

CANTON OBSERVER

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ENTERTAINMENT, B8

Pundits: Voter indecision slowing return of primary absentee ballots

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Political observers say Canton's slow return rate on absentee ballots likely indicates that many voters remain undecided as Michigan's March 8 presidential primary nears.

Township Clerk Terry Bennett's office had mailed out 5,689 absentee ballots as of Monday afternoon. She said more than 3,000 still hadn't been returned.

"We have thousands of voters who still haven't made up their minds," Bennett said.

Susan Demas, chief executive officer and publisher of *Inside Michigan Politics*, said it's not a situation that's unique to Canton.

"What we've seen from the public polling is that the pool of undecided voters seems to be shrinking, but I do think a lot of voters, especially on the Republican side, are taking a wait-and-see attitude to see how this shapes up,"

Demas said.

Canton, which has just over 64,000 voters, has two ballots — one for Democratic presidential hopefuls, one for Republican candidates. Voters can choose which ballot they want to cast, regardless of their political party affiliation.

"There are no proposals to be voted on and no (tax) requests on the March 8 ballot," Bennett said.

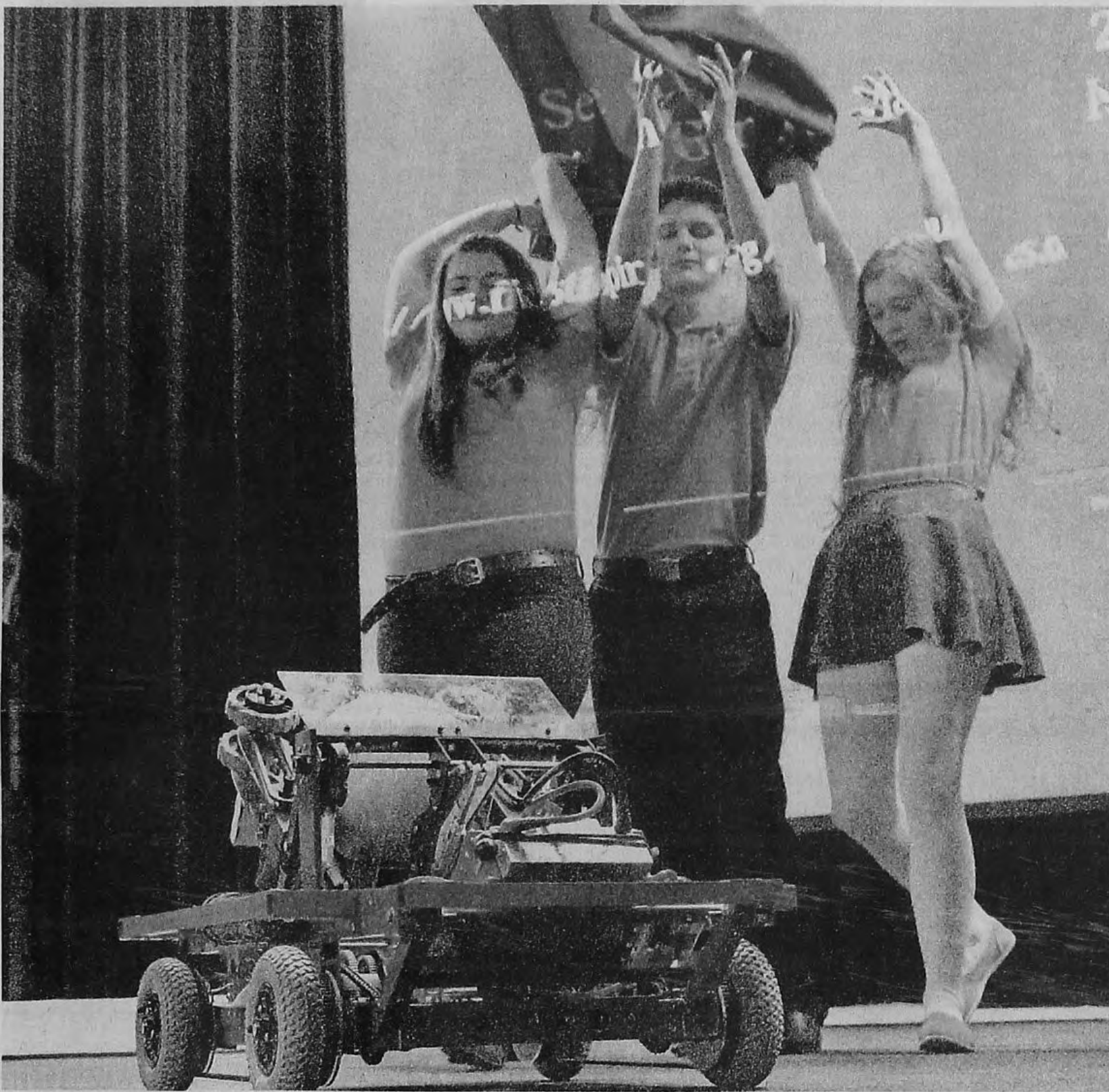
She predicted absentee voters will likely hold out longer than they typical-

ly do before submitting their ballots for the primary.

"I think many people will wait until the last minute, because they don't know what they want to do," Bennett said.

Polling data in Michigan have shown Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton, a former U.S. senator and secretary of state, with a solid lead over Sen. Bernie Sanders, Demas said.

See **BALLOTS**, Page A2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Vivian Clement, Tyler Harris and Abby Morningstar unveil Sirius, the Lightning Robotics team's robot for the 2016 competition season.

Lightning round: Robotics team set for competition

Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

The Lightning Robotics team at the three Plymouth-Canton high schools is gearing up for its 17th season in FIRST Robotics competition.

The team, which finished 28th in its division at last year's world championships, kicks off the season with matches Friday and Saturday, March 4-5, in Standish. About 50 of the team's approximately 130 students, from Plymouth, Salem and Canton high schools,

will make the trip

On Monday, the team, called FIRST Team 862 in competition lingo, unveiled this year's robot, Sirius, to a standing-room-only crowd at Canton High School's DuBois Little Theater.

FIRST Robotics is a worldwide program in which student-built and student-driven robots face a variety of physical challenges on a small playing field. The program is sponsored by For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, or FIRST, a not-for-profit that aims to encourage the study

of the STEM subjects — science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

This year's challenge is called Stronghold; the goal is for a robot to "capture" the opposing team's "castle tower" by throwing foam balls into it. Before that can be attempted, however, the robot must cross a field of five barriers — like "moats," "walls" and "drawbridges" — and defenders have many combi-

See **ROBOTICS**, Page A9

Canton home values see 'sustained' rebound

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton's residential property values, after spiking 9 percent this year, have begun a post-recession, upward trend that market analysts say is expected to continue.

"I think that we are in a sustained rebound," said Jason Borregard, sales manager for Canton-based Clients First Realtors.

Canton residents are expected to receive their new property assessment notices by early next week. Assessor Doug Shaw has said home values increased 9 percent on average, another strong year after last year's 11 percent.

Borregard said some Canton homes are selling at much higher prices than just a few years ago.

"Increases on some houses are just staggering," he said. "The prices are going up and they're going up quickly."

However, Borregard said the growth rate for residential property values is expected eventually to return to a more typical 3-4 percent annually. He also said home values across southeast Michigan "still have a long way to go" before they return to pre-recession levels.

Shaw has said the latest property assessment notices are good news for Canton.

"The market is still indicating that Canton is a desirable place to live," he said.

Despite the 9-percent increase this year in residential property values, Canton's tax revenues — money that pays for municipal services and em-

See **VALUES**, Page A2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Home values are continuing to increase in Canton.



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INDEX

Business.....	A6	Homes.....	B6	Services.....	B6
Crossword Puzzle.....	B7	Jobs.....	B6	Sports.....	B1
Entertainment.....	B8	Obituaries.....	B5	Wheels.....	B6
Food.....	B11	Opinion.....	A8		

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Attorneys for Animals seeking increased donations to Animal Welfare Fund

A nonprofit group called Attorneys for Animals is working to increase public donations to Michigan's Animal Welfare Fund. The AWF is a taxpayer-funded program administered by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development that awards annual grants to the state's animal shelters.

Michigan law allows taxpayers to donate to the AWF when filing state income tax returns. The money can be used to sterilize dogs and cats before they are adopted; fund anti-cruelty and proper care programs; and provide equipment and anti-cruelty training for animal shelters and their staffs.

Between 2010 and the

2016 awards, 119 different grants have been made to shelters throughout Michigan. These grants total \$904,541. The recipients of this year's grants will be announced in March. Among the projects the AWF has funded are:

» 2,656 cat and dog sterilizations at shelters in 2013 alone

» Law Enforcement Training Academy to teach Detroit police officials about animal behavior, animal law, dog fighting and the link between animal cruelty and human violence

» Providing dog houses and straw for needy animals during the harsh Michigan winters

» Equipment for cruelty investigations: e.g.,

using photo evidence, developing animal abuser database, developing program for courts on how to care for animals and laws governing them

» Education campaign to increase community awareness regarding the value of sterilization and adoption, using posters, brochures, advertisements, billboards

"This is a good program that can be even better by making more people aware and getting them to contribute," said Bee Friedlander, Attorneys for Animals' president.

The group launched a social media campaign about the fund late last year. Now that tax season is here, the group is making eye-catching fliers

and brochures available to shelters, rescue organizations, veterinarians, pet supply companies and others to post at shelters and businesses as well as on websites and social media.

AFA is enlisting the leaders of animal advocacy organizations in Michigan to promote contributions to the fund, and will be contacting tax preparers to remind them to tell their clients about the AWF.

"Our message is that this is an opportunity to save animals one tax return at a time," Friedlander said. "It's an easy sell when you tell people they can actually look forward to filing their state income tax, knowing that their contribution

to the AWF will make a real difference in an animal's life."

Attorneys for Animals is a Canton-based nonprofit, tax-exempt organization connecting animal advocates to animal law. The AWF project is made possible by a grant from the Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Fund, a KeyBank Trust. More information about the project can be found at the AFA website and at the MDARD website. AFA's campaign is on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. For more information, contact info@attorneysforanimals.org or at 49651 Shenandoah Circle, Canton, 48187.

VALUES

Continued from Page A1

employees — will lag far behind, said Wendy Trumbull, Canton finance and budget director.

Homeowners will see their tax bills increase only three-tenths of 1 percent because of a state law that limits property tax increases to the inflation rate or 5 percent, whichever is less. The inflation rate has remained low.

Canton's property tax revenues will increase somewhat faster — by just over 2 percent — because of a housing boom that is adding more homes to the tax rolls.

Trumbull said property tax revenues for the next year are expected to increase \$100,000 for Canton Township's general fund, as much as \$380,000 for the police fund and as much as \$270,000 for the fire fund.

Shaw, meanwhile, has said Canton's latest property assessment notices are based on a two-year sales study that ended last Sept. 30.

Home values aside, Shaw also reported a 10-percent increase in commercial property values, compared to a 4.5-percent decline last year.

Industrial sector property values still lagged behind and remained flat for this year.

Property owners who believe their assessments are too high may challenge them during Canton Board of Review meetings scheduled for 9 a.m. to noon and 1-4:30 p.m. Monday, March 14; 1-4:30 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, March 15; and 1-4:30 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 16.

For more information, call 734-394-5111.

dclm@hometownlife.com
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734-972-0919

BALLOTS

Continued from Page A1

"I'm seeing nothing to indicate otherwise," she said.

On the Republican side, New York businessman Donald Trump leads a field of hopefuls that still includes U.S. Sens. Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio, Ohio Gov. John Kasich and retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson, Demas said.

Political polls can shift and Demas said Michigan voters could be influenced by what happens March 1, when a slew of states will have primaries and caucuses during so-called Super Tuesday.

"Voters pay attention to who wins these primaries," Demas said, "and they pay attention to the polls."

Bennett, meanwhile, said Canton voters should be aware of the following:

» Some candidates' names will remain on the



DARRELL CLEM
A sign behind the Canton Administration Building tells voters where to drop off their absentee ballots.

primary ballot, even though they have suspended their campaigns.

» Polling places will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. March 8. Bennett asked voters to bring their patience, because Canton has a high number of new election workers.

» The clerk's office, 1150 S. Canton Center, will be open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 5, for voters who still want to get an absentee ballot.

» Voters who realize

Monday, March 7, that they need an absentee ballot still may go to the clerk's office.

» Both ballots — Democrat and Republican — have a spot where voters can choose "uncommitted" if they can't decide on a candidate.

For more information, call the township clerk's office at 734-394-5120.

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CANTON OBSERVER

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CORRECTION

A story about Plymouth Township resident John Stewart's run for the state Board of Education in the Sunday, Feb. 21, *Observer* should have said the candidate is hopeful for recommendations by the MEA, AFT and the Michigan Democratic State Central Committee. The formal recommendation process will be done in August.

CITY OF PLYMOUTH
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
Public Hearing Notice to Review Determined Uses of 2016 Community Development Block Grant Funds

Pursuant to Federal guidelines, the Plymouth City Commission, at the conclusion of the public hearing process on February 15, 2016 determined the following projects and respective funding levels for the 2016 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. A public hearing will be held on Monday March 7, 2016 to review the determined uses. The following uses for Community Development Block Grant Funding Have been Determined:

1. ADA and/or Public Facility Improvements	\$ 32,849.60
2. Public Services-Senior Transportation	\$ 11,929.58
3. Grant Administration	\$ 4,975.46
TOTAL	\$49,754.64

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk

Published: February 25, 2016 LQ-000072934 3x2.5

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The new Canton City Car Wash is being rebuilt after it was destroyed by fire.

DARRELL CLEM

Business rebuilds from fire: 'We're Canton strong'

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Canton oil change and car wash business is rebuilding after it was destroyed last June by a massive fire that left billowing smoke visible for miles away.

Canton City Car Wash general manager Sammy Alnasir said he is hopeful the business can reopen by late March or early April on Canton Center, north of Ford Road.

"We're making good time," he said Tuesday.

Canton City Car Wash had been in business about seven years when it caught fire. It spread quickly, forcing employees to flee without injury and causing an evacuation of nearby buildings.

"We had high spirits with that place. We loved the way we came a long way from the first day we opened," Alnasir said. "We're coming back. We're Canton strong."

Fire Chief Joshua Meier said investigators couldn't determine precisely what caused the blaze, which is believed to have started in an attic area. Officials speculated early on that the fire could have been electrical, but they couldn't say with certainty.

Officials said the fire did not appear suspicious.

Canton City Car Wash offered one-stop shopping for routine work such as an oil change and a car wash. Alnasir said it had a loyal customer base.



Canton City Car Wash burned last June.

CANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

"I run into people all the time who want to know when we are going to reopen," he said. "It almost seems like the customers lost out more than we did."

Alnasir had vowed after the fire that he was "not going to let a fire

bring me down."

And he didn't. He said construction workers began rebuilding the business late last year — and progress has been steady.

Last June, Meier said the fire caused only minor burning of petro-

leum-based products, prompting fire officials to evacuate nearby businesses as a precautionary measure as Canton Center remained closed more than six hours.

Meier has said the Western Wayne County Hazardous Materials Response Team and a private environmental contractor came to the scene to clean up after water runoff caused a small amount of petroleum to leak into nearby Fellows Creek.

The business had about 300 gallons of oil stored on site, but Meier said it was stored in large containers and, except for a small amount, wasn't involved in the fire.

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New School High, which opened last summer, is chartered by Central Michigan University.

New School High to host open house Thursday

New School High, a teacher-led charter high school in Plymouth Township, is hosting an open house 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday.

Prospective students and their families can tour the building, meet teachers and learn about New School's program of hands-on and project-based learning. New School will have spots for up to 50 ninth-graders for the 2016-17 school year, plus limited spots for 10th- and 11th-graders.

New School High, which opened last summer, is chartered by Central Michigan University and has a school board of people from the Plymouth-Canton

community. It is open to students from the Plymouth-Canton area and surrounding communities.

The school has no religious affiliation and is tuition-free.

NSH is in the education wing of the Risen Christ Church, 46250 McClumpha, at Ann Arbor Road. Visitors should enter the parking lot from the McClumpha side of the complex.

For more information, check New School's Facebook page or website (newschoolhigh.org) or contact school leader Cynthia Burnstein at cburnstein@newschoolhigh.org.

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

Canton winter market starts this Sunday

The Canton Farmers Market will return with special winter markets for three Sundays in February, March and April at the Summit on the Park.

The markets will take place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 28, March 20 and April 17, in the banquet lobby in the Summit, 46000 Summit Parkway.

"We're hoping that all of our winter markets will be fun destinations for families and individuals who value healthy, local food options and who are looking for a bright spot during the cold winter months," Canton Recreation Coordinator Jennifer Provenzano said.

More than a dozen vendors will be on-site offering a wide assortment of Michigan grown and made products, including honey, produce, baked goods, jams, artisan cheese and breads, farm-raised meats and hand-crafted items.

The indoor winter markets will pick up where the outdoor regular season of the Canton Farmers Market left off, which reopens Sunday, May 15, and continues from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Sunday through Oct. 16 in Preservation Park, located at 500 N. Ridge Road.

For additional Canton Farmers Market information, go to www.canton-mi.org/496 or send an email to cantonfarmers-market@canton-mi.org.

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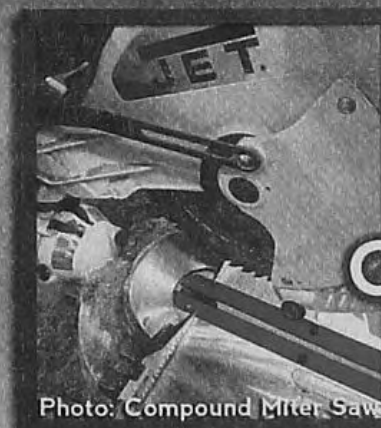


Photo: Compound Miter Saw



Photo: Horizontal Band Saw

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CANTON CRIME WATCH

Cops seize handgun during traffic stop

Canton police confiscated a .40-caliber semiautomatic handgun from a motorist who claimed he was carrying it because someone had earlier fired shots at him inside his Ford Explorer.

Police arrested the 23-year-old Inkster suspect, who had no permit to carry the gun. He also wasn't supposed to have a weapon because a judge had placed restrictions on him as part of an unrelated personal protection order.

The incident unfolded about 11 p.m. Feb. 17, when police were notified that the Explorer was seen swerving in traffic on Geddes, near Canton Center. The vehicle also had a headlight that wasn't working.

Police made a traffic stop after trailing the vehicle to Michigan Avenue, near Haggerty. The driver told police he was driving erratically because

he was eating while driving. He had an order of McDonald's french fries between his legs.

Police learned the driver had no auto insurance, had a license suspension out of Detroit and was wanted in Westland for failing to appear for driving with a suspended license.

The suspect voluntarily told police he had the handgun in a backpack. He was advised it's illegal to carry a loaded, concealed gun without a weapons permit.

The suspect told police he had bought the gun after someone shot at him and his vehicle in Inkster. He was taken into custody as the investigation continued.

Drunken customer

Police arrested a drunken Canton man who allegedly tried to get into someone else's car before he was pushed away and fell to the ground outside the BP gas station at Ford and

Haggerty roads, a police report said.

Police took the 25-year-old man into custody and cited him for public intoxication during an incident that happened about 1 a.m. Sunday.

Witnesses told police the man tried to get into the passenger seat of a car while the owner was pumping fuel. The owner pushed him away.

A gas station attendant said the suspect also caused a scene inside the business, refusing to leave and screaming insults at the employee.

Walmart theft

An Ypsilanti man and woman were arrested by Canton police amid allegations they stole tools from the Walmart store on Michigan Avenue, near Belleville Road.

Police went to the store about 4 p.m. Sunday following reports the 39-year-old male suspect concealed a glue gun and glue gun sticks inside his

jacket. He was with a female accomplice, according to police reports.

As an investigation unfolded, the male suspect admitted to police he also had been in the store earlier and had stolen two pairs of boots, two packs of dog treats and garbage bags.

Police arrested the pair for retail fraud.

Homeless help

Police went to the Mobil gas station at Joy and Haggerty after receiving reports that a homeless woman was there and said she had nowhere to go, a report said.

Police responded to the call about 10:20 p.m. Sunday and found a 50-year-old woman who said she had been released from a hospital. She said she had previously been staying in a residence provided by The Salvation Army at The Crossings, an apartment complex on Canton's north side, but she hadn't yet been able to make

contact to get back into the residence.

Police got her a room at a local hotel until she could try to sort out the problem the next day.

Fraudulent excuse

A 24-year-old woman is accused of using a fraudulent medical document to provide an excuse for missing work, a police report said.

Police went to a family health care center on Canton's west side after it was learned a 24-year-old woman somehow obtained a medical document, forged a doctor's name and gave it to her employer, in an attempt to prove she missed work to take her child to see a doctor.

A manager for Integrated Healthcare Associates told police he wanted to file the report to document the situation.

—By Darrell Clem

Police identify man found dead after stand-off in Wayne

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A Wayne man found dead of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound after what was treated as a barricaded gunman incident has been identified.

Entering the home on Ash at just before 9 p.m. Monday, officers found Stanley Thomas Killebrew Jr., 39, dead in his home.

"There was no gunshot as we entered. We're not the medical examiner, but he appeared to have been dead for a while," Wayne Police Lt. Ryan Strong said.

Killebrew is survived by his mother Margaret, sister Sarah and son Andrew. His family described Killebrew as a loving father, brother and son, who loved to work on cars, play games with his son and loved life. A Go Fund Me page was set to help offset funeral costs.

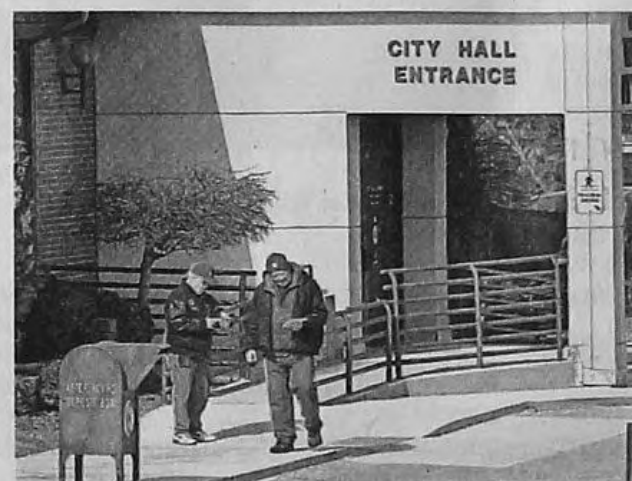


The Ash Street home where Stanley Killebrew Jr. was found dead after barricading himself in the home Monday.

Killebrew had called police at about 10:30 a.m. to have his mother and sister leave the home on Ash at the southeast corner with Wayne Road. Both women left and Killebrew was barricaded alone in the house, not responding to telephone calls or other efforts to communicate with him.

Returning several hours later, Sarah Killebrew could only get within several hundred feet of the home due to police barricades and shouted for her brother to respond Monday afternoon.

"This is not him. He snapped. I don't what happened. He doesn't have mental



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Residents found Wayne City Hall locked down Monday due to a barricaded gunman situation at a home immediately to the north on Ash. One of these men was attempting to pay his water bill.

issues," Killebrew said. "He's a wonderful father, a good man, a kindhearted person. He needs help. I don't want him to get hurt."

With the home located directly north across the Rouge River from Wayne City Hall, that building and nearby municipal buildings, including 29th District Court, were locked down.

Wayne Memorial High School was on a precautionary lockdown, which allowed students to be released at their normal 2 p.m. time.

Staff writer Brad Kadrich contributed to this story.

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40 YEARS AND WAITING

The Oakland County Child Killer case remains unsolved

Jay Grossman
Staff Writer

It began Feb. 15, 1976, with the disappearance of Mark Stebbins.

The 12-year-old Fernalde boy was the first of four children kidnapped and killed by a person or persons since dubbed the Oakland County Child Killer. The murders took place over a period of 13 months and led to one of the largest police man-hunts in U.S. history.

Forty years later, all four cases remain unsolved.

Barry King, whose 11-year-old son Timothy was abducted in March 1977, is still searching for answers. The retired Birmingham attorney decided this month to start blogging about the murders in hopes he might flesh out new information about the crimes.

He named his blog "A Father's Story-OCCK." "I'm doing a page or two a day, so nobody has to read on forever," said King, who turns 85 next month. "I would just like some questions answered for me and I don't have much time left."

Timothy King was the youngest of four children, outgoing and friendly. The evening of March 16, 1977, he grabbed his skateboard and headed a few blocks to the corner drugstore at Maple and Woodward to buy some candy. He never came back.

His older brother Christopher had just gotten his driver's license the day before. That night, armed with a baseball bat, he walked the neighborhood in search of his brother. It was quickly determined he had been abducted, leading police to literally stop and search cars on Woodward Avenue in a frantic attempt to find the missing boy.

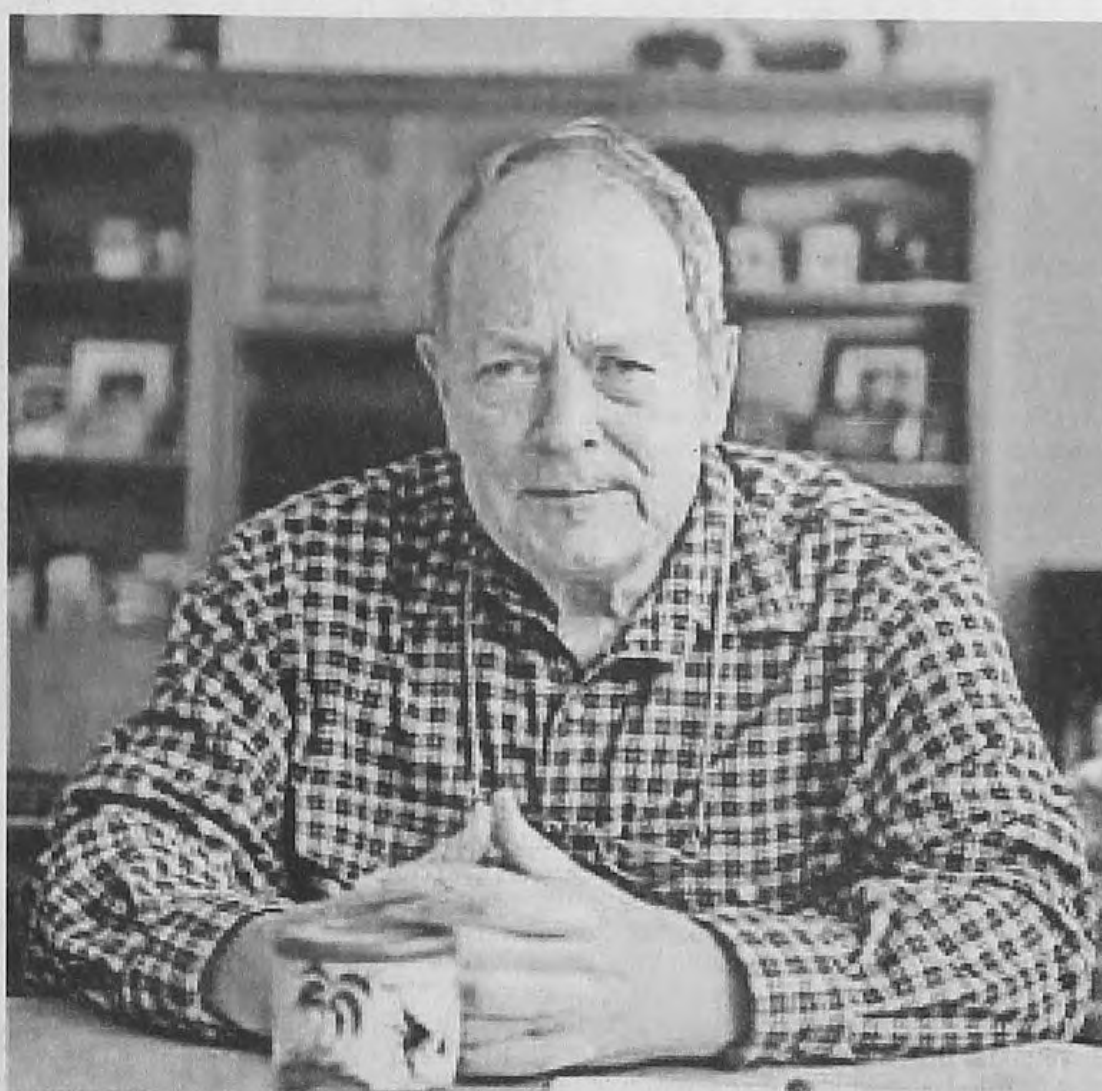
Timothy's body was discovered six days later by the side of a road in Livonia, the last confirmed victim of the Oakland County Child Killer.

Who did it?

King said he initially believed "one diabolically clever person" was behind the killings, but now suspects it's possible the children might have



In a horrific crime that remains unsolved after 40 years, four children from Oakland County were abducted and killed over a 13-month period in 1976-77.



Birmingham resident Barry King, the father of one of the victims, has started blogging about the OCCK case in hopes of shedding new light on the investigation.

been abducted for a suspected pedophile ring.

"There was a major pedophile ring out here and Wayne County investigated it," King said. "They knew boys were being taken ... somebody was paying a lot of money for that and the guys paying a lot of money are not picking these boys up."

If there is a short list of suspects, it would include Christopher Busch, Gregory Greene, Vince Gunnels, Ted Lamborgine and Arch Sloan. Each of them was tied to pedophile rings that operated throughout southeast Michigan in the 1970s.

Getting someone to talk won't be easy. Greene died of a heart attack in prison nearly two decades ago, while Sloan and Lamborgine are serving life sentences for pedophile convictions.

Busch, the son of a former General Motors executive, was a four-time convicted pedophile who barely spent any time in jail because of his family's influence. Roughly 18 months after the Timothy King abduction, Busch committed suicide in August 1978 at his family's home in Bloomfield Township.

King actually met with Gunnels several years ago in the Kalamazoo area, but said little came of the conversation.

"He told the story he wanted to tell, but his stories have been largely inconsistent," King said.

Several similar homicides involving children were reported before and after in Michigan and Ohio, but only the four victims from Oakland County are directly tied to a possible serial killer.

Scars that never heal

Stebbins was abducted in the middle of the day. He was missing for a period of four days before his body was found in Southfield.

It wasn't until 10 months later, Dec. 22, 1976, that 12-year-old Jill Robinson was reported missing in Royal Oak. Her body was found three days later in Troy.

Seven days after Robinson's body was discovered, Kristine Mihelich was reported missing Jan. 2, 1977, in Berkley. The body of the 10-year-old girl was found 19 days later in Franklin Village. Timothy King was the fourth victim.

And then, the killings stopped.

Autopsies indicated the two boys were sexually assaulted, but not the two girls. White animal hairs, presumably from a dog, were found on the victims. All four children were neatly dressed when their bodies were discovered and it appeared they had been

bathed.

Three of the children were suffocated, while Robinson died from a shotgun blast. Police speculate the killer was dumping her body and might have panicked that she was still alive.

If King were to point the finger at one suspect, it would be Busch.

When police found Busch's body in 1978, they took photographs of a penciled drawing pinned to his bedroom wall that depicts a screaming boy wearing a hooded jacket. The drawing bears a close resemblance to Stebbins and the clothing he wore the day of his disappearance.

Another photograph taken of his bedroom shows pieces of rope on a closet floor that have dark red stains. Investigators also noted the Busch family, at the time of the murders, owned a white-haired Welsh terrier.

In October 2008, a task force of investigators coordinated a search of the former Busch home in Bloomfield Township to see if investigators could find any fibers or other evidence connected to the murders. The results of that search were never made public.

But King acknowledges others could be involved. Mitochondrial

DNA evidence, for example, was later found in several vehicles that possibly connect Gunnels and Sloan with two of the victims. Lamborgine once refused to take a lie detector test in exchange for a lighter prison sentence.

Searching for answers

For their part, authorities have consistently declined to comment about any specifics in the case, mainly because it's still an open investigation. That lack of communication has prompted several of the families to file lawsuits against various departments and individuals in an attempt to obtain more information.

King, for example, said he was told in 2010 that Busch was no longer a suspect, but was never told why.

For now, he hopes the blog will shed new light on the case. In one of his first postings, he debunks a popular theory that a blue AMC Gremlin was involved in his son's disappearance.

"The King family never believed a blue Gremlin was involved," he said. "A Pontiac Lemans is associated with three of the victims and a Pontiac was also tied in with the fourth victim."

Mihelich's sister was one of the first to comment on the blog, thanking King for keeping the investigation alive. King said he also stays in touch with Mike Stebbins, brother of Mark Stebbins.

In addition to the blog, King started a Facebook page and a Twitter account to gain a wider audience. The Facebook page already has more than 1,100 followers.

Nearly all the public comments come from people who were growing up in the area at the time of the murders. Many of Timothy's former classmates wrote messages of encouragement, hoping one day the cases will be solved.

King acknowledges the strain his children have felt over the years from losing their younger brother, as well as the bitterness that comes from knowing nobody has been punished.

Forty years have passed and he realizes it will probably take a deathbed confession to solve his son's murder.

It doesn't stop him from asking more questions and searching for answers. It's all he can do as a father.

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Spaghetti fundraiser benefits Foster Closet organization

Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

When Michele Austin and her wife, Tammy Gabourie, accepted their first foster child nine years ago, that child arrived with virtually nothing but the clothes on his back.

And those clothes didn't fit. So the couple decided to do something about it and now manage the Foster Closet of Michigan, a nonprofit organization designed to provide clothing, underclothing, toys, shoes, baby equipment and other necessities to families fostering children.

The organization is funded completely by donations, both items and money. That's what made Austin so happy to see a large turnout for Saturday's spaghetti fundraiser at First United Methodist Church in Farmington.

The money raised (figures weren't yet available) will go directly toward the group's emergency fund. Foster Closet of Michigan has 16 locations around the state.

Austin said the community support is so generous and quick, the wait to fill needs rarely goes longer than three days. The closet's Facebook page serves as a principal notification



Smiling faces greeted guests at the Foster Closet spaghetti dinner fundraiser as Kelly Kinney, Megan Schlanser, Rachael Giggins and Tim Austin volunteer to help raise funds for foster kids throughout Oakland County.

center. "I post the need online and (items) show up," she said. "It's all done by donation ... 72 hours is about the time frame. The community is phenomenal."

Maryann Bruder of Huntington Woods brought her recently adopted daughter Katarina to the fundraiser. She adopted Katarina Dec. 18 after fostering her for two years. Katarina's brothers, both in foster homes with relatives, have benefited from the Foster Closet.

Bruder, a guardian

ad-litem attorney who works regularly with foster families, said the Foster Closet has also benefited her clients "tremendously."

"I love the (Foster) Closet," Bruder said. "They give a lot to children who've never had anything new. The Closet welcomes them with open arms and works with them to get them anything they need. They're a tremendous resource."

Farmington Hills Mayor Dr. Ken Massey said he identifies with the cause, because he

was an adopted child.

"I think their mission meets a need in cultivating families willing to open their doors to children," Massey said.

The event featured a silent auction, food donated by Cottage Inn and desserts donated by Cake Luv.

All of it was to help fund what Bruder said was a "labor of love" for Austin.

"These kids deserve better," Austin said. "That's why we do this."

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Livonia resident Ruba Farah gets ready to enjoy the food provided by Cottage Inn Pizza.



Volunteers Laurie Sak from the Schoolcraft College nursing program and Mijung Ko from the Farmington Area Jaycees help prepare food.

Flint water crisis: Give, but do so carefully

Not surprisingly, the Flint water crisis has brought out the best and worst of us. There are many good people who have donated money and time in order to ease the crisis in Flint. At the same time, which shouldn't surprise anyone, the lowlives in our society are attempting to take advantage of our good nature. The Better Business Bureau of Southeast Michigan, along with the state Attorney General's Office, has issued warnings regarding Flint's water crisis.

Whenever there is a crisis, there will be people start putting up websites with horrific stories and pictures attempting to solicit contributions. Unfortunately, the money is not going to help the people in Flint, but directly into these lowlives' pockets.

In addition to wanting to rip you off, many of these thieves are attempting to steal your sensitive financial information. It's up to you to protect yourself. In every crisis, people look to take advantage of our good nature and that is why we have to be so cautious.

There is no 100-percent way to protect yourself, but there are things you can do that will significantly reduce the chance of being ripped off. First, respond to phone solicitations. Ask them to send some information, but that's be it. Never give charge card information to someone conducting a phone solicitation. Many legitimate charities use phone solicitations, but even if the charity is legitimate, don't give to a phone solicitation.

If you receive an email, do not open any of the attachments or link directly to anything from



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

that email. You can type its website address directly into a browser, but do not open the link provided in the email.

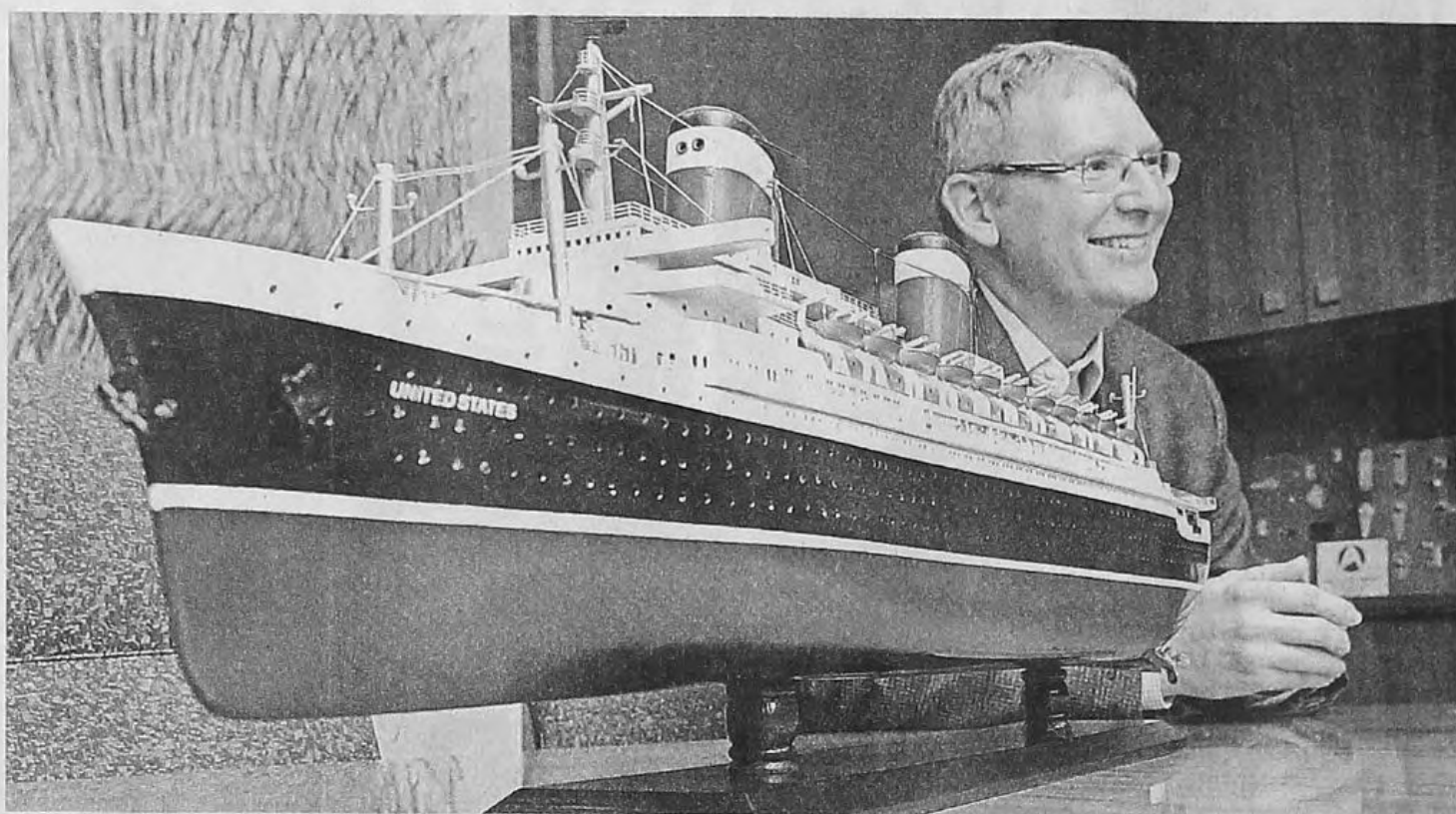
Before giving to any charity, do your homework to make sure it is legitimate. Even if it is legitimate, you want to ensure it is spending its money wisely. Many legitimate charities spend way too much money on marketing as opposed to their charitable purpose. You need to independently review a charity. Some websites that you can look at to review a charity are www.charitynavigator.org and www.give.org.

Helping those in need is the American way. Americans are the most charitable people on Earth and the entire world knows that. The entire world also knows that, all too often, many Americans think with their heart first — the crooks look to exploit that.

The scam artists are coming from every corner of the world and there is nothing we can do to prevent them from putting up the bogus websites, sending us tear-jerking emails or calling us. We can make it difficult for them to take advantage of us and that's something we should all strive to accomplish.

Good luck!

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



David Lawrence, vice president and CAO of AlphaUSA, talks about the restoration of the SS United States.

Local company helps raise funds for ocean liner SS United States

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Livonia-based AlphaUSA's involvement in helping the SS United States' fundraising efforts started with a phone call looking for Lee Iacocca.

A call from the SS United States Conservancy, an organization looking to restore the famed ocean liner that has fallen into disrepair, was taken at the company when it was looking for someone to assist with restoration efforts, AlphaUSA CEO David Lawrence said.

"They were remembering when Lee Iacocca headed up efforts to restore the Statue of Liberty," Lawrence said. "They saw this as something that was on as large of a scale and as patriotic of a scale, so one of the people working on that said he knew someone in Detroit. And

that was AlphaUSA."

From that call, the company became intrigued with the ship and helped with fundraising efforts to restore it and get it back up to speed. It was announced earlier this month that Crystal Cruises intends to use the 990-foot-long passenger ship and restore it for transporting passengers across the ocean once again.

"When the conservancy purchased the ship back in 2011, it was going to be scrapped," Lawrence said. "They were immediately trying to figure out how to make a national campaign."

Lawrence said the project became somewhat personal, with AlphaUSA CEO Chuck Dardas growing up admiring the ship when he was younger.

"He had a model of the ship when he was a young boy," Lawrence said.

Susan Gibbs, executive director of the SS United States Conservancy, said the role AlphaUSA has played over the last few years has been an important one to help the fundraising efforts with the liner.

She said while the

innovative website, savetheunitedstates.org, with the two-dimensional model of the ship is attractive, officials have begun looking closely how to evolve the website as design advances.

"AlphaUSA has been a valuable partner in those efforts," she said. "We're beginning to think about trying to convert it to a three-dimensional exploration. We're excited for the partnership to continue."

Set speed records

The SS United States, currently docked in Philadelphia, began its service as a passenger liner in 1952 and made 800 transatlantic crossings, cruising at 38 knots (44 mph) at top speed and setting speed records that hold to this day. Compared to perhaps the most-famous ocean liner, the Titanic, the SS United States was larger than the 1912 liner and weighed nearly 10,000 tons more. It was also funded partially by the U.S. government and could have been used to transport soldiers during the Cold War, if needed.

The interest AlphaUSA had, Lawrence said,

was in the technological aspects used to construct the ship during the 1950s.

"The ship's an amazing example of technology, engineering and, really, industrial superiority, built at a time when the United States was a leader of that in the world," Lawrence said.

Efforts to solicit donations to restore the ship are ongoing. Those interested can donate to the SS United States Conservancy online at savetheunitedstates.org. The hope is to relaunch the ship for passengers by 2018.

"She was the last and greatest of her kind," Lawrence said. "There was a time when people traveled the ocean via passenger liner. The whole idea was that it was a bus that could get people across the ocean quickly."

"Speed was king. This ship beat the speed record on its maiden voyage and it's a speed record that hasn't been conquered since and probably never will."

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CITY OF PLYMOUTH 2016 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of Plymouth Board of Review will be conducting the 2016 March Board of Review and will convene in the City Commission Conference Room, 201 S Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The regular Board of Review schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, March 8, 2016 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING 12:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 9, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 10, 2016 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Monday, March 21, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. Hearings are by appointments only. COMPLETED 2016 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY, and must be submitted to the Front Office located on the First Floor of City Hall prior to your appointment. The "Deadline" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is Monday, March 21, 2016.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner. Written petitions must be received by Monday, March 21, 2016 by 4:00 p.m. Postmarks are not accepted.

Copies of the notices stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted and published in the local newspaper.

All Board of Review Meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor's Office at (734) 453-1234, ext 252.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk

Publish: February 18, 21 & 25, 2016

LO-000226811 3x4.5

CITY OF PLYMOUTH LEGAL NOTICE "PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION NOTICE"

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

That a **PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION** will be held in the City of Plymouth, Michigan on **TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.** for the purpose of nominating candidates for the following office:

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Applications for absentee ballots may be requested, or applied for in person, from the City of Plymouth, office of the City Clerk, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170, during regular business hours. The telephone number is 734-453-1234, ext. 234 or 225.

Absentee ballots will be issued to qualified absentee voters if they apply in person at the City Clerk's office from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 5, 2016.

On Monday, March 7, 2016, absentee voters may apply for and receive ballots and vote them in the Clerk's office from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Polling locations in the City of Plymouth are as follows:

PRECINCT #1, #2, #3, & #4 PLYMOUTH CULTURAL CENTER
525 FARMER STREET

You may vote by Absentee Ballot if you meet the following qualifications:

60 years of age or older.
Physically unable to attend the polls without assistance.
Have been appointed an election precinct inspector in a precinct other than the precinct where you are registered.
Expect to be absent from the community on Election Day.
Cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of my religion.
Cannot attend the polls because you are in jail, awaiting arraignment or trial.

Any questions concerning obtaining ballots, registering to vote or voting location, can be directed to the City Clerk's office.

Linda Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk

Publish: February 25, 2016

LO-0002275614

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Ribbon-cutting

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce will host a ribbon-cutting at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 27, at LA Fitness, 41128 Ann Arbor Road.

New hotel

Hotel Investment Services has opened a new Holiday Inn Express. The hotel offers 107 guestrooms, meeting space for up to 100 guests, creative water elements, outdoor patio, expansive fitness center, complimentary breakfast for all guests, complimentary WiFi, suites, wetland room views and walking distance to USA Hockey Arena.

The hotel is located at Beck Road and Five Mile and is easily accessible from M-14. Guests will enjoy Keurig coffee, microwave, mini refrigerator and hot breakfast buffet each morning. The new hotel adds to a collection of managed properties, including the Inn

at St. John's in Plymouth, the Inn at Stonecliffe on Mackinac Island and several more hotels throughout Michigan and the U.S.

State of the Township

Tickets are available for the annual State of the Township at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 2, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road. The event is hosted by the Canton Chamber of Commerce. Tickets are \$25 and available from the chamber at 734-453-4040.

Local businesses

The ninth annual Cottage & Lakefront Living Show features several local businesses. The show runs Thursday through Sunday, Feb. 25-28, at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

Bath Planet of Canton will be exhibiting custom acrylic bath systems, awning sales and installation.

BeautiFunktional of Northville features old furniture that is turned into functional pieces of art, with coordinated accent pieces, along with the paints and tools required to BeautiFunk existing homeowner junk.

Patio Plus Outdoor Furniture of Northville will feature a new poly lumber arbor that is easy to clean and maintain, along with its patio furniture that includes dining sets, bar tables, lounge seating, umbrellas, cantilevers and fire pits.

"Our pre-season event can help bring about your dream cottage or vacation home this year," said Dawn Baker, show manager of ShowSpan, Inc.

Adults and children are welcome to build sand castles at The Beach, the show's giant sandbox. Everyone can try walking on water inside a giant inflatable transparent plastic Zorb Globe at the Cran-Hill Family Fun Zone full size pool.

Finding ideas at the home show



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jeff Ruddick of Wimsatt Building Materials talks to Sarah Fierk during the Great Lakes HBA Builders Show at Novi's Suburban Collection Showplace. The three-day event brought together builders and suppliers for the state's home and renovation trades and provided lots of information about materials and techniques.



On behalf of the

Northville Township Firefighters Charity Fund

Thank You!

FOR MAKING THE 2016 NORTHVILLE TOWNSHIP FIREMAN'S BALL OUR MOST SUCCESSFUL CHARITY FUNDRAISER TO DATE. OUR 13TH ANNUAL FIREMAN'S BALL WAS HOSTED ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2016. WE HOSTED A SOLD-OUT CROWD OF OVER 650 GUESTS AND RAISED A RECORD-SETTING \$46,000 FOR LOCAL CAUSES. THE FOUNDATION OF OUR ORGANIZATION WAS BUILT OFF OF THREE SIMPLE WORDS: **TRADITION. SERVICE. COMMUNITY.** WE PRIDE OURSELVES ON USING THOSE THREE SIMPLE WORDS TO GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY BOTH ON AND OFF DUTY. THE CONTINUOUS SUPPORT OF OUR GUESTS, DONORS AND SPONSORS DRIVES OUR ORGANIZATION TO WORK HARDER TO HELP THOSE IN NEED. PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT TO THE BUSINESSES LISTED BELOW BY USING THIS PAGE AS A GUIDE TO SHOPPING, DINING AND DOING BUSINESS IN THE AREA.

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OUR VIEW

Stow the anger, give Merritt and P-CCS a chance

The elimination of Michael Meissen as Plymouth-Canton school district chief in December and the appointment of Monica Merritt — first as interim and recently as permanent superintendent, effective June 30 — has caused some angst, distrust and quite a few uninformed and often nasty comments in the community.

Primary among those comments has been the accusation of a lack of transparency and secret meetings and dealings. The funny thing about those accusations is that anyone who paid attention to the district was pretty certain of what was about to happen. The only outstanding question was when it would happen. Tongues were wagging in the community long before the school board took action, so it couldn't have been that much of a secret.

There was no secret when Merritt, assistant superintendent of human resources and labor relations, was appointed. It was done in public. Some weeks later, the board — in public — discussed members' individual thoughts on conducting an executive search or to choose from inside the district. Again, no secret.

What many community members do not realize is that the school board had no choice but to honor Meissen's legal employment contract. No secret again that there were plenty of closed sessions with the district's attorney. It didn't take much to figure out what was going on. And when stepping into the realm of discharging a district leader, school board members must step lightly. Under the state's Open Meetings Act, employee issues can remain behind closed doors.



Merritt

And now community members in public have accused the school board for an apparent lack of transparency. That included state Rep. Kristy Pagan of Canton — donned in a red T-shirt worn by teachers who are seeking a pay raise — who raised her voice and accused the board essentially of secrecy.

It didn't take long for school board President Kim Crouch to figure out what was going on. The next day, she personally apologized for what may or may not have been the board's lack of transparency. The public has since been assured that when a contract between Merritt and the board has been negotiated, the document will be made public.

Also on some community members' angry agenda is the board's decision to forgo a national search for a new superintendent in light of Meissen's departure. The anger is almost comical, because with all the searches the Plymouth-Canton school board has conducted since the 1990s, not one superintendent has stayed long enough to even take a deep bite out of the mortgage on their home.

Indeed, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools has become known as the district that goes through superintendents as fast as McDonald's flips burgers. Since 1994, including Meissen, the district has had nine chiefs. Not exactly a winning record for the superintendents, the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education or the local community.

The school board made a wise choice in sticking with an inside candidate. Sure, the fact that she has been the district's chief negotiator to hammer out a new contract with the teachers union has put a cloud over her head for many — especially teachers waiting for a raise and who have, unfortunately, gone years without any increase.

There is also the issue that Merritt does not have a doctorate. The district has had a long line of superintendents with doctorates and that hasn't worked out too well. What Merritt has, however, is classroom experience, as well as tenure as an assistant principal and principal. And she has experience working on what is called a superintendent's cabinet.

Most of all, Merritt has a winning personality and one that seeks out and embraces team work. Right now, the school district and community need some healing and need to come together to determine what is important for the district and, more importantly, for students.

Will she have bumps and detours? You bet. Who in a leadership position doesn't? But Merritt operates openly and seeks opinions and others' thoughts. Walk into the district's central office and take in the change in attitude and the general working atmosphere. There is indeed a difference and, with any luck, a good start for good circumstances in the district.

Let's give Merritt a chance. Unlike the district's many superintendents who were brought in from other areas, Merritt knows this district from the get-go. She knows the people and what needs fixing.

LETTERS

Bill is not soft on crime

Rep. Kurt Heise is getting criticized for sponsoring certain prison parole reforms in HB 4138. As usual, his opponents throw out only unsupported sound bites. Deborah Whyman says, "We don't believe that violent prisoners should

be let out of prison early." Shannon Price calls Heise "pro-criminal" and "soft on crime." These criticisms have no relation to the facts.

The bill as proposed does not shorten any sentence for any prisoner. Nobody is being "let out early." Every prisoner, whether convicted of drugs, embezzlement,

armed robbery or anything else, is given a sentence based on the nature and severity of the crime, his criminal history, the degree of harm or injury he caused and a variety of other well-established factors.

Based on that, the judge imposes a sentence range, a minimum and a maximum that must be served, such as "18 months to three years" or "15-25 years." Only after that minimum time is served — the length of time imposed by the judge, based on all the factors of that particular case — is the prisoner even considered for parole. He is then thoroughly evaluated by the Department of Corrections and given a score to indicate the probability of

him successfully completing parole and staying out of prison. Nothing in this bill changes that.

The change in this bill — which has been approved by the House, 67-39 — is that after a prisoner has served his minimum sentence, if he is given a "high probability of parole" and if there are no extenuating circumstances or compelling reasons not to release him, he will be granted a supervised parole. That's all this bill does. It does not release anybody early and, of course, it does not apply to anybody with a life sentence (because there is no minimum sentence for those prisoners). It does not authorize releasing any prisoner who presents a danger to

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prisoners being re-released).

If a prisoner has served his time and has a high probability of successfully completing parole and staying out of jail and the Department of Corrections sees no compelling reason to keep him in jail, why should he not be released? The House Fiscal Agency estimates it will save the state \$300 million per year. More importantly, it sends a message to the prisoners that if they work at rehabilitation and comply with prison rules, they will be paroled after they serve their minimum sentence. I hardly call that "soft on crime." I call it common sense.

George Shea
Plymouth

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CLASSIFIEDS

WWCCA to host eighth dinner, gun raffle

The Western Wayne County Conservation Association is putting out a call to firearm enthusiasts to get their tickets now for its eighth annual Friends of the NRA Dinner and Auction Fund-raiser and gun raffle.

This is the second year the Hellenic Center in Westland is serving as host of the event. More than 250 people turned out for last year's event and WWCCA president Bob Havilland hopes to fill the hall this year.

"We can go up to 800 people," said Havilland, a Livonia resident. "We started at 165 people eight years ago and maxed out at 350 at Fox Hills. Last year, at the Hellenic, we had 250. Hopefully, that was because it was a new venue."

The banquet will be Friday, May 7, at the Hellenic Center, 36375 Joy, Westland. Doors open at 5 p.m. to view prizes and the silent auction. Games start at 6 p.m., with a sit-down dinner served at 7 p.m. In addition to a live auction at 8 p.m., there will be special drawings and door prizes. Banquet tickets are \$40 each and include entry in a drawing to win a .22 caliber rifle.

The club also has begun selling raffle tickets for the chance to the NRA Gun of the Year, a Montana Rifle American Legends .300 Win

FRIENDS OF NRA EVENT

Time/Date: Friday, May 7
Location: Hellenic Center, 36375 Joy, Westland
Details: Doors open at 5 p.m. to view prizes and silent auction items. Games start at 6 p.m., with a sit-down dinner served at 7 p.m., followed by a live auction. Banquet tickets are \$40 each and include entry in a drawing to win a .22 caliber rifle. Sponsorship and shooter packages are available.
Contact: Nancy Garneau at 734-259-3341 or Bob Havilland at 734-516-7921

Mag rifle, or Winchester lever action Model 1886 short rifle. Tickets are \$5. Both rifles will be given away in the winner gets first choice raffle.

"Each year, we try to do something different," Havilland said. "Last year, we raffled off a Kimber with the \$5 ticket. People like it in that they know the money goes for a good cause."

A variety of NRA Foundation rifle and handguns will be given away during the event. Among the guns are a Henry Golden Boy Second Amendment Tribute Edition .22 LR rifle, a Ruger GP100 double action revolver, Walther CCP 9mm white edition, Taurus Curve .380 and a children's Crickett .22 LR rifle.

Some will be used in



Tommy Vaughn (left), co-owner of the Firing Line gun shop and indoor gun range, and Bob Havilland, president of the Western Wayne County Conservation Association, show off the NRA Gun of the Year, a Montana Rifle American Legends.

games and others will be used in the popular bucket raffles. Havilland knows that firearms are popular at the banquet and is looking to add up 15-20 more as prizes in the raffles and drawings.

The WWCCA is partnering with the Firing Line in Westland for the event. It will be bringing a selection of guns to the event for the popular 52-card game in which player holding the winning card has his or her choice of weapon.

This is the first time Firing Line has been a part of the event. The indoor gun shop has provided use of its gun

range for the WWCCA's youth programs, making it a logical choice to handle the firearms. Co-owner Tommy Vaughn is excited about being there and promises to "bring things people want."

The WWCCA became aware of the NRA Foundation more than 15 years ago. The club always had kids participate in the Michigan United Conservation Club's junior state shoot. While the kids did well shooting at the club, they didn't do well at the state meet. Havilland called a few clubs and the club ended up forming a junior travel club.

The travel club was funded by the WWCCA until it heard about the NRA Foundation grants. That's when the club decided it needed to do more.

"We figured that if you're going to ask for money, you'd better help with raising the money," Havilland said. "The club still does invest in the team, but the grant helps offset costs and makes it more affordable for the kids."

The club is offering an early bird special on banquet tickets. Purchase tickets by Friday, April 22, and automatically be entered in a special early bird drawing. There also are two sponsor packages — the Megashooter and the Super Megashooter — as well as Big Shooter and Super Shooter packages.

Both Megashooter and Super Megashooter packages include dinner tickets and a guarantee of a winner of one gun per package. The Megashooter package costs \$1,250 and includes four dinner tickets, \$400 worth of bucket raffle tickets, four NRA hats and the only four tickets in a Strum/Ruger gun drawing. The Super Megashooter package costs \$2,500 and includes eight dinner tickets, \$800 worth of raffle bucket tickets, eight NRA hats and the only eight tickets in a Kimber gun drawing.

The Big Shooter package allows the purchase of \$160 worth of raffle tickets for \$100 and includes one ticket for the special Big Bang Handgun drawing. The Super Shooter includes \$400 worth of raffle tickets for \$200 and three tickets for the Big Bang Handgun Drawing. Purchase the packages by April 22 and get a second package of the same value. Dinner tickets are extra with these two shooter packages.

Banquet tickets must be purchased in advance. No tickets will be available at the door.

Tickets for the banquet and the Gun of the Year raffle will be on sale Thursday through Sunday, Feb. 25-28, at the annual Outdoorama at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi. They also are available by contacting Nancy Garneau at 734-259-3341 or Havilland at 734-516-7921.

The WWCCA was organized in 1937 in Westland and moved to its current location at Napier Road in Plymouth Township in 1965. Its members hail from Wayne County communities such as Plymouth, Canton, Livonia, Westland and Redford and as far away as St. Clair Shores and the Grosse Pointes. The club also attracts shooting enthusiasts from Farmington, South Lyon, Northville, Novi and Milford.

ROBOTICS

Continued from Page A1

nations of barriers from which to choose.

It's a challenging game, said Jay Obsniuk, the Lightning Robotics team's lead teacher.

"It's quite a competition," he said. "I think

they went overboard this year."

The game will require a lot of cooperation between team members and good scouting reports about opposing teams' robots, Obsniuk said.

"You're going to have to have a team that goes around trying to figure out what the (other)

robots can do," he said. "Scouting and strategy will be big points this year."

FIRST Robotics stresses teamwork and calls for teams with a variety of skills and interests. The Lightning Robotics team has seven subgroups: design, electronics, fabrication, robot programming, strate-

gy, marketing and awards.

Obsniuk said this year's team is a younger one, with 65 freshman members. While the team is relying on its veterans, he said, many of the younger members have stepped up.

"It's been good for them," he said. The state finals are in mid-April and the FIRST Robotics 2016 world championships are in late April in St. Louis, Mo.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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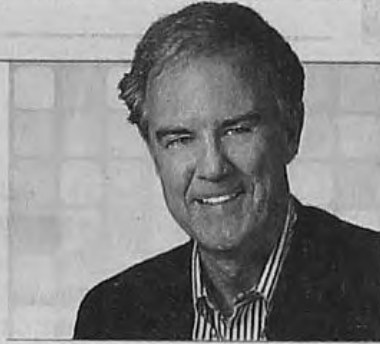
Ask the Expert

THE TRUTH ABOUT COCHLEAR IMPLANTS

Straining to hear each day, even when using powerful hearing aids?

Feeling frustrated and sometimes even exhausted from listening? Whether it happens suddenly or gradually over time, hearing loss can affect you physically and emotionally. Being unable to hear impacts your ability to communicate with your loved ones, hear in noisy environments, talk on the phone, and may force you to become more reliant on your family members to interpret for you.

Cochlear implants work differently than hearing aids. Rather than amplifying sound, they use sophisticated software and state-of-the-art electronic components to provide access to the sounds you've been missing. They are designed to help you hear better and understand speech in all situations, including noisy environments.



David C. Kelsall, M.D., Cochlear Medical Advisor

Dr. David C. Kelsall, a cochlear implant surgeon and medical advisor to Cochlear, the world leader in cochlear implants, answers questions about cochlear implants and how they are different from hearing aids.

Q: How are cochlear implants different than hearing aids?

A: Hearing aids help many people by making the sounds they hear louder. Unfortunately, as hearing loss progresses, sounds need to not only be made louder, they need to be made clearer. Cochlear implants can help give you that clarity, especially in noisy environments. If you suffer from high frequency hearing loss but maintain your hearing in the low frequencies, there is a solution called Hybrid™ Hearing that may be able to help as well. Be sure to discuss your options with a Hearing Implant Specialist in your area.

Q: Are cochlear implants covered by Medicare?

A: Yes, by Medicare and most private insurance plans.

Q: How do I know a cochlear implant will work for me?

A: The technology is very reliable. In fact, it has been around for over 30 years and has helped change the lives of over 400,000 people worldwide.

Q: Is it major surgery?

A: No, not at all. In fact, the procedure is often done on an outpatient basis and typically takes just a couple hours.

Q: Am I too old to get a cochlear implant?

A: No, it's never too late to regain access to the sounds you're missing.

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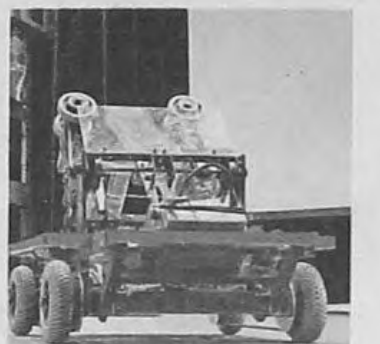
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Kelsey Taylor explains Sirius to Team 862 supporters Tom and Cindy Nader.



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Sirius takes a shot at sending a ball through the upper window of the "castle" and is successful.



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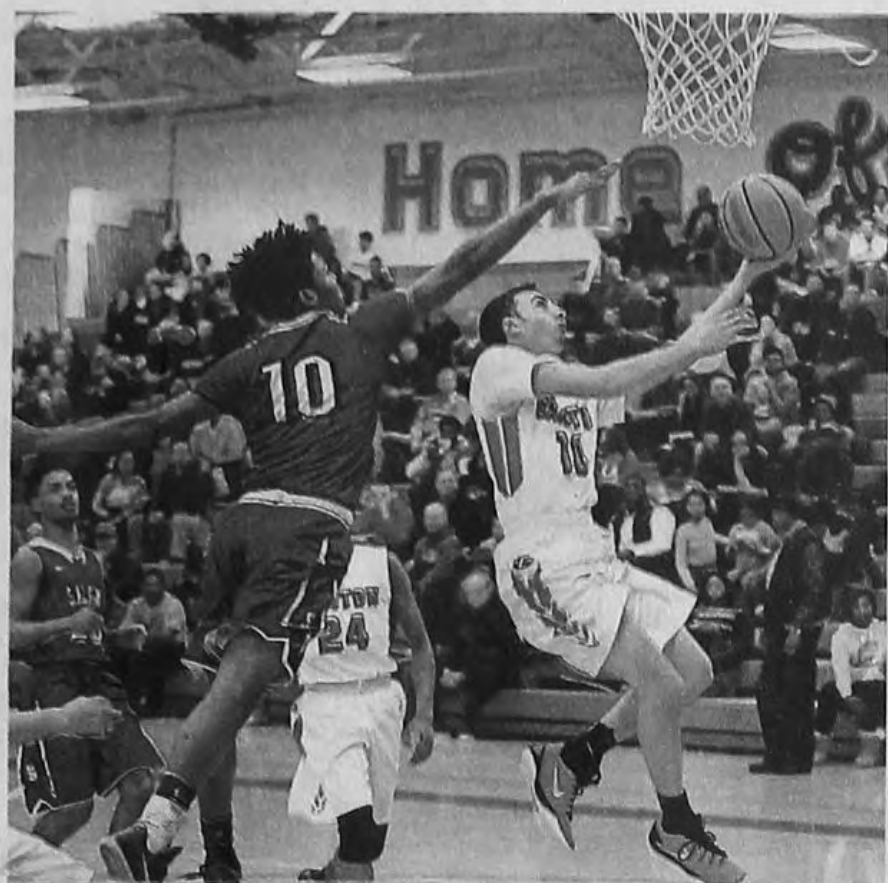
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JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO
Salem senior guard Calin Crawford (left) soars in an effort to deny Canton senior guard Hamoudy Turfe from scoring a basket during Monday's contest.

KLAA BOYS BASKETBALL

Chiefs chip away at Rocks, win semifinal

Canton one victory away from Kensington Conference championship

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Bob Brodie tried to put his finger on when Monday's Kensington Conference tournament semifinal game got away from his Salem boys basketball squad.

The veteran Rocks coach shook his head and just gave it up to the still-undefeated Canton Chiefs, who methodically put away Salem, 50-39, to improve to 18-0. Canton will host

Livonia Churchill at 7 p.m. Friday night in the conference championship game.

"You play Canton or Plymouth, the rivalry thing, your adrenaline's pumping up; we did a pretty good job coming out of the blocks," Brodie said. "Both teams were a little tight early, but they both gave a great effort early. We hung with them, we just couldn't catch them."

"They've got two big guys inside that are tough and they've got dribble penetration and when they can cap it with a couple threes like that from some people off the bench, it's going to take its toll on you after a while."

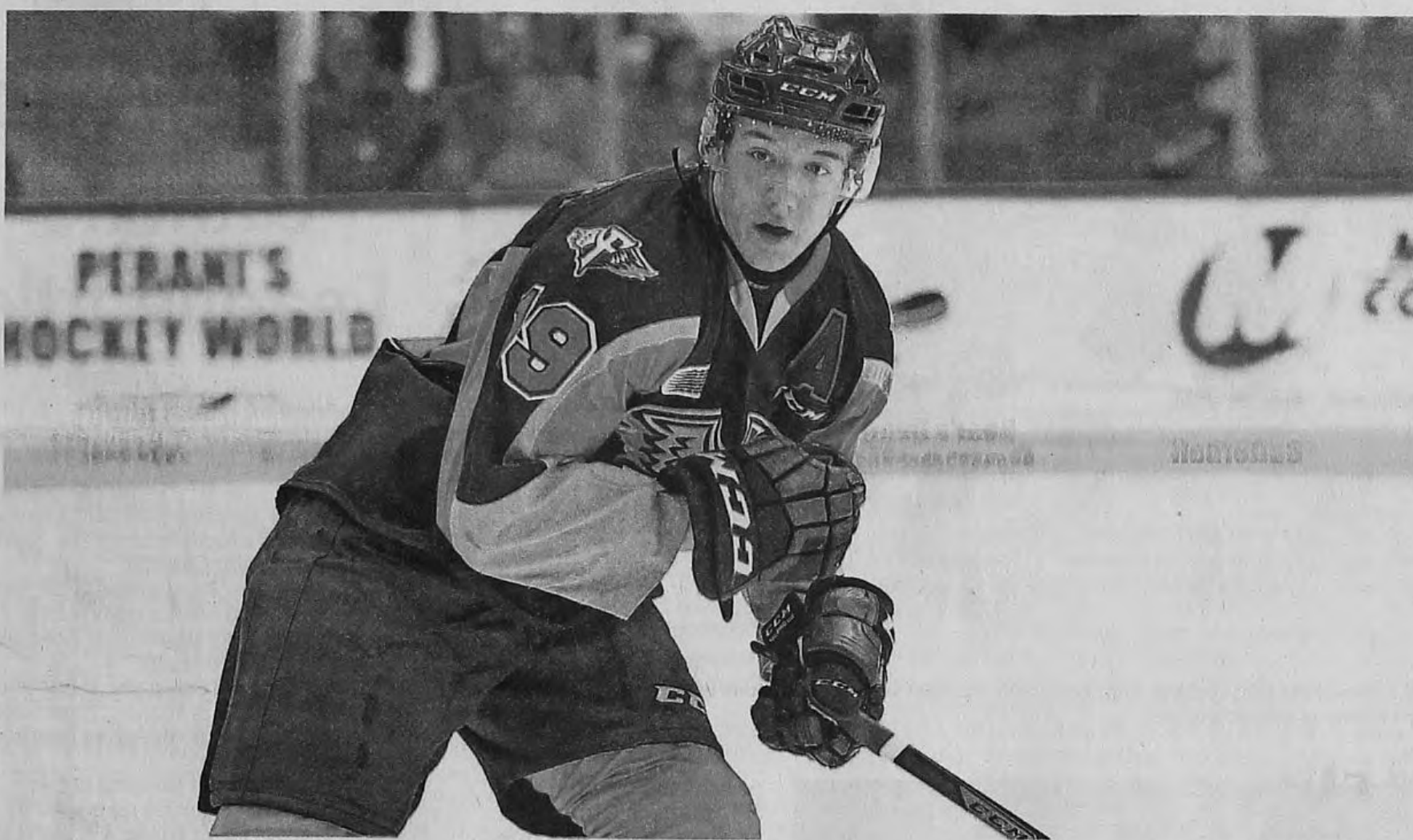
The Rocks (11-7) also had to contend with Canton's talented group of seniors who wanted to provide a little extra oomph for senior night. Festivities took place before the opening tip. Those seniors include Logan Ryan, Obi Okoli, Jalen Cochran, Hamoudy Turfe, Zhending Hu and Chris English.

Most of that group took turns providing a spark for the Chiefs. Late in the first quarter and early in the second, English drained two treys to help keep the Rocks at bay. Those six points were all he scored in the contest, but they

See CHIEFS, Page B3

SAGA OF EX-WHALERS CONTINUES

THEY'RE NOT IN PLYMOUTH ANYMORE



Forward Cullen Mercer is one of several former Plymouth Whalers remaining with the Flint Firebirds.

RENA LAVERTY | FLINT FIREBIRDS

Bizarre and bewildering first season for Flint Firebirds doesn't stop resolve of former Whalers players

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Crashing into a London player along the boards Saturday night was Flint Firebirds defenseman Mathieu Henderson, who was in the middle of scrums throughout the Ontario Hockey League match-up.

So was feisty forward Will Bitten, who showed some on-ice frustration after being whistled for a slashing penalty during the first period at Dort Federal Credit Union Event Center in Flint.

"Every game's a battle. You just got to play 100 percent every time you're out there," said Bitten, the team's top scorer with 24 goals and 30 assists in 55 games, including Saturday's 4-0 loss to the Knights before about 2,800 fans.

Also not shying away from



A team leader in Plymouth and in Flint is defenseman Alex Peters (right), jostling with London's Aaron Berisha.

RENA LAVERTY | FLINT FIREBIRDS

physical contact against the Knights was defenseman and Dallas Stars prospect Alex Peters.

Those names might sound familiar to area hockey fans and they should. All were members of the Plymouth

Whalers before owner Peter Karmanos sold the franchise to Rolf Nilsen in spring 2015.

Peters was captain of the Whalers and continues to wear the 'C' in Flint. He likes playing and living in Flint, but has a soft spot for Plymouth.

"It was a great place to play for three years. I lived with a great family in Plymouth and I miss them," Peters said. "And the people at the rink and the staff ... it's a big transition over here. There's obviously good in Flint and good in Plymouth, but it's always sad leaving a town behind."

The list of players who cut their OHL teeth at then-Compuware Arena is even longer. There's defenseman Alex Di Carlo and forwards Cullen Mercer, Francesco Vilardi, Ryan Moore, Jacob Collins,

See FIREBIRDS, Page B2

PREP WRESTLING

Shamrocks lead list of Palace qualifiers

Salem's Foster finishes as runner-up, one of five from Park in finals

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

There will be plenty of Shamrocks and Rockets parading around The Palace of Auburn Hills for the MHSAA Division 1 wrestling individual state finals March 3-5.

Novi Detroit Catholic Central and Westland John Glenn led the way Saturday at the regional tournament hosted by Saline with nine and eight state qualifiers, respectively.

Each team produced two regional champions on the day.

CC freshman Kevon Davenport improved to 41-3 overall as captured the 119-pound title with a 5-1 decision over last year's state runner-up, Carl Antrassian of Monroe, in the final.

And junior Tyler Morland made it 39-1 on the season for the Shamrocks when he posted two technical falls, along with a pin in 1:05 against Saline's Dylan Powers in the 171-pound final.

"Morland and Davenport dominated all day," CC coach Mitch Hancock said. "Davenport's wins were very impressive, as both those individuals were quality wrestlers."

See WRESTLING, Page B3



MICHAEL VASILNEK
Salem's Roy Foster finished second in his weight class.

BOB JEANNOTTE

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BOYS HOCKEY

Rocks crush another top-ranked team

Salem veterans come through in 3-0 senior night win

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Salem's varsity boys hockey team continued its remarkable late-season march Tuesday, blanking Howell, 3-0, on senior night at Plymouth Cultural Center.

In doing so, the Rocks extended their winning streak against top-ranked teams in Divisions 1 and 2 to six games. Salem (14-7-2) will have two more such opponents this week (Orchard Lake St. Mary's and Berkley) before the start of the D2 pre-regional Monday.

"This is our sixth win in a row against teams ranked in the top 10 in Division 1 or 2, so it's definitely a record for us," Salem head coach Ryan Ossenmacher said. "It's good; that's what you want to do. We set up the schedule this way to play those teams on purpose."

"I think we know we can compete with anybody. The reality is that we need to compete for 51 minutes. We've been competing, but the reality is we still haven't played a complete game. Hopefully, that's yet to come."

Making timely stops when called upon was

Salem junior goalie Tristan Rehling, who outplayed Howell counterpart Nathan George.

"It was our first shutout of the year, so from standpoint, that's a good win for Tristan," Ossenmacher said. "He stepped up. I thought we did a decent job of limiting their opportunities to the outside, but at the same time, he made a couple big saves when he needed to."

"You're going to put yourself in a position to win a lot of hockey teams if you're goalie posts a shutout."

Honored following the first period were Salem's seniors: forwards Evan Newel, Nick Callegari, Miles Dougherty, Zach Goleniak and Nathan Homrich and defenseman Bailey Thompson.

Just before that ceremony, Goleniak showed why he is an integral part of the Rocks' attack when he scored his second goal in just his second game since returning from a knee injury, which put Salem up 2-0 with only 37 seconds left in the opening period.

He collected a perfect feed from junior line-mate Shawn Weldon and cranked a shot from between the circles that hit the post, then caromed in.

"I saw Shawn (Weldon), he was going down low into the corner with



Salem senior forward Evan Newel (left) wards off a check from Plymouth's Jake Silvester earlier this season.

the puck and he sent me a pass through the middle," Goleniak said. "I got it right on the tape, I went up, it hit the bar and off the back of the goalie's legs and rolled in."

Unfortunately for Goleniak, who also scored a goal in Salem's 6-4 win Friday over state-

ranked Northville, he limped off the ice with under 14 minutes left in the second period and did not return.

Although Goleniak tweaked his knee, it wasn't thought to be as serious as the first injury.

"I guess it's just going

to keep happening until I strengthen the muscle in my leg more, but I can walk," Goleniak said.

Getting Salem off to a good start at 4:30 of the opening period was Weldon, who snapped home a wrist shot from the left circle. Drawing the assists were Callegari and

sophomore defenseman Sean McCormack.

The physical play ramped up in the second and third periods, but the Rocks were able to hold off the Highlanders (16-8-1) and then tack on an important insurance goal with 4:04 remaining.

After Homrich battled at his own blue line to clear the puck into the neutral zone, the Rocks carried it into the Howell end, where Newel's centering pass to junior forward Matt Schaumburger was one-timed over the goalie's trapper.

For Homrich, the goal was a nice reward for his heavy-on-the-puck defensive play.

"It was a nice win, senior night and everything," Homrich said. "We're just playing hard, getting physical and getting the puck deep."

"It gets us ready to play in that tournament and keep going."

Concurring was team captain Newel, who said work ethic is paying dividends against the elite opponents the Rocks are facing night in and night out.

"We've been going hard in practice, doing a lot of battle drills and keeping up the tempo," Newel said. "So we really have the legs in the third period and that really helps us out when we need it."

FIREBIRDS

Continued from Page B1

Nicholas Caamano and Connor Sills.

Who knew?

And they can be excused for any lingering chippy feelings. After all, those players have gone through successive seasons of unique challenges and uncertainty.

Last year, it was obvious Karmanos was selling the Whalers, but nobody had a clue where the major junior team would land.

Then there's 2015-16, the first season of the Firebirds. Nilsen — whose son Hakon is a defenseman on the team — fired head coach and general manager John Gruden early in the season over a reported dispute concerning playing time for the younger Nilsen.

Players briefly walked out, prompting a major media backlash that didn't ease up until Nilsen relented and brought back Gruden.

Then Gruden got the boot again Feb. 17 and OHL commissioner David Branch was not too happy about the continuing instability. Branch suspended Nilsen and Feb. 18 the league took over the team for now.

"I think you didn't really think this was going to happen," Bitten said. "It's been tough. A lot of guys on our team are fighting for contracts this year and guys like me (are) trying to get drafted as high as possible."

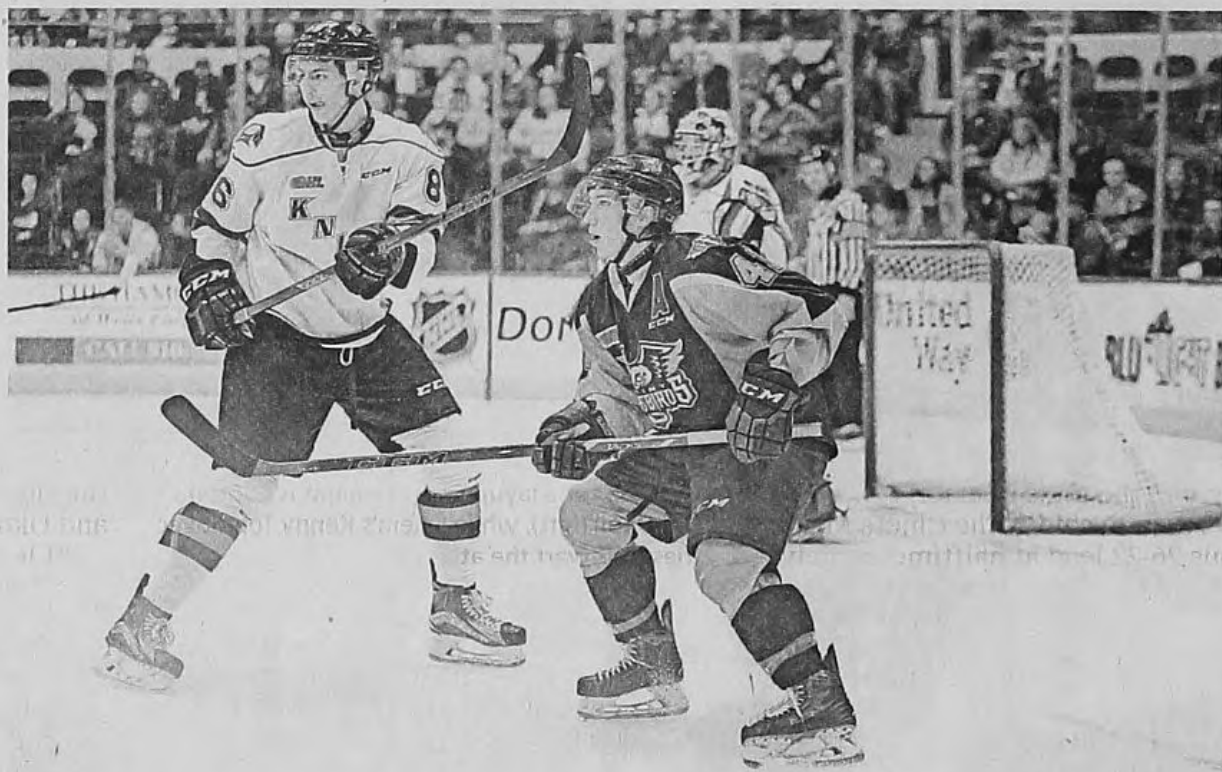
"It's been really hard and, without the boys, I don't think we'd be able to go through this."

One night after the league stepped in, the Firebirds responded with a 4-3 victory over host Sarnia. Then came the shutout loss to the Knights, a game where frustrations among Flint players were worn on their long sleeves during a parade to the penalty box.

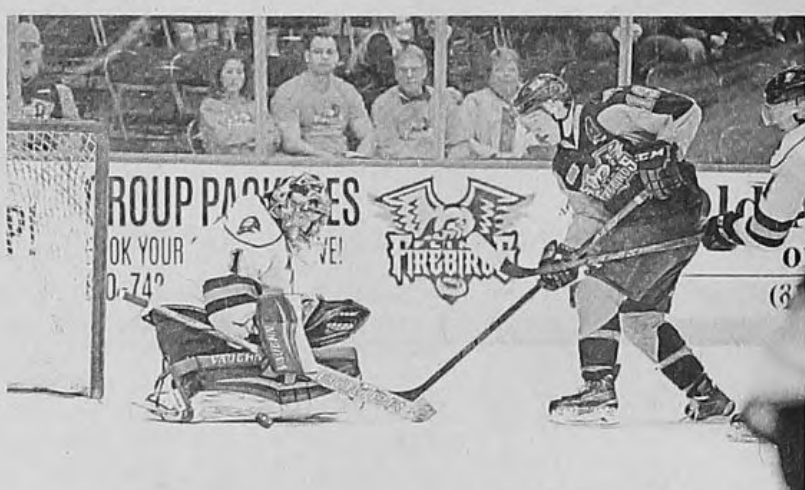
"As much as it's been a little bit of a soap opera and maybe some drama, I've still had fun playing hockey, right? That's what I'm here to do," Mercer said. "Just focus on that and looking forward to it next year, as well."

But it has been a tough year trying to gain any momentum in the OHL Western Conference standings. Flint dropped to 17-33-4-2 with the loss to London and sits ninth out of 10 teams.

"It puts everybody on edge a little bit," Collins said about the continuing uncertainty surrounding



Will Bitten of the Flint Firebirds (right) maintains position in the London zone while Knights defenseman Chris Martenet keeps close tabs.



Trying to knock the puck past London goalie Tyler Parsons is Flint's Cullen Mercer.

the team. "But we we have to control what we can control and just go out and play hard on the ice every game and just do what we can do."

Tough times

By the way, several ex-Whalers quickly became ex-Firebirds, too. At mid-season, goalie Alex Nedeljkovic and defenseman Josh Wesley were shipped out; both were among the best players in the OHL, let alone on their team.

"Trades are part of hockey," said Peters, fully healthy after knee surgery cost him most of 2014-15. "I was close friends with a couple of the guys that left and it's tough. It's one of the first times that our team's had to deal with such a big move."

"Last couple years, we haven't really traded that many people, so it's a bit different. But it's part of hockey. You got to deal with it and, like I said, it makes you grow as a person and become more mature."

Although it has been a bit of a rocky ride during 2015-16, to say the least,

several players interviewed following the loss to London were on the same page about the same things:

» It has been a godsend to have so many former Whalers still around the locker room. Also, ex-Whalers assistant GM Joe Stefan is the interim head coach and Stan Matwijiw remains goaltender coach (the job he had in Plymouth).

"(Stefan and Matwijiw are) familiar faces in the room for about half the team," Di Carlo said. "And for those guys that don't know them, they'll learn to see that they're very good coaches."

» The families they live with and the fans that come to the games have been wonderful.

"It's definitely been a positive experience," Di Carlo said. "My billets are great. Most of the guys can attest to that; their billets are very good as well."

"Just the bond we've gained with all the other guys on the team this year, you can't buy that."

» Flint ownership has lived up to original promises to give the team the best

possible hockey facilities (Dort is much nicer and brighter than it ever was when the minor pro Flint Generals played there).

"They promised us we'd have a lot of excited fans and we have and they've done a lot of renovations to the rink," Mercer said. "So it's a pretty fun place to play."

Collins noted that following the transition period from Plymouth, Firebirds ownership "gave us first-class everything. We had some ups and downs, but I think we're back on the right track now."

Questions loom

Of course, all of the players wouldn't mind playing a season free of chaos and controversy. It remains to be seen if that can happen in 2016-17.

"We've talked about Plymouth and the first couple years I was there," Peters said. "After this year these guys have dealt with, I'm sure the rest of the years are going to seem boring because there won't be as much going on."

"I just tell them to keep their heads strong, keep battling and things will get better."

Bitten is remaining somewhat optimistic things can only go up from here for the Whalers-turned-Firebirds as players complete their final seasons of OHL eligibility in the quest for big-league careers.

"The OHL stepped in and said this is enough," Bitten said. "They're taking control of the team so far, but I can't speak for the future."

"We'll see what's going to happen."

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BOYS HOCKEY

CC sews up Catholic League title

Shamrocks rout St. Mary's to claim championship

Chalk up another Catholic League boys hockey championship for Novi Detroit Catholic Central.

The Shamrocks notched their seventh since 2005 with a convincing 7-1 victory Saturday night over host Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

CC, which defeated the Eaglets for the third time this season, improved to 18-5-1 overall to repeat as league champion.

The Shamrocks jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first period on a goal by Nick Macari on Blake Veri at 8:19, followed by J.P. Lafferty's goal from Brendan Cleary at 7:40.

St. Mary's (8-13) scored its lone goal with 2:37 left in the first period, when Jacob Killian scored on a power play from Vince Marino and Joey Verkerke.

It was all Shamrocks from that point. Evan Rochowiak scored on a power play from Macari at 4:09, followed by Ryan Burnett's goal from JoJo Mancinelli at 6:34 to make it 4-1 after two periods.

CC then scored three more times in the final period — Andrew Spiegel from Owen Kipke at 2:23; Kipke from Kyle Mulka on a power play at 6:41; and Brian Kearns from Spiegel and Alex Kreutzer at 8:07.

Shamrocks goaltender Spencer Wright made 18 saves, while Brendan Earls had 31 saves for the Eaglets.

DETROIT CC 5, WARREN DELASALLE 0

Junior forward Kyle Mulka scored a pair of goals and had one assist, lifting top-ranked Novi Detroit Catholic Central to a Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League crossover victory Feb. 18 over Warren DeLaSalle at Mount Clemens Arena.

The Shamrocks jumped out to a 3-0 first-period advantage and added two more goals in the second to secure the victory.

JoJo Mancinelli opened the scoring at 2:02 of the opening period off assists from Alex Smith and Mitch Ossowski, followed by Ryan Burnett's power-play goal from Mancinelli and Andrew Lane at 3:45.

Mulka scored his first of the game from Macari and Evan Rochowiak with just 1:14 remaining in the first to make it 3-0.

Mulka scored again on a power play from Macari at 11:40 of the second, then Macari made it 5-0 at 14:19 of the same period, assisted by Smith and Mulka.

Goaltender Spencer Wright made 17 saves to post the shutout for CC. Josh Wilk made 38 saves for the Pilots (9-12, 2-9).

PREP GYMNASTICS

Chiefs win conference for seventh year in row

Canton holds off challenges from Livonia Blue and Plymouth

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The floor show closed the deal for Canton's varsity gymnastics team. Struggling against a tough field at Saturday's KLA A Kensington Conference meet at Walled Lake Central, the Chiefs broke loose on vault and floor exercise to ultimately capture their seventh consecutive conference championship.

"The meet was close after bars and beam, but (the Chiefs) caught fire on floor and vault to seal off all contenders," Canton coach John Cunningham said.

The Chiefs had scores of 9.475, 9.175, 9.15 and 8.85 on vault and 9.65, 9.575, 9.4, 9.35 and 9.275 on floor, lifting the team to a total of 144.575 points — good enough to



For the seventh straight season, the Canton Chiefs won the Kensington Conference gymnastics title. Here, the team celebrates after Saturday's triumph.

edge Livonia Blue (143.25), Plymouth (142.425), Howell (142.025) and Brighton (139.55).

"Obviously, this was a total team effort with six girls contributing at least two scores to the final tally," Cunningham said. "It was a great finish, showing the strength and depth of this year's team."

An indication of Canton's depth was earning

the conference title despite having only one first-place finisher. Rachel Socha tied for the top spot in Division 2 balance beam with 9.3. She also was sixth in the all-around (35.4) and 10th on vault (8.85).

"Behind her, (the Chiefs) piled up a bunch of top fives in the state's most difficult conference," Cunningham said.

The list of significant contributors was lengthy

for Canton, with Katie Dickson taking five medals. Those were on uneven parallel bars (second, 8.925), floor (third, 9.575), all-around (fifth, 35.725), beam (eighth, 8.625) and vault (10th, 8.6).

Jana Hilditch registered a personal best 9.65 on floor, good for second place. She also came in fifth on vault (9.15) and sixth both on beam (8.85) and the all-

around (35.6).

Finishing second on vault with 9.175 was Hailey Hodgson, whose afternoon also included placing fourth both on floor (9.4) and all-around (35.875) along with a seventh-place finish on beam (9.15).

Two other versatile performers as the Chiefs extended a streak of conference excellence that began in 2010 were Kelsey Kernosek and Stephanie Cox. Kernosek had a personal best 9.475 on vault, earning her third place. She tallied fourth both on bars (8.525) and all-around (35.875). Rounding out her best meet of the season were two eighth-place finishes (beam, 8.6; floor, 9.275).

Meanwhile, Cox medaled on floor (fifth, 9.35), bars (seventh, 8.275) and vault (eighth, 8.8).

Plymouth recap

Plymouth also had a strong showing at the meet, with several gymnasts chipping in to what head coach Pam Yockey called "a wonderful meet

for all" on the squad.

Haley Metz medaled with an all-around tally of 34.95. She also finished fourth on beam (9.35) and sixth on floor (9.3).

Also posting excellent numbers was Rebeca Simu: second on beam (9.575), sixth on vault (9.0) and sixth on floor (9.3). She finished with an all-around score of 35.25.

The Wildcats had several others who stepped up, including: junior Adriana Tao (10th on floor, 9.0), freshman Ava Eilola (ninth on floor, 9.2; seventh on bars, 8.325; 10th on beam, 8.6), sophomore Tori Silvester (fifth on beam, 9.175), senior Emily Welch (third on bars, 8.55), Hilly Pihl and Sam Fontana (tied for seventh on vault, 8.9).

Both Canton and Plymouth look ahead to the MHSAA regional to take place March 5 at P-CEP.

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PREP ROUNDUP

PCA girls cagers win 48-15

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Plymouth Christian Academy's varsity girls basketball team put the pressure on Brighton Charyl Stockwell Academy from the opening tip Tuesday night and rolled to a 48-15 non-conference victory.

The Eagles (5-14) were led by junior Lydia Chapel, who scored 13 points and registered 13 steals. Other PCA contributors included junior Kennedy Horne (11 points) and sophomore Robin Albert (eight points).

"It was great to see our team really commit to their assignments in our half-court defense tonight," Eagles head coach Rod Windle said.

Aliyah Pries (four points, five rebounds, five steals) and Paige Perkey (five boards, four steals) also wreaked havoc all night against Charyl Stockwell. Contributing four points each were Jordan Reed and Taylor Mistele.

» Host Plymouth lost, 45-20, Tuesday to Waterford Kettering in a KLA A tourney consolation game.

Hannah Badger scored eight points for Plymouth, which has one more regular season game before hosting Northville in a Class A district semifinal game March 2.

"I thought we battled all night and executed down the stretch," Plymouth coach Ryan Ballard said. "Unfortunately, our margin for error was really small against a very talented Kettering team."

Boys hockey

Plymouth scored five straight goals Saturday and went on to double up Livonia Churchill, 6-3.

Sparking Plymouth with a goal and three assists was Zack Wiener, while Jack Silvester scored two goals in (he also had an assist).

Other Plymouth goals were scored by Ricky Covault (two assists), Jack Chumley (assist) and Zach Gallaher. Making 27 saves was senior goaltender Trevor McManus.

Competitive cheer

For the first time in school history, Plymouth qualified for the regional.

The Wildcats finished third with 750 points at Friday's district championship at Woodhaven and will compete at 5 p.m. Saturday in the regional at Chippewa Valley. By qualifying, Plymouth has one of the top 24 Division 1 teams in the state.

Girls hockey

Plymouth-Canton-Salem's Penguins lost, 2-0, Tuesday to host Farmington Hills Mercy. PCS will look to bounce back at 8 p.m. Friday (against Northville) and 6 p.m. Saturday (against Bloomfield Hills) at Arctic Edge Arena.

CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

were important ones.

"I think that's been our M.O. all season. We've had a lot of guys contribute in a lot of different games," Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy said. "Chris was huge in the first half. We were a little stale in the first half and Chris gave us some energy and offense off the bench, for sure."

According to English, he just did his part when called upon, like every player on the squad has done all season.

"All the seniors came out, played hard and that's what we do every day," English said. "When you think about it, one through 12, all our guys are hard workers. They can shoot, attack, do anything, play defense, get steals."

"It's great to be on a team where everybody can contribute."

Another surge

Early in the third quarter, it was Turfe's turn to shine. The Chiefs took a tenuous 26-22 lead at halftime, largely on hot shooting from behind the 3-point arc. Canton sank five triples in the opening half, including two each from English and freshman guard B. Artis White (10 points).

Turfe was the catalyst to open the third, with back-to-back baskets in the opening minutes. One was on a driving layup, the other on a nifty baseline shot off the glass.

Turfe, who scored eight points, later drained a short jumper to give the Chiefs a 32-26 advantage.

"He had a really good third quarter," Reddy said. "Turf does that. He scores in spurts and he had a really good spurt there in the third quarter."

Salem senior center Kenny Topolovec did his best to carry the load in an attempt to rally the Rocks. After not scoring during the first half, Topolovec contributed 10 points in the second half and collected 13 rebounds to lead all players.

Topolovec showed his determination early in the third, muscling in for an offensive rebound after missing a layup and drawing a foul. During a half-minute



Flying in for a layup Monday night is Canton's Obi Okoli (left), while Salem's Kenny Topolovec tries to thwart the attempt.

span, he sank four straight free throws to briefly bring Salem to within four points, 30-26, the closest the Rocks would get.

"They're a big team. They play really well; that's why they're undefeated," Topolovec said. "We had some tough practices preparing for them, but we just came up a little short. We had a few mistakes in our game that cost us."

"Our offense was struggling a little bit. We weren't playing as well as a team as we could have been. ... We weren't setting as many screens as we should have, moving the ball around. But I give them credit."

Block party

Canton closed the victory with a 16-11 fourth quarter edge, with key contributions from Okoli (seven points, five rebounds), Ryan (12 points, five blocks, four rebounds) and Noah Brown.

The hard-nosed Brown (three points, three blocks) not only scrapped to strip

the ball from Salem's Calin Crawford (nine points, six rebounds) early in the fourth, setting up a layup by Okoli, but he connected on a trey from the left wing to open up a 42-33 edge with five minutes remaining.

That triple came just after senior Freddie McGee III gave the Rocks a glimmer of hope, taking a dish from Topolovec and going in for a layup to cut the Chiefs lead to 39-33.

In the final minutes, fans were treated to top-drawer defense on both sides.

First, McGee blocked Turfe's attempted layup. The play then went down to the other end of the gym, where Ryan answered by swatting away McGee's shot.

"(Ryan) did a nice job of quarterbacking the defense tonight," Reddy said. "And what I mean by that is he was communicating a lot, he was challenging a lot of shots at the rim, he blocked a lot of shots at the rim. He did a nice job helping our defense out."

Also making it tough for the Rocks to get into an offensive rhythm — Salem players only made 14-of-55 shots from the floor (25 percent) — were Cochran and Okoli.

"I love the way Kenny (Topolovec) plays; he's a very good player," Reddy said. "He's relentless on the glass and we missed him a couple times, but Jalen Cochran did a heck of a job blocking him out tonight, for the most part."

"And in the second half Obi (Okoli) did a really good job on Cameron Grace."

The Salem junior forward was red hot in the first half, scoring 11 points, but managed two only free throws after intermission.

Meanwhile, Brodie, while crediting his team for fighting "tooth and nail" as always, said the Rocks "got to get back to our team game a little. We did a little one-on-one stuff there offensively, especially in the second half. We got to get back to taking care of the ball, sharing it, getting it passed around. Come off screens a little better."

"But overall, I was proud of our effort. They fought hard and that's a great basketball team."

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WRESTLING

Continued from Page B1

CC also got a runner-up finish from Ben Kamali (103) and Aaron Rehfeldt (130), while Cameron Amine (125), Jackson Ross (215) and Nick Jenkins (285) each placed third.

Rehfeldt fell to Belleville's Chris Brown in the final, 10-4, while Kamali was defeated by Ann Arbor Pioneer's Rayvon Foley, 6-2.

"We need to make a few adjustments for both opponents in moving forward," Hancock said. "Both Ben and Aaron are capable of beating those guys."

Also headed to The Palace for CC as fourth-place finishers were Stone Moscovic (112) and Aidan Wagh (140).

Glenn's two regional champs were sophomore Michael Mars (112), who pinned Southgate's Logan Palshan in 2:48 in the final to run his overall record to 48-2, and junior John Siemasz (135), who blanked Temperance Bedford's Austin Teague in the final, 6-0, improving to 49-3.

Mars was a state champ last year at 103, while Siemasz was a third-place finisher at 103 as a freshman. Placing third for Glenn

were Kyle Borthwell (103), Isaac Lefler (112) and Alec Dirette (189), while Anthony Gibson (125), Logan Beaudoin (171) and Avery Casey (285) were all fourth.

The last time Glenn sent eight to The Palace was 2009.

"Going in, looking on paper, I felt that there was a chance all 10 could make it," Glenn coach Bill Polk said. "A couple kids that I thought would (qualify) didn't and there were a couple of kids that I thought were long shots that made it. We had a little of both."

"We had two kids make it out of 112 (pounds). Lefler just came into his own this year. He's getting better. He's come on strong at the end of the year and had a decent district, taking fourth, and he came out of the regional taking third."

The Rockets were able to bounce back from a disappointing 31-28 team regional final loss Wednesday to Bedford.

"They came back pretty focused on Saturday," Polk said. "My 189-pounder, Alec Dirette, took third in districts and he was a fifth seed. He had a nice district and actually defeated the kid that defeated him for third and fourth that had beaten him twice there, so going into the regionals, we knew he had a

chance, but had to wrestle well. He lost first round at regionals and won three in a row to take third. He beat a couple of really quality kids to do it."

The area's other regional champion was Livonia Franklin junior Nathan Atienza (145), who scored a major decision and technical fall en route to the finals before winning on an injury default walkover against Woodhaven's Joseph Muzzin.

Atienza, who is 53-0 overall, was a state runner-up last year at 140. He will be joined at The Palace by teammate Josh Rettig (215), who lost 6-4 in the final to Belleville's David Tooley.

Plymouth has three state qualifiers, led by third-place finisher Dylan Dwyer (145). Placing fourth were Isiah Berry (103) and Collin Reed (130).

Salem got a runner-up finish at 189 from Roy Foster, who fell to Bedford's Gabriel Ellerton in the final, 10-8. Teammate Demetrius Fields was third at 171.

Livonia Churchill's Josh Mussen (119) and Chase Gardner (152) also qualified out of the Saline regional by placing fourth, as did Novi's Willy Jackson at 135.

Belleville boasted three individual champions: Tooley, Chris Brown (130) and Caleb

Brown (152).

MHSAA DIVISION 1-REGION 3 INDIVIDUAL WRESTLING TOURNEY Feb. 20 at Saline

CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS (top four qualify for state finals)

- 112 pounds:** Michael Mars (Westland John Glenn) pinned Logan Palshan (Southgate Anderson), 2:48; **third:** Isaac Lefler (Ann Arbor Pioneer) won by major decision over Stone Moscovic (Detroit Catholic Central), 13-1.
- 119:** Kevon Davenport (Detroit CC) dec. Carl Antrassian (Monroe), 5-1; **third:** Daniel Paupore (Saline) won by major dec. over Josh Mussen (Livonia Churchill), 9-1.
- 125:** Dante Rivera-Garcia (Southgate) dec. Xavier Graham (Brownstown Woodhaven), 5-2; **third:** Cameron Amine (Detroit CC) dec. Anthony Gibson (John Glenn), 6-4.
- 130:** Chris Brown (Belleville) dec. Aaron Rehfeldt (Detroit CC), 10-4; **third:** Bradley Janes (Southgate) p. Collin Reed (Plymouth), 3:38.
- 135:** John Siemasz (John Glenn) dec. Austin Teague (Temperance Bedford), 6-0; **third:** Rodney Miracle (Lincoln Park) dec. Willy Jackson (Novi), 7-0.
- 140:** Abe Ajami (Dearborn Fordson) dec. William Marano (Dearborn Edsel Ford), 3-2; **third:** Trevor Anderson (Lincoln Park) p. Aidan Wagh (Detroit CC), 0:56.
- 145:** Nathan Atienza (Livonia Franklin) won by injury default over Joseph Muzzin (Woodhaven); **third:** Dylan Dwyer (Plymouth) won by injury default over Youssef Danaoui (Dearborn).
- 152:** Caleb Brown (Belleville) dec. Hunter Grasso (Woodhaven), 7-2; **third:** Brad Stewart (Bedford) p. Chase Gardner (Churchill), 2:16.
- 160:** Blake Montrie (Bedford) p. Austin McCarty (Ypsilanti), 2:35; **third:** Kasem Salameh (Crestwood) p. Aleczer Moore (Southgate), 0:21.
- 171:** Tyler Marland (Detroit CC) p. Dylan Powers (Saline), 1:05; **third:** Demetrius Fields (Salem) p. Logan Beaudoin (John Glenn), 1:36.
- 189:** Gabriel Ellerton (Bedford) dec. Roy Foster (Salem), 10-8; **third:** Alec Dirette (John Glenn) dec. David FuQua (Edsel Ford), 6-4.
- 215:** David Tooley (Belleville) dec. Josh Rettig (Franklin), 6-4; **third:** Jackson Ross (Detroit CC) dec. Zach Kramer (Monroe), 5-2.
- 285:** All Wahab (Crestwood) dec. Tim Stevens (Bedford), 6-3; **third:** Nick Jenkins (Detroit CC) p. Avery Casey (John Glenn), 1:37.
- 103:** Rayvon Foley (Ann Arbor Pioneer) dec. Ben Kamali (Detroit CC), 6-2; **third:** Kyle Borthwell (John Glenn) dec. Isiah Berry (Plymouth), 3-2.

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SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE BASKETBALL

SC men, women close in on twin titles

Men already clinch MCAA Eastern Conference; Lady Ocelots one win away

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The basketball landscape at Schoolcraft College has never been brighter than this season, with the men's team winning another conference title and the women's squad right on the cusp of doing so.

Saturday at Delta College, the Schoolcraft men's basketball team won, 92-83, to clinch the Michigan Community College Athletic Association Eastern Conference crown for the second straight year.

"Very tough game," Schoolcraft head coach Abe Mashhour wrote in a text message following the Delta win. "A lot closer than the score. We were down six with five minutes left. Tyler Johnson had 20 (points) with three late-game threes."

The Ocelots (18-10 overall, 13-2 in the MCAA Eastern) followed that up with Monday's 71-60 victory over visiting St. Clair County. They will play in the



The Schoolcraft College men's basketball team, coached by Abe Mashhour (back row, left) clinched the MCAA Eastern Conference title Saturday for the second straight season.

MCAA championship game slated for 3 p.m. Saturday at the Western Conference winner (to be determined). Schoolcraft's road also leads to the NJCAA District 10 tournament, with a first-round bye, followed by a semifinal contest at 7:30 p.m. March 4, according

to Tod Hess, MCAA information director. A balanced attack with notable contributions from Observerland products Davon Taylor (Canton) and Dre Black (Westland John Glenn) sparked Schoolcraft to the victories over Delta and St. Clair.

Against Delta, Taylor registered 14 points and eight rebounds, while Black contributed 13 to augment Johnson's 20-point total. Also in double figures were center R.J. Coil (12 points) and guard Juwan Clark (15 points). Schoolcraft kept roll-

ing two nights later, behind a 19-point, eight-rebound game by Taylor. Helping the cause with 14 points and six boards was Black, while Johnson and Clark scored 12 each.

Women on cusp

The outlook is almost as bright for the Schoolcraft women's team, thanks to Monday's 66-52 victory over St. Clair.

Schoolcraft improved to 25-3 overall and 13-2 in the MCAA Eastern with the "Pink Night" victory.

Coming up big for the Lady Ocelots was guard T'era Nesbitt, with 28 points.

Adding 15 points was guard and Birmingham Seaholm alum Elise Tolbert. Chipping in nine points each were Jade Smith and Ashley Bland (Wayne Memorial).

Hess said that the Lady Ocelots, with the victory, clinched a share of the conference title and could win it outright with a victory Wednesday against Macomb (at Schoolcraft).

A win Wednesday would move Schoolcraft into Saturday's MCAA championship game at Kalamazoo Valley CC at 3 p.m.

Schoolcraft, however, did fall 82-75 Saturday at Delta despite 23 points by Nesbitt and 17 by Tolbert.

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BOYS SWIMMING

Mustangs speed past KLAA Central swim foes

Novi finishes runner-up in conference meet tune-up

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

The boys swim season began to heat up in earnest Saturday as Northville continued its stranglehold on KLAA Central Division championships by scoring 746 points to out-duel host Novi for the title.

The Mustangs, who have captured every Central Division meet since the Kensington Lakes Activities Association was formed in 2008-09, turned in an impressive performance while tuning up for this weekend's Kensington Conference championship, which begins at noon both Saturday and Sunday at South Lyon East.

Rounding out the five schools were Plymouth (532.5), Livonia Stevenson (332), South Lyon Unified (324) and Salem (263.5).

Despite winning only three races, Northville used its depth to win comfortably against the Wildcats, who won an earlier dual meet between the two teams this season, 100-86.

"This meet doesn't say a whole lot about anything that will happen next week, but our boys who were rested for this meet swam extremely well," Northville coach Rich Bennetts said. "Jacob Tebbe had an amazing meet. Conor Hart, David Handy and Kenta Kikumori all did very well, as did a bunch of our other young kids."

The 200-yard medley relay team of Kirk Maibach, Chris Geng, John Duan and James Xue took first in 1:40.58.

Maibach also added a win in the 100 butterfly (52.37), while Xue led a one-two-three-four Mustangs sweep in the 100 breaststroke (1:01.43).

"We hope to compete well next week at the conference meet and, even though today didn't have everyone's best lineup, they still kept score and, as long as they are keeping score, I would always rather win than lose," Bennetts said. "We accomplished that, so I'm encouraged for next week."

Novi's Ryan Katulski captured the 200 freestyle (1:45.94) and teamed with Philip Billiu, Siddhardha Kareddy and Joel Kotyk for first in the 400 freestyle relay (3:20.44).

"The division meet was very successful for us," said Novi coach Brent Pohlonski, who guided the Wildcats to a

4-0 dual record in the KLAA Central. "Our number one goal for this meet is to drop as much time as we can. This year, our combined time drops totaled five minutes and 46 seconds.

"For all of our swimmers that do not get to compete in the conference meet, this was their shave and taper meet. Our division swimmers dropped a ton of time. Based on how great our division swimmers performed, our conference meet swimmers have a lot to look forward to next weekend."

Stevenson got individual victories from Jackson O'Dowd, 200 individual medley (1:59.1); Benjamin Rojewski, 500 freestyle (4:54.14); and Parker Wasielewski, 100 backstroke (55.83).

South Lyon also captured three firsts, led by Oliver Joy in the 50 freestyle (22.46) and Matt Meadows in the 1-meter diving (414.70 points). Joy also teamed with Max Kempisty, Zach Denny and Brandon Bell for a victory in the 200 freestyle relay (1:29.83).

Salem's lone victory came from Eugene Li in the 100 freestyle (48.56).

KLAA CENTRAL DIVISION BOYS SWIM MEET RESULTS
Feb. 19-20 at Novi
BOYS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Northville, 746; 2. Novi, 532.5; 3. Livonia Stevenson, 332; 4. South Lyon Unified, 324; 5. Salem, 263.5.

FINAL HEAT RESULTS
200-yard medley relay: 1. Northville (Kirk Maibach, Chris Geng, John Duan, James Xue), 1:40.58; 2. South Lyon (Logan Boals, Brandon Bell, Zach Denny, Oliver Joy), 1:41.93; 3. Salem (Eugene Li, Nick London, Nathan Budnick, Phillip Collingwood), 1:42.42.
200 freestyle: 1. Ryan Katulski (Novi), 1:45.94; 2. Siddhardha Kareddy (Novi), 1:49.64; 3. Benjamin Rojewski (Stevenson), 1:50.42; 4. Travis Nitkiewicz (N'ville), 1:51.52; 5. David Alameddine (N'ville), 1:51.7; 6. Jack Breuch (N'ville), 1:51.84.
200 individual medley: 1. Jackson O'Dowd (Stevenson), 1:59.1; 2. Max Kempisty (SLU), 2:03.46; 3. Trevor Degroot (N'ville), 2:03.97; 4. Christian Emyre (SLU), 2:04.54; 5. Berman (Novi), 2:05.12; 6. Budnick (Salem), 2:05.83.
50 freestyle: 1. Oliver Joy (SLU), 22.46; 2. Xue (N'ville), 22.49; 3. Billiu (Novi), 22.63; 4. Parker Wasielewski (Stevenson), 22.95; 5. Jian (N'ville), 23.37; 6. Yuan (Novi), 23.49.
1-meter diving: 1. Matt Meadows (SLU), 414.70 points; 2. James Cioli (Novi), 393.00; 3. Nathan Pellerito (Novi), 377.00; 4. Christian Field (N'ville), 314.00; 5. Thomas Rys (N'ville), 282.40; 6. Jack McClure (Novi), 270.95.
100 butterfly: 1. Maibach (N'ville), 52.37; 2. O'Dowd (Stevenson), 52.97; 3. (tie) Jason Nitkiewicz (N'ville) and Nathan Budnick (Salem), 54.8 each; 5. Katulski (Novi), 55.77; 6. Degroot (N'ville), 56.23.
100 freestyle: 1. Li (Salem), 48.56; 2. Larry Zhao (N'ville), 50.4; 3. Denny (SLU), 51.63; 4. Maxwell Williams (Novi), 51.65; 5. Taiyo Ichikawa (N'ville), 51.71; 6. Connor Lepish (N'ville), 52.53.
500 freestyle: 1. Rojewski (Stevenson), 4:54.14; 2. T. Nitkiewicz (N'ville), 4:59.05; 3. Billiu (Novi), 4:59.88; 4. Kempisty (SLU), 5:00.38; 5. Jacob Tebbe (N'ville), 5:08.74; 6. Nicholas Mousaikel (N'ville), 5:09.01.
200 freestyle relay: 1. South Lyon (Kempisty, Denny, Bell, Joy), 1:29.83; 2. Novi (Kareddy, Yuan, Berman, Katulski), 1:30.95; 3. Salem (Collingwood, Budnick, Matthew Croop, Li), 1:32.63.
100 backstroke: 1. Wasielewski (Stevenson), 55.83; 2. Li (Salem), 56.11; 3. Greenlee (N'ville), 57.17; 4. Joy (SLU), 58.55; 5. Kareddy (Novi), 59.41; 6. Benjamin LaPorte (Stevenson), 59.97.
100 breaststroke: 1. Xue (N'ville), 1:01.43; 2. Geng (N'ville), 1:02.33; 3. Arton (Novi), 1:03.32; 4. Jiang (N'ville), 1:03.32; 5. Yuan (N'ville), 1:04.29; 6. Roman Grossi (N'ville), 1:05.29.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Novi (Billiu, Kareddy, Joel Kotyk, Katulski), 3:20.44; 2. Northville (Degroot, Ichikawa, T. Nitkiewicz, Zhao), 3:22.81; 3. Stevenson (Wasielewski, Luke Santi, LaPorte, O'Dowd), 3:23.73.

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MEN'S CLUB HOCKEY

Ocelots changing on the fly

Schoolcraft College coach likes direction of first-year team despite roster shuffling

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

It would be hard to find somebody more upbeat than Schoolcraft College men's club hockey head coach Rob Lindsay, even in the midst of getting outscored 13-6 in losing back-to-back weekend games against Ferris State at Redford Arena.

Instead of focusing on the losses, which dropped the Ocelots' overall record to 4-7-0 in their initial foray into the world of college hockey, Lindsay smiled about the continuing influx of new talent even as the program's inaugural season plays out the string.

"We just picked up Mike Manzo from Farmington Hills, a big player, good player, probably the best player we got on the team right now," Lindsay said before pregame warmups Saturday afternoon. "We picked up Mike Lang (a forward from Canton); about a month ago, we picked up (Livonia Stevenson alums) Vinnie Glenn, Cole Christie and Alex Deflorio."

"And now, they (players interested in playing next season at Schoolcraft) are starting to call us."

Don't forget the mid-season addition of goalie Nick Borg, who played high school hockey with the Canton Chiefs. It was Borg who was victimized, 7-3, by the Bulldogs on Saturday. Ferris State also won Friday, 6-3.

Lindsay — a longtime college hockey coach (Alabama-Huntsville) and Trenton High School teacher whose son Andrew Lindsay (Trenton) is an Ocelots forward and co-captain — admitted needing to "piece together" his lineup for the Saturday game; injuries continue to deplete the roster, with more players getting hurt Friday.

But there's a light at the end of the tunnel.

"We're out recruiting right now," Rob Lindsay said. "We recruited the Trenton Showcase; we found several players we like. We need to talk to them yet. We're letting their season get closer to an end."

"And then we're going to go to the Team Michigan tryout; that's where they have a team that goes to Chicago and plays in a showcase. We're going to watch some players there and see what we can get out of that



Defenseman Mike Manzo of Farmington Hills recently joined Schoolcraft's men's club hockey team.

"We just picked up Mike Manzo from Farmington Hills, a big player, good player, probably the best player we got on the team right now. We picked up Mike Lang (a forward from Canton); about a month ago, we picked up (Livonia Stevenson alums) Vinnie Glenn, Cole Christie and Alex Deflorio."

ROB LINDSAY
Schoolcraft College men's club hockey head coach

group. Those are all the top high school players in Michigan that go to that tryout."

Local influx

This season, Schoolcraft is playing as an independent team, but Lindsay said his team will play in the American Collegiate Hockey Association in 2016-17.

"Once we are in the ACHA, we will get into a league which will make it easier to recruit and schedule games," he said. "The kids are great. They have a positive attitude and they are doing everything in their power to win."

"I give the boys credit and I have grown to appreciate their hard work at practice and games."

Helping the cause for the Ocelots during the final month will be Manzo, a 6-1, 200-pound defenseman.

He was a high school player for the Farmington Falcons who was playing pickup games at Orchard Lake St. Mary's in January when he found out that Schoolcraft

was holding a second mid-season tryout session.

"I saw a flier hanging up, so I texted Andrew (Lindsay) and I got a text a week later and tried out for the team," Manzo said. "Y(Friday) was my first game, I did all right."

"We have a good team. I'm just learning to play with these guys and, hopefully, we'll pick up some more guys."

Manzo was held off the score sheet Saturday, but the Ocelots received goals by Glenn, Mitchell Leporowski and Westland John Glenn product Jacob Stanley (who also assisted).

Ferris State led 1-0 after the first period, with Glenn's goal at 3:49 of the second knotting the score at 1-1. But the Bulldogs then reeled off five unanswered goals to break open the contest.

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RELIGION CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

FAMILY FUN DAY

Time/Date: 3-6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27

Location: Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Games, prizes and special activities for kids, including a bounce house. Chair massages, chiropractic screening and a talk on health and wellness for adults. Sponsored by Applied Modern Health Chiropractic

Contact: 734-421-1760

FILM

Time/Date: 6:45 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills

Details: "A Pattern of Evidence - the Exodus" is a documentary by filmmaker Timothy Mahoney. Dinner is available and features chicken gyros. Make reservations by Wednesday, Feb. 24

Contact: 248-553-3380

FISH FRY

Time/Date: 4:30-7 p.m. Friday, through March 18

Location: St. Michael the Archangel, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: All you can eat, \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, \$5 for kids, ages 3-13, free for kids under 3, carry outs, \$9 and \$10

Contact: 734-261-1455, ext. 200

LENTEN DISCIPLINES

Time/Date: 10:10-11 a.m. Sunday, through March 20 and 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, through March 16

Location: Kirk in the Hills, 1340 W. Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills. Sunday series is held in the refectory; Wednesdays in the St. Andrew's room

Details: Sunday morning series explores the meaning of Lent. Wednesday sessions focus on Richard Foster's Celebration of Discipline

Contact: 248-626-2515, ext. 117

MARCH

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, March 4 through 8:30 a.m. closing Mass on Saturday, March 5

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: The event will feature several Masses, special Mercy Stations of the Cross, several opportunities for reconciliation, and 24 hours of Eucharistic Adoration. There will also be some special snacks, activities, and "time-outs" for families and children during the 24-hour period. The celebration is open to all area Catholics. A full schedule is listed at livoniast-michael.org. Anyone interested in being part of the round-the-clock Adoration Team should call the parish office or visit the church website

Contact: 734-261-1455

BUDDHISM CLASS

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, March 24, April 14 and 28, and May 12 and 26

Location: The Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington, 25301 Halsted, Farmington Hills

Details: Free five-week secular practical Buddhism class will apply Buddhist teachings to daily life through meditation, reflection and discussion. Secular Buddhism emphasizes the teaching of Eastern philosophy practices in a way that allows each individual to become their own teacher. Ideas such as "awakening" and "enlightenment" are goals in which there is no "one true way"

Contact: 248-478-7272; uuFarmington.org

EASTER SERVICE

Time/Date: 7:15 a.m. Sunday, March 27

Location: Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: Service will be held outdoors except in extreme weather conditions. Coffee and refreshments will be served after the service. An Easter breakfast will start at 9 a.m.

Contact: Mary at 248-471-1322

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Time/Date: 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 13-May 15; no class on March 27

Location: Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601

Hubbard, Livonia

Details: Course consists of 9 video lessons with guided discussions and planning tools for people at all stages of life. The course teaches how to get out of debt, save for the future, plan for emergencies, and save for college and retirement. Cost is \$93. Scholarships can be arranged

Contact: Bruce Walrad at bmwalrad@aol.com; 734-748-4427

SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: Noon-2 p.m. Sunday, March 6

Location: Divine Mercy Roman Catholic Regional School, at the current site of St. Raphael Catholic School, 31500 Beechwood, Garden City

Details: Preschool-eighth grade

Contact: 734-425-4420

SOUP SUPPER, SPEAKER

Time/Date: 5:30 p.m. Friday, March 18

Location: Resurrection Catholic Parish, 48755 Warren Road, Canton

Details: A meatless meal of soup and bread is followed by Deacon Paul F. Lippard's discussion of "Living Lent with Mercy." Stations of the Cross will follow. RSVP to the parish office

Contact: 734-451-0444; resoffice@resurrectionparish.net

VESPERS

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sunday, March 20-April 17

Location: St. Lazarus Serbian Orthodox Cathedral Ravanica, 4575 E. Outer Drive, Detroit, March 20; St. Mary the Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 21931 Evergreen Road, Southfield, March 27; Nativity of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church, 39851 W. Five Mile, Plymouth, April 3; St. Michael Russian Orthodox Church, 26375 W. Chicago Road, Redford, April 10; and St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church, 2160 Maple, Troy, April 17

Details: Members of the Clergy Brotherhood of St. John Chrysostom of Metropolitan Detroit will conduct the services. An inter-Orthodox chorus will sing the responses

Contact: Olga Liskiwsky at 248-252-8184; Olga-liskiwsky@gmail.com

VIDEO SERIES

Time/Date: 7-8 p.m. Thursday, through March 10

Location: St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: "Sacred Conversations on Racial Justice"

Contact: 734-721-5023

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: Ethanief Defoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at 734-658-2463

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays

Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.

Contact: Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday

Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.

Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER

St. Edith Church

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday

Location: Parish office, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Group meets for singing, praying and short teaching. Fellowship with snacks follows

Contact: Parish office at 734-464-1223

St. Michael Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday

Location: 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

Details: Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.

Contact: 734-459-3333 for additional information

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; lef@dwo.org

Steve's Family Restaurant

Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 14 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others.

Contact: 313-534-0399

SONG CIRCLE

Congregation Beth Ahm

Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m. every Shabbat

Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Sing zemirot (Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in transliteration as well as the original Hebrew.

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

SUPPORT

Apostolic Christian Church

Time/Date: 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily

Location: 29667 Wentworth, Livonia

Details: Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act.

Contact: 734-261-9000; www.woodhaven-retirement.com

Connection Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday

Location: 3855 Sheldon, Canton

Details: Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery for all hurts, habits and hang-ups. Child care is available for free

Contact: Jonathan@Connectionchurch.info or 248-787-5009

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; Room 202

Details: Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems

Contact: 313-255-2222, Ext. 244

Farmington Hills Baptist Church

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August

Location: 28301 Middlebelt,

between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Farmington Hills

Details: Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group

Contact: 248-433-1011

Merriman Road Baptist Church

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 2055 Merriman, Garden City

Details: Metro Fibromyalgia support group meets; donations

Contact: www.metrofibrogroup.com; or call Ruthann with questions at 734-981-2519

Fireside Church of God

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

Location: 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Fireside Adult Day Ministry activity-based program for dependent adults, specializing in dementia care. Not a drop-in center

Contact: 734-855-4056 or 734-464-0990; www.firesidechog.org; or email to adm@firesidechog.org

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. Saturday

Location: 16360 Hubbard, Livonia

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

Contact: 734-421-8451

St. Thomas a' Becket Church

Time/Date: Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m.; support group 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 555 S. Lilley, Canton

Details: Take Off Pounds Sensibly

Contact: Margaret at 734-838-0322

Unity of Livonia

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia

Details: Overeaters Anonymous

Contact: 248-559-7722; www.aa.org for additional information

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 6 p.m. dinner (optional); 7 p.m. worship; 8 p.m. small group discussion; 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee/desserts), Thursday

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville Township

Details: Celebrate Recovery helps men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hangups (addictive and compulsive behaviors); child care is free.

Contact: Child care, 248-374-7400; www.celebraterecovery.com and www.wardchurch.org/celebrate

THRIFT STORE

St. James Presbyterian

Location: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford

Contact: 313-534-7730 for additional information

Way of Life Christian Church

Time/Date: 2-3:30 p.m. third Saturday from October through May

Location: 9401 General Drive, Lilley Executive Plaza, Suite 100, Plymouth

Details: Women's fellowship is designed for women with a question to know God more in their lives.

Contact: 734-637-7618

TOUR

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. to noon first Sunday of the month

Location: The Solanus Casey Center, a Capuchin ministry, at 1780 Mount Elliott, Detroit

Details: Led by Capuchin friar Larry Webber, the director

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Therefore, please be advised that our agreements with Discovery Channel, Discovery Channel HD, Discovery Channel HD2, Discovery Channel HD3, Discovery Channel HD4, Discovery Channel HD5, Discovery Channel HD6, Discovery Channel HD7, Discovery Channel HD8, Discovery Channel HD9, Discovery Channel HD10, Discovery Channel HD11, Discovery Channel HD12, Discovery Channel HD13, Discovery Channel HD14, Discovery Channel HD15, Discovery Channel HD16, Discovery Channel HD17, Discovery Channel HD18, Discovery Channel HD19, Discovery Channel HD20, Discovery Channel HD21, Discovery Channel HD22, Discovery Channel HD23, Discovery Channel HD24, Discovery Channel HD25, Discovery Channel HD26, Discovery Channel HD27, Discovery Channel HD28, Discovery Channel HD29, Discovery Channel HD30, Discovery Channel HD31, Discovery Channel HD32, Discovery Channel HD33, Discovery Channel HD34, Discovery Channel HD35, Discovery Channel HD36, Discovery Channel HD37, Discovery Channel HD38, Discovery Channel HD39, 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SUBMITTED

The Detroit Pleasure Society will play the 7th Annual Benefit for Doctors Without Borders, Saturday, Feb. 27, at the Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall in Redford.

Doctors Without Borders benefit adds dance, jazz

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Traditional jazz meets Americana, southern square dance and Irish music at the 7th Annual Benefit for Doctors Without Borders, Saturday, Feb. 27, at the Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall in Redford.

"We have a huge melting pot of music," said Mick Gavin, a Redford resident, musician and the event's organizer. "We have a lot of Irish musicians and singers coming as well, and step dance. We cut down on the number of bands this year so we could get in more dancers."

Doors will open at 4 p.m. at the hall, 25300 Five Mile. Admission is a donation at the door. Doctors Without Borders provides emergency medical care to individuals caught in crises around the world. Performances will include:

- » 5 p.m. Lac La Belle, an acoustic duo influenced by Americana, sings and plays mandolin, banjo, ukulele, organ, guitar, and accordion.
- » 5:45 p.m. Eddie McGlinchey, Ray Maguire, Michael Gavin, Frank Kennedy, Colin Paige and Mick Gavin will play Irish music for dancers from the Ardan Academy of Irish Dance.
- » 6:30 p.m. The Detroit Square Dance Society Band will play tunes for square dancing.
- » 7:30 p.m. The Detroit Pleasure Society performs traditional New Orleans jazz.
- » 8:30 p.m. The acoustic trio, Behind the Times, with mandolin, guitar



JOEL WILLIAMS
Jennie Knaggs and Nick Shillace, known as Lac La Belle, will perform at the Doctors Without Borders concert Saturday, Feb. 27 in Redford.

horns and banjo. I'm delighted to have them."

For Nick Shillace, who plays banjo with the group, the Detroit Pleasure Society is a "dream come true."

"I had always wanted to play traditional jazz but didn't have the people around me doing it," said Shillace, who also performs Americana-influenced music with his wife, Jennie Knaggs, as Lac La Belle. "I was recruited by a fan of Lac La Belle who was playing in Detroit Pleasure Society at the time. We got together and there's been a core group of five the past several years."

Shillace, a Detroit and owner of Orion Music Studio in Lake Orion, describes the Detroit Pleasure Society as a tight knit band that plays traditional jazz with its "own spirit."

"We're traditionalists, not revivalists. A lot of times groups try to bring back the visual esthetics and aping of the period. That doesn't necessarily give life to the music," he said. "We have two saxophones instead of clarinet and trumpet ... sousaphone, banjo and trombone, there's enough there that gives us a unique sound."

He said the Doctors Without Borders event will give the audience a rare opportunity to enjoy both dance and a variety of music, while supporting a good cause.

"There is no redundancy with the music. It is such a comprehensive musical experience."

For more about the concert call 313-537-3489. For directions to Hibernian Hall call 313-538-1470.

and upright bass, plays original music influenced by bluegrass, country, jazz and popular favorites.

» 9:15 p.m. Irish set dancing with Anne McCallum, the Crossroads Ceili Band and the Conor O'Neill's session group

Guest square dance caller, Becky Hill of West Virginia, will call the square dances at both the Doctors without Borders event and at the monthly Detroit Square Dance Society gathering, 5-9 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, at the Gaelic League, 2068 Michigan Ave., Detroit. Admission is \$10 for the square dance. Gavin and many of the other musicians will perform at both events.

New bands

Square dancing and both Lac La Belle and the Detroit Pleasure Society are new to the Doctors Without Borders benefit.

"We've been bumping into these musicians and they've come to some of our gigs and we go to their gigs," said Gavin, who plays with Crossroads Ceili. "There seems to be this revival of folk crossing over with jazz and also crossing over into the Irish set dancing"

"It really is fantastic. They are excellent musicians. I love that kind of music and have for years. We have the Detroit Pleasure Society, a traditional jazz band, playing. Their music is swingy and dancy, with all of the

Festival Singers, EMU choir perform free concert

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Choral music fans will get a chance to hear two choirs for free Saturday, Feb. 27 in Plymouth.

Plymouth-Canton's Educational Park's (P-CEP) Festival Singers and Eastern Michigan University Choir will perform at 7:30 p.m. at Plymouth First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial.

"My choir will sing a few selections and Eastern will sing a few and we'll come together at the end for a combined piece," said Jennifer Neumann, P-CEP teacher and choir director.

The two choirs, 100 voices in total, will sing "Exultate Deo," by Scarlatti. It's a piece the Festival Singers also will perform next month during its tour of Venice and Rome in Italy.

"It is an important piece of music and to collaborate with a university choir will be a tremendous thing to hear and observe. It's very exciting," Neumann said.

Brandon Johnson, director of choral activities at EMU and director of the University Choir, has been working with Neumann's students on the music. Both choirs will come together for the first time during a rehearsal at the church before the concert.



SUBMITTED

Jennifer Neumann directs the P-CEP Festival Singers.



SUBMITTED

Choir members carol during the holidays.



SUBMITTED

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Festival Singers will perform with the Eastern Michigan University Choir on Feb. 27 in Plymouth.

Advanced music

The 49-member Festival Singers is one of 10 after-school choirs at Salem High School, where the P-CEP's choral program is located. Students, mostly juniors and seniors, must be enrolled in one of two specific choral

classes in order to join the group. Neumann said Festival Singers is considered the most experienced of the extra-curricular choirs.

"It sings the most advanced music. It is an audition group and is extremely select," she said. "This is the group that historically travels. My choir

has done things with the U of M Men's Glee Club, the Women's Glee Club, and we've collaborated with other high schools. We've sung with the Plymouth Oratorio Society and Measure for Measure."

Over the years it has performed at Carnegie Hall in New York, in London, England,

Chicago, Ill., and Toronto, Ont.

A travel agent, who heard the group sing in England, suggested the Italy trip. Neumann said the agent helped her secure a performance at St. Mark's Basilica in Venice. The group also will perform at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

Concert, Masses

"At the two Basilicas we're the music for the Masses. I had to submit recordings and get approved," Neumann said. "This is during Holy Week, the week of Easter. It's an opportunity of a lifetime."

The Festival Singers will leave March 25 for Italy and return April 1. The choir also will sing a full concert while on tour, in addition to the Masses. Students held several fundraisers to help pay for the tour.

Donations will be accepted at Saturday's concert and will be divided between the Festival Singers, the Eastern Michigan University Choir, which will tour Scotland and Wales this year, and Plymouth First United Methodist Church.

Neumann said her choir will sing sacred and classical choral music, mostly a cappella, at the upcoming concert.

"This is the first time we and Eastern will share a concert together and as an alum, I'm excited about that," she said.

sdargay@hometownlife.com

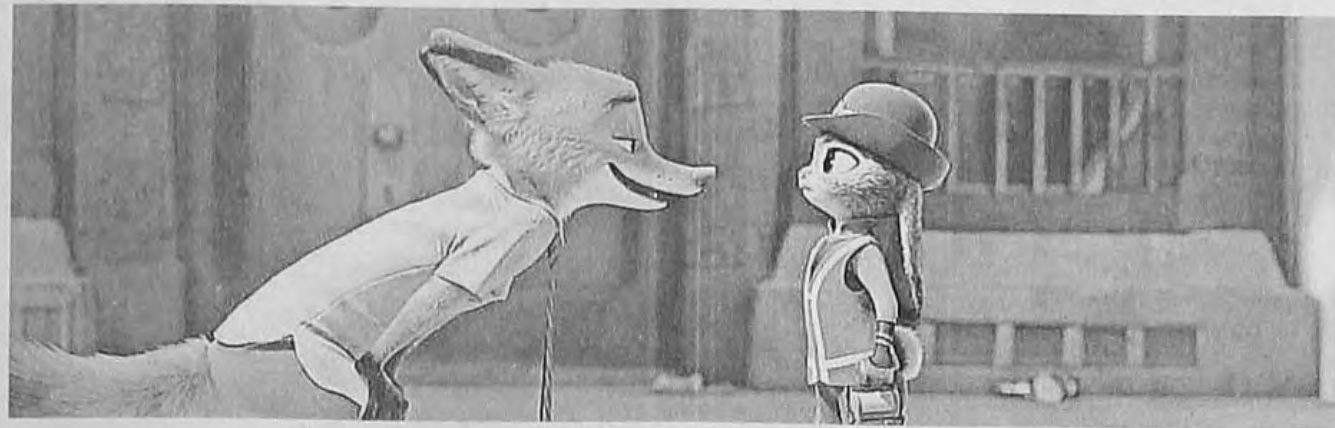
Classic myth, true events inspire films opening Friday

Friday, Feb. 26

» **"Eddie the Eagle,"** inspired by true events, is a feel-good story about Michael "Eddie" Edwards, an unlikely but courageous British ski-jumper who never stopped believing in himself. With the help of a rebellious and charismatic coach, Eddie takes on the establishment and wins the hearts of sports fans around the world by making an improbable and historic showing at the 1988 Calgary Winter Olympics. Starring Taron Egerton, Hugh Jackson and Christopher Walken. Directed by Dexter Fletcher. Rated PG-13.

» **"Gods of Egypt,"** is an action-adventure inspired by the classic mythology of Egypt. The survival of mankind hangs in the balance as an unexpected mortal hero Bek undertakes a thrilling journey to save the world and rescue his true love. In order to succeed, he must enlist the help of the powerful god Horus in an unlikely alliance against Set, the merciless god of darkness, who has usurped Egypt's throne, plunging the once peaceful and prosperous empire into chaos and conflict. Starring Nikolaj Coster-Waldau, Brenton Thwaites, Chadwick Boseman, Elodie Yung, Courtney Eaton, with Gerard Butler and Geoffrey Rush. Directed by Alex Proyas. Rated PG-13.

» In **"Triple 9,"** a crew of dirty cops is blackmailed by the Russian mob to execute a virtually impossible heist. The only way to pull it off is to manufacture a 999, police code for "officer down." Their plan is turned upside down when the unsuspecting rookie they set up to die foils the attack, triggering an action-packed finale filled with double-crosses, greed and revenge. Starring Casey Affleck, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Anthony Mackie, Aaron Paul, Clifton Collins Jr., Norman Reedus, Teresa Palmer, Michael K. Williams, Gal Gadot, Woody Harrelson, Kate Winslet. Directed by John



Officer Judy Hopps (voice of Ginnifer Goodwin) meets a scam-artist fox (voiced by Jason Bateman) in **"Zootopia,"** opening in theaters March 4.



"Gods of Egypt," inspired by Egyptian mythology, opens Friday, March 26.

Hillcoat. Rated R.

Friday, March 4

» **"London Has Fallen"** is a sequel to the worldwide smash hit "Olympus Has Fallen," a non-stop, suspenseful action thriller. After the British prime minister passes away, his funeral becomes a target of a terrorist organization to destroy some of the world's most powerful leaders, devastate the British capital, and unleash a terrifying vision of the future. The only hope of stopping it rests on the shoulders of the U.S. president, his formidable Secret Service head, and an English MI-6 agent. Starring Gerard Butler, Aaron Eckhart, Morgan Freeman, Angela Bassett, Melissa Leo, Radha Mitchell, Robert Forster, Jackie

Earle Haley, Charlotte Riley, Sean O'Bryan, Alon Aboutboul, Waleed Zuaiter. Rated R.

» In **"The Other Side of the Door,"** a family lives an idyllic existence abroad until a tragic accident takes the life of their young son. The inconsolable mother learns of an ancient ritual that will bring him back to say a final goodbye. She travels to an ancient temple, where a door serves as a mysterious portal between two worlds. But when she disobeys a sacred warning to never open that door, she upsets the balance between life and death. Starring Sarah Wayne Callies and Jeremy Sisto. Directed by Johannes Roberts. Rated R.

» **"Remember"** tells the story of Zev Guttman, a 90-year-old Holocaust survivor

struggling with Dementia who is living out his final years in a retirement home. A week following the death of his beloved wife Ruth, he suddenly gets a mysterious package from his close friend Max, containing a stack of money, a gun, and a letter detailing a shocking plan. Both Zev and Max were prisoners in Auschwitz, and the same sadistic guard was responsible for the death of both their families—a guard who, immediately after the war, escaped Germany and has been living in the U.S. ever since under an assumed identity. Max is wheelchair-bound but in full command of his mental faculties; with his guidance, Zev will embark on a cross-continental road-trip to bring justice once and for all to the man who destroyed both their lives. Not rated.

» In **"Whiskey Tango Fox-trot,"** When reporter Kim Barker's life needs something more, she decides to take an assignment in a war zone. There, in the midst of chaos, she finds the strength she never knew she had. Starring Tina Fey, Margot Robbie, Martin Freeman, Alfred Molina and Billy Bob Thornton. Directed by Glenn Ficarra and John Requa. Rated R.

» **"Zootopia"** is an animated film about a city of animals. When rookie officer Judy Hopps arrives, she discovers that being the first bunny on a police force of big, tough animals isn't so easy.

Determined to prove herself, she jumps at the opportunity to crack a case, even if it means partnering with a fast-talking, scam-artist fox, Nick Wilde, to solve the mystery. The comedy-adventure is directed by Byron Howard and Rich Moore and co-directed by Jared Bush, with the voices of Jason Bateman and Ginnifer Goodwin. The film is rated PG.

Friday, March 11

» **"Knight of Cups"** follows a writer named Rick on an odyssey through Los Angeles and Las Vegas as he undertakes a search for love and self. Even as he moves through a desire-laden landscape of mansions, resorts, beaches and clubs, Rick grapples over complicated relationships with his brother and father. His quest to break the spell of his disenchantment takes him on a series of adventures with six alluring women. Directed by Terrence Malick. Rated R.

» In **"The Perfect Match"** Charlie is a bachelor who's convinced that relationships are dead even though his sister, a therapist, tries to tell him otherwise. His best friends bet him that if he sticks to one woman for one month, he's bound to fall in love. Charlie takes the bet because he believes that he's immune to love, until he crosses paths with the beautiful and mysterious Eva. Turning on his irresistible charm, Charlie coaxes Eva into a casual affair but soon finds out that Eva has turned the tables on him. Starring Terrence J, Paula Patton and Cassie Ventura. Directed by Billie Woodruff. Not rated.

» **"The Young Messiah"** is the story of Jesus Christ at age 7, and his family as they come to a fuller understanding of his divine nature and purpose. Directed by Cyrus Nowrasteh and based on the novel "Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt," by Anne Rice. Starring Adam Greaves-Neal, Sara Lazzaro, Vincent Walsh, Clive Russell, Christian McKay, and Sean Bean. Rated PG-13.

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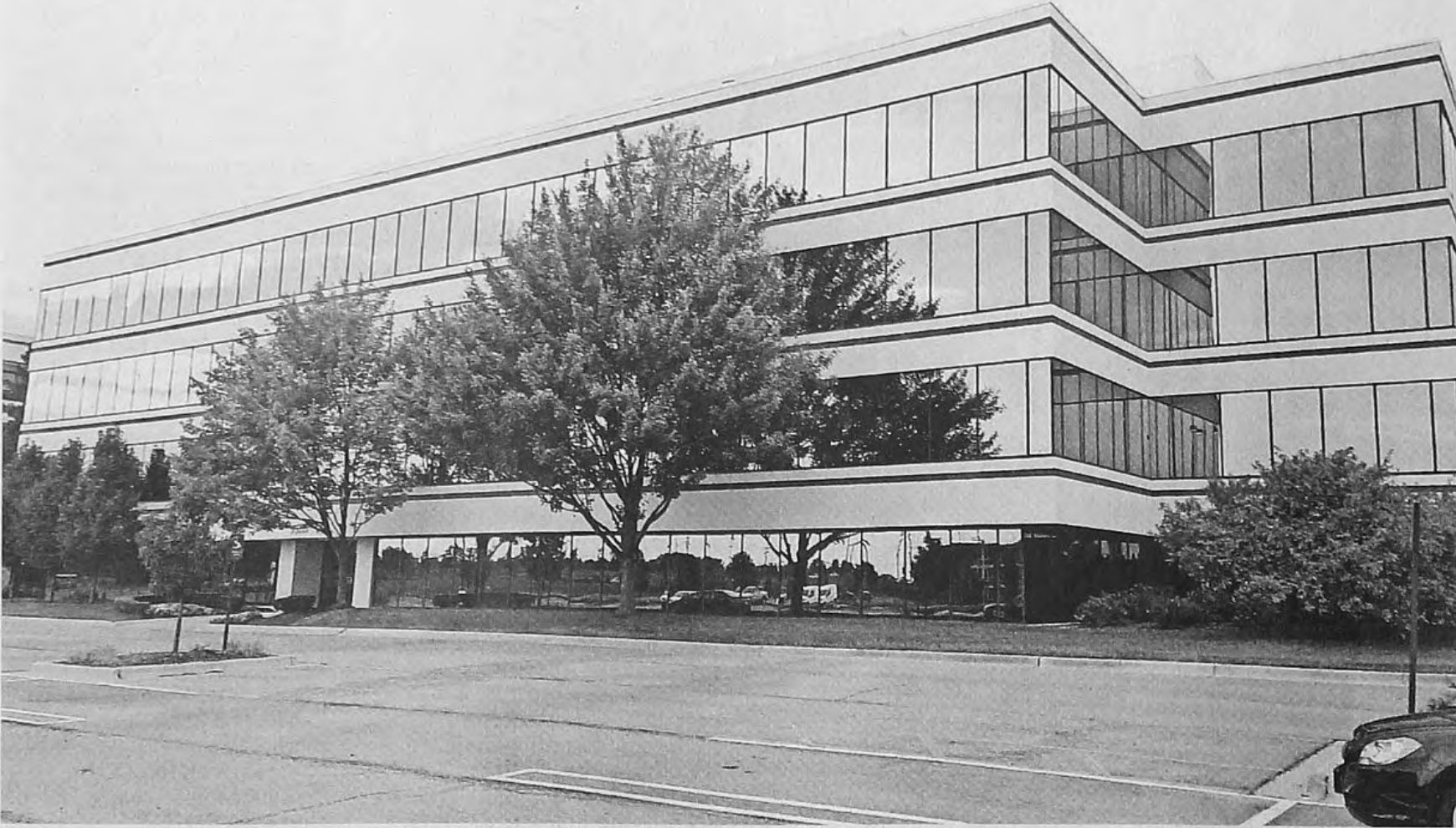
ADVERTISEMENT
Request for Proposals
Plymouth Canton Community Schools
"21st Century Classroom Project - Phase 3"

Sealed responses to a Request for Proposal (RFP) will be accepted for the 21st Century Classroom Project at the Plymouth Canton Community Schools E.J. McClendon Educational Center located at 454 S. Harvey St, Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

Bidders MUST comply with the Pre-Bid Process as prescribed below:

Bid Publication	On or after the aforementioned date, an Invitation-to-Bid will be available to interested Vendors. Request for Proposals (RFP) drawings and documentation, which describes the project in detail, will be available by contacting Russ Gill russ.gill@stantec.com at Stantec Architecture (formerly SHW Group) email only.	Mar. 1, 2016
Bid Publication	Site visitation shall be scheduled on March 1, 2016 at 3:30pm at Bird Elementary School, located at 220 North Sheldon Road, Plymouth, MI 48170 A second visitation will be scheduled on March 2, 2016 at 3:30pm EST (if required).	
Bid Publication	A Non-Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting shall be held at the following location: Plymouth Canton Community Schools E.J. McClendon Educational Center 454 S. Harvey St. Plymouth, Michigan 48170 Attendees shall meet in the PCCS "Board Room" at the appointed date and time.	Mar 1, 2016 2:30 PM EST
Bidder's Questions	Deadline for all questions pertaining to this RFP shall be issued in writing (email) and directed to the Bid Administrator: russ.gill@stantec.com .	Mar. 16, 2016 by 12:00 Noon EST
Answers to Bidder's Questions	Responses to questions will be issued on an addendum and submitted through NewForma to the interested Vendors.	Mar. 17, 2016 by 5:00 PM EST
Proposals Due	Deadline for delivery of bids. Proposals shall be delivered as stated above to the following address: Plymouth Canton Community Schools E.J. McClendon Educational Center 454 S. Harvey St. Plymouth, Michigan 48170 ATTN: "21st Century Classroom Project - Phase 3". Late bids/proposals will be returned unopened. Plymouth Canton Community Schools will not consider or accept a bid/proposal received after the deadline stated herein. PCCS reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Proposals and waive any informality or irregularities in any qualifications should the School District consider this right and to be in its best interest.	Mar. 30, 2016 by 1:00 PM EST
Public Opening & Reading of Pricing	Public Opening of RFP's. Location of the public opening shall be: Plymouth Canton Community Schools E.J. McClendon Educational Center 454 S. Harvey St. Plymouth, Michigan 48170	Mar. 30, 2016 1:00 PM EST
PCCS RFP Review	Review of Proposals by PCCS Bid Evaluation Team.	Mar. 30-31, 2016
Post-Bid Review Conferences	Interview shortlisted candidates. Date(s) and time(s) are subject to change. Shortlisted candidates will be advised of their post-bid review conference either by phone or email. The decision to interview candidates is at the sole discretion of the Owner.	Apr. 1, 2016 (times to be determined)
Award Date (on or after)	Intent to Award Contract shall be conducted on or after this date.	Apr. 26, 2016

Published: February 25 and 28, 2016



A real estate industry report is positive about long-term trends in that field.

JULIE BROWN

Industry report sees long-term upside in commercial real estate

—Despite various global and domestic hurdles hindering economic growth, steady job gains and stable leasing demand should help keep commercial real estate activity expanding in 2016, according to the authors of an annual report published jointly by Situs Real Estate Research Corporation (RERC), Deloitte and the National Association of Realtors.

According to the report, *Expectations & Market Realities in Real Estate 2016—Navigating through the Crosscurrents*, commercial real estate activity is forecast to gradually grow this year with demand for space holding steady across all commercial sectors. While commercial property values and price gains are expected to flatten after surpassing 2007 peaks in some major markets, investors will still benefit from the strong income flows generated from new and existing

leases.

The fifth annual release of the joint report draws on the three organizations' respective research and expert analysis and offers an objective outlook on commercial real estate through forecasts and commentary on the current economy, capital markets and commercial real estate property markets. A research-based assessment of the office, industrial, apartment, retail and hotel property sectors is also provided.

"Historically low interest rates, especially in treasuries, combined with commercial real estate's stable prices and value make this asset an attractive investment," said Ken Riggs, president of Situs RERC. "Looking into 2016, the commercial real estate market should moderate, which could stabilize prices."

Vacancies are expected to continue to decline slightly in 2016 for all property types,

except in the apartment sector, where they are forecast to increase modestly by the end of the year as more new project completions come onto the market. Continued job growth, demand exceeding supply and limited new construction (outside of multifamily) should lead to rising rents and steady investor returns, which overall will shift away from capital appreciation as price growth levels off in many markets.

Continuing on the same slow trajectory seen for many years, the U.S. economy — facing headwinds from a rising dollar, financial market volatility and geopolitical concerns — is forecast to grow at a rate of 2 percent to 3 percent in 2016, which is stronger than most global economies and enough to generate around 2 million net new jobs over the next year. Deflationary pressures related to low gasoline and energy

prices are expected to diminish by mid-2016, in part because of robust growth in apartment rents.

"Supported by solid hiring in most parts of the country, the demand for ownership and rental housing will continue to increase in 2016 despite another year of meager economic expansion," said Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist. "While supply shortages will weigh on housing affordability and push home prices and rents higher, the housing sector will keep the U.S. economy afloat and lead the residential investment component of GDP growth by up to 10 percent this year."

On Thursday, Feb. 4, Deloitte hosted a live webcast covering the report, including discussion on macroeconomic conditions, capital market trends, the main property types and the overall outlook for 2016.

Sign issue: First Amendment generally applies to government actions

Q: With the presidential elections on the horizon, our homeowners association has been discussing political signs in yards. The documents talk about prohibiting signs in general but should we make an exception for this particular season?

A: More than likely, your documents prohibit the display of any types of signs except perhaps For Sale signs under certain circumstances. There

can be the argument by some that political signs raise particular issues regarding freedom of speech. However, the freedom of speech that is contemplated by the First Amendment typically applies only to governmental action and not in a private community. You may not even have the authority to vary from the strict requirements of the documents, without an assessment so see your community association lawyer.

Q: Our property manager just received a letter from an owner making accusations against the Board of Directors and asking over 25 questions concerning the operations of the association. The board is indicating that it will be very expensive for the managing agent to respond to all these questions but we have an obligation to do so.

A: There is no specific statute in Michigan although other states require a condo association to substantially respond to inquiries from co-owners that are sent by certified mail or otherwise within, for example, 30 days of the association's receipt of them. However, it is good practice where there is not a requirement statutorily to respond timely, but to give a general response to the co-owner indicating that it might be best for him to narrow his questions or attend a meeting of the Board of Directors for the specific purpose of discussing his issues. If in fact the co-owner appears to be someone who is harassing the association with questions which are not made in good faith, you may wish to turn that over to the association's attorney.

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

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Investors

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

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

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

Short sales

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

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

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

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 21-25, 2015, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS		
32260 Arlington Dr	\$285,000	
30414 Georgetown Dr	\$455,000	
16121 Lauderdale Ave	\$259,000	
BIRMINGHAM		
1751 Birmingham Blvd	\$499,000	
1931 Bowers St	\$325,000	
2085 Dorchester Rd	\$669,000	
935 Gordon Ln	\$600,000	
1773 Latham St	\$5,000	
1201 Pilgrim Ave	\$575,000	
1544 Sheffield Rd	\$220,000	
1387 Smith Ave	\$380,000	
698 Southfield Rd	\$749,000	
620 W Frank St	\$695,000	
1099 Wakefield St	\$340,000	
1885 Washington Blvd	\$409,000	
1387 Webster St	\$600,000	
BLOOMFIELD HILLS		
27 S Berkshire Rd	\$268,000	
777 E Fox Hills Dr	\$53,000	
140 E Hickory Grove Rd	\$115,000	
41350 Woodward Ave # 8	\$237,000	
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP		
1504 Aberdeen Pl	\$165,000	
2915 Berkshire Dr	\$344,000	
2675 Brady Dr	\$255,000	
3928 Columbia Ct	\$643,000	
3055 E Bradford Dr	\$336,000	
2056 E Hammond Lake Dr	\$229,000	
6315 E Surrey Rd	\$320,000	
2065 Eagle Pointe	\$220,000	
3684 Forest Hill Dr	\$404,000	
1997 Klingensmith Rd	\$84,000	
4423 Pine Tree Trl	\$375,000	
1472 Timberview Trl	\$255,000	
3669 W Bradford Dr	\$330,000	

1056 W Glengarry Cir	\$1,820,000	
7395 W Greenwich Dr	\$332,000	
325 Wadsworth Ln	\$350,000	
3856 Wedgewood Dr	\$340,000	
COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP		
3138 Belle Terre	\$251,000	
2276 Brigantine	\$252,000	
3857 Ellisia Rd	\$240,000	
2471 Greenlawn Ave	\$55,000	
8352 Lagoon St	\$244,000	
6036 Lochmore Dr #280,000		
3291 Melmoor St	\$83,000	
4650 Newcroft St	\$152,000	
4650 Oak Meadows Ct	\$188,000	
9326 Park Ln	\$425,000	
5408 Plantation Dr	\$425,000	
4830 Sundew St	\$163,000	
FARMINGTON		
22901 Frederick Ave	\$176,000	
21132 Meadowlark St	\$200,000	
34155 Schulte Dr	\$240,000	
24182 Twin Valley Ct	\$250,000	
FARMINGTON HILLS		
22188 Albion Ave	\$86,000	
31231 Country Ridge Cir	\$393,000	
29530 Eastfield St	\$157,000	
20824 Gill Rd	\$225,000	
29392 Glencastle Dr	\$175,000	
22462 Haynes Ave	\$125,000	
30030 High Valley Rd	\$288,000	
36680 Howard Rd	\$185,000	
29702 Mirion Dr	\$280,000	
29608 Muirland Dr	\$207,000	
21340 Mulberry Ct	\$137,000	
34045 Northwick St	\$210,000	
28915 Oak Point Dr	\$360,000	
26101 Power Rd	\$130,000	
22114 Purdue Ave	\$143,000	
22850 Purdue Ave	\$139,000	
29923 Ravenscroft St	\$138,000	
29695 Sierra Point Cir	\$191,000	
29759 Sierra Point Cir	\$173,000	
31840 Staman Cir	\$161,000	
30120 Valley Side Dr	\$248,000	
29087 W 10 Mile Rd	\$165,000	
31185 Westhill St	\$145,000	
26203 Westmeath St	\$200,000	

21615 Wheeler St	\$111,000	
21611 Whittington St	\$147,000	
35581 Woodfield Dr	\$250,000	
HIGHLAND		
465 Glenaeles	\$310,000	
3965 Loch Dr	\$226,000	
3410 Maple Rdg	\$110,000	
1009 Tall Pines Dr	\$485,000	
LATHRUP VILLAGE		
18160 Coral Gables Ave	\$128,000	
MILFORD		
363 Cumberland Trl	\$500,000	
1173 Homestead	\$375,000	
831 Milford Glen Cir	\$310,000	
802 Panorama Dr	\$155,000	
2400 Pinewood Ct	\$235,000	
2213 Twilight Trce	\$430,000	
474 Village Ln	\$133,000	
484 Village Ln	\$148,000	
701 W Dawson Rd	\$280,000	
NORTHVILLE		
43628 Cottisford St	\$330,000	
20948 E Glen Haven Cir	\$125,000	
51847 Pierce Dr	\$525,000	
38097 Tralee Trl	\$285,000	
NOVI		
43050 12 Oaks Crescent Dr # 2033	\$185,000	
24693 Apple Crest Dr	\$266,000	
24584 Bashian Dr	\$116,000	
41628 Borchard Dr	\$220,000	
25426 Buckminster Dr	\$258,000	
28296 Carlton Way Dr	\$200,000	
21183 Chase Dr	\$675,000	
39926 Crosswinds	\$120,000	
27954 Declaration Rd	\$153,000	
41689 Dukesbury Ct	\$446,000	
23672 E Le Bost	\$194,000	
22493 Fuller Dr	\$423,000	
24636 Highlands Dr	\$233,000	
22662 Meadowbrook Rd	\$212,000	
21776 Meridian Ln	\$303,000	
41617 Mitchell Rd	\$242,000	
41601 Monterey Dr	\$199,000	
22629 Moorgate St	\$435,000	
24777 Sarah Flynn	\$300,000	
23497 Stonehenge Blvd	\$104,000	
41645 Tera Ln	\$195,000	

41519 Thoreau Rdg	\$375,000	
42492 Wembleton Way	\$335,000	
22350 Worcester Dr	\$450,000	
SOUTH LYON		
595 Eagle Way	\$268,000	
934 Hidden Creek Dr	\$255,000	
729 Kestrel Ct	\$233,000	
479 Princeton Dr	\$268,000	
61845 Richfield St	\$192,000	
22865 Saint Andrews Dr	\$540,000	
1156 Shetland Dr	\$390,000	
26442 Shumans Way	\$342,000	
24400 Wedgewood Dr	\$380,000	
SOUTHFIELD		
17291 Alta Vista Dr	\$230,000	
20880 Avon Ln	\$74,000	
20154 Beechaven St	\$190,000	
16217 Edwards Ave	\$156,000	
29721 Fall River Rd	\$128,000	
25669 Hillmore Pl	\$158,000	
28745 Hallcroft Ct	\$130,000	
29320 Heritage Ln	\$175,000	
24195 Lee Baker Cir	\$145,000	
28663 Lowell Ct N	\$87,000	
18409 Magnolia Ave	\$160,000	
25209 Prairie Dr	\$185,000	
29788 Spring Hill Dr	\$112,000	
18301 W 13 Mile Rd Unit A8	\$73,000	
18811 Webster Ave	\$125,000	
18457 Westhampton Ave	\$72,000	
18316 Wickhory Ave	\$68,000	
25033 Woodvale Dr N	\$95,000	
WHITE LAKE		
8652 Brazos Ct	\$170,000	
10420 Cedar Island Rd	\$280,000	
1036 Ennest Blvd	\$138,000	
1245 Grove Point Dr	\$432,000	
1848 Kristina Dr	\$271,000	
218 Melinda Cir	\$173,000	
362 Rosario Dr	\$281,000	
8106 Springdale Dr	\$174,000	
9538 Steephollow Dr	\$209,000	
345 Woodsee Ln	\$55,000	

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 12-16, 2015, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses and sales prices.

CANTON		
7224 Chichester Rd	\$275,000	
50594 Coolidge St	\$340,000	
40560 Deer Creek Dr	\$313,000	
44385 Fair Oaks Dr	\$203,000	
4261 Forest Bridge Dr	\$200,000	
45575 Hanford Rd	\$285,000	
1262 Hendrie	\$355,000	
1564 Hendrie	\$362,000	
1238 Heritage Dr	\$190,000	
1068 High Ridge Dr	\$245,000	
7733 Kaiser St	\$154,000	
7143 Newgate Ct	\$225,000	
44740 Ridgefield Rd	\$193,000	
45930 S Stonewood Rd	\$306,000	
449 Sandalwood Rd	\$360,000	
1938 Scenic Dr	\$235,000	
43316 Stonington Ct	\$223,000	
1981 Vine Way Dr	\$108,000	
41282 Westfield Cir	\$228,000	
40253 Winfield Rd	\$205,000	
4129 Wrenwood Ln	\$282,000	

4105 Greenwood Ln # 46	\$261,000	
GARDEN CITY		
29865 Brown Ct	\$105,000	
1013 Cardwell St	\$97,000	
32426 Manor Park	\$205,000	
29553 Marquette St	\$68,000	
33161 Pardo St	\$92,000	
31755 Pierce St	\$160,000	
LIVONIA		
19269 Auburndale St	\$123,000	
27815 Barkley St	\$163,000	
31741 Cambridge St	\$265,000	
10027 Cavell St	\$100,000	
17226 Country Club Dr	\$280,000	
14000 Ellen Dr	\$170,000	
39084 Ellis St	\$205,000	
18110 Fairfield St	\$218,000	
33007 Farrago St	\$30,000	
14401 Henry Ruff St	\$285,000	
18883 Inkster Rd	\$95,000	
29542 Lamar Ln	\$155,000	
18665 Lathers St	\$70,000	
9036 Louise St	\$153,000	
11026 Loveland St	\$139,000	
32421 Lyndon St	\$182,000	
29998 Munger Dr	\$250,000	
20481 Osmus St	\$176,000	
29527 Ravine Dr	\$190,000	
14640 Ronnie Ln	\$210,000	
30540 Saint Martins St	\$239,000	
18413 University Park Dr	\$110,000	

31600 Vargo St	\$184,000	
15954 Whitby St	\$168,000	
31748 Wyoming St	\$143,000	
NORTHVILLE		
16741 Carriage Way	\$156,000	
39471 Champion Ct	\$325,000	
16132 Cherrywood Ct	\$453,000	
17861 Cranbrook Dr	\$730,000	
39566 Danielle Dr	\$439,000	
16835 Dover Dr	\$165,000	
39645 Glenview Ct	\$320,000	
16292 Johnson Creek Dr	\$530,000	
45963 Riviera Dr	\$450,00	

Make some magic

Blend mushrooms with meat for a healthier meal

Finding the right daily nutritional balance is no easy feat. Managing sugar, carbohydrate, fat and red meat intake takes serious effort and planning, but transforming your favorite recipes into more nutritious family meals may be easier than you realize.

Adopting the "blenditarian" lifestyle is a simple solution to healthier eating. It involves, simply, blending mushrooms into meat to make every day dishes more healthful and delicious. Adding chopped mushrooms to ground beef at a ratio of at least 25 percent mushrooms can enhance the taste of dishes, deliver an extra serving of vegetables and beneficial nutrients, and trim total calories and fat intake.

Any mushroom variety will work. Creminis and portabellas lend rich, earthy flavors to any meal, while white button mushrooms offer a more delicate taste. For the more adventurous eaters, maitake and shiitake varieties bring a bold woody taste and meaty texture to the plate.

The key to blending is developing the perfect mushroom consistency. For example, if using ground meat for tacos or burgers, chop mushrooms to mimic the familiar crumbled texture, using a knife and cutting board, food processor or vegetable chopper. For stews, halve or quarter mushrooms, or slice them to match strips of meat in fajitas or stir-fry.

Practice your blending technique with these recipes and find more deliciously blended dishes to share with your family at MushroomInfo.com.

Courtesy of Family Features

CLASSIC BLENDED BURGER

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 10-15 minutes
Servings: 4

½ pound cremini or white button mushrooms
3 tablespoons olive oil, divided
1 pound ground beef
1 teaspoon salt
4 buns

Finely dice mushrooms or gently pulse in food processor. In skillet, warm 2 tablespoons olive oil on medium-high heat and add mushrooms, sauteing 5-7 minutes, or until golden brown. Remove from heat and cool 5 minutes.

Transfer cooled mushrooms to medium bowl. Add ground beef and salt, mixing until combined. Make 4 pat-



ties. Add remaining olive oil to pan and cook burger patties on medium-high heat until desired doneness. Plate and add desired toppings to bun. Topping recommendations: feta cheese, romesco sauce, sweet peppers and sauteed red onions.

ASIAN LETTUCE WRAPS

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes
Servings: 4

8 ounces fresh mushrooms
1 onion, chopped
4 cloves garlic
1 tablespoon minced ginger
½ pound lean ground beef
1 tablespoon canola oil
½ teaspoon dried thyme leaves
½ teaspoon dried oregano leaves
½ teaspoon ground mustard
¼ teaspoon dried minced garlic
½ teaspoon dried minced onion
1 red pepper, finely chopped
2 tablespoons hoisin sauce
1 tablespoon soy sauce
1 tablespoon rice wine vinegar
1 head Boston lettuce
½ cup shredded carrots
¼ cup chopped cashews (optional)

In food processor with metal blade, pulse mush-



rooms, onion, garlic and ginger until finely chopped. Add ground beef; pulse until combined.

In large, nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add mushroom mixture, thyme, oregano, mustard, garlic and dried onion. Cook, stirring often, 10 minutes, or until browned.

Stir in red pepper, hoisin sauce, soy sauce and vinegar. Simmer 5 minutes; remove from heat.

Serve in Boston lettuce leaves garnished with shredded carrots and chopped cashews.

MUSHROOM TACOS WITH SALSA VERDE

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 12-15 minutes
Servings: 8

Tacos:
¼ pound 85-percent lean ground beef
salt and pepper, to taste
¼ pound white button mushrooms
¼ pound cremini mushrooms
4 tablespoons olive oil, divided
2 cups julienned sweet onions
1 tablespoon minced garlic
4 tablespoons ground chili pepper
lime juice, to taste
1 cup shredded green cabbage
2 tablespoons chopped cilantro
8 corn tortillas
4 tablespoons Avocado Salsa Verde (recipe below)
4 tablespoons Cotija cheese, grated
Avocado Salsa Verde:
1 large, ripe avocado, peeled, pitted and cut into ½-inch dice
½ cup diced tomato
2 tablespoons finely chopped onion
½ teaspoon seeded and minced serrano chili
½ teaspoon minced garlic
1 tablespoon lemon or lime juice
2 tablespoons chopped cilantro
¼ teaspoon sugar

Heat saute pan over medium-high heat. Add ground beef; season with salt and pepper



Saute 3-5 minutes, or until golden brown. Chop mushrooms to size and texture of ground beef and saute in separate pan with 2 tablespoons olive oil 3-5 minutes. Combine mushrooms and meat and set aside. Heat pan used for ground beef over medium-high heat. Add remaining olive oil and onions; saute until golden brown. Add garlic and cook until fragrant. Add mushroom and beef mixture and chili pepper. Saute 2-3 minutes, stirring frequently. Adjust seasoning with salt, pepper and lime juice.

Toss shredded cabbage with salt, pepper, lime juice and cilantro.

To make Avocado Salsa Verde, combine all salsa ingredients and refrigerate at least 1 hour.

To serve, place 2 tablespoons shredded cabbage on tortilla and top with 2 tablespoons of mushroom and beef mixture. Top with 1 tablespoon Avocado Salsa Verde and sprinkle with Cotija cheese.

BLENDED CHILI AND MACARONI

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 25 minutes
Servings: 8

½ pound mushrooms
1 pound lean ground beef
1 package chili seasoning
1 can beef broth
1 can (15.5 ounces) kidney beans, rinsed
1 can (6 ounces) tomato paste
1 cup medium salsa
2 cups elbow macaroni, uncooked
shredded cheese
sour cream
cilantro

In food processor with metal blade, pulse mushrooms until finely chopped. In large saucepan, brown meat and mushrooms with



chili seasoning. In another saucepan, mix broth, kidney beans, tomato paste, salsa and macaroni. Bring mixture to boil and cover. Simmer on low 15 minutes, stirring occasionally. When noodles are al dente, stir in browned meat and mushrooms. Serve topped with cheese, sour cream and cilantro.



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