. The Fountains have four daughters, 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, who all live in Michigan. Fountain says the farthest family member lives just 45 minutes from Fox Run, so there is not a week that goes by that he and Marge don't see their kids or grandkids. Recently, the entire clan took a trip to New York City, where they visited the Brooklyn Bridge and Yankee Stadium.

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CAMPERS

Continued from Page B6

said Michiganders experienced "extreme cold temperatures" and the park didn't see but one or two people camping that winter.

"It was a rough one," he said. "Last winter we had a large amount of snow, but we still saw several people, so I think it just depends on what people prefer when it comes to camping in this type of weather."

Even though there hasn't

been much snow, the campground has seen quite a few people already on site.

"They just want to be out in the wintertime because people like the beauty of the snow and it's not a large crowd of people at the campground," Donnelly said.

Donnelly said a vast majority of the campers who come out in the winter travel in a recreational vehicle.

"By the time it gets really cold is when we see the tent campers leave," he said.

The park has electricity available to keep the RVs heated.

"The walk to the bathroom building can be cold," laughed Donnelly. "Most of the challenges I think campers face are weather related. Every morning we get the snowplow out there at 7:30 a.m., but sometimes people can get stuck until we plow over to them."

Donnelly said the staff is happy to provide winter camping to those who thoroughly enjoy it.

"If we are offering, people will stop on by," he said.

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GAGNON

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periods of time and how they provide water to a beautiful bathroom with shower and the works. As we all know, there is no electricity hooked up to

their houses and yet the homes are as clean as a whistle and the barns etc. have insides that shine like a new model. I have already experienced a dinner there and the food was as good as any fine restaurant.

As for the Maytag wringer washer they use, it brings back memories of the old days when

I first started working in the appliance repair business. I used to work on those washers and they were much easier to tear apart than what is produced today. I have always said that the best washer made was the Maytag square tub wringer. Not only did it have an agitator but each square

corner of the tub acted like an extra agitator to beat the clothes. As clothing manufactured today is not as rugged as the garments of yesteryear, I think it might cause a problem with the life span of certain items of wear. I do know that the clothes worn by the Amish are as clean or cleaner

than what comes out of the new washing machines. So are the kitchen dishes and the old fashioned family values that once were taught at the kitchen sink, are still alive. Stay tuned.

Email problems or questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com



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Snuggle up in softness whether you're on the move or just relaxing with this Xersion Long Sleeve Cowl-neck Hooded Fleece Pullover. Perfect for those trips to the gym or a jog around the block or neighborhood, the anti-pilling finish helps keep fleece smooth and comfortable, and thumb-holes help keep the sleeves in place while you're on the go. Available for \$30 in three colors, the pullover also features a kangaroo pocket to warm your hands and protect your belongings.

Unlock hidden nutrition in food

Now you can have the power to unlock food's hidden nutrition in the comfort of your own home. The Nutri-Bullet Blender, which retails for \$135, is ideal for milling grains, grinding fresh herbs and chopping nuts with a flat stainless steel blade that never needs sharpening. Complete with a power base, both tall and short cups, an extractor blade and pocket nutritionist, the blender makes it easy to keep your healthy eating goals on track.

Add personality to your workouts

An all-over print adds a pop of personality to workout wear, such as these performance-ready Xersion Print Capris. The tight compression fit provides added comfort during workouts while Quick-Dri moisture-wicking fabric helps keep you dry and won't irritate your skin. Retailing for \$44, the capris come in five vibrant color patterns and feature a credit card pocket in the waistband so you can easily take everything you need with you.

Say goodbye to calorie counting

Say goodbye to exercise journals and calorie counting with the iFit Vue Fitness Tracker. The rechargeable active band is an all-day fitness tracker that takes the stress out of keeping up with your goals while motivating your climb toward fitness. Retailing for \$140, the SmartSense technology automatically detects every movement, step and calorie burned. An easy-to-read touchscreen display with onscreen notifications allows you to track your progress and easily scroll through goals and activities.

Pick portable training tools

Built for durability and comfort, this Stamina Doorway Trainer Plus is the ultimate training tool to strengthen and develop your shoulders, back and arms with five grip positions to help you build and tone upper body muscles with pull-ups, triceps dips, push-ups and sit-ups. The trainer, which retails for \$85 and holds up to 250 pounds, fits most sturdy, standard doorways with trim and attaches and removes easily from the doorframe so you can take your workout with you.

Don't forget about your feet

Whether running errands or working out at the gym, the right shoe can make all the difference. The Nike Flex



GETTY IMAGES/ONOKY



Experience Run 4 Women's Running Shoe offers lightweight flexibility, mid-foot support and plush comfort that can help make even the most mundane of tasks less stressful on your feet. Flex grooves provide a smooth, efficient ride and a mesh collar and tongue enhance breathability. Available for \$75, these running shoes are the ideal trainer for everyday use.

Keep your mind and body focused

A favorite of yoga studio owners because of its length and thickness, this Deluxe Yoga Mat features a gripping design to keep it in place while allowing you to keep your mind focused on the physical task at hand. Available in 18 colors and retailing for

\$24, the durable, one-quarter-inch foam provides added joint comfort and support and absorbs moisture, making it easy for you to take advantage of the physical benefits associated with yoga.

— Courtesy of Family Features

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GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

Friends of the Rouge

Sue Thompson, Friends of the Rouge board member, will lead a snowshoe walk from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 23, through Maybury State Park in Northville.

If there's no snow, the group will hike. Walkers will assemble at the park's Eight Mile entrance, east of Napier, at signpost 1 near the trailhead shelter off of the parking lot.

A State Recreation Passport is required for entry. Snowshoe rentals are available for adults, \$10, and children, \$7.50. Call 248-439-8390 to reserve snowshoes.

Visit therouge.org.

English Gardens

» Get tips on growing and using herbs at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 23.

» Make a kitchen herb garden at 2:30 p.m. Jan. 23. Fee is \$29.99. Register at EnglishGardens.com.

Classes are offered at all stores. Local stores are 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, 734-332-7900; 22650 Ford Road, Dearborn Heights, 313-278-4433; 4901

Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, 248-280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, 248-851-7506.

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REUNIONS

DETROIT CODY

CLASS OF 1966

50-year reunion planned for Sept. 10, 2016, at Laurel Manor in Livonia. For more information, visit cody-class1966@groups.facebook.com or call Joe Evans at 313-421-5448 or Barbara (Doherty) Kalinski at 734-320-6545.

GARDEN CITY EAST AND WEST

CLASS OF 1966

The reunion is set for Sept. 10, 2016. RSVP to 1966reunioncommittee@gmail.com or call Dennis Russell at 734-658-2288.

PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1967

50-year reunion planned. Visit ClassCreator-Plymouthmi67.com for information, or call Lynette Thayer at 419-726-2088.

CLASS OF 1966

50th reunion, with dinner, 5-11 p.m.



Sept. 17, 2016, at the Summit in Canton. For more details and ticket reservation information, visit PlymouthHighSchoolClassof1966ReunionFacebookpage. Or email jerryronquist@gmail.com

REDFOOT UNION HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1966

50th reunion planned for Saturday, May 21, 2016 at Western Golf and Country Club, with an informal get together Friday, May 20, 2016. For registration and full details, visit RU66reunion@gmail.com or call Randy Maltby at 248-914-1052.

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